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The Japan Weekly Mail:

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same: and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JULY 1ST, 1893.

BIRTH.

At the British Consulate, Hakodate, on June 26th, the wife of Mr. J. CAREY HALL, of a daughter.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE *Ajiya* was permitted to republish to-day.

RINDERPEST has re-appeared in Wakayama Prefecture.

SEVERAL deaths from lightning have occurred during the week.

MAJOR-GENERAL FUKUHARA MINORU has retired from the army.

THE Hiroshima-Ehime fishery dispute has been amicably settled.

A REVIEW of the Imperial Body Guards is shortly to take place at Fujisawa.

THE reported retirement of students in the Franco-Japanese Law School, Tokyo, is without foundation.

A SLIGHT panic occurred in business circles on Tuesday, owing to an unprecedented drop in exchange.

THE cricket match on Saturday between Yokohama and the Fleet was won by the former by a very few runs.

MR. OTORI, Japanese Minister to China, returned to Tokyo on Monday last. He was accorded an official reception.

THE Kansei Railway Company contemplate building a bridge over the Kisogawa which will cost *yen* 45,000 If their scheme of extension is carried out a similiar bridge will be built over the Kaigawa, and this will cost about the same amount.

COPELAND, who was recently fined for keeping a disorderly house on the Bluff, attempted suicide on Monday evening.

A CURIOUS disturbance is proceeding in Saga owing to the unruly conduct of students at the Middle and Normal schools.

PRINCE SAMI, a native of one of the South Sea Islands who has been on a visit to Japan, left for home by the *Tenyu Maru* on Friday.

LIEUT.-COLONEL FUKUSHIMA arrived in Yokohama on Wednesday, and was presented with a sword of honour and an Address of congratulation.

THE lighthouse tender, the *Meiji Maru*, will shortly be dispatched to lay the cable connecting the Goto islands with the main telegraph lines of the Empire.

ANOTHER meeting has been held in Shiba Park, to protest against the erection of Dr. Kitazato's Infectious Diseases Hospital in that neighbourhood.

MR. NAGASAKI SEIGO, Private Secretary of the Minister of the Imperial Household, will accompany H.I.H. Prince Komatsu Yorihito abroad, as equerry.

THE total amount of gold and silver coins and bullion in reserve in the Bank of Japan at present is over eighty-seven million *yen*, an increase of a little over twenty million *yen* against last year.

VISCOUNT ENOMOTO having declined the offer of the Ministership to China, in succession to Mr. Otori, the post will, it is said, be given to a distinguished member of the House of Peers.

THE yacht race on Saturday was a chapter of accidents from start to finish. The race was won by *Daimyo*, who had her topmast carried away early in the day through collision with the *Mary*.

A PROPOSAL is on foot to establish a fund, wherewith to assist poor students of the town of Nagano, in order to commemorate Lieut.-Colonel Fukushima's transcontinental ride. The plucky officer is a native of that town.

EIGHTY-FIVE persons, the families of Lieutenant Gunji and his followers, left Yokohama on the 25th ult. in the *Wakanoura Maru* for Hakodate, whence they proceed to meet Lieutenant Gunji's party at Yetoro.

THE *Musashi Kan*, lately overhauled at Yokosuka, will leave to-day for Chishima to patrol the seas and prevent poaching by foreign sealing schooners. She will cruise in the neighbourhood of the islands until October next. It is stated as probable that the *Tsukuba Kan* will also proceed north.

A BURGLAR entered the residence of Judge Maruyama, of the Yokohama Local Court, at Kanagawa, during the night of the 20th inst., and made away with a quantity of clothes. He was captured at Yamabukicho, Yokohama, on the 25th ult. The culprit, Tanaka Eijiro by name, is a youth of twenty-two years, and a *heimin* of Shiga Prefecture.

NEWS reached Yokohama on Saturday of the ramming of H.M.S. *Victoria* by H.M.S. *Camperdown*, and the total loss of the former vessel, together with Admiral Tryon and 421 officers and men. On Monday the flags of the British Legation at Tokyo, the British Consulate at Yokohama, the *Imperieuse* and seven other men-of-war in the harbour, were flying at half-mast in token of grief at the terrible loss of life.

ON the afternoon of the 22nd ult. a shocking accident occurred in Asakusa Park, Tokyo. A Japanese acrobat, named Tokumatsu, was puting a leopard through its tricks, when the animal suddenly seized the man by the back, and inflicted seven wounds. The man was immediately removed from the cage and medical assistance procured. The performance was continued by another Japanese, named Yonekichi, who managed to come out of it with a whole skin.

JUDGE MOWAT has given his decision on the motion argued before him a fortnight ago, in the *Chishima-Ravenna* case. He finds that Plaintiff being, by the law of the country where the collision occurred, not answerable for the negligent act of his servants, he cannot be sued in an English Court for the damage resulting from such act; and being for that reason not answerable in an action, he cannot be held liable to a counter-claim.

IT is stated by the News Agency that during the past three years there has been a steady increase of crime in Japan. The numbers of prisoners for the three years are:—1891, for the whole year, 71,804; 1892, for the whole year, 75,584; and 1893, up to April, 75,876. The last figure is very remarkable. Crime is known to prevail in times of famine or commercial depression, but neither of these conjunctives now exist in Japan. The News Agency makes no attempt to explain the increase, though any intelligent discussion of the question would be very interesting.

THE week closes with business practically at a standstill in consequence of the severe drop in silver. The price of the White metal was quoted in London on Saturday last at 38d per oz. Monday was a Bank holiday here, but vague rumours were in the air of a serious disturbance in the financial world. Tuesday morning saw these verified, silver being quoted at 36d. Exchange rates fell in sympathy. Wednesday witnessed another heavy "slump" and Thursday still another. On Friday a fall of 20 per cent. on the three days was noted, and the market closed weak with silver at 30½d! with Banks refusing to give quotations, although a settlement was reported at 2/4½ per dollar! Silver is since down to 30 pence for oz. in London, and Demand rate for Bank paper here is 2/4. This morning the tone is slightly firmer and we hope the bottom has been touched. This is the record of the past week. The last seven days will undoubtedly be looked upon in the future as very "Black." Under these circumstances, it cannot be wondered at that the Import trade has been wholly disorganised and panicky; nothing can be noted in any line, Teamen are looking glum at the outlook for their staple, telegrams from the other side having arrived concelling orders in hand. The Raw Silk season of 1892-93 closed yesterday. The total export was 47,659 piculs against 50,138 last year and 34,294, the year previous. The new season opens with buyers and sellers "sitting tight," everyone waiting until the horizon clears somewhat in the matter of exchange. Holders, however, are anticipating big prices as soon as the new season properly opens. No business transacted in Waste Silk, not one bale changing hands. Prices in the new season are of course dependant upon Raw Silk values, and of them nothing can be prophesied.

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THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

Lieutenant-Colonel Fukushima has been the principal topic of news and discussion in the vernacular press of the week. Nearly one half of the miscellaneous news columns have been filled with detailed descriptions of the journeyings which were brought to a termination in Tokyo on Thursday last amidst scenes never before witnessed on a similar occasion. The enthusiasm manifested by the whole nation over the successful traveller has been so spontaneous and universal, that the warning uttered by ourselves and a few of the metropolitan papers proved of no avail to prevent excesses and extravagance. Among the metropolitan papers, the *Jiji Shimpo* has kept conspicuously free from any outburst of foolish enthusiasm. Next to it come the *Nippon*, the *Kokumin Shimbun*, and the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*. These papers all manifest sincere admiration for Lieutenant-Colonel Fukushima, and are not chary in according to him whatever applause he is entitled to. But they have hinted that too much praise is worse than no praise. The other metropolitan papers have been almost insane in their pœans over the "heroic deed" achieved by the "daring officer." They have even been so unreasonable as to take serious offence at the moderation shown by a few of their contemporaries, not hesitating to attribute mean motives of jealousy and envy to these sober journals. A certain paper classes the Lieutenant-Colonel with Stanley and Livingstone. But such cases of senseless extravagance have been on the whole, exceptional. Even journals conspicuous for extreme enthusiasm, have acknowledged that the transcontinental ride, though remarkable enough in its way, is not in itself entitled to national recognition. But they contend that Lieutenant-Colonel Fukushima's achievement must be considered in view of the present condition of popular sentiment in this country. And this consideration is well worthy of attention. After three centuries of conservative seclusion, the nation, say these papers—has just begun to look beyond the narrow confines of its island Empire. Lieutenant-Colonel Fukushima's ride across Siberia happened to be coincident with a general outburst of enthusiasm for foreign enterprise. Thus the extraordinary enthusiasm shown for him is not so much on account of the intrinsic value of his achievement as on account of the fact that he stands forth the first visible exponent of a rapidly awakening spirit of enterprise among his countrymen. The Japanese, say these papers, see in him a pioneer of courage and pluck along the line they are now yearning to tread. Hence the great outburst of enthusiasm in every class of the people.

* * *

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* is glad to notice that Lieutenant-Colonel Fukushima seems to be in little danger of having his head turned by the excessive praise of his countrymen, as is evident from the quiet and sensible manner in which he has thanked his congratulators at each place on his return to Japan. He is also praised by our contemporary for the modesty with which he has conducted himself at the entertainments given in his honour. These things, trifling as they may appear to casual observers, are, in the *Nichi Nichi's* opinion, really important, because they show that the plucky officer is not yet contented with what he has achieved. His ambition is to explore the whole continent of Asia, having already travelled much in India, Annam, and China. The *Nichi Nichi* exhorts him not to relax his energies until he has attained his object.

* * *

The *Kokumin Shimbun*, which, as already said, is one of the few papers to think that too much fuss has been made about Lieutenant-Colonel Fukushima, alludes to the widely circulated report that he will be appointed to the command of a division of the Imperial Guards. He at present belongs to the General Staff Office. Our contemporary understands that the object of his life is to make explorations in Persia, Afghanistan, Central Asia, and so forth. He has some of the most important qualifications for an explorer. It would be a pity if full opportunity were not given him to carry out the purpose of his life.

* * *

With reference to the Korean question, the vernacular press continues to urge upon the Government the necessity of pursuing a strong policy. The *Kokkai* is now discussing the subject in a long series of articles not yet concluded. The essay is no doubt from the pen of Mr. Suyehiro, one of the ablest Japanese writers on the Eastern Question. At the outset he insists upon the prime importance to Japan of maintaining Korean independence. Nothing, he says, could be more dangerous for Japan's safety than that the peninsular should be occupied by either Russia or China, or indeed by any other Power. Supposing Korea in the hands of China or Russia, Japan would have to largely increase her maritime forces so that the balance of power might be preserved. It is a far safer and more economical policy to expend a certain amount of energy in protecting Korea against any other Power's designs. As to the manner of such protection, some writers argue that China must be dissuaded from interfering in the internal administration of the peninsular Kingdom, so that both she and Japan may stand on exactly the same footing in regard to that country. The *Kokkai* differs from these writers. Instead of dissuading China from interfering in Korea's domestic affairs, Japan should claim and exercise the same privilege. If, for instance, the Chinese Minister at Sōul is allowed to confer directly with the King on political subjects, the Japanese Minister should obtain the same permission. So, too, in the customs, the telegraphs, the consular police, and so forth, Japan should secure for herself the same rights and immunities as China possesses. Some Japanese statesmen are afraid of bringing about a collision with China by adopting a strong line of policy in Korea. The *Kokkai* avows itself the last to desire a war with China; but under certain circumstances, Japan, in order to maintain her interests and dignity, must run the risk even of an open rupture with the Middle Kingdom. Moreover, not China and Japan alone possess a direct interest in the integrity of Korean territory. Russia could not for a moment tolerate the occupation of Korea by a hostile Power. Nor could England regard such a conjuncture with indifference. Thus if China, or England, or both together threaten to encroach upon Korean territory, Japan would combine with Russia to prevent them from attaining their object, while, if Russia display a similar desire, this country would ally itself with China and England in opposition to the Northern Power. Thus Japan, if she be equal to her opportunities, may hold in her hands the destiny of Korea and the peace of the East in general. Our contemporary then proceeds to compare the relative positions occupied by Japan and China in the peninsular kingdom. It laments—speaking from personal observation—that Japan's prestige *vis-a-vis* China has vastly fallen since 1884, while China's influence has increased in corresponding proportion. Referring to the rumour that statesmen in power are opposed to Mr. Oishi's returning to Sōul as Japanese Representative, on the ground that such a step would seriously offend the Chinese Government, the *Kokkai* points to the conduct of China herself toward Japan. Who is the present Chinese Resident at Sōul? Is he not the very soldier who commanded the Chinese troops in their attack upon the Japanese in Sōul in 1884? China has thus shown no consideration for Japanese susceptibilities, and it would be silly on Japan's part to defer to a Power which has not betrayed the slightest inclination to defer to her.

* * *

The *Hochi Shimbun* goes farther than the above journal. Indeed, it is a significant circumstance that papers of all parties are steadily becoming more and more outspoken about the Korean question. The *Hochi*, for instance, urges Japan to oust China from Korea completely by appealing, if necessary, to the *ultima ratio*. In our contemporary's opinion, Japan and China are now capable of marching side by side. If Japan really aspires to a commanding position in the Orient, she must first measure her strength with China and establish her ascendency over the latter. Certain Japanese statesmen are afraid of China, but in our contemporary's opinion, China is not so formidable a Power. Her army has no discipline and is composed of cravens who would take to their heels at the first noise of battle. As for her Navy, its total tonnage is slightly in excess of that of Japan, but it is divided into Northern and Southern Squadrons, under the control of authorities independent of each other. Hence there would be lack of efficient cō-operation. Moreover, the ships are manned by crews notorious for incapacity; and the vessels themselves are pronounced by experts to be defective in some essential respects. As to courage and *elan*, there can be no manner of doubt that the superiority is on the side of the Japanese. In fine, the Progressionist organ thinks it absurd to be afraid of China. The sooner Japan crushes China the better. Korean affairs afford a unique opportunity to bring the Middle Kingdom to its knees. Japan must at once take an unequivocal stand and declare her resolve no longer to tolerate China's treating Korea as though the latter were her tributary. Such treatment can have only one issue, war. In that event what attitude would Russia and England take? At present Russia is not prepared to show any activity in competing for supremacy in Korea, and in the event of war between Japan and China, Russia, the *Hochi* thinks, is likely to be friendly to Japan rather than to China. As for England, she too is not prepared to play any active *rôle* on the Korean stage and although she is at present on friendly terms with China, she would not openly range herself against Japan, should the latter show a determination to shoulder the responsibility of maintaining Korean integrity and independence. Thus Japan would not be called upon to fight with any Power except China. After Japan's supremacy in Korea has been finally established, the *Hochi* thinks that she should abstain from the arbitrary interference which China now exercises in Korea's internal affairs. However, it might become necessary to have certain strategical points in Korea either ceded or leased to Japan, so, that, in the event of complications, the peninsula's integrity might be effectually preserved. Such points are the mouth of the river forming the boundary between Korea and Russia, Zekkei Island off Fusan, Port Hamilton, and ports in the vicinity of Ninsen.

* * *

The question of the establishment of Dr. Kitazato's Hospital for the treatment of contagious diseases in the immediate vicinity of Shiba Park, has attracted considerable journalistic attention. The so-called delegates of the inhabitants of Shiba District are taking active steps to get the site removed to some locality at a distance from human habitations. The agitation conducted by them has reached a serious stage, and it is reported that some of the agitators have let it be understood that, should Dr. Kitazato persist in ignoring the wishes of the Shiba people, his life may possibly be in danger. This report has discredited the citizens of Shiba. Many papers condemn the absurd zeal they manifest. Some journals even doubt whether the agitation is approved by the majority of the inhabitants of the locality. The *Yomiuri Shimbun* advises the agitators to ask the opinion of leading medical men and to abide by their view.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

LOSS OF H.B.M.S. "VICTORIA."

TELEGRAPHIC news has been received of a terrible disaster in the Mediterranean. H.B.M.S. *Victoria*, Flagship on the Mediterranean Station, has been rammed by the *Camperdown*, and sunk, with an appalling loss of life, no less than 400 out of her complement of 600 men having been drowned, including Admiral Tryon himself. The *Victoria* was one of the finest ships in the British Navy. She was built by Lord Armstrong

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and Company and is a fully armoured cruiser: her tonnage being 10,470, with an indicated horse-power of 14,000, and her armament consisting of 15 of the largest description of guns. When commissioned for the Mediterranean, service in her was an object of keen competition, and we may take it for granted that the officers and men who sank with her were among the best to be found in the Navy. Shortly after being commissioned she took the ground and was got off with some difficulty, an incident that resulted in the Lords of the Admiralty writing a letter of thanks to Lord Armstrong and Company, it being held that the condition of the ship after coming off the rocks indicated exceptionally excellent construction. No particulars are given of the catastrophe, but the most probable conjecture is that the ships of the fleet were manœuvring in close order during rough weather when the collision occurred. We must assume that the weather was rough or the loss of life would not have been so great. Admiral Tryon, whose death has to be mourned, served in the Naval Brigade before Sebastopol during the winter of 1853-54, in the trenches, where he was wounded; was present at all the operations before Sebastopol, and at the capture of Kinburn; (Crimean and Turkish Medals, Inkermann and Sebastopol Clasps, Medjidie of 3rd Class); specially mentioned in despatches for services as Director of Transports during the Abyssinian war, 1868 (Abyssinian Medal); Private Secretary to the First Lord of the Admiralty, 1871-74; C.B., 15th August, 1868. F.R.G.S.; A.D.C. to the Queen, 27th November, 1879; received the approval of the Government by the manner in which he discharged his duties on the coast of Tunis, and in the *Sfax* Commission of Inquiry, 1881. Officially complimented by the Admiralty on the state of the *Monarch* when paid off, 1881; Acting Permanent Secretary to the Admiralty, June 1882; appointed Permanent Secretary, May, 1883 to April, 1884; Commander-in-Chief on Australian Station, November, 1884, to February, 1887; K.C.B. (additional member), 21st June, 1887, on the occasion of the celebration of the completion of the fiftieth year of Her Majesty's reign; unsuccessfully contested the seat for the Spalding Division of Lincolnshire in the Conservative interest, July, 1887; Admiral Superintendent of Naval Reserves, April, 1888, to May, 1891; commanded one of the opposing Fleets at the Naval Manœuvres in 1888, 1889, 1890; Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean, 20th August, 1891; promoted to the First Class of the Order of the Medjidie, H.I.M. the Sultan of Turkey (when in command of the Mediterranean Fleet), and received Her Majesty's permission to accept and wear the insignia, 1892. More than a century has passed since an English Admiral was lost with his ship in time of peace. Of course the deaths of so many highly trained officers and men and the sinking of a ship worth about seven million *yen* are serious and lamentable affairs. But what will be felt most keenly by the Navy is the loss of prestige involved in the disaster. It has to be remembered, however, before attempting to form any comparative estimate of Naval casualties in different countries, not only that the Navy of Great Britain comprises a far larger force of vessels than the Navy of any other country, but that the ships are always sent to sea and taken into places where other men-of-war do not venture. Accidents, therefore, must be regarded as inevitable, though happily accidents on the scale of that now reported are exceedingly rare.

* * *

The names of the *Victoria's* officers were:—Vice-Admiral—Sir George Tryon, K.C.B.; Flag Lieutenant—Lord Gillford; Secretary—Chas. J. Pawsey; Clerks to Sec.—James A. Clarke, Tom Seaman, Charles F. Pollard, Henry R. Allen; Captain—Hon. Maurice A. Bourke; Lieutenants—Frederick W. F. Hervey (G), Edward F. Inglefield, Herbert L. Heath (T), Philip H. Munro, Charles J. Collins; Staff Comm.—Thomas H. Smith; Major R. M.—Arthur C. Smyth; Capt. R.M.A.—George G. Aston; Lieut. R.M.—Harry D. Farquharson; Chaplain and Naval Inst—Rev. Samuel S. O. Morris, M.A.; Fleet Surgeon—Herbert M. Ellis; Fleet Paym.—Valentine D. J. Rickcord; Fleet Engineer—Felix Foreman; Sub-Lieuts.—Montagu L. Hulton, Hugh D. R. Watson; Surgeons—Francis Woore, Edward B. Townsend; Assist. Payms.—William H. Campion, James A. Clarke; Engineers—Frederick G. Harding, Walter W. H. Rawlingson, Donald P. Green; Assist.-Engineer—Henry C. Deadman, William R. Seaton; Gunner—John T. Smith (T); Boatswains—William T. White, William Barnard (S), Frederick S. Long (act); Carpenter—Edward Earl, Midshipmen—Norman McC. Lewis, Leslie Inglis, Arthur C. Grieve, Arthur C. Grieve, Ayscough G. H. Fawkes, James G. Lumsden, Hon. Cyril A. Ward, Horald G. Innes, Herbert M. Lanyon, Walter E. Henley, Osward W. Ormsby, Laurence J. P. Scarlett, Fraser S. Stooks, Philip D. Roberts-West; Clerks—Percy H. Franklin, Hugh W. Maclean; Assist-Clerks—Arthur D. Savage, Charles R. Bunbury; Special Duties:—Lieutenant—Cresswell J. Eyres (G), Robert L. H. Armstrong (T); Gunner—Daniel G. O'Connel (T).

CUSTOMS RETURNS.

THE following is a summary of the Customs Returns for May, showing the foreign trade of the empire for the month :—

	1892. SILVER YEN.	1893. SILVER YEN.
Exports	7,198,007 890	6,681,686.730
Imports	7,252,540.580	7.557.960.590

Total exports and imports	14,239,647.320
Excess of exports	876,273 860

CUSTOMS DUTIES.	SILVER YEN.
Exports	97,966.284
Imports	275,281.489
Miscellaneous	11,242 832
Total	384,490.605

TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS TO AND IMPORTS FROM VARIOUS FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

	Exports. Silver Yen.	Imports. Silver Yen.	Total. Silver Yen.
Great Britain	449,661.580	1,875,491.710	2,325,153.290
United States of America	2,267,360.950	262,865.400	2,530,226.350
Hongkong	1,262,545.010	873,107.560	2,135,652.570
China	695,686.000	1,345,184.120	2,040,850.120
France	780,956.030	467,464.460	1,248,420.490
British India	297,998.270	1,008,755.560	1,306,753.830
Germany	371,493.500	580,836.570	952,360.070
Korea	96,059.020	148,204.080	244,264.000
Belgium	108,130 360	129,439.640	237,550.000
Canada & other British America	175,307.280	2,257.000	177,564.280
Russia	81,957.540	80,127.270	162,084.810
Australia	96,481.430	55,020.120	251,501.540
Switzerland	635.070	94,804.360	95,449 430
Italy	70,577.030	3,797.360	70,374.990
Philippine Islands	3,553.650	67,674.720	71,228.362
Austria	10,093.400	2,681.270	12,703.670
Hawaii	12,817.930	—	12,817.930
Spain	532.000	6,386.280	6,851.810
Holland	3,293.600	3,441.420	6,639.020
Portugal	—	1,749.700	1,749.700
Siam	444.000	—	444.000
Peru	—	426.900	426.900
Turkey	276.080	—	276.000
Sweden & Norway	—	56.800	56.800
Other Countries	195,992.160	126,298.320	322,289.480
Total	6,529,562.850	7,557,960.590	14,087,523.440

TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS AND IMPORTS FROM AND TO EACH PORT.

	Exports. Silver Yen.	Imports. Silver Yen.	Totals. Silver Yen.
Yokohama	3,137,760.550	3,861,474.620	6,935,235.170
Kobe	2,689,958.140	3,425,156.960	6,115,115.100
Osaka	95,174.050	603,327.550	698,501.600
Nagasaki	289,642 430	210,715.040	490,357.230
Hakodate	6,852,600	—	6,852.600
Niigata	5,044.080	—	5,044.080
Shimonoseki	144,972.450	35,601.100	180,573.550
Moji	38,906.300	—	38,906 300
Hakata	202.900	2,293.250	2,496.150
Karatsu	5,940.000	—	5,940.000
Kuchinotsu	195,800.000	—	195,800.000
Misumi	3,606.000	—	3,606.000
Idzugahara	1,019.970	7,010.620	8,030.590
Shishiki	1,173.360	624.560	1,797.920
Sasuna	634.760	956.250	1,591.010
Specie and Bullion Exports			1,076,999.090
Specie and Bullion Imports			728,374.350
Total			1,805,373.440
Excess of exports			348,624.740

VALUE OF EXPORTS AND IMPORTS BY JAPANESE MERCHANTS AND GOVERNMENT.

By Japanese Merchants	Exports	1,173,189.810
	Imports	1,582,352.860
Imported by Government		68,431.830

RADICAL FINANCE.

THE recommendations of Mr. Oishi, as published in the columns of certain vernacular journals, ought to furnish food for reflection to the Opposition. Mr. Oishi is a member of the *Jiyu-to*. His choice by the Government to represent Japan at the Korean Court, was accepted with outspoken satisfaction by his Party, and his return has been made the occasion of extraordinary demonstrations by the same Party. Now the financial programme of the *Jiyu-to* is essentially one of economy. In the forefront of all their reforms they place reduction of administrative expenditure. Their nominees upon the Budget Committee of the House of Representatives have invariably advocated a considerable diminution of the appropriations on account of foreign missions, and have invariably shown a disposition to close the nation's purse-strings to outlays incurred in connection with foreign missions. But so soon as a member of the *Jiyu-to* finds himself entrusted with diplomatic functions, he urges, instead of economy, great increases of expenditure. Mr. Oishi would have three hundred stand of arms placed in the Legation in Sōul. He would have Japan acquire possession of the telegraph to the west of Fusan. He would have a Chinese interpreter attached to the Japanese Consulate in the capital, and an additional Secretary and two student Interpreters in the Legation. He would increase the force of Japanese police in Sōul from 15 to 30. He would make larger appropriations for the Legation and the Consulate. He would send commercial committees of investigation throughout the peninsula. He would raise the police force in the Settlement in Sōul from 12 to 40 men. He would have three men-of-war constantly stationed at Chemulpo. He would erect a new building within the compound of the Chemulpo Consulate. In a word, he, a prominent member of the Party of Retrenchment, comes home from Korea, after a sojourn of three or four months, and fomulates proposals that would add immensely to the drain which the peninsula already makes upon the Japanese Exchequer. Precept is one thing; practice, another. If we may take Mr. Oishi as a criterion, the advent of the *Jiyu-to* to power, the assumption of administrative control by the Party which talks of nothing save the duty of lightening the people's burdens, would have the effect of adding thirty or forty per cent. to the national expenditure.

MR. TATENO AND LIBERTY OF THE PRESS.

FRIENDS of Mr. Tateno, Japanese Representative in Washington, have asked us to point out that his letter to the Public Press Congress in Chicago contains a correct statement as to the affairs of the newspaper press in Japan, and that the abuse it has procured for him is unmerited. It does not appear to us that any defence is needed, but since Mr. Tateno's friends seem solicitous on his behalf, we comply with their request. Mr. Tateno spoke of Japan as "a country where the public press exerts its legitimate influence over the public affairs of the land—a country where liberty of speech, writing, publication, public meetings and associations is recognised and guaranteed by the Constitution." All that is quite true. The press *does* exert its legitimate influence, and the liberty spoken of is guaranteed and recognised by the Constitution. The article of the Constitution containing the guarantee adds, as a matter of course, that such liberty shall be exercised "within the limits of law." We say "as a matter of course" because the enjoyment of any privilege granted by any Constitution must necessarily be subject to law. In Japan there is a national assembly invested with power to make or unmake laws, as is the British Parliament. That assembly has revised the laws relating to publication, public meetings and associations; revised them in such a liberal spirit that a very full measure of freedom is enjoyed under the statutes now in force. It has also revised the press law, but here a difference of opinion between the Upper and Lower Houses of the Diet has hampered the work of revision so that a newspaper is still subject to suspension by order of the Executive. Had Mr. Tateno been writing for the information of the Congress a full *exposé* of the affairs of the newspaper press in Japan, he should have explained that liberty of pen does not exist there in the sense attached to the term by Englishmen and Americans. But he was not required to tender any such detailed

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explanation. A general statement alone was needed, and the statement made by him was as true and comprehensive as could have been expected from any Minister Plenipotentiary. We think that, in view of the malicious scrutiny to which every Japanese deed or word is subjected by certain writers longing for an opportunity to be brutally abusive, Mr. Tateno would have done well to exercise greater caution. But that he deserves any of the worse epithets levelled at his head can not be maintained for a moment.

KOREAN INTELLIGENCE.

DISQUIETING rumours have been circulated for the past few days about the situation in Korea. It is alleged, for instance, that apprehensions exist of a serious disturbance in Sōul, that China is pouring troops into the capital, and so forth. The sudden despatch of H.I.J.S. *Takao Kan* to Korea has been regarded as confirming these wild rumours. But it is now understood that the vessel's departure is connected with a murder of Japanese fishermen by Korean pirates. According to a telegram received by the Foreign Office, a Japanese fishing boat containing three fishermen was boarded by Korean pirates on the 13th instant at Kōyō in Zenra-do. Two of the Japanese were killed, and the third was severely wounded. The men are said to have been asleep when they were attacked. The boat was taken possession of by the pirates. The *Takao Kan* is reported to have reached Fusan on the 24th instant, and it is believed that, having at once received on board Consul General Murota, together with a few constables and some Korean officials, she sailed for the scene of the outrage.

* * *

Concerning the *Togaku-to* agitation, the *Chosen Shimpo* of Ninsen, brought by the last mail, mentions that no report has been received from Keishodo, but that the malcontents encamped in the vicinity of Mōslin in Zenra-do are daily becoming stronger. It is said that their banners are inscribed with ideographs meaning, "To sweep away twenty-eight wicked officials, and to promote the prosperity of the country and the welfare of the people."

* * *

The same journal states that a certain foreign Minister at the Korean Court has highly praised Mr. Oishi's conduct in connection with the recent indemnity complications. This diplomat is said to have further remarked that individually, he was not particularly well disposed towards Mr. Oishi, but that he could not help acknowledging the latter's conspicuous ability. He believed that Mr. Oishi would be sent back to Sōul as Japan's Minister Plenipotentiary.

* * *

The new Korean Foreign Minister seems to be a man of considerable talent and capacity. At all events he evidently enjoys the good opinion of the Koreans as well as of foreigners.

* * *

The telegraph line between Fusan and Sōul, which was interrupted for some time, is said to have been re-opened recently. The *Chosen Shimpo* observes, concerning this line, that it is interrupted on every possible pretext, even the slightest rainfall being thought a sufficient reason.

THE COMMERCIAL ASPECT.

WHEN the Banks closed yesterday, silver was quoted in London at 30½d., a drop of 7/8d. since Friday week; and 15 per cent. since Tuesday. Under these conditions it is scarcely to be wondered at that exchange quotations are practically withheld pending receipt of definite news, one way or another, as to silver's immediate future. The strain upon local commercial houses is severe, but it must be still more intense on the other side. Indeed, disastrous news of failures in the States and Europe, is confidently anticipated ere another 48 hours elapse. The last mail brought news of several bank panics and suspensions in the United States, while business everywhere was reported to be unusually stagnant, especially in Milwaukee and other large manufacturing cities. The Eastern Banks, however, will feel the strain more than those on the Pacific slope, and many of them are expected to go under. Business in Yokohama is practically suspended, so far as imports go, while silk and tea-men are also glum, particularly the latter, who have been wired to cancel orders already in hand, though, of course, the rapid appreciation of gold ought to tell, and must eventually tell, in favour of exporters.

THE EDITORSHIP OF THE "JAPAN GAZETTE."

TO-DAY the *Japan Gazette* passes under the control of a new Editor. We can not allow the incident to pass without offering to the outgoing editress our congratulations on the ability, industry and courage shown by her during the period of her tenure of office. The toil of editing a daily newspaper in the East is very great. It can be appreciated only by those that have made practical essay of it. We do not pretend that it exceeds the labour devolving on a merchant in these break-neck times: nothing, perhaps, is severer than that. But to assume complete editorial charge of a daily newspaper is about the last kind of task that any one would be disposed to assign to a lady, and when we find a lady not only courageous enough to undertake it, but also sufficiently persevering, versatile and resolute to discharge it successfully, we are constrained to extend to her a large meed of applause. Folks in the East are not easily moved to admire industry. Hard, persistent toil comes to them in the run of every-day work. They expect no praise, and are not prone to bestow praise, for any effort involved in the routine of business. But this appears to us to be a case apart. The work done by Mrs. W. H. Smith, as editress of the *Japan Gazette*, has not only been highly creditable for its own sake, but has also furnished another evidence of woman's capacity to discharge *rôles* hitherto monopolised by the sterner sex. She has won for her sex a new title to respect, and we venture to assure her that appreciation of her ability and pluck is very warmly extended to her by those that have watched her career during the past two years.

PERSONAL ITEMS.

THE *Nippon* states that recently the Minister of War received a visit from Viscounts Kabayama and Nire. The conversation between the host and his guests soon passed into an animated discussion. "But," adds our contemporary in a significant manner, "thanks to Count Oyama's genial temper, the dispute did not lead to any serious consequences." The subject under discussion is not known. The *Nippon* supposes that it may have been connected with reforms in the Army. These two leaders of the Military Party—continues the Tokyo journal—are not contented with the way things are being managed by the Civil Party now in power, and consequently it is not difficult to divine the cause or causes of discussion at the Minister of War's official residence.

* * *

Mr. Otori arrived at Shimbashi at 5.35 p.m. on the 26th instant. About three hundred of his friends and acquaintances posted themselves on the platform and gave him three cheers as he stepped out of the train. Among those present were, Messrs. Hayashi, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mura Yasushi, member of the House of Peers, Watanabe Hiromoto, former Minister to Austria, and a number of the principal members of the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Otori went home in a carriage sent for him by the Foreign Office.

* * *

Viscount Enomoto has hitherto been thought the most likely successor to Mr. Otori at the Court of Peking. But General Viscount Soga's name is now frequently mentioned in this connexion. Viscount Soga is not only a soldier but a scholar, and of late he has been giving to newspaper reporters his views on the Eastern Question.

* * *

Major General Fukuwara has been relieved of his military rank by his own desire. The Tokyo *News Agency* reports that this extraordinary step has been taken on account of sickness. But that is not a satisfactory explanation. Sickness may necessitate retirement, but does not involve deprivation of military rank. Some papers state that the General has resigned his military rank, because he proposes to take part in practical politics. That explanation is no more satisfactory than the former. There is evidently some cause which the public does not yet know.

* * *

Messrs. Kono Hironaka and Suzuki Manjiro, it has been announced, have given up their projected visit to Chicago. The Radical party can not spare them at the present juncture, as there are various weighty questions of policy to be immediately considered

GERMAN DIPLOMATIC APPOINTMENTS.

A TELEGRAM published by the American press, under date Berlin, June 3rd says:—"Baron von Saurma Jeltsch, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary for Prussia at the court of Stuttgart, Wurtemberg, has been appointed German Embassador to Washington." We judge from this that H. E. Dr. Holleben, who represented Germany in the United States prior to the above appointment, had not sufficient seniority in the Diplomatic Service to receive the Ambassadorial status to which Germany has now raised her Representative in Washington. It should be added, however, that the date of the above telegram constitutes an element of uncertainty, for as the Reichstag was not in session at that time, no such appointment could have been definitely made.

* * *

Another change in German diplomatic circles is the appointment of Mr. Von Waldthausen, formerly Secretary of Legation in Tokyo, to be Secretary to the German Embassy in St. Petersburg.

REDUCTION OF ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENDITURES.

THE *Kokkai* writes that in the proposed scheme of economies to be effected in administrative outlay, reduction of office expenses and salaries will constitute the principal item Selecting two or three Departments concerning which it has made inquiries, it says that the salaries and allowances in the Department of Justice, for example, exclusive of the salaries to foreign employés, aggregate only 80,000 *yen*, out of which the only possible economy does not exceed four or five thousand *yen* in the item of contingencies. In the Department of Finance, larger economies can be effected in salaries than in office expenses, from thirty to forty thousand *yen* being possible under the former heading; while in the Army Department a saving of some three hundred thousand *yen* is contemplated. All this is somewhat vague and unsatisfactory.

MR. OISHI MASAMI.

THE metropolitan papers, with a single exception, publish a report to the effect that, after repeated conferences during the past few days, the Cabinet has decided to adopt, in the main, the policy suggested by Mr Oishi for pursuance in the Korean peninsula, and that, consequently, he will be again sent to Sōul as Japan's Representative. The exception is the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, which alleges that, according to it information, whatever may be the Cabinet's attitude as to the policy recommended by Mr. Oishi, he himself is averse to going to Sōul again; and that it is not known whether or no the Cabinet will grant his desire to be relieved from his post. Moreover, even in the event of his removal from Sōul, transfer to a Ministerial post in any other foreign country is extremely unlikely. The credit which the *Nichi Nichi* enjoys for accuracy in reporting Government affairs, will doubtless give great weight to these assertions. But in the present instance, we are strongly disposed to receive its version with more or less doubt, and to conclude that no confident prediction of any kind can yet be made.

* * *

As to the policy to be pursued in Korea, the *Jiji Shimpo*, independently of the first report mentioned above, is inclined to think that the

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Cabinet will probably adopt a new and active programme. "In point of diplomatic ability and knowledge," says our contemporary, "the first place must be given to Count Ito. He and Count Inouye and Mr. Mutsu are, if anything, disposed to pursue a strong foreign policy, although some of their colleagues are said to maintain that the time has not yet come for such a step. The adoption of a striking programme abroad would undoubtedly have the effect of diminishing the heat of political discussion at home. In view of this circumstance, the Cabinet may possibly decide upon a Korean policy calculated to divert the nation's attention effectually from domestic politics."

MARITIME AFFAIRS.

On the 22nd instant, Messrs. Shibusawa Eiichi, Asabuki Eiji, and Suganuma Seikei, representing the Cotton Spinners' Guild, held a conference with the Directors of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha in connection with the proposed opening of a steamship line between this country and India. We now learn that, not the Yusen Kaisha, but the cotton spinners chiefly desire the opening of the line in question. At the meeting on the 22nd, the directors of the Yusen Kaisha are reported to have replied to the cotton spinners' representatives that their company could not enter into any engagement until the matter had been duly investigated and the approval of the shareholders obtained. They promised, however, that the Company would do everything in its power to carry out the cotton spinners' desire, and that a trial voyage should be made in September or October. They asked that, on the occasion of the trial voyage, the cotton spinners should pay freight at the present rate of 2 *yen* per bale, but it is believed that the spinners are strongly disinclined to make such an agreement even for the trial voyage.

* * *

The Department of Communications is said to be engaged in the preparation of a Bill for the Protection of Steam Ship Navigation to Foreign Countries. Investigations have already been completed relating to the opening of lines with Austria, America and Europe. At present the officials charged with the framing of the Bill are reported to be considering which of these three lines should be opened first.

A NEW CHINESE IMPERIAL POSTAL SERVICE.

"We are informed from Peking," says the *North China Daily News*, "that Sir Robert Hart's great postal scheme has recently been sanctioned. The details so far as can be learned are interesting. From his memorial last spring to the Throne through the Tsungli Yamên and Board of Admiralty, it appears that Sir Robert intends to place a Foreign Postal Superintendent of the land and water services at the capital city of each province and an ordinary European Postmaster in each prefectural city, assisted, of course, principally at the beginning by English-educated Chinese clerks on the staff; while the *hsien* or district cities as well as the more important un-walled market towns will be in charge of trained Chinese only. This concerns inland and non-treaty ports only; and the whole, not counting the Chinese in the department, will scarcely include two hundred foreigners. With regard to the treaty ports, of course, the service will be managed by a larger number of foreigners, mostly detached from the Maritime Customs, numbering say, four hundred men, so that the total number of Europeans to be connected with the new postal service will not come up to six hundred men of all ranks. The reason for the larger number of Europeans in the treaty ports is obvious, as a goodly number of letters and parcels will be coming from foreign residents, although foreign correspondence throughout the empire will probably not exceed one-eightieth, or even less, of the whole. The new post offices where practicable will be joined with the telegraph offices, and the usual Courier service (mounted and on foot) which has hitherto only carried government despatches throughout the length and breadth of the land will also be introduced into the new scheme; to be specially used as heretofore,—but under European superintendence,—to carry such things as Memorials to the Throne from high provincial authorities and the *Official* correspondence of the various *yamêns*. Here, the system of "franking" will be exchanged for that of the *yamên* seal of the official sender. As to the private Chinese postal agencies whose name is legion and who have a large Guild in Shanghai, they will of course be closed by government, but their staffs will be allowed to join the new government services which will therefore have a band of experienced men—experienced as far as the localities and addresses are concerned—at disposal, while opposition will be disarmed. It is not intended during the first year or so to go beyond the treaty ports, the sea-coast towns and cities along the Yangtsze. From thence it will be gradually extended inland until within the space of six or seven years at most it is expected that there will be no town or large-sized village in this empire without its "post office." Especially will the new government postal service be a boon to the poorer classes of Chinese. A glance at the usual scale of prices for letters will explain this; from Peking to Shanghai 100 to 150 cash per letter (10 to 15 cents); Peking to Canton 200 to 250 cash per letter (20 to 25 cents); Peking to Yunnan 500 cash (50 cents), and so on. The "wine money" or postage fee is variable according to the ignorance of the recipient or addresses; and the usual fee of ten to fifteen cents in its elasticity sometimes mounts up to forty to forty-five cents. There is a similar state of chaos and uncertainty in the delivery of parcels, and there can be little doubt, that founded upon a liberal basis, and under the able foreign direction and working which Sir Robert Hart may be trusted to recommend, an Imperial Postal Service will confer very considerable benefits upon the country.

THE DEATH OF KANO TAMBI.

The famous painter of the Kano School, Kano Tambi, in fact the only exponent of the School during present times, breathed his last in the capital a few days ago. He was the second son of the late Kano Tanzen and served for a long time in the Naval Department. Many of his most valuable works adorn the Emperor's Palace, having been executed at the order of the Imperial Household. As a judge of ancient paintings he was unique, and during his life he rendered valuable service in this capacity at many of the art expositions. He was an earnest advocate of Japanese art and contributed greatly to its revival. Among his foreign pupils he numbered Mr. Fenollosa. His death has drawn forth expressions of great regret from the public, and more especially in art circles will he be mourned.

THE EMPEROR AT THE EQUESTRIAN COLLEGE.

On Tuesday, as previously announced, His Majesty the Emperor proceeded to the Military Equestrian College at Komaba and witnessed various exercises. His Majesty was accompanied by H.E. Marquis Tokudaiji, their Imperial Highnesses Princes Komatsu and Kanin, Lieut.-General Count Oyama, Minister of State for the Army, and by other officials. At the College various exercises were performed by students, officers and non-commissioned officers. His Majesty presented three prizes to the winners; viz., a watch to Cornet Kietsu of the Cavalry, and whips to Sergeant Imanishi of the Cavalry, and Sergeant Kanei of the Artillery.

THE MURDER OF JAPANESE FISHERMEN IN KOREA.

The intelligence of the murder of three Japanese fishermen by Koreans and the subsequent despatch of the *Takao-Kan* have given rise to many rumours. The News Agency, however, publishes a strong disclaimer of any connection between the murder and the recent complication, or between the murder and the despatch of the *Takao-Kan*. Anyau, where the murder occurred, is nearly 200 miles from Sōul and 23 miles from the island of Quelpart. The place has always been a favourite fishing ground, and Japanese are perpetually engaged casting nets there. Constant quarrels have occurred between them and the Koreans owing to business jealousy, and thefts of boats have been incidents of frequent occurrence. There is not the smallest reason to suspect that the outrage just reported does not belong to that common-place category of events. As for the *Takao-Kan*, it is not to be supposed that a man-of-war would be despatched from Japan merely because of a quarrel between a few fisher-folks. The rule followed by the Japanese Government has been to keep one or two ships on the Korean coast to protect the lives and properties of Japanese residents. The *Fuyeyama-Kan* returned a short time ago from that service, and though there is still a vessel at anchor in Chemulpo, it is felt that so long as the *Togaku-to* troubles are not settled, the presence of one ship is not sufficient. Hence the *Takao-Kan*, which happened to be lying at Nagasaki, was sent across. It is not improbable, the News Agency adds, that she may take on board Japanese Consular officials and the Korean local magistrate and proceed to the scene of the outrage, but no such action was the prime purpose of her despatch to Korea.

THE REGIONS TRAVERSED BY THE NORTHERN PACIFIC RAILROAD.

"Six thousand miles through Wonderland" is the title of a beautifully printed and illustrated volume issued for the purpose of conveying an idea of the regions traversed by the Northern Pacific Railroad. The writer is Mr. Olin D. Wheeler. He does not always confine himself to a practical, statistical style, but if the scenery he describes be such as he describes it, there are ample excuses for his occasional bursts of rhetoric and raphsody. A journey by the Northern Pacific must indeed be a perpetual picnic, and if the public need any additional incentive to travel where the conveyances at their disposal are of the most perfect description and the places visited are about as lovely as anything Nature offers, this volume should serve its purpose. As an example of advertising enterprise it is worthy of all praise, the illustrations and general get-up being more like a work of art than a guide to tourists. We learn that the Agents of the Northern Pacific Steamship Co., Messrs. Dodwell, Carlill & Company, are authorized to present a copy of the volume to any one making application, a munificent offer which ought to be taken advantage of unfailingly. Those into whose hands the book comes should turn to the collotype of Mount Tacoma at page 66. The magnificent hill shows a resemblance to Fujiyama so faithful that the foreground alone dispels the illusion of a scene in Japan.

WEST AFRICAN FINERY.

The *American Silk Journal* says that it is announced from England that many English looms are employed on a certain sort of brilliantly-hued satin damask—crimson and yellow preferred—which is woven in four and eight yard pieces, and sold to go out to the West Coast of Africa. These pieces are finished at each end with ordinary crimson and gold fringe, and are used by the native kings and potentates at Zanzibar, Sierra Leone, Lagos, and far inland, as robes of state, the great idea being to twist the material once round the shoulders and let the ends trail—the more the ends trail in the dust the greater the dignity and grandeur of their wearer. Smaller pieces of rainbow striped satin of two by three yards each are supplied with these gorgeous garments and are worn as turbans, and it is remarked that "it requires no effort of imagination to see the hideous face and dusky form of a Nigger King strutting about in all his finery, admiring himself immensely, and the vision is irresistibly comic!"

LAWLESS BEHAVIOUR OF A FOREIGNER AT MOJI.

The *Hochi Shimbun* publishes a singular statement about a German—whose name it gives as Reimers. Our contemporary says that this person, having passed some time in an inn at Moji, decamped without paying his account, and proceeded to a hotel in Shimonoseki, accompanied by a female companion and a certain Mr. Takata. The last named was arrested for obtaining money under false pretences, a crime

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to which the *Hochi* says that the foreigner was a party. Reimers then ordered some clothing from a tailor named Tajiro-ya, but as he showed no sign of paying the bill, Tajiro-ya waited on him, and after some altercation, obliged him to take off the clothes and make restitution of them. The landlord of the hotel, seeing that singular procedure, thought that the time had come to dun for his own money, which he obtained after much difficulty. Reimers then moved to another hotel, but by this time his former landlord in Moji followed him up and demanded payment, which rash procedure procured for the importunate creditor such a blow on his only sound eye that he fainted. Information was given to the police, who came to question the foreigner, and were informed by him that his house having been unlawfully entered by the Moji landlord, he had merely exercised his right of expelling the man. Subsequently he disappeared, and the *Hochi* hints that he is protected from justice by the extraterritorial system. But that is a misapprehension. Extraterritorial does not play any such rôle. We have little faith in the history of the *Hochi*, but such allegations should not be passed in silence.

RUSKIN.

THE wholly unexpected appointment of John Ruskin to be Poet Laureate has re-directed public attention to his writings. Two months ago, before the news of his nomination was published, few among us would have thought of classing him with poets. It is for his prose that we remember him; for his thoughts of lightning brilliancy clothed in language of perfect art. Yet Ruskin has always been a poet at heart. That fact is abundantly evident in everything penned by him. What particular lack of faculty, or excess of faculty, prevented him from being a professional versifier also, we may know at some time, perhaps. When he was only eight years old, he wrote this stanza:—

> Papa, how pretty those icycles are,
> That are seen so near, that are seen so far;
> Those dropping waters that come from the rocks,
> And many a hole like the haunt of the fox;
> That silvery stream that runs babbling along,
> Making a murmuring, dancing song.

At twenty he wrote the prize poem "Salsette and Elephanta," which opens thus:—

> 'Tis eve—and o'er the face of parting day
> Quick smiles of summer lightning flit and play;
> In pulses of broad light, less seen than felt,
> They mix in heaven, and on the mountains melt;
> Their silent transport fills the exulting air—
> 'Tis eve, and where is evening half so fair?
> Oh deeply, softly sobs the Indian sea
> O'er thy dark sands, majestic Dharavee.

His song of peace was also composed in his youth:—

> Put off, put off your mail, ye kings, and beat your brands to dust;
> A surer grasp your hands must know, your hearts a better trust.
> Nay, bend aback the lance's point, and break the helmet bar,
> A noise is on the morning winds, but not the noise of war!
> Among the grassy mountain paths the glittering troops increase;
> They come! they come! how fair their feet—they come that publish peace.
> Yea, Victory, fair Victory, our enemies are ours,
> And all the clouds are clasped in light, and all the earth with flowers.
> Ah! still depressed and dim with dew, but yet a little while
> And radiant with the deathless rose the wilderness shall smile,
> And every tender, living thing shall feed by streams of rest,
> Nor lamb shall from the fold be lost, nor nursling from the nest.

Yet, it is by his prose we know him; by such writings as this, for example:—

"Beyond those troops of ordered arches there rises a vision out of the earth, and all the great square seems to have opened from it in a kind of awe, that we may see it far away, a multitude of pillars and white domes clustered into a long, low pyramid of coloured light; a treasure heap it seems, partly of gold and partly of opal and mother-of-pearl, how owed beneath into fine, great vaulted porches, ceiled with fair mosaic and beset with sculpture of alabaster, clear as amber and delicate as ivory—sculpture fantastic and involved of palm leaves and lilies and grapes and pomegranates and birds clinging and fluttering among the branches all twined together into an endless network of birds and plumes; and, in the midst of it, the solemn forms of angels, sceptred and robed to the feet, and leaning to each other across the gates, their figures indistinct among the gleaming of the golden ground through the leaves beside them, interrupted and dim, like the morning light as it faded back among the branches of Eden, when first its gates were angel guarded long ago.

"And round the walls of the porches there are set pillars of variegated stones—jasper and porphyry and deep green serpentine, spotted with flakes of snow, and marbles that half refuse and half yield to the sunshine, Cleopatra-like 'their bluest veins to kiss'—the shadow as it flees back from them revealing line after line of azure undulation as a receding tide leaves the waved sand, their capitals rich with interwoven tracery, rooted knots of herbage and drifting leaves of acanthus and vine and mystical signs, all beginning and ending in the Cross, and above them in the broad archivolts a continuous chain of language and of life—angels and the signs of heaven and the labours of men, each in its appointed season upon the earth, and above these another range of glittering pinnacles, mixed with white arches edged with scarlet flowers—a confusion of delight amid which the breasts of the Greek horses are seen blazing in their breadth of golden strength, and the St. Mark's Lion, lifted on a blue field covered with stars, until at last, as if in ecstacy, the crests of the arches breaks into a marble foam and toss themselves far into the blue sky in flashes and wreaths of sculptured spray, as if the breakers on the Lido shore had been frostbound before they fell and the sea nymphs had inlaid them with coral and amethyst."

* * *

There are those who infer from the choice of John Ruskin as Poet Laureate, that singers of worth were never fewer in England than they are at present. To the confusion of such pessimists it should suffice to quote the last work of William Watson, on emerging from an interval of clouded mind. Ruskin's losses of mental equilibrium overtook him in his later years; Watson's youth is the victim of similar lapses:—

VITA NUOVA

> Long hath she slept, forgetful of delight
> At last, at last, the enchanted princess, Earth,
> Claimed with a kiss by Spring the adventurer,
> In slumber knows the destined lips, and thrilled
> Through all the deeps of her unageing heart
> With passionate necessity of joy,
> Wakens, and yields her loveliness to love.
> O ancient streams, O far-descended woods
> Full of the fluttering of melodious souls;
> O hills and valleys that adorn yourselves
> In solemn jubilation; winds and clouds,
> Ocean and land in stormy nuptials clasped,
> And all exuberant creatures that acclaim
> The Earth's divine renewal lo, I too
> With yours would mingle somewhat of glad song.
> I too have come through wintry terrors,—yea,
> Through tempest and through cataclysm of soul
> Have come, and am delivered. Me the Spring,
> Me also, dimly with new life hath touched,
> And with regenerate hope, the salt of life;
> And I would dedicate these thankful tears
> To whatsoever Power beneficent,
> Veiled though his countenance, undivulged his thought,
> Hath led me from the haunted darkness forth
> Into the gracious air and vernal morn,
> And suffers me to know my spirit a note
> Of this great chorus, one with bird and stream
> And voiceful mountain,—nay, a string, how jarred
> And all but broken! of that lyre of life
> Whereon himself, the master harp-player,
> Resolving all its mortal dissonance
> To one immortal and most perfect strain,
> Harps without pause, building with song the world.
>
> WILLIAM WATSON.

THE FISHERIES TROUBLES.

ACCORDING to latest information, there seem to be little hope of a satisfactory arrangement of the fishery disputes between the Prefectures of Ehime and Hiroshima. The excitement is daily increasing in the two localities. On the 21st instant, an influential citizen of Onomichi in the Prefecture of Hiroshima, who was interesting himself in obtaining pecuniary contributions for the fishermen of the locality wounded in the recent combats, was attacked by one of the *soshi* who had secretly come over from the Ehime side of the sea. Further, the Hiroshima fishermen who were arrested by the Ehime police and subsequently released, are reported to be taking steps for instituting a criminal prosecution against the police on a charge of assault and battery. Under these circumstances, there seems to be no hope of a settlement of the dispute without appealing to the decision of the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce.

* * *

Another fishery dispute is between the Prefectures of Ehime and Oita. The fishermen of the latter recently came in great numbers into regions where the Ehime folks claim a sole right of fishing. The Ehime people, however, expressed their willingness to admit the Oita folks on condition of a certain sum of money being paid by the latter. While negotiations for an agreement were going on between the fishermen's guilds of the two Prefectures, a party of fishermen from Oita Prefecture encroached upon the prohibited ground, thus seriously imperilling the prospect of a peaceful settlement.

* * *

A third dispute that caused much interest is between the Prefectures of Okayama and Kagawa. The fishermen of Takamatsu in the latter Prefecture went over on the 22nd instant to the Okayama side. They claimed that a long established custom allowed them to fish there, but the Oyama fishermen declined to recognize t claim. The parties finally came to blows, a were not separated before serious wounds h been inflicted on both sides. The matter, it believed, has been or is about to be settl satisfactorily by the delegates of the fishermen guilds of the respective localities.

HYPNOTISM A NORMAL FACULTY.

PHILOSOPHERS and cranks are prone to class mankind on opposite sides of the line of the particular hobby. Swift divided the huma race into two classes—the fat and lean. O dominie thinks they should be classified those who believe in the true religion and u believers. Old Moneygrub arranges them the rich and the poor; while our friend Polit says the only two classes are the ins and t outs. At the last judgment we are all to classified as the sheep and the goats. I a about to propose a new classification more co prehensive than any hitherto attempted, ina much as it includes both the human race an the lower orders of animals. These two gre classes are the hypnotists and the hypnotize I mean by this that magnetism is an inhere power or faculty of the animal creatio So I think I am justified in declaring th civilized man is approaching the acquisition what will prove to him a new set of faculties. They are not really new, for they have lain do mant in him all along, scarcely recognized, an and hitherto employed only as instincts. Fro these instincts he will develop a sense whic may be as readily at his command as hearing seeing, feeling, tasting, and smelling. In othe words, we are adding another human faculty the category. Henceforward we may say th man is endowed with six senses, one of whic is magnetism.—WILLIAM A. SPALDING, in Jun *Californian*.

ICE.

Now that the heat of summer seems to hav fairly set in, it is pleasant to learn that all th prospects are in favour of cheap ice. Th *Mainichi Shimbun* says that never has ther been a year when such large supplies of ic were in sight. Hakodate furnishes six millio catties, Shimotsuke and neighbouring provinces eight millions; the Tokyo Ice Company ha manufactured five millions; the Yokohama Company's manufacture, added to contribution from the vicinity, represents four millions, an seventeen millions have been entered at Kana gawa, the aggregate thus being forty millio catties, or about fifty-three million lbs. Ever supposing that fifty per cent. of this total is lost in handling, there remain twenty million catties which is from seven to eight millions more than the total consumption last year. It is therefore anticipated that the highest retail price for ice this year will not exceed 1 *yen* per 100 catties (133 lbs.), or something less than a farthing per lb. Already the wholesale rate is only from 20 to 30 *sen* per 100 catties, which is scarcely one half of the price at the correspond ng period last year, and ice is retailed in Tokyo at 0.6 *sen* per catty. The various descriptions of ice classed in order of public estimation, are:—Hakodate ice, 30 *sen* per 100 catties; Tamagawa ice, 30 *sen*; Shimotsuke ice, 25 *sen* and artificial ice, 20 *sen*.

THE "VITIAZ."

WE take this from the *Kobe Herald*:—"The arrival of the *Tokio Maru* has placed us in possession of the following news regarding the ill-fated Russian cruiser *Vitiaz*:—Preparations for floating her were almost completed on Saturday, the 10th inst, when one of the chains parted and whilst securing it again, the breeze freshened from the N.E. with heavy ground swell; at 8 p.m. it was blowing fresh, and operations had to be abandoned until the weather moderated. At 5 a.m. on the 11th, it was blowing a gale, with high sea, and at 8 a.m. the ship broke in two—the fore part from the boilers forward sinking, and the remainder standing. When the *Tokio Maru* left on the 18th the *Vitiaz* was still in that position, but she was likely to go down stern first the next blow. The *Tokio Maru* had two schooners in tow for

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Nagasaki, and during the passage encountered a fresh breeze with heavy swell, during which one of the schooners foundered. The crew of six men were rescued by the ship's boat in charge of Mr. Homa, 3rd Officer.

THE DOWAGER-EMPRESS OF CHINA.

THE *Mercury* says:—The Dowager Empress returned from the E-ho park or garden to her residence in the Western Park, Peking, on the 2nd inst., and was met by the Emperor and a great concourse of princes and Ministers at the Foo-hwa gate. The roads along the Hae-tien, and between the Fow ching, Se Ngan, and Si-hwa gates had previously been re-made and levelled up with yellow earth by soldiers, to keep up the farce of maintaining in good order the great roads of China, which the present dynasty has permitted to go to the dogs.

* * *

On the 12th instant H.I.M. the Empress-Dowager graciously presented the members of the Grand Council and H.E. Li Hung-chang, each with a folding and a moonshaped silk fan, on both of which were autograph water-colour paintings by the illustrious donor. The folding fan presented to Viceroy Li has painted a bunch of grapes, whilst the moonshaped one contains the beautiful "Moutan" flower. The writing on the other side of the fans—prose or poetry—and the names of the receivers were written by the Palace Librarians, members of the Imperial Academy or Hanlin Yuan.

SILVER IN INDIA.

WE take the following from the Hongkong *Daily Press*:—

The rumour as to the recommendations of Lord Herschell's committee on the Indian currency question has caused a considerable disturbance in the exchange between Hongkong and India. At present the rumour is unverified, for the Committee's report was to be kept secret until it had reached the Indian Government and been duly considered, the object being to prevent the anticipation of remedies by operations in the money market before the Indian Government was able to act. The *Standard*, however, has published a statement to the effect that the report recommends the introduction of a heavy mint seignorage and a duty on the import of silver into India. It is to be feared there is some foundation for this statement, for had the recommendation simply been that matters should be left as they are it would hardly have been considered necessary to observe any secrecy in regard to it. There is still the chance that the India Government may not act upon the recommendations, whatever they may be, but it is rather a remote one, in view of the utterances of the Viceroy on the subject. After receipt of the telegram giving the *Standard's* statement the Banks for some days declined to quote rates on India, and the present nominal rate is 216½ as against 220½ before. If, as is apprehended, the proposed seignorage and the import duty on silver should be gradually increased until the rupee reaches the artificial value of 1s. 4d, the uncertainty of exchange between this Colony and India will prove a serious obstacle to trade between the two. On the other hand a great impetus will be given to the extension of opium cultivation in China and to the manufacture of cotton yarn and piece goods both in China and Japan.

THE BANGKOK ASSAULT CASE.

THIS affair appears to have been the cause of a question in the House of Commons. *Truth*, in a recent issue says:—"I have received a good deal of information as to the reported thrashing of the Editor of the *Siam Free Press*, about which Mr. Redmond questioned the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs. I feel considerable sympathy for this young gentleman, since he has earned the opprobrium of courts and Governments and officialdom in general by systematic and unsparing exposure of jobbery of all descriptions. I take it that the Editor of the *Siam Free Press* is perfectly capable of looking after himself, but I would advise him, in the event of his desiring to continue his outspoken criticisms in a semi-barbarous country, to take a leaf from our American cousins, and enlist the services of a thoroughly capable fighting editor."

FLOTSAM AND JETSAM.

MASTERS of ships have reported passing some queer things lately. Here are two of the latest. The *Hasting* while on the passage from Amoy to Shanghai, on the 9th ult. at 9.30 a.m., observed an object in the distance which had the appearance of a rock or a junk bottom up; steered for it and when within a mile found it to be a massive carcase from thirty to forty feet long and eight or nine feet above water. It was oval-shaped and of a brownish colour. Captain Thomson, of the steamer *Benlomond*, which arrived at Nagasaki on the 8th inst. from Hongkong, reports passing in the Formosa Channel what at first sight appeared to be a capsized vessel, but which afterwards turned out to be an enormous dead whale, in a high state of putrefaction, the stench from which at close quarters was most horrible.

REPORTED OIL COMBINE.

I HAVE received, says a writer in *Fairplay*, the following from a Glasgow correspondent, and print the communication as it reached me. I must add that the combination spoken of is not at all believed in in London circles, and the opinion is freely expressed that the rumours are part of a scheme of the Scotch oil men to work prices in their own interest:—

It will interest all who have followed the development of the bulk-oil controversy in connection with the Suez Canal, to learn that a triangular corner has just been formed in mineral oil by the Standard Oil Company, the Nobel Company, and the Rothschild Syndicate. The object is for a friendly division of the markets of the world among these great suppliers, and the reduction of competition. The arrangement is that the Russian Companies are to place all their output at the disposal of the Amercial Syndicate, and are not to make independent sales, but the Standard Company are to withdraw from Asia and the Russians from Central Europe. Both Americans and Russians will continue to sell in England at prices fixed by the Standard Company, and also in China, where, however, American oil is now at a disadvantage because of the Chinese prejudice against America. The arrangement has been denied, but is nevertheless, I believe, actually concluded, and in a measure it may be regarded as a preservative move of the Standard Company, who are threatened with serious opposition in America.

NOVEL INSURANCE.

A CURIOUS risk, says *Fairplay* of May 12th, was placed at Lloyd's on Tuesday. It was "against the marriage of the Duke of York," and the premium paid was 20s. per cent. The wording given above might lead the uninitiated to suppose that some reckless speculator—a hard-hearted wretch, void of any patriotic feeling—had wantonly conceived and placed this risk. Put into plain English, the insurance provides that if the Duke of York's marriage should not take place, a total loss on the policy will have to be settled by the underwriters in favour of the payer of the premium; if the marriage duly comes off the underwriters will, of course, net the premium. But what interest can anyone have in taking out such a policy? The reply to this will dissolve the mystery. A tradesman in the illumination line made great preparations for celebrating the marriage of the Duke of Clarence, but as that event, through the sudden and very sad death of the young Duke did not come off, the tradesman was landed in a very heavy loss. He wants to cover himself against such loss in the present instance. That fully explains this most remarkable insurance.

SCHOOL TROUBLES IN SAGA.

DESPITE the instructions recently issued by the Minister of Education for the maintenance of strict discipline in schools, troubles in educational institutions continue to be as frequent as before. Recently there was a meeting among the students of the Ordinary Middle School at Tsu, Ise, and a number of instructors, together with the principal, had to leave. The latest news of similar troubles is from the Prefecture of Saga. There, as in many other places, the Ordinary Middle School and the Ordinary Normal School occupy adjacent premises. The music hall of the latter is so close to the dormitory of the former, that the students of the Middle School have long been complaining that the noise made by singing and organs at the Normal School interfered with their studies. Instead of laying their grievance before the authorities of their school and asking for the removal of the nuisance by legitimate processes, the aggrieved students of the *Chiugakko* seem to have conceived a grudge against their fellows of the *Shihan Gakko* Hence the relations between the two schools have always been very strained. On the 15th instant, a collision occurred between the students, but it involved no more serious result than the breaking of a few windows in the Normal School. The fighting was repeated on the 18th instant, when breaches were made in the wall separating the two schools and about thirty window-panes of the Normal School were smashed by the students of the Middle School. The students of the Normal School, who seem to have been on the defensive on both occasions, were naturally indignant at the rough treatment extended to them by their rivals of the other school. They waited on the Governor of the Prefecture as well as on the Principal of the Middle School, demanding the rigorous punishment of their aggressive opponents. For a few days, instruction was suspended in both schools, the whole faculty of each being engaged in making investigations into the fracas. On the 23rd instant, thirty-two of the Normal School students were expelled, while all the matriculated students of the Middle School were prohibited from leaving the premises for three weeks. The severity of the punishment meted out to the thirty-two students of the Normal School led to fresh trouble. The cause of the expelled lads was eagerly taken up by the rest of their comrades. It is even supposed that some of the instructors gave active support to the demonstration. All the students, without a single exception, at once left the school, and replacing their uniform with ordinary garments, took up their quarters in the vicinity of a place called Shimbaba. But soon afterwards they assembled at the Soryuji temple, where they were encamped when the report from which we are quoting was despatched. Their aspect is said to have been so threatening, that a large body of police was detailed to watch them.

ADDRESS TO SIR JAMES RUSSELL.

THE following address on vellum has been forwarded, says the Hongkong *Daily Press*, to Sir James Russell, formerly Chief Justice of the Colony.

To Sir James Russell, C.M.G., formerly Chief Justice of the Colony of Hongkong.

We, the undersigned, Justices of the Peace, Merchants, and Members of the Chinese Community of Hongkong, desire to express our regret that your Honour has been compelled, on grounds of health, to retire from the Public Service of this Colony with which you were so long and honourably connected

Some of the undersigned were resident in this Colony when you first came to it as a Cadet in 1865, and have watched with interest your distinguished career in the various responsible posts which you held.

As Police Magistrate your decisions were always characterized by an unerring justice tempered with mercy, and while they inspired evil-doers with awe, they impressed the Chinese public generally with a sense of your sagacity, freedom from prejudice, and probity.

As Registrar-General and Protector of Chinese your performance of the duties at that post gained the confidence of the Chinese, whose interests were always well cared for by you and whose grievances, if any existed, found immediate redress.

As Puisne Judge and Chief Justice your administration of the law was clear-sighted, impartial, and just, and in every way befitting such an exalted and responsible position

While most sincerely regretting that the Colony has to be deprived of your valuable services, we trust that you will enjoy for many years a well-earned rest from your official labours, and that you will accept, as a slight token of our admiration and esteem, the accompanying silk scroll, which may help to remind you of your Chinese friends in Hongkong and of the feelings of respect they entertain towards you.

THE PORTUGUESE AFFAIR.

AN extraordinary statement has been published by the *Jiyu* to the effect that the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, finding himself no longer able to resist the importunities of Portugal for the recovery of her Consular Jurisdiction in Japan, made known the fact to the Cabinet, whereupon the Minister President of State laid the facts before the Emperor, and His Majesty granted audience the H.E. Mr. Borja, the Representative of Portugal. The *Jiyu* seems to

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have based this singular *canard* solely on the fact that Mr. Borja has been received by the Emperor. Of course the inference is totally incorrect. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* de nies it with much emphasis, pointing out that Mr Borja has been granted audience simply in his capacity of Portuguese Minister to Japan. It is not even his first audience, for he was similarly received in 1891, on the occasion of his last visit to Japan. The *Nichi Nichi* scoffs at the notion of this empire's consenting to restore Consular Jurisdiction to Portugal after its abolition has been duly declared by Imperial Ordinance, and scoffs also at the notion apparently entertained by the *Jiyu*, namely, that, under existing circumstances, Japan's tacit acquiescence in any such demand, if preferred by Portugal, is within the range of practical politics. For our own part, we greatly doubt whether the question has been raised at all. At any rate, Mr. Borja's speedy return to Macao is necessitated by the probability that the Austrian Prince Imperial will visit that place at an early date, and we do not see any likelihood of a serious negotiation being inaugurated in the face of that prospect.

CHINA'S SORROWS.

THE sorrows of China, taking her collectively as a nation, are on a very large scale indeed, and dwarf into insignificance many of the widely trumpeted disasters of the Western Continents. In addition to the sad tale of woe arising from late floods in the sea coast prefectures of Lienchow and Huichow, Kuangtung, already published in the columns of the *N.-C. Daily News*, that paper has just received accounts of two more inundations, one in Fukien and the other in the same province as the former floods. Foochow advices state that that city, which had been enjoying warm and glorious weather for the past five weeks, was suddenly visited by violent rainstorms, commencing on the night of the 30th ult. and continuing without cessation up to the 3rd inst. The consequence was that the whole country was completely submerged and disastrous freshets rushed down from up-country to the destruction of many lives and much valuable property. The "Wan-shou," or Long Bridge of Foochow, was almost sub merged on the 3rd inst. and the numerous wood rafts lying near by for shipment to Ningpo were all dashed asunder by the violence of the freshets and the whole river is filled with floating timber. Many lives have been lost amongst the raftsmen.

BOOKS ABOUT HONGKONG.

HONGKONG now boasts a Hand-book. It owes that evidence of progress to the enterprise of Messrs. Kelly and Walsh. The author of the little work gives us no clue whatever as to his identity. But he has done diligently what his hand found to do. Opening with a general description of the island—which, we learn, originally went among the Chinese by the name of "Petticoat String Road"—he then devotes 65 pages to a concise and well compiled history of the colony. The story that he has to tell is not invariably pleasant reading, but after all, disagreeable features mar the records of every Occidental State's intercourse with an Oriental China did not want British trade, or, at any rate, did not want British trade plus opium. Great Britain was resolved that China should have the trade as well as the opium. Some troubles were inevitable under the circumstances, and when England has trouble with an Eastern Power, the issue is monotonously uniform: Great Britain emerges from the lists territorially bigger than she was when she went into them. Hongkong was one of these inevitable increments. The peninsular of Kowloon was another. But for thirty-three years the process has been suspended, and some people, among them our author, are sufficiently sanguine to hope that it will never be renewed. Anyone who wants to learn all about it, can not find a better instructor than this new Handbook. He will find there, also, a great deal of information bearing upon other features of the Colony apart from its history, and he will also find as much as an ordinarily constituted individual cares to hear about Canton and Macao. There is one paragraph of the Hongkong history which deserves special reference It describes how Sir William des Vœux managed to reduce the number of fires in the Colony. He issued an Ordinance providing that an inquiry should be held into the cause of each fire, and that, from the time of the fire until the conclusion of the inquiry, the buildings and property at the scene of the conflagration should remain in police custody. "The effect," says the Handbook "was magical: fires suddenly ceased, and from that time the number of fires has been exceedingly small in proportion to the number of occupied buildings." The system might be extended with advantage.

* * *

Published simultaneously with the Handbook is an interesting and excellently written little volume entitled "Our Island. A Naturalist's Description of Hongkong." The writer is Mr S. B. Skertchly. His style is pleasant, and he succeeds in investing with remarkable interest the scientific story of how Nature built the island of Hongkong, what rocks she used in the process, what methods she employed in sculpturing them, and finally what butterflies she put to flit over their surface. Mr. Skertchly's work, taken in conjunction with the Handbook, give all presently needful information about Hongkong.

FOREIGN MEDICINE IN CHINA.

SOMETIMES the Chinese make a demonstration over the ability of a foreigner. A correspondent of the *North China Daily News* writing from Chinkiang, says:—"We had a Bund crowd of an unusual kind the other day—such a lot of people headed by music and four men bearing a large and well-painted sign-board adorned with flowing red hangings and having in large gilt characters the sentence "In the Way there is Life." This was a present from a hospital patient, whose recovery was due to the skill of Dr. G. Cox, and who employed this way to testify his gratitude. The affair was under native management, and they did the thing thoroughly, publishing to thousands the fame of my medical friend before bringing the placard into the C. I. M. home, placing it in the position of honour on a table at the head of the guest-hall, and finally proceeding to the little hospital, where it was fastened up in state."

YOKOHAMA SEAMEN'S MISSION.

A VERY pleasant entertainment was given at the Seamen's Mission on Thursday evening. The hall was crowded with men-of-warsmen and marines from the British and American ships now in harbour, who, to judge from the vigorous applause bestowed at the close of each item, enjoyed the concert very much indeed. Miss Mendelson accompanied the songs and also contributed two pianoforte solos. Miss Webb sang "Twickenham Ferry," "Two's Company," and "Nancy Lee," the chorus of the last mentioned being taken up by the room. Mrs. James Walter sang "The Chess-players" in a charming manner, and received hearty thanks. Mrs. Campbell's songs, "Good-day, Sir," and "The Song that reached my heart," were both vigorously redemanded, and she kindly acceded to the request. Mr. Crane gave two delightful violin solos, the first of which was encored. Mrs. Hubbard's recitations were also greatly appreciated. At the close an enthusiastic vote of thanks was accorded the performers, the Chairman, and Mrs. Austin.

THE INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF ARCHITECTS.

AMONG the Congresses to be held in Chicago during the exposition season, under the auspices of the World's Congress Auxiliary, is an International Congress of Architects, to convene during the week commencing July 31st, 1893, in the Permanent Memorial Art Palace. The object of this Congress is said to be to bring together the eminent Architects of all countries for friendly intercourse, comparison of methods and results, and the promotion of their mutual interests in the profession. Mr. Josiah Conder, Architect to the Japanese Government, has, we learn, been unanimously elected a m Council of this International Congress tects, but it is doubtful whether hi Japan will allow of his being prese Conference. He will probably, how tribute a paper to be read at the int gathering, and is using other effor Japan fairly represented.

A WHALE RUNS OFF WITH A BU

THE following story comes from Am dog with a tin pail tied to his tail unusual sight, but a whale dashing bell buoy to his tail certainly is. Th spectacle witnessed by the people wh sea the wreck of the yacht *Alva* on Shoals, blown up last week. A ton (? mite had been placed in the sunken divers and was exploded all at once b city. Fragments of the wreck were t feet into the air, and a whale about 50 that had been inspecting the operat close range, got mad, or perhaps hac ings hurt. Anyway he dashed aro terrible rate and finally got himself t in the moorings of the bell buoy th the entrance to Pollock Rip Slue, taking time to disentangle himself l broke the mooring chains, and the la that whale he was tearing out to sea rate of speed dragging the buoy after h bell ringing like a fire alarm. The v blown up successfully, however, and is a danger to navigation.—*Marine Jour*

JAPAN AND PORTUGAL.

AN extraordinary story was publishe three days ago by the *Mainichi Shimb* effect that when the Treaty Revision ne of 1889 were in progress, the Portugues ment addressed to the Japanese Gove remonstrance in the sense that Portuga the right to be consulted equally and s ously with America, Great Britain, Fr Germany, and that she protested agai excluded. The story went on to say th Okuma, then Minister of State for Affairs, indignantly repudiated Portuga and replied that Japan was entitled to c herself the Power or Powers to be her in any such negotiation. This quaint now officially denied. The Foreign Tokyo says that no despatch of the ever received there, and that, cons Count Okuma never made any such d to Portugal.

THE FINANCIAL EFFECT OF THE CONTI REFORMS.

THE Central News agency learns tha nomics of expenditure effected by templated administrative reforms will two million *yen*. Hence, if to this added the total reduction of 1,877,073 in the last Budget by compromise be Diet and the Government, the result is Budget for next year will show an ex .ess than that of last year's by 3,877 which is still, however, considerably sh reduction proposed by the Budget Co namely, 4,900,000 *yen*.

TRAVEL IN THIBET.

WE wonder whether any Japanese n will find it worth while to translate and r the account which we publish elsewher Taylor's travels in Thibet. The writ story, as placed in our hands, recounts t of the lady's extraordinary journey wi exasperating *sang-froid*. Never once attempt to convey a picture of the p hardships endured. The barest outlin are given: a dry, mechanical catalo facts. But what facts they are! This accomplished something veritably nota will receive credit. The newspapers Britain will applaud her, and if her bears the practical fruits on account of was undertaken, she will be remembe heroic pioneer. But nobody will dr national demonstration on her account be well understood that the spirit whic

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her to undertake such a task and supported her to its accomplishment, would shrink from any public display of applause. Her story will continue to be told much as it is now told in these columns. How does it compare, we are curious to learn, with the story of Lieut.-Colonel Fukushima over whose exploit Japan is showing so much feeling? We do not want to say a word that might detract from the merits of that plucky officer's performance. He has done a stout thing and deserves a reasonable meed of praise. But the attitude of his countrymen towards him is most unhappily exaggerated. We offer them, by way of a comparative object lesson, the story of Miss Taylor's travels and of the British demonstrations they have failed to elicit.

THE RADICALS AND THE HAWAIIAN QUESTION.

THE Radicals held a meeting last Saturday to deliberate upon the Hawaiian question. There were present Messrs. Hoshi Toru, Kono Hironaka, Matsuda Masahisa, and about twenty other leading members of the Party. The Committee charged with the investigation of the subject, laid its report before the meeting. Adopting its recommendations, with a few modifications, the meeting came to the following resolutions:—First, that the Japanese Government be moved to send a special Ambassador to Hawaii in order to bring to a successful issue the negotiations pending with the Hawaiian Government in relation to the restoration of the franchise to Japanese residents in that country; secondly, that, in the event of the Hawaiian islands being either annexed by the United States or placed under the latter's protection, the Japanese Government should take effective measures for the protection and maintenance of the rights and interests of its subjects there; thirdly, that, upon the establishment of a *de facto* Government, it should be recognized by Japan; fourthly, that officials should be appointed to Hawaii for the special control of the Japanese residing in the country; fifthly, that the system of sending labourers to Hawaii on contract should be abolished by degrees; sixthly, that capitalists and influential persons should be encouraged to go to Hawaii; and seventhly, that the permanent residence of Japanese in Hawaii should be encouraged. After adopting these resolutions, the Radicals discussed measures for carrying them into effect. The meeting lasted four hours.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL FUKUSHIMA.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL FUKUSHIMA, who arrived on board the *Tokyo Maru*, landed at Kobe at 11 a.m. on the 24th ultimo. He was escorted from the ship to the wharf by a large number of steam-launches. On landing, he was conducted in a carriage to the Chamber of Commerce, and from thence, after a short rest, to the Ai-oi theatre, where a formal ceremony of welcome took place, the traveller being presented with a gold medal. The crowd along the route traversed by the procession is said to have been so great that not a few persons were thrown down and badly injured. Lieut.-Colonel Fukushima arrived at Kyoto from Osaka on the 26th ult. at 2.38 p.m. and was warmly received. Numerous day fireworks were displayed upon his arrival at Shichijo Station, from whence he was conducted in a carriage to the Nakamura Restaurant at Gion. He remained there until six o'clock, when a grand "welcome home" took place at the Gion Kan. He left Kyoto on the 27th ultimo by the 8.55 a.m. train for Nagoya. The train entered Banba Station, Otsu, at 9.35 a.m. The Governor, President of the Law Courts, and a large number of distinguished persons were assembled at the station to welcome the traveller. He stayed a few minutes at Gifu, and a warm reception was accorded him. Numerous day fireworks were displayed during his stay at Gifu. The Lieut.-Colonel arrived at Nagoya at 2 p.m., and was received by a multitude of persons, numbering over two thousand. The Reception Committee conducted him to a building prepared for a "welcome-home," and here he was publicly congratulated by the Nagoya residents. He left at 5.45 the following morning. Count Matsukata and Viscount Watanabe, President of the Bureau for the Examination of Accounts, gave a banquet to Lieut.-Colonel Fukushima at the Yoshitomi Restaurant, Kyoto, on the night of the 26th ult.

* * *

Lieut.-Colonel Fukushima, whose return home has been a series of triumphal entries into all the towns through which he has had to pass, arrived in Yokohama by the 4.40 p.m. train on Wednesday. From early in the afternoon the Committee of Welcome and all others who could put in an appearance wended their way towards the Railway Station, so that by the time the train arrived, Honcho-dori from the bridge to the station was one compact mass of human beings, eager to do honour to the returned traveller. The students of the Commercial School were drawn up in line, in uniform, in the station yard. Lieut.-Colonel Fukushima was received by H.E. the Governor, Mr. Nakano, Mr. Mitsuhashi, the officials of the Kencho, and the Committee, by whom he was conducted to a carriage and with his son slowly driven to the Machigaisho. He was dressed in the uniform worn by him during his transcontinental ride. Arriving at the Town Hall, a reception was held in an anteroom, after which Lieutenant-Colonel Fukushima was conducted to a dais in the large hall in the upper storey, where Mr. Sato, the Mayor of the Town, read an address, and then presented the hero of the hour with a sword of honour, amid vociferous applause. The recipient having returned thanks for the honour shown him in a few well chosen words, an adjournment was made for refreshments, during the course of which the Yokohama Town Band played a selection of music, and fireworks were let off in the Machigaisho grounds and Public Gardens.

* * *

Lieutenant-Colonel Fukushima's reception in Tokyo on Thursday was extraordinary. Nothing of the kind had been witnessed for many years. The train by which he travelled was to reach Shimbashi at a quarter past noon, but by eleven o'clock the approaches to the station were thronged with people of all sorts and conditions, and from that time onward the crowd became denser and denser until all roads in the vicinity of the station were completely blocked. The station itself was filled to overflowing with members of the Reception Committee, military men, and other friends and acquaintances of the traveller. As the train slowly moved in, the strains of the band were heard, and the crowds surged towards the place where the Lieutenant-Colonel was to alight, as indicated by a species of sign-board. The immediate vicinity of this spot was occupied chiefly by officers of the army, who greeted their comrade with a formal military salute. When Lieut.-Colonel Fukushima had passed through this ring, he was welcomed by his immediate friends and general admirers, the air being filled with loud cheers, clapping of hands, and waving of hats. Conducted to a room on the second storey, he found his wife and family with a few relatives waiting to receive him. After a brief interval, he came down and entered the carriage sent to meet him by H.I.H. Prince Arisugawa, his companions in the carriage being his second son and Mr. Tomita, Governor of Tokyo. The Lieutenant-Colonel's appearance on the steps of the station was the signal for a tremendous outburst of cheers from the surging crowds outside, crowds packed so densely that the police had to devote much time and patience to the task of opening a passage for the carriage. It was a tardy passage, too, despite these exertions, for at no time could the carriage advance more than a few steps consecutively, and many minutes passed before it emerged finally from the enclosure in front of the station. The original plan had been to take the Lieutenant-Colonel at once to the Race Course at Uyeno, but this part of the programme was subsequently changed, and he drove directly to the Palace where, dressed in his travelling costume, he had the honour of an Imperial audience. From the Palace, he proceeded to Uyeno, where a distinguished company had assembled to welcome him. All the way from Shimbashi to the Palace and thence to Uyeno the streets were lined by cheering crowds of spectators, and at the Race Course the throng was beyond description. Seated in the permanent pavilion at the further end of the course, one could see that the banks of the lake were completely covered with a dense mass of humanity as far as the limits of vision. At the entrance to the Race Course stood a large triumphal arch, while in front of the permanent pavilion a lofty platform had been erected with two long flights of steps on either side, and the figure of a horse placed over the canopy. At about half past one, the approach of the hero of the day was announced by the distant noise of cheers. On arriving at the pavilion, he was conducted to the upper storey, where a distinguished company, including Princes of the Blood, Peers, Ministers of State and other notables had assembled to receive him. There were Their Imperial Highnesses Prince Arisugawa and Prince Kanin; Their Excellencies Count Oyama, Minister of War, Viscount Hijikata, Minister of the Imperial Household, Mr. Watanabe, Minister of Finance, and Count Soyeshima, Privy Councillor; Viscount Soga, Member of the House of Peers, Count Kawamura, Viscount Tani, General Nogi, Admirals Ito and Akamatsu, and others. The ground floor was occupied by the members of the Reception Committee, army officers, and a multitude of the Lieutenant-Colonel's friends and acquaintances. After a short time, the traveller was conducted to the platform amidst loud cheers and clapping of hands. Count Kawamura read a long congratulatory address in his capacity of Chairman of the Committee of Reception. He was followed by General Yamaji, who greeted the Lieut.-Colonel in the name of his military admirers. Viscount Enomoto then addressed to him a few words of congratulation, as President of the Geographical Society, and the Oriental Association was represented by its President Count Soyeshima.

* * *

A few other addresses were also read, at the conclusion of which Lieut.-Colonel Fukushima returned thanks. He then turned first to the pavilion and made a deep obeisance, repeating it towards the four points of the compass, and eliciting loud cheers at each bow. After the ceremony, he was again led to the upper story of the pavilion, and it was nearly three o'clock when he left for home in a carriage with his wife and one of his sons.

* * *

The Lieut.-Colonel is small in stature, about forty years of age, and his face tanned almost to blackness. He wore the dirty frayed uniform in which he had made his transcontinental journey. He seemed to be in excellent health. Despite his small stature, small even for a Japanese, he is reported to be a great consumer of food, and it may interest some folks to learn that he does not touch any alcoholic beverage.

* * *

The weather was fair and comparatively cool. Unfortunately several persons were injured in the crush, especially in front of the Shimbashi station, where the crowd was densest. The pageant has therefore to answer for more than mere extravagance.

THE KWANSEI GAKUIN.

OF all the Christian Schools in Japan, the Kwansei Gakuin established by the Methodist Episcopal Church (South), near Kobe, is the youngest. The first graduation exercises of the Academic department took place last Saturday at last 2 p.m. At that hour the Chapel was filled with an appreciative company which lent a kind ear to the speeches of the two young men, the graduates of the institution. After the speeches of the young men, who acquitted themselves well, the Rev. Y. Hiraiwa of Tokyo delivered the annual bacca-laureate address. His subject was education, and for more than one hour he held his audience with a rapid, frank discussion of the present prevalent ideas of education. He was particularly severe in opposing the narrowness of the theory that education is to be acquired for the one and sole end of preferment in the government. He admitted that the nationalistic idea was quite necessary, but declared that it

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should by no means be considered the only essential, for as a matter of fact the family relation, the social, and the individual were also to be recognized in true education, and especially was the divine idea vital to the true development of man. After the conferring of the certificates of graduation, the large company proceeded to the dining hall where refreshments were served. Many of the visitors were surprised and gratified to see the new main building which is now being erected upon the grounds. Dr. S. H. Wainright, the principal of the Academic department, is the Chairman of the Building Committee. From the railway that passes just south of the grounds, and from the Kobe Bay side, the new building presents a fine appearance. We understand that the Biblical department too has steadily though not rapidly advanced, and, though the youngest of the theological seminaries in Japan, has some new features not yet introduced into any other, for example a regular course of lectures upon Archaeology. The present period is not adapted for the growth of Christian schools, and therefore the vigorous spirit of this young school is the more admirable. Dr. S. H. Wainright, the Principal of the Academy and Professor in the Biblical department, will start with his family for America within a few days. He expects to return to Japan within a year.

REFORMS IN THE ARMY.

THE Radical organ reports that there is a serious difference of opinion between Count Ito and Count Yamagata on the subject of Army reform. The former is said to be in favour of reducing the scale of the military organization, while the latter is believed to hold a diametrically opposite view. The Minister President's opinion, according to the *Jiyu*, is shared by the Minister of War and by a majority of the other Cabinet Ministers, so that there can be little doubt as to the manner in which the question will be settled. But it is feared that the discussion of the subject may lead to a serious collision between the Military and the Civil parties in the Government. Some persons believe that the despatch of Imperial messengers to Count Ito and Count Yamagata on the evening of the 27th instant, as well as the audience granted to them simultaneously by the Emperor on the following day, had a bearing upon this question.

THE CHINESE IN AMERICA

THE Rev. Gilbert Reid, of the Presbyterian North China Mission, contributes to the *Forum* an essay entitled "China's view of Chinese Exclusion." The following epitome we take from an exchange:—

Li Hung-chang Chinese Prime Minister, once said to me, at the close of a discussion on the need of the Christian religion to reform the Chinese people:—'Well, you needn't come back to China; you had better reform the American people so that they will treat our Chinese labourers a little better.'

Was there not reason in this injunction from the Confucianist and mandarin of China? We, as Americans, may well feel solicitous of our safety, and jealous of the harm now implied to international law and to international comity and courtesy

The most marked feature of the Chinese Exclusion Act of May 5, 1892 was open abrogation of our treaty stipulations with China. Besides prescribing new regulations for Chinese labourers now residing in the United States, this Act continues in force for ten years the Acts of 1882 and 1888. All this is clearly in defiance of our treaties with China.

The three treatises on international law by Wheaton Woolsey, and Blüntschli, have all been translated into Chinese, and the Burlingame treaty is also conspicuous for clear enunciation of the foundation principles of true international relationship which the law of 1892 contravenes. Hence there is no doubt in China that the Acts mentioned do constitute flagrant violations of our treaties. The Supreme Court of the United States conceded, in 1889, that the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1888, known as the Scott Law, was 'in contravention of the express stipulations of the treaty of 1868, and of the supplementary treaty of 1880."

This Scott Law provides that a Chinese labourer returning to China cannot come back to the United States. Article II. of the treaty of 1880 provides that

"Chinese labourers who are now in the United States shall be allowed to go and come of their own free will and accord."

The Act of 1882 (continued in force by the Act of of 1892) provides that

"Hereafter no State court or court of the United States shall admit Chinese to citizenship"

This is constructively in contravention of the treaty of 1869, Article V:

"The United States of America and the Emperor of China cordially recognize the inherent and inalienable right of man to change his home and allegiance."

At the same time Article VI., guaranteeing "the same privileges, immunities, and exemption" to Chinese in America as to other citizens or subjects, adds, "but nothing herein contained shall be held to confer naturalization upon the subjects of China in the United States." Thus there is the implication that naturalization is neither to be claimed, nor to be totally prohibited.

The Act of May, 1892, provides in Section 5, that

"On application for a writ of *habeas corpus* by a Chinese person seeking to land in the United States to whom that privilege has been denied, no bail shall be allowed;" and, in the long sixth section, that "all Chinese labourers within the limits of the United States" must apply "for a certificate of residence," and on failure so to do, "shall be deemed and adjudged to be unlawfully within the United States, and may be arrested," *i.e.*, adjudged guilty until proved innocent; and finally taken before a United States Judge, whose duty it shall be to order that he be deported from the United States."

Article I. of the Treaty of 1880 says:

"The limitation of suspension shall be *reasonable*. . . Legislation taken in regard to Chinese labourers will be of such a character only as is *necessary* to enforce the regulation, limitation, or suspension of emigration, and immigrants shall not be subject to personal maltreatment or abuse."

Also in contravention of the same Treaty, Art. II.,

"Chinese subjects . . . shall be accorded *all* the rights, privileges, immunities, and exemptions which are accorded to the citizens and subjects of the most favoured nations."

The Bills passed in 1888 and 1892 have moreover ignored the protestations of the Chinese Government. On Sept. 21, 1888, the day the Bill came into the hands of President Cleveland, he received a telegram from the Minister in Peking, saying among other things that the Chinese Government desired "further discussion." The President, however, said in a message that he regarded the demand for reëxamination and renewed discussion as an "indefinite postponement," and signed the Bill, Oct. 1, 1888 This is in contravention of the treaty of 1880, Art IV., which says:—"Whenever the Government of the United States shall adopt legislative measures in accordance therewith," *i. e.*, with the foregoing articles "such measures will be communicated to the Government of China" There has been an inclination on the part of both Congress and the Executive not to consider the hardship of the measures enacted.

The Act of Congress aims, as it is worded," to prohibit the coming of Chinese persons into the United States." By the treaty of 1880 and the later treaty, under discussion, of 1888, the Chinese Government agreed to certain restrictions, and the prohibition even, of the immigration of Chinese labourers for a period of years—all of which is a remarkable example of international accommodation. And so the question arises: What more is gained by passing laws seeking the same end, but ignoring treaty-rights, breaking certain treaty-agreements, and insulting another treaty-power?

A former Attorney-General is quoted by the State Department.

"Not to observe a treaty is to violate a deliberate and express engagement, and affords good cause of war."

That China will declare war as a mode of retaliation, no one of sense has ever suggested, but Chinese mandarins have enough of ingenuity and finesse to adopt other methods of retaliation which will hamper all foreign interests in China. A dangerous political device has been taught the Chinese by our American statesmen.

As an Italian Premier has said, we in America should learn that even in a popular government a ministry that violates international agreements is unworthy of the country, and should be placed under the ban of civilized government.

FORMOSA.

UNTIL the expedition of the Japanese, about eighteen years ago, upon Formosa the Chinese Government, says the *N.-C. Daily News*, never paid much attention to the island, but since the establishment of a Governorship and its consequent division into prefectures, departments and districts, the authorities have awakened somewhat. A number of schools and colleges have either been built or are in course of construction throughout the island for the study of the primary and higher branches of the Chinese classics without any payment of fees being demanded. On the contrary, a small monthly stipend is given to each scholar that attends one of the government schools. The authorities have also sent a *weiyuan* or deputy to Shanghai to buy a large number of standard works of reference as well as histories and classical works of the modern school, for which purpose Governor Shao Yü-lien has contributed from his private purse Tls. 500 in addition to the government grant of Tls. 2,000, to form the nucleus of a large library at Tuipehfu and one or two other large cities.

THE EMIGRATION SOCIETY.

THERE has been much talk of late about emigration, and the public has heard a great deal about the South Sea Islands, Mexico, and other eligible localities, but with the exception of Hawaii and Queensland, no foreign countries have witnessed any very practical effort on Japan's part. It would seem, however, that an era of greater resolution is about to dawn, for the advocates of emigration have formed a society which is to have a capital of three million *yen*. A Japanese Association commanding such a capital is something altogether out of the common, but the *Shokumin Kaisha*, as the new Society is called, has the support of such men as Viscount Enomoto, Marquis Hachisuka, Messrs. Watanabe Koki, Oku Saburohei, Kurihara Ryoichi Tatekawa Umpei, Kato Heishiro, Miyagi Yujiro, Sakuma Teiichi, Shiga Juko, Ando Taro, and so forth. With promoters so influential, the Society can scarcely fail to be successful.

FISHERMEN'S QUARRELS

FIGHTS between fishermen seem to be growing fashionable. The troubles between the fisherfolk of Hiroshima and Ehime Prefectures have already been described. They commenced the series, and before the dispute had been arranged, the men of Uwajima in Ehime got into a quarrel with the men of Saga-no-seki in Oita, similarly over a question of fishing ground. Now, finally, comes news of another fight, the combatants being the fishers of Naojima in Kagawa Prefectures and the fishers of Hibi in Okayama Prefecture. The two parties met at 8 a.m. on the 22nd ultimo in boats. A severe combat ensued, several hundred fishermen being engaged, and many were wounded, more or less seriously. The telegram reporting the affair says that the circumstances are under investigation, and that an amicable settlement will probably be made.

DINNER ON BOARD THE "IMPERIEUSE"

VICE-ADMIRAL FREEMANTLE, Commander-in-Chief of the British Squadron on the China station, and Lady Freemantle entertained at dinner on the 28th inst., on board the flagship, Count Saigo, Minister for the Navy; Count Oyama, Minister for War, Captain Kuroda, of the *Tsukuba Kan*; and a few other leading Japanese flag and field officers. The British *Charge d'Affaires*, the Commanders of the eight British warships in harbour, and some officers from the Italian gunboat *Curtatone* were also invited. Vice-Admiral Freemantle and his Commanders visited Yokosuka the following day at the invitation of Count Saigo, who afterwards entertained them at dinner.

ILLITERATE VOTERS IN IRELAND.

AMONG the Irishmen who, under the enlightened systems of our nineteenth century, are entitled to a voice in the election of members of Parliament, fully one in every five can not, or at any rate pretends that he can not, read the names on the balloting papers. There are 84,919 of these illiterates. Mr. Lecky brings out the fact in his recently published argument against Home Rule. Could anything be more offensive to ordinary intelligence than the notion of allowing such persons to share in the direction of State affairs?

NOTICE TO MARINERS.

THE following Notice to Mariners in regard to a newly discovered Rock between Waglan and Sunkong Islands of the Pu Toy Group, in the Canton District of the China Sea, has been issued from the Coast Inspector's Office of the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs:—Notice is hereby given that a Rock, with four fathoms on it at low water, has been found in the channel between Waglan and Sunkong Islands, at

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a distance of about one cable and three-quarters to the westward of the reef on the west side of South Waglan. From the Rock the north point of North Waglan bears N. 47° E., magnetic, and the south point of South Waglan S. 71° E., magnetic.

THE CHINA SUBSCRIPTION GRIFFINS.

THE following is a list of China ponies subscribed for by members of the Nippon Race Club for the Autumn race meeting. The names, heights, times and the weights the animals carried in their trials, are given below, as well as some remarks from Mr. Oram, who has had the selection of the ponies. Subscribers can not therefore urge that they are left very much in the dark in regard to them.

No.	Colour.	Name.	Height.	Time. ¼ mile.	Time. ½ mile.	Weight. ½ mile.
1.	Cream	Masala	13.0	32	1.38½	145
2.	Grey	Armas	13.3	32	1.3	144
3.	Bay	Childeric	13.3	32	1.34½	145
4.	Grey	Griffin	13.3	32	1.35½	145
5.	Grey	Aviso	13.0	32	1.34½	144
6.	Grey	Folly	13.0	32	1.32½	145
7.	Chesnut	Varuna	13.0	30	1.31	1.32 144
8.	Chesnut	West Barbary	13.2	32	1.33	1.34½ 145
9.	White	Serenade	13.2	30	1.1	1.32½ 143
10.	Bay	Griffin	13.1	30	1.1	1.35½ 145
11.	Bay	Griffin	13.1	31	1.28	1.34½ 145
12.	Bay	Griffin	13.1	30	1.1	1.36 145
13.	Grey	Galopin	13.0	31	1.28	1.34½ 145
14.	Grey	Microbe	12.3	32	1.38	1.35½ 144
15.	Chesnut	Griffin	13.2	30	1.1½	1.34½ 145
16	Grey	Alpaca	13.2	32	1.38	1.37½ —
17.	Grey	Griffin	13.2	31	1.2	1.34½ 145
18.	Bay	Griffin	13.0	31	1.0	1.35 145
19.	Grey	Griffin	13.1	30	1.1½	1.34½ 145

Mr. Oram, who has so kindly selected the ponies, writes:—The times were all carefully taken by me with the assistance of two or three friends. The Weight column shows the weight carried by the ponies in the trial runs. I have myself ridden each of the ponies twice, and in some cases three times, and have thus assured myself that there are no lame ducks among them. Most of the ponies have proved themselves very well mannered in the saddle, so that it is hardly necessary for me to describe each one. I may mention, however, that Folly, Aviso and Microbe want to be ridden carefully. Folly should never be ridden without a martingale. Had he worn one at the races here, there is little doubt that he would have been a winner. Microbe is a very young pony (about six years) and is very green, but he has improved each time I have ridden him, and I feel confident he will give satisfaction if he is carefully handled. Varuna having raced in Hongkong and Shanghai already, this year, wants very gentle work during the summer. Serenade has a very light mouth, but is a delightful pony to ride. If the winner of the Champions' at the Autumn Meeting is not found amongst the above, several racing men in Shanghai will be very much surprised.

MR. J. A. RASCON.

THE so-called "horrible murder" of Don José Antino Rascon, reported by Mexican newspapers and copied with embellishments by American, turns out to be a pure fiction. Mr. J. A. Rascon, brother of late Mexican Minister in Japan, had been for some time in a weak state of health. He died under circumstances somewhat unusual, but in the sequel of careful investigations undertaken by the Judicial Authorities of San Luis Potosi, it has been conclusively proved that his death was caused by disease, and did not result from ill-treatment of any kind. The idea of foul play seems to have originated with the deceased's wife, who was naturally much distressed at his sudden death.

EVENING PARTY AT THE RUSSIAN LEGATION.

ON the evening of the 24th ult. His Excellency Monsieur Hitrovo, Russian Representative in Tokyo, entertained a select party at the Legation. After some admirable music, vocal and instrumental, dancing was commenced, and kept up with spirit, despite the heat, until the small hours of the morning.

THE LATE "GENERAL WERDER."

THIS vessel, now called the *Midnight Sun*, has been refitted for the Norway tourist traffic, but she has been so altered and improved as to be beyond recognition. She has been fitted throughout with first-class passenger accommodation of the most luxurious description, in addition to which new triple-expansion engines and boilers have been supplied of sufficient power to drive the vessel 14 or 15 knots. The vessel, which starts from Newcastle, and is only one night at sea, is lighted throughout by electricity. The amateur photographer can revel in his art, a special room being apportioned to him, and a professional photographer will be on board

A RELIGIOUS MUSEUM.

THE *Yiyu* says that a scheme is being promoted by the Doshisha School in Kyoto to establish a religious museum in the Western capital. From the programme, which has already been published, it appears that articles to be exhibited in the Museum will be divided into four sections, namely, those relating to Buddhism, Shintoism, Roman Catholicism, and Miscellaneous. Contents, including various idols of Buddha and deities, made from different materials, religious robes, musical instruments, sacred books, several archæological relics, and all other articles having relation to religious rites and ceremonies, are to be contained under the above classifications.

POACHING SCHOONERS.

IN the *Jiji Shimpo* we find a note exasperatingly brief. It simply says:—"The poaching vessels discovered by the *Iwaki Kan* between Kamaguchi and Nemuro numbered twenty-four, and they had on board 15,350 seal skins, valued at 260,000 *yen*." We do not remember to have previously heard anything about this important seizure, and it would be very interesting to know under what circumstances the capture was effected, and how the illegal character of the vessels' proceedings was established.

THE CHICAGO EXPOSITION.

ACCORDING to a writer in *Truth*, "The opening of the 'World's Fair' seems to have been a meaningless formality. A friend on the spot tells me that it will be fully the end of June before all the exhibits are in their places. A fortnight ago there were on the rails at Chicago nearly fifteen miles of trucks waiting to be unloaded. From the visitors' point of view, therefore, this is a case in which the last comers will be best served."

AZUMA-YAMA.

THE *Asahi* states that a despatch has been received to the effect that at about twenty minutes past four o'clock on the morning of the 24th ult. rumbling sounds were emitted by Azuma-zan. These were followed by two rumblings at 7.20 and 7.50 the same morning. It is said that some changes have taken place in the configuration of the top of the mountain.

ATTEMPTED SUICIDE.

MR. WILLIAM COPELAND, who a few days since was fined by the U.S. Consul-General for keeping a disorderly house, made an attempt upon his life on Monday evening between 8 and 10 o'clock. Getting possession of a table-knife, he went into a bath room, and inflicted two severe gashes in his neck. Although severely wounded, little fear is entertained of his succumbing to the injuries. He now lies at the General Hospital.

THE "MEIJI MARU."

THE Lighthouse Department steamer *Meiji Maru*, which has been thoroughly overhauled by the Ishikawajima Shipbuilding and Engineering Company, Tokyo, during the last few months went down the Bay on a trial trip on Tuesday. She gave every satisfaction to the large company of nautical men and others who accepted the Company's invitation to view the vessel, and the run to Haneda Bay and back was most enjoyable.

SETTLED ACCOUNTS FOR 1889.

THE *Official Gazette* publishes the Settled Accounts of National Revenue and Expenditure for the financial year 1889-90. We learn from them that the total Revenue for the year was 96,687,979.043 *yen*, and the total Expenditure 79,713,671.972 *yen*, the excess of Revenue over Expenditure being, consequently, 16,974,307.071 *yen*, of which 12,700,503.467 was carried to the Revenue of the following year, and the remaining 4,273,803.604 *yen* was added to the surplus.

THE CRICKET GROUND.

WE read in the *Asahi* that the application of the keeper of the Ganka brothel to have the Cricket Ground restored to him by virtue of former proprietary rights in it, was withdrawn on the 23rd ult. the Governor of Kanagawa having proved that a piece of ground, now covered by Matsugayecho, and Umegayecho together with *yen* 3,500, were given to the original owner of the land when the changes by which the ground became Government property occurred.

THE DUKE OF ABRUZZI.

THE paragraph recently published in Singapore papers, which stated that three Italian Princes are *en route* to Japan on a tour, is incorrect. The only Italian Prince expected in this country is the Duke of Abruzzi, third son of the late Duke of Aosta, sometime King of Spain, who is a lieutenant in the navy and is serving on board the *Volturno*, which vessel has been ordered here to relieve the *Curtatone*.

THE FRENCH ACADEMY.

EMILE ZOLA, the indefatiguable, has again been rejected by the French Academy. His opponent on this occasion was Ferdinand Brunetiere, the celebrated critic and author. He received 22 votes and Zola the usual 4. We wonder how many more "pillings" Zola will invite, before tiring of candidacy for "Immortality?"

THE NEW KOREAN MINISTER.

AN Osaka telegram to the *Asahi* says that a report has arrived there to the effect that Mr. Kim, the new Korean Minister to Japan, left Jinsen on the 19th ult. for Japan per *Suruga Maru*, and that the Korean Chargé d'Affaires, Mr. Kem, will remain in Japan as Secretary of the Korean Legation.

THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF CONNAUGHT.

Truth says that the Duke and Duchess of Connaught have returned to Portsmouth from Osborne, where they have been residing since the middle of December. The Duchess is going abroad shortly for the benefit of health. They are to pass the autumn in Scotland, at Abergeldie Castle, which the Queen has placed at their disposal.

ISSAIKYO-ZAN, FUKUSHIMA.

THE crater of Issaikyo-zan, which has been pouring forth white smoke, or steam, for some time, emitted rumbling sounds for about ten minutes on the 17th ult. at 11.30 p.m., and since that time a large quantity of black smoke has been observed. A shower of ashes fell in Fukushima on the 19th and 20th ult.

HIS EXCELLENCY BARON BIEGELEBEN.

IT is gazetted in Vienna that the Emperor of Austria has conferred upon his Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the Courts of Japan, China, and Siam, Baron R. de Biegeleben, the Grand Cross of the Imperial Order of Francis Joseph.

DEATH OF EDWIN BOOTH.

EDWIN BOOTH, the great tragedian of the American stage, passed quietly away in the apartments of the Player's Club, New York, on June 7th. He had been lying hopelessly ill for a long time.

VISCOUNT ENOMOTO.

VISCOUNT ENOMOTO, a Privy Councillor, has been permitted by the Decoration Board to accept a decoration conferred on him by the King of Annam.

M. DE BORJA.

M. DE BORJA, Governor of Macao, and Portuguese Minister to this Court, was received in audience, at the Palace, by the Emperor on the 24th ult. at 10 a.m.

MRS. AND MISS MARTINO.

MRS. AND MISS MARTINO, wife and daughter of the Italian Minister, were received in audience by the Empress at the Palace on the 28th ult.

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ANCIENT EGYPTIAN POLITICS.

IN a very fascinating article on the recent "Literary Discoveries in Egypt," the *Quarterly Review* presents us with a most curious and graphic picture of the relations existing between the Pharaohs of the Eighteenth Dynasty and the Kings of Babylon, the Mitanni, the Hittites, and other less powerful nations. The supremacy of Egypt is strongly marked, the Pharaohs having been, in fact, Emperors of Mesopotamia in the modern sense of the word; and the letters which passed between the Pharaoh AMENOPHIS III. and the rulers with whom he appears to have corresponded are extremely amusing. For instance, AMENOPHIS, having married the sister of KALIMMA SIN, the King of Babylon, thought he should like one of KALIMMA SIN'S daughters into the bargain, and wrote to ask him for one. The Babylonian KING, however, replied that he had received no tidings whatever of his sister since her arrival in Egypt, and did not even know whether she was alive or dead; he desired, therefore, to be assured on this point before sending his daughter. He had reason, indeed, for being uneasy, for when he sent envoys to Egypt to bring back news of his sister, they had never seen her; all the Queens had been trotted out for their inspection, but they had failed to discover the Babylonian princess among them. First, therefore, he wanted to make sure that she was alive and well; secondly, he would be glad if AMENOPHIS would give him an Egyptian princess in marriage *en revanche*. AMENOPHIS replied that the reason the envoys had failed to recognise the Babylonian princess was that none of them were old enough to remember her, and assured KALIMMA SIN that she was well and happy, a fact of which he would be convinced if he sent some rather older men to interview her; the god AMEN being invoked in support of his assertion. The PHARAOH further reiterated his request for KALIMMA SIN'S daughter, for whom he would pay handsomely. He then went on to inform the KING that he was sending a special envoy to conclude a commercial treaty with him, with particular reference to certain duties to be levied on Mesopotamian goods offered for sale in Egypt. KALIMMA SIN'S request for the hand of an Egyptian princess was treated by AMENOPHIS as a piece of impertinence; and he contented himself with remarking that the daughter of the King of EGYPT was never given to a nobody. The King of BABYLON'S reply to this very frank remark was delightful. He hastened to assure the PHARAOH that his (the King of BABYLON'S) daughter was by no means beautiful, but nevertheless proceeded to discuss the amount he hoped to obtain for her; while as to his own marriage with the daughter of AMENOPHIS, he wrote—without at all resenting the insult offered to him—suggesting that, if a lady of the blood royal were above him in station, the PHARAOH should send him some nobleman's daughter instead, for there was no one in Babylon who would know that she was not a real princess! If the PHARAOH refused to do this, he added, then he would not act like a friend and a brother, and the injured KALIMMA SIN would prevent any Mesopotamian lady from going into Egypt. How the matter was settled in all its details we do not know, except that AMENOPHIS succeeded in obtaining the Babylonian princess, a girl called SUKHARTI, who had just arrived at the age of puberty. This incident furnishes a good example of the high-and-mighty way in which the PHARAOHS treated all other monarchs, the position of whom appears to have been comparatively most humiliating. The Kings of Babylon and other countries seem to have been perpetually sending the richest and costliest of presents to Egypt, and complaining most bitterly of the shabby trifles which the King of EGYPT sent them in return. One Babylonian KING is so exasperated at the PHARAOH'S stinginess that he says, quite frankly, "Three embassies have come from Egypt without bringing any presents, and I will therefore send no gifts back. If thou hast nothing of value for me, then I have nothing of value for thee." He also complains that certain Canaanites, who were the subjects of AMENOPHIS IV., had waylaid a caravan of his on its way to Egypt, cut off the feet of one of his envoys, and compelled the other envoy to stand on his head! Altogether this diplomatic correspondence of the ancient world contains some of the most humorous things we have lighted on for a long time

THE SOLUTION OF AN INSOLUBLE PROBLEM.

THERE are some problems that are insoluble, and it is these that have the strongest fascination for the human mind. The question of Determinism and Freewill is one of these. Another is the conception of eternity. A future eternity may be partially realised; the idea of never-endingness is wonderful and sublime enough, but we can materialise it, so to speak, by simply doing a division sum the quotient of which is a recurring decimal; but a past eternity—a state of things that always existed, that never had a beginning—is beyond the grasp of thought. So with the great question as to whether the universe is infinite or not. Either answer lands us in unthinkabilities. It is impossible to conceive, though we may be forced logically to affirm, the infinity of space; while, if we imagine it as finite—which means limited or bounded—and ourselves as flying through it on an interstellar voyage of exploration, we arrive simultaneously at the boundary *and* the question, "What is there on the boundary's other side?"

This is the insoluble problem to which SIR ROBERT BALL, F.R.S., sets him suggest a solution in the May nu the *Fortnightly Review*. We wi briefly, and omitting much inte though not absolutely necessary i tion, summarise the leading point ROBERT'S article. First, as to the of the universe. The farthest lumi visible star that can be detected finest telescopes is some thousa billions of miles distant from th Now let us draw a line in imaginati where we stand to this most dista and let this line represent the rad stupendous globe of space includi all the heavenly bodies that we ca globe the centre of which is th occupied by ourselves. Then, a tempting to realise the unrealisa mensity of this space, let us mak greater effort—the effort to real this unrealisable immensity is, wh pared with the immensity beyond single drop of water compared v Atlantic Ocean. But the unima extent revealed to us by this con even if we can grasp it, need no finite. How, then about matt matter it contains; is that infinite? has an incidental bearing upon t blem. Matter consists of molecul solid, liquid, or gaseous; and the c of an ordinary thimble contains tude of air-molecules that can c enumerated by billions. Conceiv the number of molecules which all the suns, worlds, comets, galaxies, and sidereal systems whic up the material universe. For w remember that even in the part universe that is visible to us only see the bright stars; and forces upon us the irresistible bel the dark stars we cannot see exc bright ones in the proportion o sands to one. The visible stars to about a hundred million; add the thousand upon thousand-fold that we cannot see; add again imaginable number which lies outs radius; reduce all these bodies t constituent molecules, and then Are *these* infinite? That they merous beyond the power of notati well be; but are they infinite? I if they are, seeing that molecules be compressed beyond a certain then space must be infinite too. however, is what we have to di and the suggested solution is to b in the transcendental theory of the ture of Space,—though Sir ROBER avoids the use of that expression, c ing himself with calling in quest Twelfth Axiom of EUCLID, in wh great mathematician lays down sumption with regard to paralle We use the word assumption ad The axiom referred to is as follows straight line meets two other straig so as to make the two interior an

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the same side of it taken together less than two right angles, these straight lines being produced shall at length meet upon that side on which are the angles which are less than two right angles." In other words, lines which are not parallel to each other will meet if produced far enough. But this—we have now left Sir ROBERT BALL, and are going further afield in order to explain a theory he barely touches on—can only follow *supposing that space is flat*, as EUCLID supposed it to be; flat in the sense that there is nothing to prevent anybody from drawing a perfectly straight line between any two points, a line that shall lie flat or evenly between those points. But cases have been known in which astronomers have observed displacements in the line of vision, in which, on attempting to ascertain the parallel of a certain star, the angle of intersection between the lines of vision was found to be different from that required by the known facts and laws of optics. This is accounted for, according to the transcendentalists, by the theory that space is not flat, but curved; and if the hypothesis is true, there can be no such thing as a straight line—or, at least, every line that we have been accustomed to call straight must be curved, as following the curvature of space, so that two Euclidean so-called straight lines may easily enclose a space and two Euclidean parallel lines may meet. Now let us apply this to the question before us If space be infinite, of course we might go on and on for ever, and there is no more to be said. But, once let the Twelfth Axiom of EUCLID be denied, and "a geometry emerges which removes our difficulties;" and then, if we start out upon a Euclidean straight line, and keep on and on without swerving, we shall eventually arrive *at the very point from which we started*. In other words, the universe, or space, will be proved finite; and yet, though finite, it will still baffle us, for we shall never discover its limits; but, flying this way and that through extent apparently boundless, be constantly arriving at places we have visited before, prisoners without walls, free to move any distance in any direction, yet eternally confined to a mysterious area in which, the further we move from any given point, the nearer we approach it along the very path we tread!

And if geometry itself is an unsafe guide, how far unsafer are our senses. What is straightness, after all? Why, there is probably nothing in the world of which we seem to have a clearer idea than of the quality of straightness. Take, as a concrete example, a steel ramrod. As we look at it, as we measure it, as we test it, we are profoundly impressed with the conviction that it is absolutely and entirely straight, that it lies as evenly between its two points as any line could so lie, that no line could by any possibility be straighter. Now, then, suppose this straight steel line supported in a horizontal position, say, five feet from the surface of the ground: suppose the whole earth to be as smooth and free from obstacles as a prairie; and suppose our straight, inflexible steel rod prolonged to twice its original length. Test it, and make sure that it is still straight, still exactly five feet from the ground. Prolong it again; examine it yard by yard; and when you have prolonged it for four-and-twenty thousand miles, where will your straight line be? You will find that your senses have deceived you, and that instead of a straight line you have been describing a circle—the very antithesis of the straightness you began with. You will have put a steel girdle round the globe, and in spite of your watchfulness the curve of it will have escaped your eye. But now let us suppose a true straight line, eight or ten thousand miles in length, laid upon the surface of the globe. In other words, balance a magnified ramrod upon an enormous cannon-ball. What appearance would such a straight rod present to a man standing at or near the point at which the globular earth, sloping away from the rod, left the latter branching off into space? Clearly, seeing that the ground we walk on appears flat to us, the straight rod would appear to *curve abruptly upwards*. In such a universe, then, as this, where straight lines go about masquerading as curves, and circles try to pass themselves off as straight lines, what can we know certainly of anything?

THE EFFECTS OF OPIUM SMOKING.

IF PETER THE LOMBARD were to come to life again, and, diverting his attention from the conflicting utterances of scripture and the early Christian fathers, were to write a new "Liber Sententiarum" dealing with more practical and interesting topics, there is hardly any which would more keenly test the powers of his reconciling dialectic than the great opium controversy. We learn from one group of authorities, who tell us they have studied the matter exhaustively, that opium-smoking leads swiftly and surely to physical and mental degeneration. We are told by another group of equally competent authorities that habitual opium-smoking is certainly as little harmful as tobacco-smoking or the moderate consumption of alcohol; many go further, and declare that of the three drug-habits, opium-smoking is to be preferred; many also affirm that the practice confers on the habitual smoker a high degree of immunity from malarial and dysenteric infection, and that the benefit thus gained manifestly outweighs all possible evil results. We do not wish to rival the famous Schoolman, and, to "harmonise" these contradictions by subtle distinctions in the meanings of the terms used. Such is not the method of science. It is, of course necessary to be certain that the contradiction between two conflicting opinions is real, and not simply dependent on verbal misunderstanding. We then have to enquire if the divergent opinions are both held in good faith, if any bias has been allowed to interfere with the impartial collection of facts, and if the data considered by the respective parties were similar or the same. The respective methods of inference must also be critically examined. If the result of such an enquiry throws no light on the source of the divergence, or if the materials for such an enquiry are not to be obtained, those who wish to form a correct opinion upon the matter in dispute must turn again to the data of experience. In many cases the origin of the conflict will be found to have been the formation of dogmas from materials containing more *a priori* bias than observation and experiment.

It is evident upon slight reflection that before discussing the question of the influence of opium-smoking on communities, we should devote the methods of modern experimental research to the study of the products formed in the opium smoker's pipe, examining the different varieties of opium and the differences in the methods of smoking, and should proceed to apply the knowledge thus gained in the careful study of the physiological effects of opium-smoking. Such studies have been hitherto but little prosecuted, and we are therefore glad to welcome the paper recently published in the *Révue Scientifique*, by MM. GRÉHANT and ERN. MARTIN on the effects of opium-smoking, in which they summarise the results obtained by recent investigators. As the observations relate only to the opium manufactured at Saigon, the conclusions drawn from them must not be extended without reserve to that grown in other parts of the world; it will be necessary to repeat the enquiry in India and China. The extension of an otherwise rightly drawn conclusion further than is warranted by the premises is a frequent source of apparent contradiction in the results of scientific investigations. An example of this fallacy is furnished by the authors of the paper before us, for they gravely inform us that the great difference between the reaction of the nervous system of animals, on the one hand, and of human beings, on the other, to the fumes of opium is definitely established by the experiments they have made on *two dogs!* But this is the only slip in an otherwise extremely able and instructive paper.

The first point established is that, as in the case of tobacco-smoking, there is a marked difference in the products formed in the opium pipe at different temperatures. At 250° (Centigrade) the smoke contains a small quantity of morphine and some agreeable aromatic products which appear to be slightly or not at all toxic. When the temperature rises to a point 50° or 100° higher, the products of combustion

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become extremely toxic. Now the lower temperature is that which is attained in the pipe of a skilled opium-smoker using pure and well prepared opium; but if the smoker is a novice and smokes too energetically, or if the opium is adulterated or badly prepared, the temperature of combustion is that at wh.ch the more toxic products are formed.

It would appear, then, that the opium-smoker, like the wine-drinker and the tobacco-smoker, is largely dependent for his safety on the length of his purse. In all cases alike, he will suffer least who can afford to pay for a well-prepared and unadulterated article. But it cannot be assumed that even such an one does not suffer at all, and the question must be made the subject of further observation. Two groups of men, belonging to the same race and class and pursuing the same mode of life, should be taken, the only difference between them being that the members of the one group are opium-smokers, those of the other abstainers from the drug. A careful comparison of the physical and psychical state of the members of the two groups would give us the information we need. It is time to recognise that neither vague general statements on the one hand, nor the results of casual experiments on isolated human beings on the other, have much bearing on the matter in dispute Such an enquiry as we suggest is tedious and difficult, but by such alone can the truth be elicited. The experimental data offered in the paper we are discussing are not sufficient to throw much light on the problem; it is a great gain, however, to have realised that "opium-smoking" does not always mean exactly the same thing. We have a lamp to guide us in the further research.

We have not ourselves had an opportunity of studying the results of habitual opium-smoking; our personal experience extends no further than a couple of pipes smoked one night in an opium den in Limehouse. We shall not presume to judge decisively between the conflicting opinions of which we spoke above. But in the light of our knowledge of other drug habits, which we have used in the interpretation of the evidence available on the subject of opium smoking, we may offer the following tentative conclusions:—

I.—Opium-smoking, like alcohol-drinking, tobacco-smoking, tea-drinking, betel-chewing, coffee-drinking, coca-eating, and all other drug habits, is easy to acquire and difficult to relinquish.

II.—Excessive use of opium, as of alcohol, tobacco, tea, etc., is undoubtedly deleterious. This proposition is somewhat tautological, for excess connotes that harm is done; and the question arises, what is excess? Here, when we speak of excess, we mean that use which is producing very gross and obvious harm; obvious to the sufferer, who is, however, unable to free himself from the slavery of habit. In certain individuals, any dose, however small, of one of these drugs, may be obviously harmful; others can use very large quantities without apparent injury.

III.—In the case of opium, as in the case of tea, tobacco, alcohol, etc., the amount that can be taken without obvious injury is largely dependent on the quality, adulterated, badly prepared, or inferior varieties, are without doubt far more noxious, other things being equal, than those which are fine and well prepared.

IV.—The above reservations having been made, we may admit that it is probable that good opium, smoked in moderation, does very little if any harm to those who use it—exactly what may be said of temperance and discrimination in the use of tea, tobacco, alcohol, etc. The question at once arises. What is temperance? The definition is difficult, for if we answer, that use which does not cause gross and obvious bodily harm, we shall at once be told that this is the very point in dispute. True, and in regard to opium, which we do not know, we will not dogmatise; but it seems probable that the analogy with other drug habits will hold good also here, and that the opinion of those who assert that all who smoke opium are morally and physically injured will be found on examination to be as baseless as the similar assertion that all who smoke tobacco, or all who drink alcohol, are weak and depraved beings; it is probable that in the case of opium-smoking, as in the case of other drug habits practised by large communities, the usage of the drug is not in the majority of persons attended by any serious harm. Still, though the average use of alcohol in England at the present time be not regarded as excessive, there is no doubt that there have been periods in her history in which marked excess was the rule rather than the exception—among the male members of her large cities at least; and since this shows us that we cannot assume that the good sense of a community will necessarily preserve it from pernicious excess, the whole subject of the effects of opium smoking upon the average individual needs to be reconsidered by persons who have no *a priori* bias and no commercial interests to subserve.

V.—The proclamation by certain enthusiasts of anti-malarial and anti-dysenteric prophylactic virtues possessed by opium must be accepted with some reserve. We have all of us seen the exaggerated claims put forward for the virtue of alcohol in the prevention and treatment of disease, we have seen people who believed that tobacco smoking was a sovereign preventive of "infection by germs through the mouth," we are not unfamiliar with the advice "take a cup of tea and lie down" so often offered to women suffering from domestic ailments of most varied nature; and in regard to the prevention of dysentery and malarial fevers, it is easy to realise the enormous difficulty of arriving at trustworthy conclusions concerning the value of any drug.

VI.—Our last conclusion is that the habitual opium-smoker is less unpleasant to his neighbours than the habitual tobacco-smoker, who smokes in places of public resort, and who, when not smoking, has his clothes and neighbourhood pervaded with a smell extremely offensive to many nostrils; and less unpleasant also than the tobacco-and betel-chewers who spit freely in season and out of season. Further, that the man who smokes opium to excess perhaps does less harm to himself than the man who abuses tea, tobacco, or alcohol; and certainly causes less discomfort to his neighbours and less misery to his relations, than does the excessive drinker.

Do we seem to be advocating the practice of opium smoking? Such is far from our wish. We only intend to show that this habit cannot be considered as a thing apart; for good or for evil it must be compared with other drug habits; and it would appear that supposing one drug habit were to become universal to the exclusion of all the rest, while there are some which would certainly be preferable to opium-smoking, it is probably not the worst. There can be little doubt that the general use of alcohol in a community is a more serious calamity than the habit of smoking opium.

It is difficult, we think, for an unbiassed and competent investigator, taking a wide survey of the chief drug habits wh ch the ingenuity of man has discovered for his own enslavement, to avoid the conclusion that all are alike mistakes—that in no way does any one of them minister to the happiness or welfare of the human race. The pipe of tobacco or opium which seems so soothing, soothes the unrest from which the habitual smoker suffers in consequence of the habit he has acquired; the cup of tea invigorates the brain which was feeling sluggish because the hour for the customary stimulant had arrived, or (if the dose is taken to meet an unusual and pressing need) it has the doubtful benefit of enabling a man to force more work from his brain than nature intended it to supply in the given time; the dose of alcohol relieves the physical or mental depression which would not have existed had not the drinker been accustomed to depend on the drug—all alike, when used habitually, merely still the cravings they themselves create; all alike when used occasionally are dangerous spurs, and the occasional use tends strongly to become habitual. And over the head of one who gives himself up to any one of these habits hangs ever, like the sword of DAMOCLES, the danger of excess. The pleasure such drugs give is spurious, the strength they seem to supply is too dearly purchased. We cannot doubt that it would be an unmixed benefit to the human race could the use of nerve-poisons as art.cles

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of daily consumption be entirely abandoned. Like other poisons, their prescription should be left in the hands of the physician, who might, we would suggest in passing, usefully advise the opium pipe to soothe the last weeks of patients suffering from hopeless cancer or consumption. But for the abandonment of all drug habits we must await the millennium, and the practical reformer must meanwhile be contented with describing and minimizing their evils.

OUR EARTH.

ONE of the things that we all learned when we were children was that the deeper one delves into the ground the higher is the temperature reached. Every descent of sixty-four feet, we were taught, signified a rise of one degree of temperature, so that if a man were to penetrate a mile below the surface, he would find a temperature 82° F. warmer than that at the surface. Hence at a depth of twenty or thirty miles a temperature of 1,640° F. or 2,460° F. must exist. But at such a heat, rocks, of the kind known to us at the surface, would at once melt. Therefore it was inferred with every appearance of reason that the interior of the earth must be in a liquid or molten condition, and that he solid crust does not exceed a few miles in thickness. The molten streams of lava that issue from volcanoes were regarded as an additional evidence of the truth of this theory, and the bending, twisting and folding undergone in many cases by areas of sediment in the process of solidification, were considered to be the result of puckering of the earth's superficial crust owing to the existence of a cooling and shrinking fluid within. But the notion derived from all these indications has been dispelled, like so many ancient beliefs, by the light of modern science. Philosophers now hold that the earth is solid, or at any rate nearly so, to its very centre. In the first place, the argument deduced from increase of temperature according to increase of depth, took no account of the important fact that pressure also increases the deeper we penetrate below the surface. Rocks expand in melting. Hence, conditions which check expansion must check fusion also. Consequently, it by no means follows that because the temperature of the earth rises as we go towards the centre, the interior must be liquid. As for the lava that flows from volcanoes, it no more proves the general fluidity of the interior than a spring of water proves the existence of an internal lake. Many causes may operate to relieve the pressure at certain places within the earth, and if the pressure be relieved, the rocks at these particular places may melt, though elsewhere, and even at far greater depths, they may remain solid. Finally, the inference deduced from the wrinkling of rocks near the earth's surface has been shown to be purely hypothetical. Forces other than the cooling and shrinking of an internal fluid might produce the same effects. Thus all these evidences are inconclusive. They only suggest a possibility. On the other hand, we have the phenomena produced by the attraction of the sun and moon. If the earth consisted of a thin crust enclosing a fluid, the latter would be drawn towards the sun and moon just as the superficial waters are drawn. There would, in short, be a tide within the earth twice a day; a tide about as great as the oceanic tides are. How would the crust resist deformation from such a tide? How does it resist deformation from the tides known to ebb and flow over it? These questions have formed the bases of extensive experiments and calculations, the conclusion being—as demonstrated by Lord KELVIN and Professor DARWIN—that the earth resists the attraction of the sun and moon nearly or quite as much as a solid continuous globe of steel would do. "It is hard," says Mr. BECKER, writing in the *North American Review*, "to imagine the earth as strong as steel; but if it consists of even a very thick shell (say 500 miles in thickness) inclosing a fluid mass, this shell must be far stronger than steel or any other substance known to man." So then our globe is solid after all, and not the miserable shell with a centre of intense fire that, as children, we were taught to imagine. There is comfort in the reflection, and there would be more comfort were not the discovery contemporaneous with another scientific conclusion, namely, that the sun has only twenty million years of life remaining, or at most thirty millions. The condensation of the orb of day at a relatively moderate rate signifies its existence as a source of life and heat for seventeen million years; a period that may possibly be doubled by the fall of meteors into its mass. "Therefore," says CAMILLE FLAMMARION, "the day will come when the Sun will be extinct. Then the Earth and all the other planets of our system will cease to be the abode of life. They will be erased from the Great Book and will revolve, black cemeteries, around an extinguished Sun. Will these planets continue to exist even then? Yes, probably, in the case of Jupiter, and perhaps Saturn. No, beyond a doubt, for the small bodies, such as the Earth, Venus, Mars, Mercury, and the Moon. Already the Moon appears to have preceded us towards the final desert. Mars is much farther advanced than the Earth towards the same destiny. Venus, younger than us, will doubtless survive us. These little worlds lose their elements of vitality much faster than the Sun loses its heat. From century to century, from year to year, from day to day, from hour to hour, the surface of the Earth is transformed. On the one hand, the continents are crumbling away and becoming covered by the sea which insensibly and by very slow degrees tends to invade and submerge the entire Globe; on the other hand, the amount of water on the surface of the Globe is diminishing. A careful and reasonable calculation shows that by the action of erasure alone all the land on our planet will be covered by water in ten millions of years." These are pleasant forecasts. It boots little that our globe is solid if destruction under any circumstances is surely and steadily creeping upon it. And what are we now to think of that Judgment Day when "the elements shall melt with fervent heat"? To perish by frost, not fire, seems to be our impending fate.

THE ETHICS OF PESSIMISM.

IN no period of the history of thought has the note of pessimism been entirely wanting: it was heard even amid the enthusiastic chorus of the philosophy of Greece. The most striking example of this was the Cyrenaic philosopher HEGESIAS, known to the ancients as "the Orator of Death." Belonging to a school which taught that the sole rational aim of life was pleasure, he himself held that pleasure was almost entirely negative, and was to be found in the avoidance of pain; he taught that pains were so omnipresent, escape from them so difficult, he painted the miseries of existence in such vivid colours, that his lectures led to an epidemic of suicide in Alexandria, and the reigning PTOLEMY found it necessary to forbid them. But pessimism is not to be found only in atheistical philosophies: one aspect of the great world-religions, and notably of Christianity, is profoundly pessimistic. On a keen realization of the futility and wretchedness of earthly existence was originally based, to a large extent, the fervent belief in the joy and the justice of Heaven, and during the ages when Christian philosophy was predominant great pessimists were usually divines.

The pessimistic view of mundane life which is implied in Christianity would naturally tend to be exaggerated in a once fervent believer who had lost his faith in the divine justice by which all wrongs are to be ultimately made right. PAUL himself said, "If in this life only we have hoped in CHRIST, we are of all men most pitiable." It is thus, we think, that the remarkable outburst of pessimism which this century, materially so successful, has witnessed, may rationally be explained: latter-day pessimism is the mark and the measure of the decline of Christianity; the pessimists are men of strongly religious minds still needing the adventitious support which the spirit of the age has so ruthlessly plucked away.

There was a period in which to many, though the divine person was no longer visible, the divine justice seemed still real; though the substance had gone the shadow lingered; a personified Nature seemed to take the place of GOD; and the religious atheist cried—

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Oh yet we trust that somehow good
Will be the final goal of ill.

But this trust could not persist when he came to recognize more and more clearly that

. . . Nature, red in tooth and claw,
With ravine, shriek'd against his creed.

When this was borne in upon him with the irresistible emotion of conviction, what could a man of the type we have described do but sink into pessimism, and cry—

O life as futile, then, as frail!
. . . . . .
What hope of answer or redress?
Behind the veil, behind the veil.

Though pessimism is a very strong philosophical position (far stronger than optimism), it is by no means impregnable; its adherents are more often guided by their emotions than by their reason; and it is apt to be a transitory phase in the life of the thinker. One of several things may happen to him: he may recognize the radical error, explained below, of the pessimistic position; he may come to consider that pessimism is created by looking at life exclusively from one point of view; he may come to recognize the pleasurable nature of all healthy performance of function, and may throw himself with zest into a life of activity, practical or theoretical; he may reënter the fold of one of the old superstitions, or he may create a new one for himself (the exuberance of nineteenth-century spiritualism, the back-drift into the Roman Catholic Church, and the success of Comtism have been largely conditioned in that way); or finally, failing to discover the first course, his emotional clinging to the pessimistic aspect of life being too strong to permit of the second, and his reason peremptorily prohibiting the third, he may satisfy his religious cravings by making his philosophy the basis of a vigorous ethical system. Ethical elements have rarely been wanting in pessimism, but they are particularly prominent in the pessimism of to-day.

In a recent number of the "Révue Bleue," M. JEAN LAHOR has published a paper entitled "Un Pessimisme Héroïque," the preface of a forthcoming volume "l'Illusion," which contains a clear statement of pessimism, and of the ethical philosophy therefrom deduced. We here summarise his views.

Analysis and experience have dispelled the veil of illusion, and he sees that man is not the son of GOD, but the son of the brute; that all nature denies the existence of GOD; that since the recognition of the truth of the Darwinian law of the dominion of the strongest, pessimism could no longer be regarded as the subjective opinion of a few morbid minds, but the mournful recognition of a law of nature, as eternal and universal as any of her laws. But none the less are there in nature intoxicating attractions: life will, through all the ages, charm, dazzle, and inflame the mind. The very certainty of death will incline the pessimist to realize to the full all that life has to offer. But there is a way by which he can gain the hope, or rather the illusion, of an immortality, and that is by the substitution within himself of the grand life of the species for the paltry, narrow, wretched life of the individual. The self, the "me," is to be indefinitely expanded, that he may share the joys, and also the sorrows, of the whole of his race. The pessimist, appalled by the universality of evil, wishes to fight against it; saddened by the universality of suffering, wishes to lessen it, to console it, to heal it; just because he sees more clearly than other men the stupid, the brutal, and the foul sides of human nature, he demands a renascence of humanity. He wishes to ally himself with the aristocracy of the ages, with the best men of this miserable humanity. The distinction between man and brute lies in this, that on the former is imposed the ideal of justice, perfect justice, which consists in the continual sacrifice of personal interests and needs to those which are common to the race. We thus revive the essence of all lofty religion, the idea of sacrifice. *Noblesse oblige* is the device of pessimism. "Then, if future science does not re-discover GOD, who is Justice immanent in the world, dispensing with GOD, we shall create the divine; we also from the darkness of chaos shall bring forth the light: *et erimus sicut Deus!*" Unblinded by the sophisms of those who proclaim the universal dominion of necessity, the pessimist sees human spontaneity triumphing over necessity, he points to history and demonstrates the long succession of the victories of humanity over all tyrannies, whether imposed by nature or by man himself, The pessimist replies to all objections: None the less man has progressed, is progressing, and will continue to progress."

It is impossible not to be struck by the beauty of M. LAHOR'S ideal, though some will doubtless be surprised to find an exposition of the creed of pessimism ending with a triumphant affirmation of progress. In fact, the pessimism and the morality appear to be somewhat disconnected, and the untenability of pessimism as a perennial creed is once more demonstrated by the necessity M. LAHOR has found of attaching to it a perfervid ethical enthusiasm. The radical defect of pessimism is one which it shares with the supernatural religious systems which the pessimist rejects, a belief that we have knowledge of final causes and final purposes. The conception of morality, as far as scientifically known, is peculiar to the human mind; it is, to use KANT'S term, a category under which certain objects have to be thought. It is unscientific to think of it as existing apart from the human mind. To postulate this form of thought as existing behind the phenomenal world, and to regard it as an objectively existing moral being termed GOD, is the error of theology. But no less gross are the errors of pessimism and optimism, which project the moral category of the human mind into the phenomenal world, and speak of Nature as being "good" or "bad." We know nothing of final causes, nothing of ultimate moral purposes in the universe, and to speak of them is to blow bubbles with the soap of speculation distended by the breath of ignorance. Our ethical system, if it is to be scientifically sound, must be based upon no such flimsy materials; its foundation, like that of other sciences, must be a frank recognition of the existing limits of our knowledge, and we may then proceed to a firm construction by means of observation and experiment. What distinguishes ethical science, in common with psychology, from such sciences as physics and chemistry, is that in the two former "observation" means to a large extent introspection; and unfortunately introspection has been commonly supposed to afford a license for the uncontrolled manufacture of mythology.

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE RELIGIOUS PRESS.

To those who care chiefly for what religious bodies say or think, and care little for what they do, the religious press of Japan for June is of less interest than in preceding months. So much space is devoted to reports of annual gatherings already held, and to preparation for such gatherings to be held in the near future, that comparatively little space is given to discussions of the theological problems or questions of popular interest. The editor of the *Kuristokyo Shimbun* discusses the proposition, that "A nation cannot long endure without Religion." In the same magazine, Rev. T. Harada discourses on what is "Imitation of Christ?" In the *Jiyu Kuristokyo* Rev. Y. Abe writes on "The Power of Christianity," Rev. C. S. Eby, D.D., on "Christianity in Europe and America," and Y. Iwamoto on "Christianity and the Education of Women." The *Fukuin Shimpo* and the *Inochi* have articles on the Bible. Some literary men, says the latter magazine, tell us that the Bible is not a scientific book; but this is incorrect. Let each man read for himself, and be content with his own view, not assailing the ideas held by others; especially let no one pronounce the views of another "superstitious," "obstinate," and the like. Make broader your sympathies! The Bible is not wholly the property of literary men. The *Shukyo* treats of the "Difficulty of Duty," "Equality and Faith," "the Influence of Religion," and "The Relation between Knowledge and Belief." In the last named article the writer maintains, that the perfection of both knowledge and faith is the essence of true manhood.

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The meeting of the Evangelical Alliance held at Nagoya, May 24th to 26th, was an event of much interest to the orthodox Christians of Japan. For some years the meetings of the Alliance had awakened but little interest. This year, however, the Christian people of Nagoya seemed determined to made the gathering a success. As was noticed a month ago, the religious press was utilised to the fullest extent to advertise the meeting and urge general interest and attendance. When the hundred or more delegates to this meeting of the Alliance reached Nagoya, they found preparations already made which seemed to insure a successful session. Churches were decorated, homes were opened, and hearts and minds seemed fully prepared. Meanwhile, the committee of arrangement had been busy, and had prepared an attractive programme. But while all these preparations insured success to the occasion as a whole, they did not insure entire peace or perfect quiet. The Christians, among themselves, seem to have

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been of one mind and one spirit; but from without,—from Buddhist sources, it is stated,—there was trouble of a serious nature. On the first day of the meeting "Buddhist *soshi*" appeared in large numbers. Some entered the assembly as hearers, while others remained without, each group answering to the other with cries and disturbing noises, in antiphonal discord. Like the farmer in the fable, cries were followed by the throwing of soil, and this missle by others of more effective nature. Thirty-five policemen, in uniform, were present, beside many purposely disguised by being dressed in citizen's clothes, but they were unable to restore order. On the evening of the same day some of the disturbers were arrested; but three policemen, not wearing uniforms, were set upon by *soshi*, their clothes were torn, and they were wounded. On the 25th the Alliance had prepared to welcome, at a great social meeting, the military and civil officers as well as the educators and leading citizens of Nagoya. But Buddhists, it is said, waited upon the proprietor of the *Shukinro*, where the meeting was to be held, and threatened to tear down his house if he permitted the gathering to be held. This threat seems to have had its intended effect, for, upon the very day when the meeting was to have been held, permission to use the premises was withdrawn. The meeting was held in the Methodist Church; but it could not be there what had been planned. Again, the ladies of the Nagoya Church arranged to welcome the delegates to the Alliance at the *Kinsokwan*, but were prevented in like manner. The proprietor of the building received letters to the effect that if the proposed meeting were permitted his house would be burned and his own life endangered. He thereupon withdrew his consent that the meeting should assemble upon his premises, and it was held in the buildings of the Eiwa Gakko. The delegates and their friends were evidently not frightened by the threats, for over two hundred assembled at this gathering, which, in spite of untoward circumstances, was pronounced a success.

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The editor of the *Kuristokyo Shimbun*, from which paper these particulars are taken, addresses a "Plain Word to Leading Buddhists." Let those in authority, or possessing influence, says the editor, restrain the common priests from such displays as were witnessed at Nagoya. Not that Christians care, or that Christianity suffers; but because those who do so harm their own cause. On the evening when the disturbance was the worst, a gentleman of much experience remarked: "I wonder why Buddhists do not know that by such actions they are committing suicide?" Religion prospers only by the truth. It must not fear the opinions of opponents, or refuse free investigation. To oppose free speech, to molest the gatherings of people holding other opinions, is fatal. We are ashamed, continues the editor, for religion's sake. Christians and Buddhists face each other as antagonists; but before the eyes of secular people they appear as one, since both are advocates of religion. Should Christianity do anything wrong it would affect unfavourably not only Christianity but Buddhism. So in such scenes as that at Nagoya, religion, whether Buddhist or Christian, loses the respect of men. Debate may be necessary, but let us contend as gentlemen. This is the demand not only of religion but of the State. The *Bukkyo*, presenting its readers with, on the whole, a fair account of the meeting of the Evangelical Alliance, refers to the fact that the proprietors of large buildings in Nagoya first granted and then refused permission to the Christians to assemble upon their premises; but it says nothing of threats being used to secure this end, nor of disturbances by Buddhists at other meetings. By such failures, it says, the delegates were much puzzled, and the success of the meeting as a whole was much lessened.

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As to the proceedings of the Alliance, a brief account must suffice. The Alliance was welcomed to Nagoya in a speech by Mr. Hirata Heizo, pastor of the M. E. Church. Mr. Inagaki replied for the delegates. Proceeding to business, Mr. Honda Yoichi was elected president of the meeting, and resolutions were adopted. The substance of these is as follows. The Evangelical Alliance aims, it was declared, to promote the friendship of those Churches commonly called Evangelical, to promote harmony of action among them, and to manifest the spirit of Christianity to the world. It is to consist of not more than three representatives from each church, besides such Japanese and foreign ministers as may be elected. Business is to be conducted by three "managers" and five "councillors," elected annually. The former must prepare programmes for meetings in the week of prayer. They are also to learn the works of Christians in philanthropy, education, and missions, to gather statistics of religion in Japan, and to report at the next meeting of the Alliance. The expenses of each meeting are to be met by the Church of the city in which it is held; but other expenses of the Alliance are to be met by the delegates. For this latter purpose each delegate was assessed twenty *sen*. The next meeting was appointed to meet at Kyoto in May, 1895. The "managers" for the next meeting are to be Messrs. Hatori Ayao, Ogata Sennosuke, and Kozaki Hiromichi. The "councillors" are Messrs. Harada Tasuku, Terazawa Hisakichi, Inagaki Akira, Hiraiwa Yoshiyasu and Satome Toyoaki. The meetings of the 25th were, in the forenoon, devoted to "Pastoral Experience," and in the afternoon to "Methods of Evangelization." On the 26th a Communion Service, with a sermon by President Kozaki of the Doshisha, was held.

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Two religious bodies, the Universalists and the Evangelical Association, have just held their first general conferences. The former occurred in the early part of May, too early, however, to be reported in the May number of the magazine of that mission, the *Jiyu Kuristokyo*. Reverends Yoshimura, Abe, Watanabe, Akashi, Jo, Sasaki, Cate, and Hoshino were present representing the Churches of which they severally have charge. Eight lay delegates, and Messrs. Perin and Rice, members of the mission, were also present. Rev. Dr. C. S. Eby, and Rev. Mr. Iwamoto gave addresses, by invitation, which appear in the *Jiyu Kuristokyo* for June, and to which we have already referred. The editor in giving a summary of the proceedings of the Conference, and in pointing out the lessons it taught, says that it demonstrated first of all the need of emphasising the more important matters, in such gatherings, and not dwelling too much on minor topics. We predicted, he says, that this Conference would mark an epoch in our denominational history; and so it has proved. Our churches, which have hitherto felt incited only by the fact that they were severally dependent upon one mission, now realise that they are one body with a common aim. The Conference has made some things plain. In the first place it has shown the remarkable growth of Universalism in Japan. It is less than three years since the first representatives of Universalism came to Japan, and a little over two years since the first church was begun; yet in so small a time great results have been gained. We have our magazine, and our Theological School, both prosperous; a girls' school at Tokyo, and another at Shidzuoka,—the latter being especially prosperous, having fifty students, and a school house now building. Of churches there are now eight, two in Tokyo, two in Osaka, and one each in Shidzuoka, Okitsu, Sendai, and Hoden, in Chiba. Each of these is under the especial care of a minister of our faith, one of whom has received ordination at our hands. From such facts it appears that our movement is no mere eddy in the theological sea of Japan. Again, this Conference gave to Universalists an opportunity to show their true position in the theological world. We are liberal Christians and so differ from the evangelical churches in important particulars. Many ask how we differ from Unitarians? From such Unitarians as Channing and James Freeman Clarke we do not differ in theological views; but we do not approve that radical Unitarianism which is represented by M. J. Savage. Thus we stand between conservative Orthodox and radical Unitarianism. We do not sympathize with the narrow conservatism of orthodoxy, especially in such matters as the Trinity, verbal infallability of Scriptures and Eternal Damnation. Universalism is fully Christian. We desire to be constructive in our influence, and to give to the world a rational interpretation of Christianity; especially do we wish to apply the teachings of Jesus to human life. That such principles and views as we hold are acceptable to the Japanese is evident from the prosperity of our work. Before us is a great opportunity and a great duty. Let us have a generous, loving, and earnest spirit.

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The First Annual Conference of the Evangelical Association was opened June 15th, too late for an account to be given in their magazine, the *Fukuin no Tsukai*; but as that periodical appears on the 15th of each month, it was able to print in the current number the speech of Bishop Esher, of which the following is a summary. It is now fifty years, said Bishop Esher, since members of the Evangelical Association began to be interested in foreign missions. From that time money began to come into our treasury for such uses. Thirty years ago, two missionaries went to India. In 1875, one other minister and myself urged an extention of our work, and, after many prayers, Japan was selected. The following year Dr. Kecker, Mr. Halmhuber, and Miss Hudson landed in Yokohama. A few months later the first named gentleman went to Tokyo, and the second to Osaka, and began active work. The benediction of God was upon them, and their work prospered. Out of it has grown that body which is here assembled in its first Annual Conference. There are twenty-five such Conferences in all; one in Germany, one in Switzerland, this one, now formed in Japan, and the remaining twenty-two in America. When I was young there were only two such Conferences. This newest Conference has now all the rights and responsibilities which others have. It is the first to be formed in Asia; let the work begin here and go out to other lands. Without the inspiration of the Holy Ghost our work is vain, and our future will be a failure. True Christianity is not correct belief nor formal acts. It is an inner experience, a sense of being revived by the Holy Spirit. Such an experience is enough to fit us for our work. Our Conference needs ministers who will sacrifice all for the glory of God, looking for no other reward. Let us work for the salvation of souls, the glory of the nation, and the good of the church. The preachers must be as earnest as Christ, as clear as sunlight, teaching the truth with simplicity and authority. Let us also care for external matters, and have our Conference well organized. Let Japanese ministers recognize these foreign missionaries as their friends, who have sacrificed much for their good, and let all work together in harmony. Let all realise that they are one in the Lord.

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The tenth Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church will be held at Aoyama, Tokyo, early in July. The *Gokyo*,—which magazine, by the way, reaches its one-hundredth number in the current issue,—in giving these and other particulars adds that it was voted a year ago that the Conference should be held at Nagasaki; but for some reason it has been changed to Tokyo. The exact date of holding the meetings was left undecided until after the arrival of the bishop from America; but it is now known that it will convene on the fifth day of July. The first day will be devoted to the presentation of credentials, with a sermon by Rev. W. H Daniel in the evening. On the second day the Conference will begin its regular session by the celebration of the Lord's Supper, and in the evening there will be another sermon by Rev. Nakata Hisakichi. On the third day, general business, a meeting of the Ladies' Foreign Missionary Association, and a Temperance meeting in the evening, at which Mr. Ando Taro will speak The fourth day will be devoted to general business and on the fifth day,

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Sunday, July 9th, a Love Feast will be held at 9 a.m., Bishop Foster will preach at 10, an Ordination service will be held at 2, and Rev Dr. Leonard will preach in the evening. Two more days will be devoted to general business and the conference will adjourn. Let not these meetings be like secular gatherings, says the editor of *Gokyo*; let a spirit of fervent piety be in the hearts and minds of all.

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One other general gathering of Christians, to be held in July, is discussed in the magazines for the month. This is the fifth meeting of the Summer School, whose fourth meeting at Hakone a year ago was made memorable by the presence of Professor Ladd This year the School meets at Suma-ura, two *ri* from Kobe. The Christians of Kobe are especially interested, and are making great preparations for the gathering. Daily morning prayer meetings are being held in the Kobe churches throughout June; money is being raised; houses at Suma are being secured for dormitories by persons who will be interested to provide accomodation as cheaply as possible. Muscular Christianity, as well as that associated with piety, will be provided for, since the committee of arrangements announce boat and foot-races, base ball, tramps through beautiful scenery, and a grand athletic tournament, among the attractions. Especial efforts are being made for the accommodation of lady students. The Eiwa Jo-gakko of Kobe has applied to the committee of management of the Summer School for a house to be used exclusively as a dormitory for women; other ladies' organizations have interested themselves in the general arrangements for the school, and it has been decided that some lectures will be given for the especial benefit of women. Reading rooms and stands for the sale of papers and magazines are to be provided. The physicians and managers of hospitals at Suma have been requested to furnish medical care to any students who may be in need, at reduced rates. Among the speakers engaged are the President of the school, Mr. Miyagawa, President Kozaki, and Messrs. Ichihara, Morita, and Uasa of the Doshisha; Mr. Ebina Danjo president of the Kumiai Missionary Association, President Oshikawa of the Tohoku Gakkuin of Sendai, President Honda of the Aoyama Eiwa Gakko, Mr. Uemura Masahisa, editor of the *Nihon Hyoron* and the *Fukuin Shimpo*, Dean Uchimura of the Taisei Gakkwan of Osaka, Mr Yokoi and others. Mr Onishi has been asked also to lecture. Among special guests invited to be present are Messrs. Kotaoka, Ebara, Takechi, and Shimada, members of the Diet, Mr. Koike, secretary of the Lower House, and Messrs. Eby and Verbeck. The *Kurushokyo* says, editorially, that the Summer School has now been in existence long enough to have lost its foreign character. It has become thoroughly Japanized, and is deeply rooted in our soil. It began its sessions in a time of much depression in the history of Christianity in Japan. But the tendency toward segregation which was working so unfavourably among Japanese Christians had at that time reached its limit, and the new move toward harmony had begun. Through this new spirit has begun a better period for our work; and the increased life and power of Christianity in Japan is clearly indicated by the prosperity of such institutions as the Summer School and the Evangelical Alliance.

* * *

The Buddhists also have their Summer Schools. The Hongwanji magazine, the *Hanzai Zasshi* announces a school for young men of the Shinshu at Futami. The *Nonin Shimpo* adds that this school, which opens July 15th, is for young men in the western part of Japan, those of the eastern portions being provided for by another school which is to assemble at Kamakura on the 13th At both, eminent speakers have been secured. The latter paper states that a meeting of Buddhists was held at Nagoya on the 18th of May, as an off-set to the Evangelical Alliance meetings. It is not impossible that this fact led to the collision between the two parties which has been mentioned. The *Nonin Shimpo* also demands that Japanese who hold property for foreigners should make known that fact to the public. The *Dogakko* continues its articles begun last month entitled "True Manhood consists in Fidelity to Duty." The *Dento* urges the chief temples of Japan to compile their histories. Ancient history is better known than that which is comparatively modern. The same magazine says that the two leading forces in Japanese Buddhism are the Shinshu and the Shingon sects, which are distinguished, respectively, by their faithfulness in belief and by the depth of their doctrine. The *Bukkyo*, commenting upon the dissensions in Shodoshu, says that it is due to private feuds, and calls upon the sect to expel those priests who are responsible for the disturbances. The Buddhist Union, which met in Tokyo, June 15th, was expected to deal with this question. Of Mr. Pfoundes, the *Bukkyo* says that the unfortunate episodes connected with him are probably due to his temper, and are not, therefrom, to be too severely criticised. But, adds that magazine, it appears clearly from his own acts and words that he is not an earnest seeker after religion. This fact, says the *Bukkyo*, can never be veiled. The *Bukkyo Koron* relates that Takahashi Dengoro, a Christian student of the Tokoku Gakkuin of Sendai, accompanied Lieut. Gunji to the Kurile Islands for the purpose of exerting a religious influence. Though a Christian, says this magazine, he showed therein an admirable spirit. Hearing of his act, Murasei Gensho, a Buddhist priest from Hyogo-ken, and Satomi Hoji, a priest of Hongwanji, also joined the expedition. In the same magazine is the continuation of the article noticed last month on Mixed Residence and Buddhism. It will be remembered that in the former part of this article the author maintained that Mixed Residence is for the good of Japan, and is inevitable; if, therefore, Buddhists oppose it, they must be regarded as enemies of their country. In this portion of his paper the writer asserts out the close relationship existing between national prosperity and the prosperity of Buddhism. For a thousand years Buddhism ruled the spirit of Japan. If the nation prospers Buddhism will flourish; if Buddhism grows the nation is helped. The destiny of both depends upon the wisdom and the prosperity of the people. Hence, let Buddhists turn their attention actively to these two problems. let them promote education by the establishment of schools, and let them encourage all enterprises calculated to increase national prosperity. Christians, continues the writer, are clever in helping the needy; let Buddhists excel them in this good work. Found schools for the poor; publish scriptures and tracts, seek to gain the interest of young women. By these means will Buddhism be sound and the nation prospered.

* * *

A curious and not wholly happy allegory on the "Importation of Christianity into Japan" appears in the *Bukkyo* of June 5th. Christianity, says the writer, is monogamous; yet here in Japan it would either win the bride of Buddhism (that is, the people of Japan) away from her husband, or would, if not able to do that, be a second husband to her. It may be granted, he admits, that the course of Buddhism has not been wholly commendable; but should it therefore be divorced? No just cause for divorce exists. Nor is divorce possible. Buddhism can not be driven out, and Christianity can not be established The merits of Buddhism are now becoming know as never before, and recognized in Europe and America. At the same time the defects of Christianity are becoming known. Many Christians know already that Buddhism is not an idolatry; but most Christians known our religion only through shallow criticisms. They say that Buddhism is pessimistic. Suppose it is; shall it therefore be condemned? But in fact, it is neither pessimistic nor optimistic. The *Seikyo Shimpo* (Greek Church) also discusses the situation with reference to Buddhism. In the Tokugawa age it says Buddhism was supreme; because the great family then in power, being antagonistic to the Imperial family, and therefore in opposition to the Shinto religion, naturally embraced Buddhism. With the fall of the Tokugawas was involved the fall of Buddhism. Yet why do we speak of the fall of that religion? It has to-day more priests than Christianity has adherents, besides about twice as many more who are not priests but who yet live through that religion. There are three or four times as many thus directly supported by Buddhism as there are physicians or policemen in Japan. Their numbers are great; but in what condition do we find them? Few of them really care for their religion. They have lost their religious spirit, as is evident from the fact that they have become ashamed of their peculiar garb and shaved heads. They are secularized, and they have degenerated in morals. Such a religion as they can present will not satisfy the needs of man. See how Buddhists show activity, in Shodoshu quarrels, and in riotous proceedings at the Evangelical Alliance meeting at Nagoya! Their leaders should rather be regarded as the destroyers than as the defenders of their religion. Buddhism is not primarily a religion but a philosophy; and this philosophy they try to help out by grafting upon it Western pantheism and similar ideas. Meanwhile, society is degenerating, and, since Buddhism is so powerless to help, a great responsibility rests on Christians.

* * *

The *Gokyo* advocates a return to the methods pursued by the Roman Catholics two hundred years ago, in the evangelization of Japan. In particular, Christianity should become thoroughly Japanized; it should reach all classes, going to men just where they are; and it should strive to work more than it now does from the higher to the lower orders of society. The religious sentiment of Japan is of a poorer quality than we had supposed. Our present methods are in consequence too refined. Let us follow Luther's plan, who, in preaching, habitually addressed himself to the lowest intelligence in his congregation. The same journal denies the assertion so often made that faith has declined since the advent of Biblical criticism. Opinions about the Bible may change, but the truth that is in the Bible cannot change. In that Book is life, and life quickens life. Gold is gold, even when mixed with river sands. The dust and sand in the Bible are as nothing to those who see the gold. Methodism is liberty and experience; it goes forward paying no attention to minute criticisms. The *Inochi* (Presbyterian) replies in a leading article to those who assert that the sermons of orthodox preachers are superstitious. They may not be scientific; but let it be remembered that science is changing and that faith is permanent. Science rests upon energy and matter. What are these? No one knows. Some preachers are proud of a little scientific knowledge, and lecture rather than preach. Such men should be silenced, or taught, as pastors, to feed the souls of their flocks. The *Shinri*, speaking also of preaching, says that the preacher should treat of what he knows by personal experience. He must know, and so speak. This means being one with Christ. Paul preached Christ only; sermons should be serious and exact. If complex, or if lacking in definiteness they are of little use. Knowledge of methods and acquaintance with materials come only from much effort. Let those who have natural facility of speech be modest in its use.

* * *

A museum of Religion is to be established at the Doshisha, under the direction of Matsuyama Takayoshi and Rev. M. L. Gordon. The purpose is to illustrate the relation of religion to society, and its influence on the human mind. It is proposed to begin with the religions of Japan, Shinto, Buddhism, and the early Roman Catholic movement, and work from these to other religions, lands, and ages. All articles having any relation to religion will be collected; such as sacred books, vestments, articles of worship, pictures, images and the like.

* * *

The Rev. Dr. Cochran, beloved by many outside of as well as by all within missionary circles, was tendered a farewell at the Azabu

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M. E. Church on the 10th instant. The *Gokko*, giving an account of the gathering, declares that the reverend gentleman will long be remembered with gratitude by Japanese Christians. He has baptized many persons, including such men as Messrs. Yokoi and Inagaki, the late Mr. Nakamura, and many clergymen of his own church. Representatives of the Tokyo Churches and many distinguished gentlemen spoke earnest words of appreciation at this farewell meeting, among these was Mr. Hoshi Toru, President of the Lower House of the Diet, who said in substance that Dr. Cochran is an honourable gentleman, respected both in Japan and America. Politics and religion have the same ultimate aim,—to make mankind better. I, as a politician, and you, as religionists, should strive to make this country and this people better. To all congratulatory speeches Dr. Cochran replied with characteristic modesty, "I have only done my duty toward God in Japan. I congratulate you on the great progress of the last twenty years. May it still continue."

CORRESPONDENCE.

COLONEL FUKUSHIMA'S RIDE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—It seems to me that your editorial in the *Mail* of June 22nd on Lieut.-Colonel Fukushima is a timely one. No one doubts that the intrepid rider deserves a warm reception and hearty congratulations by his friends, but that the whole nation should turn itself into a reception committee, exhibiting such demonstrations of joy and hilarity, impresses most foreigners as being extreemly childish. No wonder the average European or American thinks of them as "the jolly little Japs." They bring it upon themselves.

A Japanese student has lately asked me if I did not think Major Fukushima's ride across Siberia was equal in importance and greatness to the travels of Stanley and Livingstone in Africa. He thought so. Another student characterized Lieut. Gunji as "the Columbus in the present age." "But," said he "in the objects, he is a greater than Columbus, because the latter started to get gold, but Lieut. Gunji for the protection of his empire." No doubt a great part of the Japanese people hold similar opinions concerning these expeditions. Every picture shop in the country is making a great display of the pictures of these two adventurers, and the factories are turning out thousands of handkerchiefs and *furoshiki* with their pictures stamped on them as if they were the greatest heroes or patriots. Probably the Japanese do not know that most sober foreigners look upon Lieut. Gunji's wild undertaking as a piece of sentimental folly almost criminal in its results.

Perhaps most Japanese would be surprised to learn that Siberia has been crossed before to-day. They might be interested to hear of George Kennan. "As a telegraph explorer, in 1865-68—in Japan's feudal days he spent three years in constant travel in Northern Siberia; in 1870-71 he explored extensively in the Caucasus, and in 1885-86 he travelled 15,000 miles through Northern Russia and Siberia to investigate the Russian exile system, visiting all the convict prisons and mines within a large area. He is probably the foremost living authority on Siberia outside of that country." And his travels have benefited science, literature and humanity, and by his letters to the *Century* Magazine, he is known and honoured wherever the English language is read and spoken. Yet no nation has ever made itself ridiculous over him.

Very truly, WILL PATTILLO.
June 23rd, 1893.

PURE ENGLISH.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—"Caution" accuses me of a "deliberate misstatement," because I wrote, "He admits that the authority of good writers could probably be adduced in support of the phrase used by Mr. Lowell," while he himself says, "What I stated was that the error might perhaps be found in the works of some authors to whom we concede positions of authority. I did not say that they expressly 'sanctioned' it."

Surely, Mr. Editor, there is no misstatement here. "Caution's" own words, if the question-begging term "error" were omitted, would serve my purpose quite as well as my own. To say that writers of authority use a given term, and to say that they sanction it, mean in ordinary English precisely the same thing. To use a phrase is practically to declare that the writer at the time of using it believed it to be correct, and the sanction thus given is quite as strong as it would be if the writer had "expressly" told other people that they might use it too. "Caution's" incautiousness, as it appeared to me, was to maintain on *a priori* grounds that a usage so sanctioned was an "error." He is, of course, quite right in maintaining that it is not at all incautious to assume that when good writers do fall into error, the error is unintentional.

My statement that where an active verb has both a direct and an indirect object, either may become the subject of the passive seems to me tolerably clear, but I am quite willing to give an example. The sentence

John gave me this book

—contains a direct object—book, and an indirect object,—me. If the former is made the subject of the passive verb, the sentence becomes:—

This book was given me by John.

If the indirect object be made the subject, the sentence becomes:

I was given this book by John.

"Caution's" cases are not pertinent to the argument, because in all the instances he gives of what he considers correct usage, the subject of the passive verb, if the sentences were changed to the active form, would become the direct object. It does not follow, because

They give us to our oppressors,

can be correctly changed into

We are given to our oppressors,

that

They give us no more (where *us* is the indirect object)

cannot be correctly rendered by

We are given no more.

That such a phrase as this last is not, as "Caution" maintains, necessarily incorrect, is shown by the analogy of other languages. In Japanese, for example, not only the indirect object of the active verb, but also a noun which limits the direct object, may become the subject of the passive. We may say for instance not only

Watakushi wa Shomotsu wo sazukerareta,

but also

Watakushi wa toke. wo torareta—Ashi wo kamareta—Atama wo butareta—Kubi wo kirareta, &c., the direct object continuing to be direct object both in the active and the passive forms,

Very truly yours, T. S. T.

Tokyo, June 26th, 1893.

[It appears to us that in discussing the propriety of the phrase "we are given no more," a very important point has been lost sight of. It is this—that the words "no more" were used substantively by Mr. Lowell, whereas, if the phrase be interpreted in the sense attached to it by "Caution," the words "no more" become adverbial. The syntax is thus, we take it:—(Lowell) We are given no more (of the article). ("Caution") We are given no more (into slavery). Surely it is idle to infer the significance of a sentence from a form into which it can not possibly be transposed? We cannot transpose "Caution's" sentence into

No more is given to us,
for the same reason that forbids us to say,
Never is given to us;

or,

Always is not given to us.

—ED. *J.M.*]

CRICKET.

Y.C. AND A.C. V. THE NAVY.

Saturday was a temper-tiring day, a hot wind, a hot sun, and clouds of most irritating dust, disagreeable to players and spectators alike. The game started soon after eleven o'clock. Yokohama having won the toss elected to go in first, sending out Dickenson and Tate to face the bowling of Iliewicz and Shelford. Dickenson was run out while attempting to increase his score of one, and then Duff joined Tate. Runs came quickly, both players hitting freely. Tate finally succumbed to a beautiful ball from Iliewicz after making 35 runs. Mollison joined Duff, but had only made 2 when he raised the leather which, however, was not held. Shortly before tiffin the score stood at 90 with 2 wickets down. Duff's career was finished after the interval,—his score had reached 63 during which he had given no chances, by Olivier, who neatly stumped him—3 for 103.—The rest of the team was very weak, the eight only contributing 16 runs between them, and the innings closed for 119. The Navy first sent in Taylor and Phillips, and they had compiled 35 ere dissolution was brought about by Edwards catching Taylor. Sparks took his place and had not broken his duck when Edwards disturbed his wickets. But the score gradually mounted, the 5th wicket falling for 91. The three following men did not trouble the scorer and the whole team were dismissed for 106. The match was therefore won by Yokohama with only 13 runs to spare. Plenty of time remaining, the home team again went to the wickets and "slogging" became the order of the day. Duff made a very useful 43, being again top scorer. Coxon at slip made two very difficult catches, while Leatham at long-on caught three skiers in succession—disposing of Edwards, Walford and Ross. The innings finished for 135. The fielding of the Navy was very good indeed and a surprise to many of the landsmen. Yokohama also made a very creditable showing in the field. Score and analysis.

YOKOHAMA.

Mr. E. W. Tate, b. Iliewicz	35	b. Phillips	17
Mr. H. V. Dickinson, run out	1	b. Crisp	18
Mr. C. M. Duff st. Olivier, b. Shelford	63	c. Oliver, b. Leatham	43
Mr. J. F. Mollison, run out	6	c. Coxon, b. Taylor	18
Mr. W. D. S. Edwards, b. Crisp	5	c. Leatham, b. Taylor	0
Mr. A. E. Walford, b. Crisp	3	c. Leatham, b. Taylor	4
Mr. R. de B. Layard, c. Leatham, b. Crisp	0	c. Coxon, b. Leatham	9
Mr. G. F. Fenton, b. Shelford	0	not out	22
Mr. J. Murdoch, c Shelford, b. Crisp	0	l.b.w., b. Phillips	2
Mr. F. J. Lias, b. Shelford	2	c. and b. Taylor	7
Mr. W. Ross, not out	0	c. Leatham, b. Taylor	4
Byes	3	Bye	1
	130		235

THE NAVY.

Mr. C. G. Taylor, c. Edwards, b. Ross	26
Mr. P. Phillips, b. Liss	38
Mr. W. E. Sparks, b. Edwards	0
Mr. G. R. Olivier, b. Edwards	3
Mr. L. H. Coxon, b. Ross	3
Mr. E. L. T Leatham, c Edwards, b. Walford	14
Mr. T Shelford, c Dickinson b. Liss	0
Mr. H. F. Iliewicz, c. and b. Liss	0
Rev. A. R. Hughes, b. Edwards	2
Dr. Meaden, not out	8
Mr. A. S. Crisp, b. Edwards	0
Byes 8. Leg Byes 5	13
	106

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

Y.C. AND A.C.

FIRST INNINGS.

	Balls.	Runs.	Maidens.	Wickets.
Mr. Shelford	80	47	3	3
Mr. Taylor	80	33	4	—
Mr. Iliewicz	40	25	—	3
Mr. Leatham	10	6	—	—
Mr. Crisp	37	4	3	4

SECOND INNINGS.

Mr. Taylor	60	27	—	3
Mr. Shelford	25	22	2	—
Mr. Crisp	40	18	2	2
Mr. Iliewicz	35	18	1	—
Mr. Meaden	25	24	—	—
Mr. Leatham	30	4	3	2
Mr. Phillips	35	32	—	1

NAVY.

Mr. Edwards	85	36	4	4
Mr. Murdoch	15	22	—	—
Mr. Ross	45	26	2	2
Mr. Walford	45	12	5	1
Mr. Tate	10	8	—	—
Mr. Liss	25	3	2	3

H.M.S. IMPERIEUSE *v.* THE REST OF THE FLEET.

Played on Thursday; the Fleet winning easily on the first innings by 22 runs.

"IMPERIEUSE"—1ST INNINGS.

Mr. Waters, b. Shelford	12
Lieut. Phillipps, c. Thursby, b. Meaden	7
Mr. C. G. Taylor, c. Sadler, b. Meaden	30
Mr Compton, c. and b. Meaden	0
Dr. Iliewicz, l.b.w., b. Shelford	0
Lieut. Latham, b. Shelford	9
Mr. Morris, b. Shelford	5
Mr. Noble, c. Hughes, b. Meaden	8
Mr. Thomas, not out	12
Lieut. Cay, c. Hale, b. Meaden	7
Lieut. Kingsford, b. Fergusson	23
b. 6, l.b. 1	7
	98

2ND INNINGS.

Mr. Taylor, c. Sparkes, b. Shelford	2
Mr. Waters, b Shelford	5
Mr. Thomas, not out	22
Lieut. Latham, b. Shelford	18
Lieut. Phillipps, run out	4
Dr. Iliewicz, not out	4
Byes	8
	63

FLEET.—1ST INNINGS.

Lieut. Shelford (Peacock), b. Iliewicz	0
Rev. Hughes (Mercury), b. Iliewicz	11
Mr. Sparkes (Porpoise), c Cay, b. Taylor	13
Lieut. Coxon (Leander) run out	24
Lieut. Thursby (Severn), b. Taylor	27
Lieut. Sadler (Leander), run out	1
Dr. Meaden (R. N. Hospital) c. Morris, b. Taylor	11
Lieut. Hale, (Leander), c. Latham, b. Iliewicz	8
Lieut. Morgan (Porpoise), c. Morrison, b. Taylor	5
Lieut. Fergusson (Alacrity), b. Iliewicz	4
Mr. Walker (Severn), not out	3
b. 9, l.b. 3 w. 1	13
	120

2ND INNINGS.

Mr. Shelford, b. Phillipps	30
Mr. Hughes, l.b.w. b. Iliewicz	0
Mr. Sparkes, l.b.w. b. Iliewicz	8
Mr. Thursby, b. Iliewicz	35
Mr. Coxon, b. Taylor	0
Mr. Sadler, c. Thomas, b. Iliewicz	5
Dr. Meaden, not out	36
Mr. Hale, st. Taylor	2
Mr. Morgan, b. Taylor	0
Mr. Fergusson, c. Compton, b Taylor	0
Mr. Walker, run out	20
b. 5, leg. b. 1	6
	119

EXHIBITION OF FOREIGN PHOTOGRAPHS BY THE PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY OF JAPAN.

DECISION OF THE JUDGES.

The Judges at the above mentioned Exhibition were Professor K. Okakura, Director of the Imperial Fine Art School, Uyeno, and Messrs. G. Kawahata, and J. Kano, the latter two Artists of distinction, and instructors in the Fine Art School.

Six medals were put at the disposal of the judges, who were requested to give their opinion as to the

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six best pictures, these to be selected from what they considered the best picture by each exhibitor. In other words, the same exhibitor could not get more than one medal, and the medals were each to be awarded for a single picture, not for the whole work of an exhibitor.

The Judges were also asked to award a diploma to any picture they considered worthy of it, there being no limit to the number of diplomas. Medals and diplomas were to be awarded in consideration of the artistic merits of the pictures only.

Five medals were awarded some fortnight or so ago, but there was much difficulty in awarding the sixth, as so many of the diploma pictures appeared to the Judges to be of nearly equal merit. The sixth medal has now, however, been awarded, and the following is a list of medalists, and of those to whom diplomas have been awarded.

MEDALS

No. 25—A Portrait, by Mr. Fred Hollyer.
No. 111—Sand Dunes, by Mr. B. G. Wikinson, Jr.
No. 132—Frost Scene, by Mr Paul Lange
No. 166—Frost and Sunshine, by Mrs. Main.
No. 185—Group of Children, by Mr. Carl Ulrich.
No. 296—Landscape, by Professor Hans Walzek.

DIPLOMAS.

No. 1—Reed Harvesting, by Mr. Horsley Hinton.
No. 4—The Penny Ferry, by Mr. Lyddell Sawyer.
No. 5—The Boat Builder.
No. 8—The Toper.
No. 16—Neddy's New Shoes, by Mr. R. H. Lord.
No. 19—The Gray Dawn, by Mr. Bernard Alfieri
No. 26—Portrait, by Fred. Hollyer.
No. 35—Seascape, by Mr. W. M. Hastings.
No. 42—A Strange Fish, by Mr. H. P. Robinson.
No. 56—A Sea Fog, by Mr. F. M. Sutcliffe.
No 66—The Stream, by George Mansfield.
No. 87—Winter in the Meadows, by Mr. George Davison.
No. 91—After the Ball, by Mr. W. Crooke
No. 129—A Sunset, by Mr. P. Ennis.
No. 131—The Shades of Evening, by Mr. P. Ennis.
Nos. 133 and 134—Frost Scenes, by Mr. Paul Lange.
No. 141—Making Friends, by Mr. Ralph W. Robinson.
No. 153—A Reed-fringed Mere, by Mr. R. Brian.
No. 158—A Normandy Smithy, by Mr. J. Guardia.
No. 160—Early Morning on the Thames, by Mr. J. Guardia.
No. 161—Eventide, by Mr. J. B. B. Wellington.
No. 167—Frost and Sunshine, by Mrs. Main
No. 186—On the way to St. Ulrich, by Mr. Carl Ulrich.
No. 193—"To morrow will be Friday," by Mr. John E. Dumont
No. 202—Fishing, by Mr. J. R. Bridson.
No. 231—On the Thames, by Mr. G. W. Ramsay.
No. 235—Brighton Cliffs, by Mr. M. Rigaix
No. 237—The Boulogne Mail, by Mr. Hector Colard.
No. 249—A Berkshire [Massachusetts] Hillside, by Mr. Robert S. Redfield
No. 273—Ceramic, by Mr. M. Alfied Gerwyet.
No. 284—Landscape, by Mr. Lyonel Clark.

A LETTER FROM CHICAGO.

(From a Correspondent)

Chicago, May 27th.

A great deal is being written and printed now about woman's part in the World's Fair. Never has she received such recognition before, and the place given her in the Exposition is to help in many ways the wage earner, the professional woman, the teacher, the artist, the housekeeper, the philanthropist and the reformer. For in this Columbian year and in a building devoted to exhibits of women's work and achievements, it is significant that woman, as she has never done before, is taking note of the condition and possibilities of her sex. The "Woman's Building" and exhibits in the Columbian Exposition constitute the most remarkable showing woman has yet made of her independent work. "Chicago," as Miss Kate Field said in her address last Friday at the Press Congress, "is the first to honour woman in the building of expositions," and these words from her address show that women appreciate the significance of the part assigned to them in the Columbian Exposition. The "Woman's Building," which I will describe to you to-day, is beautifully situated in the northwestern part of Jackson Park, with the Illinois State Building on one side and the gorgeous Horticultural Hall on the other. It faces the Lagoon with the "Wooded Island," being placed about one hundred feet back on a fine terrace running from a broad landing to which staircases ascend from the lagoon. The plan of the building is the least intricate in the world. A long, rather narrow, building, two stories high, with an elevation of 60 feet. On the flat roof of the Pavilion is a café and a tea-garden. The building is white, the long straight line of it being broken on the ground floor by wide flights of steps leading to the four entrances, where on bright days crowds are always congregated.

The style of architecture is Italian renaissance, the extreme length of the structure being four hundred feet. The cost of the building is $138,000 and its area 1.8 acres. Much interest centres in Miss S. G. Hayden, the lady architect, who designed the building. She is a southern girl, twenty-three years old. Miss Enid Yandal, of Kentucky, modelled the lovely caryatides supporting the cornice of the roof garden. Miss Alice M. Rideout, of San Francisco, carried out the sculpturary work of the building. There are three divisions, having some eight figures in high relief, designed to illustrate all that woman has been, is, and shall be, to humanity.

The first group of figures represents woman's virtues, the second woman as the spirit of civilization, and the third woman's place in History; as sub-groups, the good Samaritan, the teacher and the mistress of music are seen.

Mrs. McMonnies and Miss Cassatt were the two ladies chosen to execute several surfaces at the ends of the great Hall and Gallery of Honour.

Mrs. McMonnies picture is called "Primitive Woman," and is well and boldly executed. Miss Cassatt's "Modern Women" is undoubtedly a good piece of work, but too diminutive for the height of the hall and bad in colouring.

A synopsis of the Woman's Building would not be complete without a few words of Mrs. Potter Palmer. She is a graceful, pretty woman, has travelled a great deal and acquired information which is now invaluable in her present position as President of the Board of Lady Managers. Mrs. Potter Palmer is a warm upholder of her sex, and she it was who first demanded a separate building and an increased appropriation. Some of the leading congressmen championed her cause handsomely, and honoured her for her temerity and the power she showed in making such a demand. With their help she won, and the result of her victory is the Woman's Building, such as it stands to-day.

So much for the Building. In my next I will endeavour to describe to you the exhibits of the different nationalities contained in it.

TRAVEL IN THIBET.

China Inland Mission, Chungking, West China, May 8th.

The following is a short account of Miss Annie Taylor's travels in Thibet, September 1892 to February 1893:—

In 1887 Miss Taylor went to Siming, in Kansuh, and first had the needs of the Thibetans impressed upon her. Being engaged in the study of Chinese it seemed too much to attempt Thibetan at the same time: added to this she had a severe attack of inflammation of the lungs and was ordered by the doctor to return to Shanghai where she was for three months. From there she went to Australia for some months, and thence to Darjeeling. After a short trip to England she returned and studied at a village near Darjeeling for five months, living in huts among the Thibetans. During this time the chief of the tribe she was with and the people boycotted her, making her draw her own water and fetch her wood. Things would have gone very hard with her if some friendly women had not given her some food and as she fell ill with fever—this took away her appetite and it was with her a choice of evils, have fever and don't want food, or be without fever and can't get food! When the tribe moved higher up the mountains some little while after this she was cut off from all food and was thankful to be able to pick up parched corn which had providentially been dropped on the road of the route. Settling again, the chief's wife tried to poison her with aconite and only too nearly succeeded, for she was insensible from mid-day till night time. The chief then tried to get her to return to Darjeeling. Miss Taylor replied no! but I will get a little down the valley if you will give me a hut and a teacher. This was agreed to and she had to months uninterrupted study in a Thibetan monastery. Still here she was badly treated and her life again attempted by poison. Soon after she left for China and arrived at Shanghai in the spring of 1891 with her servant Pentso—a Llassa man whom she had confidence in as being a Christian. Miss Taylor began her journey across China and arrived at T'ao-chou-ting in Kansuh on the borders of Thibet. She was here for a year, and every day Thibetans came for medicine. Towards the end of this time she got to know a Mohammedan of the name of Nogar who had a Dassa wife of the name of Ermine. Nogar had promised to take his wife to see her mother in three years' time and the time was well past. So Nogar, knowing that Miss Taylor wanted to go to Llassa, offered to escort her if she would bear expenses and refund him. Miss Taylor consented, and Nogar having secured another Mohammedan of the name of Lok'otz and having bought ten horses and secured two tents, Miss Taylor with this Nogar, his wife Ermine, Lok'otz and Miss Taylor's own Thibetan servant Pentso, started for Thibet on September 2nd, 1892. T'ao-chou-ting is only an hour's journey from the Thibetan border, and this border was soon crossed. Miss Taylor rode on ahead, and as she had during the year so frequently crossed and re-crossed the border the officials took no notice of her. When later on her escort came with the baggage and were asked where they were going to, they replied they were going to a temple which was the end of the first night stage. They stopped for two nights after this in their tents in a gully, and the fourth day after starting met brigands.

They were joined a little before this by two or more men having an escort of six men. The brigands were eight in number. Miss Taylor went on with Pentso and Ermine, who were leading the pack animals; they had to cross a river, after which the rain came on, and then another river, and it was midnight before they were rejoined by all their party. The brigands and the party were too nearly matched in numbers for the former to do much damage. Two days after, September 9th, they had a worse encounter. They had fallen in with a party of Mongolians with yak—the Mongolians were nearly all armed and had an escort of 20 men. To these they joined themselves. On the day above named, however, they were attacked by 200 brigands all on horseback and some leading extra horses. The brigands opened fire and in a short time two of the Mahommedans were killed and eight wounded. A Llama sued for peace, saying they submitted to the brigands. During the action Miss Taylor kept perfectly quiet, notwithstanding the flying bullets, and as a priest directed Miss Taylor, Ermine and Pentso to go up a gully he shouted to the brigands "They are women" so they were not fired upon. They arrived in due time at a Mongolian encampment, but minus tents, bedding, clothes, and five out of ten horses. Those of her party were not hurt; but on opening her boxes which contained articles for presents to chiefs, it was not a little trying to find that Nogar had stolen more than half of them for himself, thus giving early proof of his character, which grows blacker as the story goes on.

The attack was a "tit-for-tat." Previously some Mongolians had pilfered some Thibetans in these parts, and the Thibetans determined to avenge themselves on the first Mongolian party that went by. It appears that the Thibetans look on petty thieving with disdain, but open brigandage is respected. They say that their tent life would be unbearably monotonous but for these raids. Theoretically, being Buddhists, they are supposed to value life—even the life of insects; but in practice they pay 2d. for getting a sheep killed and the same price to get a foe poisoned. The latter they style "praying him dead," though they generally help the prayer with poison! Nogar and Lok'otz, who had gone after the brigands to see if they could not get something back, returned with four out of five horses, and Nogar had got nearly all his own things back but hardly any of Miss Taylor's. Next day Nogar was walking about in some flannels which Miss Taylor had made for her own servant Pentso. On speaking to Nogar of this he flew into a violent passion and tried to strike her. Miss Taylor went across to the Mongol tents and complained of him to the headman. This person spoke to Nogar severely, for no Mongol or Thibetan will strike a woman. Miss Taylor of course refused to have anything to do with Nogar until he had restored to Pentso the flannels and had apologized to her. This Nogar did and signed his hand to an agreement to the effect that he was Miss Taylor's servant and would take her to Llassa, promising to treat her well on the way. This document proved to be valuable afterwards, Miss Taylor taking a copy of it in Thibetan.

On Sept. 28 they crossed the Yellow River. A pontoon was constructed of six yak skins blown into bags on which were placed hurdles. The horses and men were all in the water, the horses dragging the pontoon across. On October 14th they

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again crossed the Yellow river, which here was divided into four streams, the 1st, 3rd, and 4th streams could be crossed with the horses walking, but in the 2nd they had to swim, and as only their heads and necks were out of the water the riders had a very wet time of it, added to which the water was icy cold. Fortunately Miss Taylor had some things done up in an oilskin, so she got a dry change on the other side. Here she found herself in the Golok district. The Golok tribe is independent and are a tribe of robbers, though they do not rob in their own district. Miss Taylor never met any when out on their expeditions, but she passed through places where they had just been and met tribes flying from them. The chief of the tribe is now a woman named Wachiburma. They have a story of six Russians who defended themselves against 500 Goloks killing twelve of them, and hence they are always talking about foreign guns; they also speak of a foreigner who sold books riding himself on a horse and having a pack horse. The pack horse had a tin-box on one side and he would undoubtedly have lost his life, but that they feared that soldiers were secreted in this tin-box, who would come out and fight if they attacked him.

The Queen came to see Miss Taylor for medicine, and appeared to be intelligent and to have force of character. Indeed, the rule of the sovereign and the obedience of the people in the Golok district are matters of comment and wonder in Thibet.

She promised Miss Taylor an escort of two Goloks, and said that she had commanded her people not to menace her on her journeying. At this time, October 20th, Lok'oz fell ill with a cold and the next day was much worse. He complained of great pain, but being a Mohammedan Nogar thought it necessary to wash him all over before he died. This was done and needless to say hastened his death. The poor man often cried to Allah, and Nogar read the Koran to him. He passed away the same day, and was buried in swampy ground, the other ground being too hard from the cold.

After crossing the Ti Ch'u, one of the head streams of the Yangtze-kiang they arrived at Gola on 31st October. Here Nogar engaged another Thibetan servant named P'ataign. He had a nice wife who exhorted her husband to befriend Miss Taylor all the way. At this time Nogar was persistently trying to starve Miss Taylor, and P'ataign's wife used to secretly bring her milk and butter. On the 10th of November they left Gola. There was much fighting in this district between the Chinese and Thibetans. They were exhorted not to go on, but Miss Taylor felt they should press forward. After they passed Gay ku (half way to Llassa) Nogar's conduct becoming more and more trying. He tried to kill Pentso with his spear, but failed to do so. Pentso and P'ataign wanted to have their revenge, but Miss Taylor restrained them. P'ataign exhorted Miss Taylor to go back to Gay-ku leave Nogar and take another road. Nogar said if they did so he would kill them all, for he was afraid of being informed against. He actually took a copper pan and threw it at Miss Taylor, but missing his mark began to draw his sword when Pentso and P'a taign made for him and thwarted his murderous purpose. Miss Taylor went over to three fellow travellers, and they spoke to Nogar. He replied: "If we don't kill her we shall be found out." A local Thibetan Chief stood up for Miss Taylor and said to her, "You can't stay here, we will send you an escort, if you don't go on Nogar will take everything." He was very polite and Miss Taylor took tea with him. Nogar said to them, "She's a foreigner," but they answered: "She's a woman,' so Nogar was obliged to give in. During these terribly cold nights, Miss Taylor slept very badly and sometimes she would be awake all night praying that the lives of her servant Pentso and herself might be spared.

On November 26th they arrived at Tashi-kum-p'a (Kum-p'a means monastry). The Chief had not arrived, so Pentso got her a cave to live in. The cave was excavated in gravelly soil, and stone would fall out of the natural roof somewhat unpleasantly. Nogar was in a tent some way off. At this time Miss Taylor had a good horse and Noga wanted it. Miss Taylor refused, so the man took it by force and also a mule and then wrote out a false statement of agreement in which he made out that she had agreed to give the beasts of her free will. However, that night the horse he had stolen from Miss Taylor and his own beast were both stolen from him. The chief soon returned. A short time after Nogar said he was going away for 15 days to the Chief Llama's brother and he started on the 14th December. He tried to get P'ataign to go with him, but P'a-taign remained true to Miss Taylor, according to his wife's advice.

Miss Taylor's party started on the 15th. She had only one beast for each rider and one carrying beast, and as she had no money to get others with she had to part with her tent and sleep in the open air. A small chief was her willing escort for a few days. Nogar hearing that Miss Taylor had started immediately returned and demanded the loan of two horses of the Chief at Tashi-kum-p'a. When refused, he said he would go to Llassa and report them to the authorities for having harboured an English woman. So he got his horses, as they feared this, and went on doing double stages. Meanwhile, on the 21st, Miss Taylor's party lost their way. They had left the road on the left and by bearing to the left struck the right road on the 24th. She spent a quiet Christmas day, next day, up an out-of-the-way gully, an attempt being made there to make a Christmas plum pudding with a few raisins for plums. On December 26th they started, and on the road noticed the footmarks of Nogar's mule so they knew he had gone ahead. The servants were frightened at this and wanted to return, for Nogar had industriously spread lying reports as he went along, and as the chief of the district was a great friend of his they feared Nogar would have induced him to give orders that they should all be killed. Oddly enough they met this said chief face to face, but Nogar had not seen him when he passed along. On 31st of December, Miss Taylor crossed from outer Thibet into the Llassa district. Here they mostly travelled by night in the intensest cold, and with the scantiest of provisions.

On the 3rd of January they met two men with guns, who stopped them. These were emissaries of the government from Nagchuk'a.

Nogar had informed them there that an English woman was on the way. Both Pentso and P'a-taign feared that they would lose their heads, which, however, never came to pass and in the evening a chief of ten appeared with his men. The next day they moved on a stage nearer to Nagchuk'a, and on the 5th a military chief with his hair fantastically plaited arrived. He was rough at first but afterwards friendly, and told her that Nogar had informed against her, but that the Thibetan Government had detained him to see whether his story were true or not. On the 7th a Civil Official arrived who was very rude. This official tried to make out he had not seen Nogar and knew nothing of him. He ordered Miss Taylor to return at once and asked her how she dare eat Thibetan food! Miss Taylor replied that she must be treated with courtesy, that she must see Nogar and his wife that justice might be done to her two servants. He then said Pentso was a Llama—Miss Taylor asked him who had given him this information. To which he replied Nogar—thereby plainly showing he had seen him—but truth is not to be found in Thibet. He then said Pentso could come and explain matters to the Government, but Miss Taylor replied that it was not customary for an English-woman to be represented by her cook. So they went another day's journey to within a few hours of Nagchuk'a. Here Nogar and his wife Ermine were brought face to face with Miss Taylor and the officials. Of course Nogar utterly denied all theft and ill treatment of Miss Taylor. He stoutly maintained that he had nothing to do with bringing her into Thibet; that, he said, was the doing of Pentso and P'a-taign. In proof of his good fellowship with Miss Taylor he produced a letter, which he said she had given him, written in English. The officials handed the letter to Miss Taylor and asked her to translate it. She did so, and they were rather amused when the translation gave a short epitome of some of his bad conduct towards Miss Taylor. The original agreement was for him to take Miss Taylor to Llassa and after that to Darjeeling. He was to receive there a handsome reward. Early in the journey, after he had behaved so badly, he pressed Miss Taylor to give him an English letter, she had already been in anxiety of life at his hands, and so she purposely wrote this letter so that if her life were taken, and he ever presented this letter at Darjeeling, thinking it to be a letter of commendation, those who received it might know the true state of the case. He brought out this said letter at this (for him) unfortunate juncture. Further, after his first bad outbreak, Miss Taylor had got him to sign an agreement of future good behaviour, &c., as recorded above. In this it was plainly stated that he had guaranteed to take her to Llassa—of this Miss Taylor had taken a copy in Thibetan and at this time produced and gave to the officials, who by this saw clearly that Pentso and P'a taign had nothing to do with bringing her into Thibet as Nogar had falsely stated, wanting to shield himself. Miss Taylor having proved her point, said she would not stir from the place alive unless her two servants Pentso and P'a taign were given back to her, an escort granted her and proper provision made for her return journey. After some time they returned her watch, which she had sold, saying that at Gayku she could sell her watch to a Chinaman. They provided her with an escort of ten, a sheep skin coat, some pea flour, five horses, and an old tent.

The chiefs said, as far as they were concerned, they were quite willing to let her go on; that they had no objection to the English. They have indeed a great idea of the English, and often speak of the way the English treated them as prisoners in the Sikkim war. They had such good treatment that they think in the next war all will want to be prisoners. They say too, that the English are fair in trade, it is Chinese influence which keeps us out, as they are jealous of their tea trade with Thibet and fear competition in the market.

On the 18th of January Miss Taylor started back. But the escort would only go half stages and would go no further after the 24th, having escorted her about a quarter of the way they promised to go. Miss Taylor did not touch on events between here and Tashi-kum p'a. Here she found, owing to the lies of Nogar and his wife, all the people were ready to stone her for a witch, saying she could see precious stones, gold, &c., in the hills and could also see into the monasteries and knew all that went on there. The chief who had charge of her bedding and some clothes was away when she arrived, and the second chief said they could not be given her till the first chief returned; as he did not return Miss Taylor had to go on without them. On going on she met with great hardship and difficulty; the horses kept falling down and for want of food were quite exhausted. The Thibetans feed their horses on raw goat's flesh, cheese, butter, peas, &c., they had barely enough provision for themselves and really pinched themselves in trying to feed the animals. The snow, too, was deep, and this added to the difficulty; the weak horses being unable sometimes to pick their way through the snow, especially in the drifts which were sometimes 20 feet deep. One horse succumbed, and later on two more knocked-up, while they were so hungry that they would try and gnaw the tent. Stopping was useless and it was an intense relief one morning to see a large yak party (who had been with them the first days from Tashi-kum-p'a but whom they had left) again overtake them. The yaks, which are large powerful beasts, going on ahead could cut a way through the snow for the horses. There was a drove of 200 of them. They are black in colour with horns a yard long; the wild sort being larger and fiercer than the tame. A Thibetan never tries to shoot one for fear of consequences to himself if he misses. At length they reached Gay-ku. Here the Chinese mandarin was away. Miss Taylor met a pork merchant who offered to take her to Ta Chien Lu for 20 Taels and her watch, which was an eleven guinea one. She agreed, and gave him the money with the watch. The pork merchant quietly pocketed the watch himself and gave 20 Taels to some other Chinamen to take her. She eventually, however, got the watch back. An agreement was drawn up in which the Chinamen promised to get her meat every day, good food, and to stop every night at a house for lodging on the way. On the way, however, they hardly ever gave her meat, and almost invariably went past the houses and slept in the open air, while for the most part her food consisted of barley-flour or pea flour and rancid butter. They promised when they got to O-sam-si to get her better food; but on getting there they went straight on and stopped some way beyond the city. Her faithful servant Pentso, who had gone into the city no less than four times to see the Mandarin but had failed to see him, was the only little human consolation left, for Pataign had been left behind at Gay-ku. She spoke very humbly and diffidently here, but a sentence or two would give a clue which required no very vivid imagination to fill up the outline of what must have been intense suffering. The overbearing treatment of the men, the Arctic cold, the piercing winds, the scanty food, the absence of shelter (for the man hardly ever stopped at a house, saying it was too expensive), are things far more easily spoken of than endured. One is hardly surprised that when horses were dying from the cold Miss Taylor should have contracted a very bad cold and cough and her weakness so far prevailed over the men that they gave her barley-flour for pea-flour. At length after a journey of 39 days (which they had promised to do in 20) and having slept 20 nights in the open air, Miss Taylor reached Ta Chien Lu on April 12th, having been away from China over seven months. She believes that Thibet must be opened very soon, and that every one who goes makes it easier for those who follow. Miss Taylor is now (May, 1893) on her way to England, having just left us here, which she hopes to reach in July. She hopes to be the means of stirring up 12 men to come out—half medical—who will go to Darjeeling and learn the Thibetan language and carry out the Saviour's commands to that people. We send this to you not only for its intrinsic interest, but above all, that stimulated by this narrative, you may be able the more intelligently to pray for the Thibetan people and for Miss Taylor in connection with them.

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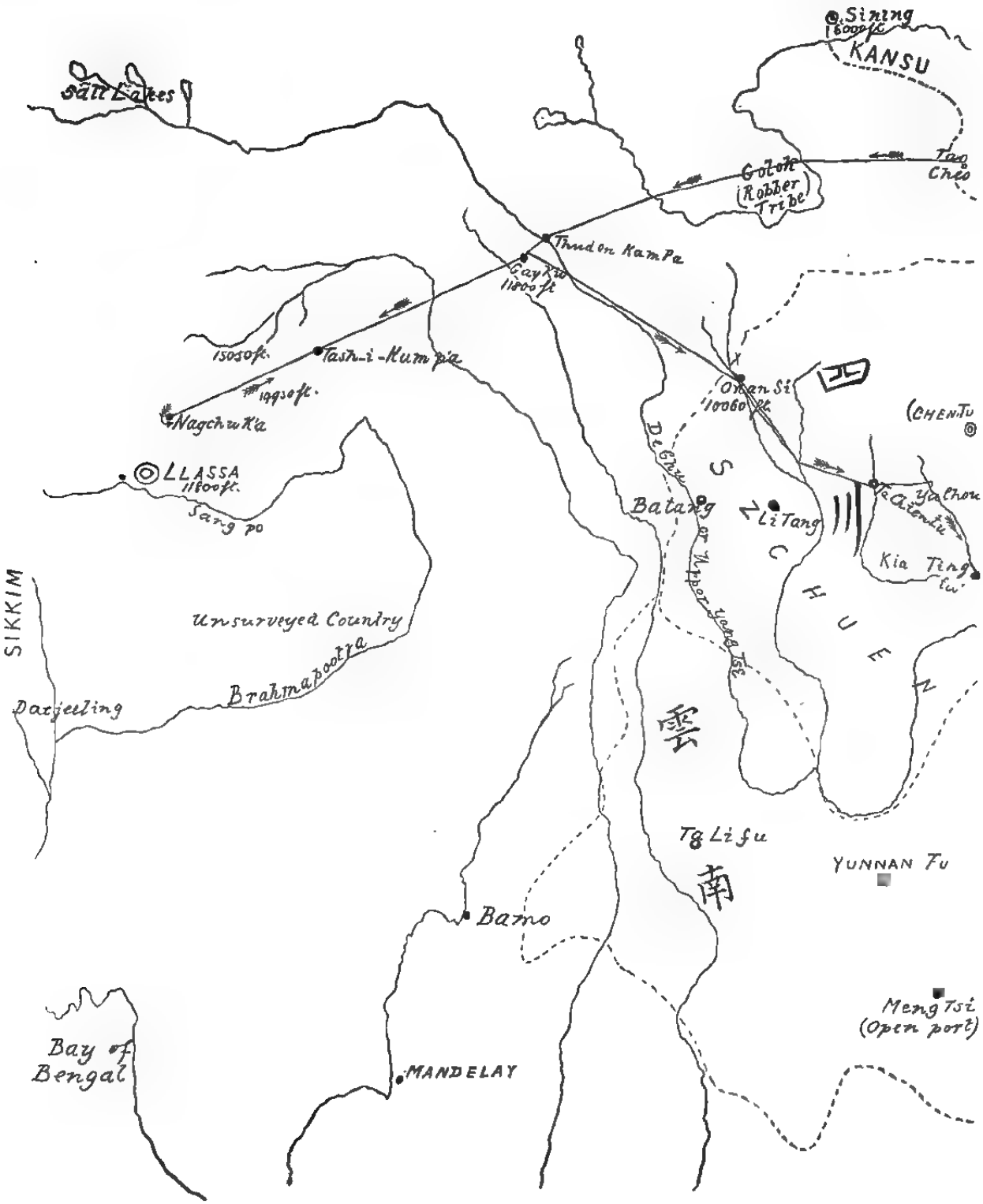
Map showing Miss Taylor's Journey.



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IN THE LAND OF THE PHARAOHS.

(From a Travelling Correspondent.)

Cairo, April 30th.

My last letter was dated on a steamer between Singapore and Colombo. This is penned from the Capital of the ancient land of the Pharaohs, over nine thousand miles distant from Tokyo. At Colombo, the capital of the "Jewel of the Indian Ocean," our steamer laid in port one day, which afforded us a momentary opportunity of studying the characteristics of the Tamils, Moors, Singalese, Hindoos Malays and "Burghers," who constitute the inhabitants of the island. Aden, reached after seven days' steady steaming at the rate of fourteen knots per hour from Colombo, was the most unattractive place seen in all the journey. On a rocky point of the Arabian deserts jutting out into the ocean, is this place of habitation for forty thousand people, where not a spear of grass nor a leaf of foliage is to be seen, and where it rains only once in three years on an average. The water used is condensed from the ocean.

During that week of solid sailing between Colombo and Aden two events broke the monotony on shipboard. One was the "lying to" of the steamer in mid-ocean for six hours to repair a pipe of the steam condenser. This was the only detention during the four and a half weeks' trip from Japan to Port Said, Egypt, on this fast French Mail steamer. The other event was a Grand Concert given by the nearly two hundred passengers on Saturday evening, March 25th, for the benefit of the Sailors' Widows and Orphans Fund. The gaily decorated decks, prettily dressed ladies, and successful execution of a choice programme of classical music—concluded by a grand ball—combined to render it a social occasion of the highest enjoyment. The evening netted over sixty pounds sterling for the Sailors' Fund.

Through the Red Sea and the Suez Canal remarkably cool weather continued, making—affirmed one gentleman who had been over this route fifteen times—the finest voyage in point of temperature known for many years. Nowhere during the month's journey did we suffer a single day from excessive heat. In the Suez Canal, at Ismalia, a point half way through the 87 miles of that waterway, stands the unoccupied Palace, built for the French Empress Eugenie twenty-four years ago by the Khedive. They are plain but beautiful buildings and were handsomely furnished at that time for her to occupy only twenty four hours, during the opening celebration of the Canal. Never since that one day in November 1869 have these structures been used, and they stand there as a reminder of the international ceremony of formally giving to the civilized world that waterway, when the Khedive, at his own expense, entertained three thousand guests from Europe and America. One whole month he feasted and escorted these guests, including several crowned heads, all over Egypt. That ruler, Ismail Pasha, is now held in Constantinople as a prisoner of the Porte, having been deposed in Egypt some fourteen years ago. "What changes time hath wrought!"

Before making the tour through this land we took steamer from Port Said for Jaffa, and spent nearly two weeks in the Holy Land. Jerusalem and its environs are always interesting from the historical and religious standpoint. Just now much interest is taken in the large immigration of the Jews into Palestine. The number has increased many fold within the past ten years by colonies settling there from all parts of the world. More than twenty colonies, outside of Jerusalem, also have been established during the last decade, and are in a flourishing condition. The interesting tour through the Jordan valley down to the Dead Sea and up through the Plains of Jericho, as also the delightful stay of several days in Jerusalem, cannot be described here, for I must write of Egypt. As we stepped from the steamer at Alexandria and walked through the streets of that modern city of 200,000 population, the query arose at once, "*is this the land heavy with iniquity?*" Alexandria, Cairo and Port Said, three cities forming the triangle of the Nile Delta, present as modern an appearance as the cities of Europe. Like a phœnix out of its ashes, Alexandria has risen since its destruction eleven years ago. The whole Egyptian nation has made most rapid strides since 1882. Results have shown that the bombardment of Alexandria by the British, aided to a little extent by the American and Greek fleets, in the year 1882, threw more than shot and shell into Egypt. New life entered that old nation when the British came to the rescue of the Khedive and drove out the rebels led by Ahmed Arabi Pasha. As soon as the English became the advisers of the Monarch, at his request, to restore order that year, the civilization and arts of Europe and America flowed in. France, Italy and the other nations, whose Naval fleets had so hastily withdrawn from Alexandria harbour in the hour of emergency a few months previously, did not hesitate to quickly return and enter Egypt to share the spoils of an unearned victory. But one fact is evident to all careful observers, viz: that the *invisible* protectorate of the British is becoming daily more and more *visible*. The landing of several thousand additional English troops only accentuates the fact and shows clearly the ruling hand. This is highly gratifying to all nations, it seems, except the French; which is easily explained when we remember that France signally failed in her attempts at the directorate of this land over eighty years ago, when Bonaparte built his fort above the Citadel at Cairo. During the past decade the taxes have been reduced gradually until at present the reduction is over £300,000 per annum. The arrears of £1,000,000, due the old Government by the peasantry mostly, have been remitted. Cotton has yielded for the past three years an average of £300,000. Among the greatest blessings conferred upon the land, by the British behind the throne these few years, has been the abolition of that hideous form of cruel slavery—termed the *Corveè*. In 1887 this heavy burden was removed from the necks of the masses of these six millions of Egypt. The *Corveè* was the law of the land for generations. It compelled the farmers to go out and labour many weeks every year to repair the river banks of the Nile and the irrigation canals flowing therefrom. Water from this "Father of Waters" means life and prosperity to the Egyptian; deprive him of this water, sure poverty and death ensue. The canals watering the lands of the rich Pasha were usually the places upon which the labour was expended, the poor man's fields adjacent were left with little or no water. Moreover, these peasants were taken far away from their native villages, as a rule, and forced to do this labour without pay, not even being provided with food during their several weeks' absence from home. Now, by a scientific survey and irrigation there is an even distribution of water to rich and poor alike, and every farmer works "over against his own" village, receiving daily wages also for his toil. This has called down the condemnation of some of the highly, but unjustly, favoured feudal landlords of yore, upon the British Civil Engineers and Government Advisers. But the Britisher goes forward in his work of reconstruction on this and other lines, paying as little heed to the disgruntled Pasha as Taurus did to the gnat. Last year the Treasury of Egypt showed a surplus of £680,000.

April is the month in which to visit the Delta, or Northern Egypt. At that season of the year the traveller has ocular demonstration on every hand that this land is not a barren, sandy waste. The ride from Alexandria to Cairo, of over 100 miles, was through millions of acres of waving wheat, or Egyptian corn of Bible days, barley and other cereals, about ready to shoot out their heads of grain. Across the land of Goshen from Cairo to Ismalia (on Suez Canal) the journey by rail revealed the same fact of the "desert blossoming as the rose." The railways in this country are a happy surprise to the tourists. The carriages are as comfortable, as nicely upholstered, the road bed is as excellently ballasted and the time made as fast, as usually found on our best European or American railroads. The 130 miles between Alexandria and Cairo were traversed in quite four hours, including four stops.

At Cairo the first impression made on the stranger is the cosmopolitan character of its 600,000 inhabitants, and the well-nigh universal wearing of the Turkish *red fez cap*, called "Tarbush," indoors and out doors, morning, noon and night. Down in the native town, containing more than three-fourths of this population, one sees sights which would require volumes to describe. Let no one visit this capital of Egypt without strolling down through the well-shaded avenues, for the shade trees and the parks constitute one of the most delightful features of Cairo, and spend a day among those narrow streets studying the life of the native in his business and his home. The donkey is omnipresent in this city. Over there he passes along with his burden, of the peasant or merchant, representing things too numerous to mention. Over yonder, at the street corner, stand several beautiful white or gray ones, all saddled, bridled and adorned with brass or silver plated bangles, by the scores about his neck, ready to take you a ride for a few pennies. Patient, strong, and a noble little animal is this asinine creature. The Arab feeds him so little and the animal does so much work that one gentleman was led to ask, "how long does a donkey live?" The quick reply was. "If you feed him well he will live for ever." As you drive out along the beautiful Boulevard, shaded by the large Lubak or Acacia trees, to the Pyramids six miles distant, you meet continuous lines of camels coming from every direction into Cairo. This roadway, let it be stated here, was only one of the many modern improvements of that enterprising Ismail Pasha, the Khedive, under whose reign was built the railway, Suez Canal, Parks, Gardens, &c. before he was deposed in 1879, and who left an enormous debt upon Egypt, the result of his unbridled ambition to modernize his country.

The burdens carried by the camels, are wonderful. At this time of the year occurs the fortnight of clover harvest, when every transporting animal or vehicle is pressed into the service of carrying the precious grass to market. The moving masses of this sweet scented white clover, almost covering the camel—save his ever-stretched out neck and lengthy legs—cause ejaculations of surprise to the traveller. However, this patient and meek appearing animal will never attempt to rise from his knees with a burden he is not able to bear. He is always made to kneel, or "squat," on the ground to be loaded or unloaded. The camel driver never incurs this beast's wrath, for he well knows that the camel's anger can scarcely be restrained when once he does "get his back up," with all the natural humps of the spine!

From the citadel on the high elevation in the south eastern quarter of city—the whole city, with its three hundred mosques and minarets, lies at your feet. The crowds at the cafés seem like throngs of pleasure seekers, and the graceful minarets lighted at night appear like stars suspended between heaven and earth to give brilliancy to the revelry of the people. How much of their time and money is spent in pleasure seeking!

The young Khedive is only twenty years of age. His reign since the death of his father, Tewfik Pasha, last autumn, has not been a peaceful and smooth one by any means. The rumours are that he will be deposed soon, if matters become more critical and a certain wing should gain the ascendency. England has much to say in the settlement of any difficulty, notwithstanding the Sultan holds at Constantinople, as an "unwilling guest" the Grandfather (Ismail Pasha) of this youthful monarch on the throne of Egypt.

In June the original embargo, or restriction, laid upon the £4,000 000 shares of stock, which the Suez Canal Company gave the Khedive, expires by limitation of time. The clever statesmanship of the far-seeing D'Israeli, some years ago secured these shares for England. Because of this and other changes in the stockholders, most fortunately the character of the Directory of the Suez Canal will be decidely changed after the old Board's term expires in June. The British will have virtually the control thereafter of this international waterway, it is then expected, much to the satisfaction and benefit of the commercial world. The broad and liberal policy pursued by England, as a rule, in the management of public and colonial affairs where other nations have been interested, justifies these high expectations. Lack of space forbids my saying anything of our visits to the Pyramids and the Sphinx. But they are "aged acquaintances" of all generations.

At the North east angle of the nearly equilateral triangle, 150 miles from Cairo or Alexandria, is located the young city of Port Said. It is purely a product of the Suez Canal. Twenty-four years ago it contained four huts, called houses, to-day it boasts of twenty-five thousand inhabitants and contains as fine buildings as any city in the Orient. During the past five years Alexandria has begun to realize that a formidable rival exists in Port Said. The railroad to be finished and opened this summer will complete the all-rail connection between Port Said, Ismalia and Cairo. This will be a great triumph for the youngest city of the trio, and make her entirely independent of Alexandria. Some steamship lines have already eased Alexandria from their ports of call, because of the unsafe entrance to its harbour in stormy weather and for other reasons, while the vessels of every nation and company passing through the Canal must stop at Port Said. Over one million tons of coal are supplied annually at that port to vessels making it the largest coaling station in the world. One imposing building, just completed in Port Said, is the "Eastern Exchange," a brick and stone and iron structure nine stories high and covering half a block. With its stained glass windows encasing the capacious verandahs on three sides of the building and with the various colors of the brick and stone, it presents an exceptionally attractive appearance. Besides being an exchange depot to supply Egypt and the ship trade, wholesale and retail, with European and Australian products, the upper stories above the second floor are used as a hotel. The cuisine, furnishings, and general management of the hotel department, with all modern appliances of electricity, passenger lifts, &c. would reflect credit

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on the best hostelries of Paris or New York. On each floor of this magnificent building are four kitchens, while on the roof is a special kitchen where one thousand guests can be prepared for in case of public dinners or state occasions. One European capitalist erected this as an investment, which shows the confidence keen business men have in the future of that coming commercial metropolis of Europe, Asia, Africa, and the Australias. The moral character of the place has changed decidedly for the better during the past decade. Ten years ago Port Said was reputed to be the most wicked place on earth. In fact it was a common proverb that so much iniquity had flowed in there from the vile places of every quarter of the globe, and the dens of vice were so numerous and unblushing in their nefarious business, with unscreened doors open day and night, Sunday and Monday, that only a brown piece of paper separated Port Said from the nether abode of his Satanic Majesty and his angels! The city has become quiet and orderly, during the day at least, well policed and the better class of citizen is in the majority, and also steadily increasing. The absence of residences is still conspicuous. All the people live in the upper stories above the business houses, yards and pleasant surroundings of the house being yet unknown. Everywhere new streets are being laid out and new buildings are in process of erection. The whole city was full of frenzied activity and evinced a purpose to become the great *entrepôt* and depôt at the Northern entrance of the Suez Canal, the great waterway of two continents.

IN H.B.M.'s COURT FOR JAPAN.

(In Admiralty.)

Before R. A. Mowat, Esq., Judge.—Thursday, June 29th, 1893.

Between the Imperial Japanese Government, Plaintiff, and the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company, Defendants.

THE "CHISHIMA"-"RAVENNA" COMPENSATION SUIT.

The Court assembled at two o'clock. There were present Mr. A. B. Walford and Mr. Okamura Teruhiko, who appeared on behalf of plaintiff; Mr. J. F. Lowder, for defendants; Mr. J. Rickett, agent of the P. & O. Company in this port; Mr. M. Kirkwood, Legal Adviser to the Japanese Government, Mr. Mitsuhashi, Secretary to the Kencho; and several others.

His Honour—I regret that from one cause or another so much time has elapsed between the hearing and the judgment, but I do not suppose that any inconvenience has been caused thereby. The question is a very important one, and I have thought it right to deal with it at some length.

This is an application by the Defendants for leave to file a counter claim in the suit instituted against them by the Plaintiff, the Imperial Japanese Government—in other words, the Emperor of Japan—in respect of the loss of his cruiser the "Chishima" in a collision which occurred in the Inland Sea of Japan on the 30th November last between that vessel and the Defendants' steamship "Ravenna." The Plaintiff's petition claimed $850,000 damages and the costs of the action. The answer of the Defendants alleged that the collision was due solely to the improper navigation of the "Chishima," and further, that by reason of the collision they had sustained damage to the amount of $100,000, for which they asserted that the Plaintiff was liable to them. They have accordingly applied, under Rule of Procedure 55, for (1) leave to file a counterclaim by cross-petition in the same suit for the recovery of that sum from the Plaintiff, (2) an order directing that the Plaintiff's suit and their counter-claim should be heard together, and (3) an order requiring the Plaintiff to give security to the satisfaction of the Court (by deposit or otherwise) to abide by and perform the decision of the Court on the counter-claim. The second part of the application is not objected to if the Court should consider that leave to file a counter claim should be given, but the granting of such leave and the order for security are resisted.

The first question which I have accordingly to determine is whether I ought to give leave to file a counter-claim. If that is answered in the affirmative, then will arise the question as to security.

The Defendants cite, in support of their application, the cases of *Proleau* v. *United States* (L.R. 2 Eq. at p. 663), *King of Spain* v. *Hullet* (1 Cl. and F. 333), *United States* v. *Wagner* (L. R., 2 Ch. Ap. at p. 587), and, more especially, the *Newbattle* (L.R., 10 P.D. 33). This last case was, like the present, one of counter-claim in Admiralty, and the plaintiff there was, as here, a foreign sovereign.

The Plaintiff's Counsel resist the application on several grounds. They say, in the first place, that Rule 55, under which it is made, does not apply to any foreign plaintiffs; they say, in the next place, that even if it is applicable to foreign plaintiffs other than Japanese, it cannot be applied to Japanese because under the Treaty with Great Britain Japanese are (it is contended) entitled to have the cases which they bring into our Courts in Japan heard without having to submit to counter-claims; in the third place, it is alleged on behalf of the Plaintiff that he has sovereign rights in this Court, and it is contended accordingly that the principle that the Crown can do no wrong applies; and, lastly, it is argued, that even if the Plaintiff is not to be treated as the Crown in this Court, the law to be applied is the law of Japan because the collision occurred in Japanese waters, and, inasmuch as by that law there is no remedy, an English Court can give none—the *M. Moxham* (L.R., 1 P.D. 107).

I have come to the conclusion that the last of these objections is sound and must prevail, but before stating my reasons for coming to that conclusion, it will be convenient—as the matter will, both from its general importance and the amount involved, no doubt be taken to the Court of Appeal—that I should state shortly the answers to the first three objections to allowing the counter-claim.

The first two objections may be disposed of together. It was argued that Rule 55 had no application in the case of suits brought by any foreign plaintiffs, but, even if it had in such cases, it had none in the case of suits brought by Japanese plaintiffs. I do not propose to express any opinion on either of these points, for they do not arise in the present case. The Plaintiff, as was recently decided in another proceeding in this cause, and in accordance with the then contention on his behalf, is not a "foreigner" within the meaning of that word in our Orders in Council. The term is there confined to subjects of the Emperor of China or of the Mikado of Japan and subjects or citizens of any other State in amity with her Majesty. Whatever view, therefore, I might take of the application or non-application of Rule 55 to foreigners, it is evident that the Rule could have no application to the Emperor.

The third reason urged against allowing the counter-claim is one which, I presume, I must treat as serious, because Counsel for the Plaintiff advanced it at two different stages of his argument. It was contended that the Plaintiff was in no sense a foreign Sovereign in this Court, but on the contrary that he had sovereign rights here and in fact was "the Crown." I cannot allow those propositions to pass unchallenged, and I meet them by saying simply—first, that His Imperial Majesty, the Plaintiff in this case, although the Sovereign of this country, is, in strictness, in this Court as much a foreign Sovereign as would be the Emperor of China, the other Sovereign specifically named with him in the Order in Council; next, that his Majesty has no more sovereign rights in this Court than any other foreign Sovereign or State in amity with Her Majesty has—that is to say, he has none; and, lastly, that "the Crown" in this Court is, and is only, Her Majesty the Queen, who was "pleased, by and with the advice of Her Privy Council, to order" that, together with the Provincial Courts of Her Majesty established under an earlier Order, "there shall be in and for Japan a Court styled Her Britannic Majesty's Court for Japan"—in which Courts is vested "Her Majesty's jurisdiction, civil and criminal, exerciseable in Japan." I do not think it would be consistent with the dignity of the Court of Her Majesty here were its Judge to say less than what he has now said on the propositions put forward by Plaintiff's Counsel.

I come now to the fourth, and the only valid, argument against the admission of the counter-claim—viz. that, the collision having occurred in Japanese waters, the law to be applied is the law of Japan, and inasmuch as by that law there is no remedy, no proceeding can be brought in respect of it in an English Court. On this branch of the case several questions arise, the first of which is—Did the collision occur within the territorial waters of Japan? I had certainly assumed, from the statements in the petition and answer—there is no conflict between them as to the actual locality of the collision—that the collision did occur in such waters, and the case of the *M. Moxham*, relied upon by Counsel for the Plaintiff in this part of his argument, was an authority only on that theory. However, it appeared, in reply to a question from myself to Defendants' Counsel after he had concluded his argument without having at all referred to that case, that he disputed the fact and contended that the collision occurred on the high seas; and he suggested that if otherwise I should be of opinion that a counter-claim would lie, I should give him liberty to file one and leave the present point to be raised in the Plaintiff's reply to the cross petition. It did not seem to me that I ought to follow that course, which would, besides entailing additional expense upon the parties, only be postponing to another time a question which had been fairly raised then, and which I had the materials before me to determine. It was accordingly agreed between Counsel that the question should be left to me to decide upon the petition and answer, with the assistance of such charts and authorities bearing on the point as they should furnish me with.

I entertain no doubt whatever that the collision occurred in the territorial waters of Japan—giving to that term its recognised meaning in international law. The "Chishima" is stated in the petition to have been cut nearly in two, sinking immediately, and the spot where she sank in given as Long. 132° 40′ E. and Lat. 38° 56′ 20″ N. The answer states that "prior to and at the time of the collision, both vessels were in a narrow channel," "known as Gogo-shima straits, between the islands of Musuki and Gogo." These islands are in what is called the "Inland Sea" of Japan—a succession of land-locked bays extending for about 240 miles from east to west. This sea has four entrances,—two extremely narrow, the third under two miles in width, and the fourth with two branches, the wider of which is about four miles wide. The island of Gogo, referred to in the answer, is close to the northern shore of Shikoku, which is one of the four large islands of Japan, and which forms the southern boundary of the eastern portion of the Inland Sea. The channel between Gogo and Musuki, described in the answer as the scene of the collision, is not two miles wide, and the place of collision itself is less than three miles from the nearest part of Shikoku. On these data it is impossible from any point of view to contest the proposition that the collision occurred within the territorial waters of Japan.

That fact being established, then arises the question as to Japanese law. Now it is a well-established principle of English law that, to give a right of action in an English Court in respect of an alleged tortious act committed in a foreign country, the act in question must satisfy two conditions,—it must, in the first place, be one that is actionable by the law of the country where it is committed, and, in the next place, it must be actionable also by the law of England. It is of course the existence or non-existence of the former condition that here comes into question, and that must be determined by reference to Japanese law. "The civil liability arising out of a wrong derives its birth from the law of the place, and its character is determined by that law." (*Phillips* v. *Eyre*—L. R., 6 Q. B. at p. 28.) What the law of the foreign country is on the particular matter in question, has of course to be proved in the usual way, and once it is proved, English Courts recognise it as the only criterion of whether or not a wrong cognizable in that country exists.

The only authority in *Admiralty* which Plaintiff's Counsel were able to cite for the propositions that the local law determines the character of the act and therefore (so far) the existence or not of a remedy, was the *M. Moxham* (L.R., 1 P.D. 107). In that case an English ship ran against and seriously damaged a pier in the port of Marbella in Spain, and it was held that proof of the law of Spain to the effect that the master and crew, and not the owners, of a ship are liable for damage caused by her negligent navigation, would be a good answer to an action in England for damage so caused. No doubt in that case the damage was done to a pier which was annexed to the soil of Spain, and the Judges were careful in their judgments to confine themselves to that state of facts; but I should have had no difficulty in holding that the principle was the same whether the damage was caused to a pier, or to another vessel lying alongside the pier, or to one lying anywhere within Spanish territorial waters. For the territorial waters are part of the territory of a country, and the terms are constantly used interchangeably in the cases dealing with collisions. To give only one instance: In the *Halley*, Sir Robert Phillimore, in the first sentence of his judgment (L.R., 2 A. & E. at p. 5), speaks of the damage having been "done to the Norwegian ship in the territory of Belgium"—the fact being that the ship was run into while at anchor in Flushing Roads—and at the end of his judgment (p. 23) he speaks of its having been done in the "territorial waters" of Belgium. But if express authority be needed, there is express authority. I find, at p. 2356 of the 3rd edition of Pritchard's Admiralty Digest, the following note of what appears to be an otherwise unreported case: "Collision in the Bay of Bilbao within the territory of Spain. Action against the Spanish

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ship *M.* Defence, that by the law of Spain, the master and mariners and not the owners were liable, sustained (following the *M Moxham*). The *Machin*, 19th November, 1884."

This last case, then, is an express authority for holding that if the "Chishima" had been a merchant vessel owned by Japanese traders residing (say) in London, no action could have been successfully brought against them by the owners of the "Ravenna" for damage resulting to the "Ravenna" by the negligent navigation of the "Chishima" (the collision having occured in Japanese waters) *if* by the law of Japan her owners are not liable for the negligent navigation of her master and crew. And if the owners of the "Ravenna" could not sue successfully in an original action for their damage under such circumstances, it would seem necessarily to follow that they could not counterclaim for such damage in an action instituted by the owners of the "Chishima" for *their* damage. If R has no right of action at all against C, but against some other person only, it is difficult to understand on what principle R should be allowed to transfer that other person's liability to C's shoulders simply because C should think fit to prosecute his own undoubted right of action against R.

Now to apply this to the present case. The "Chishima" was a public vessel belonging to the Emperor of Japan. What, then, is the law of Japan as to the Emperor's liability for the negligent navigation of his vessels by his servants? That, like all foreign law, has to be proved by the evidence of experts, and the evidence on that point is furnished by the declaration of Mr. Nobushige Hozumi, who has been for eleven years Professor of Law at the Imperial Japanese University, and is now Chief Professor of the College of Law there. The declaration states:—"According to Japanese Law the Emperor of Japan can do no wrong. His Majesty is sacred and inviolable. He cannot be sued in person or by representation for damages for any misconduct or negligence of an official in his service, whether in the discharge of such official's duties or otherwise." The Emperor's immunity is thus by the law of Japan absolute, and on that ground, therefore—quite apart from any other—no action for damage resulting from his servants' negligent navigation of his vessels in the waters of Japan would lie against him in an English Court. And, for the reason I have given in dealing with the supposed case of the private Japanese ship-owner protected from liability by the law of Japan, it would equally appear that no counterclaim could be raised in an action where the Emperor sued

But this point, say the Defendants, has been settled otherwise in the case of the *Newbattle* (L. R., 10 P.D. 33). In that case, which was an Admiralty action brought by the King of the Belgians for damages to his vessel the "Marie Louise," the owners of the "Newbattle" obtained an order staying all proceedings in the plaintiff's action until security should be given to answer their counterclaim. That case certainly seems at first sight to be a direct authority for the Defendants' application here, but on examination it does not appear that the point involved in the present case arose there, and the decision therefore has no real bearing on this case. Brett, M. R., after referring to the case of the *Parlement Belge* (L.R, 5 P.D. 197), in which it was decided that the ship of a foreign prince could not be arrested, goes on to say—"It has always, however, been held that if a sovereign prince invokes the jurisdiction of the Court as a plaintiff, the Court can make all proper orders against him." So Cotton, L. J., after a similar reference to the decision in the *Parlement Belge*, says—"But when a government comes in as a suitor, it submits to the jurisdiction of the Court and to all orders that may properly be made." The question then arises, Would an order granting the leave asked for, be a "proper order"? could such an order "properly be made?" Now it is to be observed that, prior to the decision in 1885 of the *Newbattle*, all the "orders" that had been made against foreign sovereigns had been confined to matters of procedure—*e.g.*, to answer on oath, to grant discovery, to give security for costs. In the *Newbattle* for the first time was an "order" made against a sovereign, virtually making him a defendant and as such liable to be called upon to pay money; and everything will depend here upon the true appreciation of that case. In my view all that it decided was that the immunity from suits which a foreign sovereign enjoys in an English Court because of his sovereign character, is lost to the extent of any counter-claim which might be established against him in any suit in which he is himself suing, and the subject of which counter-claim could have formed the ground of an action against him *had he not been a sovereign*. In other words, the immunity which he surrendered by coming into the Court was only the immunity with which he was clothed, *qua* sovereign, by English Law—not any other immunity or any other advantage. The benefit of his own law, for example, which equally with his subjects (but no more than they) he is entitled to have in an English Court when that law comes properly into question there, is an advantage which remains to him, and his position in that respect is, in my judgment, in no way touched by the decision in the *Newbattle*. "Regard must of course be had," says Lord Justice Cotton there, "to the fact that in this case the King of the Belgians is a sovereign prince, but the order is nevertheless a proper one. It is a reasonable principle that a plaintiff whose ship cannot be seized . . . . shall put the defendant in the same position as if he (the defendant) were a plaintiff in an original action against a defendant whose ship could be arrested as security." But the Lord Justice there, as I understand him, is referring only to the particular case before him, viz., the case of the ship of a sovereign which *on account of its ownership* could not be arrested, and his remarks have, in my view, no application to the case of the ship of an owner (sovereign or subject) against whom, in consequence of the law of the country where the collision occurred, no remedy in an English Court exists.

It is in this way I read the decision in the *Newbattle*, and if I am right it is no authority for the application of the Defendants in this case. To apply it to the present case, as the Defendants ask me to apply it, would be to transfer to the *lex fori*, whose function it is to supply a remedy when a wrong is shown to exist, the functions of the *lex loci* which has first to declare whether a wrong does exist.

I refuse the leave asked for, and I do so on this short ground: The Plaintiff being, by the law of the country where the collision occurred, not answerable for the negligent act of his servants, he cannot be sued in an English Court for the damage resulting from such act; and being, *for that reason*, not answerable in an action, he cannot be held liable to a counterclaim.

The leave being refused, the other question of security does not arise.

Mr. Walford—Your Honour has made no order as to costs?

His Honour—I do not know what to do. One time you say you do not want them and another time you ask for costs. I purposely abstained from saying anything about costs because the last time you asked for them and I gave them, the next day you said you did not want them.

Mr. Walford—What we said the next day was that if our friends on the other side consented that costs should not be asked against us, we would give up all future costs.

His Honour—I understood you to say that you would rather hold on to it. But it is not a question of what it was then, but what it is now.

Mr Walford—We would wish that some decision might be given on the matter of costs; as to whether any costs could be given for or against us.

His Honour—It is only for the first time now that the question is put to me in that way.

Mr. Walford—I intended to put it in that way, and I am sorry if I did not make myself understood to your Honour. We should prefer that costs should not be given or taken on either side, but if the defendants are going to ask for costs against us in a future proceeding, it is manifestly unfair that we should give up our costs at this stage.

His Honour—I think it is a matter that had better remain over

Mr. Walford—Well, will your Honour reserve the question of costs?

His Honour—Yes.

Mr. Lowder—I may as well say at once that I shall enter into no such agreement on behalf of my clients as far as costs are concerned. I understood on the last occasion that my learned friend said it would be beneath the dignity of a Sovereign to accept costs in a case, and therefore he did not propose to ask for costs if I would consent; but our consent either way cannot affect the dignity of the plaintiff.

Mr. Walford, in answer to his Honour, said that he asked for costs.

His Honour—Have you anything to say to that Mr. Lowder?

Mr. Lowder—I have nothing to say in reply to that

His Honour according granted costs to plaintiff.

Mr. Lowder—It may be convenient for me to say that I have been instructed by my clients to appeal in this matter.

His Honour—Yes, I am glad to hear you say so. It was only to be expected. This is a very important matter and I think it only right and proper that you should do so.

The Court then rose.

THE SWORD OF JAPAN.

A great Shogun of Japan—the famous Iyeyasu—left it written in his testament that "the girded sword is the life of the *Samurai*." The sword was, indeed, even more than this in ancient Japan. It became the central point in the morals and customs of the land; the badge of honour and the token of chivalry; a special and sacred weapon around which grew up the grave, punctilious manners of the lords and knights of *Dai Nippon*, whose politeness—polished but rigid as the steel they bore—had to be imitated, and was imitated, by the lesser people. The civilisation of a country always crystallises round a few fundamental habits of that country. The manners and morals of Japan may all be traced to the sword, the teacup, and the paper house. The first has made the people serious, fearless, punctilious in mutual demeanour; the second has created their identical habits, their sobriety and sociability; while those perfectly transparent abodes common throughout Japan, where "no secrets are hid," have forced upon them a Greek simplicity of domestic behaviour, with a modesty, naturalness, and absence of *mauvaise honte*, unparalleled elsewhere. The sword has been now for ever laid aside in public by the gentlemen of Japan—obeying in this, with wonderful good sense, a sudden and difficult edict. But the signs of its ancient cult sit deep to this hour in the minds and ways of the people, and it may be worth while to speak a little of the bygone importance of the Japanese sword.

The sword-maker who forged the finer blades for the *Samurai* and *Daimyo*—the Barons and Knights—was no mere blacksmith. He ranked, indeed, first of all craftsmen in the land, and was often appointed lord or vice-lord of a province. He did not enter on his grave duties lightly. When he had a blade to make for a great Japanese gentleman the *Katanaya* abstained for a whole week from all animal food and strong drink; he slept alone, and poured cold water every morning over his head. When the forge was ready (and no woman might so much as enter its precincts), and when the steel bars were duly selected, he repaired to the Temple and prayed there devoutly. Then he came back to his anvil and furnace, and hung above them the consecrated strawrope (*shime-nawa*) and the clippings of paper (*gohei*), which kept away evil spirits. He put on the dress of a court noble, with the *e-boshi* and *kami-shimo*, tying back his long sleeves with a silk cord. Only after many ceremonies, when the five elements—fire, water, wood, metal, and earth—were well conciliated, would that pious artisan take his hammer in hand.

The blade was beaten out of steel alone—*mukugitai*, the "pure make"—or of steel blended with iron. Great heed was taken to have good and well-smelted material. Each time, before the smith placed his bar in the bed of glowing charcoal, which an apprentice blew to white heat, he coated it with a paste of clay and straw ashes so as not to burn the naked metal; and never touched it with the hand—hot or cold—since sweat would spoil the weld, and leave a blur on the steel. When he had beaten out his bar 8in. long, 2½in. wide, and ¾in. thick he bent it midway, beat it out again to the same dimensions, thus folding and re-hammering it some fifteen or twenty times. As the original bar was in four flakes, Dr. Lyman, in his admirable treatise on the subject, calculates that at the fifteenth hammering there would be 131,072 layers, increased by five following bendings to 4,194,304 layers. This careful repetition gave the metal a texture like ivory or satin-wood. They had names for the different "watering" so produced, as "bean-grain," "pear grain," "pine-bark grain," and "vein-grain." Afterwards, the blade was forged down to its full length, the imperfect ends cut off, the point drawn out, and the tang fitted on, upon which came the tempering. But these last processes were very serious, and the sword forger sate alone, and solemnly sang to himself while he gave to the weapon its final fashionings. They say that the difference between the swords of Masamune and of Muramasa, two famous craftsmen, was due to their singing. A Masamune blade brought victory and luck everywhere. A Muramasa sword was always leading its owner into quarrels, though it carried him through them well; and it would cause accidents, and cut the fingers of friendly folks inspecting it, being never willing to go back to its scabbard without drinking blood. The real reason was, so runs the legend, that Muramasa, while he sate at his work in the forge, was ever singing a song, which had the chorus of "*tenka tairan / tenka taran*," which means "trouble in the world, trouble in the world," whereas Masamune, the gentle and lucky sword maker, always chanted while he work-

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ed "*tenka taihei, taihei*," which signifies "peace be on earth—peace!" Japanese people of the old days firmly believed that both the kindly words and the unkindly got somehow welded into the very spirit of the steel, so that Masamune's blades prevented quarrels or brought to their wielders a quick victory, while Muramasa's had in them a lurking instinct for doing mischief—a sort of itch to hurt and wound. All sorts of tales were told to illustrate this. There was a splendid sword of Muramasa, which had killed by *hara-kiri* four of its possessors in succession. Once, too, when the Shogun was handling a spear-head embedded in a helmet of one of his warriors, the point wounded his august hand. "See quickly," he said, "what is the mark upon this accursed iron, for it must be Muramasa's!" And when they came to look at the maker's mark, it was indeed a spear-head from the grim sword maker's, who had chanted the thirst for blood into his *yari* and *katana*.

Some of the very famous sword-forgers would never write their names or make any sign at all upon their productions. "It is enough to try a blade of mine," said Toshiro Moshimitsu; "it will tell you of itself who made it." Some of the inferior craftsmen engraved dragons, gods, and flowers upon their blades, but the best work does not bear such ornaments, which might hide an imperfection in the metal. All, however, except such men as Toshiro and Masamune, would cut into the tang the name and date of the sword and the owner's and maker's name. Swords had appellations, and might be christened with such titles as *Osoraku*, "the terrible," or *Hiru*, "the blood-sucker." On a long sword noted by Dr. Lyman the inscription ran, "*Motte shisubeshi, Motte ikubeshi*," "Defend yourself with me—die with me." But when the blade had been forged and shaped—whether it were the straight *tsuragi* or the *tachi* and *katana* carved into the lines of "the falcon's wing," or the "cormorant's neck,"—it had to be very carefully and skilfully tempered. The Japanese sword smiths effected at one operation what European craftsmen do in two, namely, the high annealing of the edge and the low tempering of the body of the blade. They covered it with *sabi-doro*, a paste of red earth and charcoal, and then, before this hardened, they drew the paste away from a narrow streak along the edge, afterwards putting it into the fiercest part of the fire. Very heedfully did the smith move the precious sword up and down in the pine-coals till he saw the proper colour come near the tang, which would be in a few minutes. Then it was plunged in water of a certain temperature, which thing in itself was a great secret. Katate, the "One-handed," a renowned sword-smith, bought the knowledge of that precious mystery dear. His master taught him everything else except this matter of the right heat of the tempering bath, so, watching his opportunity, he broke into the forge one day, and plunged his hand into the water just as the master was dipping a reddened blade into it. The master smote the audacious member off there and then with the unfinished sword, but Katate knew his last trade-secret.

The fire, which burned the bared edge violet, left the *mune*, or body of the blade, blue or straw-colour: and, being plunged into the water, the sudden chill turned the former very hard but brittle, making the latter tough, elastic, and "mild." The edge so obtained was called *yakiba*—"baked-leaf"—but there must not be too much breadth of it, as it would necessarily be brittle. Then was the cold blade carefully cleaned and rough-ground, and at this stage the smith could know whether his work must be wasted or not. If the smallest fault manifested itself, the true craftsman flung the failure aside—the false one cut a dragon, or a Sanskrit letter or two, over the blemish. The grooves were now chiselled into the sword, especially the *chi-nagashi* or blood-channel, which in the case of spear-heads would be afterwards filled up with vermilion lacquer. A hole was drilled in the tang to receive the *mekugi*, or bamboo peg holding the handle on; and then followed the real and final grinding. This was performed by a special handicraftsman. Holding the blade horizontally wrapped in cloths, and with a small part only bare, he rubbed it up and down upon whetstones of varying grit, finishing upon a fifteenth stone of very fine grain, and afterwards polishing with stone powder and oil. It would be at this stage that the beauty and value of the sword came forth. There used to be very many Japanese gentlemen, and even to-day there are some, who could tell instantly, upon inspection, by the look of a blade in this stage, who had wrought it. Official personages existed who gave governmental certificates of blades, written on special paper and stamped. The boundary between the hard, sharp whitish edge and the grey-blue of the back must not be harsh. It must be clouded by *nioi*, misty spots and flecks, not regular like drop-marks, but fleecy and broken apart like clouds. In good steel, when the clay covering had slightly come away, there would appear *tobi-yaki*, "flying burns," isolated specks of soft white. The visible grain would look "as though the steel were water, and it were rippling." Where the tempering had been perfect there would come little points of bright silver along the edge—called *nie*, only to be seen by the educated eye. Masamune's swords were very full of such. It must be an excellent blade if inside and underneath, as it were, the dark body of it, there flickered the *utsuri*, the "reflection," a glimmer along the dividing line of edge and breast faintly prismatic, and resembling the "mist round the moon." Only a consummate judge could note and estimate the *chikei*, small films of white; the *nadzuma* or "lightning flashes;" fine shining lines in the *nioi*, the *sunagashi*, resembling specks of sand in a row; and the *uchi-yoke*, or narrow forge-marks. The blade which combined these virtues was fit to sit in the girdle of a *Daimyo*, and would be worth from £200 to £300; twelve to fifteen hundred *yen*.

Such a sword was often mounted very splendidly indeed; the finest artists lavishing their skill upon the scabbard, *tsuka*, the *me-nuki*, or stud upon the handle, and, above all, on the *tsuba*, or hilt, which was often enriched with lovely work in gold, silver, and bronze. The scabbard was generally of magnolia wood, and ended in a richly adorned *kojiri*, or ferule. It held, at its upper end, two small daggers or skewers with pretty handles called *kogai*. These were used in thick of fight to stick through the ear of a slain enemy as a sort of visiting card. With such a weapon you could cut through five sheets of copper and not notch the steel, and the edge put on it might be so fine that if you held it in a river's current a stalk of grass floating down would divide upon contact with it. Masamune's blades could sever a bar of iron or cut a falling hair in two. Muramasa's would slice bronze armour "like a melon." The point was not much used, but Iyeyasu once, for trial, put a *katana* of Yoshimitsu's clean through the iron mortar of his physician.

Immense punctilio attached to the wearing, the carriage, and the etiquettes of these precious weapons. The higher born you were the more you might stick up the hilts of your two swords; but soldiers of lesser degree wore them horizontally. Dr. Lyman says correctly:—"To draw a sword from its scabbard without begging leave of the others present was not thought polite; to clash the scabbard of your sword against another was a great rudeness; to turn the sword in the scabbard, as if about to draw, was tantamount to a challenge; and to lay your weapon on the floor and kick the guard towards another was an intolerable insult, that generally resulted in a combat to the death."

Pfoundes says that "the rules of observances connected with the wearing of the long and short-sword or the single sword were most minute, but have fallen into disuse. . . . In former days the most trivial breach of these elaborate observances was often the cause of murderous brawls and dreadful reprisals. . . . To express a wish to see a sword was not usual, unless when a blade of great value was in question; and then a request to be shown it would be a compliment appreciated by the happy possessor. The sword would then be handed with the back towards the guest, the edge turned towards the owner, and the hilt to the left, the guest wrapping the hilt either in the little silk napkin always carried by gentlemen in their girdle-books, or in a sheet of clean paper. The weapon was drawn from the scabbard and admired inch by inch, but not to the full length, unless the owner pressed his guest to do so, and then, with much apology, the sword was entirely drawn and held away from the other persons present. After being admired it would, if apparently necessary, be carefully wiped with a special cloth, sheathed, and returned to the owner as before."

A guest, on entering a friend's house, if the host was an older man or of higher rank, would take off his longer sword and either lay it down at the entrance or hand it to the servant who admitted him, who would thereupon place it on the sword-rack in the position of honour in the apartment. If on somewhat familiar or equal terms with the host the guest might carry the long sword into the house, detached with its scabbard from the belt, and lay it on the floor at his right hand, where it could not be drawn. The shorter sword was retained in the girdle, but in a prolonged visit both host and guest laid that also aside.

These high manners of the steel bred that Japanese courtliness and chivalry which have survived it. The cult of the *katana* is now forever at an end in *Dai Nippon*—the *Samurai* and Lords of the Land have laid aside their proudly cherished weapons, and go abroad as peacefully as the *Akindo*, the merchant. Yet there are fine swordsmen still to be found among the quietest of the Emperor's senators and lieges, and I have myself seen wonderful things done by some of them with ancient blades. Moreover, the measured speech, the deep and heedful reverence, the silent dignity, the instincts of manhood which clustered round the steel are still characteristic of the race, and the swords, though no longer worn are proudly and carefully preserved in many a mansion, castle, and temple. Thucydides says that "the nation which carries iron is barbarous," and under that remark the United States, where almost everybody seems to possess and carry a revolver, would stand condemned. But Japan, by a wonderful effort of abnegation on the part of her upper classes, altogether laid aside, twenty years ago, the old and perilous habit of going abroad with a girdle full of swords and daggers. It was a noble submission to new ideas—yet to this day a Japanese gentleman raises your sword to his forehead and bows deeply before he examines it. Nor will he uncover a single inch of the shining and sacred steel without gravely obtaining your permission and that of the company present.—Sir EDWIN ARNOLD, in the *Daily Telegraph*.

THE "BOKHARA" MONUMENT.

The following correspondence, on the subject of the erection of a monument on Sand Island to the memory of those who perished in the wreck of the *Bokhara*, is published in the Hongkong *Gazette*:—

Victor Emanuel at Hongkong,
9th June, 1893

Sir,—I have the honour to submit for the information of Your Excellency and of the "Bokhara" Committee the accompanying copy of a letter dated 9th June, 1893, from Captain W. H. Fawkes, H.M.S. *Mercury*, reporting that the "Bokhara" monument has been safely erected on Sand Island near the place where the unfortunate ship struck—I have the honour to be, Sir, Your Excellency's obedient servant,

H. BURY PALLISER, Commodore.

His Excellency Sir W. Robinson, K.C.M.G., &c., &c., &c., Governor of Hongkong.

REPORTING ERECTION OF "BOKHARA" MONUMENT.

H.M.S. *Mercury*.
Amoy, June 6th.

Sir,—I have the honour to inform you that in obedience to your orders, I have erected the monument, in memory of those who were drowned in the P. & O. steamer *Bokhara* on the southernmost, being the highest, point of the northern hummock of Sand Island, near the place where the ill-fated ship struck.

The Chintai at the Pescadores generously gave me the assistance of about 50 soldiers, and has promised to see that the monument is well cared for.

2.—The graves, twenty-five in number, on Sand Island, are all well covered, and kept very neatly.

3.—I hope I may not be thought presumptuous in suggesting that this further kindness of the Chintai in connection with the loss of the *Bokhara* may be brought to the notice of the Government at Peking.

4.—We commenced operations about 10 a.m. on the 2nd, and by 4 p.m. on the 3rd, the foundation was laid, the base of the monument suspended from sheers ready to be lowered into it place, as soon as the cement was set, and the monument placed alongside the sheers, ready slung. A working party, on the 5th, placed the monument in position, and re-embarked all stores.

5.—Everything was organized with great forethought by Lieutenant Tupper, and he was ably assisted by Lieutenant Dewhirst, R.N.R., who, as an old P. & O. officer, I detailed for this duty. The officers and men worked well in a very hot sun. I was much pleased with the manner in which Corporal Buckingham and the two sappers of the Royal Engineers performed their duty.—I have the honour to be, Sir, Your obedient Servant,

(Signed) W. H. FAWKES, Captain.

Commodore H. B. Palliser, Hongkong.

Government House,
Hongkong, 15th June, 1893.

Sir,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 1431 of the 9th instant, and to thank you for so readily and effectively assisting in the work of erecting a monument to the memory of those who were lost with the *Bokhara*. The relatives of the deceased will no doubt be very grateful for your kind co-operation.—I have the honour to be, Sir, Your obedient Servant,

WILLIAM ROBINSON, Governor.

Commodore H. Bury Palliser.

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Government House,
Hongkong, June, 15th.

Sir,—I have the honour to request Your Excellency to be so good as to state to the Tsung-li Yamên that this Government is much obliged to the Chintai at the Pescadores for the further services he has rendered in connection with the erection on Sand Island of the monument to the memory of those who perished in the wreck of the *Bokhara*. Such friendly acts are calculated to increase the amicable relations subsisting between Great Britain and China.

I enclose for Your Excellency's information a copy of a letter from Capt. Fawkes of H.M.S. *Mercury*, on the subject.—I have the honour to be, Sir, Your obedient Servant,

WILLIAM ROBINSON, Governor.

His Excellency N. R. O'Conor. C.B., C.M.G.
Her Majesty's Minister, Peking.

A TRAGIC MEMORY OF THE PACIFIC.

In the year 18—I had command of a clipper barque named the *Albert*. We were bound from San Francisco to Honolulu with a general cargo. We had accommodation for six passengers, but had only shipped two, one being an old yellow-faced sugar-planter named Wilder, the biggest grumbler that ever stepped on board a vessel, a surly, long-faced swab, with gaunt cheek bones standing up under his eyes, and the eyes themselves sunk so deep that it was wonderful he was able to see anything with them except the objects that stood plumb in front of him. He had found a cheap berth in our ship; cheap, that is, in comparison with the cost of a passage to Honolulu in one of the O. S. S. liners. Yet he expected as much as if our barque had been a steamer, full of cooks and bakers and stewards and aswarm with livestock. The other passenger was a young man named Emerson—a pleasant fellow, full of amusing stories, willing to lend a hand anywhere, and to make the best of whatever happened. Mr. Emerson had been at sea a short time and then knocked off and tried his hand at something ashore, which failing he succeeded in obtaining some position in Honolulu—what it was I cannot remember, nor does it matter. An uncle of his had commanded a fine clipper, and been lost in her. He also told me that his father was captain of a vessel named the *Annie Johnson*; a barque of 900 tons, he said she was, hailing from some American port, and at that time making the passage to Honolulu, she having left San Francisco two weeks or so before the *Albert* sailed. Thus, to an extent, his sympathies were with the sea, and this helped me and my officers, I have no doubt, to find him the jolly good fellow we thought him.

There was no fault to be found with my little vessel. I had had charge of ships before, but this was my first experience of the *Albert*. She had more beam than many a sailor would dream of associating with the word clipper, yet the stability that her breadth between bulwarks gave her furnished her with heels that a ship could only have rivaled under certain conditions of weather. I had been carrying a main royal when on a bowline, and passed vessels half as big again, bowed down to their covering boards by a main topgal'antsail and single-reefed topsail. We had the old fashioned channels, but though she was pretty deep, it was rare for the *Albert* to drag them. The crew were a fine body of men. They did their work with the average smartness you get out of merchant seamen who have never been taught to skip. And so we sailed along until we had covered two-thirds of the distance to Honolulu, and arrived at that part of the ocean where the extraordinary circumstance I am about to relate happened.

There had been a fresh breeze blowing all night, but it failed before daylight, and when the sun rose there was scarcely enough of it to keep the light sails full. It was a brilliant, splendid morning, the sun coming up into a cloudless sky, and the sea drew to the ship out from the southward in a soft heaving, with nothing but flashing glory over the stern, and the horizon running out of it into the westward in a circle was like crystal against the blue there. The watch were washing down when I came on deck. There was a fellow going aloft forward on some job the mate had set him to. I took a look around, but saw nothing. Presently the man who was up in the fore-topmast crosstrees, or higher, hailed the deck and reported a white object in sight, two or three points on the lee bow. I crossed the deck to have a look, and seeing nothing fetched the glass and leveled it in the direction the man had indicated. Nothing appearing in the lens I handed the telescope to the mate and asked him to mount a few ratlines and see if he could make out what the object was. I watched him working his way, and pointing the glass as he went, to half the height of the lower shrouds, when he suddenly stopped, and after taking a long squint called to me that the object was a ship's boat apparently, but whether with occupants or not he could not tell. I told the man at the wheel to keep the ship away, and Mr. Emerson then coming on deck, I joined him in a walk, and this went on till breakfast time, at which hour the boat, if it was a boat, was sheer on the horizon and visible from the deck. The man who had sighted her must have had wonderful eyes, but no doubt it was the boat's sail shining in the sun that had caught his sight; yet when we looked at her through the glass before going below to breakfast, the sail had been lowered, whereupon I gathered that there must be living beings in her, and I presumed, of course, by her dropping her sail that she meant to wait for us to pick her up.

When I came on deck I found that the boat was almost right over the bows. I looked at the compass and observed that the barque had been brought very nearly to her course again.

"I don't quite make out that boat's manœuverings," said the second mate to me. "I've been watching her when you were below, sir, and the whole while the people in her have been rowing with a steady stroke dead to wind'ard."

I picked up the glass and found it to be as the second mate had said. The boat in the lens was clear enough, and the regular flashing and fading of sparks of light against her side showed the movement of oars. I could not imagine why she should want to get to windward of us, seeing that by her remaining where we first sighted her she would be very easily picked up. They kept crawling steadily into the wind, and I, bent on finding out what her meaning might be, luffed the ship till her yards were braced sharp up. This found her again dead ahead. She was then about a mile and a half distant. The men in her were distinctly visible now, I counted eight. They mustered five oars and kept them going. A sixth man steered, a seventh, couched in the bows, and the eighth stood up against the mast watching us under the shadow of his hand. The draught was so light, and the boat sneaked along so nimbly that to fetch her we should have needed to go about, perhaps only to lose her after several boards, but shortly after five bells in the morning watch the wind puffed up about east-south east, which enabled us to haul in on the weather braces and head for the boat. I watched her narrowly, and observed that as soon as the wind shifted, and they saw that we were heading for them, they threw in their oars and waited for us to come. We drove slowly along and were presently close to them

She was a ship's boat apparently, a long-boat. I brought the ship to the wind when she was within hail and sung out to know what they were doing adrift there and if they wanted us to receive them on board. The fellow I had noticed standing up against the mast watching us under his hand seemed to be in charge, and at all events was spokesman. He was a young man of about 30, with a burned face, but fair, dressed in good clothes, and on the whole a comely, well looking young fellow. The others had the appearance, most of them at all events, of being foreigners. They were swarthy and black bearded, dressed in the wild clothes of the merchantman's forecastle, one or two of them with earrings, all of them with knives in their belts. The boat seemed deeper than the mere weight of the men should have made her, but it was impossible to see what she was stocked with.

On my hailing her, as I have told, the man who stood up replied that they wanted no assistance.

"We belonged to a vessel named the *Eagle*," he cried out, "a little brig, that foundered two days ago, through a started butt or something of that kind. The master and three stayed aboard, meaning to leave her in another boat. I was her chief mate, and we're now bound for San Diego. The boat's a tighter vesse than the brig, and we feel perfectly safe in her after the sort of timber we've been used to between us and the bottom."

At this several of his companions laughed aloud. I looked at them suspiciously, but it was not for me to meddle if they refused help; that was their business, though I never doubted for a moment that their refusal was based on some motive which, if it could be got at, might be found to hold a very desperate meaning. As they declined assistance, I contented myself with a wave of the hand to them; but when we filled on the bark I took another long look at them through the glass and then handed it to Mr. Emerson, asking him if he could see anything resembling a ship's name painted on the boat. Like myself, he saw nothing; but as he put down the glass he said to me that some of them looked an ugly set of ruffians, and that he shouldn't be surprised if he find their being adrift and declining assistance there lay a foul and terrible secret.

When I filled on the vessel they hoisted their lug. If they were heading for San Diego they seemed to know how to steer for it. The boat's course was about north-east by east. I took note of that at the time, and found her still so heading when after a little while she was only just visible through the glass.

We talked a good deal about her and her people during the day, and old Wilder, the yellow-faced, grumbling planter, insisted that it was my duty to have boarded her, or to have brought her men aboard and questioned them.

"Yes," I said, "that would unquestionably have been my duty had the *Albert* been a man-of-war, but as we were only a small sailing ship the utmost I could be expected to do was to offer assistance and proceed on my voyage if help was declined."

The breeze freshened before noon, and when I made 8 bells our speed was about five knots, the water smooth and the bark under starboard stunsails. It was somewhere near 3 o'clock when a sail was sighted dead ahead. As she drew plainer into sight it was noted that she lay hove to. I looked for a colour, but could see nothing of the kind. It was reasonable, of course, to infer by her having her maintopsail aback in such weather as this that she was in trouble, and having sighted us coming along, had hove to to speak to us. She was an iron bark, and closer inspection discovered an air of confusion aloft. Her mainsail was hauled up, the foretopsail yard on the cap, while the top gallant yard remained hoisted. The outer jib halliards had been let go and the sail had run half way down the stay and there stuck. Other features that I need not take the trouble to describe made her look terribly adrift, and the suspicion that there was something more than wrong with her was confirmed by the appearance of her hull, that was much deeper in the water, with a lift of the bows forward, than it was conceivable her cargo would have brought her. Many wonderful things happen at sea, and I had seen too much in that way myself to conclude right away that the men we had encountered in the morning belonged to that sinking bark. But I say it looked uncommonly as if that were the case.

I turned to the mate and Mr. Emerson and said to them, "It seems to me as if we'd tumbled upon those fellows' secret. If that yonder isn't a case of scuttling, I'm an Egyptian."

We approached the bark, all hands staring at her with all their eyes, and once again I brought the *Albert* to the wind. The vessel was derelict. She was a thorough tank of a craft, with bows like a bucket. I hailed her several times, but got no answer from her. We had approached her in such a manner that her stern was hidden from us. There were no nameboards on her forward. But when we rounded to get a stern view of her, then it was that Mr Emerson, grasping my arm, exclaimed in a low voice, "Good God, captain, observe her name!"

I looked and read the words *Annie Johnson* coming out in starting white letters plain enough with every lift of her stern. For a moment or two I could not understand the agitation in him until it flashed upon me, and I cried out, "*Annie Johnson*! Why, that was your father's vessel, wasn't it!"

He said, speaking with great excitement; "Yes, and she was an iron bark, just such another as that. There's no doubt of her. She's the *Annie Johnson*, that father commanded. Why, if that boat's crew we met this morning belonged to her a lie was told right off by that sandy fellow calling himself chief mate. For God's sake, captain, let us board her before she founders!"

I was quite willing and a boat was lowered; he and I rowed to the derelict. We got aboard, and the first thing we saw was the body of a man with his head beaten in, lying in the companion way. He had a revolver in his hand, and I took him to be the mate of the ship. A black seaman lay dead near the galley. We went into the cabin, and in the captain's room we found a man lying dead, with a terrible wound in his throat. He was half clad, and what he wore was in rags, and there were other signs which I cannot mention of a prolonged and frightful struggle. At the sight of him Mr. Emerson raised a terrible cry, clapping his hands to his heart and reeling up against me. It was his father who lay before him, and I think the shock and astonishment of the whole thing, the sights I witnessed, coupled with this marvellous coming across of a father by his son, would have held me rooted to the cabin deck like a petrified man if it had not been for the sudden gush and wash of water close up against the ceiling, warning enough to my ears, as you may suppose, that the vessel might founder at any instant. So all delay was out of the question, and as even a child might have known that the man stretched before us was as dead as clay can be I

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dragged Mr. Emerson on deck, the poor fellow weeping bitterly, got him into the boat and returned to the *Albert*.

Well, I may as well say here, that half an hour after we had left the *Annie Johnson* she went down; but by this time my resolution, fortified by the entreaties of Mr. Emerson and the execrations of the gaunt-faced planter, was formed, and my ship was heading fair, as I reckoned it to be, for the spot where we hoped to sight and overhaul the longboat. It might prove a waste of time and delay the voyage, but I was determined to take my chances of that. The sight of those three murdered men, with perhaps, objects as dreadful to behold in the forecastle, had set my blood boiling. Who could doubt that the boat we had met in the morning held the mutineers and murderers? Small wonder that they desired to give us a wide berth, guessing, as they must have done, that we were pretty well bound to fall in with the abandoned bark if we held on as we then were.

I never went to bed that night, neither did Mr. Emerson, nor did the growling planter, nor my two mates. I knew the course the boat had taken and was quite sure of overhauling her, for the wind that headed us would head her, too, and if it came to beating it should be in short boards. The breeze freshened toward morning. The weather had been bright and clear all night and I promise that a sharp look-out had been kept. When the dawn came I sent a man on the royal-yard with the glass, the same fellow that had sighted the boat the morning before, but he could see nothing. It was blowing a middling fresh wind, just enough to keep our foreroyal and gafftopsail furled, but when the dawn came I shortened sail to the maintopgallant sail, with the mainsail hanging in the buntlines, for it wouldn't do to pass the boat. This went on till 10 o'clock, when I saw another man I had sent aloft with the glass working away with it at something dead to the windward, and then he yelled down in a voice of triumph: "Sail ho! the longboat unmistakably abeam there!" I sprang aloft myself to make sure. The man was perfectly right. The boat's lug gliding in and out of the seas wasn't to be mistaken for anything else. She was going through it close-hauled, and I began to fear that if there didn't come a shift of the wind the chase would prove a long one whatever might come of it.

I kept a man at the masthead to hold her in sight, then put the ship about, and kept her half an hour on the port tack. This brought our canvas within view of her, when we went about again, and they seemed to guess our game as if by instinct, for very soon after we had boarded our foretack the chap aloft sung out that the boat had gone about. Well, what manœuvrings followed it is scarcely necessary that I should tell. 'Twas tack and tack with us and with the boat, for she was so small we did not dare venture upon a long board, for fear that while we were heading away to windward she would put her helm up and run, showing a cloth or two, just enough to keep her going, but not enough for us to see. However, as you may suppose, it was impossible she could have escaped us as a matter of sailing. But, the afternoon coming on the breeze freshened, and it drew up a trifle thick, so that we lost sight of her, and as I knew they were smart enough to take advantage of this, and as, moreover, evening was fast approaching, I felt we should do no good by continuing the pursuit, so taking no notice of the planter's denunciation of me for my want of resolution, nor of Mr. Emerson's looks, which were full of silent reproaches I shifted the helm for our proper port, feeling not a little relieved when I found the *Albert* heading true for Honolulu.

For the fact is, during the chase I had had plenty of time for reflection and for dwelling upon a consideration that was overlooked in the first hurry of my temper and horror, which was: Supposing we came up with the boat, what should we do? It was certain the men were not likely to come aboard of themselves. It would have been murder to have run them down, even if we had been cocksure they belonged to the bark and deserved hanging and drawing. We had no guns aboard, nothing that we could have brought to bear upon them, and threatened to sink them with if they didn't step over the side quietly; and even if we had guns, the law, no doubt, would have held me guilty of murder if I had fired at the boat and drowned the people for refusing to obey my orders. Consequently there would have been nothing for us but to lower one of our own boats and send a portion of our crew to make prisoners of the men. Would our crew have consented? I don't reckon they would. Supposing they had been willing, and the others had allowed them to come alongside, there must have been a murderous fight, amid an ugly sea heavy enough to capsize both boats and drown all hands with anything resembling a struggle going on in them. I name only a few of the difficulties I foresaw, mainly to account for the satisfaction with which I squared away for our proper port. The planter refused to take my view, and said he would have been glad to command any boat I had chosen to send against the mutineers, as he called them. Such talk, of course, was cheap when the occasion for testing his bravery was gone. Mr. Emerson agreed with me when he heard my arguments; but he was dreadfully affected, poor fellow. The shock had been more than his strength was equal to, and he was not only ill for the rest of the voyage, but, as I afterwards heard, continued so for a long time after his arrival in Honolulu. I duly reported the circumstance and hoped to hear of the boat being picked up, but, though I was careful to make inquiries, I never could succeed in learning more of this business; whence I conclude that the people in the boat perished.—J. C. in the *Call*.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

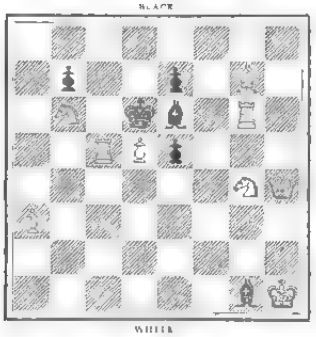
Solution of Problem No. 75.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—B to K B sq.	1—Any
2—Q or B mates acc.	

Correct solutions received from W.H.S., P.E.F.S., Omega (welcome back!) J.D. and O. Balk.

M.A.W. will observe that his proposed solution of Q to Q B 7 can be defeated in various ways.

Problem No. 77.
By O. Balk, Yokohama.



White to play and mate in two moves.

There is not much news from the home side about Chess matters. The gigantic North and South match at Birmingham was followed by a huge contest between two London clubs, the Metropolitan *versus* Ludgate Circus. Two hundred and forty players joined issue at one hundred and twenty boards! and victory finally declared for the Metropolitan by 79 to 41. This club is an infant Hercules, being now only three years old, and bids fair to take the lead of all British Chess Associations at an early date.

Herr Walbrodt left New York for Europe on 25th May, having won the hearts of the Americans and Cubans by his gentle manners and obliging disposition, as well as by his grand proficiency in the noble game. The contemplated match between him and Herr Lasker did not come off, much to the regret of the entire Chess world. All accounts continue in stating that the obstacles arose on the side of the young champion, Lasker. What was the matter with him? Surely he could not have felt his courage oozing out at his finger-ends, like the immortal Bob Acres! Let us hope that the young rivals will soon find another opportunity of meeting, and that nothing will then prevent the battle being fought.

We give below a very interesting game played recently in a Tournament at Cambridge, England. Mr. Blake, the loser, is a strong University player and has often done good work for his Club, but the Doctor was too much for him on the present occasion, and soon found his way to the heart of the citadel. The score and notes are from the *British Chess Magazine* for May.

Evans Gambit Declined.

WHITE. (Dr. F. Deighton)	BLACK. (Mr J. H. Blake.)
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to Q B 4	3—B to Q B 4
4—P to Q Kt 4	4—B to Kt 3
5—P to Kt 5	5—Kt to Q R 4
6—Kt takes P	6—Kt to K R 3

.... This has generally been considered the safest and strongest course for Black when declining the Evans.

7—P to Q 4	7—P to Q 3
8—B takes Kt	8—P takes B
9—B takes P ch.	9—K to K 2!
10—Kt to Q B 3	

This fine move is the invention of Mr. G. A. Schott, and has been played against many strong players with almost uniform success. After the conclusion of the game, Mr. Blake pointed out what appears to be the correct way to meet it. (See next note.)

	10—P takes Kt
11—Q to K B 3	11—P to Q B 3

... . As Mr. Blake showed afterwards, he ought here to have played B to Kt 5, instead of at the next move, when it is too late. The game would then have proceeded ... . . . B to Kt 5; 12 Q takes B, (12 Kt to Q 5 ch, Q takes Kt; K takes B, and it will be very difficult for white to keep up the attack. He may possibly obtain a draw by perpetual check, owing to the exposed position of the Black King, but can scarcely expect to win, and might very possibly lose.

12—P takes P	12—B to K. Kt 5
13—Q to B 6 ch.	13 K to Q 2
14—R to Q sq ch.	14—B takes R.
15—Q to Q 6 ch.	15—K to B sq.
16—B to K 6 ch.	16—Resigns.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[Reuter "Special" to "Japan Mail."]

London, June 24th

H.M.S. *Camperdown* rammed H.M.S *Victoria* during the manœuvres off Tripolis, Syria. The *Victoria* sank to the bottom in fifteen minutes, in eighty fathoms of water. Upwards of 400 men were drowned, including Admiral Tryon. Only 255 were saved. The *Camperdown* was severely damaged.

London, June 25.

The total number drowned by the sinking of Her Majesty's ship *Victoria* is 422. The collision occurred at five o'clock in the afternoon, and the *Victoria* went down bottom upwards. The Queen has postponed the Court Ball, and France, Germany, Italy, and the United States have wired messages of sympathy.

London, June 29.

Mr. Gladstone has given notice in the House of Commons of a resolution to expedite the Home Rule Bill, proposing that the Bill be reported on the 27th July. Meanwhile he has closured in four sections referring to fixed dates.

[Specially telegraphed to the "Japan Daily Mail."]
(From the "N.-C. Daily News.")

London, June 19.

Much distress had been caused by the dearth of water in the milk-producing districts of England. The heat is intense.

The French Consul at Bangkok has demanded reparation for the murder of a French officer.

Two hundred and thirteen members of the Reichstag have been elected. One hundred and eighty-four second ballots are necessary, and everything depends upon the latter. The Government expects to obtain a slight majority through the total defeat of the Radicals. Twenty-four Socialists have been elected. This party are contesting 84 second ballots.

London, June 20.

Siam has expressed regret at the recent massacre, and has promised to pay an indemnity to the families of the victims.

One anarchist has been killed and another wounded at Madrid through the explosion of a bomb which they were placing in the garden of the ex-Premier, Señor Canovas.

The mortality at Mecca through the outbreak of cholera, since the 10th inst., has reached 830.

Tientsin, June 21.

Li Hung-chang has told Dr. MacGowan that the Chinese Government should have retaliated promptly upon the United States, but he now approves of an arrangement to bring about a new Treaty on terms of reciprocity.

"Special" Telegram to "Japan Mail."

Nagasaki, June 26.

MacBain, a Shanghai engineer bound to Yokohama, committed suicide by cutting his throat with a razor last night, on board the *Kobe Maru*. He is supposed to have been

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suffering from the effects of *delirium tremens* at the time.

Later.

At an inquest held upon MacBain, a verdict of "temporary insanity" was returned.

ECZEMA.—A Book on "Skin Troubles," sent free for One Stamp by Messrs. NORTH & RAE, Limited, Yokohama.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, Nagasaki and Kobe	per N. Y. K.	Friday, July 7th.
From America	per O. & O. Co	To-day July 1st *
From Hongkong.	per P. & O. Co	Sunday, July 2nd †
From America	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, July 11th ‡
From Hongkong.	per O. & O. Co	Tuesday, July 4th §
From Europe via Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Friday, July 7th ‖
From Canada, &c.	per C. P. M. Co.	Sunday, July 9th ¶
From Europe via Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Wed'day, July 12th.
From Hongkong.	per C. P. M. Co	Thursday, July 13th

* *Gaelic* left San Francisco on June 19th. † *Peruna* will leave Kobe on July 1st. ‡ *City of Peking* left San Francisco on June 24th. § *Oceanic* left Hongkong on June 27th. ‖ *Omi.* left Hongkong on June 28th. ¶ *Empress of Japan* left Vancouver on June 26th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Europe, via Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, July 2nd.
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki	per N. Y. K.	Tuesday, July 4th.
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Friday, July 7th.
For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co	Saturday, July 8th.
For Hongkong	per C. P. M. Co.	Tuesday, July 11th.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. M. Co	Friday, July 14th
For Europe, via Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd.	Friday, July 14th
For America	per P. M. Co.	Saturday, July 15th.
For Victoria and Tacoma	per N. P. Co.	Saturday, July 29th

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Kumamoto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,240, Olsen, 24th June,—Honjo 21st June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Peru, American steamer, 2,540, Wm. Ward, 24th June,—Hongkong viâ ports 17th June, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, Kenderdine, 25th June,—Kobe 24th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Matsushima Kan (20), Japanese flagship, Captain M. Endo, 26th June,—Yokosuka 26th June.

Amagi Kan (8), Japanese corvette, Captain Nomura, 26th June,—Yokosuka 26th June.

Tsukuba Kan (8), Japanese corvette, Captain Shibayama, 26th June,—Yokosuka 26th June.

City of New York, American steamer, 1,934, Frank H. Johnstone, 26th June,—San Francisco 8th June, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Harima Maru, Japanese steamer, 436, Kawamuro, 26th June,—Bonin Islands, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Pender, 26th June,—Otaru viâ ports 22nd June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,034, H. Walter, 27th June,—Kobe 25th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Victoria, British steamer, 1,991, J. Panton, 27th June,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, T. Sakai, 27th June,—Hakodate 25th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sessiu Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,012, Hayashi, 27th June,—Kobe 26th June, General.—Nada Kogio Kabushiki Kaisha.

Sakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,369, J. Giese, 27th June,—Hakodate 24th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tacoma, British steamer, 1,661, J. R. Hill, 28th June,—Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C., General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,219, Wilson, 28th June,—Shimonoseki 26th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Pembrokeshire, British steamer, 1,716, Gedye, 28th June,—London viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Salatiga, German steamer, 1,639, 28th June,—Hamburg viâ ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 684, Tsuda, 28th June,—Kobe 27th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, Barstow, 29th June,—Hakodate 27th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 29th June,—Moji, Coa.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Ekstrand, 29th June,—Kobe 28th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, Nirei, 29th June,—Otaru viâ ports 25th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Totomi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,396, Tsuzimeno, 29th June,—Kobe 28th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Riversdale, British steamer, 1,311, Peck, 30th June,—Hakodate 28th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Glenesk, British steamer, 2,275, Webster, 30th June,—New York viâ ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Teucer, British steamer, 1,802, Riley, 30th June,—Liverpool viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,358, Haswell, 30th June,—Shanghai and ports 24th June, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Benlomond, British steamer, 1,754, A. W. S. Thomson, 24th June,—New York viâ ports, General.—Cornes & Co.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 24th June,—Moji, Ballast.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 684, Tsuda, 24th June,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Ekstrand, 25th June,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, R. Tipple, 25th June,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha

Kumamoto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,240, Olsen, 26th June,—Honjo, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Peru, American steamer, 2,540, Wm. Ward, 27th June,—San Francisco viâ Honolulu, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, Kenderdine, 27th June,—Vladivostock viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Amagi Kan (8), Japanese corvette, Captain Nomura, 27th June,—Shinagawa.

Sessiu Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,012, Hayashi, 27th June,—Shinagawa, General.—Nada Kogio Kabushiki Kaisha.

Yokohama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,298, Swain, 27th June,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of New York, American steamer, 1,943, Frank H. Johnson, 28th June,—Hongkong, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,034, Walter, 28th June,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,369, J. Giese, 28th June,—Hachinohe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, T. Sakai, 28th June,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Victoria, British steamer, 1,991, J. Panton, 28th June,—Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Wuotan, German steamer, 1,036, A. Ott, 28th June,—Takao viâ Kobe, Ballast.—Flint, Kilby & Co.

Tacoma, British steamer, 1,661, J. R. Hill, 29th June,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Carmarthenshire, British steamer, 1,775, Vyvyan, 29th June,—London viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,219, Wilson, 29th June,—Sakata and Niigata, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 895, Barstow, 30th June,—Manila viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 684, Tsuda, 30th June,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Pender, 1st July,—Otaru, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per American steamer *Peru*, from Hongkong via ports:—Miss L. Jeffries, Messrs. A. P. Happer, Jun., F. X. Da Castro, E. W. Roper, J. G. Walsh, O. Voight, Wisner, Dr. E. Bedloe, and Mr. Raphael Levy in cabin. For San Francisco: Mr E. J. Bates, Mrs. Band, Messrs. F. Wilson, O. H. Barker, A. Gordon Brown, A. Smith, and Mrs. Andrews in cabin; 3 Europeans and 83 Chinese in steerage.

Per American steamer *City of New York*, from San Francisco:—Messrs. M. Masuda, M. Chizaburo, and M. Bergstrom in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru*, from Kobe:—6 passengers in cabin; 64 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Victoria*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Rev. H. and Mrs. Smith, Miss Smith, Master Smith, Mr. J. Strong, and Surgeon-Captain and Mrs. Beveridge in cabin; 118 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Tacoma*, from Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C.:—Mrs. Salabelle and child, Miss G. La Mar, and Miss L. La Mar in cabin; 2 Japanese and 15 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Omi Maru*, from Kobe:—Mrs. A. Thomsen, Mr. F. C. McCollam, Mr. and Mrs. Nagamine, and Miss Fuji in cabin; 8 passengers in second class, and 39 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, from Otaru via ports:—1 passenger in cabin; 2 passengers in second class, and 17 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Mr. C. Schulz, Mr. E. B. Magne, Mr. F. Downes, Mrs. E. Robinson, Mr. H. Tennant, Mr. A. Reinhardt, Mrs. J. A. Elliott, Miss Elliott, Mrs. Magill and child, Mr. S. Yamada, Mrs. A. Douglas, Miss Douglas, and Miss Aberg in cabin; Messrs. Too Da Chum, J. Kuruta, O. Hirata, N. Yamada, N. Tsuchiya, and S. Araki in second class, and 51 passengers in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per American steamer *Peru*, for San Francisco viâ Honolulu:—Mrs. Andrews, Madame Baud, Mr. O. H. Barter, Mr. E. Bouly, Mr. A. Brown, Miss H. Caddick, Captain Dupont, Miss Evans, Mrs. Goldsbury and child, Mr. A. Gordon Brown, Mr. D. S. Grant, Mr. F. E. Hagemeyer, Miss Harrison and child, Dr. Ingram and child, Mrs. Lee and son, Miss McKillican, Mr. R. Levy, Mr. and Mrs. Ortermann and child Mr. P. Pity, Mr. E. Schaefer, Count Szechengi, Mr. A. Smith, Mr. Chas Stanley, Mr. S. Tsuda and servant, Mr. F. Wilson, and Miss Winterbotham in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Rev. W. J. McKee, Messrs. Ezra, Turbell, Angel Travers, N. Akiba, T. Hayashi, and H. Usui in cabin; Messrs. P. H. Natting, T. Saphire, and M. Miyaki in second class, and 150 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *City of New York*, for Hongkong:—Lieutenant Molesworth, Captain Simonds, Mr. E. S. Hall, Mrs Stanbery, and Mrs. Gourlay in cabin.

The Japanese steamer *Fushiki Maru*, Captain Wilson, reports:—Left Shimonoseki the 26th June at 8 a.m.; experienced beautiful weather till arrival at Yokohama, the 28th June at 2.30 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, Captain E. S. Barstow, reports:—Left Hakodate the 27th June at 4 a.m. Arrived at Yokohama the 29th June at 2 a.m.; had calms and fogs from Hakodate to Yamada; thence fine, clear weather.

The Japanese steamer *Omi Maru*, Captain Ekstrand, reports:—Left Kobe the 28th June at noon; had light variable winds and fine weather; passed Oshima the same day at 9 p.m., same weather to port. Arrived at Yokohama the 29th June at 5.15 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, Captain Nirei, reports:—Left Otaru the 25th June at noon; had foggy rain and strong north-easterly winds with heavy sea up to Okushiri; thence to Hakodate cloudy and moderate south-westerly breeze. Arrived at Hakodate the 26th at 6.55 a.m. and left the 27th at noon; had cloudy and light variable winds. Arrived at Ogimohama the 28th at 9.35 a.m. and left the same day at 1.35 p.m.; had light cloudy but fine weather with steady increasing south-westerly breeze. Arrived at Yokohama the 29th June at 3.45 p.m.

CARGO.

Per American steamer *Peru*, for San Francisco viâ Honolulu:—

	TEA.				
	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	CHICAGO.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	689	—	352	—	1,041
Hyogo	74	507	335	—	916
Yokohama	3,166	851	810	386	5,207
Hongkong	840	—	—	164	1,004
Amoy	—	3,292	2,430	553	6,275
Total	4,763	4,650	7,090	1,103	14,443

	SILK.			
	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	HARTFORD.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	—	5	—	5
Hongkong	—	69	—	69
Yokohama	—	14	—	14
Total	—	88	—	88

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Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, $180,500.00.

Per British steamer *Victoria*, for Tacoma, Wash., via Victoria, B C. —

	TEA.				
	PACIFIC COAST.	NEW YORK.	CHICAGO.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai ...	431	1,883	4,146	423	6,883
Hyogo	10	1,833	3,369	5,663	10,875
Yokohama	20	864	1,419	5,082	7,385
Hongkong ...	175	—	—	—	175
Foochow	—	—	792	2,430	3,222
Total	636	4,580	9,726	13,598	28,540

	SILK.		
	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL
Shanghai	31	—	31
Yokohama	4	—	4
Total	35	—	35

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Kumamoto Maru*, Captain Olsen, reports:—Left Honjo the 21st June at 3.50 p.m.; had light south-easterly breeze and thick, foggy weather; the same weather continuing until 2 p.m. on the 22nd, when fog cleared off with fresh N.W. breeze and cloudy weather; on the 23rd light variable and gentle breezes to Noshima, which was rounded at 8.40 a.m. on the 24th; thence to port moderate breeze from S.W. with fine, clear, cloudy air. Arrived at Yokohama the 24th June.

The American steamer *Peru*, Captain Ward, reports:—Left Hongkong the 17th June at 7.27 p.m.; Nagasaki the 21st at 5.18 p.m.; Kobe the 23rd at 5.3 p.m. Arrived at Yokohama the 24th June at 6.33 p.m.; had fine weather.

The Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, Captain T. S. Kenderdine, reports:—Left Vladivostock the 16th June at 8 a.m.; had light winds, cloudy, overcast, and foggy weather to Gensan. Arrived at Gensan the 17th at 1.35 p.m. and left the 18th at 4.40 a.m.; had light to moderate winds, cloudy, dull, and rainy weather to Fusan. Arrived at Fusan the 20th at 1.10 p.m. and left the same day at midnight; had light to moderate winds, overcast, misty, foggy, and heavy rain; unsettled weather to Nagasaki. Arrived at Nagasaki the 21st at 8.55 p.m. and left the 22nd at 4.20 a.m.; had gentle to moderate winds with drizzling rain to Shimonoseki. Arrived at Shimonoseki the 22nd at 5.30 p.m. and left the 23rd at 7.20 a.m.; had light winds and cloudy, fine weather to Kobe. Arrived at Kobe the 24th at 10.25 a.m. and left the same day at 4.5 p.m.; had overcast to clear weather with moderate S.W. swell and from light to gentle N.W. winds from Oshima to Rock Island; thence moderate to light variable winds. Arrived at Yokohama the 26th June at 1.30 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Harima Maru*, Captain Kawamuro, reports:—Left S. Sulpher Island the 18th June at 3.5 p.m. Arrived at N. Sulpher Island at 7.10 p.m. and left again at 9.50 p.m. Called at N. Sulpher Island the 19th at 3.50 a.m. and left again at 4.30 a.m. Arrived at Hahajima at 3 p.m.; had light breeze and fine weather throughout the passage; left Hahajima the 20th at 2.8 p.m. Arrived at Chichi-shima at 6.5 p.m.; had light breeze and fine weather; left again the 23rd at 7.55 a.m.; had light N.W. breeze and fine weather. Arrived at Tori-shima the 14th at 10.35 a.m. and left at 1.50 p.m.; had light northerly breeze and fine weather. Arrived at Hachijo the 25th at 8 50 a.m. and left again at 8.5 p.m.; had gentle to fresh west breeze and fine weather. Arrived at Miyake-shima the 26th at 4 10 a.m. and left again at 6.10 a.m.; had moderate to light breeze and fine weather. Arrived at Yokohama at 2.30 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Sendai Maru*, Captain T. Sakai, reports:—Left Hakodate the 25th June at 4.5 p.m; had light wind and rain; rounded Shiriya-saki at 8 p.m., light wind and fine weather; passed Kinkasan the 26th at 0.15 p.m., light airs and fine weather; passed Inuboye Light the 27th at 1.30 a.m.; passed Kamonsaki at 10.35 a.m. Arrived at Yokohama at 11.45 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Sakata Maru*, Captain J Giese, reports:—Left Hakodate the 24th June at 6.30 p.m.; had moderate S.E. winds and foggy weather, clearing occasionally; passed Shiriya-saki at midnight; on the 25th light southerly winds with rain till 10 a.m.; thence weather clearing and getting fine; passed Kinkasan at midnight; on the 26th gentle breeze, fine, clear weather, and smooth sea; at 7 a.m. met company's steamer *Wakanoura Maru*; at 6 p.m. company's steamer *Kumamoto Maru* both bound north; on the 27th light breeze and fine, pleasant weather; at 11 a.m. met steamer *Peru* homeward bound. Arrived at Yokohama the 27th June at 3 p.m.

The American steamer *City of New York*, Captain Frank H. Johnstone, reports:—Left San Francisco the 8th June at 4 30 p.m.; thence to the 14th, lat 44°.10′, long. 150° 30′ westerly gales and heavy head sea; thence to port variable winds and weather with much fog; on the 18th crossed 180th meridian lat. 44°.57′.30″. Arrived at Yokohama the 26th June. Running time, 17 days and 6 hours.

The Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, Captain Pender, reports:—Left Otaru the 22nd June at noon and arrived at Hakodate the 23rd at 6.30 a.m.; had fresh and moderate S.W. winds and misty weather. Left Hakodate the 24th at noon; had moderate S.E. winds and thick rain to Shiriya-saki; thence moderate and light southerly winds and misty weather with fog at times. Arrived at Ogmohama the 25th at 11.30 a.m. and left the same day at 6.30 p.m.; had gentle and light S.W. winds and fine weather throughout the passage. Time of arrival 7.20 p.m. on the 26th.

The Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru*, Captain H. Walter, reports:—Left Kobe the 25th June at 5.45 p.m; passed Oshima at 4 5 a.m. on the 26th; had gentle northerly breeze and fine, clear weather; fresh westerly breeze and fine, clear weather off the Owari Bay up to Omai-saki; thence to port light variable air with fine, clear weather. Arrived at Yokohama the 27th June at 4.40 a.m.

The British steamer *Victoria*, Captain J. Panton, R.N.R., reports:—Left Hongkong the 18th June; experienced light winds and thick fog to Shanghai. Left Shanghai the 22nd and Kobe the 26th; strong N.W. winds. Arrived at Yokohama the 27th June at 8 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, Captain E. W. Haswell, reports:—Left Shanghai the 24th June at 7 a.m. and arrived at Nagasaki the 25th at 9 p.m. Left again the 26th at 5 p.m. and arrived at Kobe the 28th at 6 a.m. Left again the following day at noon and arrived at Yokohama the 30th June at 3 p.m.; experienced moderate easterly winds and cloudy, foggy weather to Nagasaki; thence through Inland Sea had light variable winds and fine, clear weather to Kobe; along the coast had moderate southerly winds and fine weather with smooth sea to Yokohama

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

During the last few days the Import Trade has been disorganised by the extraordinary drop in Silver, and all quotations are nominal until we see where it will land us. In the early part of the week Yarns, both Single and Double, continued to move off to some extent and small contracts were also made "to arrive." There has been a slight enquiry for Silk-faced Satins, while some transactions are reported in Turkey Reds. In other Piece-goods and Woollens there is no indication of revival.

COTTON PIECE GOODS

	PER PCE. &		
Grey Shirtings—8¼ lb. 38½ yds. 39 inches	$1.90	to	2.40
Grey Shirtings—9lb. 38½ yds. 45 inches	2 00	to	2 75
T Cloth—7lb. 24 yards, 32 inches	1 40	to	1.75
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches .	1 50	to	1 90
Prints—Assorted, 23 yards, 30 inches ..	1 65	to	1 50
	PER YARD.		
Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 32 inches	0 13	to	0 17
Velveta—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches ...	6.00	to	8.50
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42 3 inches ..	0 6¼	to	0 7½
	PER PIECE.		
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2 4lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.22½	to	1 35
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	1 42½	to	1.60
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	1.75	to	1.97½
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2 12½	to	2.32½

WOOLLENS

	PER YARD.		
Flannel	$0.24	to	0 38
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0 29	to	0 33
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium.	0 25	to	0.27½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0 20	to	0.24
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards 31 inches	0 12	to	0 19
Cloths—Plains, 54 @ 56 inches	0 30	to	0.42½
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches ..	0 50	to	0 57½
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0 30	to	0 65
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 4 to 5½ lb, per lb	0 17	to	0.51

COTTON YARNS

	PER PICUL.		
Nos 16/24, Ordinary	$30 00	to	31 00
Nos. 16/24, Medium	32 00	to	33 00
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best...	32 50	to	33 50
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	32 00	to	33 00
Nos. 28 32, Ordinary.....	—	to	35 00
Nos. 28 32, Medium	36 00	to	36 50
Nos. 28 32, Good to Best.....	36 50	to	37 00
Nos. 38 42, Medium to Best	38.00	to	40.00
No. 32s, Two-fold	40.00	to	41 00
No. 42s, Two-fold	42 00	to	43 50
	PER BALE.		
No. 20s, Bombay ... ... Nom.	77.50	to	81 50
No 16s, Bombay . . Nom.	73 50	to	80 50

METALS

Large arrivals and heavy stocks, with practically no enquiry, have had a most depressing effect on this market of late and there is no indication of revival at present. Prices are practically unchanged, although the outlook for exchange should prove beneficial to those holders who know how to wait.

	PER PICUL.		
Flat Bars, ¼ inch	$2.80	to	2 90
Flat Bars, ½ inch	3.00	to	3.05
Round and square up to ¾ inch	2 90	to	3 05
Iron Plates, assorted	3 00	to	3 10
Sheet Iron	3.70	to	3 90
Galvanized Iron sheets	6.75	to	7.00
Wire Nails, assorted	4.50	to	5.10
Tin Plates, per box.....	5.80	to	5 35
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.27½	to	1 30

KEROSENE.

This market has again relapsed into quiescence, no transactions having been reported since our last. Stocks are unchanged, no supplies having arrived during the week.

Chester	$1.55	to	1.57½
Comet	1.57½	to	1 60
Devoe	—		
Russian Anchor	1 55	to	1 57½
Russian Moon	1.52½	to	1.55

SUGAR.

Demand for Browns continues fair and prices remain firm. A large arrival of Formosa has had no weakening effect, as no further supplies are looked for from this source during the season. Whites are active, and owing to stocks having run low, prices show a rising tendency.

	PER PICUL.		
Brown Takao	$4.85	to	5.00
Brown Manila	5.10	to	5.15
Brown Daitong	4.15	to	4 20
Brown Canton	4.15	to	4.40
White Java and Penang	6.60	to	6.70
White Refined	7 00	to	8 70

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last issue was of the 23rd instant. Since that date settlements amount to 167 piculs, divided thus: *Filatures*, 163 piculs; *Re-reels*, 4 piculs. In addition to these purchases direct shipments by the Japanese have been 30 bales, making the total business of the week 200 piculs.

The purchases by foreigners have been about equally divided between old and new silk; of this latter, about 70 piculs are reported to be for native account and will not be shipped at present

The demand for new *Filatures* on European account has continued, and many small parcels have been taken at gradually advancing prices. The Japanese dealers are now inclined to hold back their silks, hoping to see a further improvement by reason of the outlook for very cheap exchange.

Our statistics in this issue complete the present season which closes to-day; and we enter the new campaign with the very light stock of 500 piculs, of which but a small proportion is new silk. Further arrivals are soon expected, and during the coming month we ought to have a plentiful and good selection on offer.

The great feature of the week has been the extraordinary fall in the value of silver, which has declined about 8d per ounce. The commercial and financial complications consequent thereupon appear to have quite disorganized the consuming markets. Here buyers and sellers alike seem disposed to await results.

New Crop.—There seems no reason to change the estimates which we gave last week The weather is exceptionally fine and favourable in those provinces where the *récolte* is not yet complete.

There have been four shipping opportunities since we last wrote. The *Empress of China*, 23rd instant, carried 49 bales old silk for the New York trade; the English steamer *Ancona*, 24th inst. had 17 bales old silk for Lyons; The Pacific Mail steamer *Peru*, 27th instant, carried 13 bales old silk for New York and the steamer *Victoria*, 28th instant, had 4 bales new silk for the same destination. These departures make the total export for the closing season 47,659 piculs against 50,138 piculs last year and 34,294 piculs for the previous season.

Hanks.—No business as yet; for the small parcel of new *Hachoji* sellers have failed in getting a bid of $500 so far.

Filatures—There have been many purchases of small parcels, fine size, for the European trade, buyers paying as much as $840 for decent quality, 10/13 deniers. Holders now ask an advance and for the moment no reliable quotations can be given. Some *Koshu Filatures* suitable for the New York trade have arrived from the interior, but are held off sale until the exchange market settles itself into some regular course. The *Shinshu* factories started work on the 25th instant and the first arrivals thence may be expected during the coming week.

Re-reels.—No general supplies at present, but a few bales were shipped per steamer *Victoria* to New York, just as a sample of the new season's produce.

In other sorts, nothing to be said. No stock of

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old silk, and arrivals of new staple have not yet commenced.

QUOTATIONS.

Hanks—No 1½	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2½ (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2½ (Joshu)	—
Hanks—No 2½ to 3	—
Hanks—No. 3	—
Hanks—No. 3½	—
Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers	—
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	—
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	—
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den	—
Filatures—No. 1½, 10/14 deniers	—
Filatures—No 1½, 13/16, 14/17 den	—
Filatures—No 2, 10/15 deniers	—
Filatures—No 2, 14/18 deniers	—
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—(Oshu) Best No. 1	—
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 2½, 14/18 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Kakedas—Extra	—
Kakedas—No. 1	—
Kakedas—No. 1½	—
Kakedas—No 2	—
Kakedas—No 2½	—
Kakedas—No. 3	—
Kakedas—No 3½	—
Kakedas—No. 4	—
Oshu Sendai—No 2½	—
Hamatsuki—No 1, 2	—
Hamatsuki—No 3, 4	—
Sendai—No 2½	—

Export Raw Silk Tables to 30th June, 1893:—

		Season 1892-1893.	1891-92.	1890-91.
		Bales.	Bales	Bales
Europe		19,407	19,006	15,319
America		27,448	30,035	18,343
Total	Bales	46,855	49,041	33,662
	Piculs	47,059	50,138	34,294
		Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Settlements and Direct Export from 1st July		47,700	50,550	34,750
Stock, 30th June		500	1,750	1,650
Available supplies to date		48,200	52,300	36,400

WASTE SILK.

There has been no business at all this week, not a single bale having changed hands.

Arrivals have ceased and the season is closed. Among the late small supplies there has been some mixed old and new Waste, but so far nothing upon which we could base an estimate as to quality and extent of the new crop. We withdraw all quotations until some business has been done in new fibre; prices must depend, of course, upon the value of Raw Silk when business resumes its normal course.

There have been three shipping opportunities, *Empress of China* taking 2 bales *Tama* for New York; the *Ancona* 12 bales *Kibiso* for Europe, and the *Peru* 1 bale of *Tama* for New York. These departures make the total export for the present season 44,662 piculs, against 35,386 piculs last year and 32,325 piculs on the 30th June, 1891.

QUOTATIONS.

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	—
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	—
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Shushu, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Shushu, Good	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	—
Noshi-ito—Hoshu, Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	—
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	—
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	—
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	—
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Good to Fair	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Middling to Common	—
Kibiso—Hachoji, Good	—
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	—
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	—
Mawata—Good to Best	—

Export Table Waste Silk to 30th June, 1893:—

	Season 1892-93.	1891-92.	1890-91.
	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs
Waste Silk	41,970	33,287	31,038
Pierced Cocoons	2,692	2,099	1,287
	44,662	35,386	32,325
	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Settlements and Direct Export from 1st July	46,500	37,250	31,800
Stock, 30th June	2,500	3,550	2,200
Available supplies to date	49,000	40,800	34,000

Exchange has fallen rapidly in sympathy with the tremendous depression in the New York and London silver markets. We quote London:—London, 4m/s. Credits, 2/6d.; Documents, 2/6½d.; New York, 30d/s. U.S. $61\frac{1}{2}$; 4m/s. U.S. $62\frac{1}{2}$; Paris, or Lyons, 4m/s. fcs. 3.20.

Estimated Silk Stock, 30th June, 1893.

Raw	Piculs.	Waste	Piculs.
Hanks	19	Cocoons	54
Filatures	410	Noshi-ito	916
Re-reels	65	Kibiso	1,232
Kakeda	1	Mawata	108
Oshu	0	Sundries	190
Tayaam Kinds	5		
Total piculs	500	Total piculs	2,500

TEA

In spite of buyers and holders having some little difficulty in arriving at satisfactory terms, a fair amount of business has been transacted at unchanged prices. The latest news from the "home" markets is far from encouraging, however, and the prospect is somewhat gloomy—buyers on the other side wiring out to cancel the orders in hand.

	Per Picul.
Common	$14 to 15
Good Common	16 to 17
Medium	18 to 19
Good Medium	20 to 21
Fine	22 to 23
Finest	24 to 26
Choice	27 to 29
Choicest	30 to 33

EXCHANGE.

The bottom has been completely knocked out of exchange, silver falling from 38½d. to 30½d. per ounce in less than one week! Rates given below are merely nominal.

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	—
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	2/4½
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	2/5
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	2/5½
On Paris—Bank sight	2.96
On Paris—Private 4 months' sight	3 05
On Hongkong—Bank sight	3 07
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	½ % dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	¼ % dis
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	72
On America—Bank Bills on demand	57½
On America—Private 30 days' sight	59
On America—Private 4 months' sight	60
Silver	30½

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Visitors to Kowaki-dani who bring a rod with them will be shown the haunts of the speckled Trout, a nice stream of several miles in length being within easy walking distance of the Hotel; Hakone Lake is also well stocked with a variety of fish, including salmon, and the Fishing is FREE; while Entomologists will find rare and valuable specimens in the surrounding hills, and the Flora of the district is extremely interesting to the Botanist.

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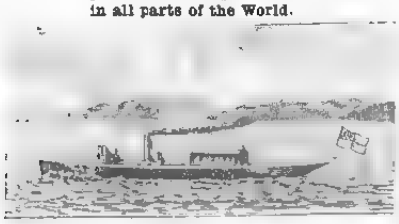

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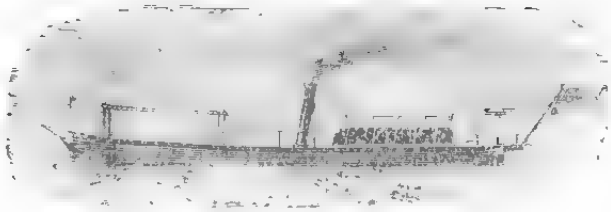

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The Japan Weekly Mail:

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"SAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same: and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JULY 8TH, 1893.

MARRIAGE.

On the 5th inst., at the Roman Catholic Church, before Rev. Alfred Pettier, and afterwards at Christ Church, before Rev. E. Champneys Irwine, M.A., BEATRICE MARION, youngest daughter of Henry Cook, of Yokohama, to ALEXANDER WRIGHT, of Perthshire, Scotland. No cards.

DEATHS.

On the 30th June, at Stuttgart, MARCUS KESSLER, aged 6 years, son of Mr. H. Kessler, C.E., Tokio

At 4.20 p.m. on the 3rd instant, at 72-2, Bluff, WILLIAM GRANT CAMERON, in the 45th year of his age.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE new Korean Ambassador and his *suite* have arrived in Tokyo.

OSAKA has decided to use foreign-made pipes in the City's Water Works.

THE Kobe Water Works Bill has passed its first reading in the Kobe Town Council.

Two deaths from over-pressure occurred in Tokyo last week at the Fukushima receptions.

SILVER has recovered several points since Monday, and the outlook is now more promising.

THE death took place last Monday of Mr. William Grant Cameron, chief engineer of the *Meiji Maru*.

THE graduation ceremony of the Imperial Japanese University, Tokyo, will take place on Tuesday next, the 10th inst., at 9 a.m.

THE Shinagawa Carriage Company proposes constructing a tramway between Shimbashi and Shinagawa, Tokyo.

A JAPANESE, named Amakura Yasokichi, a wood and charcoal dealer at Yotsuya, Tokyo, was arrested by the police on the 2nd inst. on suspicion of having defrauded the Yasuda Bank of *yen* 5,000 on the 30th ult. His wife and three others have been arrested as accomplices.

THE Fourth of July was most patriotically observed by American citizens in Yokohama on Tuesday, fireworks being exploded galore.

THE Radicals have convened a meeting to discuss Hawaiian affairs. They are resolved upon making capital out of the franchise agitation.

THE Tokyo Merchants and Manufacturers' Association entertained Count Ito and Count Goto at the Imperial Hotel on Monday afternoon.

VISCOUNT TAKASHIMA gave a Garden Party at his residence in Kioicho, Kojimachi, Tokyo, on the 3rd inst., in honour of his daughter's marriage.

TWO deserters from an American whaling and sealing barque were arrested in Tokyo on Saturday while watching the wrestling matches at Ushigome.

TUESDAY was tropically hot, but "England" managed to beat "The World" by 93 runs on the first innings in the cricket match played that day.

A DESTRUCTIVE fire broke out in Sakaicho, Yokohama, on Sunday morning. Ten houses were burnt down and stock amounting to $5,000 was destroyed.

SMALL-POX is still devastating Niigata, Fukushima, Yamanashi, Fukui, Toyama, and Hiroshima Prefectures. Up to the present no deaths from cholera have been recorded.

MR. MUTSU, Minister for Foreign Affairs; Count Oyama, Minister for the Army; and Viscount Enomoto, a Privy Councillor, paid a congratulatory visit to the American Legation on the 4th inst.

THE English Squadron left Yokohama on Saturday for the North. The *Alacrity* stayed till Monday, awaiting the arrival of the American mail which came into port on Sunday afternoon.

A VERY pleasant concert was given in the Public Hall on Saturday afternoon by the members of the Juvenile Tonic Sol-fa Society. Millard's Cantata, "The birds and the fairies," was the principal item on the programme.

A JAPANESE comic writer, named Baitei Kinga, one of the most distinguished men of his time who is very widely known for his celebrated work "The Seven Comical Men," died in the capital on the 30th ult. at the ripe old age of seventy-three.

MESSRS. HADANO DENZABURO, and Yasuda Kun, of the *Kaishin-to*, who are on a political tour, have had a rough experience in the Hokuriku Provinces. In Toyama they were pelted with mud and stones while addressing a political meeting.

THE Tokyo Tramway Company had a very successful day on the 29th ult., the occasion being Lieutenant-Colonel Fukushima's entry into the capital. Some 31,667 persons were carried, from whom *yen* 734 41 was received. The above amounts to nearly double the latest daily average income.

TWENTY British and American sealing schooners, which left Yokohama for the north some time ago, are now staying at Hakodate. They arrived there with a large quantity of seals, which they obtained during the voyage. Another message from Hakodate states that nearly the same number of foreign schooners put into that port on the 27th ult. from Hawaii. The vessels' crews consist of one hundred and sixty men in all, and they are said to have brought with them 2,700 seals, which they caught off the coast of Chishima.

SUMS of *yen* 700 and *yen* 1,200 have been granted by the Government to Lieutenant Yamanouchi Masuji and Fleet-Engineer Shimose Masasuke respectively, the former for his invention of the Yamanouchi gun, and the latter in recognition of services rendered by him in connection with the invention of a new gunpowder.

THE *Mary Jane* (Mr. T. M. Laffin) won the "Fourth of July Cup," presented by H.E. Mr. Dun, U.S. Minister, and the "Weston Challenge Shield," in the race for the "A" division of the Yokohama Sailing Club, on Tuesday. The *Sayonara* (Mr. W. W. Campbell), won the race for the "B" division boats the same day.

A VIOLENT gale, accompanied by heavy rains and tremendous peals of thunder, broke over the Tako District of Gumma Prefecture on the evening of the 4th inst., the tempest commencing about seven o'clock. Over ten houses were blown down, and three persons killed at Hongomura and a house was burnt at Kotana-mura by lightning. Ten houses were over thrown at Katayama-mura, a man being buried beneath the *débris*. Two dwellings were destroyed at Nagane-mura, and much slight damage was done in other parts of the District.

MR. KOTEDA, Governor of Niigata, has been decorated with the Second Class of the Order of the Mirror, while the Fifth Class of the same Order has been conferred on Governors Kusaka, of Fukushima; Gimbayashi, of Saitama; Hagiwara, of Miyazaki; Takasaki, of Ibaraki; Arakawa, of Fukui; Yamada of Oita; and Tokuhisa, of Toyama; and Mr. Takahira, a Japanese Minister-Resident. Consul-General Shimamura, Secretaries Akabane, of Legation; Osata, Fukuoka; and Sakabe, of Hokkaido; Tax Collectors Tanaka, of Yamaguchi; Iawasaki, of Aichi; Imayado, of Nagasaki; and Todo, of Yamagata; and Chief Police Constables Suye, of Hokkaido, and Ogawa, of Yamanashi; and Councillor Takatsu, of Miye, have received the Sixth Class of the same Order.

THERE is not much to be said about the Import trade, for the recovery of silver, so far as it has gone, has not inspired much confidence in the stability of exchange, and further developments are awaited. Holders are, in the meantime, firm, and the offer of more money by buyers of some lines does not induce business. Consequently, Yarns, Shirtings, and other descriptions of Manchester goods may be called nominal. The Metal trade is in much the same condition, and Kerosene has found no buyers. The Sugar market has continued brisk, and a considerable amount of activity has been shown in Browns at a rise in values, while Whites have also been freely taken at full rates. Not much doing yet in Silk, and though the stock is coming in there do not appear to be many anxious purchasers about. Nothing to report in Waste Silk. A large business has been done in the Tea market, notwithstanding that holders demanded and obtained from one to two dollars more per picul for leaf than was paid last week. There is distinctly a speculative ring about some recent transactions, though these may turn out all right, but the quality of the stock on the market was not considered sufficiently good to bring about a rise in value. Exchange has further improved, but no great faith is felt in the stability of present quotations.

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THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

During the last few years the hottest months of Summer have been the season of maximum activity in the political world. Great popular commotions, such, for instance, as that against Count Okuma's Scheme of Treaty Revision, and agitations preceding changes of Ministries, have taken place in Summer. The present year seems to be an exception. Things in the political sphere are conspicuously quiet, and little likelihood is apparent that the calm will be disturbed for some weeks at least, if indeed, it be disturbed at all before the meeting of the Diet in November. Political parties are evidently puzzled how to shape their programmes. They are left in entire darkness as to the course which the Government may adopt in the coming session of the Diet, but it is not difficult for them to perceive that the Cabinet will seek to deprive them of the weapons which they have hitherto employed in attacking those in power. Some of the Opposition politicians may possibly show marked sympathy with the Cabinet next session, but it is extremely unlikely that any political party will openly declare itself for the Government. However, it is unsafe to utter predictions at present as to the course of events, the situation being entirely undecided

* * *

Despite this uncertainty, there is interest in the *Choya Shimbun's* articles on the situation. Our contemporary observes that ambiguity characterizes the attitude of the Cabinet as well as that of the various political parties. The most ambiguous of all is said to be the Radical Party, whose new career began from the last session of the Diet. Having endured unspeakable hardships for so many years, it is not inexcusable that the Radicals should desire to enjoy a short period of rest and ease. To speak more plainly, they are now anxious to taste the sweets of office in their position as a party commanding more than a third of the total votes in the House of Representatives. As to the National Unionists, they, too, are open to a similar charge of ambiguity Their attitude will be as uncertain in the coming session as it was in the last The Progressionists alone pursue the definite and well understood policy of uncompromising opposition to the Government. But their strength is scarcely over 40 in a House of 300 members, and without the co-operation of other parties they can not accomplish anything. They are too intelligent not to perceive the futility of conducting the campaign against the Cabinet alone and unaided. But where are they to look for allies? Perhaps they may endeavour to obtain the goodwill of the Radicals. The latter, however, are very likely to identify themselves so completely with some of the Cabinet Ministers as to be quite beyond the reach of any conciliatory overtures from the Progressionists. Repelled by the Radicals, the astute members of the *Kaishin-to* may seek an alliance with the National Unionists. But if they succeed in forming such an alliance, they must be prepared to abandon their policy of indiscriminate opposition to the Cabinet. Thus, in any case, the attitudes of the various parties in the next session of the Diet remain very uncertain. With regard to the Government, the *Choya* considers that it also is incapable of pursuing any definite and consistent course of policy, its principal care being to shape its conduct according to the development of events.

* * *

The *Nippon* devotes several articles to discussing the political situation. It complains of the stagnant condition of affairs in the political world. The people, in its opinion, are thoroughly tired of petty and interminable quarrels over domestic politics between the Government and the Opposition. The Government has repeatedly declared the urgent importance of developing the resources and completing the defences of the country. But what is the use of warlike equipment, if the Government intends perpetually to recoil from a decisive contest with foreign enemies? The *Nippon* professes to believe that the Cabinet's energies are wholly absorbed by endeavours to maintain its control over the younger members of officialdom, to win the goodwill of the Opposition, and to purchase the friendship of foreign Powers. No wonder, then, that nothing substantial is accomplished in the fields of domestic and foreign politics The Opposition, too, is stated to be in as unsatisfactory a position as the Cabinet. Its maladies are three, namely, dissension between its various sections; the gradual disappearance of grounds of opposition to the Cabinet; and, growing unpopularity with the people at large. The *Domei* Club, alone among the sections of the Opposition, retains the sympathy of the educated classes of the nation. Its members are advised to use their endeavours to reconstruct the Opposition on a sound basis.

* * *

The Korean question continues to be discussed The Radical organ, the *Jiyu Shimbun*, severely criticizes the conciliatory policy hitherto pursued in Korea by the Japanese Government. It would not be opposed to such a policy, were there any hope of winning thereby the affection of the Korean people But what have been the actual results of that policy? Its principal issue has been to invite Korea's contempt and to expose this empire to insult, as is plainly shown by recent news from the peninsula Even since the term nation of the recent indemnity complication, Korea has given Japan several fresh causes of complaint, principal among them being the murder and pillage of Japanese fishermen and the destruction of Japanese coal stores on the island of Zekkei off the port of Fusan. These incidents make it plain that the indulgent policy of the Japanese Government has developed in the minds of the Koreans very pernicious misconceptions about Japanese power and resolution. In order to make the Koreans appreciate Japan's exceptional kindness to them, it is important that they should be reminded from time to time of what they must expect in the event of their abusing her friendship. The Japanese Government has hitherto been careful simply to heap favours upon the Koreans without taking firm steps to check their growing tendency to think lightly of the power of this country It is now time, in the *Jiyu's* opinion, that a more dignified attitude be adopted towards Korea. Finally, our contemporary regrets to observe that the Cabinet is very irresolute about the disposal of Mr. Oishi Being simply a Minister Resident, he can be very easily dismissed or removed to some other post if he be either incapable or reluctant to carry out the instructions of his superiors. Did the Cabinet follow a definite and fixed policy towards Korea, the question of Mr. Oishi's disposal could be at once settled, but the irresolution shown by Ministers on this occasion indicates that they have no clear ideas how to treat Korea. However, the Radical organ desires distinctly to disavow any intention of criticizing the Cabinet's conduct or defending Mr. Oishi. No such idea influences it when it advises the Ministry to adopt a strong and dignified course of policy towards Korea.

* * *

The *Choya Shimbun* recommends the Ministry to secure the independence of Korea by conferring with China and Russia, so as to let them understand clearly what is intended by the Japanese Government. It thinks that the task of conducting negotiations on this subject with the above two Powers must be undertaken by either Count Ito or Mr. Mutsu. The *Choya* recommends one or other of these statesmen to pay a visit to China during the coming Summer vacation and to confer with the Chinese Ministers. A few years ago China would not have been inclined to entertain any proposal for the maintenance of Korean independence. But she now doubtless understands the perilous position in which the peninsular kingdom is placed, and the *Choya* thinks that the Peking statesmen would be found quite willing to cooperate with Japan.

* * *

The *Kokkai*, in concluding the essay alluded to in our last weekly summary, draws attention to the importance of increasing the strength of the Navy. The Diet has hitherto refused to vote grants for the construction of war vessels, but the Opposition appreciates the importance of that measure not less keenly than the Government itself. The Naval appropriations have been refused, because, according to our contemporary, the Government's foreign policy is unsettled. The nation now claims the adoption of a strong foreign policy, and if the Government will only decide to follow the universal wish of the people, appropriations for the increase of the Navy will be enthusiastically voted by the Diet.

* * *

The *Yomiuri Shimbun* calls upon the Government to decide promptly the question of the disposal of Mr. Oishi. Our contemporary refers to the murder of Japanese fishermen in Korea and the destruction of Japanese coal stores on the island of Zekkei, and observes that negotiations about these incidents require a man of activity and ability. The Cabinet is advised to send back Mr. Oishi to Sôul, if he is to be retained in his present post, or to replace him by a new man, if such a course be necessary, but in any case to use the utmost despatch.

* * *

The petition presented to the Governor of Tokyo by the inhabitants of the District of Shiba about the removal of the site for the erection of Dr. Kitasato's hospital for contagious diseases, having been rejected by the Authorities, the agitators among the inhabitants of Shiba have become more active than ever. But they have gone too far, even resorting to intimidation One of their delegates let fall a significant hint that Dr. Kitasato's life would be in danger if he continued to ignore the feelings of the Shiba citizens. The agitators' cause has been irretrievably damaged by their excesses. The press of the capital severely criticizes their conduct. The *Fiji Shimpo* takes pains to allay their very natural apprehensions by stating that, every precaution being taken at the hospital against the propagation of disease germs, there, is little danger of infection in the vicinity of the hospital. Moreover, this hospital will not admit patients suffering from violent contagious diseases like cholera and typhus. Hence the excited inhabitants of the locality may rest assured that the presence of the hospital in their midst will be quite harmless.

* * *

Troubles between teachers and students continue to be frequent. The present Minister of Education recently issued instructions to the Local Authorities to deal rigorously with every tendency to insubordination among students of schools. The root of the evil, however, lies beyond the reach of the Minister's official authority. It is a notorious fact that mutinous students are inevitably backed by the members of the Local Assembly, the consequence being that the local authorities, unwilling to offend the local legislators, take the side of the students and dismiss the poor teachers, who in many cases are men of ability and independence of character. The *Choya Shimbun* raises its voice against this state of things and lays before the members of Local Assemblies the pernicious effects of their rash conduct.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE EDUCATIONAL SOCIETY OF JAPAN.

The Educational Society of Japan held its 10th annual general meeting on the 1st instant in the Society's rooms at Hitotsubashi dori, Kanda, Tokyo. The proceedings were opened at noon, Mr. Tsuji Shuji, formerly Vice-Minister of Education, read, in his capacity of Director of the Society, the Imperial Words on Education issued in October, 1890. Mr. Terada Yukichi then presented a report on the new building for the Society's offices. This was followed by the bestowal of medals upon persons who had rendered meritorious service in the cause of education There were in all twenty two recipients of the honour. Among them we notice Messrs Ito Keisuke, the well known botanist; Sugiura

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Shigetake, Principal of the Nippon Chugakko and an educator of great eminence; Kobayashi Unari, principal of the Ordinary Middle School of Nagano; Irokawa Kokashi, a Professor in the Nobles' Female School, and so forth. Addresses were delivered by Messrs. Awata Hiroshi and Kokakamura Kiyonori, the former on Education in Japan, and the latter on National Literature. Lieutenant-Colonel Fukushima, who is now the order of the day, was next introduced to the meeting by Mr. Tsuji. The popular officer warmly thanked the members of the Society for their kind telegraphic message of congratulation addressed to him on his arrival at Vladivostock and for the welcome they had given him through their deputation on his arrival in Tokyo. H.E. Mr. Inouye, Minister of Education, was the next speaker. He congratulated the Society on its increasing prosperity. The vast undertaking called education could not be left solely to official encouragement: its successful prosecution depended upon happy co-operation between Government and governed. He regretted extremely that, after twenty years' incessant effort, national education was still very far from being in a satisfactory state, as was proved by the fact that the attendance at the various schools aggregated only one half of the boys and girls of school age. There were many things in the field of education still to be accomplished. He himself was not yet prepared to announce his scheme for the wider spread of education, but he would call the attention of his audience to a few points bearing on the subject. First, insufficiency of funds at the disposal of local communes was one of the principal reasons why the benefits of education were still limited to one half of the children needing instruction. He could not yet submit his own opinion as to the best method of increasing such funds, but he urged his audience to study the matter seriously. Secondly, school fees should be diminished as far as practicable. Thirdly, the percentage of girls attending in school was lower than that of boys; and this, he thought, could be remedied to a certain extent by establishing a course of needle-work in schools. Fourthly, encouragement should be given to the establishment of free schools for the education of the poor. Fifthly, care should be exercised to check every tendency to luxury and extravagance in the educational field, so as to reduce the cost of education to the lowest possible limits. Sixthly and lastly, the price of text books should be lowered. On this last point, he would before long solicit the opinion of the members of the Society. Professor Kikuchi then read a paper on Seismological Investigations, and the President of the Society, H.I.H. Prince Arisugawa, delivered a short address, warmly recognizing the enthusiasm shown by all members for the prosperity of the Society, and exhorting them to be indefatigable in promoting the progress of education in Japan. Mr. Tsuji briefly replied to His Imperial Highness on behalf of the members of the Society, and this concluded the programme for the day

INSURANCE COMPANIES

We can not recall a time during the whole *Meiji* era when money was such a drug in the Japanese market as it is at present. All the banks complain that they have large sums lying idle, and we hear of Japanese seeking investments in Hongkong and Shanghai, where better rates of insurance are procurable than in this country. Under the circumstances there is naturally a strong disposition to start new commercial or industrial enterprises, and the attention of capitalists turns especially to insurance companies, since the success of such associations has been very marked. Scarcely a year ago we wrote of insurance as a new business in Japan, and described the operations and history of the three companies then in existence. Since that time the insurance enterprise has received marked development, so that there are now no less than eleven companies in Tokyo alone. Their names are, the Meiji Life Insurance Company (*Meiji Seimei Hoken-Kaisha*), the Imperial Life Insurance Company (*Teikoku Seimei Hoken Kaisha*), the Great Japan Life Insurance Company (*Dai Nippon Seimei Hoken Kaisha*), the Japan Life Insurance Company (*Nippon Seimei Hoken Kaisha*), the Japan Labour Insurance Company (*Nippon Rodo Hoken Kaisha*), the Artizans Insurance Company (*Shokko Hoken Kaisha*), the Sickness Insurance Company (*Byosai Hoken Kaisha*), the Oriental Insurance Company (*Toyo Hoken Kaisha*), the Meiji Fire Insurance Company (*Meiji Kasai Hoken-Kaisha*), the Tokyo Fire Insurance Company (*Tokyo Kasai Hoken-Kaisha*), the Goods and Chattels Fire Insurance Company (*Kasai Buppin Hoken-Kaisha*), and the Tokyo Marine Insurance Company (*Tokyo Kaigo Hoken-Kaisha*). It is to be sincerely trusted that none of these institutions may owe a precarious and unsound existence to the exceptional circumstances of the time.

EDUCATIONAL CHANGES.

We read in the *Hochi Shimbun* that, in connection with the contemplated programme of Administrative reform, the Tokyo School of Music will cease to be an independent institution from the 11th of September, and will be amalgamated with the Upper Normal School. The reason assigned for this change is that, to carry out the full purpose of the Music School, namely, to make it a place for the improvement of Japanese music by collation with foreign music, would involve an expenditure greatly in excess of the funds now available for the purpose. It is therefore considered advisable to reduce the programme of the School to a smaller scale, and to amalgamate it, for economical reasons, with the Upper Normal School. It is much to be regretted, we think, that financial considerations dictate such a step.

* * *

Another change reported by the same journal is the abolition of the Accountants' School, at present attached to the Upper Industrial and Commercial School. It is not easy to comprehend the reasons assigned for this step, but we gather that whereas the curriculum of the Industrial and Commercial School is considered too high for the practical needs of the time, the curriculum of the Accountants' School is too narrow. At all events, the latter is to be abolished, and the former placed on a reduced footing.

THE NATIONAL UNIONISTS.

The National Unionists celebrated on the 1st instant the first anniversary of the birth of their Party. The ceremony took place in the second story of the office of the Party in Uchisaiwaicho. It was attended by about 200 persons, some of whom had come from the provinces specially for the purpose. Mr. Sato Shozo, a member of the Lower House, opened the programme with a short address. Viscount Shinagawa, the leader of the Party, then rose to address the meeting. He congratulated his followers upon the success their efforts had thus far met with, and upon the influence which the Party had been able to obtain in so short a period of time. He commended his followers for their enthusiasm and patriotism. On the present occasion he would refrain from touching upon political topics. But he could not help alluding to the attention now paid to the Eastern Question by all classes of the nation "from Ministers of State down to *jinrikisha* coolies." Why was so much noise made about that matter? It behoved every member of the Party to consider the point seriously. There would have been no necessity to talk about it at all, had Japan been provided with sufficient war-vessels to make a bridge of them from her shores to Korea. "You must provide yourself with a rope if you wish to bind a thief." The most urgent question for Japan to solve was how to provide herself with a strong Army and Navy. He then went on to impress upon his followers the importance of making themselves independent in their pecuniary circumstances, so that they might be able to devote their times and energy to the benefit of their country and to the discharge of their loyal duties towards their Sovereign. The next speaker was Mr. Ooka Ikuzo, M.P., editor of the *Chu-o Shimbun*. He congratulated the Party on the victory which the nationalistic principles advocated by it has finally obtained in the field of practical politics. He was followed by Messrs. Kazuki Jokei, Sakai Saijiro, Arai Go, Motoda Hajime, and Wada Hikojiro. On the conclusion of the last speech, Mr. Imai Isoichiro, M.P., proposed three cheers for the Emperor, which were enthusiastically given. A cheer was also given for Viscount Shinagawa. The Party then sat down to a repast, in the course of which several speeches were made.

THE STRAITS INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

The following is the Ninth Annual Report for presentation to the shareholders at the sixteenth ordinary general meeting, to be held in the Company's offices Singapore, on Thursday, the 6th day of July, 1893 at noon:—Your Directors beg to place before you the annexed balance sheet for the year ended 31st December, 1892. The accounts are stated in the form commonly used by British Marine Insurance Offices, and have been adjusted at the exchange of 2/10 per dollar. 1892.—The net premiums for the year 1892 amount to $766,084.89 (£108,528 13*s.* 10*d.*) on which claims have been settled up to 31st December last, amounting to $249,867 62 (£35,397 18*s.* 3*d.*) equal to 33 per cent. Commissions and expenses amount to $101,213 70 (£14,338 12*s.* 2*d.*). The balance of $415,003 57 (£58,792 3*s.* 5*d.*) is carried forward. Since 31st December losses have been paid amounting to $171,200 (£24,253 6*s.* 8*d.*) and losses reported, and not yet adjusted, are estimated at $49,411.76 (£7,000). 1891.—The settlements on account of 1891 and previous years amount to $296,913 81 (£42,062 15*s.* 9*d.*) Of the balance remaining after closing the account $17,597.06 (£2,492 18*s.* 4*d.*) has been transferred to 1892 account to meet petty claims unadjusted. The interest on investments amounts to $49 646.31 (£7,033 4*s.* 6*d.*). After deducting 5 per cent. dividend ($30,000) paid in July, 1892, and $10,000 credited to exchange and investment fluctuation reserve, there remained a balance at credit of profit and loss account of $70.987.16 (£10,056 10*s.* 3*d.*) from which the following appropriations have been made:—To reserve fund $25,000.00; to exchange and investment fluctuation reserve $5,000.00; donation to employés superannuation fund $1,500.00; leaving a balance of $39,487.16. The Board now recommend that there be declared a dividend at the rate of 5% per annum for the year 1892, absorbing $30,000, and that $9,487.16 (£1,344 0*s.* 4*d.*) be carried forward to new profit and loss account. Mr. J. Heim and Mr. G. Pertile having left the Colony since the date of last general meeting, Mr. A. H. Raeburn and Mr. A. N. van Gilse van der Pals were appointed to fill the vacant seats of the Board. In accordance with the provisions of clause 105 of the company's articles of association, Mr. Sohst and Mr. Thomson retire from the Board, but offer themselves for re-election. In accordance with clause 146 of the company's articles of association, Mr. J. Lyall and Mr. R. Dunman retire but offer themselves for re-election.

AFFRAY

A singular affair is reported to have occurred in Uyeno on Saturday afternoon. At about 3 p.m. a policeman on duty in Sakuragi-cho observed a man stagger past, his garments covered with blood. Inquiry elicited the response that the man's name was Kumano Takeo, that he lodged with one Yoshida of Kitajimbo-cho in Kanda, and that he had been attacked and wounded by some unknown person in Uyeno Park. The policeman, finding that the man had four cuts on his throat and stomach, was proceeding to support him *en route* for the Shitaya station, when Kumano suddenly seized the constable's sword, and striking its owner over the head with the blade, ran away at full speed. The policeman despite his wound, gave chase, and in the meanwhile another constable coming up, attempted to disarm the fugitive, but received a cut over the eye. There was no recourse, therefore, but to attack Kumano vigorously.

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After a brief combat, the second policeman gave him a cut on the leg and brought him to ground He was taken to hospital and there examined, when he confessed that he had not been assaulted in Uyeno Park, as previously stated, but that he had gone there for the purpose of committing suicide. The weapon with which he was armed, however, proving insufficient, he had conceived the idea of stealing a policeman's sword and finishing the job, but his scheme had ended in an unanticipated fight with a constable. The man's wounds are so severe that he is not expected to recover.

THE ILL-FATED "VITIAZ."

THE *Nagasaki Express* has gleaned the following details regarding the final abandonment of the Russian cruiser *Vitias* :—Commencing from the moment the unforeseen accident occurred, Capt. Zarine and his officers put forth every exertion and tried every possible means of saving their ship. The guns and everything of a movable nature were landed with all despatch ; assistance from the other ships of the fleet was asked and granted ; engineers, workmen, and divers, with pumps and all necessary gear, were despatched promptly from the Mitsu Bishi Co.'s works ; pontoons of an enormous size and floating power were obtained from Wladivostock ; in fact, everything was done, and every available source taken advantage of throughout In this manner things proceeded as favourably as could reasonably be expected until the evening of the 11th inst., by which time, with the aid of the powerful pumps on board the gunvessel *Silatch*, the after part of the *Vitias* had been pumped out, and every arrangement made to lift her on the 12th. Fate, however, was against her, as on that day a severe easterly gale and heavy swell were experienced, which completely smashed in her bow, and otherwise rendered her a hopeless wreck. There was then no alternative but to abandon her, and beyond diving to recover the Mitsu Bishi Co.'s gear, all work upon her has been stopped, pending the decision of the Russian naval authorities. The captain, officers, and crew are still living in tents on the beach in the vicinity of the wreck. The confident opinion of those capable of judging was, that had the pontoons arrived a few days earlier, or the fine weather continued a little longer, the *Vitias* would now have been safe from further harm in Port Lazareff harbour. During the whole of the present cruise the *Vitias* has been a most unfortunate vessel, having, amongst other casualties, experienced three typhoons on the voyage out, in one of which she was dismasted.

THE CHINA TEA TRADE.

THE *North China Daily News* has the following with reference to the Tea Trade :—

Briefly stated the yield of first crop tea is about 25,000 ½-chests larger than last season, the quality on the whole being somewhat inferior There was a certain proportion of really superior fine quality teas, but as these are always taken for the Russian market we need not discuss them The position of the London market is as we stated in our editorial of 10th May that a strong demand existed for low-priced tea and almost anything was readily saleable at 6½d., while there was no demand for anything over 7d. Recent telegraphic advices tend to show that this position has become if possible more pronounced, some terribly bad sales of fine tea having been advised

Under these circumstances it would be only natural to suppose that little but low-price teas would have been shipped to London, but the exact contrary is the case. A strong demand from Russian buyers has driven the price of common tea to a point which London buyers cannot afford to touch, and they consequently have been compelled to confine their attention to those districts which are not usually favoured by the Russians, *viz.*, Hoihows and Keemuns. Of the first the supply was unusually small and the quality distinctly inferior. They were taken at about Tls. 12 for the better kinds and Tls 10½ for the inferior In the absence of any good common kind from other districts they will help to fill a gap and should result favourably as they can be sold without loss under 7d Respecting the outturn of the second district it is extremely difficult to form an opinion. The bulk of the purchases were made at prices which would show some profit if sold on the same basis as the early arrivals of last season, but importers are entirely in the hands of the dealer ; if he elects to pay 7d. for what last season he was willing to buy at 14d., the former must submit with the best grace possible under the circumstances. There is an utter absence of competition, and the importer by dearly bought experience has found that the first offer he gets is generally the best, and although it may be many pence below the cost of the tea and much below what he thinks is the fair value, the probability is that should he refuse the offer it will never be repeated.

Such is the pitiable state to which this once great trade is reduced. Unless Sir Robert Hart comes to the rescue and by the abolition of the duty permits the merchant to compete on something like even terms with the exporter from Ceylon and Calcutta all hope for continuing this business is entirely gone Five years back a large fleet of steamers could rely upon getting a fairly remunerative freight from Hankow. What has been the case this season? Five steamers were placed on the berth for London. The *Moyune* and the *Priam* have left full. The *Flintshire*, the *Glengarry*, and the *Benledi* will have to fill elsewhere. The export to London is to-day nearly 6,000,000 lbs. less than at the corresponding date last season, and by the end of the month the deficiency will probably be nearly 8,000,000 lbs. This is a great factor and may produce a better feeling on the London market and give those shippers a chance who have had the pluck to take their chance. But with enormous supplies pouring into London from Ceylon and India, and fairly large shipments from Foochow, the risk is enormous Teamen have been very heavy dosers and it remains to be seen whether the season's supply can be reduced to something like London requirements, which we estimate at about 17,000,000 lbs., a reduction on last season of close on 7,000,000 lbs At this rate it is easy to calculate how soon the China tea trade with London will be a thing of the past.

We may add that Russian buyers will probably take nearly 100,000 half-chests of first crop tea more than last season, thus leaving a deficiency for London of say 70,000 half-chests or nearly 4,500,000 lbs. Should the second and third crop be very much reduced, as seems possible, the total quantity available for London may be brought down to manageable proportions ; but with the present high range of value now ruling for common teas (which must be highly remunerative to the teamen), the danger is that very large supplies may be forthcoming in the near future, in which case the outlook will be far from re-assuring.

THE SUICIDE OF A SHANGHAI ENGINEER.

SAYS our Nagasaki contemporary :—Thomas McBain, a marine engineer, up till recently, we believe, in the employ of Messrs. Butterfield and Swire, on the China coast, committed suicide in a most determined manner, by cutting his throat with a razor, on board the N. Y. K. steamer *Kobe Maru*, shortly before arriving at this port on Saturday night last. Deceased—who is reported to have admitted drinking very heavily during the last few days of his stay in Shanghai -acted so strangely after boarding the *Kobe Maru* that it was deemed advisable to put a watch over him. When within a few miles of this port, under pretense of dressing to go ashore as soon as the steamer arrived at her anchorage, he went to his cabin. Shortly afterwards one of the ship's engineers went to call him, for the purpose of escorting him ashore, but to his horror, found him lying dead in his cabin, with his throat cut from ear to ear. Being a British subject, H. M.'s Consul was notified of the fact, and a coroner's inquest held the following a.m., resulting in a verdict of suicide whilst temporarily in an unsound state of mind.

HAKODATE CARGO ON FIRE.

THE British ship *Elmbank*, whilst discharging sulphur at Union-street wharf, San Francisco, caught fire at noon, on June 10th, and before the flames could be subdued the vessel was pumped nearly full of water. Quantities of chemicals were also used to stop the fire. The cargo consisted of coal and sulphur ; the former had been discharged and about 500 tons of the latter. The balance, nearly 2,000 tons, is a total loss. It was insured in the Fireman's Fund for $40,000. Damage to the vessel will probably be considerable. The *Elmbank*, Captain Greig, is an iron vessel of 2,180 tons, and arrived at San Francisco from Hakodate on May 27th, after a passage of 32 days.

THE PRESS AND THE LAW.

THE extraordinary licence enjoyed by the press in the United States finds a striking illustration in connection with the Lizzie Borden trial. Lizzie Borden is a girl of Massachusetts charged with the murder of her father and stepmother under circumstances of great ferocity ; circumstances scarcely compatible with any theory of feminine agency. The case for the posecution had been almost concluded and that for the defence was about to commence when the New York *Herald* issued to its correspondents in many of the large cities of the States telegraphic instructions to interview the leading criminal lawyers and ascertain their opinions on the evidence presented for the prosecution. These instructions were explicitly obeyed, and replies quickly reached the paper "from all sections of country, north, east, south and west." The barristers, with almost complete unanimity, expressed their opinion that the case against the girl was very weak ; that there was not enough evidence to warrant a verdict of guilty, and that no motive had been proved. These views were published in full, and thus, while the trial was actually in progress, the strongest form of public opinion was openly brought to bear by the press upon the Court and the jury. It is a curious episode. The barristers, of course, regarded the affair as a fine opportunity to advertise themselves. Besides, it is not their business to control the press. But what is to be said of the latter's action ?

* * *

With reference to this Borden trial, one incident deserves notice on account of its vicarious interest :—"A curious feature of the case," we read, "made public by the testimony of the defence is that Miss Borden taught a Chinese Sunday-school. This point, like many others, seems to have escaped the attention of the prosecution, yet in view of the remark made at the time by a skilled detective that the savage, and entirely unnecessary, ferocity indicated by the countless wounds inflicted, suggested that the crime was the work either of a maniac or a Chinese, it offers a wide field for speculation." That is indeed suggestive. Ferocity so savage and unnecessary that only a maniac or a Chinese could have been guilty of it—is that really the opinion entertained by the people of the United States as to the character of the Chinese ?

THE YOKOHAMA GUILD OF TRADERS.

THE negotiations between Mr. Kawata, Superintendent of the Bank of Japan and other influential merchants of Yokohama, who offered to arbitrate on the disputes existing among the members of the Yokohama Traders' Guild, seem to have concluded with satisfactory results. Mr. Kawata, as well as fifty traders of the two wings of the Guild, met at the offices of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha on the 7th inst., and agreed to entrust to the arbitrators everything connected with the dispute.

THE DROWNED OFFICERS OF H.M.S. "VICTORIA."

FROM private telegrams which have reached Yokohama, we learn that the wreck of H M.S. *Victoria* involved the drowning of 22 officers and 336 men of her full complement. When the news first arrived we said that the crew were all picked men and we published the public record of the Admiral, Sir George Tryon, K.C.B., who, true to the best traditions of the British Navy, went down with his mighty ship-of-war after giving the order *sauve qui peut* to his men. The following brief particulars of some of the other drowned officers will no doubt be interesting. Lieut. Philip H. Munro when midshipman on the *Forward*, in the West Indies, once dived to free the screw from ropes that had become entangled in it, when the regular divers would not go down for fear of the sharks, of which there were a large number. He was accompanied by Sub-Lieut. A. B. Purvis, and a leading stoker. In April 1890, when a Lieutenant of the same ship, he jumped overboard from a steam launch to save the life of a man who had fallen overboard ; the swim was long and difficult, owing to the high wind, sea, and current, and the act most gallant. He received the Royal Humane Society's Bronze medal. The scene of this exploit was between Hamilton and Boaz Island, near Bermuda. The Rev. S. S. Morris M.A., was the author of "A short Course of Elementary Navigation, for the use of British Seamen," 1891 ; he was a F.C.S., I. Fleet Paymaster Rickord served as Clerk's Assistant in the *Terrible*, in the Black Sea, throughout the whole of the Russian war, 1854-1855. He was present at the bombardment and destruction of the forts and batteries of Odessa, 22nd April, 1854 ; and also in the engagement of the paddle frigates *Furious*, *Terrible*, and *Descartes* (French), with the Russian paddle frigate *Vladimir*, and five other steamers, which were encountered near Sebastopol and chased until they reached close to their line of battle-ships (six in number), off the harbour,—June 15th, 1854. He was on the *Terrible* when she destroy-

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ed the wreck of H.M.S. *Tiger* near Odessa and became engaged with the Russian field batteries on the cliffs above the wreck. These were put to flight. He was present at the disembarkation of the Allied Armies at the Old Fort, Kalamita Bay, Crimea, between the 14th and 18th September, 1854; also at the shelling of the Russia Left Flank during the battle of the Alma. He was also engaged in the night attack upon Sebastopol on the first of October, 1854, (under heavy fire); the bombardment of Sebastopol, 17th October, 1854; at the capture of Kertch and Yenikalé, 23rd May, 1855; at the fall and capture of the south side of Sebastopol, 9th September, 1855, and the bombardment and surrender of the forts of Kinburn, 17th October, 1855. He was present on eight different occasions during the war at the reconnoitring of Sebastopol, under fire of the forts, and was generally employed as interpreter on occasions of the transport of French and Turkish troops, &c. (Crimean and Turkish Medals, Sebastopol Clasp.) He served in H.M.S. *Forte*, flagship of Rear-Admiral R. L. Warren, on the south-east coast of America, during the reprisals with Brazil in 1862; served in the *Argus*, on the west coast of Africa, throughout the Ashantee war, 1873-4; was present at the destruction of the hostile portion of Elmina, and at other operations on the Gold Coast; was for a time in charge of the Naval Victualling Stores in the fort at Elmina, and was also on one occasion landed at different parts of the adjacent coast to collect cattle and fresh provisions for the troops on shore at Cape Coast Castle (Ashantee Medal.) He served in H.M.S. *Sultan*, with the International Fleet of 1886, under the command of Admiral H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh, which ship was employed in the blockade of the Piræus, Athens. Fleet Engineer Foreman was engineer on the *Bittern* at the bombardment of Alexandria 11th July, 1882. He was promoted during the Egyptian war. His medals included the Egyptian Medal, Alexandria clasp, and Kedive's Bronze Star. Engineer Harding came of an old naval family, and has brothers in the Service now, who have all been under fire. Engineers Deadman, Hatherly, Seaton, and Gunner Howell are also well known in Naval circles for their thorough good qualities. Boatswain Barnard was promoted February 6th, 1892, and Carpenter Beall on 31s. July, 1878. Messrs. Inglis, Grieve, Fawkes, Lanyon, Henley, Allen, Stooks Scalett and Savage were all cut off before Fate had allowed them a chance to write their names on the Scroll of Meritorious Deeds.

TONNAGE DUES IN SHANGHAI.

"The step which the Foreign Customs have announced their intention to take" says the *North China Daily News*, "the making the mail companies pay full tonnage dues after this month on all their steamers coming to Shanghai, may have inconvenient consequences for the community. For more than twenty years the English, and subsequently the French and German mail companies, have been allowed to pay once in four months alone, the sum being calculated on the tonnage of the steamer that happened to come first into port after the four-monthly period expired. In 1883, when this concession expired, the P. & O. Company had a long fight over it with the Customs and it was eventually renewed for five years. In 1888 there was another struggle, but the concession was again renewed for five years, with the reiterated warning that it would not be renewed again in 1893. It is obvious that if this concession is withdrawn, it will make a very great difference to the English and French companies, as, instead of paying on five steamers a year, as they now do, they will have to pay on 26 steamers, a very heavy exaction, considering the size the steamers have now attained. It is obviously unequal to make a steamer that only visits the port once in four months pay as much per ton as a coasting steamer that calls in three or four times or more a month. The inconvenience to the community lies in this, that it may pay the mail companies better not to bring their large steamers to Shanghai at all, but to evade the proposed exaction by running a branch line of small steamers between Shanghai and Hongkong, as was done in the old days, the big mail steamers remaining at Hongkong. We believe that the Customs are partly actuated in their new determination by the recent introduction of a line or lines of so-called mail steamers which do not carry any mails at all, but which claim the privileges accorded to the regular mail services.

MEISSONIER'S STUDIES.

The old maxim that success cannot be achieved without honest labour, finds a fresh illustration in the story of Meissonier's methods as now revealed to the public. While the great French painter lived he seems to have kept his studies out of sight. Perhaps he thought that if the public knew how cautiously, how patiently he worked, how numerous his studies were, how he toiled to master all the details of his art, and what a painstaking student he was all the while that his pictures astonished the world—perhaps he thought that were all these things known, the effect of his paintings might be somewhat marred for the masses. Perhaps he did not analyse the contingency so closely, but was merely swayed by a feeling common to all distinguished students, a reluctance to lay bare the tentative processes of their minds to public gaze. At any rate, he kept his studies from all who were not particularly intimate with him, and it is only now, when, after his death, an exhibition has been held of the things left in his studio, that the world perceives how inveterately the man toiled as a craftsman, to the very end sparing no pain to maintain and increase his technical skill by rigid discipline of eye and hand. Philip Gilbert Hamilton, writing of him in the *Portfolio*, says:—"As an observer of nature no artist could be more consistent in his singleness of purpose. Meissonier simply wanted to see and learn the truth, and he never, even to his latest day, substituted himself for nature, as artists do when they have acquired a mannerism or as men of very great imaginative genius are apt to do, merely because their own idiosyncrasy alters everything. Nothing can exceed the closeness with which Meissonier scrutinized the object before him."

THE LATE LIEUT. MARTIN.

One of the melancholy features of the accident that resulted in poor Lieut. Martin's death at Taiping, says the *Singapore Free Press*, was that Mrs. Martin was herself an eye-witness of her husband's fall, she also being mounted on horseback. It is also said that on Lieut. Martin proposing to put his horse, a poor fencer, for one more time at the hurdle, his wife tried to dissuade him, saying that he had done enough for that evening. "Just the last time," he said, putting his horse again at the jump. The animal bungled at the hurdle, striking his feet and rolling over on his rider. Lieut. Martin was using a heavy military saddle, with wooden pommels, and it is supposed that as the horse rolled upon him, one of these was driven into the side of his head, which was partly crushed in. He might, perhaps, have escaped with his life had an ordinary riding saddle been used. If anything can intensify the sympathy felt for Mrs Martin it must be the fact that she was the witness of the tragic occurrence that deprived her of her husband, and Perak of one who was universally beloved.

A CALIFORNIA WINTER FAIR

The people of San Francisco have conceived the idea of organizing a Winter Fair to be furnished with exhibits from the Chicago Columbian Exhibition—a kind of side show, in short. They appear to be very resolute about it, and the newspapers are naturally doing everything in their power to boom the project. There is more underlying the scheme than the mere holding of a short-lived fair: there is the prospect of establishing in San Francisco a couple of handsome permanent structures which shall serve the city much as the South Kensington Museum serves London. The South Kensington Museum grew out of the first international exhibition in London, and the enterprising folks of San Francisco regard that precedent with confidence. Their present plan is to spend about six hundred thousand dollars on the erection of two handsome structures in Golden Gate Park, and having displayed there, during the winter, whatever portion of the Chicago exhibits can be obtained for the purpose, to devote the buildings ultimately to permanent public purposes. As a side show the affair does not look very promising. The Californians may count on obtaining pretty nearly all the unsold Oriental exhibits, since these will find their way home *vid* San Francisco under any circumstances. But that San Francisco will attract foreigners where Chicago has failed, can not be counted probable. It may be, however, that the comparatively small outlay contemplated on account of the venture will be amply recouped by domestic patronage alone. At all events, the San Franciscans are in earnest, and their State Board of Trade has passed the following resolutions:—

Resolved,—That in the sense of this board the proposition to hold a supplemental exhibition to the great World's Fair at Chicago in the city of San Francisco during the winter of 1893-94 should be entertained as feasible and practicable, provided that sufficiently valuable exhibits, including the exhibit of the United States at the World's Columbian Exposition, can be so pledged as to afford a reasonable guarantee of their exhibition in this city.

Resolved,—That in the opinion of this board the leadership of this undertaking resides primarily with the city of San Francisco, but believing that the successful conduct of the enterprise has an important bearing upon the growth, the welfare, and the prosperity of the entire coast, we pledge the communities, the boards of trade and improvement associations represented by us to a hearty co-operation in any movement inaugurated and led by the city of San Francisco.

Resolved,—That a committee of the board be appointed to visit the Mayor and Supervisors to present the views and considerations which have led to the conclusions formulated in these resolutions.

THE SURUGADAI CATHEDRAL AND SOSHI.

The temper of the Tokyo roughs has been exhibited in a most unsightly manner during the past twelve months. They have devoted themselves to smashing the windows of the Cathedral of the Greek Church at Surugadai. The outrage is committed generally in the dead of night, and the determination of the roughs is evinced by the fact that the windows against which their attack is directed being of very thick plate glass, missiles of considerable size, hurled with no mean force, are needed to effect the work of destruction. This spirit of violence culminated during the night of the day when Lieut.-Colonel Fukushima returned to Tokyo; a veritable fusillade of stones and brickbats was directed against the building that night. It would have been difficult to choose a less suitable occasion for a demonstration against the Russian church than the moment of the return of a Japanese officer who had been travelling nearly twelve months in Russian territority, receiving all the while assistance and protection from Russian officials. The *Soshi* who perpetrate these outrages do not reason, however. They simply adopt any available means, no matter what, of exhibiting their resentment. It is a most curious form of patriotism, calculated simply to bring disgrace on the country and to destroy the reputation that the Japanese nation has earned for quiet law-abiding habits. We can not understand how the Tokyo police allow such outrages to be repeated. The fact does not say much for the efficiency of the force.

THE LONDON LYRIC COMPANY.

The London Lyric Company concluded a rather unsuccessful season in Hongkong on June 21st. The next morning, Mr. J. Saville Smith, joint manager and proprietor of the Company, was arrested by a bailiff of the Supreme Court on board the mail steamer *Rohilla*, on account of a claim made by one of the Company, Mr. Graham Stewart. Mr. Stewart absented himself from the previous night's performance of *Our Boys*, and was thereupon dismissed by Mr. Smith. Mr. H. J. Holmes, acting on behalf of Mr. Stewart, raised an action in the Supreme Court for $250, the cost of a second class passage by P. and O. steamer from

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Hongkong to London, and $36 for services rendered. Mr. H. L. Dennys appeared on behalf of Mr. Smith, and stated that Mr. Stewart by refusing to go upon the stage had broken his agreement made on August 22, 1892, and if Mr. Smith was called upon to find security for the $250 he would call upon Mr. Stewart to find security for $1,000. The case was heard in Chambers by His Honour Mr. E. J. Ackroyd, Acting Chief Justice, who said it was not a case for securities. They could fight out the case in Singapore for which port the Company was bound. Mr Smith, owing to the detention of the steamer from other causes, was able to get away with his Company.

THE AUSTRIAN LLOYDS.

THE *Singapore Free Press* says:—The directors of the Austrian Lloyd's Steam Navigation Company at Trieste, having come to the decision that, owing to the suppression of the branch service between Singapore and Java, it would be more economical that their agency at Singapore should be represented by a mercantile firm, have determined to close their local office at the end of this month, and to transfer the agency from Mr. Charles Zanella to Messrs. Rautenberg, Schmidt & Co., who have been advised by telegram of the change. Mr. Zanella will proceed to Hongkong, where he will represent the Company as the principal agent in the Far East, taking the agency from Messrs. David Sassoon & Sons, and Mr Bachrach, at present chief assistant in Singapore, will return to the branch office at Colombo. Hongkong will be probably made head-quarters on this line, as well as the terminal port on the outward and the starting point on the homeward run of the mail steamers of the Company. On account of this change it is proposed to run a branch steamer between Hongkong, Shanghai, and Yokohama to act as a feeder to the larger steamers on the Trieste-Hongkong and Hongkong-Trieste line. It will be seen that the Austrian Lloyd's Steam Navigation Company are reverting to their former policy of having a mercantile firm to represent their Singapore agency, which from its initiation was in the hands of Messrs. D. Brandt & Co., until the arrival of Mr. Zanella and the establishment of a paid agency. Mr. Zanella expects to leave for Hongkong by the *Gisela* on the 7th July.

TERRIFIC EXPLOSION AT CANTON.

INFORMATION has been received of the occurrence of a terrific explosion at the Government gunpowder magazine at Canton on the afternoon of the 24th ult. The *Chung Ngoi San Po* says that about five o'clock the inhabitants of the Sam Un Li district, in which the magazine stands, were startled by a tremendous report which was heard over a large area and followed by enormous volumes of smoke quite darkening the sky in the immediate neighbourhood. Very quickly it was known far and wide that a terrific calamity had occurred, and although the full extent has not yet been ascertained it is feared that the loss is very serious. Every building in the vicinity was completely wrecked, and in a village on the opposite side of the stream which divided it from the factory, several hundred houses were shattered. The total number of houses destroyed is approximated at 400, and although no idea has been formed of the loss of life this must be considerable, while it is estimated that 300 persons were more or less injured. The catastrophe originated, it appears, from a cook house near the magazine which caught fire and rapidly spread to the dangerous material stored close by. On hearing the explosion the inhabitants of the villages rushed out in great alarm and proclaimed the disaster by the beating of gongs and drums, urging the villagers to run into fields for their lives. The mandarins were quickly informed and troops were sent for. A number of Chinese doctors and one European were speedily on the scene of the explosion rendering assistance to the wounded.

SHANGHAI.

SHANGHAI, its business horizon nearly obliterated by the silver cloud, and its thermometer at 101.2 in the shade, has been amusing itself vigorously. The Grand Stand has been converted into a Club House for the members of the Shanghai Race Club, and the change was inaugurated with a smoking concert and equestrian entertainment on the 28th of June. Concerning the equestrian affair, we find this in the *North China Daily News*:—

The last part of the programme was a really admirable burlesque on "Hanneston's Royal Jubilee Circus and Hippodrome." For this a sufficient section of the Town Band had been engaged, to play the well known tunes that bring the scent of the sawdust over the ring wherever we may hear them. The manager was a marvellous reproduction of the popular Colonel Hicks, so exactly his *doppelganger* that were we esoteric Buddhists we should believe that the courteous Colonel had been actually waited to the Grand Stand "for this night only." The opening act was a Polonaise by six gentlemen on hobby-horse back in Louis Quinze costumes, and their evolutions and final exit were received with roars of laughter. Fraülein Carlotta, a most attractive *brunette* in the shortest of pink silk skirts, did a most exciting act on a white wooden horse on wheels, jumping over harness and through a hoop with the most finished grace and the most seductive smiles. The celebrated bay stallion *Isinglass* turned out to be our old friend the Blondin donkey, and how he survived a long performance in the more than tropical heat is still a wonder. Signor Ricardo, on a large bay wooden horse, did the sailor act, with the changes into the Irishman and the Scotchman. It was called in the programme "The Unity of the Empire (made in Germany)." Signor Ricardo's coolness on the back of the fiery revolving steed was prodigious, and roars of laughter accompanied him throughout, as they did all the other performers. The most finished act from a purely artistic point of view was the weight lifting by Signor Stokmi. There is nothing novel in the act itself, but it was done with a perfection of finish that was unsurpassable. Two clowns, Frankini and Adolph, filled up the intervals and lightened the more serious performances with their refined folly; and the whole was ended by a steeplechase in the ring by six gentleman riders in colours on hobby horses for a 250-tael cup. Nothing had been omitted that could make the illusion perfect. There was the groom with his rake, the attendants in livery, one of them a well-known German comedian to look at whom produced a fit of laughter, and the Manila-men with the inevitable piece of carpet. In fact, an amount of thought and care had been lavished on the burlesque that made success a certainty.

NIKKO TRAINS.

THE *Mainichi Shimbun* announces that the Japanese Railway Company intend to run excursion trains to Nikko, as was done last year, on the 9th, 16th and 17th instant. The return fare for an adult will be 1.20 *yen*, and for a child under twelve, 60 *sen*. The trains from Tokyo will leave Uyeno at 5 a.m. and will reach Nikko at 9.30 a.m.; the return trains setting out from Nikko at 5 p.m. and reaching Tokyo at 10 p.m. The excursion tickets will be available for four days, from which it may be inferred that they will enable their holders to return to Tokyo by any train during that interval. By way of additional attraction it is added that a beautiful public garden has been laid out in the vicinity of the Futa-ara Shrine, and that tourists will find in it much to delight the eye.

A HUNGRY SNAKE.

ARE there, we wonder, great snakes in Japan; snakes big enough to devour children. Stories of such reptiles abound, but we have never met any responsible person who has seen one. Officialdom believes in their existence, for there is on record an account of a party of scientists despatched, within the past twenty years, by the Educational Department, to investigate and report upon a monster snake said to be misbehaving himself somewhere in the central provinces. The expedition started with an ample provision of alcohol to preserve the reptile, but such inclement weather was encountered that the search for the snake had to be abandoned and the party had to consume the alcohol by way of support against disappointment. Perhaps snakes were seen after all. But that is another story. The point is that the *Hochi Shimbun* now publishes an account of a snake in Nagasaki which thought itself competent to swallow a child four years of age. The mother, who was digging a field, left her little one alone for a few minutes while she herself went to drink from a river at some distance. On her return she found that a snake, over six feet in length, had enveloped the child in its coils and was about to swallow it. The woman becoming frantic, seized the child and dragged it from the reptile's coils, striking the snake violently three or four times. It was with difficulty that the snake could be driven away. The child had lost consciousness, but was ultimately restored.

THE RAILWAY COUNCIL.

THE Railway Council was convened on Saturday the 1st instant, the meeting taking place within the premises of the Railway Department. We gather from vernacular sources that beyond the election of General Kodama Gentaro, the Vice-Minister of War, to the temporary Presidency of the body during the absence of General Kawakami Soroku, who is now in China, nothing of importance came under discussion. The members in the evening held a social gathering at the Koyo-kan, Shiba.

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The only change in the *personnel* of the body which has taken place since the publication of the list of the members in a recent issue, is that of Captain Tsunoda Hidemate, I.J.N., late of the Naval Port of Saseho, taking the place of Captain Arima Shinichi, I.J.N., recently transferred to active service.

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The second meeting of the Council took place on Monday afternoon, and we gather that it was decided to grant a charter to the Naniwa Railway Company for the construction of its line from Takata on the Osaka Railway to the town of Gojo via Goshomachi in Yamato, and that approval was given to the proposed changes on the projected route of the Government line from Aomori to Hirosaki. The question then arose as to the desirability of the establishment of a certain limit within which alterations in the proposed Government lines may be left to the discretion of the Railway Authorities, for if all changes however insignificant have to receive the sanction of the body no inconsiderable inconvenience and delay will be experienced in the progress of the works. The subject was placed in the hands of a Special Committee of five consisting of Mr Sengaku, *Hakase*, Mr. Ishiguro *Hakase*, Lieut.-Colonel Yamaguchi, Mr Ito Dashachi, and Mr. Murano Sanjin, who were requested to report on the question at the third meeting which is to be held this afternoon. Besides this some of the numerous railways for which charters are under application are likely to be considered to-day.

PARLIAMENTARY ELECTION IN KAGOSHIMA.

THE *Jiji Shimpo* prints a telegram from Kagoshima reporting the result of the elect on in the Sixth District of that Prefecture. Mr. Gamo Sen, the Radical candidate, has been returned. He obtained 517 votes against Mr. Sato Tsutai's, 467. Another message from the Governor of Kagoshima to the Government, and published in the same paper, states that on the 27th ult., during the election, a violent fight occurred at Taneyoshi-mura. Three *Min-to* partisans and seven *Ri-to* supporters were more or less seriously injured. Disturbances of less violence broke out at Iwakawa-mura and Onejime-mura.

THE NATIONAL BANKS AND THE COMMERCIAL CODE.

THE representatives of the National Banks of Tokyo and Yokohama held a meeting on the 3rd instant at the Bankers' Association, Sakamoto-cho, Nihonbashi-ku, Tokyo. Mr. Okamura Teruhiko of the Tokyo Bar attended as legal adviser. The subject of discussion was the circular recently issued by the Department of Finance, informing the National Banks that, under the Commercial Code which came into operation from the first of the present month, they would have to add to their business designation's four characters *Kabu-shiki Kwaisha* (joint stock company), and to register like or-

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dinary companies. The representatives of the National Banks were unanimously of opinion that their banks, being governed by an independent law, namely, the National Bank Regulations, could not be compelled under the Commercial Code either to add to their appellations the above mentioned qualifying words or to have themselves registered. It is said that the National Banks in Osaka have telegraphed to their *confrères* in Tokyo to the effect that they entirely approve the resolutions passed at the meeting of the 3rd inst. Mr Shibusawa, President of the First National Bank, will communicate these resolutions to the Treasury Department, in his capacity of representative of all the National Banks.

SPECIE BANK PROFITS

THE News Agency reports that the profits realized by the Yokohama Specie Bank in connection with the recent fall in silver aggregate a million *yen*. The statement is explained by reference to the amount of specie bills purchased by the Bank shortly before the sudden drop. Seven million *yen* was the total, and as the appreciation of gold within a few days reached twenty per cent., it is easy to see how the Bank came out so well. This great profit coming to supplement a previously successful business, is said to have inspired the officers of the Bank with much delight, as is natural enough. The News Agency adds that what one side gains the other must necessarily lose, and that, if the Specie Bank has made a *coup*, similar institutions in the East have fared so badly that it has been found necessary to curtail banking operations to a serious extent. There can be no doubt about that. When a bank is confronted by the possibility of exchange fluctuations many times greater than any margin of reasonable profit on a transaction, business becomes somewhat difficult.

DEATH BY ELECTRICITY.

A VERY shocking question has been raised. "M. d'Arsonval," says the St. Louis *Chronicle*, "one of the most distinguished scientific men in France, a man with regard to whose honour and consummate ability there is no question, has just asserted that the electric shock of the New York penal laws does not kill. He maintains and insists that the current simply brings about apparent death, and that the person subjected to it may be revived by artificial respiration. In other words, the criminals who have been subjected to death by electricity in New York have not been killed by electricity, but by the knives of the surgeons who made the autopsy upon them. . . . D'Arsonval holds that a person struck by an electric shock should be treated exactly as one drowned, and the formula which he has given to electricians has called back to life a number of men since its publication. He severely stigmatizes the putting of criminals to death by electricity as a complicated, barbarous, and unreliable proceeding, and he dares American doctors to practice artificial respiration upon the criminal after his so-called "death." D'Arsonval maintains that the use of dynamic electricity produces in man a kind of anæsthesia under cover of which he is mangled alive, and must be so in order to become a corpse."

THE ENGINEERING WORKS COUNCIL.

THE recently organized Engineering Works Council (*Doboku-Kai*), held its first meeting on the 4th instant in the Department of Home Affairs, General Viscount Soga, President of the Council, being in the chair. The subject submitted for the opinion of the Council related to the Representation which the House of Representatives voted last session about improvements on the eleven principal rivers in the country. Count Inouye, introducing the matter, addressed the Council for about an hour on the subject of engineering works in general and the improvement of river courses in particular. He dwelt upon the importance of paying serious attention to the question of engineering works. Speaking of riparian improvements, he observed that under the feudal system rivers were in a better condition than at present because the various clans gave the utmost heed to the preservation of forests. Since the Restoration, indiscriminate deforestation had prevailed throughout the country, and damages from inundations had consequently increased vastly. In the matter of roads, also, much remained to be done, and the same was true of ports and harbours. On these subjects Count Inouye told the Council that their opinion would be sought by-and-by. With regard to the matter concerning which they were asked to declare their views in the present session, there was no occasion to give a hasty reply. What the Minister of Home Affairs desired was that they should consider the subject deliberately and seriously. On the conclusion of this speech, lots were drawn to determine the seat to be occupied by each member of the Council and this concluded the proceedings for the day. The Council agreed, however, to meet henceforth every day from 8 a.m. to noon. The subject for discussion at the next meeting was to be the draft rules of debate.

PERSONAL ITEMS.

THE papers report that, whatever may be the ultimate decision of the Cabinet as to the policy to be pursued in Korea, Mr. Oishi is not willing to return to Sōul as Japanese Minister. The Cabinet, on the other hand, is said to be desirous of sending him there once more, in order to secure the payment of the promised indemnity. Under these circumstances, it is believed in certain quarters that, despite his private wishes, Mr. Oishi may find it proper to resume his duties in Sōul

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Mr. Sone, Japanese Minister to France, will leave Tokyo by train on the 28th instant. He is to stay a few days in Kyoto where his aged mother resides, and from thence he will proceed to Kobe to take the mail steamer. On the 2nd instant he was entertained at a farewell dinner by his former comrades of the National Unionist party in the Yaomatsu restaurant, Mukojima.

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The well-known Buddhist Shaku Soyen, High Priest of the Yengaku-ji section of the *Rinzai* sect, will shortly leave for Chicago to attend the International Religious Conference. His temple not being wealthy enough to defray his travelling expenses, a subscription has been opened, the amount thus far realised being, according to report, about 700 *yen*.

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The Hokkaido question is said to be at present engaging the Ministry's serious attention. It is reported that Count Inouye, Minister of State for Home Affairs, will visit the northern island during the summer recess. His departure is looked for about the 20th instant, and rumour says that he will be accompanied by Viscount Tani, Baron Ozawa, and Mr. Murata Tamotsu, all members of the House of Peers.

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H.I.H. Prince Komatsu Yorihito, who was recently ordered to proceed to Europe and America on a tour of inspection, entertained the Princes of the Blood, the Ministers of State, the Foreign Representatives, and the principal officials of the Court, at the Detached Palace, Shiba, on the 3rd instant. His Imperial Highness will leave Tokyo on the 25th or 26th inst., accompanied by Mr. Nagasaki Seigo.

KOREAN AFFAIRS

ACCORDING to the latest Korean correspondence, the *Togaku-to* agitation still seems to cause serious anxiety to the Ministers of the Crown in Sōul. About the middle of last month, it was rumoured in the Korean capital that the *Togaku-to* malcontents in the Chusei-do had secretly sent several assassins of the most dangerous type to assassinate the statesmen in power. Great excitement was produced by this rumour, and guards were sent to all parts of the city to search for the assassins, a few suspicious persons being ultimately arrested. In the course of the trial of these prisoners, it was discovered that they had originally been paper merchants in the disturbed locality, and that they had been hired by the *Togaku-to* for a small sum to go up to the capital and disseminate rumours of intended assassination, the object desired by their employers being to sound the state of public feeling in Sōul, as well as to form an estimate of the Cabinet Ministers' confidence in their own ability to suppress disturbance. The correspondence, from which we quote the above, states that these mercenaries were set free on the 21st of last month, there being nothing in their conduct to incriminate them,—a measure incredibly lenient as compared with Korean methods in general.

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An Shijun, the Chief of the Korean Commission of Coinage, recently sent to Japan on official duty, has been abruptly recalled by his Government. It is stated by the *Hochi Shimbun* that his return must have been ordered by the King through the machination of the statesmen of the Bin family, who are opposed to placing the work of coinage in Japanese hands. The other members of the Commission, Messrs. Omiwa Chobei and Kin Yushoku are still staying in Osaka. It is feared that the result of Mr. An's return to Korea may be fatal to the programme of entrusting the coinage operations to the Japanese mint in Osaka.

CHINA TEAS.

THE following tea news was received in Shanghai, from Foochow under date the 24th ult. :— The export to Europe, made up of part-cargoes carried by the steamers *Pakling*, *Glenartney*, *Prometheus*, *Benledi*, and *Flintshire*, amounts to 6,763,500 lbs. against 4,395,500 lbs. at the same date last year. The excess in this year's figures is owing to the earlier season. Though the tone of the market has been quiet, 125,000 half-chests Congou have been settled in the fortnight, which amount of business corresponds as near as may be with that for the same period last season, that is to say, for the third and fourth weeks after the opening of the market. The demand has run chiefly on the lower-costing grades of tea, and to a small extent on fine and finest. Buyers appear to be deferring any large purchases of the Medium and Good Medium grades. Prices, taking quality into consideration, show no change excepting for low-priced Congous which are firmer. The first estimate of the total supply of First Crop Congou was too small. The latest is 440,000 half-chests or 50,000 half-chests more than last season. The arrivals of Congou to date are 420,000 against 351,000 half-chests; the settlements are 196,000 against 177,000; and the stock is 224,000 against 174,000 half-chests on the same date last year.

FIRE IN SHANGHAI.

JUST before one o'clock on June 27th, information was received at the Hongkew Police Station, Shanghai, that a fire had broken out on the premises of the Chinese Lithographic Works, at the corner of Seward and Yuen-fong Roads. A general alarm was at once rung, and the police under Inspector Reed, and the fire-brigade, were soon on the scene. The fire had originated in the engine-room at the rear, and was caused by a defective flue. The premises containing the engines, boilers, and printing machinery were entirely destroyed, the whole loss, which is estimated at about Tls. 15,000, being covered by insurance in the Hongkong Fire Insurance Co. The fire brigade succeeded in confining the outbreak to the area originally attacked, and remained at work until half-past three o'clock, when two lengths of hose were left to prevent the smouldering ruins again breaking into flame. The building was a fairly substantial one-storey erection in Chinese style, and the party walls prevented the fire spreading to a number of small dwelling houses adjoining, and godowns in which there was a very valuable stock of books.

THE NEW CHINESE MINISTER TO THE COURT OF ST. JAMES.

THE *N.-C. Daily News* has the following :— With reference to our paragraph the other day about the Chinese Minister at the Court of St. James' memorial to the Throne, and his request for a successor, a telegram from the capital states that the Tsung-li Yamên in presenting the Envoy's

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memorial to the Emperor also made out a list of three persons who might be fitted to relieve H E. Hsueh Fu-chêng. They were H.E. Hu Yuen-mei or, as his official designation is, Hu Yü-fên, at present Acting Provincial Treasurer of Kuangsi, whom we have already stated as the probable successor of H.E. Hsueh Fu-chêng; H.E. Kung Chao-yuan, the last Taotai of this port, promoted three years ago to be Provincial Treasurer of Szechuan; and Chih Jui, a Manchu by birth and at present holding the post of Reader of the Inner Court. As already stated, His Majesty made no choice at the time, but ordered telegraphic instructions to be sent to London ordering H E. Hsueh Fu-chêng "to remain where he is until further orders."

THE RADICAL ORGAN.

THE organ of the Radical Party, hitherto called the *Jiyu*, changed its name on the 1st instant, and became the *Jiyu Shimbun*. The addition of the word *Shimbun* (newspaper) to the previous term *Jiyu* (liberal), does not constitute a very important terminological difference, but nevertheless marks a distinct advance in the status of the well known journal. It now become the avowed organ of the whole *Jiyu* Party, and openly declares itself to be under the direct control of the Party's head office. The alteration is announced in a leader which alludes in glowing, but not unmerited, language to the political exploits of the *Jiyu-to*; reminds the nation what that Party has accomplished in inaugurating the era of Constitutional Government; insists on the absolute necessity of a newspaper organ to a political party; and tells the *Jiyu-to* partizans throughout the empire that the paper's useful potentialities depend upon the support it receives from fellow-thinkers. The new editor is announced to be Mr Komatsu Sansei, and the sub-editors Messrs. Kurihara Ryuichi and Makino Terasu The first number contains an article signed by Count Itagaki.

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The *Jiyu's* insistence upon the necessity of a newspaper organ to explain the views and popularize the policy of a political party, prompts us to ask whether the principle is intended to apply solely to a party out of office. It has always hitherto been observable that the *Jiyu* desires to inculcate among its readers a strong contempt for what it terms "*Goyo Shimbun*" (official organs), and that it would fain attach obloquy to the mere fact of a journal's undertaking to explain the Government's motives or to defend the Government's procedure. But a due comprehension of the Administration's purposes and methods is essential in the cause of public peace and good order, whereas comprehension of a political party's aims and platform is chiefly useful in the interests of the party itself. As between the two we should say that the Government organ deserves the greater consideration and is entitled to even more respect than the party organ. Party organs, however, perpetually fall into the silly excess of assigning corrupt and evil motives to every journal that espouses the Government's cause, thereby simply displaying their own incapacity to exercise the very qualities which they attempt to convict their opponents of lacking.

CHINA BRANCH OF THE ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY.

THE 25th Volume of the Journal of the China Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society is a magnificent publication of 509 pages, 468 of which are devoted to "Botanicon Sinicum," or "Notes on Chinese Botany, from native and Western sources," by E. Bretschneider, Esq., M.D. Such a work does not often appear in the Transactions of a Society. It is, we read and can well believe, "the result of many years' research and much study by a ripe scholar." A paper on the same subject was printed ten years ago in the Journal by Dr. Bretschneider. It appears that the exhaustive essay now added was compiled in St. Petersburg, and that the learned Doctor is preparing another monograph on "Chinese Medicines."

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The Proceedings of the Society contain much interesting matter. Dr. Edkins' paper on "China 35 Centuries Ago" is a remarkable production. The learned Doctor does not believe in cutting short the antiquity of civilized nations. He holds that the true foundations of Chinese civilization were laid in the third millennium before Christ, when the people were taught and trained by the sages. There were fine cities in those days. The land was skilfully cultivated. The country could boast a class of *literati*, as well as physicians, divines, schoolmasters, and astrologers. Bronzes were manufactured, testifying to the mechanical progress already made by the nation. That the potter's wheel was known, is proved by the existence of circular vases. The rich used cups of gold; the poor, wooden bowls and rude, unglazed stonewares. Music and dancing were practised, and religion was in a forward state.

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But it must be confessed that the views of Dr. Edkins do not command the endorsement of all his brother sinologues. Dr. E. Faber disagrees materially with him. He declares the astronomical data referred to by Dr. Edkins to be without scientific value. He will not admit that Persian and Babylonian literature can have been known to the Chinese at such an early period, unless China also had been known to Persia and Babylon, of which there is no trace whatever He utterly repudiates the notion of bronze casting thirty odd centuries ago, and pronounces the bronze vase chiefly relied on by Dr. Edkins to be a work of the Ming Dynasty, that is to say, a work only three or four hundred years old. Then he describes what the condition of the early rulers of China was, as recounted in the Classics. Yao inspired awe by dressing in a garment hanging down over his legs. Shun, Yao's son-in-law and co-emperor, was sent by his parents to patch the straw roof of their palace (?), and at another time had to descend into a well to repair it, while working with his own hands in the fields was his wont. Altogether Dr. Faber pooh-poohs the idea that anything like civilization existed in China 35 centuries ago. And he is supported by Dr. Jamieson, who denounces Chinese authorities as quite untrustworthy; declares that he has never found in Chinese literature any criticism that is not of the most vapid, verbal kind, and does not think that an appreciation of what is meant in the West by historical criticism has ever entered the Chinese mind. So we remain in doubt as to the true state of affairs in China fifteen centuries before Christ.

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But we learn some startling facts about the state of affairs in modern China from General Mesny. That gentleman spent several years in Yünnan, and is therefore in a unique position to give information about the most interesting part of the Chinese empire; a part comprising over 100,000 English square miles; extending through seven degrees of latitude and eight of longitude; larger than Italy, but thinly populated, having, so far as can be judged, not more than twelve or thirteen million inhabitants. Several tribes are represented with curious and very diverse habits. In the east, for example, the women dress in shirts with large blue collars something like English naval service men; are active and vigorous; enjoy more liberty of action and freedom from restraints than European women; even after marriage are not expected to be faithful to their husbands until a child is born; and stand on an absolutely equal status with their husbands in the settlement of family matters. But in Li-chiang Fu and the north of the province, the women toil like slaves in the fields or on the mountain sides, "clad in nothing better than an old piece of tattered cottonade about the loins, descending to the knees, and an undressed goat-skin on their backs, fastened over their shoulders and across the chest with a raw hide thong. "Thus arrayed, these poor women are exposed to the piercing cold of their snow-clad hills in winter, and to the scorching rays of a mid day sun in summer, while their lazy, jealous husbands remain at home, to nurse the children, sharpen their swords, and keep their powder dry." General Mesny has "seen the savage Lu-su, or Li-su, in the prefecture of Yung-chang Fu, Western Yünnan, ploughing their unhealthy fields in the valley of the Lu-chiang River, with women harnessed to the ploughs instead of cattle, the men, fully armed, holding the ploughs." "A Li-su farmer does not at all hesitate to harness his wife and mother, sister and daughter, to his plough at any time, while he, with a cross-bow and quiver of poisoned arrows on his back, a long sword in his girdle, and a short spear in one hand, follows the plough, and guides it in the furrow with his other hand. His father and uncle, or brother, son, and son-in-law, all fully armed to the teeth, sit and watch the approaches to the family estate, ready to pounce on any unsuspecting Chinaman who may chance to halt on the way, astonished at the spectacle in the fields before him." It would appear, however, to be essentially true of Yünnan that "only man is vile." The province consists chiefly of an elevated plateau, 5,000 to 6,000 feet above sea-level. It possesses fine rivers and mountains. Its climate is pleasantly cool in summer, except in some of the valleys. Its natural resources are great. "It produces everything necessary for the sustenance of a dense population, despite its present poverty-stricken appearace. Opium, hemp, flax, rhubarb, and other drugs abound. Maize, rice, wheat, and other cereals are grown almost everywhere; pears, oranges, lemons, and other fruit, potatoes and other vegetables are also cultivated to more or less perfection in many different places. Fine oxen, excellent sheep, goats, pigs, ponies, asses, mules, fish, ducks, geese, and fowls, are also reared and eaten as food by all who can afford such, Mahomedans of course abstaining from the abominable flesh of the hog and the dog. Milk, butter, cheese, tea, sugar, and salt are also produced in various parts of the province, and at reasonable prices. Clothing stuff is, however, very dear, although coarse flannels and strong silks are woven from native produce, and an abundance of fine wool is available for manufacturing the best of cloth on the introduction of suitable machinery for that purpose. The mineral wealth of Yünnan is something enormous, and almost inexhaustible. It is greater by far than that of any other province in China. Rubies and sapphires, garnets and topazes, amethysts and jade abound in the western prefectures; gold, silver, platinum, nickel, copper, tin, lead, zinc, iron, coal, and salt also abound in many places. Copper is especially abundant. Its ores are of excellent quality and have been worked for ages in over one thousand different places." General Mesny thinks that Yünnan will never flourish under Chinese rule. It is a fair inference. The Chinese have been administering it for twenty-two centuries and the results are pretty bad. The General adds an exhaustive account of the various routes to Yünnan, but for this part of the subject the reader must consult the volume of Proceedings.

THE RADICALS AND KYUSHU.

IT was decided at the Radical meeting on the 1st instant, that, in the latter part of August or begining of September, Messrs Hoshi Toru, Kono Hironaka, and Matsuda Masahisa should make independent lecture tours in the different Prefectures of Kyushu. The announcement of this decision has led many people to wonder why the three leaders of the Party should undertake a canvass in Kyushu, and why it is not considered sufficient to send Mr. Matsuda alone with a few second-rate men. Mr. Matsuda, himself a native of Kyushu, is very influential in that part of the country, and moreover the three leaders have never before gone out together. The enigma receives in some quarters the solution that the uncertain attitude of the progressive policians of Kyushu causes keen anxiety to the Radical Party. It was the Kyushu policians who, in the spring of 1890, conceived the idea of amalgamating into one the different political bodies professing progressive principles. They caused a great stir in the political world, and at one time their effects seemed to be crowned with success, when

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the unreasonable obduracy of a section of the Progressionists prevented the projected amalgamation. Still it was found possible to bring about a workable alliance between the different parties forming the Opposition. The Kiushu folks have, therefore, watched with extreme displeasure the antipathy now shown towards the Progressionists by the Radicals, and rumour says that many of them are thinking of casting in their lot with the Progressionists in opposition to the Radicals Doubtless the discovery of this state of feeling in Kyushu has led the Radicals to decide upon an energetic campaign there by the three most distinguished leaders of the party. Messrs. Kono, Hoshi, and Masuda will, it is believed, attack the Progressionists with all vigour and force the Kyushu politicians to declare finally for one side or the other.

* * *

As to the Kyushu politicians distinctly favourable to the *Kaishin-to* it is reported that they are to hold a general meeting at Oita in the month of October, when they will discuss the course to be pursued in the coming session of the Diet. Some people shake ominous heads over the probable results of the Radical leaders' intended visit to Kyushu.

SILVER AND THE FINANCE DEPARTMENT.

THE *Mainichi Shimbun* says that the Department of Finance has resolved not to take any action at present about silver. The Minister of Finance, according to our contemporary, does not apprehend that Japan will suffer any special inconvenience from the appreciation of gold Her exports will be encouraged, and she can thus afford to pay more for her imports, if necessary. His Excellency deprecates the notion of any precipiate step on the part of officialdom, though he admits the necessity of examining the question with the utmost attention.

* * *

We can not perceive that there could ever have been any reason to suspect the Minister of assuming a position different from the above There has been an extravagant panic about silver, a panic causing heavy losses and producing great embarrassment in the commercial world, but after all a panic quite out of proportion to its causes. Silver will assuredly recover something of its former value, and will once more enter an era of comparative stability, though the fluctuations it has undergone emphasize more than ever the absolute necessity of restoring it to its natural place as a medium of exchange

* * *

How, we wonder, do the folks feel at present who have always insisted with such cock-sureness that the one vicious element about silver was over-production, and that its depreciation *quoad* gold was due simply to excessive quantity. These folks have two unpalatable pills to swallow. The first is that the price of silver was not appreciably affected by the action of a purchaser who every year bought and stored away nearly one half of the world's total output; the second, that at the first prospect of extended demonetization—demonetization in India—the market was at once dislocated and silver suffered a fall of over 20 per cent. In the face of these facts how is it possible to maintain that the quantity of silver annually available exercises upon its price any effect comparable with the effect produced by the demonetization?

COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES.

THE Commencement Exercises at the École de l'Étoile du Matin, in Tokyo, took place on the 6th instant in the presence of a large number of visitors, among whom were H E. the French Representative, the Vice-Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, the ex-Vice-Minister of State for Education, and many officials and private persons of note. The exercises were as usual performed in a manner bearing strong testimony to the skill and care of the Director and faculty of this excellent educational institution. At the conclusion of the exercises and the distribution of prizes, His Excellency the French Representative delivered a brief but eloquent address. The following was the programme:—

Chœur d'Ouverture: Le Roi d'amour est mon Pasteur. par Ch. Gounod
Somebody, a Declamation ..... Sh. Sakurai.
Cavelleria Rusticana, par P Mascagni:
Piano: ..... {J. Mason. F. Eckert
Violin ..... G. Vigneti.
Sinet oder der Undere, von Hebel ..... J. Jesselsen
Les Tilleuls Grande valse par Gaspard Vogt ..... J. Mason.
Le Temps (composition en langue japonaise) ..... J. Saito.
Les Noces de Jeannette, par A. Herman.
Violins: {Ed Powys, G. Vigneti, L. Weed, Ch du Bousquet, Arthur James, Harry Brinkley, F. Ribeiro.
Piano ..... J. Mason.
La Scene du Sonnet: (Misanthrope de Molière).
Alceste, le Misanthrope ..... Y. Banno.
Oronte, le poete ..... R. Higuchi.
Philinte, ami d Alceste ..... A Murakami.
Chœur: Barcarolle ..... par Laurent de Rillé
Canute's Reproof to His Courtiers.
King Canute ..... El. Hall.
Oswald ..... D L. Weed.
Offa ..... B. Dithlefsen.
Perle mélodique, morceau à 4 mains, par {T. van der Heyden. R. van der Heyden
Die seltsamen Menschen, von Lichtwer ..... Fr Eckert
Une Nuit a Grenade, par Kreutzer:
1er Violin: {Ed. Powys. Ch. du Bousquet. G. Vigneti. H. Brinkley. F. Ribeiro.
2me Violins: {D. L. Weed. A James D. Aillon. J. Jesselsen L. Rischow.
Alto. Th van der Heyden. Violoncello: L. Enoye.
Shimizu: Danyé (maitre de la maison) ..... N. Yamamoto.
Tarokaja domestique ..... F Yuza
Chœur final: En Mer ..... par J. B. Vanvolxem.

DISTRIBUTION DES PRIX.

THE "JINRIKI" RAILWAY.

WE find in the vernacular press a brief account of the *Jinriki-Kisha*, or man-motor, said to have been invented and patented by Mr. Hoshizaki Kumajiro, of Okubo in Kanagawa Prefecture. But it is impossible to obtain anything like a clear idea of the affair from the meagre and unscientific details given. It is claimed that the new motor is capable of replacing steam and electricity on railways and horses on trams. The experiments have been conducted thus far with wooden trucks on wooden rails, and so far as we can make out, the main principle is the conversion of vertically applied power into horizontal motion, with of course, some device for greatly multiplying the former. The vertical power applied through a distance of 8 inches produces a horizontal velocity of nine feet and the strength of one man suffices to drive a truck carrying a weight of 4 hundred *kwamme* (3,333 lbs.) These results having been obtained with wooden wheels working on wooden rails, would, of course, be greatly bettered were metal employed. It is said that the inventor has spent nineteen years at the work.

THE RADICAL ORGAN.

WE have already noticed the changes that took place in the name and editorial staff of the *Jiyu-to* organ on the 1st instant. The changes of *personnel* had been effected some time previously, but the paper's new career dates from the 1st instant. Undoubtedly the *Jiyu* was always the Radical Party's organ, but not until now has it been brought under the direct supervision of the Party's headquarters. In other words, it was formerly the mouthpiece of a section of the Party first, and of the Party itself afterwards, an arrangement that sometimes worked disastrously, as for example, on the occasion of the newspaper's recent controversy with the *Kokumin-no-tomo* and the *Kokumin Shimbun* on behalf of Mr. Hoshi and his followers, when it incurred the reproach of not a few members of the Party. That affair was probably a proximate cause of the sweeping changes now effected in the *personnel* of its editorial staff. The new editor in chief, Mr. S. Komatsu, formerly Yeguchi, is a member of the House of Representatives for one of the Election Districts in Tosa, an immediate follower of Count Itagaki, and a political writer of great ability. His sub-editors, Messrs. Kurihara Ryoichi and Makino Terasu, are both capable writers, especially the former In a manifesto issued from the headquarters of the Party and addressed to all of its members, an almost pathetic appeal is made to the Radicals. They are told that they should consider it obligatory to subscribe for the paper. The necessity of such an appeal shows painfully how straitened are the pecuniary circumstances of the Party's head-quarters. While their rivals the Progressionists, a far smaller body, do not find much difficullty in maintaining two recognized organs, the *Hochi Shimbun* and the *Mainichi Shimbun*, the Radicals have always been conspicuous for their failure in the field of journalism. Lack of money is no doubt more or less responsible, but the unpopularity of the papers published by the Radicals has been due chiefly to their too exclusively political character. A little more commercial, industrial, social, and literary matter would undoubtedly have obtained for them a better reception from the public in general. In the numbers thus far issued under the new title, we notice some improvement in these respects, but there is certainly room for still greater reform.

* * *

The name *Jiyu Shimbun* is not new. The first Radical organ in 1882 was issued under that title. In those days the Radical Party was the object of unsparing persecution by the Government, and its members breathed vows of vengeance upon their oppressors. In reviving the name of their first organ, the Radical leaders think it neccessary to explain that "it is by no means their intention to revive at the same time their former animosity against a certain section of the community. Public spirit is the guiding motive of the Radical Party under all circumstances. There was a time when we longed to be revenged upon our persecutors; but in view of the present important juncture in national affairs, all traces of resentment and illwill have been completely swept away from our minds. . . . . In short, the Radicals have now no prejudice against any person. Every one sharing their opinions may confidently count on their friendship."

* * *

In the opening number, Count Itagaki writes on the question of foreign politics. His article is exasperatingly vague. He observes that justice should be the guiding principle of Japan's foreign policy. For the sake of Justice, she ought not to be afraid of appealing to the sword. In short, she should be "firm and strong" in her foreign policy. The Radical leader, however, can not agree with those who urge a strong policy from motives of mere vanity. Do right and fear not—such is the policy he recommends to the Government in its relations with foreign Powers. Military and Naval forces are no doubt necessary for supporting such a policy but what is more important, in Count Itagaki's opinion, is that every Japanese should be always prepared to die for his country. It must be confessed that Count Itagaki's contribution does not add much to our knowledge

THE FRENCH MAIL STEAMER IN HONGKONG HARBOUR.

THE French mail steamer *Oxus*, which arrived in Hongkong on June 27th, appears to have indulged in somewhat remarkable peregrinations around the harbour, says the *Daily Press*, to the annoyance of passengers, police, and post office. Having gunpowder and dynamite on board she was ordered to proceed to the anchorage set apart for vessels carrying these explosives, but great difficulty was experienced in manœuvring the big steamer among the shipping. Several times her anchor had to be dropped to avert collisions and it is stated that, for ten minutes she was fixed on a spit of sand off Yowmati. Jibs were set in order to bring her round and intermittent orders of "full speed astern" and "full speed ahead" were given for two or three hours. At last the post office launch managed to secure the mails, and the passengers, loudly grumbling, were landed. The mail was delivered about eleven o'clock.

DEATH OF MR. W. G. CAMERON.

MR. W. G. CAMERON, chief engineer of the *Meiji Maru*, of the Lighthouse Department, passed peacefully away on Monday afternoon at his residence, No. 72, Bluff, after a painfully protracted illness. Deceased came out to Japan twenty-three years ago in the old *Takasago Maru*, for the Mitsu Bishi Company, but thirteen years ago he joined the *Meiji Maru* and remained in charge of her engine department ever since. He was decorated last year by H.M. the Emperor with the Fourth Class of the Order of the Mirror.

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The late Mr. Cameron was highly popular with all who knew him, he was a prominent Free Mason and Oddfellow, and also one of the Trustees of Union Church He leaves a widow and six young children to whom much sympathy is extended in their bereavement. In accordance with his wishes, deceased's remains were accorded a quiet funeral in the Bluff Cemetery, the interment taking place at eight o'clock this morning.

FRANCE AND SIAM.

On the 9th June M. Luce, Resident, who has been sent in charge of one of the French expeditions to the Meikong, telegraphed to the Governor-General from Cam-mon as follows :—

The Siamese mandarin of Cam-mon, after having abandoned this post at our order, handed over his arms, and declared that he was resolved not to offer any resistance but to leave the two Governments to settle the question was conducted to the Meikong by Inspector Grosgurin, who was commissioned to protect him against the natives.

On arrival at Kem-ktec M. Grosgurin, having fallen seriously ill, the Siamese mandarin secretly sent to Hou-tène for a band of 200 armed Siamese or Laotians, and on the 5th June surrounded the house where M. Grosgurin was lying sick in bed, and himself murdered him by shooting him with a revolver, while the band massacred the escort.

Seventeen militiamen and a Cambodian interpreter were killed. Three militiamen succeeded in escaping.

In concluding the telegram, M. Luce insists on the odious character of the crime. The *Courrier d'Haiphong*, from which we translate the above, adds :—"The Government has immediately taken measures to avenge this outrage, the nature of which we will know soon." We have already published telegrams announcing the fact that France has demanded an indemnity for the murders, and also that Siam has expressed regret at the occurrence and promised to indemnity the families of the victims.

* * *

Through a private source, whose authority is beyond question, we are favoured with a representation of the views of one whose means of ascertaining the real character of the present political situation, as regards Indo-China and Siam, are of an exceptional nature. After one or two personal references which we do not print as they might afford a clue to the identity of the authority in question, the communication we have received proceeds generally to the following effect :—The clearing up of the difficulty so long expected, does not make itself apparent. I scarcely think that, at bottom, France really is anxious to make war upon Siam ; there are many reasons to prevent that. But the lack of energy and genuine force which hinders the French Minister from taking up an attitude that is definitely warlike, equally hinders him from taking up a position that is resolutely pacific. As Siam on her side has no desire whatever to push things to extremes and as she cannot on the other hand acquiesce in demands that France refuses to define, there results this anoma ous situation, which is neither peace nor war, and in which the two parties, all the while continuing to address to each other diplomatic smiles, pinch each others legs as much as they are able to do. And all the while the real victims of this queer business are the poor diplomatic officials kept here on the spot, in sweltering heat, to compose, scribble out, and decipher despatches, and to pursue a solution which vanishes when they think they have arrived at it, until they wish that they could vanish themselves.—*Free Press.*

DR. KITASATO.

The *San Francisco Chronicle* of May 18th contains the following :—

Dr. Kitasato, of Tokyo Japan, who is well known in the medical world as the discoverer of the bacillus of tetanus and the method of dealing with it, and who was an especially favoured student from 1885 to 1892 of Dr. Robert Koch of Berlin Germany, has recently achieved apparently remarkable successes in the treatment of consumption. Professor Clay MacCauley, of Tokyo, a passenger by the *Oceanic*, said yesterday that the Japanese Parliament at its last session appropriated $45,000 for the current year, and $15,000 a year for the next two years, to enable Dr. Kitasato, who had just returned from Europe, to prosecute the study and treatment of infectious diseases, for which he had already in Germany gained considerable reputation. Among the special objects of his investigations have been cholera, abdominal typhus, diphtheria, and consumption. With the last-named disease during the past winter Dr. Kitasato has had results that are noteworthy, and which, if confirmed, are of world-wide importance

Professor MacCauley says that just before he left Tokyo he visited Dr. Kitasato's laboratory and temporary hospital, and was shown, among other things the records of the cases of five consumptives who had been under treatment for two months and a half and of twenty-five patients suffering from the same disease who had been in the hospital for only a few weeks. Four of the first five patients had just been discharged from medical care in the hospital, showing no symptoms whatever of their disease, apparently cured The fifth patient was almost free from any signs of the disease. Of the remaining twenty-five every one had evidently been much improved None of these patients, it is to be noted, has passed beyond the second stage of consumption, but, as showing how far the trouble had advanced, the following records may be regarded as typical : Dulling of one lung, with rattling sounds as far as the sixth intercostal space, and friction as far as the third ; about sixty grammes of sputum daily, now and then tubercles : night sweats, cough and fever, emaciation, etc. No cavities had been formed. Dr. Kitasato, hopeful as he is about the cure of consumption in its second stage, sees no prospect for cure where these appear in the lungs. One of the above named patients had been confined to bed for six weeks before entrance into the hospital

The symptoms of all from the beginning of the treatment began to lessen. In one month's time the sputum had diminished from sixty grammes to twenty Weight had increased in one case from forty-eight and a half to fifty-two and a quarter kilogrammes. In all cases wasting away had ceased and weight had been gained.

No public announcement has yet been made in Japan of this apparent victory over the most dreaded disease of the world, for the reason that the large hospital now being erected by the Japanese Government for Dr. Kitasato is not in readiness to receive the many sufferers who will seek relief from him. Early in June, however, the hospital will have been completed and publicity can be given it in Japan. The treatment followed is, in modified form, that of Dr. Koch, of which the world heard so much a few years ago. A preparation called tuberculine is injected under the skin and taken into the blood. Its effect is, it is supposed, to give immunity to the healthy lung tissue from whatever agency cause the disease and thence portion by portion, to enable the diseased areas to recover health.

The most noticeable effect of Dr Kitasato's method is from the first the non-appearance of the disastrous reactionary fevers which have followed the injection of the tuberculine used in Germany. In but one case did such fever appear under Dr Kitasato's care and in that case but once. On this account the patient's strength is not drawn upon—there is no enforced depression to rally from.

Of course, Professor MacCauley says, it can not yet be declared that the cure for consumption has at last been discovered. Time only will show whether the persons seemingly cured are, in fact, well. But it certainly is clear that several men who seemed hopelessly in the clutch of the disease are now apparently well and that many others are week by week apparently progressing toward recovery.

Dr. Kitasato is known in the medical world as being an exceptionally brilliant investigator. His interest in the study of infectious diseases while he was a student of medicine in the Imperial University at Tokio drew the attention of the authorities of the Sanitary Department of the Home Office to him. In 1885, he was sent at the expense of the Government to Germany to be a student under Professor Koch, with whom he became a specialist in bacteriology.

Just before his return to Japan he was offered a professorship in the University of Berlin. He preferred, however, to continue his work at home. A letter in his praise from the German Emperor to the Emperor of Japan recently caused him to receive a Japanese imperial decoration. His services are now entirely under the employ of the Government. His hospitals are Government hospitals. He has no personal financial interest in the discoveries he is making or is to make. His work is of such worth that the imperial authorities and the Parliament have opened the way for him to devote his genius to human welfare. His success so far well merits record and the decisive results of his work will be awaited wherever it has been heard of with intense interest.

* * *

Refering to the above the *Chronicle* writes :—

In another column will be found an account of the work being prosecuted by Dr. Kitasato, a Japanese physician of Tokyo, under the auspices and at the expense of the Japanese Government, his specialty being the struggle with that scourge of the world, consumption. Dr. Kitasato was for seven years a favourite student of Dr. Robert Koch of Berlin, and unless the indications are all wrong, has carried Dr Koch's ideas to a conclusion more successful than that attained by his teacher.

It is to be noticed, however, that Dr. Kitasato disclaims wholly the performance of miracles. Where there are tubercular cavities and lesions in the lungs he does not profess, hopeful though he is, to effect a cure. The most he says, or, rather, allows his friends to say for him, is that he believes he can cure consumption in its primary and secondary stages

Why should not other governments, especially our own, imitate the example set by Japan and employ physicians of acknowledged ability, especially in such diseases as consumption, to save human life where it can be saved? Is it an excess of paternalism for a government to put at the command of the sick and suffering the highest resources of the healing art? Consumption in the United States has killed more people than would have died with half a dozen epidemics of cholera, and yet the Government, deeming consumption a matter of course, has not concerned itself with it.

If Dr Kitasato's treatment justifies itself completely the United States should send over some bright, ambitious medical students to study under him and should establish them on their return in a national hospital for consumptives.

THE EXPLOSION NEAR CANTON.

With reference to the explosion at the gunpowder factory in Sam Yuen Lee, outside the North Gate of the city of Canton, a special correspondent of the *Chinese Mail* (*Wah Ita Yat Po*) who visited the scene of the disaster says that the destruction of the factory was so complete that not a vestige of it was to be seen next day. Two huge pits about 20 feet deep and about 40 feet wide marked the site of the magazine in which the powder had been stored. Large boulders, weighing several hundred catties each, had been hurled in the air by the explosion and now lie deeply buried in adjacent fields. In addition to the damage done to the village of Yiu Toi, where 300 houses were destroyed, almost equal havoc was wrought in other villages in the vicinity. The number of deaths has not yet been ascertained, but it is undoubtedly very large. The catastrophe originated in the carelessness of some soldiers who had been engaged in removing gunpowder from the magazine. The day was rainy and their clothes having got wet they hung them up to dry before a fire in a shed near the magazine. The clothes dried so well that they were soon in a blaze. Not only that, but they set fire to the shed itself. When the fire was discovered by the people about the place they had no thought but to get as far away from it as possible, and thus, nothing having been done to prevent the fire from reaching the magazine, the explosion duly followed, in spite of the fact that the magazine was separated from the burning outhouse by a wide moat. Two charitable institutions, the Si Yuk Tong and the Kwong Tsai Hospital, are now busily engaging in the relief of the distressed. A temporary shed has been erected in front of Tsui Lung Temple for the lodging of those seriously hurt, while medical aid is being freely dispensed to those who are but slightly injured.

VICTORIA PUBLIC SCHOOL.

The Oral Examinations of the Victoria Public School will be held in the forenoon of each day, respectively as follows :—July 6th, Thursday, Science, Euclid ; July 7th, Friday, History, French ; July 8th, Saturday, Geography, Literature ; July 10th, Monday, Reading, Grammar, &c. ; July 11th, Tuesday, Arithmetic. Parents and friends are invited to be present. The date of the closing exercises will be announced later by advertisement. It is hoped that Mr. de Bunsen, H.B M.'s Chargé d'Affaires, will preside, but in his temporary absence it is not possible to say more than that it is expected that the day will be Friday the 14th, at half-past four in the afternoon. The programme will include recitations, &c., and the distribution of prizes.

THE RADICALS.

The Radicals having seats in the Diet held a meeting on the 4th instant at the party's headquarters in Shiba Park. Mr. Ishizuka, manager of the Party's affairs, proposed, and received the approval of those present to the appointment of officers in the various branch offices of the Party. The next subject of discussion was the nomination of advisers to the staff of the *Jiyu Shimbun*. The names of Messrs. Kono Hironaka and Matsuda Masahisa were brought forward and unanimously approved. The absence of Mr. Hoshi's name from the list of advisers seems to confirm the report that the exclusive

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control hitherto exercised by him over the Party's organ did not receive the approval of all sections. Concerning lecture meetings on the Hawaiian question, which, as already reported, the Radicals have decided to hold, the first is expected to be on the 8th instant from 6 p.m. in the Kinki-kan, Kanda, Tokyo. The speakers announced are Messrs. Hoshi Toru, Misaki Kamenosuke, Suzuki Manjiro, Komatsu Sansei, and ten others

THE "AJIYA" ON THE HAWAIIAN QUESTION.

THE *Ajiya*, after a suspension of nearly a month and a half, was permitted to appear again on the 1st instant. In the number published on that date, our fortnightly contemporary has a characteristic article on the Hawaiian question. The magazine constitutes itself the mouthpiece of that large and rapidly increasing section of the rising generation, whose motto is enlightened conservatism in domestic politics and fearless aggressiveness in foreign affairs. The *Ajiya* begins by reviewing the past history of Japan's contact with foreign countries. Immediately after the Restoration, there were some great men who advocated the policy of raising the prestige of the Empire by directing the new born energies of the nation into foreign channels. Had their programme been adopted and consistently carried out, the *Ajiya* seems to entertain no manner of doubt that the country would have occupied to day a position *vis à-vis* the outside world far stronger than that it actually occupies. It is, therefore, a matter for extreme regret to the Tokyo periodical that the wise counsels of these great men were unheeded by peace-loving statesmen who happened to be in a majority in the Government. The *Ajiya* is not opposed to a peaceful policy, so long as such a policy is not incompatible with the maintenance of the country's dignity and interests. But the tendency of an excessive love of peace is to purchase it at any cost. A negative foreign policy once adopted, the resulting disposition is to become more and more timid in intercourse with foreign Powers. In support of its view the Tokyo magazine cites a few instances of important losses alleged to have been sustained by the country in consequence of the timid peace policy pursued by its statesmen. The first instance is the Formosa affair. In our contemporary's opinion, there was nothing to prevent Japan from adding that fertile and important island to her dominions But at the last moment the peace-loving propensity of those in power led to an ignoble retreat from a territory won at the point of the bayonet in the cause of justice and humanity. The despatch ending of that affair not only caused Japan large pecuniary loss but also had the effect of lowering her prestige in the eyes of foreign nations, especially the Chinese. Reference is next made to Saghalien Island. The islands of Chishima for which it was exchanged were Japanese territory from historical as well as geographical reasons. Consequently, in the opinion of the Tokyo journal, the so-called exchange was really the cession of Saghalien pure and simple. With Formosa in the south and Saghalien on the north, Japan would have been able to hold the supremacy in this quarter of the globe. A third case mentioned relates to the Sōul *émeute* of 1884. Counts Ito and Inouye at first favoured a policy of interference in Korean affairs, but subsequently they completely changed their opinion, and cancelled the strong instructions they had given to Mr. Takezoye, Japanese Minister in Sōul. The consequences of this wavering policy were the butchery of more than 50 Japanese residents and the violation of Japanese women, and finally the withdrawal of Japanese troops from Sōul. But these instances of the disastrous results of the weak and vacillating policy pursued by the Japanese Government dwindle into insignificance when compared with what Japan has lost in consequence of the rejection by her statesmen of the scheme of Korean invasion proposed by some of her greatest men a few years after the Restoration. Had that policy been carried out, it would have been possible, besides acquiring important territory, to avert the disastrous domestic troubles culminating in the Kagoshima Rebellion that shook the Empire to its foundations, caused the destruction of thousands of the flower of the nation's warriors and brought in its train a long period of general financial embarrassment. The splendid opportunity thus lost does not seem likely to present itself again. From what has thus far been stated, it is apparent that Japan has voluntarily left unutilized every opportunity offering during the past twenty years for raising her national prestige and increasing her prosperity. It is high time that this suicidal foreign policy should be abandoned for one more rational and dignified, so that Japan may hereafter be able to make the most of every opportunity presenting itself. Such an opportunity is now found in Hawaii. The *Ajiya* does not advocate the annexation of that group of islands to this Empire. But it contends that the 24,000 Japanese residing there ought to enjoy the same political rights as any other nationals in the islands. At first it seemed as though the Government was quite prepared to take advantage of the unique opportunity that offered for acquiring the franchise for the Japanese residents. A certain amount of energy was shown in promptly sending thither strong war vessels, and even in presenting a request to the Provisional Government for the restoration of a privilege of which the Japanese immigrants had been unjustly deprived. But the *Ajiya* fears that the Government may again commit the same disastrous error of which it has so often been guilty in the past. The opportunity is not yet gone in Hawaii, and the Cabinet is strongly urged to send a special Ambassador there to obtain the object in view. At the same time, enterprising men outside the Government are advised to go over to Hawaii and assist their fellow countrymen's efforts to obtain the position to which they are entitled, but of which they have been arbitrarily deprived by the Hawaiian Government.

LANDS HELD FOR MISSIONARY PURPOSES IN JAPAN.

WE observe that the leading Shanghai journal reproduces, with evident credulity, a letter recently published in a Yokohama local paper, on the subject of lands held for purposes of religious propagandism in Japan. The writer of the letter asserts that the so-called "native pastors, in whose names nearly all the property held by missionary societies is vested, have suddenly developed an extraordinary sensitiveness with regard to the propriety of their lending names for the purpose of acquiring sites for school houses outside treaty limits; and have represented to the Missionary bodies, that their consciences will no longer permit them to continue to practise a deception which infringes the laws of Japan; at the same time requesting that the properties shall be handed over to them without any reservation; and there being no alternative, the request had been complied with *It is worthy of notice that these conscientious native Christian pastors had no scruples about appropriating the property of other people.* It is well also, that the charitable, although misguided, enthusiasts in America and Europe who furnish the funds for the support of Missionary enterprise in Japan, should know what has occurred." Are these statements true? If not, they constitute a very disgraceful libel on the conduct of Japanese Christians, and we cannot think that the missionaries will be well advised if they allow the matter to pass without contradiction, now that its publication has extended beyond the columns of the journal originally ventilating it.

THE PIONEER PRINTER OF JAPAN.

JAPAN is beginning to think of the men that acted as her pioneers along the road of Western civilization. The story of one of them Mr. Motogi Nagahisa, is told in a little brochure published by the Tokyo Tsukiji Type Foundry. He seems to have been a man of remarkable versatility. Born in Nagasaki, in 1824, he studied the Dutch language and became an official interpreter. Then, struck by the typographic beauty and clearness of foreign books, he set himself to devise improvements in Japanese type. First, he cut ideographs in a lead slab and cast type by that method. Then he carved the ideographs in buffalo horn and beat them into the lead. Then he carved them out of steel and beat them into matrices of brass, always getting nearer to, but never quite attaining, perfection. The want of printer's ink was a serious obstacle in his path, and his mechanical processes were also defective. Next we find him purchasing two steamers and navigating them himself. Next we find him building iron bridges at Osaka and Nagasaki. And finally he returned to his first conception, and became the originator of type foundries in Japan, losing nearly all his fortune before the enterprise became technically successful and financially profitable. Such a man deserves something more by way of memoir than the tiny pamphlet now before us. We quote its concluding words:—

The character of Motogi Nagahisa was mild and calm, truthful and persevering. All that he undertook, whether in printing or navigation, was solely for the benefit of the nation. His conduct was always regulated by this public spirit—never influenced by selfish motives. It was a habit of his to tell his employés that the imposition of taxes meant so many drops of blood pressed out of the heart of the people. The Government, he declared, should never abuse its prerogative. There are now-a-days, those who borrow funds from the Government, under specious pretences, and use them in their own trades. They claim to be acting for the public weal, while in reality they have no thought but for their personal advantage Such men are nothing else than enemies of the nation. We should never stoop to imitate their sordid conduct.

Ah! where shall we find another Motogi? So pure in heart, so just in principles Alas! had his life been prolonged, how great would have been the benefit reaped by this our Imperial Japan!

ANTI CHOLERA VACCINATION.

ON the subject of anti-cholera vaccination, a subject of vital interest in this country, the *British Medical Journal* says:—"We learn from our Indian correspondents that M. Haffkine who left this country for India a short time ago, after spending some time in Calcutta, has joined Mr. Hankin at Agra, where the anti-choleraic inoculation is being carried out on a large scale. No fewer than 200 persons, practically the whole of the British officials and many of the British residents, volunteered to undergo inoculation, so that on third day after his arrival at Agra, M Haffkine had inoculated fifteen English residents; the next day a number of the native residents also volunteered, and on the seventh day, fifty-three English and native residents were inoculated, amongst these being several ladies. As these presumably—for we hear nothing to the contrary—are all doing well, a great step has been made towards allaying any distrust that there may have been on the part of the natives. If, now, some method of cultivating the organism in which the use of beef broth or other animal products is not involved, can be devised, there can be no reason that this plan of treatment should not be generally accepted by the various classes and castes in India as being at least allowable, and as interfering with no religious principles or caste observances"

FIRE ON BOARD THE "BUCKINGHAM."

YESTERDAY morning, says the *Kobe Chronicle* of July 7th, at about eleven o'clock, a fire broke out on the *Buckingham*, and that vessel had a very narrow escape of being totally destroyed. How the fire originated is a mystery, but it is suspected that one of the coolies on board the lighter was smoking, and carelessly threw a match down upon the planks, which were saturated with kerosene, as many of the cases were leaking. The flames immediately caught the staging by means of which the vessel was discharging, and spread to the steamer, setting fire to some dunnage wood and to the kerosene cases on deck, which burned furiously. Fortunately the chief officer had the presence of mind to order the hatches to be immediately battened down, and the vessel was saved. Had the flames got down into the hold there would not have been the slightest hope of saving the steamer from total destruction. Efforts were at once made to subdue the fire on deck and to remove the burning lighter, which was still alongside. Perceiving the danger to the vessel

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by the lighter's proximity, a plucky sailor of the *Buckingham*, notwithstanding the intense heat thrown out by the flames, jumped on board and made a rope fast to a steam launch which was fortunately at hand, and the lighter was towed away and eventually beached near the Tannery Works, where the fire did not burn itself out until between three and four o'clock in the afternoon. Meanwhile, every effort was made to subdue the flames on the deck of the *Buckingham*, and after an hour's hard work, during which assistance was sent by the Japanese Authorities from the Ono Naval Yard, these were extinguished, and it was found that the only injuries done were a few plates of the iron deck bent and warped by the heat and the bulwarks slightly damaged. There is no doubt, however, that the vessel had a very narrow escape, and but for the promptitude with which the fire was tackled would have been burnt to the water's edge. Altogether, including those jettisoned from the ship, some 660 cases of kerosene were destroyed.

KAMAKURA TREASURES.

JAPANESE antiquities are always doubtful affairs from a foreign point of view. The amateur, his expectation raised to a high pitch by glowing descriptions, makes a journey in the expectation of seeing works of art, and finds only a few rusty mirrors, *magatama*, arrowpoints, fragments of armour, ink-stones, ideographic scrolls, and so forth. Therefore we express no definite opinion as to the beauty or interest of the collection advertised to be on view at the Hachiman Shrine in Kamakura for a hundred days, commencing on the 10th instant. But people who think of visiting Kamakura during the next three months, would do well to remember that the collection is visible.

DINNER TO MR. SONE.

THE *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* says that a farewell banquet was given by Mr. Mutsu, Minister for Foreign Affairs, on the evening of the 5th inst. at his residence, to Mr. Sone, the newly appointed Japanese Representative to France, who leaves for his mission shortly. The French Minister and Madame Sienkiewicz, the Portuguese Minister and Lady Borja, the Home Minister and Countess Inouye, Mr. Inouye, Councillor of the Home Office, and Mrs. Inouye, Mr. Hayashi, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs, and Mrs. Hayashi, and Mr. Kure, Private Secretary of the Foreign Minister, were invited to meet him.

A RECLUSE.

IN the second year of the *Meiji* era, and therefore twenty-four years ago, says a vernacular journal, a priest named Aomori Kenzuishi retired into the cloister at Koyasan for the purpose of studying the *Sutras* and mortifying the flesh. He has remained there ever since, without once emerging into the world. Such things as railways, steamships, telegraphs, telephones, electric light and so forth are absolutely unknown to him. If a visitor speak of the changes that have befallen the country during the past two decades, the priest merely smiles. He asks no question. For him there has not been any change nor will be any until the great change that awaits us all.

THE PAASCH LIBELS

THE charges against Mr. Karl Paasch, formerly a well-known resident in North China, of having slandered the Minister of Justice, Dr. von Schelleng, Privy Counsel or Dr. Korpor, and Counsellor of Legation Lothar von Eichborn, were heard in the Criminal Court at Berlin on the 17th and 18th May. The Court sentenced the accused, who was defended by the well-known anti-Semitic lawyer Hertung, to 15 months' imprisonment. The case arising out of the accused's charges against H.E. Herr von Brandt will be heard later.

STRANGE DEATH IN YOKOHAMA POLICE STATION.

THE *Boyeki Shimbun* says that a Japanese, named Watanabe Kangoro (37), who was taken to the Yokohama Police Station on the 4th inst. at 6 a.m. for being drunk and disorderly, died about two hours later, while awaiting trial. At the inquest held by Public Procurator Yoshida, Surgeon Komiya testified that the man had been strangled. Constable Okazaki was dismissed the same day, and is now being tried by the Preliminary Judge in connection with the distressing affair.

SILK IMPORTS TO THE UNITED STATES.

IMPORTS of Raw Silk at the Ports of New York and the Pacific Coast during May 1893, were :—

	Bales.	Lbs.	Value.
New York	415 ...	79,510 ...	568,763.
Pacific Coast 2,474	...	318,327 ...	1,299,015.
	2,889	397,737	$1,867,778.

IMPORTS of Waste and Noils in same period were :—

	Bales.	Lbs.	Value.
New York	144 ...	50,400 ...	29,737
Pacific Coast	30 ...	12,123 ...	13,384.
	174	62,523	$43,121

May 28th, 1893.

THE "JIYU TO" AND THE HAWAIIAN QUESTION.

AT the last meeting of the Managers of the *Jiyu-to* the Hawaiian Question again came up for discussion. It was resolved unanimously, first, that a Committee be appointed to confer with the Government on the subject; secondly, that the matter be agitated as vigorously as possible in the newspaper press; and thirdly, that a large lecture meeting be organized for the purpose of appealing to public opinion. The *Jiyu-to* are evidently resolved not to let this matter drop out

LIEUTENANT COLONEL FUKUSHIMA.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL FUKUSHIMA proceeded to the Palace on the 3rd inst. at 10 a.m. He was received in audience by His Majesty in the Main Hall, where H.I.H. Prince Arisugawa Taruhito, Viscount Hijikata, Minister for the Imperial Household; Chamberlains, and Masters of Ceremonies were also assembled. He was then conducted to another room to give in detail a report of his journey.

ARREST OF TWO FOREIGN ATHLETES.

THE *Yomiuri Shimbun* says that two foreign athletes, Christian, an Englishman, and Frederick Ems, an American, who were about to take part in the wrestling matches now going on at Ushigome in Tokyo, were suddenly arrested by order of the Yokohama police. The men were deserters from the American sealing bark *Emma F. Herriman*. On arrival at Yokohama they were put on board their ship.

COINCIDENCES.

IT is a somewhat curious coincidence that exactly twelve years ago a large river steamer, named the *Victoria*, capsized in the river Thames in Canada, and over 400 out of the 600 on board were drowned; and as a further instance of an ominous name we might recall the collision with the British ironclad *Sultan* and the *Ville de Victoria* off Lisbon in December, 1886, when a large number of people were drowned.—*Mercury*.

HARD MONEY RESERVE OF THE BANK OF JAPAN.

THE News Agency says that the hard-money reserve of the Bank of Japan now amounts to over eighty million *yen*. The year before last it was only forty millions, but during last year it swelled to sixty millions, and since November it has been steadily growing until it now stands at over 80 millions. Such a reserve is out of all reasonable proportion to the volume of the Bank's paper issues.

MR. CHIBA, M.P.

WE read in the *Yomiuri Shimbun* that a charge of assault raised by Mr. Inagaki, M.P., against Mr. Chiba, M.P., was decided in the Shiba District Court, Tokyo, on the 5th inst. in favour of the plaintiff, and Mr. Chiba was sentenced to five days' detention. He proposes appealing against this decision.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND THE PRIVY COUNCIL.

THE vernacular press reports that Count Ito recently consulted Count Yamagata about the Korean and Hawaiian questions, that the latter laid those matters before the Privy Council at its meeting on the 28th ultimo, and that the majority of the Council approved the views entertained by the Cabinet. What the Cabinet's views are, however, remains to be ascertained.

STORM IN GUMMA PREFECTURE.

A STRONG gale, accompanied by showers of rain and peals of thunder, raged in the North Kanra District of Gumma Prefecture about five o'clock on the afternoon of the 4th inst. An hour later the tempest reached its climax, but it was not until eight o'clock, that quietness again prevailed. A house was blown down and two others partly partly damaged at Umayama-mura, and about fifty were slightly injured. Much damage was done to crops, hemp being exceptionally injured.

EVANS AND SONTAG.

THESE notorious murderers and train-robbers have at least been captured by the U.S. authorities. They were surrounded and shot down, but both escaped to a cabin in Wilcox Canyon, where they were finally caught. At least three men have been murdered in the various attempts that have been set on foot to arrest them.

PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY OF JAPAN.

A REGULAR monthly meeting of the Photographic Society of Japan will be held at the rooms of the Geographical Society (Chigaku-kiokai), Nishikonyacho, Kiobashi, on Friday, July 7th, beginning at 5 p.m. Klic's entaglio copper plate photo-engraving process will be demonstrated by Messrs. S. Kajima and I. Izawa. A Committee meeting, same day and place at 4 p.m.

MR. WALTER BENTLEY'S EASTERN TOUR.

WE learn from Australia that Mr. Walter Bentley's dramatic company was still playing in the Colonies, and drawing—in April—large houses at Adelaide. Mr. Bentley had not yet completed his arrangements for the projected tour in the East, but had decided that he will not visit Japan.

KOBE WATER WORKS.

A KOBE telegram dated the 6th inst. and received by the *Fiji Shimpo* states that the Kobe Town Assembly has decided to spend *yen* 970,000 upon the Kobe Water Works, of which *yen* 300,000 is to be supplied by the Imperial Treasury.

EMBEZZLEMENT.

MASAKI YOICHI, a book-keeper in the employ of the Osaka Tetsudo Kaisha, in company with Wada Chuichi, a *shizoku* of Nara Prefecture, were arrested on the 30th ult. on suspicion of having embezzled fifteen thousand *yen* from the Railway Company.

THE FOREIGN BANKS AT KOBE.

A TELEGRAPHIC message from Kobe dated the 30th ult. received by the *Yomiuri Shimbun* says that owing to the great fall in the rate of exchange the foreign banks at that port have declined to receive commissions or give quotations.

IRON PIPES FOR THE OSAKA WATER-WORKS.

A TELEGRAPHIC message from Osaka received by the *Asahi Shimbun* says that the Osaka City Assembly decided at its meeting held on the 1st inst. to use foreign pipes for the Osaka Water-works.

LIEUTENANT GENERAL KAWAKAMI.

A KOBE telegram received by the *Nippon* says that Lieutenant-General Kawakami, Director of General Staff Board, arrived there on the 4th inst. per *Saikio Maru*. He is expected to pass two nights at Kyoto and Nagoya.

ELECTION OF YOKOHAMA ALDERMEN.

THE election of Yokohama Aldermen, which took place on the 4th inst., resulted in the return of Messrs. Hara Zenzaburo, Nakayama Okiyemon, and Ota Chibei.

BALL IN TOKYO.

HIS Excellency the Chinese Representative has issued invitations for a ball at the Rokumeikan in Tokyo this evening.

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LIEUT.-COLONEL FUKUSHIMA.

READERS of the vernacular and local foreign press must be pretty well tired of the name of Lieut.-Colonel FUKUSHIMA. The FUKUSHIMA farce has been run for all that it is worth. We do not ourselves imagine that the Japanese nation was ever under any real delusion as to the nature of the plucky traveller's exploit. People knew very well that his achievement was neither novel nor extraordinary. But when men are in an excited mood, incidents of intrinsically trifling dimensions may appeal to them with extraordinary force. Just as a mob will often accept with extravagant approval and act upon with energy out of all due proportion, some grotesque and fruitless suggestion of one of its members, so a nation morbidly anxious to assert itself in the eyes of the outer world, may shower plaudits upon a man who has accomplished little beyond giving concrete expression to the temper of his countrymen. That is what has happened in the case of Lieutenant-Colonel FUKUSHIMA. He, a solitary Japanese, has travelled across the Continent of Asia on horseback. There is no immense difficulty neither is there any serious danger in travelling across the Continent of Asia on horseback. The feat has been already accomplished more than once. It would have been accomplished a thousand, nay ten thousand, times had any results of practical value been attainable. The sole element of the performance that appeals to Japanese fancy is the fact that a Japanese has accomplished it. One of their own countrymen has boldly entered an arena hitherto reserved for the display of Occidental fortitude, Occidental endurance, and Occidental self reliance; has entered it and has come out of it with as much success as any Occidental could reasonably have looked to attain. Can one readily conceive a Chinaman performing the same feat? Can one readily conceive a native of India performing it? There are no solid obstacles in the way of the conception, but its incongruity becomes apparent the moment we state it. The fact is that such achievements have hitherto been regarded as essentially lying within the province of Western effort. The sense of supremacy that accompanies the Occidental in every contact with Oriental conditions, invests him with strength to overcome obstacles, and predisposes him to engage in undertakings the pains and perils of which would be deterrent without some such conviction of superiority to his environment. A Japanese has now shown that he possesses not only that very spirit of self-reliance and enterprise, but also the qualities necessary to give it practical effect. We find difficulty in conceiving a spectacle better calculated to appeal to the fancy or satisfy the present aspirations of the Japanese nation than that of their solitary countryman setting out upon his transcontinental ride, braving its difficulties with true Occidental *sang-froid* and overcoming them with true Occidental steadfastness. It would be a mistake to measure the abstract picturesqueness of the feat by its mere concrete dimensions. It means to the Japanese incomparably more than a ride across Asia. They sing pæans, not because a traveller has walked his horse through inhospitable and little frequented regions from end to end of the Asiatic continent, but because the traveller was a Japanese, and because the achievement is essentially Occidental. Let us not mistake the significance of the incidents now in sight. They do not warrant any inference that the Japanese nation lacks the sense of proportion or is prone to be betrayed into hysterical extravagances. What we see is simply one ebullition of a temper that has been gradually provoked by years of exascerbating circumstances. Japan burns to assert herself, and any one of her nationals who helps materially to satisfy her longing may count on an ovation. Viewed superficially, the whole affair presents a distinctly farcical aspect. Many Occidentals will be content to view it superficially. Some have already found in it a fresh occasion to renew those expressions of contemptuous ridicule that are in great part responsible for the morbid temper of the time. The Japanese can not complain in the present instance. They have exposed themselves to be laughed at. They have offered to the world a spectacle provocative only of mirth on the part of casual observers. The most disappointing figure in the whole burlesque has been the chief actor. We should have expected the high qualities which Lieut.-Colonel FUKUSHIMA certainly displayed on his journey to be associated with strong instincts of manliness and modesty. But there is neither manliness nor modesty in the conduct of an officer who publicly masquerades in soiled uniform, who offers to the eyes of the mob tailor's evidence of his own exploits, who accepts the applause of the masses as if he had a real title to it, and who never once frankly tells his admirers that others have preceded him in the same feat. All these things, however, are mere incidents of a situation the true interest of which consists in the index it affords of the Japanese nation's temper.

THE BEHRING SEA QUESTION.

MR. TRACY, ex-Secretary of the United States Navy, has published in the *North American Review* a clear and closely reasoned *resumé* of the American view of the Behring Sea question. His statement has so much interest that we shall briefly summarize it here.

In 1867 the Pribyloff Islands in Behring Sea became United States' property by purchase. On these islands exist the largest seal-rookeries in the world. During ninety years the business of procuring seals there for the market has been steadily carried on. Various rules control the operations—rules framed with the object of opposing no obstacle to the herd's development. Assuming that the conditions which existed in 1885 can be preserved for a century, the islands are worth thirty million dollars (gold) on account of the seals. Without the seals, they are valueless.

The seals live on these islands during about eight months of every year—from late spring until mid-winter. During the winter months they make an excursion to the North Pacific Ocean and disperse widely to the south and east. At all times of their sojourn in the Behring Sea they are identifiable as the seals of the two islands of St. Paul and St. George. For though another rookery exists on the Commander Islands—750 miles distant on the Siberian coast of the Behring Sea—the Commander seals and the Pribyloff seals are readily distinguished by their skins, the American seal having a skin of finer quality and worth about 25 per cent. more than the Russian seal.

The seals, after their winter wanderings, re-assemble, and gathering in a huge herd in the North Pacific waters south of the Aleutian Islands, pass through the straits between these islands and proceed to the Pribyloffs. The Pribyloffs are their breeding ground. There the baby seals are born, and there the mothers again become impregnated. During about four months after birth, the young seal has to be nursed. It can not procure food for itself, it can not even swim properly, until it attains that age. The male seals do not assist to feed the young. That duty is thrown on the females alone, and they sometimes travel as much as a hundred miles from the islands in search of food.

Such, briefly, are the natural conditions under which the Pribyloff rookeries exist. The question is, what right of property have the owners of the islands in the seals that frequent them.

In the first place, the mere fact that certain animals *feræ naturæ* are found on certain territory does not make them the absolute property of the owner of the territory. If their nomadic habits take them away from the territory, they cease to belong to its owner during their absence. While they remain on his territory they are, of course, his property, but if they are to be perpetually recognised as his property, there must have been a "reduction to possession." Thus doves or pigeons living in a dovecote, or bees inhabiting a hive, though free to fly where they please, are held to have been actually reduced to the possession of the owner of the cote or hive. It may be urged that such doves or bees had to be originally captured. But the law does not attach prime importance to any such necessity. It holds that ability

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to capture, if capture be desired, must be considered equivalent to actual capture. Undoubtedly the United States could capture and destroy the whole herd of Pribyloff seals at any time, just as easily as pigeons in a cote or bees in a hive could be destroyed by the owner of the cote or hive. Moreover, even when the animals leave the islands, the principle of ownership is held not to cease if their *animus revertendi* can be established. BLACKSTONE says that if such animals at any time regain their liberty the right of property in them instantly ceases, "unless they have *animum revertendi*, which is to be known only by their usual custom of returning." From all these considerations Mr TRACY concludes that since the seals leave their home with the intention of returning, they retain their quality of property and may be reclaimed by their owner, the United States, wherever they can be identified. If they entered the jurisdiction of another Power, the possibility of reclaiming them would be altered. But they go into the sea, a species of vast common, where all animals are free to feed at will. "It is here alone," says Mr. TRACY "that the seals which are our property, and have their home upon our land, can find a means of sustenance. Shall they be debarred from its use by predatory acts of another? The right which I possess of feeding my animals in the sea is in the ordinary nature of a usufruct; a right to enjoy the benefits of property not one's own. The sea belongs to no man or nation; and the United States claims a usufruct in it at least as great as that of any nation. When I own an animal whose nature requires that at certain periods it shall use the sea to obtain its necessary sustenance, I can claim for it that it shall not be interrupted or injured by others. If these seals lived on the Pribyloff Islands during the whole year instead of eight months, would anybody question their right to feed in the sea without molestation? Can any one take my ducks found in the water in search of food? If my dog or my horse should swim out to sea, or being on a wrecked vessel should swim to shore, any one injuring or molesting him in the water would be answerable to me for the damage he had done, and my right to indemnity would be the same even through the wrong-doer were a foreign subject, and the wrong done was outside the three-mile limit. In the same way, when my seal has swum out into the water to obtain food in obedience to a natural instinct, I can claim that he should not be injured or molested during his brief absence from the only place which he knows as home. Being my property upon the land, he is mine also when in the sea. The title does not shift every time he goes into and returns from it."

When the seals pass into the wide Pacific and disperse, the capacity for identification ceases and the right of property lapses. But when they are found feeding five, ten, it may be a hundred, miles away from their regular home, it is claimed that they belong to the United States, and that no stranger has a right to kill them any more than he has a right to kill sheep or oxen feeding on a common.

That is the case as stated by Mr. TRACY. He explains also very clearly that seals killed in Behring Sea during the period from June to December are breeding females, since neither the males nor the young leave the islands at that time. The death of a mother seeking food for her offspring, means the death of the offspring also, and means, further, one birth less the following year. Upwards of fifty Canadian vessels engage annually in the slaughter of Behring Sea seals during the time of the animals' presence on the Pribyloff Islands. They kill them wherever they can find them outside territorial waters, and by so killing them it is claimed that the rookery must soon be exterminated.

It appears to us a plain point of civilized justice that effective arrangements should be made for the protection of the American sealeries. Their destruction would be a universal loss, and deliberate continuance of the injury now done to them would be unworthy of the times in which we live.

ENGLAND AND BIMETALLISM.

ACCORDING to latemails from Europe and America the financial situation is anything but reassuring. London, it is true, is recovering from the heavy blows of the Australian crisis, but there is still much uncertainty in the money market, and the industrial depression shows no signs of improvement. In America, the condition is better and worse. The harvests have been magnificent and genera. business has been fairly active, but in the money centres of the eastern and central States there is fear that a panic may occur at any moment. The monetary stringency has been so great that an extra session of Congress will probably be called to consider its cause.

Two explanations, both connected with the depreciation of silver, have been offered to account for this state of things. One party ascribe the depression to excessive legislation in regard to silver. The Government of the United States has been trying to force silver to an artificial price, and like all attempts to depart from the ordinary laws of value, the measure has resulted in failure. Hence the uncertainty and timidity of capital. Let only the Government henceforth abstain from meddling, and the laws of trade will reassert themselves and values will find their proper level. The other party come to an opposite conclusion. They urge that the Governments of Europe and America have not gone far enough. The United States tried heroic measures, but, standing alone, was not able to overcome the tremendous odds against it. What is necessary is that all Western Governments should cordially join in a movement to restore silver to its old place. Then and not till then will the present state of unstable equilibrium finally pass away.

We have no desire to re-open the general question of bimetallism. So far as its purely economic aspects are concerned, scientific opinion may be said to have passed from a state of controversy to one of general agreement. The opponents of bimetallism no longer dare to question the economic practicability of international bimetallism. In America and Europe there is hardly an economist of note that does not admit its claims. Not to mention DANA HORTON, who is perhaps too much of a partisan, there are in America General WALKER and President ANDREWS, both of whom have been won over by the irresistible evidence of bimetallism. In England, Professors JEVONS and NICHOLSON and Mr. GOSCHEN have acknowledged the scientific basis of bimetallism. France has illustrious names who have been in the van of the bimetallic movement for over thirty years, and Germany's greatest living economist, ADOLF WAGNER, is an ardent advocate of the double standard

Even monometallists have been forced to change their mode of attack in recent years. Professor LAUGHLIN, who is at present one of the chief representatives of the monometallists in the United States, does not deny the vality of the economic arguments which are offered in favour of the double standard. His source of opposition to bimetallism is curious. He thinks that there is an irresistible tendency among western nations in favour of the nobler and therefore more economic metal. "Just as we discard a less efficient for a more efficient machine," he says, "so the more civilized nations of the West are irresistibly drawn to the use of the more valuable and less cumbrous coin." At first blush this argument makes a good impression, but it does not stand the test of examination. It is safe to say that the bimetallists would soon be able to carry their theories into practice, if Professor LAUGHLIN'S arguments were the only obstacle in their path. For what economy is there in the use of a single gold standard when we can count up enormous losses from the depreciation of silver? The metallic money of the world is transferred from one country to another in such small amounts that the cost is not worth considering. Indeed the argument of the monometallists is mere reasoning in a circle, since the tendency to adopt gold is the very tendency the bimetallists are vigorously opposed to.

That the unstable state of the money and industrial markets of the West is in part due to the depreciation of silver no one who has studied the situation can be disposed to doubt. One calculation puts the losses of investors in the East at £500,000,000, but this is guess-work.

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The losses must be heavy and cannot be averted so long as the present policy of *laissez faire* continues. With the restoration of silver to a relatively fixed value, the whole trade between the East and West would revive. Many Eastern securities, now worthless from the prevailing uncertainty in the standard, would immediately rise, and trade which is now more or less a speculation would be placed on a sure basis. If the nations of Europe and America, however, persevere in their policy of inaction and monetary isolation, Oriental commerce will necessarily relapse more and more into the state of speculative uncertainty in which we now see it.

Fifteen years ago, General WALKER wrote as follows:—"Fluctuations like these introduce into trade all the elements of gambling. And this condition of things is certain to be perpetuated in time, if not aggravated in degree, should the system which for nearly one hundred years maintained a par of exchange between gold countries and silver countries not be re-established. Already the result has been to involve commerce between the two great divisions of the world in all the embarrassments which beset the commercial intercourse of nations paying specie, with nations having an inconvertible, and hence fluctuating, paper money."

Hitherto Great Britain has proved the stumbling block in the way of carrying out any practicable measure of bimetallism. English public opinion has been hostile to any change of standard for the very natural reason that England is the only country without any considerable stock of silver coin or bullion. France, Germany, and other European countries have on hand large amounts of silver; and the United States, besides having large amounts of silver, is a producer and exporter of the metal. Hence the very natural belief in England that she would benefit less than other countries from the establishment of a bimetallic league. One English writer characterizes the whole scheme of international bimetallism as "a leap in the dark" for England. At present she has a secure gold standard, tested by long experience, why should she exchange it for a vague measure, based on the arguments of a few theorists, or the self-interest of silver countries?

And yet nothing is more unquestionable than that this reasoning is founded on a misconception. It is certain that the very country to derive the greatest benefit from a bimetallic standard would be England. The profits that are gained from a secure system of money are not directly obtained from the money itself, but from the trade and industry that are carried on by means of it. England's interests in the trade of the Orient are greater than those of all other countries put together. Her commerce and capital in the East and the profits dependent upon them far outweigh in importance any profits to be obtained by America from her silver mines or by France and other countries from a higher price of silver. With every decline in the price of silver, Lancashire suffers, English investors in Eastern securities suffer, and England, as a whole, is involved in disasters which she cannot escape. As Gen. WALKER says:—"The British merchant who to-day sells to Calcutta, Hongkong, or Mexico, may do all that depends on him with the highest wisdom and skill; he may buy the right sort of goods, and buy them at a bargain, ship them in the proper season to the best market, sell them at high prices, and bring the goods safely home to Liverpool, yet a fall in silver between the sale of the goods and the receipt of the proceeds may strip him of all the profits of his venture, of all the fruits of the year's business, or even seriously impair his stock."

General WALKER'S example is a simple one and by no means covers the principal sources of loss to England. He does not mention the serious losses to insurance companies, banks, and other investment companies, which are largely in the hands of Englishmen. And these losses are purely gratuitous. They are the result of England's shortsighted, shall we not say, selfish?—policy. The action of India in demonetizing silver is part of the same fatuity. England is making the impossible attempt of secluding her monetary system while her commercial interests extend to every part of the globe. It is clear, however, that though she may suffer less in one quarter of the globe, she will suffer more in another, just in proportion as she is successful in these provincial, not to say parochial, attempts to demonetize silver. "The destruction of the normal price of silver," says General WALKER, "and of a consequent par-of-exchange between silver States and gold States was the deliberate work of the two States which had most largely profited by it, England, and Germany—England, that greatest gold State of the world, and Germany the greatest silver State. England in 1816 demonetized silver; and since that date she has not ceased to preach gold monometallism and sneer at bimetallism as illogical and impossible in practice. When, in 1867, the first International Monetary Conference proclaimed its crusade against silver, the British Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. ROBERT LOWE, "congratulated Parliament and the country on the fact that Europe was at last preparing to follow the same course which England had marked out fifty years before." In spite of the change of front of England's leading economists and many of her statesmen the English Government still perseveres in a ruinous policy, subjecting British commerce to violent and endless fluctuations, and caps the climax of this policy by closing the mints of India to the coinage of silver.

International bimetallism is not only an economic, but equally a moral question. We live in a century that prides itself on the many improvements that have brought nations into closer contact. It is the hope of our time that in spite of standing armies, of protective tariffs, and international hostilities, the interests of all people are drawing closer and closer together. The telegraph, the railway, and the Universal Postal Union are the material forces as well as the evidences of this tendency. RICHARD COBDEN, for instance, can not be accused of soft-heartedness in his famous free-trade career, yet his biographer tells us that "throughout his long labours for unrestricted commerce he never lost sight of this, as being the most precious result of the work in which he was engaged,—its tendency to diminish the hazards of war and to bring the nations of the world into closer and more lasting relations of peace and friendship with each other." The same may be said of every solid reform, the abolition of the slave trade and slavery, popular education, the advancement of science, or the introduction of a postal union.

From this point of view international bimetallism to-day is a moral force of immense importance. The present situation is selfish, isolating, and separatist. The East and the West are thrown farther apart, and each nation does not care to look beyond its own immediate interest. To stop the coinage of silver in India and to separate her interests from the other countries of the East, is only another step in the same vicious and immoral direction. International bimetallism on the contrary is a uniting force. It tends not only to establish the commerce of the world on a solid basis, but what is no less important, it tends to establish in some degree the great truth that all nations are members of one family. The old mercantile idea of wealth was that one nation's gain was another's loss. Economists and practical men to-day scoff at this idea. But does not England, so long as she clings to her present policy of monetary isolation and *laissez faire*, simply re-affirm the exploded doctrine of mercantilism? Is she not afraid to move that other nations may gain? Time was when England took a different stand and was willing to risk something for a great reform, and international bimetallism, by uniting the two great monetary systems of the world, is surely a reform worthy of all the enthusiasm that its disciples have devoted in its behalf.

The Prince of Wales not long ago was one of a large house party at a place in the Midlands, His host being a very well-known Peer. After dinner the Royal guest, the host, and the other male visitors repaired to the billiard room. On a table at the side were two or three boxes of cigars, and the Prince was helping himself to one when an ambitious millionaire approached him, and taking from his pocket a cigar case held it out to the Prince, saying. "I think, sir, you will find this better." "Mr.——, if a man's dinner is good enough for me, his cigars are good enough for me." The millionaire was unexpectedly called away to town next morning on business!

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CORRESPONDENCE.

JAPAN'S SILVER CURRENCY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—As one of the many business men in Japan whose calculations have all been upset by this great drop in the value of silver, I should like to know why the Japanese Government cannot prohibit the free coinage of silver, and fix an arbitrary value for the silver *yen*, as has the Indian Government for the rupee. Why should the government of this country not decide that the *yen* is in future to be worth say three shillings, and prohibit the export of gold from the country. Surely, with the exports so much in excess over imports, the Government would be strong enough to take such a course.

As perforce many of Yokohama's business men must have more or less leisure on their hands when the quotations for exchange are all nominal, cannot abler heads than mine let us have some light thrown upon this problem of an ever changing exchange which overthrows all business calculation.

I remain, dear Sir, yours faithfully, F.B.S.

Tokyo, July 1st, 1893

WHAT IS AN "ESQUIRE?"

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Under the above caption, I take the following from a home paper which may be of interest to your readers.

"Will you kindly allow me space in your columns to call attention to a growing and very prevalent absurdity of the age? I allude to the very constant use of the word "Esquire" without any justification; and to the invariable description of many people as such who can have no claim whatsoever to rank as of that condition. There are, and have been, many qualifications conferring the state and precedence of an Esquire. Some of these have fallen into disuse or become obsolete, but in response to an inquiry which I addressed to one of the Heralds at the College of Arms, I am informed that the following are legally Esquires:—

"The sons of peers, the sons of baronets, the sons of knights, the eldest sons of the younger sons of peers and their eldest sons in perpetuity, the Kings of Arms, the Heralds of Arms, officers of the army and navy of the rank of captain and upwards, sheriffs of counties for life, justices of the peace for counties while in commission, serjeants-at law, Queen's Counsel, Serjeant-at-Arms, Companions of the Orders of Knighthood, certain principal officers in the Queen's Household, Deputy Lieutenants, Commissioners of the Court of Bankruptcy, Masters of the Supreme Court, and those whom the Queen in any Commission or warrant styles esquire, or any person who, in virtue of his office, takes precedence of esquires. Now, in common, I believe, with many others, I have a great objection to the abuse of titles of distinction, and in addressing many of my correspondents whose position plainly warrants something other than the "Mr." which now-a-days appears to be relegated almost entirely to business purposes, but who, to my knowledge, are not esquires, I have endeavoured to resuscitate the ancient practice and use of the word "gentleman" (for example, John Jones, gentleman); for all people who are legitimately entitled to bear arms are of right gentlemen, as are also, by Act of Parliament, all solicitors. Of course, there are degrees of gentility, but that hardly concerns my contention. What has led to the abuse of the word "gentleman" it is difficult to surmise, unless it be the constant confusion which seems to prevail between it and a word closely akin, namely "genteelly."

"Consequently I wish to suggest to all people who have any interest in such matters, and to all those who pretend a respect for the ancient practices and customs of the land, to always use a correct word of description, so that by a determined and prolonged effort, and by a continual and continuous practice of so doing, it may perhaps be possible in some small degree to revive an old and excellent custom; for if the correct degree of description "obtain" even only in formal documents and communications, the words "Esquire" and "Gentleman" may perhaps regain some of their ancient and rightful value, and a lawful title to either shall again be a valued privilege."

I am, Sir, your obedient servant

June 29th, 1893. IQUIQUE.

ECZEMA. A Book on "Skin Troubles," sent free for One Stamp by Messrs. NOTER & RAE, Limited, Yokohama.

INDEPENDANCE DAY.

Firecrackers and small bombs were much *en evidence* in Yokohama on Tuesday, July 4th. Indeed, I lacked an hour to midnight on Monday when the first were discharged by some enthusiastic American citizen. The day opened dull and overcast, but by noon the clouds had cleared away and the heat became more pronounced The Settlement was decorated with much Star spangled bunting, although other national flags were also to be seen. At twelve o'clock a salute was fired by the American flagship *Lancaster*, and a number of most effective rockets were discharged from opposite the Grand Hotel. Throughout the day visitors were continually calling upon the American Consul General and his wife, and these found the private entrance to the Consulate suitably draped with American flags and surmounted with the American eagle. A contemplated game of baseball fell through, owing to lack of players, which was a pity considering the nature of the holiday, but advantage was taken by the Cricket Club to play a match, England against the World, while two sailing races were got up by the Sailing Club, one of which had for its principal trophy a Cup presented by Mr. Dun, the U.S. Minister. In the evening the usual display of fireworks took place in the harbour,—which were supplemented by vivid flashes of brilliant sheet-lightning—and a band played in front of the Grand Hotel. The French *hatoba* was turned into an "Ice Cream erie," for the nonce, and the proceeds were given to the Jizen kai hospital. The Grand Hotel at night was outlined with variegated lanterns, a form of decoration also indulged in by the *Lancaster*, the American Hospital, and many private houses.

CRICKET.

OVER 5 YEARS V. UNDER 5 YEARS.

The match on Saturday last, composed of teams representing residents in Yokohama of over and under five years, was won by the latter team by sixty-one runs and three wickets. At call of time they had knocked up a score of 164, with seven wickets down, against their opponents 103 Walford was the principal scorer for the "opisans," contributing a very useful 40, while Duff and Litchfield were the only others who got into double figures. When the newer residents went in, there was considerably more leather hunting to be done than in the previous innings, Dickinson scoring 23, Meaden 29, Campbell 26 and Garfit 34, with Hunt 16, not out, and Tate 11. Below we give score and analysis of bowling:—

OVER 5 YEARS.

Mr J. Dodds, b. Ross	2
Mr G. W. B. Watson, c. Marc, b. Tate	8
Mr. C. M. Duff, b. Meadon	19
Mr. J. P. Mollison, c. Ross, b. Tate	7
Dr E. Wheeler, b. Meadon	0
Mr. A. E. Walford, b. Meaden	40
Mr H. C. Litchfield, b. Meaden	16
Mr G. F. Fenton, b. Meaden	7
Mr F. J. Lias, hit wicket, b. Ross	0
Mr. G. Philip, stumped Dickinson, b. Ross	0
Mr. B. H. Pearson, not out	0
Mr. H. L. Fardel, b. Ross	0
Byes 1, Leg Byes 2	3
	103

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	Balls	Runs	Maidens	Wickets	Wides
Mr. Ross	73	39	3	4	—
Mr Tate	85	30	5	2	—
Mr Meaden	50	34	1	5	—

UNDER 5 YEARS.

Mr. A. S. Bremner, b. Watson	5
Mr. H. V. Dickinson, c. Lias, b. Dodds	23
Dr. Meaden, stumped Duff, b. Philip	29
Mr. E. W. Tate, c. Pearson, b. Watson	11
Mr G. W. Mair, c. Duff, b. Philip	3
Mr. H. R. Campbell, b. Fenton	26
Mr. A. S. Garfit, b. Duff	34
Mr Hunt, not out	16
Mr. L. J. Healing b. Fenton	3
Mr W. W. Ross, not out	0
Mr. Pulford } to bat	—
Mr. C. Griffin }	—
Byes 5, Leg Byes 2, Wides 2	9
	164

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	Balls	Runs	Maidens	Wickets	Wides
Mr. Watson	70	34	2	2	—
Mr. Fenton	95	42	5	2	—
Mr Walford	35	18	2	—	—
Mr. Lias	30	23	1	—	—
Mr Dodds	15	8	1	1	1
Mr. Philip	20	11	—	2	—
Mr. Mollison	15	11	—	—	—
Mr. Duff	20	10	—	1	1

ENGLAND VERSUS THE WORLD.

Teams representing the above denominations fought out a pleasant match in broiling weather on July 4th. As the score below plainly shows, the English twelve had an easy victory over the All World eleven, winning on the first innings by 93 runs. England took the field above twelve o'clock, sending out Pulford and Dickinson. The last named was the first to go, being bowled by Ross when he had knocked up 3—1 for 6. Meaden took his place, but by the time 14 was scored had lost his partner, who was cleverly caught by Ross off Philip. Layard had just broken his duck when Meaden was caught by Phillip—3 for 16—and an adjournment was made for tiffin. Layard stayed in for some time, contributing 42 before being caught by Mollison He was the sixth man out, Walford and Morriss, 17 and 26 respectively, being both out before him. The score now stood—6 for 108. Lias, Garfit, Fenton, and Hunt, took the register up to 183 between them, and the innings closed for 189. The World then followed on. Their first couple succumbed early, Dr Wheeler being caught by Layard, after he had made one run, and Bremner being run out. Duff, who was third man in, made the top score of the day, 51, and was sixth man out. The rest of the team tailed off with single figures, and all were disposed off for 96. They went to the wickets again, but had only made 48, when stumps were drawn. Score:—

ENGLAND.

Mr. Pulford, c. Ross, b. Philips	6
Mr. Dickinson, b. Ross	3
Dr. Meaden, c Philip, b Ross	6
Mr. Layard, c Mollison, b. Ross	42
Mr Walford, l b.w., b. J M. Mollison	17
Mr P. Morriss, b. Duff	26
Mr Garfit, b. Ross	21
Mr Pearson, c. J. M. Mollison, b Duff	0
Mr Lias, b. Duff	5
Mr. Hunt, c. Bremner, b. Philip	25
Mr. Fenton, b. Duff	32
Mr. Showler, not out	3
b. 7, l b 3	10
	189

THE WORLD.

	1st Innings.	2nd Innings.
Mr. Bremner, run out	6	l b.w., b. Layard 24
Dr Wheeler, c. Layard, b. Walford	1	
Mr Duff, run out	51	c. Hunt, b. Meaden... 8
Mr. J. M. Mollison, c. Walford, b. Fenton	4	
Mr. Ross, c. Pearson, b Walford	8	
Mr. J. P. Mollison, l b.w., b. Fenton	4	
Mr. Dodds, run out	2	not out 2
Mr Barton, c. and b Fenton	8	
Mr. Philip, st Dickinson, b. Fenton	0	
Mr. Crookshank, b Meaden	1	
Mr. Fardel, not out	2	not out 11
b. 7, l b. 2, n.b. 1	10	b. 3, w. 1 4
	90	48

THE JUVENILE TONIC SOL-FA SOCIETY'S CONCERT.

Saturday was about the warmest day we have had this season. The heat was sweltering everywhere, for hardly a breath of wind was stirring beneath the cloudless sky. Sheltered verandahs on the windward side, or shady summer-houses seemed the only desirable places worth occupying; it was a day, in fact, on which to avoid commingling with a crowd of perspiring fellow beings, more especially if they were confined within the four walls of a brick building exposed to the fullest glare of the sun. Yet this notwithstanding, the Public Hall was crowded from the front to the last row at five o'clock when the concert arranged to be given by the members of the Yokohama Juvenile Tonic Sol fa Society, commenced. The object was to obtain funds wherewith to support a child's bed for twelve months in the Jizen kai Hospital—a proposition which the community evidently heartily endorsed. The Society has given three concerts since its inception, and its work is now thoroughly well known; still we must congratulate Mrs. Patton, the Musical Director, upon the results of Saturday's performance. She has only returned from her Australian trip some four months, and has therefore been rather pushed for time in which to prepare her little pupils, while many unforeseen difficulties have presented themselves during the practises—among which severe colds have not been the least—which has rendered the labour of training additionally heavy. Under these circumstances it was hardly to be expected that the chorus could approach the musical completeness which has distinguished it on previous occasions, but individually much improvement is to be noted among the soloists, while the instrumentalists, one and all, have attained to a highe level of excellence. The opening Sextette on three pianos was an admirable piece of work and would have been pronounced creditable from far older players, time and technique demonstrating the thoroughness of the methods pursued by the young musicians' teacher. Kluss' rather dull "Fugal Gavotte" was also nicely given by Miss M. and Master H. Lindsley; but space does not allow of even a brief description of each piece presented.

The second portion of the programme was completely filled by Millard's Cantata, "The Birds and the Fairies." This is one of the prettiest selections yet given by the Society, and, when the cool weather returns, will well repay repetition. Mrs. Patton had specially designed costumes and scenery supplied, and the mounting was therefore

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all that could be wished for. The part of the "Queen of the Fairies" was allotted to Miss Emma Ekstrand, and she made an ideal Northern fairy-queen with her wealth of rippling golden hair and graceful presence. Her Court was composed of the girl members of the Society, while the boys appeared as the birds. To them fell the heaviest share of the work—six solos and duetts They acquitted themselves well, and in one instance won a hearty encore, this well deserved honour falling to the Parrots' Duett by Masters J. Drummond and W. Carst. Miss Bloxham played the accompaniments to all the songs; Mrs. Patton conducted throughout; and Mr. Beart acted as stage manager during the Cantata.

The following is the full programme:

PART I.

Sextette on Three Pianos "La Jota." Moszkowski.
Misses Eyton and Johnstone, K. & E. Ekstrand, and the Masters H. & T. Lindsley.
Part Song ....." Music "....Stephen Glover.
Members of Y. J. T. S. F. Choral Society.
Pianoforte Solo..." The Shepherd Boy "...Idyll Wilson.
Master N. J. Sargent.
Part Song..." Now is the month of Maying "
Composed in 1595. Morley
Members of Y. J. T. S. F. Choral Society.
Pianoforte Duet ..." Fugal Gavotte "....Kluss.
Miss M. Lindsley and Master T. Lindsley
Two-Part Song ..." Vocal Minuet "...Del Valle de Pay.
Sopranos—The Misses M. Schwabe, M. Watt, G. Smedley, and J. Loomis.
Altos—The Misses N. Schwabe, M Moss, E. James, and C. Sargent.
Pianoforte Duet..." Polish Dance "...Sharwenka.
Misses K. & E. Ekstrand.
Chorus in Unison..." Let the Hills Resound !" Brindley Richards.
Members of Y. J. T. S. F. Choral Society.

PART II.

MILLARD'S CANTATA THE BIRDS AND THE FAIRIES.

Opening Chorus ... ..." Lo! the ruddy Morning dawns! "
Recitative.....Master T. Lindsley.
Song ...." The Blackbird."....Master G. Wheeler.
Song ....." The Robin "...Master G. Moss.
Song ....." The Lark." .....Master W Smith.
Duet....." Two Parrots." .....Masters J. Drummond and W. Carst.
Chorus....." All Hail! most Gracious Queen!"
Chorus ....." Dear Fairies, now Farewell."
Duet..." Springing from my dewy nest."...Masters F. James and W. Smith.
Chorus ....." Fairies, to your Revels hie!"
Song ....." The Nightingale."....Master F. James.

CHARACTERS.

BIRDS.

The Peacock .....King of the Birds.....Master Thayer Lindsley.
The Nightingale .....Master Frank James.
The Lark .....Master Wilfred Smith.
The Blackbird .....Master George Wheeler.
The Robin... ..... Master George Moss
Two Parrots .. .. { Master Joe Drummond. Master Willie Carst.
A Stork ..... Master Albert Austen.
An Eagle... .....Master Morris Mendelson.
An Owl ... .Master Willie Johnston.
A Red Parrot ... .Master Charles Moss.
A Canary .....Master Harry Cook

FAIRIES.

Queen of the Fairies.....Miss Emma Ekstrand.
Attendant Fairies: Sopranos—Misses N. Johnstone, L. Holmes, M. Schwabe, M. Watt, M. Moss, G. Mendelson, G. Smedley, L Meiklejohn, and J Loomis. Altos.—Misses H. Holmes, N. Schwabe, A. Black, L. Dourille, E. James, C. Sargent, M Lindsley, G. Smedley, and E. Jarmain.

LETTER FROM CHICAGO.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Chicago, June 8th.

Rev. F. G. Harrington and family, Mrs. C K Harrington, all of Yokohama, and Miss Annie M. Clagett, of Tokyo, arrived here this week on their way home.

Rev. F. S. Dobbins, twice a missionary in Tokyo, has been appointed a District Secretary of the American Baptist Missionary Union. He was also on yesterday's programme of the Temperance Congress for a paper on "The Drink Traffic and Foreign Missions."

Rev. Mr. Murray, whom I mentioned in a previous letter, is doing a good work among the Japanese now in this city, and is holding regular religious services with them two or three times per week. He has found a large number of Japanese Christians.

Among the fellows for '93-'94 at Cornell University, Ithaca, N G., is Mr. R. Watanabe.

Prof. S. Ito, of the Tokyo Art School, and Mr. S. Nishimura, the embroidery and *yusen* manufacturer of Kyoto, are here now.

"Lilian Russell," an operatic *prima donna*, of Chicago, is said to find great delight in the companionship of a small black and white Japanese spaniel, named "Koko," which she has trained to dance and waltz at her command. The animal is evidently what in Japan is called *chin*; and, in fact, responds promptly to its mistress's "chin chin, koko."

Mrs. King Owyang, wife of the Chinese Consul-General at San Francisco, has been in this city, but, having been Americanized by a long residence here, she did not attract much attention.

Mr. L. A. Thurston has been appointed Hawaiian Minister of the United States; while U.S. Minister Blount has sent in his resignation. There is no specially important news from Hawaii, except that hereafter the United States will refrain strictly from interference in local politics

Memorial Day was celebrated as usual in the North; and in the South was made the date of the permanent interment of the remains of Jefferson Davis in the cemetery at Richmond, Virginia

An International Reciprocity Convention is in session at St. Paul, Minn.; but is composed only of delegates from the United States and Canada, between which countries closer commercial relations are urged.

In this city an anti trust and anti-monopolist convention has been in session. Governor Knute Nelson, of Minn., is Chairman, and almost a hundred delegates, representing between twenty and thirty States and Territories, are present. A score of startling reform resolutions were introduced; but many of them were smothered by the platform committee. On account of this action the "radicals," under the lead of Ignatius Donnelley, bolted, and held a convention of their own. The regular assembly resolved (in brief) that more stringent laws should be passed against monopolies and trusts.

This has been a critical week in this city and in the West. More bank failures precipitated a run on other banks, and almost caused a serious panic But by good management and by mutual assistance a financial catastrophe has been fortunately averted, at least temporarily. But, as money is tight, all danger is not yet past.

On the 3rd inst. Omaha was visited at the same time by a disastrous fire and a heavy rain storm, which together worked damage to the amount of about $200,000.

The fast train, or "Exposition flyer," mentioned in my last letter, came from New York to Chicago in two minutes less than its schedule time of twenty hours. The east bound "flyer" reached New York City just on time.

The Pacific Mail Steamship Company incurred a loss of more than $56,000 on its business for the year ending April 30th, 1893. The President, George J. Gould, declined to be a candidate for re election, and will probably be succeeded by C. P. Huntington.

The Canadian Pacific Railway expects to complete its short line from Vancouver to St. Paul by August 1, and by it to make the run in seventy hours Later it will build through the Crow's Nest Pass.

The Illinois Central Railroad Company has developed and issued a plan by which its employés may invest their savings in its stocks "in sums of $5 or multiples thereof."

The Briggs case has been settled again! On the 30th ult. the defendant concluded his argument, and Col. McCook closed for the prosecution. The next day by a vote of 383 to 116 the General Assembly sustained the appeal from the acquittal of the New York Presbytery. Among those supporting Dr. Briggs were several missionaries to China and Chile. As the convicted heretic refused to recant, he was suspended from the Presbyterian ministry.

The foreign World's Fair Commissioners, who complained of the "one judge" system of awards, have gained their point, and the rules have been amended so that "juries" are allowable when necessary.

Henry Kingman, of Oak Park, who lived for several years in Tientsin, China, visited the Government Building the other day and examined the collection of ancient Chinese coins belonging to the mint. During his residence in China he made a study of the ancient coins of that country and secured some fine old specimens which he yesterday presented to Col. McClure, who is in charge of that exhibit. There are ten pieces in the lot, five razor shaped, one horse-shoe shaped, and four known as "pantaloon" shaped coins. They all antedate the Christian era from 250 to 1,000 years. The oldest is a piece of hand beaten copper, razor-shaped, from the dynasty of the Emperor Kao, who reigned 1,000 years before the time of Christ. With the exception of one coin, "pantaloon" shaped, which is 2,300 years older than the Christian era, these coins are more valuable from a historic standpoint than any in the Chinese collection The intrinsic value of these coins ranges from one to five cents. Their historic value is much greater.

The Children's Building at the World's Fair was "opened" the other day, and will prove to be a popular place on the grounds. Japan is represented by a show-case full of toys, "given by the Japanese Minister." On the opening day Japanese tea and two little cakes, one pink and one white, were served.

Day before yesterday the Japanese exhibit in the Fine Arts Building was opened without formality by Commissioners Tejima and Matsudaira; and is attracting crowds.

Last week the Medical Congresses held their sessions, attended and addressed by delegates from all parts of the world. The different sections discussed homeopathy, surgery, medico-climatology, gynæcology, diseases of nervous system, pathology, materia medica, social purity, rhinology and laryngology, etc., etc. In the department of medico climatology, Japan was epresented by papers by Dr. W. N. Whitney, on "Eye Diseases in Japan," and Dr. John C. Berry on "Characteristics of Japanese Climate and the Diseases Produced by its Peculiarities." Prof. Mark W. Harrington, once of Peking, China, now of the U S. Weather Bureau, read a paper on the beneficial work of that organization. Among the reports on climatic conditions, Japan was represented by Dr. Saiki, and China by Dr. A. P. Peck, Miss Kate A. Marsden told of her sanitary missionary work among the lepers of Siberia; and Dr Donald McLennan, of Honolulu, sent a paper on leprosy on those islands, Dr. Torrence, of Persia, also gave an interesting address.

The subject of social purity was ably discussed for several days in all its phases by women who have made a special study of that topic.

This week the Temperance Congress is in session, and is divided into scientific, legislative and political, educational and religious sections. The Congress of Moral and Social Reform also began its session yesterday, and will continue through June 18th. It is to consider all departments of charity, correction and philanthropy, and opened on the subject of prison reform.

The Spanish Infanta is now the guest of our city. She and her husband, Prince Antoine, arrived Tuesday morning on a special train over the Pennsylvania road. They were met at Grand Crossing by a small party of American and Spanish gentlemen; were welcomed at the depôt by Mayor Harrison and the City Council, and escorted to their rooms in the Palmer House. That afternoon the Duke and the Duchess of Veragua called to pay their respects before leaving the city.

Yesterday Mayor Harrison gave a breakfast and reception at his home: and last evening President Higinbotham, of the Exposition, was the host. To-day the Infanta and her party are visiting the World's Fair, and will be honoured this evening with a grand illumination by electricity and fireworks This morning the guests had breakfast with President Palmer of the National Commission. As might be expected, there are big crowds at the Exposition to-day, and to night there will undoubtedly be an increased attendance.

The Exposition has now been open two Sundays. On the 28th ult. more than 100,000 people visited the Fair, upon which bright skies smiled; but on the 4th inst. the weather was so threatening that the attendance was very small. Altogether, although the people were orderly and quiet, the advocates of Sunday opening have been much disappointed. They had counted on a greater public demand for an "open and quiet Fair." About half of the State Buildings and many of the foreign buildings or exhibits were closed or covered.

This matter of Sunday closing has been in the courts. Week before last a temporary injunction, good for ten days, was secured from Judge Stein of this city against closing the Fair. Then the U.S. District Attorney brought suit for an injunction against opening the Fair before Judges Woods, Grosscup and Jenkins of the U.S. Circuit Court. Last week the case was ably argued on both sides during three days; and then the court took the matter under advisement. To-day they handed down a decision, two to one (Grosscup), that the injunction be granted. This ought to settle the question: but those in favour of Sunday opening are, of course, hoping to find some way of escape.

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Possibly, they will appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court.

The city of Fargo, South Dakota, was visited yesterday by a $3,000,000 fire.

The Ohio Republicans have unanimously nominated Governor McKinley for re election.

THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

The tenth annual session of the Japan Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church opened on Wednesday, July 5th. The greater part of the first day was consumed in examining the candidates for admission and those on trial in the Conference. The opening sermon was preached in the evening by the Rev. William Haven Daniels. At 9 a.m., on Thursday Bishop Foster, assisted by the Presiding Elders, administered the sacrement of the Lord's Supper, after which followed the organization of the Conference. Bishop Foster took the chair. Dr. Leonard conducted the devotional exercisis; the secretary of the preceding year called the roll, and sixty-seven answered to their names. Rev. H.B. Johnson was elected English secretary, and Rev. M. Yamaka Japanese secretary. Rev. D. S. Spencer and Rev. K. Nakada were elected English and Japanese statistical secretaries. Rev. J. Wier, D.D., was elected Conference Treasurer. Various committees were appointed to consider the questions of Sunday Schools, Temperance, Church Extension, Church Records, District Support, and to report to the Conference. Rev. S. Ogata was elected interpreter.

The Bishop addressed the Conference. He expressed his pleasure in meeting the Conference, after twice being assigned to this part of the field and prevented by sickness from coming. He had long desired to visit Japan, Korea, and China, they being the only countries in which the church had work that he had not visited. He expressed his sympathy for Bishop Foss, who, intending to visit Japan sustained a dislocation of the shoulder and other injuries from falling down a flight of stairs, and being thus providentially detained, he, Bishop Foster was here in his stead. He presented to the Conference the Christian love and greeting of both Bishop Foss and Bishop Mallalieu. He congratulated the Conference on the growth of the work in Japan, and stated that it was the purpose of the Methodist Episcopal Church to carry a free gospel to every person in every country in the world. He expressed the hope that this session and the coming year would be one of great spiritual growth and prosperity. He then described the semi-official capacity in which Rev. Dr. A. B. Leonard had accompanied him to Japan. Dr. Leonard is one of the Secretaries of the Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and came to learn of the workings of that society in these eastern countries. It was his duty to enquire into the details, to learn of the difficulties as well as of the encouragements, to become familiar with missionary matters and methods, in order that as Secretary he might the more wisely know the needs of the field in the future, and that he might represent to the Church at home, and to the Missionary Society, features of the work that it was impossible to learn through correspondence.

Dr. Leonard then addressed the Conference, reminding them of the fact that the church which one hundred and twenty seven years ago consisted of only one backslidden Local Preacher and one good Christian woman in America, had now grown to over two and a quarter millions of adherents. He prophesied that the same church, with the same Gospel, and with the same earnestness and zeal on the part of her members would in much less time grow to be a mighty power for good in this land.

Bishop Randolph S. Foster, D.D, LL.D., was born in Williamsburg, Clermont Co., Ohio, Feb. 22, 1823. He was educated in Agusta College, Kentucky. Converted when twelve years of age, he was licensed to preach at sixteen, and entered on the work of the itinerancy in his eighteenth year, when he was received into the Ohio Conference. He was ordained deacon by Bishop Waugh and elder by Bishop Hedding. In 1858 he was elected President of the North-western University. He was also elected President of Troy University, but declined the honour. In 1858 he was chosen Professor in Drew Theological Seminary, and in 1870, upon the death of Dr. McClintock, he was elected to the presidency of that institution. He was elected Bishop in 1872, and is next to the Senior Bishop, Bishop Bowman.

Bishop Foster is distinguished as author, theologian, and preacher. His most notable books are "Christian Purity," "Beyond the Grave," "Centenary Thoughts," and a series of nine volumes on special lines on "Systematic Theology," three volumes of which are published, two volumes in press, and the remaining four to appear in due time.

Rev. A. B. Leonard, D D., is a native of the state of Ohio, where most of his life thus far has been spent. He was born in 1837, graduated from Mount Union College, Ohio, and began preaching in 1860. Up to the time of his election as Secretary of the Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, his work had been in the pastorate or Presiding Eldership. He was delegate to the last three General Conferences, namely, 1884-88 and 92, by which body in '88 he was elected to the poston he now holds, and re-elected in '92.

Dr Leonard has always been an active and earnest worker in the temperance reform, and by voice and pen has aided greatly in elevating the plane of social purity and society. He is an able platform speaker, preacher, and executive officer. Has travelled over almost every part of his own country, but this is his first visit to foreign lands.

The afternoon was given up to statistics, Rev. I. H. Correll presiding. In the evening a Missionary sermon was preached by Rev. K. Nakada, after which was held the Anniversary of the Conference Missionary Society. This society sent, last year, one of the members of conference as missionary to the islands of Liu Kiu, Rev. C. Nagano, who was the speaker of the evening.

"TAKING LONG VIEWS."

[From a little volume of poems entitled "Dreams to Sell".]

("*Take short views!*"—SYDNEY SMITH.)

His locks were wild, and wild his eye,
Furrowed his brow with anxious thought.
Musing I asked him; tell me why
You look thus vacant and distraught?"
Sadly he gazed into my face;
He said, "I have no respite, none!
Oh, shall we wander into space
Or fall into the sun?

"Astronomers I've sought in tears,
And ah, 'tis terribly remiss
That after all these anxious years
They cannot even tell us this!
Though each man seems to prove his case,
Each contradicts the other one,
And—*do* we wander into space
Or fall into the sun?"

"Comfort!" I said, "I can't discern
The nature of our planet's end,
Nor should I greatly care to learn.
We've many æons left, my friend!
Whether we last from age to age
A frozen ball, or turn to flame,
To me, at this inspiring stage,
Is very much the same.

"Observe Humanity's advance,
And Evolution's giant strides!
Remark on what a smooth expanse
The nation's barque at anchor rides!
The march of Intellect retrace."
He moaned; "I don't care what we've done.
Oh, shall we wander into space
Or fall into the sun?

"If we should fall, you understand,
Such heat the crash would generate
The solar system might expand
Into its primal gaseous state.
It would be awkward, I maintain,
The same old cycle to renew;
For once let things come round again,
And we should come round too!"

I cried: "The prophecy forbear!
Of finite woes we have enough.
What, travel through the old despair,
Experience the old rebuff!
I'd rather haunt the void afar
For endless ages, would rejoice
To be a harmless frozen star,
If I might have my choice!"

He gazed at me with aspect strange.
He only said; "How would it be
If this poor planet should derange
The solar system's equity;
If when the sun our planet met
The sun himself began to fall,
Another system to upset,
And so on through them all?"

"Peace, peace!" I said. "However dark
The destiny the æons bear,
You won't be here the wreck to mark,"
He cried; "*that* causes my despair,
I want to know what will take place,
I want to see what will be done.
Oh, shall we wander into space
Or fall into the sun?" MAY KENDALL.

EAST AND WEST.

BY SIR EDWIN ARNOLD.

A SPLENDID OPPORTUNITY.

I would to-day, in these columns (*Daily Telegraph*) respectfully invite the vast and intelligent British public to forget, for a little while, home weather and home politics, and to accompany me, in fancy, to a sunny corner of their Empire, where there centres a far more important question, for the future of Religion and Civilisation, than any relating to parish councils or parish pumps. I will, by their leave, tell them of beautiful scenes under warm skies; of a temple fairer and more stately, as well as more ancient, than almost any existing fane; and will also show them how the Indian Government of her Majesty, supported by their own enlightened opinion, might, through an easy and blameless act of administrative sympathy, render four hundred millions of Asiatics for ever the friends and grateful admirers of England.

We will spread the magic carpet of Kamar-azzaman, told of in the "Arabian Nights," and pass at once upon it to Patna, the busy city upon the Ganges, some 350 miles by rail from Calcutta. The closing days of March are hot there, and the river glitters as if it were molten gold under the fiery sun. We will not stay accordingly to inspect the indigo factories, or to visit the wonderful *Golah* where 140,000 tons of rice can be laid up, nor the Government opium factory, where enough of that most useful and benign drug is stored to put the whole world to sleep. We will take train from Bankipore for Gaya, only fifty-seven miles away, and having rested in that town for the night, we shall have ordered carriages to be ready at break of day to convey us four *kos* further—some seven or eight miles—into the hills which hereabouts jut across the valley of the Ganges.

I said you should see beautiful scenery, and surely this is such. The road, broad and well made, runs between the Gaya hills on the right and the bright slow-stealing stream of the ancient Nilaájan on the left. The mountain flanks are covered with cactus, wild indigo, and corinda bushes, showing a little temple perched upon almost every peak; while down on the flat, and especially along the sandy levels bordering the river, green stretches of palm-groves are interspersed with *sal* and tamarind trees, the undergrowth being long tiger-grass and the common but ever-lovely ground palmetto *chamærops humilis*. The air, deliciously cool before the sun rises, is full of birds abroad for food—crows, parrakeets, mynas, the blue-winged rollers, the green and scarlet "hammersmiths," black and white king-fishers, bee-birds, bronze and emerald, and graceful silvery egrets stalking among the cattle. Later on, when the sky grows warmer, you will see clouds of lovely butterflies among the flowers of the orchids and wild datura, and sun-birds and dragonflies skimming along the blue and pink lotuses in the pools. The people whom we meet upon the road are dark-skinned patient peasants going with their products to Gaya and Bankipur, and those whom we shall overtake will be mainly pilgrims of the day, wending their way to the immeasurably holy place to which we also are bound. For, see! they also at the fifth rails quit the main track, and, turning to the left by a less excellent but still carriageable road, passing under the now welcome shade of the jack-trees and mangoes, are making for that most sacred spot of all hallowed places in Asia, towards which our own feet and thoughts are bound.

It is here! Beyond the little village of mud huts and the open space where dogs and children and cattle bask together in the dust, beyond the Mahunt's College, and yonder great fig-tree which has split with its roots that wall, twelve feet thick, built before England had ever been discovered, is an abrupt hollow in the surface, symmetrical and well-kept, and full of stone images, terraces, balustrades, and shrines. It is oblong—as big, perhaps, altogether as Bedford square, and surrounded on its edges by small houses and buildings. From one extremity of the hollowed area rises with great beauty and majesty a temple of very special style and design. The plinth of the temple is square, with a projecting porch, and on the top of this soars to the sky a pyramidical tower of nine storeys, profusely embellished with niches, string courses, and mouldings, while from the truncated summit of this an upper pinnacle rears itself, of graceful form, with a gold finial, representing the amalaka fruit. A smaller pyramidical tower stands at each corner of the roof of the lower structure, and is a broad walk round the base of the Great Tower. Over the richly-worked porch which fronts the East a triangular aperture is pierced, whereby the morn-glory of the sun may fall through upon the gilded

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image seated in the sanctuary within. That image, you will perceive, is of Buddha, and this Temple is the holiest and most famous, as well as nearly the sole surviving shrine, of all "those eighty four thousand erected to the Great Teacher by King Asoka two hundred and eighteen years after the Lord Buddha's *Nirvana*."

Yet more sacred even than the cool, dark sanctuary into which we look, to see the sun beams kissing the mild countenance of the Golden Buddh inside; more intensely moving to the Buddhists who come hither, and richer with associations of unspeakable interest and honour than King Asoka's stately temple and those stone railings carved with mermaids, crocodiles, elephants, and lotus flowers, which the King himself commanded, and which still surround the shrine, is yonder square platform of stone, about a yard high from the ground, out of which a tree is growing. That is the Maha Bodhi tree—in the opinion of superstitious votaries the very original Bodhi tree, miraculously preserved—but more rationally that which replaces and represents the ever-memorable shade under which the inspired Siddartha sate at the moment when he attained *sambuddhi*, the supreme light of his gentle wisdom. It is a fig tree—of the *ficus Indica* species—with the well-known long glossy leaves. Its stem is covered with patches of gold leaf, and its boughs are hung with streamers of white and coloured cloth, while at its root—frequently watered by the pious with sandal oil and attar of roses—will probably be seen sitting a Brahman priest of the Saivite sect intoning *mantras*. You will hear him say, "*Gaya! Gaya Sirsa, Bodhi Gaya*," for though he is praying on behalf of Mahratta pilgrims, and does not know or care for Buddha, the ancient formulas cling to the spot and to his lips. And, beyond all doubt, this is the spot, dear and divine, and precious beyond every other place on earth to all the 400 million Buddhists in China, Japan, Mongolia, Assam, Cambodia, Siam, Burma, Arakan, Nepaul, Thibet and Ceylon. This is the authentic place, and this the successor-tree, by many unbrokenly cherished generations of that about which my "Light of Asia" says:—

> Then he arose, made strong by that pure meat,
> And bent his footsteps where a greaty Tree grew,
> The Bodhi tree (thenceforward in all years
> Never to fade, and ever to be kept
> In homage of the world,. beneath whose leaves
> It was ordained the Truth should come to Buddh,
> Which now the Master knew; wherefore he went
> With measured pace, steadfast, majestical,
> Unto the Tree of Wisdom. Oh, ye worlds
> Rejoice! Our Lord wended unto the Tree!

There is no doubt, in fact, of the authenticity of the site. The four most sacred places of Buddhism are Kapilavastu (now Bhutla), where Prince Siddartha was born; Isipatana, outside Benares, where he first preached; Kusinagara, where he died, and this site marked by the tree, whereat "in the full moon of Wesak" 2,483 years ago he mentally elaborated the gentle and lofty faith with which he has civilised Asia. And of all those four the Tree-Place here at Buddha Gaya is the most dear and sacred to Asiatic Buddhists. Why, then is it to day in the hands of Brahman priests, who do not care about the Temple, except for the credit of owning it, and for the fees which they draw? The facts are these. Until the thirteenth century—that is, for more than 1,400 years—it was exclusively used and guardianed by Buddhists, but fell into decay and neglect, like other Buddhist temples, on the expulsion of Buddhism from India. Three hundred years ago a wandering Sivaite ascetic visited the spot, and settled down, drawing round him gradually the beginning of what is now the College of Priests established there. So strong have they since become in ownership that when the Bengal Government in 1880 was repairing the temple and its grounds, and begged for its embellishment from the Mahant a portion of Asoka's stone railing, which he had built into his own house, the old Brahman would not give it up, and Sir Ashley Eden could not or did not compel the restoration.

The Buddhist World had, indeed, we longt for go ten this hallowed and most interesting centre of their faith—the Mecca, the Jerusalem, of a million Oriental congregations—when I sojourned in Buddha Gya a few years ago. I was grieved to see Mahratta peasants performing "Shraddh" in such a place, and thousands of precious ancient relics of carved stone inscribed with Sanskrit lying in piles around. I asked the priest if I might have a leaf from the sacred tree.

"Pluck as many as ever you like, sahib," was his reply, "it is nought to us."

Ashamed of his indifference, I took silently the three or four dark shining leaves which he pulled from the bough over his head, and carried them with me to Ceylon, having written upon each the holy Sanskrit formula. There I found them prized by the Cingalese Buddhist with eager and passionate emotion. The leaf presented by me to the Temple at Kandy, for example, was placed in a casket of precious metal and made the centre of a weekly service, and there and then it befel that talking to the gentle and learned priests at Panadurè—particularly Sir Weligama—I gave utterance to the suggestion that the Temple and its appurtenances ought to be, and might be, by amicable arrangements with the Hindoo College and by the favour of the Queen's Government, placed in the hands of a representative committee of the Buddhists nations

I think there never was an idea which took root and spread so far and fast as that thrown out thus in the sunny temple court at Panadurè, amid the waving taliputs. Like those tropical plants which can almost be seen to grow, the suggestion quickly became a universal aspiration, first in Ceylon and next in other Buddhist countries. I was entreated to lay the plan before the Oriental authorities, which I did. I wrote to Sir Arthur Gordon, Governor of Ceylon, in these words: "I suggest a Governmental Act which would be historically just which would win the love and gratitude of all Buddhist populations, and would reflect enduring honour upon English administration. The temple and enclosure at Buddhha Gaya are, as you know, the most sacred spots in all the world for the Buddhists. . . . But Buddha-Gaya is occupied by a college of Saivite priests who worship Madadeva there and deface the shrine with emblems and rituals foreign to its nature. That shrine and the ground surrounding it remain, however, Government property, and there would be little difficulty, after proper and friendly negotiations, in procuring the departure of the Mahant with his priests, and the transfer of the temple and its grounds to the guardianship of Buddhists from Ceylon and elsewhere. I have consulted high authorities, among them General Cunningham, who thoroughly sympathises with the idea, and declares it entirely feasible. . . . I apprehend that a certain sum of money might be required to facilitate the transfer of the Brahmans to establish the Buddhist College. In my opinion a lakh of rupees could not be expended by either Government in a more profitable manner."

Sir Arthur, who had just been exploring Buddhist remains in Ceylon, was very well disposed to the idea. Lord Dufferin warmly received it, at Calcutta; Lord Connemara, in Madras; and at that time, if only the Home Government had been more alive to a grand opportunity, it would have been easy to make satisfactory terms with the Brahmans, and to have effected the transfer of the Holy place to a representative committee—at one stroke delighting and conciliating all Buddhistic Asia.

But two or three years passed by, and while the idea was spreading throughout Asia, and a large society had become established with the special purpose of acquiring the guardianship of the Sacred Site, the Mahant grew more exacting in his expectations, and clung closer to the possession of the Temple. The letters which I received from the East showed that the old Brahman had memorialised the Government, in his alarm or avarice, and that local authorities had for quiet's sake reported adversely to the negotiation. I think the Mahant is a good man. I have never wished a thy but friendly and satisfactory arrangements with him. Yet if you walked in that spot which all these scores of millions of our race love so dearly, you would observe with shame and grief in the mango groves to the east of Lilajan statues plastered to the walls of an irrigating well near the village Muchalin, identified with the "Mucha linda" tank. Stones carved with Buddhi's images are to be found used as weights to the levers for drawing water. I have seen tyots in the villages surrounding the Temple using beautifully carved stones as steps to their huts. I have seen 3ft. high statues in an excellent state of preservation, buried under rubbish to the east of the Mahant's Baradari. A few are plastered into the eastern outer wall of the garden along the bank of Lilajan, and the Asoka pillars, the most ancient relics of the site—indeed, "the most antique memorials of all India"—which graced a temple pavement, are now used as posts of the Mahant's kitchen! To rectify this sad neglect, and to make the Temple, what it should be, the living and learned centre of purified Buddhism, money was not and is not lacking. If the Home Government had seen its way to make the Mahant well-disposed, I could have commanded any sum which might have seemed fair and necessary. But the idea was too intelligent for the official grasp, and the golden moment went by.

Nevertheless, Asia did not abandon its new desire, and I received so many and such pressing communications that I went at last to the new Indian Secretary of State, Lord Cross, always intelligent, kindly and receptive, and once more pleaded for the Great Restoration.

"Do you wish, Lord Cross," I asked, "to have 400 millions of Eastern peoples bless your name night and day, and to be for ever remembered in Asia, like Alexander, or Asoka, or Akbar the Great?"

"God bless my soul, yes," answered the Minister, "how is that to be done?"

Then I repeated all the above facts, and produced so happy an effect upon the Indian Minister's mind that he promised to consult the Council, and to write—if the idea were approved—to Lord Lansdowne. In due time the Viceroy replied that the idea was legitimate and beneficial, and that so long as no religious ill-feeling was aroused, and no pecuniary grant asked from the Indian Treasury, the Calcutta Government would be inclined to favour any friendly negotiations. Thus the matter stood at my last visit to the East, when I was astonished and rejoiced to find how firmly the desire of this Restoration had taken root, and how enkindled with the hope of it Ceylon, Siam, Burmah, and Japan had become. The Maha-Bodhi Society, established to carry out the scheme, is constituted as follows:—

MAHA-BODHI SOCIETY

Patron—Lozang Chub-dan-gya-tcho, Grand Lâma of Tibet

President—Right Rev. H. Sumangala, Pradhâna Nayaka Mahâ Sthavira of Ceylon.

Vice-Presidents:

The Ven the Tathanaba ng, Mandalay, Burmah
Right Rev. Shaku Unsiyo, Tokyo, Japan
The Fang Tang, Yung-Ho-Kung, Pekin, China.
The Ven. Vaskaduvè Subhuti, P N M, Ceylon
The Ven V Sri Sumangala, Ceylon.

Representatives:

Siam—H.R.H. Prince Chandradat Chudadhar, Bangkok.

Japan—S. Horiuchi, Esq., Indo-Buseki Kofuku Kwai, 1, Buchigo, Shiba Park, Tokio

Japan—The Secretary, the Society of Buddhist Affairs, Jokojoji, Teramachi-dori, Shojo Sagaru, Kioto

Ceylon—G. P. Weerasekera, Esq, Assistant Secretary, Mahâ-Bodhi Society, 61, Maliban-street, Colombo.

Burmah—Moung Hpo Mhyin, K.S.M., Secretary, Mahâ-Bodhi Society, 5 Commissioner's road, Rangoon

Burmah—Moung Hpay, Extra Assistant Commissioner, Thayetmyo.

Arakan—Chan Htoon Aung, Advocate } Secretaries
Htoon Chan, B A, B.L. } Arakan Mahâ Bohdi Society, Akyab

Chittagong—Krishna Chandra Chowdhury, Secretary, Buddhist Aid Association Raozan, Chittagong.

Darjeeling (India)—Lâma Ugyen Gyatsho, Tibetan Interpreter, Secretary, Mahâ-Bodhi Society, Darjeeling

Calcutta—The Secretary, Calcutta Mahâ-Bodhi Society, 20-1, Gangadhur Babu's-lane, Bowbazar, Calcutta

California—Philangi Dasa, Editor *Buddhist Rev*, Santa Cruz, Cal, U.S.A

New York—Charles T. Strauss, 466, Broadway, N.Y., U.S.A.

France—Baron Harden Hickey, Secretary, Bouddhique Propagande, Andilly par Montmorency, Seine-et-Oise France

All communications to be addressed to H. Dharmapala, General Secretary, Mahâ-Bodhi Society, 29, Bau apooker-road, Entally, Calcutta

The purpose of the society is thus stated.

The site where the the Divine Teacher attained supreme wisdom, now known as Buddha Gaya, is in middle India, and to his followers there is no spot on earth more sacred than the Bodhimande, whereon stands the Bodhi-tree

> "Never to fade, and ever to be kept
> In homage of the world, beneath whose leaves
> It was ordained the truth should come to Buddh."

At this hallowed spot, full of imperishable associations, it is proposed to re-establish a monastery for the residence of Bhikkhus representing the Buddhist countries of Tibet, Ceylon, China, Japan, Cambodia, Burmah, Chittagong Nepal, Korea, and Arakan. We hope to found, also, a college at Buddha Gayá for training young men of unblemished character, of whatsoever race and country for the Buddhist Order (Sangha), on the lines of the ancient Buddhist University at Nálanda, where were taught the "Mahâyâna and also works belonging to the eighteen sects."

The study of Sanskrit, Pali, and English will be made compulsory on all students. One or more Buddhist scholars from each of the Buddhist countries will in time be attached to the staff of teachers

To carry on this great and glorious works of Buddhist revival, after a torpor of seven hundred years whence dates the destruction of Buddhism in India, the Mahâ Bodhi Society has been organised, and the promoters solicit sympathy and generous support all the world over.

To give some faint idea of the interest felt in this matter even among such remote communities as those of Japan, I will speak of a scene in Tokyo still vivid in my memory. Last summer, in the Japanese capital, the Buddhist High Priest, with certain of the fraternity, begged me to come to the Temple in Atago-shita and speak to the brethren about the Holy Places in India, and especially about the prospects of acquiring for the Buddhist world the guardianship of the Temple of the Tree. In the cool, dark inner court of that Japanese Tera the priests and their friends sate on the

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white mats in concentric circles, eagerly listening while I told them about that three or four hundred miles of Indian country lying between Basti in Oudh and Buddha-Gya in the Lower Provinces, which is the Holy Land of the "calm brethren of the yellow robe." I spoke of the birth-place and death-place of the Gentle Teacher, and showed them pictures which I had myself taken of the ancient building at Isipatana, outside Benares. The hot day, beating upon the hil side beyond the temple garden, shone upon the scarlet azaleas and the lotus-buds in the garden-lake, and rendered it warm enough, even in that vast shadowy apartment, for a constant flutter of fans, while now and then a young priest from the outer circle would glide away for drinking-water. But, when I came to paint for them that site of the stately Temple—which, from its hollow beside the Buddhist-tree, looks over the hills of the "Thousand Gardens," and marks the spot where the whole religious history of Asia was transformed, and its manners for ever stamped with the merciful tenderness and indestructible hopes of Buddhism—those hundreds of priests and novices sate like rows of little ch ldren lost in a fairy story. The fans were laid aside, the shaven heads were craned forward in intense desire to hear every word; old men laid their hands to their ears, and young ones leaned towards me with clasped palms, to learn all about the Tree, and the Temple, and the broken statues, and the Hindoo priests who do not care for the spirit of the place, and who ought, in a friendly way, to yield it up—on proper conditions—to Buddhist guardianship. Every man present would have given all he possessed, I think, to help towards such an end. As for their unworthy guest, they lavished upon me marks of pleasure and gratitude; they spread me out an outrageously elaborate feast-table in the Temple pavilion; and sent with me back to my lodgings servants carrying presents of books and boxes of beautiful Japanese silks and embroideries. Since then the High Priest writes to me thus from Tokyo:—

Since your regretted departure from Japan the Indo-Bussiki Kofuku Society has not been idle, and now I am glad to inform you that we are trying to buy a certain piece of land near each of the sacred sites according to your kind advice to us. Mr. Dharmapala, of the Maha Bodhi Society, is doing all he can to help us in India, and if everything goes as intended, a certain number of Japanese monks will start for India within this year.

Thus is this new and great idea spreading, and the world will not be very much older before Buddhism by this gateway goes back to its own land, and India becomes the natural centre of Buddhistic Asia. I suppose there are some people who will ask why should the British public take any concern in such a movement. But these will be of much the same as those who go about inquiring, "What is the British Empire to Batter sea?" Apart from the immense historical, religious, and socia importance of Buddhism in Asia, here s an opportunity for the Government of India to gratify and conciliate half that continent by the easiest and least costly exercise of goodwill. The Mahunt and his college will, no doubt, have to be bought out, and rather expensively, now that delays have made him master of the bargaining. But if an enlightened Minister and Viceroy will—as they may—facilitate the arrangement, all must end wel., and grateful Buddhists would furnish whatever cash is requisite. No orthodox Hindoos will be wounded in sentiment, because, by strict truth, the Mahunt, as a Brahmin and follower of Sankaracharya, goes against his shastras by keeping control of a Buddhists Temple. However, it brings him so much personal dignity and so much money that these things must be compounded for, no doubt; yet a well disposed Collector and a far-seeing Government could find a score of pleasant ways to make him willing to give up his tenure. There is no room left me to dwell upon the happy consequences which would flow to the Indian Viceroyalty and to India herself from the goodwill stirred in Burmah and Siam. Buddhism would return to the place of its birth, to elevate, to spiritualise, to help, and enrich the population. It would be a new Asiatic Crusade, triumphant without tears, or tyranny, or blood, and the Queen's Administration would have the glory and benefit of it. The *Hindu* of Madras, a leading native journal, writes: "If there is anything in the intellectual and moral legacies of our forefathers of which we may feel proud it is that sublime, pure, and simple conception of a religious and moral system which the world owes to Buddha Educated Hindus cannot hesitate in helping Buddhism to find a commanding and permanent footing once more in their midst, and to live in mutually purifying amity with our Hinduism itself." It is indeed, for an enlightened British Minister, "a splendid opportunity."

CHESS.

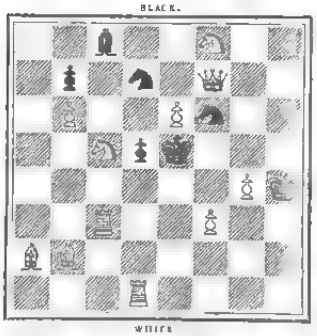
(All Communications to be addressed to the CHESS EDITOR.)

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 76.

WHITE.	BLACK
1—R — R 8	1—R × P
2—B — Q Kt 3	2—R × B
3—B from Q Kt 8, dis. mate	
	1—R — Q R 8
2—B — Q R 2	2—R × B
3—B — Q R 7, dis. mate	
	1—R — Q B 8
2—B — Q B 4	2—R × B
3—B — Q B 7, dis. mate	
	1—R — Q 8
2—B — Q 5	2—R × B
3—B — Q 6, dis. mate	
	1—R — K 8
2—B — K 5	2—R × B
3—B — K 6, dis. mate	
	1—R — K B 8
2—B — K B 4	2—R × B
3—B — K B 7, dis. mate	
	1—R — K Kt 8
2—B — K Kt 3	2—R × B
3—Moves B, dis. mate	
	1—R — K R 8
2—B — K R 2	2—R × B
3—Moves B, dis. mate.	

Correct solutions received from J.D., W.H.S., O. Balk, J.W.E., P.E.F.S., Omega, M.A.W., and Digamma.

PROBLEM No. 78
By W E. PERRY.



BLACK.

WHITE.

White to play and mate in two moves.

Nothing of importance from Europe by the last mails. The unusual dry hot spring-summer seems to have dried up the Chess energies there, and most of the Clubs have adjourned serious work until autumn with its long evenings once more induce indoor games.

The following remarkable game, which we copy from the *British Chess Magazine* for May, was played some years ago, and was first published in the *Dresdener Schachblätter*. White's impetuous attack, and the position of the two Kings at the end of the contest, are noticeable features.

FOUR KNIGHTS' GAME.

WHITE. Dr. C. Schmid.	BLACK. Dr. C. Schwede.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—Kt to B 3	3—Kt to B 3
4—B to Kt 5	4—B to Kt 5
5—Kt to Q 5	5—B to B 4

.... 5 .. Kt takes Kt is good, but usually leads to a very dull game. Even on the next move it would be better to exchange, and then continue with ..... Kt to Q 5, than to let White pin the second Knight.

6—P to Q 3	6—P to Q 3 ?
7—B to Kt 5	7—B to Q 2
8—Kt to K R 4 !	8—P to K R 3
9—B takes K Kt	9—P takes B
10—Q to B 3	

White has already a strong, if not an absolutely irresist ble attack. And in this the fixed Knight at Q 5 is manifestly a prime factor.

	10—Kt to Q 5
11—B takes B ch.	11—K takes B
12—Q to Kt 4 ch.	12—K to B 3

.... If 12 .. K to K sq, of course 13 Q to Kt 7. However, rather than undertake this ill-starred journey with his King, Black should interpose the Pawn and then, if 13 Kt (P) takes P, play 13 .. Q to Kt 4.

13—Kt to B 5

It would be safer to Castle, but White makes no halt, and Black takes the R ok as offering the best of bad prospects, as it were. 13 .. Kt takes Kt, would defer the end but make it certain—as certainties in chess are reckoned

	13—Kt takes P ch.
14—K to Q 2	14—Kt takes R
15—K Kt to K 7 ch.	15—K to Kt 4
16—P to Q R 4 ch.	16—K to R 3
17—P to Kt 4	17—Kt to Kt 6 ch.
18—K to B 3	18—Kt to Q 5
19—P to Kt 5 ch.	19—K to R 4
20—Q to Q sq.	20—R to K sq.

.... Here Black perhaps misses his only chance. so .., P to B 5 would give his antagonist a great ideal of trouble—even if it would not compel him to raise the siege altogether

21—K to B 4 !	21—B to Kt 5
22—Kt takes B	22—P to R 3
23—K Kt to Q 5	23—P to Q B 4
24—Q to Q 2 !	24—Resigns.

White mates in three moves.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, July 2nd.

Mr. Gladstone's resolution to expedite the Home Rule Bill was carried by a majority of 32.

Owing to great pressure, it has been decided to convene Congress on August 7th.

The British Broken Hill Mine (Australia), and all the silver mines in Colorado are closing, as are also numerous mines in Utah, Nevada, and Montana. It is expected that the Chilian mines will follow suit. Mexico is taking measures to prevent further silver coinage.

London, July 4.

A Court-martial in connection with the sinking of H.M.S. *Victoria* was ordered instanter, and has been appointed to sit at Malta. Admiral Tryon had been on the sick list till the morning of the disaster, at which time he was suffering both in health and spirits

London, July 5.

Serious riots have occurred in Paris. The students have had desperate conflicts with the police and many were wounded.

"SPECAL" TELEGRAM TO "JAPAN MAIL."

Nagasaki, July 3.

The Russian steamer *Vladivostock* has become a total loss in the vicinity of Nicolaiefsk. There was a dense fog at the time. All on board were saved.

[FROM HONGKONG PAPERS.]

London, June 24.

The officers of H.M.S. *Victoria* who have been drowned include:—

Lieutenant Philip H. Munro.
Rev. Samuel S. O. Morris, M.A., Chaplain.
Fleet-Paymaster Valentine W. J. Rickord.
Fleet-Engineer Felix Foreman.
Four Engineers.
Boatswain.
Gunner.
Carpenter.
Midshipmen—Inglis, Grieve, Fawkes, Lanyon, Henley, Gambier, and Stooks.
Messrs. Allen and Savage.

The saved include:—

Captain the Hon. Maurice A. Bourke.
Lieutenant Ottley.
Lieutenant Bolster.

Gladstone has announced the nature of the revised financial clauses of the Home Rule Bill. He proposes the continuance of the exisiting taxes for six years, during which time Ireland is empowered to establish new taxes herself, meanwhile contributing to the Imperial exchequer a third of the revenue, also the proceeds of any special war-tax. She may afterwards collect and manage her own taxes, with the exception of Customs, Excise and Post Office.

Redmond has expressed the intention of opposing.

London, June 26.

The collision between H.M.S. *Camperdown* and H.M.S. *Victoria* occurred while the ships were changing line The sea was calm. Admiral Tryon steered landward, hoping to run ashore, but the bow soon began to sink. Thereupon the Admiral ordered *sauve qui peut*. He himself remained upon the bridge. As the vessel turned over and sank, two tremendous explosions followed.

London, June 27.

The result of the second ballots for the Reich-

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stag gives the Government a small working majority. Forty-four Socialists have been elected.

Mr. Gladstone has stated in the House that the Indian Government is authorised to admit the free coinage of silver already shipped if it thinks fit.

(From N.C. Daily News.)

London, June 29th.

Sir Edward Grey, Paliamentary Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, has decided (? declined) to state the Government's policy with regard to Siam.

The action of the Indian Government with regard to silver has demoralised the Exchanges of Europe and America.

(From Manila Papers.)

Madrid, June 16.

The opposition of the Deputies belonging to the Cuban Unionist party to the reforms presented to Congress is becoming more accentuated. The telegrams they receive from Cuba support them in the course they have adopted.

The lawyers in various cities have gone on strike as a protest against the suppression of certain criminal courts.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, Nagasaki and Kobe, ...	per N. V. K.	Friday, July 14th
From America ..	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, July 11th.*
From Canada, &c.	per C. P. M. Co.	Sunday, July 9th †
From America ..	per P. M. Co.	Friday, July 21st ‡
From Hongkong.	per C. P. M. Co.	Thursday, July 13th §
From Europe via Hongkong ..	per N. D. Lloyd	Wed'day July 12th ‖
From Hongkong.	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, July 16th.
From Europe viâ Hongkong . ..	per M. M. Co.	Friday, July 21st.
From America .	per O. & O. Co.	Sunday, July 30th.

* *City of Peking* left San Francisco on June 24th. † *Empress of Japan* left Vancouver on June 26th. ‡ *China* left San Francisco viâ Honolulu on July 3rd. § *Empress of India* (with English mail) left Hongkong on July 5th. ‖ *Nurnberg* left Hongkong on July 7th

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Hongkong...	per C. P. M. Co.	Tuesday, July 11th.
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki ..	per N. V. K.	Tuesday, July 11th.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. M. Co.	Friday, July 14th.
For Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd.	Friday, July 14th
For America	per P. M. Co.	Saturday, July 15th.
For Europe, viâ Shanghai ...	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, July 16th
For Hongkong ..	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, July 22nd.
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Thursday, July 27th.
For Victoria and Tacoma	per N. P. Co.	Saturday, July 29th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Satsuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,012, Kawano, 1st July,—Kobe 30th June, General.—Kabushiki Kaisha.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, M Fukui, 1st July,—Yokkaichi 30th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Lillian L. Robbins, British ship, 1,699, Robbins, 1st July,—New York viâ Kobe, Oil.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,695, W. G. Pearne, 2nd July,—San Francisco 17th June, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, T. Sakai, 2nd July,—Kobe 1st July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, Y. Arai, 2nd July,—Yokkaichi 1st July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Verona, British steamer, 1,878, C. H. S. Tocque, 2nd July,—Hongkong 25th June, Nagasaki 28th, and Kobe 1st July, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. M. Young, 2nd July,—Otaru viâ ports 28th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Indiana, American ship, 1,488, Colley, 3rd July,—Portland, Oregon 6th May, Ballast.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Harima Maru, Japanese steamer, 436, Kawamuro, 3rd July,—Yokkaichi 2nd July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Oceanic, British steamer, 3,808, W. M. Smith, 4th July,—Hongkong viâ ports 27th June, Mails and General.—O & O. S.S. Co.

Sessiu Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,012, Hayashi, 4th July,—Kobe 3rd July, General.—Nada Kogio Kabushiki Kaisha.

Tsukushi Maru, Japanese steamer, 636, J. Will, 4th July,—Otaru, Coal.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, M. Fukui, 4th July,—Yokkaichi 3rd July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 684, M. Matsumoto, 5th July,—Kobe 3rd July, General —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 704, Tamura, 5th July,—Shimonoseki 3rd July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, Y. Arai, 5th July,—Yokkaichi 4th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, J. Nirei, 5th July,—Kobe 4th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, R. Tipple, 5th July,—Otaru viâ ports 1st July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, M. Fukui, 6th July,—Yokkaichi 5th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 6th July,—Moji, Coal.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Ghasee, British steamer, 1,827, Scotland, 6th July, —Antwerp viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Oxus, French steamer, 2,500, Dupont, 6th July,—Marseilles viâ ports, 28th May, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, Conner, 6th July,—Shanghai and ports 30th June, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sophie Sutherland, American schooner, 149, A. C. Sutherland, 6th July,—San Francisco, Sealing Gear.—Captain.

Kumamoto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,240, Olsen, 7th July,—Hojo 4th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha

DEPARTURES.

Harima Maru, Japanese steamer, 436, Kawamuro, 1st July,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Ekstrand, 1st July,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Satsuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,012, Kawano, 1st July,—Shinagawa, General.—Kabushiki Kaisha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, Nirei, 1st July,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 1st July,—Moji, Ballast.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Imperieuse (10), flagship, Captain McQuhae, 1st July,—Hakodate.

Caroline (14), cruiser, Captain C. J. Norcock, 1st July,—Hakodate.

Leander (10), cruiser, Captain Castle, 1st July,—Hakodate.

Mercury (13), cruiser, Captain W. Fawkes, 1st July,—Hakodate.

Peacock (6), gunboat, Commander F. W. Ingram, 1st July,—Hakodate.

Porpoise (6), cruiser, Commander C. L. Burr, 1st July,—Hakodate.

Severn (12), cruiser, Captain R. F. Henderson, 1st July,—Hakodate.

Riversdale, British steamer, 1,311, Peck, 1st July, —Hakodate viâ Yokosuka, Ballast.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Calédonien, French steamer, 2,500, Flandin, 2nd July,—Shanghai viâ Kobe, Mails and General. —Messageries Maritimes Co.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, M. Fukui, 2nd July,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Alacrity (4), despatch-boat, Commander Callaghan, 3rd June,—Hakodate.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, Y. Arai, 3rd July,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. M. Young, 3rd July,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,695, W. G. Pearne, 4th July,—Hongkong, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co

Emma F. Herriman, American bark, 395, Chas. A. Sparks, 4th July,—North Pacific, Whaling Gear.—Captain.

Harima Maru, Japanese steamer, 436, Kawamuro, 4th July,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Itsukushima Kan (20), Japanese cruiser, Captain K. Ijtchi, 4th July,—Yokosuka.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,358, Haswell, 4th July,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Salatiga, German steamer, 1,639, Christiansen, 4th July,—Hamburg viâ ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, T. Sakai, 4th July,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sessiu Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,011, Hayashi, 4th July,—Shinagawa, General.—Nada Kogio Kabushiki Kaisha.

Teucer, British steamer, 1,802, Riley, 4th July,—New York viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, M. Fukui, 5th July,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 934, Y. Arai, 6th June,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 684, M. Matsumoto, 6th July,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tsukushi Maru, Japanese steamer, 636, J. Will, 6th July,—Shimonoseki, Light.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 704, Tamura, 6th July,—Yokosuka, Light.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Oceanic, British steamer, 3,808, W. M. Smith, 7th July,—San Francisco viâ Honolulu, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Harima Maru, Japanese steamer, 436, Kawamuro, 7th July,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, J. Nirei, 7th July,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tsukuba Kan (8), Japanese corvette, Captain T Kurooka, 7th July,—Yokosuka.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, R. Tipple, 7th July,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ghasee, British steamer, 1,827, Scotland, 8th July, —Vladivostock, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Verona, British steamer, 1,878, C. H. S. Tocque, 8th July,—Hongkong viâ Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, from San Francisco: —Mr. U. Suzuki and servant, Mr. S. Terashima, Mrs. Dr. W. L. Chapman, Mr. S. W. Zeveryn, Hon. Edwin Dunn, Mr. George D. Hart, Mr. P. Beron, Mr. M Adachi, Mr. A. Zarazin, and Mr Nicholia Zarazin in cabin. For Hongkong: Mr. G. Mundt and servant in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Verona*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. J. K. Trafford, Lieut. Wilson, Mr. Charng, Mr. W. A. Correll, Mr. J. H. Correll, Mr. and Mrs. Sharp, and Mr. Tanout in cabin; one Japanese lady and 3 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, from Otaru viâ ports:—Mr. G. da Moore and Mr. R. L. Irons in cabin; one passenger in second class, and 24 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Oceanic*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. Kramer, Rev. and Mrs. Taylor and child, Miss Ekussih, Miss L. M. Sads, Miss G. Tucker, Mr. Simons, Mr L. E. Waller, and Mr. Lamking in cabin. For Honolulu and San Francisco: Colonel Sir H. Collett, Mr. and Mrs. So Young and family, and Mrs. Eckley in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, from Kobe:—Mr. J. A. De Figueiredo, Rear-Admiral T. Tanaka, Mrs. Tanaka, and Miss Tanaka in cabin; 1 passenger in second class, and 19 passengers in steerage.

Per French steamer *Oxus*, from Marseilles viâ ports:—Mrs. D. S. Howe, Mr. N. de Volyntzeff, Mr. Versepuy, Deux Sœurs de St. Paul de Chartres, Mr. Lambert, Mr. A. Rantembert, Mr. Langdon Bruce, Miss M. de Langalorie, Mr. Isgavisheff, Mr. S. Weinberg, Mr. B. Martinet,

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Mr. and Mrs Alléne and boy, Madame Landrau and child, Mr. Bernardi, Mr. and Mrs. Rose, and Mr. D. W. Le Lacheur in cabin; and 2 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Mrs. Fearon and 3 children, Mrs. McMichael and child, Mrs Greaves and 3 children, Mrs. Lysle, Mrs. Maxwell, Miss Jane Davies, Dr. Matherbe, Messrs R. de Matherbe, Gervas Glyn, A. W. James, F. M. Gratton, G. A Watkins, K. Ijiichi, Sakata, S Hirano, S. Satow, Bates, Geo. N Macondry, and Y. Yezaki in cabin; Mrs. Tsuchiya, Miss S. Isono, Messrs. Okuda, Suganuma, Chung Fong, and Shun Wo in second class, and 44 passengers in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per French steamer *Calédonien*, for Shanghai viâ Kobe:—Mr. and Mrs. Takayama, Mrs. Smith, Mr. T. Saisho, Mrs. V. Maxwell, Mr. S. G Geoton, Mr. Jubin, Mr. and Mrs. G. Shibuya, Mr. M. Rey, Mr. Haw Kan Tean, and Mr. Tsuchiya in cabin

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, for Hongkong:—Mr. James Goss, Chief-Justice and Mrs. Fielding Clarke, Mr. F. X D'Aze Castro, Mr J. T Sterling, Mr. and Mrs. N. J Ede, Mrs. H. L. Dalrymple, and Mr. Geo. L. Tombi in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Mrs. G. D. Pakenham, Mrs. A. Thomsen, Mrs. and Miss Muramura, Mr. A. M. Chalmers, and Mr S Hara in cabin; Mrs. Kawano, Mrs. Hara, Miss Harada, Miss S Harada, Miss Kawamoto, Mr. and Mrs. Yokoi, Miss Yokoi and child, Mr and Miss Takizawa, Messrs. Ouchi, Taniguchi, S Nishiyama, N Suzuki S. Suzuki, Tachibana, Sakanoshi, and K. Takahashi in second class, and 100 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Oceanic*, for San Francisco viâ Honolulu:—Miss Amy Barrington, Mr. Louis Boster, Mr. H. P. Bowie, Colonel Sir H. Collett, Mr. L. Downes, Mr. P. H Duryea, Mrs. L. W. Eckley, Mr. K Futami, Mr. U Hachiro, Mr R Hargous, Mr A. S. Hay, Mr. H Jones, Mr. Lum Kong, Mrs. McMichael and child, Mr. S Nemoto, **Mr. M. Orikawa**, Dr. H Prayfair, Misses Poorbaugh (2), **Miss** Lizzie R. Poorbaugh, Mr. and **Mrs. J. H. Purdy** and maid, Mr. A Renuka dt, **Rev. A. B. Simpson, Mr.** T. Sone, Dr. K. Takayama, **Mr. B. Thayer**, Mr. S. Tanaka, Mr. U Taneda, **Mr. N. C.** Walton, Jun., Mr. G. A. **Watkins, Mr. L. Webb**, Mr. A. Westmacott, Mr. Geo. E. **Woodhull and** child, and Mr. and Mrs. So Yung and 2 children in cabin.

Per British steamer *Verona*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Lieut. M[illegible] W. Wilson, Miss J S. Vail, Miss Hug[illegible] Mr. Y. Todoroki in cabin; 2 Japanese and [illegible]ndian in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, from Kobe:—Treasure, $20,000

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, $169,000.00.

Per French steamer *Calédonien*, for Shanghai viâ Kobe:—Raw Silk for France, 88 bales. Treasure for Shanghai, $220,000

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, $8,000 00

Per British steamer *Oceanic*, for San Francisco viâ Honolulu:—

	RAW SILK	TEA VIA NEW YORK	TEA CHICAGO.	TEA OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	2,332	618	568	—	3,518
Hyogo	6	1,414	1,303	1,418	4,141
Yokohama	5,426	313	2,128	2,326	10,193
Hongkong	326	—	—	7	333
Foochow	—	—	875	—	875
Total	8,090	2,345	4,874	3,751	19,060

	RAW SILK	RAW COTTON.	HARTFORD	TOTAL
Shanghai	—	25	—	25
Hongkong	—	72	—	72
Yokohama	—	31	—	31
Total	—	128	—	128

Per British steamer *Verona*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Silk, 83 bales; Waste Silk, 11 bales.

REPORTS.

The British steamer *Gaelic*, Captain Pearne, reports:—Left San Francisco the 17th June at 12.45 p.m.; to the 18th had strong westerly winds and head sea; thence to the 30th light southerly and westerly winds with smooth sea; thence to port, strong westerly winds and head sea. Arrived at Yokohama the 2nd July at 5.04 p.m. Passage, 14 days, 10 hours, and 56 minutes.

The Japanese steamer *Sendai Maru*, Captain Sakai, reports:—Left Kobe the 1st July at noon; had light airs and cloudy; passed Oshima Light at 8.16 p.m; the 2nd light wind and fine, hazy horizon; at 4.00 made fast to the buoy

The Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, Captain Young, reports: Left Otaru the 28th June at noon; had light northerly airs and fine weather Arrived at Hakodate the 29th at 6.50 a.m. and left the 30th at noon. Arrived at Ogimohama the 1st July at 10.55 a.m. and left the same day at 2 p.m.; had light S.S W. airs till 4 a.m. on the 2nd; thence thick fog to Noshima Lighthouse. Arrived at Yokohama the 2nd July at 4.25 p.m

The British steamer *Oceanic*, Captain Smith, reports:—Left Hongkong the 27th June; Nagasaki the 1st July; Kobe the 3rd. Arrived at Yokohama the 4th July at 4.15 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, Captain Nirei, reports:—Left Kobe the 4th July at noon; had fine, hazy weather and heavy southerly swell and light variable winds; passed Oshima at 8.45 p.m.; made Rock Island the 5th at 11.40 a.m., weather gradually became hazier and overcast with light easterly breeze. Arrived at Yokohama at 5.40 p.m

The Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, Captain Tipple, reports:—Left Otaru the 1st July at 0.16 p.m.; had light S.W. winds and foggy weather and had similar weather to arrival at Hakodate. Left Hakodate the 23rd at 0.50 p.m; had light S. winds and foggy weather to Ogimohama, arriving the 4th at 10.50 a.m Left the same day at 4.22 p.m.; had light south and westerly winds and misty weather; experienced very heavy southerly swell from Inuboye to Katsuura; thence to port had light W. winds and misty weather Arrived at Yokohama the 5th July at 6.30 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, Captain Conner, reports —Left Shanghai the 30th June and arrived at Nagasaki the 2nd July at 3 a.m.; experienced light S.E. winds with fine, clear weather. Left Nagasaki the same day at 5 p.m. and arrived at Shimonoseki the 3rd at 6 a.m. Left there again at 11 a.m. and arrived at Kobe the 4th at 7 a.m; had light variable winds from S. to S.E. Left there again the 5th at noon; experienced light winds from S.S.E. to E.N.E. with fine, clear weather to Rock Island; thence to port moderate breeze from N.E. with fine weather. Arriving at company's buoy the 6th July at 3.45 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Kumamoto Maru*, Captain Olsen, reports:—Left Honjo the 4th July at 7.15 p.m.; had fresh northerly breeze and thick, misty weather; the same wind and weather, with intervals of dense fog, continuing until the 6th, when wind hawled into the N.W. with drizzling rain; on the 7th moderate breeze and fine, clear air; at 8.30 a.m. rounded Noshima; thence to port fresh N E breeze and cloudy, clear air. Arriving at Yokohama at 12.30 p.m.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS

Although Silver has recovered somewhat from its unprecedented fall and exchange rates are on their way upwards again, the Import trade has not as yet shown any sign of revival. Holders not knowing quite where they stand, are very firm, awaiting fresh developments There has been some slight enquiry for Grey Shirtings, and would be buyers are willing to pay from 10 to 15 cents per piece above our quotations, but in the absence of any business whatever we again give them as nominal

COTTON PIECE GOODS

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8¼lb, 38½ yds 39 inches	$1.90 to 2.40
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 38½ yds 45 inches	2.00 to 2.75
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards 32 inches	1.40 to 1.75
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches	1.50 to 1.90
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.65 to 2.50
Cotton—Italian and Salteen Back, 32 inches	PER YARD. 0.13 to 0.17
Velvets—Black 35 yards 22 inches	6.00 to 8.50
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-44 inches	0.6¼ to 0.7½
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	PER P. R. 1.22½ to 1.35
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	1.42½ to 1.60
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	1.75 to 1.97½
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.12½ to 2.32½

WOOLLENS

	PER YARD.
Flannel	$0.24 to 0.38
Italian Cloth, 40 yards, 32 inches best	0.29 to 0.33
Italian Cloth, 40 yards 32 inches Medium	0.25 to 0.27½
Italian Cloth, 32 yards, 32 inches Common	0.20 to 0.24
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards 32 inches	0.12 to 0.19
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.42½
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.57½
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.65
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 4 to 3½lb, per lb	0.37 to 0.51

COTTON YARNS

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	$30 00 to 31 00
Nos. 16/24, Medium	32 00 to 33 00
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	32 50 to 33 50
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	32 00 to 33 00
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	— to 35.00
Nos. 28/32, Medium	36 00 to 36 50
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	36 50 to 37 00
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	38.00 to 40.00
No. 32s, Two-fold	40 00 to 41 00
No. 42s, Two-fold	42 00 to 43 50
	PER B. M.
No. 20s, Bombay	Nom. 77.50 to 81 50
No. 16s, Bombay	Nom. 73.50 to 80 50

METALS

The situation of this market remains as last reported, and owing to the complete absence of business our quotations must be taken as nominal.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ¾ inch	$2.80 to 2 90
Flat Bars, ¼ inch	3 00 to 3 05
Round and square up to ¾ inch	2 90 to 3 05
Iron Plates, assorted	3 00 to 3 10
Sheet Iron	3.70 to 3 90
Galvanized Iron sheets	6.75 to 7 00
Wire Nails, assorted	4 50 to 5 10
Tin Plates, per box	5 40 to 5 50
Pig Iron, No. 1	1 27½ to 1 30

KEROSENE.

Holders firm and buyers keeping off. Stock small, notwithstanding the arrival of 45,000 cases Chester from New York.

Chester	$1.55 to 1.57½
Comet	1.57½ to 1 60
Devoe	—
Russian Anchor	1 55 to 1 57½
Russian Moon	1 52½ to 1 55

SUGAR.

This market, being practically unaffected by exchange, has enjoyed a considerable amount of activity. Browns show a rise of from 5 to 15 cents per picul. Whites have been in good demand, and a brisk trade has been transacted.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	$4.90 to 5.40
Brown Manila	5.25 to 5.35
Brown Daitong	4 25 to 4 30
Brown Canton	4.25 to 4 60
White Java and Penang	6.70 to 6.80
White Refined	7 00 to 8 90

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK

Our last issue was of the 30th ultimo. Since that date settlements on this market amount to 97 piculs, divided thus:—*Hanks*, 5 piculs; *Filatures*, 67 piculs; *Re reels*, 25 piculs. Besides these purchases direct shipments have been 33 bales, making the total export trade of the week equal to 130 piculs

Supplies are coming in rather more freely now and the stock increases but without tempting buyers to any great extent. Holders, especially of coarse sizes, are getting rather uneasy and to make a beginning have sold some *Re reels* at what appear to be low figures. Some business also has been done from day to day in fine sized *Filatures* and values for these sorts are well maintained. Producers tell us that while they get a fair return on these fine silks, prices for coarse silks leave them a heavy loss, but probably the cocoon markets will decline and once more give them a margin on the right side

Exchange has slowly recovered to a more reasonable figure, but the intelligence received by cable from consuming markets is not encouraging and our silk market in consequence "hangs fire." We hope that in a few days we shall see a more settled and regular course of affairs.

There have been two shipping opportunities since we last wrote, the French mail steamer *Calédonien*, 2nd instant, taking 88 bales for Lyons and the O & O. steamer *Oceanic*, which left port this morning, carried 31 bales for the United States. These departures make the total export for this season to date 121 piculs, against 540 piculs last year and 696 piculs at the same date in 189..

Hanks.—The small parcel of *Hachoji* mentioned in our last was eventually taken by an English firm at $560 per picul. Some further sample bales are in stock but no other sales have resulted.

Filatures.—Demand continues for fine sizes, prices ranging from $850 to $950, according to quality. In full sizes the *Shinshu* factories are, as usual, at work upon alien cocoons and one or two parcels have arrived, notably *Hakusuru* and *Kaimetsha*, but which so far have led to no transactions. In *Koshu* sorts, one parcel *Kusanagisha*, fine size, has brought $910, while *Yajima* of full size is for the present held off the market.

Re-reels.—Dealers have apparently got tired of holding, and anxious to make a beginning, have sold about 25 piculs Tortoise chop at $700. They started out gaily a week ago by asking $800; they next reduced their pretensions to $750 and finally

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accepted the best offer obtainable as above. Several other parcels *Joshu Re reels* are on the market and their owners will probably sell upon this basis.

Kakeda.—The crop is reported to be going well, but it is too early to get any arrivals just at present. Values in this class are entirely a question of the future.

QUOTATIONS.

Hanks—No 1	—
Hanks—No 2 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No 2 (Joshu)	—
Hanks—No 2½ (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2½ (Joshu)	—
Hanks—No 2½ to 3	—
Hanks—No. 3	$555 to 560
Hanks—No. 3½	540 to 545
Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers	—
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	—
Filatures—No 1, 10/13 deniers	950 to 950
Filatures—No 1, 13/15, 14/16 den	—
Filatures—No 1½, 10/14 deniers	910 to 920
Filatures—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 den	—
Filatures—No 2, 10/15 deniers	850 to 870
Filatures—No 2, 14/18 deniers	—
Filatures—No 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—(Oshu) Best No 1	—
Re-reels—No 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	—
Re reels—No 1½, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	700 to 710
Re reels—No 2, 14/18 deniers	660 to 680
Re-reels—No 2½, 14/18 deniers	—
Re reels—No 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Kakedas—Extra	—
Kakedas—No 1	—
Kakedas—No 1½	—
Kakedas—No 2	—
Kakedas—No 2½	—
Kakedas—No 3	—
Kakedas—No 3½	—
Kakedas—No 4	—
Oshu Sendai—No 1	—
Hamatsuki—No 1, 2	—
Hamatsuki—No 3, 4	—
Sodai—No 2½	—

Export, Raw Silk Tables to 7th July, 1893.

		Season 1892-93	1891-92	1890-91
		Bales	Bales	Bales
Europe		88	197	153
America		31	320	526
Total	Bales	119	517	679
	Piculs	123	540	696
Settlements and Direct Export from 1st July		Piculs 130	450	575
Stock, 7th July		1,000	1,800	1,900
Available supplies to date		1,130	2,250	2,475

WASTE SILK.

Again we have to report an entire absence of business, not a single transaction having taken place.

Arrivals of genuine new fibre are expected immediately, but we cannot look for any business until affairs settle down in the Raw Silk and exchange markets. Sellers talk of high prices but will probably change their tune before the end of the month, as in Shanghai good Waste and Cocoons have been sold at very reasonable figures and spinners will continue to buy in that market if producers here will not listen to reason.

There has been no export during the week and the figures for the present season stand at nil, as against 342 piculs last year, and 89 piculs on the 7th July, 1891.

At closing a few dabs of old fibre are said to have been purchased; particulars will be given in our next.

QUOTATIONS

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	—
Noshi ito—Filature, Best	—
Noshi ito—Filature, Good	—
Noshi ito—Filature, Medium	—
Noshi ito—Oshu, Good to Best	—
Noshi ito—Shinshu, Best	—
Noshi ito—Shinshu, Good	—
Noshi ito—Shinshu, Medium	—
Noshi ito—Joshu Good to Best	—
Noshi ito—Joshu, Best	—
Noshi ito—Joshu, Good	—
Noshi ito—Joshu, Ordinary	—
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	—
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	—
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Good to Fair	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Middling to Common	—
Kibiso—Hachoji, Good	—
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	—
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Common	—
Mawata—Good to Best	—

Export Table Waste Silk to 7th July, 1893:—

	Season 1893-94	1892-93	1891-92
	Piculs	Piculs	Piculs
Waste Silk	—	342	89
Pierced Cocoons	—	—	—
	—	342	89
Settlements and Direct Export from 1st July	—	25	30
Stock, 7th July	2,600	3,500	2,300
Available supplies to date	2,600	3,525	2,330

Exchange has improved to the following rates, but does not seem very settled at present:—LONDON, 4m/s. Credits, 2 7/8. Documents, 2/7 5/8; 6m/s. Credits, 2/7 1/2; NEW YORK, 30d/s. U.S. $63 1/2; 4m/s U.S. $64 1/2; PARIS, or LYONS, 4m/s. frcs. 3.28.

Estimated Silk Stock, 7th July, 1893

Raw.	Piculs	Waste	Piculs
Hanks	25	Cocoons	100
Filatures	750	Noshi-ito	1,000
Re-reels	225	Kibiso	1,200
Kakeda	—	Mawata	110
Oshu	—	Sundries	190
Tavsaam Kinds	—		
Total piculs	1,000	Total piculs	2,600

TEA

The late heavy fall in exchange has tempted operators in this market, and in spite of a rise of $1 to $2 in quotations, a large business has been transacted. Complaints are still made with regard to the quality of the lower grades.

	Per picul
Common	$15 to 16
Good Common	17 to 18
Medium	19 to 20
Good Medium	21 to 22
Fine	23 to 24
Finest	25 to 27
Choice	28 to 29
Choicest	31 to 33

EXCHANGE.

Exchange has improved to the rates quoted below, but there does not appear to be much stability about present quotations:—

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	2 6 3/8
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	2 6 7/8
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	2 7 1/4
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	2/7 3/8
On Paris—Bank sight	3 18
On Paris—Private 4 months' sight	3 28
On Hongkong—Bank sight	Par.
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	1 % dis
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	73
On America—Bank Bills on demand	63 1/4
On America—Private 10 days' sight	63 1/4
On America—Private 4 months' sight	64 1/4
Silver	34 1/8

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Visitors to Kowaki-dani who bring a rod with them will be shown the haunts of the speckled Trout, a nice stream of several miles in length being within easy walking distance of the Hotel; Hakone Lake is also well stocked with a variety of fish, including salmon, and the Fishing is FREE; while Entomologists will find rare and valuable specimens in the surrounding hills, and the Flora of the district is extremely interesting to the Botanist.

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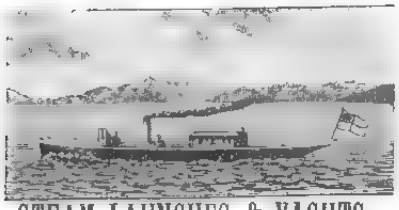

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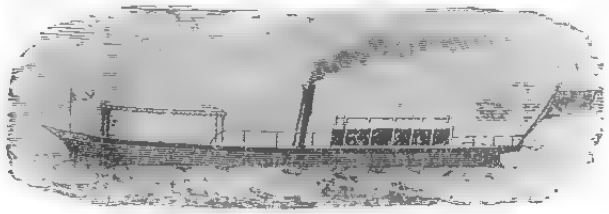

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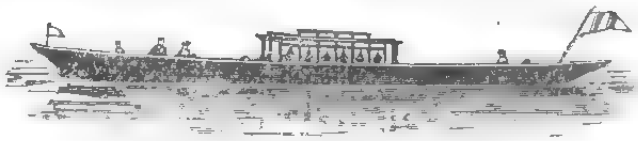

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The Japan Weekly Mail:

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS. ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JULY 15TH, 1893.

MARRIAGES.

On the 8th inst., at St. Andrew's Church, Shiba, Tokyo, by the Venerable Archdeacon Shaw, M.A., ALEXANDER MACMILLAN to LUCRETIA B. S. HOWE, both of Tokyo. No Cards.

At Kanazawa, Japan, on July 4th, 1893, by the Rev. T. C. Winn (and previously at the United States Consulate for Hiogo and Osaka), COBA BLANCHE LAFFERTY, of Pittsburgh, Pa., U.S.A., to CHARLES METTAUR BRADBURY, of Petersburg, Virginia, U.S.A.

DEATHS.

At 110, Yamamoto Dori, Kobe, on the 9th inst., at 5.30 a.m. ARLENA LEETH, beloved wife of Rev. R. B. Grinnan.

On May 1st, 1893, at Quezatte-uango, Central America JOHN M. JAQUEMOT, formerly of Yokohama and Tokyo, after a very brief illness, aged 42.

SUMMARY OF NEWS

DYSENTERY is prevalent in Miyazaki Prefecture.

MR. UCHIDA, Japanese Vice-Consul at Shanghai, has been recalled.

THE English Squadron on the China Station is now staying at Hakodate.

THE Chinese Ambassador gave a large ball at the Rokumeikan last Saturday.

FISHERY disturbances have been frequent of late along the coasts of the Inland Sea.

MR. KIM, the Korean *Chargé d'Affaires* in Tokyo, left for home on the 10th inst.

THE Sakurada Beer Brewing Company has incurred further losses during the past half-year.

SURGEON MORI RINTARO, of the Army, has been appointed Acting President of the Military Medical School, while Surgeon Makiyama Kenkichi, of the Army, has been ordered to Germany to complete his education.

THE *Kawabiraki*, or opening of the Sumidagawa, will be celebrated by Tokyo residents today.

FRIDAY, (July 14th) was patriotically observed by the French Community as a national holiday.

THE Japanese cyclists of Tokyo have formed a Club, under the title of Japanese Wheelmen's Association.

THE Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church has been in session in Sendai during the week.

THE graduation ceremony of the Imperial University was held on Monday morning in the new lecture hall.

SEVERAL cases of cholera have been reported during the week, but investigation has proved them to be erroneous.

FEARS of drought are entertained in the Southern Islands and South-Western provinces, rain not having fallen for several weeks.

SEVERAL burglaries of a petty description have occurred in Yokohama during the past ten days. The police have made two arrests.

THE Cricket Match last Saturday—"Water Street *v.* The Rest"—was won by the former on the 1st innings with 19 runs to spare.

THE water supply of Yokohama, owing to the demands of the hot season, has been reduced slightly, in order to economize the stock at the reservoir.

A *sendo* named Isokichi was found murdered near Kanagawa on Sunday morning. A man named Ishizaki, who has disappeared, is suspected of the crime.

LIEUT.-COL. FUKUSHIMA has presented the three horses ridden by him in his trans-Asiatic journey, to H.M. the Emperor, who has been graciously pleased to accept them.

THE first Higher Middle School broke up for the summer vacation on the 8th instant. The graduates were presented with certificates on that day by President Kano.

MR. SAITO KANSHICHI, a Radical representative in the Lower House for the Fourth District of Akita Prefecture, has resigned his seat owing to the bad condition of his health.

A YOKOHAMA coolie named Sato Kihei having a grudge against another coolie named Honma Buzo, attacked him with a knife while sleeping, inflicting several severe wounds.

MR. FUKUSHIMA, of the Mercantile Marine Bureau in the Communications Department, has been presented with a gold watch by the officials as a token of esteem and regard.

THE *Tsukuba Kan* left Yokohama on Saturday last for the Ogasawara Islands. She is said to have been despatched in search of a boat which is missing along with a crew of sixteen men.

A FIGHT, in which over seven hundred farmers became engaged, is reported from Mitsu mura, Hyogo Prefecture. It arose over the water privileges of the residents on the banks of the Shuho-gawa.

THE *Nichi Nichi* says that the *Yayeyama Kan*, now repairing at Yokosuka the damage sustained by her engines during her recent voyage to Korea, will leave for Nagasaki on the 28th or 29th inst. to receive Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria, who is expected to arrive there on the 4th prox.

THE Authorities are said to have under consideration the sending of a Minister to Hawaii instead of a Consul-General. The great increase of Japanese emigrants and the political condition of the Islands warrant the step.

THE Tokyo Stock Exchange declares a dividend of 60 per cent. for the year. The Yokohama Electric Light Company's dividend for the half year is 5 per cent., and the Tokyo Electric Light Company 7.6 per cent.

CONGRATULATORY banquets continue to be showered on Lieut.-Col. Fukushima. He has dined with the Emperor, members of the Japanese Economical Society, and members of the Tokyo Club during the week under review.

THE total number of foreigners in the employ of the Japanese Government on 30th June last was seventy-two, their annual salaries amounting to *yen* 278,757. The particulars are as follow:—British, thirty-three; American ten; German, fourteen; French, five; Italian, one; Austrian, one; Russian, one; Dutch, two; Belgian, one; Canadian, one; and Chinese, two.

THE profit and loss account of the Tokyo Tramway Company for the first half of this year, to be presented at the approaching regular general assembly of shareholders, show that the net profits during the half-year amounted to *yen* 35,784.48, of which *yen* 3,800.00 is set apart for the remuneration of officers, and *yen* 29,230.00 declared as a dividend at the rate of 12 per cent. per annum, *yen* 2,734.48 being carried forward to the new account.

THERE is little to be said about the Import trade, the uncertain condition of exchange having upset business to the extent that transactions have become extremely hazardous. The markets are not without buyers, however, but holders hesitate generally about doing business on any terms, so great is the uncertainty and so acute is the feeling that no one knows what twenty-four hours may bring forth. Dealers in Yarns are offering $1.50 to $2 more per picul than has recently been paid, but without much business resulting, and buyers of Shirtings have taken parcels at a rise of 15 cents, and, if holders could but feel a little stability in their position, there are doubtless further wants to be supplied. These remarks apply equally to the Metal market, consequently in our commercial columns the quotations both for Manchester Goods and Metals have been withdrawn. In Kerosene there is nothing doing, neither side apparently being anxious to approach the other. The Sugar trade continues brisk, Browns being readily taken at a rise, according to quality, of from 5 to 20 cents per picul. Whites also going off freely at full rates with an upward tendency all round the list. There is not much moving in Silk yet in the direction of export, though arrivals are increasing the stock on offer. Prices are steady for Silk suitable for Europe, while the sizes taken for the American trade are advancing. But little has been done in Waste, and that old fibre. Activity continues in the Tea trade, from 2,000 to 3,000 piculs of leaf having been taken daily, but arrivals exceed sales, and the tendency of prices is downward as the stock accumulates. The fluctuations in Exchange have not been of a violent character, but the general trend of quotations is downward, and great uncertainty exists as to future rates.

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THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK

No question in particular has engrossed the attention of the vernacular press during the present week. As to the political situation, no new development has taken place. Each party is busily engaged in fostering its strength against the coming struggle, and little clamour is now raised against the delay in carrying out reforms in the Administration. This calm is only now and then disturbed by local conflicts between the Radicals and the Progressionists. As to the Cabinet, it is busy making preparations for the contemplated reforms in all departments of the Administration. Meanwhile, rumours of a triangular alliance between the Cabinet, on one hand, and the Radicals and the National Unionists on the other, are circulated in certain quarters, but as yet there is nothing to substantiate the story. This question, however, is sure to receive more attention by and by.

* * *

The Radicals are taking an active interest in the Hawaiian problem. It is reported that they contemplate the despatch of a special commissioner to Hawaii to prosecute inquiries about the restoration of the franchise to the Japanese residents. Mr. Hayashi Yuzo, a distinguished Tosa member of the party, will be, it is believed, selected for the purpose. Mr. Hoshi Toru and some of his younger followers addressed a large meeting on this subject, as already reported in these columns. The organ of the party, the *Jiyu Shimbun*, is discussing the topic day after day. Our contemporary strongly criticised the Progressionists and others who show indifference about Hawaii. The Progressionists maintain that the Korean question is of more vital and urgent importance, and that pending its solution, there is little occasion to devote attention to Hawaii which lies so far off. The Radical organ admits the importance of the Korean question, but argues that no reason is thereby furnished for neglecting the Hawaiian affair, in which are involved the interests of twenty thousand of Japanese as well as the dignity of the Empire. The Hawaiian problem, observes the *Jiyu Shimbun*, is national as well as racial. Racial animosity is one of the most conspicuous features of the present day. No wonder that the contact of Occidental and Oriental races in the islands of Hawaii should lead to competition and rivalry between them. It was racial prejudical that deprived the Japanese of the privilage of the franchise, to which they were originally entitled equally with the residents of any other nationality. Our contemporary then proceeds to give a brief account of the processes by which this deprivation was affected, and reviews the present position of the Japanese residents in Hawaii. They do not, if admits, belong to the better classes of the nation; most of them are mere peasants taking little interest in political matters. But there are among them a considerable number of men sincerely indignant at the injustice done them by the white inhabitants of the island in excluding them from all share in the government of the country. Powerful support must be given to these Japanese in Hawaii by their countrymen at home. With twenty thousand of her subjects residing there, backed by the public opinion of the whole nation, Japan will have no difficulty in prevailing upon the Hawaiian Government to bestow upon her nationals the privileges given to all European and American residents. In urging upon the Japanese Government the importance of taking active steps in this matter, the Radical organ alludes to the strong measure which England adopted toward Hawaii in 1843. It does not advocate the annexation of the islands, but contends that the Government must pursue a course sufficiently strong to protect the interests of the people and the dignity of the country. The Government has followed a tame and conciliatory foreign policy long enough. That policy has cost Japan dear in Korea by making the Koreans think little of Japan's power. The fatal error committed in Korea should not be repeated in Hawaii.

* * *

With regard to Korea, the *Choya Shimbun* repeats its opinion that either Count Ito or Mr. Mutsu should pay a visit to China and Russia to arrange some understanding between the three countries concerning the maintenance of the independence of Korea. To the objection that, as both Russia and China entertain secret designs upon the peninsular Kingdom, it would be waste of time to ask them to join an alliance with Japan for the maintenance of Korean integrity, our contemporary replies that, whatever secret designs the two countries may harbour, they are not in a position, at least for the present, to carry them into practice, because they are afraid of the complications to which such attempt on their part would certainly give rise with other Powers. Consequently, neither Russia nor China, in the *Choya's* opinion would be averse to the formulating of a definite understanding with regard to Korea between the three Powers concerned. Such a measure would materially contribute to prevent unnecessary friction in Eastern politics. The *Choya* strongly urges the Government to send a special Envoy to China and Russia.

* * *

The Progressionist organs are not behind their rivals of the Radical party in advocating a strong foreign policy. The *Mainichi Shimbun*, writing in the form of a dialogue, draws a contrast between the progress which Japan has made in the past twenty years in wealth and civilization and the gradual decline of her prestige abroad. Her foreign trade has doubled in ten years, while in manufactures she is steadily encroaching upon the fields hitherto monopolized by different European and American countries. In science and arts also, her advance has been equally satisfactory. With her increasing prosperity at home, her position *vis-à-vis* foreign Powers ought to be relatively higher than that she occupied twenty years ago. But such, in the *Mainichi's* opinion, is not the case. When the *Meiji* Government came into power, its income barely amounted to 6 or 7 million *yen*. Yet, even with such small means at its disposal, it was able to display remarkable energy in its foreign policy. The expedition to Formosa, the opening of Korea to foreign intercourse, the formal affiliation of the Okinawa group into the Imperial domain, these and other remarkable events in the country's foreign relations belong to the first ten years of the *Meiji* Government's existence. Since then the Cabinet's foreign policy has become more timid and cautious, the consequence being that the country's prestige abroad is distinctly impaired. Even such small countries as Korea and Hawaii now dare to insult Japan. Are the statesmen now in power different from those who guided the country's destiny in the early years of *Meiji*? No, they are for the most part the same individuals. Is it then age that induces them to follow such a weak foreign policy? The *Mainichi* refrains from answering this question, leaving the solution to its readers.

* * *

The Progressionists occupy a peculiar position in the present political world. The rôle they play is clear and distinct: their invariable programme is to attack the Government at all times and on any pretext. If opposition to constituted authority be one of the surest roads to popularity, as has always been the case in this country, then the Progressionists ought to hold a high place in public esteem as well as in party politics. Such, however, is the exact reverse of the fact. While their rivals the Radicals are steadily increasing in strength, the Progressionists seem to grow more than ever isolated and unpopular. What is the reason? The *Kokkai* offers a solution. Some persons attribute this state of things to the Progressionists defeat on the question of Treaty Revision. But our contemporary is inclined to think that though that circumstance doubtless contributed to *Kaishin-to* failures at the time of the first elections for the Diet, it does not suffice to explain the singular position in which the Party now finds itself. The Progressionists' fault lies in their own self-effacement by adopting the name of Popular Party. They tried to bury the Party animosities and factious prejudices that divided the different sections of the Opposition, and their plan to affect that was to adopt for the whole the new name of *Min-to*. It was an ingenious device, but in their excessive ardour to maintain by that means cohesion between the sections of the Opposition, they allowed themselves to be regarded by the public not as the centre but as a wing of the Opposition army. Those, therefore, who joined the army under its new banner, naturally gravitated to the centre and took the name of Radical, for the title Popular Party did not yet represent a tangible congeries. The Progressionists are recommended to abandon the mistaken route and boldly step forth as an independent army, wholly unconnected with the Radical camp. In that case, the Radicals might possibly come to seek their aid, for the Radicals, although relatively the most numerous party in the Diet, do not possess a plurality. At all events, independence will cost them nothing, while their solicitousness to retain the friendship of the Radicals is the surest path to final insignficance.

* * *

With regard to the sudden depreciation of silver, the Japanese papers maintain an attitude of more or less indifference. Not that they pay no attention to the question. They pay attention, but seem to rest assured that for the present at least their country will not be a loser, as the appreciation of gold has a tendency to stimulate the exportation of Japanese manufactures and produce. The *Jiji Shimpo*, for instance, calls upon its countrymen to make good use of this splendid opportunity to compete with foreign manufacturers. In the case of the cotton spinning industry, for example, Indian manufactures are placed at a great disadvantage compared with Japanese, for although the price of the rupee has been raised, wages will not fall in like proportion. So Japanese spinners can now easily compete with their Indian rivals in the Chinese market. The Japanese will occupy a similarly advantageous position, though to a less extent, towards gold-using countries other than Indian. It behoves Japanese merchants and manufactures to be on the alert so as to utilize this opportunity to the fullest extent.

* * *

The *Jiji Shimpo* discusses the railway question. It deplores that the progress of railway construction has been seriously retarded by the operation of the Railway Construction Law, according to which the principal lines are to be laid by the State, and questions relating to these lines have to be submitted for deliberation by the Railway Council. Now the Railway Council, according to our contemporary, is wasting its time, chiefly because its members are divided on the question as to how far strategical considerations should be allowed to override economical. In the *Jiji's* opinion it is impossible to reconcile the two interests. Its idea is that strategic lines should be laid independently of ordinary economic roads. The latter, to expedite their speedy completion, should be left to private enterprise. Were the Railway Construct on Law amended in the sense that the lines specified therein might be constructed by private companies, the country would soon be covered with a network of railways. As to the lines actually worked by the State, the *Jiji* advocates their sale to private companies. The money thus realized might be spent with profit upon the construction of strategic lines or for the expansion of commercial navigation.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

POACHING SCHOONERS

THE *Hochi Shimbun* of the 7th instant published a statement that secret instructions were given to the captain of the cruiser *Iwaki Kan*, on the occasion of her despatch to the Kuriles to prevent poaching, the instructions being that if she descried any vessels in the act of poaching, she should drive them into the Pacific and refrain by all means from making any seizure. The *Choya* added, by way of explanation, that these extraordinary instructions were issued with the object of avoiding complications that must

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inevitably ensue in the event of a foreign vessel being seized by the Japanese. We need scarcely say that the story is entirely baseless. An emphatic contradiction of it has been made by the Naval Department, and the *Chova Shimbun* has been obliged to withdraw its statements.

* * *

The vernacular press is very persistent about this matter of foreign poaching. No proofs are furnished that the Naval Authorities show hesitation or perfunctoriness in protecting Japanese territorial waters against the intrusion of foreign sealing vessels. But the journals of the capital appear to take it for granted that because no offenders are captured *flagrante delicto*, there must be negligence somewhere. An opportunity to renew the crusade against the Naval Department is furnished by a report that two American schooners, laden with seal and otter skins to the number of 3,580, have put into Yokohama harbour. The papers allege that these otters and seals were captured off the coast of Kuwa-ga-saki in Hokkaido, distinctly within Japanese territorial waters. How such an assertion can be made without evidence evidently unprocurable by the press, we can not conjecture. But the *Jiyu Shimbun*, taking everything for granted except the capacity of the Authorities to discharge their duty, inquires what useful purpose is served by Japan's numerous men-of-war, and the *Mainichi Shimbun* tenders to the Minister of Marine the civilized counsel that cruisers be ordered to fire upon poaching schooners without any regard to the injury thus caused to life and property. It is very fortunate, we think, that the editors of these journals have no voice in the moulding of the empire's foreign policy.

THE OSAKA RAILWAY.

THE line of the Osaka Railway Company which at present starts from Minato-machi, Osaka, and terminates at the town of Nara, with a branch from Oji station to the town of Sakurai in Yamato, covers a total distance of 40 miles. Notwithstanding the fact that the original outlay—about *yen* 2,400,000 or say *yen* 60,000 per mile—was, in the opinion of railway experts, considerably in excess of what is warranted by the comparatively easy country through which the road passes, the line has proved to be one of the best paying railways undertaken by private enterprise. It traverses over not only rich and thickly populated districts, but also joins the commercial metropolis with the ancient and interesting town of Nara. The passenger traffic is therefore very large, and appears to be constantly increasing, as may be judged from the fact that since the opening of the main line a few years ago the results of each half year's working have shown greater receipts, and higher dividends have in consequence been successively declared. The last dividend paid by the Company was at the rate of 7½ per cent. and its shares are now quoted at considerably above par. One of the provisions under which the charter of the Osaka Railway Company was granted was that its line should form a junction with the Government railway at M'meda Station at the northern extremity of Osaka. The construction of the Osaka railway was, however, begun from its present terminus at Minato-machi at the opposite or Southern extremity of the city, and it was extended to Nara, the junction with the Government trunk system being left in abeyance. In the meanwhile, the Directors of the Company, and the shareholders as well, observing that their line to Nara paid very well as it was, and that its value as property would not probably be improved by its being carried, at no inconsiderable cost, to a junction with the Government railway, they petitioned the Government some time ago for the withdrawal of the condition in their charter which made the forming of a junction obligatory upon their part; this resulted in a reply from the authorities in the sense that the payment of large dividends must not be regarded as the sole object in the promotion of railway enterprise, that convenience of the public should be taken into consideration as well, and therefore that the conditions of the charter must be strictly adhered to. The Directors thereupon took the matter up in earnest and caused several surveys to be made to ascertain the most favourable route. These were completed at the close of the last month, and the results of the investigations were placed before the shareholders at a special meeting, which was held on the 2nd inst. in the Kai-u-tei Restaurant in Osaka, convened for the purposes of deciding upon the adoption of one of the several proposed routes. These were, first, a direct line through the heart of the city from the Minato-machi Station to M'meda; second from Minato-machi round the Western outskirts (sea side) of the city, crossing the Kizu, Shirinashi, and Aji rivers, to M'meda; and third, from the Tennōji Station round the Eastern outskirts of the city town passing to the rear of the castle to M'meda. The first of these schemes did not even come under discussion, it being admitted by all that, though the distance to be covered is the shortest, the enormous outlay required in obtaining the right of way forbade its adoption. The Directors reported in favour of the third scheme, for though the length of this line would be the longest, on the other hand, since it was kept the whole way at some distance from the city, land could be procured at comparatively low rates, and as only one river would have to be crossed, the whole work could be carried out at a cost of about *yen* 780,000. The adoption of the second proposed line was strongly advocated by Mr. Kojima Yosuke, one of the shareholders, who pointed out that the original outlay—which is estimated at *yen* 1,500,000—might be greater, but the western route had by far greater prospects in the future, for not only was the city gradually growing westward toward the outlets of the rivers, but upon the completion of the contemplated harbour works the line would be most advantageously situated in close proximity to the shipping and to what will eventually become the busiest part of the city. Mr. Kojima, however, found but few supporters, and the meeting finally voted for the adoption of the Eastern line as recommended by the Directors, and broke up after deciding to issue 20,000 new shares of *yen* 50 each, thereby increasing the capital of the Company by *yen* 1,000,000. The greater portion, nearly *yen* 800,000, is to be devoted to making the junction and the remainder to improvements on the existing lines. It may therefore be expected that the works for connecting the Nara line with the Government railway will be begun at no distant date.

LANGUAGE OF THE PRESS.

IT may be interesting to note the variety of languages employed in the world's newspaper press. They are as follows:—Armenian, Arabic, Assamese, Bengali, Bohemian, Burmese, Bulgarian, Canarese, Cherokee, Chaldean, Croatian, Chinese, Czechish, Danish, Dutch, English, Estnish, French, Flemish, Fiji, Finnish, German, Gujarati, Hebrew, Hindi, Hindustani, Hawaiian, Hungarian, Greek (ancient and modern), Icelandic, Italian, Japanese, Javanese, Kafir, Kalmuck, Latin, Lettish, Magyar, Malay, Malagasi, Maori, Marathi, Moldavian, Norwegian, Persian, Portuguese, Polish, Roumanian, Russian, Ruthenian, Slavonic, Servian, Siamese, Singhalese, Slovenian, Spanish, Swedish, Syriac, Tartar, Tamil, Telugu, Turkish, Urdu, and Welsh.

FISHERIES DISPUTES.

A FIGHTING mania seems to have taken possession of the fishermen along the coasts of the Inland Sea. The last news is from the Province of Harima in the Prefecture of Hyogo. A fight took place at the mouth of a river in the village of Beppu in the District of Kako. Some time ago the fishermen of that District captured seven fishing boats which had encroached upon their fishing ground from the neighbouring District of Akashi, and anchored them at the mouth of the river in the above mentioned village. The fishermen of Akashi, indignant at the high-handed conduct of their *confrères* in the neighbouring District, proceeded to the number of about 100 in 50 boats to recover their property, on the 5th instant. The captured craft were guarded by fishermen of the District of Kako, who, although greatly outnumbered, made a stout stand against the invading flotilla. A report of the affray having been sent to the nearest police station, a body of constables at once proceeded to the spot, but were at first entirely unable to quell the fighting, for the fishermen of the place having been reinforced by their comrades, there were more than 1,000 persons engaged in a general *melee*. The police, however, by degrees succeeded in pursuading the fishermen of the Kako District to leave the place, and thus peace was restored with great difficulty. Many were wounded on both sides, and several of the constables also received more or less severe injuries in their efforts to separate the combatants. The police still remain at the spot in anticipation of a renewal of fighting.

* * *

Concerning the Ehime-Hiroshima dispute, it is stated that the conferences recently held by the Governors of the two localities have proved abortive. The Governors came up to the capital on the 5th instant to report to the Central Government, and the Ministers of Home Affairs and of Agriculture and Commerce are now said to be endeavouring to bring about a satisfactory settlement of the dispute. It is believed, however, that the matter will have to be tried in the Court of Administrative Litigation.

* * *

The point at issue between the two Prefectures is whether it can justly be claimed that a custom exists allowing fishermen from Hiroshima to ply their trade in a portion of the Inland Sea designated by the name of Hiuchi-nada. The authorities of Ehime maintain that the waters in question have, from time immemorial, belonged solely to their Prefecture, and support their contention with evidence said to be incontrovertible. Their position is, however, strenuously traversed by the authorities of Hiroshima, who assert that, as Hiuchi-nada has been regarded as under the control of Ehime *Ken*, there has never been any practical doubt of the Hiroshima fishermen's right to go there and fish without molestation. Documents are produced to prove the correctness of this view also. It is of course impossible for outsiders to form any clear idea of the merits of the dispute, but the general belief is that the Ehime people have decidedly a better case than those of Hiroshima. It would seem that, although the Hiroshima folks have always managed to fish in the Hiuchi-nada, they have done so secretly and in the face of reported remonstrance on the part of the Ehime authorities. That they have for the past few years paid fees to the Ehime fishermen for the privilege of fishing there is the strongest proof against their case.

THE RADICALS AND KYUSHU.

THE *Jiyu Shimbun* accuses us of having indulged in "ludicrous conjectures" about the Radical Party's position in Kyushu. The note complained of appeared in our issue of the 5th instant, and we are now assured that there is not a particle of truth in the rumour we then published concerning the attitude of the Kyushu politicians toward the Radical Party; that the party's influence is daily increasing in the southern provinces, and that the simultaneous tours of the three most distinguished leaders of the *Jiyu to* are undertaken in deference to repeated solicitations from the Radicals in Kyushu, who complain that, while other localities are frequently visited by the leaders of the party, their district has always been neglected. We are glad to learn of the Radical Party's growing popularity in Kyushu, and we congratulate our contemporary upon the fact. But we protest against the injustice of the Radical organ in censuring us as though the rumour we published, had been advanced as our own "conjecture." We explicitly stated that "the enigma [*i.e.* the extraordinary amount of attention suddenly paid to Kyushu] received in some quarters the solution that the uncertain attitude of the progressive politicians of Kyushu caused keen anxiety to the Radical Party." Our language was perfectly plain. We merely reproduced a rumour circu-

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lated in certain quarters; a rumour which found its way about the same time into several of the Tokyo papers, especially the *Yomiuri Shimbun* where a column and a half was devoted to the subject. Doubtless we should be gratified by the honour that the *Jiyu Shimbun* does this journal in selecting it alone as worthy of notice among numerous papers that gave public ty to the same view. But we must request our contemporary to draw a distinction between what we publish as our own opinion and what we distinctly announce to be current rumour neither endorsed nor rejected by ourselves.

BALL IN THE ROKUMEIKAN.

His Excellency the Chinese Representative gave a ball in the Rokumeikan, Tokyo, on the 8th instant. The wide enclosure in which the building stands was illuminated brilliantly, and the internal decorations were most lovely. In truth we have never seen anything more beautiful in the way of floral decoration. The whole interior of the spacious edifice was converted into an iris garden, with exquisite.y designed grottoes and a disposition of greenery in quite perfect taste. It so happened that the night was exceptionally cool, and even the exercise of dancing, relieved by strolls in breezy corridors and airy verandahs, did not prove too trying. But the second week in July is an impossible time for the ball-going community. Many are absent at the hills or by the sea-side, and of those that remain, many dreaded the heat too much to make the effort of attending. Dancing, therefore, was not kept up with the spirit usually displayed on these occasions, and after supper, which was a sumptuous and admirably served affair, the guests took their departure. If dancing languished, however, there was no lack of animated good-fellowship. The popular Chinese Representative and the numerous staff of his Legation, did the honours with the utmost courtesy and geniality, and the impression produced by the whole affair was thoroughly gracious and graceful.

PERSONAL ITEMS.

Concerning Mr. Oishi, it is rumoured that he has sent in his resignation. Should such be the case, we may take it for granted that his resignation will be accepted by the Cabinet. But the Japanese residents in Korea are supposed to be very desirous of his speedy return to Sōul. They have, it is said, sent several letters on the subject both to him and to the Minister of Foreign Affairs. The Korean Government, on the other hand, is believed to be taking active steps to secure his removal from the Legation in Sōul. The new Korean Minister to Japan, Mr. Kin Shitetsu, is said to have brought with him a letter addressed to the Japanese Foreign Minister requesting Mr. Oishi's permanent recall. The metropolitan papers, in publishing the report of his resignation, do not seem to regard the fact as an indication that the Cabinet has decided not to adopt the policy suggested by him.

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As to his successor, in the event of his resignation being accepted, Mr. Sassa Tomofusa's name is mentioned in several papers. He is little, if at all, known to the foreign public, but being a po itician of great ability and influence, dest ned one day to take an important part in the conduct of the administration, it is well that his position in the Japanese political world sl ould be studied by persons interested in current affairs. He s not particularly young, being about forty-five or forty-six. Kumamoto is his native place, and he is there adored by a large and influential body of nationalistic conservatives. In the House of Representatives he has hitherto voted with the Nat.onal Unionists, and under the Matsukata Cab net exerc sed great influence on the conduct of public affairs, so that he came to be regarded as the wire-puller of a certain section of the M nistry. Under the present Cabinet there is little room for him to attempt interference with the management of State business. Still he occupies a very prominent place and has to be taken into account in every political calculation. Recently, while the indemnity negotiations were going on at Sōul, he paid a visit to Korea and stayed there nearly a month. It is this circumstance, more than any other, that has led the papers to include him among Mr. Oishi's possible successors. But there would be little likelihood of his accepting the post even if offered him, since he is supposed to aspire to a higher position than a mere Minister Residentship.

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It is a noteworthy circumstance that Buddhism is making headway among Japanese statesmen. Viscount Torio, a highly gifted but eccentric nobleman, is a well known Buddhist. Mr. Watanabe, Minister of Finance, is another distinguished Buddhist. The latest converts are said to be Count Inouye, Minister of Home Affairs, and Mr. Kono Hironaka, the Radical leader in the House of Representatives, whom rumour now calls disciples of the well known priest Shaku Unsho of the Gokoku-ji temple at Otoba, Tokyo; the same priest under whom Viscount Torio studied Buddhism. It would be a singular spectacle to see these three distinguished statesmen, belonging to three different political camps, taking their seats side by side at the feet of a common spiritual leader.

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Count Itagaki will short y start for the Prefecture of Miye to counteract the effects of the campaign recently conducted there by the Progressionists under Mr. Ozaki. If the report published in the *Nippon* may be trusted, there seems to be a serious split among the Radicals of that locality in consequence of the by-election in March last. Messrs. Kurihara and Doi, both Radicals, competed at the election, and those who supported the latter have since borne a grudge not only aga nst the successful candidate Mr. Kurihara, and his supporters, but also against the head-quarters of the Party in Tokyo. It seems that the head-quarters declared for Mr. Kur hara and thus incurred the displeasure of Mr. Doi's fol owers. The latter, according to the *Nippon*, have just written to Count Itagaki expressing their regret, that, as matters now stand, they can not conscientiously join in the receptions which are being prepared for him. If this report be true, Count Itagaki has a d fficult task before him in his Ise tour.

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Count Katsu, who for some days has been reported to be slightly indisposed, is now stated to be seriously ill, and grave anxiety is felt about his recovery.

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Mr. Kim Yo-Kun, the Korean refugee, who goes by the name of Iwata Shusaku, is now staying at the Sea Bath House, Shiba. He s reported to have told a journalist that the new Korean Minister to Japan is an old friend of his and a man of great ability, the most talented official ever accred ted to this country. Mr. Kim is much grieved about the growing coldness between Japan and Korea. How he manages to get his living is a mystery. Doubtless there are several generous Japanese, to whose benevo.ence he owes his easy life, but their names are never made public.

EDUCATIONAL NEWS.

The *Chu-o Shimbun* reports that the Minister of Educa.ion contemplates introducing, in the coming session of the Diet, a Bill for paying out of the Treasury the salaries of masters in Primary Schools. The report has an air of probability, for in his speech at the annual meeting of the Educational Society of Japan, Mr. Inouye alluded to the importance of the State giving some pecuniary aid to Primary Schools. At present, these schools are left entirely to the management of each local communal body, the salaries of the masters and teachers and all other expenses being defrayed out of local rates. The consequence is that, the remuneration be ng very poor, it is impossible to obtain capable man for masters and teachers. The rates differ in different localities. In the larger towns, masters obtain from twenty to thirty *yen* per month, but in remote village communities their salaries do not exceed ten *yen*, some of them receiving only six or seven *yen*. The teachers get considerably less. We know teachers in a certain mountain district who give their whole time for salaries ranging between three and five *yen*. The necessity of helping the local self-governing bodies in matters of education has been impressing itself more and more upon the public mind. In some cases communes may be open to the charge of parsimoniousness in matters of education, but it is generally admitted that the blame does not rest wholly with them. According to the estimate of the Minister of Education, the amount required for the payment of the salaries of masters in primary schools is about 1,890,000 *yen*. The National Treasury is rich enough to give that sum in aid of the Schools. The question, however, does not seem to have been brought up for discussion in the Cabinet, and consequently it is premature to conjecture what decision will be taken by the Government.

CHINA'S FORTIFICATIONS.

Our Shanghai morning contemporary has been informed from Peking that the Board of War and the Admiralty Board, at the instance of the Viceroy of the Min-Cheh and the Governor of Chêkiang, have determined to strengthen the defences of the Chusan group as well as the entrances to the ports of Ningpo, Wênchow, and Hangchow, and also the island of Pootoo. A number of forts are to be built on the European model and their garrisons will be drawn from existing battalions now in the inland districts. One reason for the new move is said to be the intention to control the sea route between the ports of the two provinces against the innumerable piratical craft that infest the sea coast; but that is probably not the main reason.

SHANGHAI AND THE ROYAL WEDDING.

Shanghai had sufficient thoughtfulness to send a telegram to London on the occasion of the Royal Wedding. It is a pity that the British community of Yokohama did not equally realize the situation. The resolution adopted in Shanghai was:—

> That Her Majesty's Consul-General be requested to send a congratulatory telegram upon the occasion of the forthcoming Royal Wedding to Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen, the Prince and Princess of Wales, and the Duke of York and Princess May.

RUMOURED LOSS OF THE "BELLONA."

The *Kobe Chronicle* says:—It is rumoured that the D D.R. steamer *Bellona*, which left Kobe for Havre and Hamburg, *via* ports, on the 17th May, has been lost in the Bay of Biscay. A local firm having goods on board has, it is said, received advices to this effect.

THE SCHOOL TROUBLES IN SAGA.

We alluded some time ago to quarrels between the students of the Ordinary Middle School and the Ordinary Normal School of Saga, and also to troubles caused by the dismissal of about 20 students of the latter institution in consequence of those quarrels. We also explained that the cause of the dismissed students had been taken up by the rest of their comrades, who at once left the school. According to a subsequent report, it appears that the local authorities acted very promptly and resolutely. They formally dismissed all the students of the mutinous school. The students had counted upon a speedy surrender of the authorities in face of their united opposition, but seeing themselves out-manœuvred by the officials of the Kencho, they at once fell back upon the assistance of the members of the Local Assembly. Meanwhile the parents of the students also took active measures to enlist the sympathies of the public in behalf of their boys. They had indeed a material interest at stake, for, according to their contract with the school, it became necessary for them to pay back at once all the pecuniary aid their sons had received. Private interest, party spirit, local pride, these and other sentiments induced the members of the Local Assembly to bring strong pressure to bear upon the Governor in behalf of the dismissed students. The Governor, Mr. Nagamine, found it very embarrassing to dis-

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regard the sympathies of the local population so powerfully expressed. He accordingly instructed the Principal of the school to cancel the order of dismissal. The instructors of the institution strongly opposed the step, but their united remonstrances were incapable of restraining the Principal from carrying out the order of the Governor. Thus, so far as the students are concerned, the matter is now at an end, but it is feared that sweeping changes in the faculty of the school will ensue.

THE HARBOUR WORKS.

It is stated, on good authority, that instructions have been issued to suspend the progress of the Yokohama Harbour Works until the receipt of the final report now in process of preparation by the Committee appointed to investigate the cause of the cracks in the concrete blocks. The Committee will probably require three months to complete the series of experiments considered necessary in order to arrive at a definite conclusion. We learn that, out of thirteen thousand blocks already laid, a total of nearly eight hundred, or about six per cent., have been found defective. That is not a great number under any circumstances, and it becomes still more insignificant when we state, as we are in a position to do on unquestionable authority, that the injury shown by many of the so-called "defective blocks" is of the pettiest character, and would never justify their condemnation by inspectors of the British Board of Works. It is certain, as formerly stated in these columns, that not more than four per cent. of the blocks show a condition offering any warrant for uneasiness, and as the great majority, if not the whole, of these can be safely used in the upper courses of the break-waters at the inshore ends, the whole affair dwindles into insignificance, and may fairly be placed within the chapter of accidents incidental to all engineering operations of magnitude. Journalists, who of course know more about everything than anybody else knows, have fitted the trouble to their own exaggerated ends, but the facts are not so very terrible. At all events it seems a wise precaution to refrain from laying any more blocks until a final solution is obtained of the important problem involved in the appearance of these flaws.

AN INTERVIEWER.

The *Asahi Shimbun* of Saturday contains an assertion so erroneous that we feel constrained to contradict it emphatically. Our contemporary's story is that a certain Mr. Hitotsuyanagi Yuma called upon the editor of this journal with reference to some comments made by us on the national excitement caused by Lieut.-Colonel Fukushima's journey, and controverted our assertions with such convincing logic that we agreed to withdraw our objectionable language within three days. It is true that Mr. Hitotsuyanagi paid us a visit, and having explained at some length his views about Japanese politics in general and the Fukushima affair in particular, asked us to insert a letter of which he was the bearer and writer. To this we of course assented, as we should have done even without Mr. Hitotsuyanagi's visit, whereupon that gentleman took his departure, having very kindly presented us with his photograph and informed us of his intention to remain three days longer in Yokohama. There was never any question of our withdrawing any statement made in these columns. The sole object of the visit was to obtain insertion of the letter which appears in our correspondence columns to-day. We do not pretend to guess who is responsible for the falsehood published by the *Asahi Shimbun*. Probably it is simply a misunderstanding on the part of some reporter.

THE RYOMO RAILWAY.

The abundance of capital now seeking avenues of suitable investment has inspired various new railway projects. One of the latest of these is that of the Ryomo Railway Company. The proposed new line of the company is to start from the present western terminus of its railway at Maebashi and to end at the town of Shibukawa, covering a distance of over 11 miles. The line will follow the Mikuni Kaido, the principal highway between Tokyo and Niigata, (a route well known by visitors to Ikao), will touch the active little towns of Soya and Kaneko, and terminate at the flourishing town of Shibukawa, below the favourite watering place. Considerable passenger traffic is expected, and the goods traffic is likely to be very large, as it will be steadily fed by the produce of several prosperous copper mines which exist in the district. The cost of construction, traffic, and the operating receipts and expenditures are estimated thus:—

COST OF CONSTRUCTION.

	Yen.
Right of way	10,000
Earth Works	100,000
Bridges and Culverts	40,000
Permanent Way	56,000
Stations	10,000
Rolling Stock	50,000
Smaller items, consisting of expenses for Surveying, Superintending, Rolling Stock, Machinery and Plant, Buildings, Transportation, Fencing, Telegraphs, &c.	34,000
	300,000

TRAFFIC AND OPERATING RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES.

Passengers (per year)	
Number 212,000; Receipts	21,158
Goods (per year)	
Quantity 856,000 *da**. Receipts	19,108
Total Receipts	40,266
Operating Expenses	17,500
Balance (net profit)	22,766

* *Da*—horse load, about 300 lbs.

The estimated net earnings are thus slightly above 7½ per cent. of the capital. The project received the unanimous support of the shareholders at a meeting recently held in Tokyo, and an application was forthwith made to the authorities for the grant of a charter. The matter is in the hands of the Railway Council now sitting. The present capital of the company amounts to *yen* 1,500,000, divided into 30,000 shares of *yen* 50 each. Upon the grant of the desired charter it is intended to increase the capital to *yen* 1,800,000 by the issue of 6,000 new shares of the same amount, which are to be allotted among the holders of the old shares in the ratio of one new share for every five old shares held.

* * *

Perhaps no better illustration of the comparatively sudden accumulation of money in this country, causing the present unprecedented stagnation of capital to which we have of late frequently referred, can be given than the appreciation of the Ryomo Railway shares within the past ten months. At about this time last year the Nippon Railway Company, after having effected the purchase of the Mito line, made overtures to the Ryomo Company for the buying of its railway. Protracted negotiations ensued, but the larger company declined to take over the property at a high rate than 10 per cent. discount, and as the Ryomo people persisted in their demand of *yen* 47½ per share, or at a discount of only 5 per cent., the negotiations finally fell through at the end of last September. The very same shares are to-day quoted at *yen* 95 or 90 per cent. above par, and with such a new project as the above on foot, it is very doubtful whether the shareholders could now be induced to part with their shares, which ten months ago they were willing to dispose of at 5 per cent. discount, for even at 100 per cent. premium.

NORTH BRITISH AND MERCANTILE INSURANCE COMPANY.

This Company, which was established in 1809, and has Messrs. Findlay, Richardson & Co., for its local agents, reports a revenue for 1892 of £2,794,012 9s. 7d., divided as follows:—From fire department—net fire premiums, interest, &c. £1,577,276 7s. 9d.; from life department—net premiums, interest, &c., £879,786 8s. 9d.; annuity premiums, including £280,954 3s. 0d. by single payments and interest, &c., 336,949 13s. 1d.—£1,216,736 1s. 10d. The losses by fire during the year have amounted to £998,384 1s. 5d., which includes all losses actually ascertained and paid, and a full estimate of all claims that had arisen prior to 31st December, 1892. The Directors have, as usual, set aside one-third of the fire premiums received during the past year, as provision against liability on the unexpired fire policies of 1892. In the life department 7,275 policies were issued during the year 1892, assuring, after deducting sums reinsured, £2,302,827, and producing new premiums to the amount of £81,774, 19s. 7d., together with 438 bonds securing the sum of £26,060 15s. 1d., yearly of immediate annuities, and £215 yearly of survivorship annuities, and £337 1s. 0d., of deferred annuities, for which the company received the sum of £280,954 3s. 0d., by single payment, and £123 19s. 4d., by annual premium. The claims during the year, including 53 endowments, were 547 in number, under 677 policies; and the sums amount, with bonus additions, to £521,292 13s. 7d. The profit and loss account, including the unappropriated balance of £58,374 16s. 4d. brought forward from 1891, amounted to £172,447 18s. 8d. out of which a dividend of twenty shillings per share on 110,000 shares, one-half payable 15th May and the other half 11th November, was declared, leaving a balance of £62,447 18s. 8d. to be carried forward.

THE "BRITANNIA."

The Prince of Wales' new yacht, the *Britannia*, is a composite cutter of 220 tons, and her length on the load water line is 86ft. The cutter has a great beam, which makes her very roomy inside, and her unusual size of counter has been utilised for spacious after-cabins, while the flare of her bow makes a big forecastle. The mast is an immense Oregon spar. The cabins are to be tastefully and luxuriously fitted up and furnished, but everything is to be plain, as H.R.H. does not want a floating boudoir. The beam permits of a very large dining-saloon, extending the full width, and this is framed in mahogany, with panels of cretonne. Aft is the Prince's own cabin, with a bath-room adjoining, and another state room, with a smoking-room, ladies' cabin, and cloak-room. Just in front of the dining-saloon is a large pantry, forward of which are the galley, the captain's room and the mess-room. The yacht carries three boats, and she will be sailed by Captain Carter, of Wivenhoe, and an East-coast crew. The Prince of Wales will join the *Britannia* at Cowes on the 28th of July, and she is to be sailed in the R.Y.S. and other August regattas.

MR. GLADSTONE ON ADMIRAL TRYON.

Mr. Gladstone was greatly shocked when he was informed of the sinking of the *Victoria* and the great loss of life that had attended the foundering of the vessel. The Prime Minister informed the House of Commons of the accident, and paid a most glowing tribute to the worth of Vice-Admiral Tryon, who, he said, was one of the oldest and most esteemed officers in the service of Her Majesty. Mr. Gladstone said that there were 611 officers, seamen and boys and 107 marines on board the ship. It was feared that of this total of 718 souls, 430 had been lost. "He was sure that the deepest sympathy of the House would be felt for the brave men who had found an early grave in the service of their country, and that it would be extended to their relatives and friends."

THE STATUE OF SAIGO TAKAMORI.

The long talked-of project of erecting a bronze statue of the late General Saigo in the vicinity of the Imperial Palace, having received warm support from the general public, especially from members of the Satsuma and Choshu clans, official or otherwise, seems likely to become an accomplished fact. But as opposition to public enterprises seems to be an inseparable accompaniment of every undertaking now-a-days, the completion of the project is still a long way off. Some people argue that it is quite out of place to erect a statue of Saigo Takamori near the Emperor's Palace, for although freed, at the time of the promulgation of the Constitution, from the taint of a traitor, the fact remains that he deliberately plotted against the reigning dynasty, and is, therefore, by no means entitled

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to be looked upon as a national model of greatness. They consequently denounce the idea of erecting a statue near the Palace, though for the rest they are not entirely hostile to the scheme. Katsu Kaishu, who was on very intimate terms with the dead General, is said to be one of the objectors. Opinion is also divided as to the garb of the statue, the majority opposing the uniform of a General, inasmuch as the deceased never wore it during his lifetime. Mr. Kuki Ryuichi, the Director of the Imperial Museum, ridicules the absurdity of limiting taste in such matters, explaining that what is required is an example of modern art for the edification of posterity. But, if the *Yomiuri's* account is to be credited, the projected equestrian statue will be abandoned, because Mr. Saigo Kikujiro, son of Saigo Takamori, on the occasion of the last general elections, espoused the cause of the official party, and incurred the umbrage of the so-called Popular party, his conduct proving so distasteful to the public as to impair the reputation of his father in their eyes, the consequence being that many of those who promised their support have withdrawn their names from the list. Under these circumstances much difficulty has been experienced in raising the necessary funds and the Committee are considering whether it may not be possible to dispense with the horse.

AMERICA'S FOREIGN EXPORTS.

"The Bureau of Statistics," says a Washington journal "in comparative statement, reports to the Treasury Department the values of exports of mineral oils as follows:—For the month ending May 31st, $758,149, an increase over the month of May, 1892, of more than $500,000. For the eleven months ended May 31st last, $37,611,594; a decrease from the corresponding period of 1892, of more than $3,000,000. The total values of exports of cotton is reported as follows: For the month ended May 31st, $11,251,126, an increase of nearly $500,000 over May last year, but for the nine months ended May 31st last, $147,779,878, a decrease of nearly $68,000,000 from the corresponding period of 1892. The bureau reports the total values of beef, hog, and dairy produce exported as follows:—For the month ended May 31st last, $10,400,410, a falling off of nearly $700,000 as compared with the exports of the similar period of 1892; for the five months ended May 31st last, $45,245,992, a loss of more than $10,000,000 compared with the same months in 1892."

GLASS IN TEXTILE FABRICS.

The use of glass in the weaving of textile fabrics seems to have finally become an accomplished fact. We read in an American paper that "Princess Eulalia," on her return to Spain, "will introduce into the royal wardrobes of Europe a new and peculiar product of American invention. A dress made of glass will be woven especially for the Princess at the works on the Plaisance. The material is made from a warp of silk woven in with a body of spun glass so delicate in texture that it is pliable as the softest silk. The process was invented but recently, and none of the peculiar fabric has yet been put upon the market, except in small articles, such as neckties, and these only as souvenirs from the works on the Plaisance When completed the dress will cost about $5,000. It will be presented to her by the glass works and will be taken to Spain for the especial delight of the courtiers at home."

AN OPERATION.

Dr. Sato, says the *Hochi Shimbun*, has just performed successfully the operation of removing a tooth-brush from a woman's stomach. The Japanese generally use for cleaning their teeth a wooden rod, five or six inches long, one end of which is frayed so as to form a species of brush. The danger of swallowing an implement of the kind does not seem to be great, but that such an accident is possible becomes easily conceivable when one observes that the Japanese clean not only their teeth but also the tongue, extending the process so closely to the roots of the latter that considerable retching is sometimes produced. It was in this way that the wife of one Kodani, a man of very humble means living in Midori-cho, Honjo, Tokyo, managed to swallow her tooth-brush one morning recently. Naturally her alarm was great, but as no inconvenient consequences were immediately felt, she kept silence, unwilling to proclaim her own awkwardness. By and by, however, she began to feel increasing pain after eating or upon making any physical exertion, and finally it became necessary to seek medical advice. Dr. Sato, when consulted at the Hongo Hospital, declared, of course, that the woman's life could not be saved without an operation, and after some hesitation she submitted. An incision of four inches was made in the left side and the tooth-brush removed without difficulty. Six and a half inches long, it had wounded the intestines so as to cause bleeding, and the wood had turned quite yellow. The patient is doing well.

THE SHERMAN SILVER LAW.

It appears that the attempts made by the New York *Times* to ascertain the sentiments of American Senators and Representatives on the subject of the repeal of the Sherman Silver-purchase Act, have not been very successful. Out of 444 persons from whom answers were sought, namely, 356 members of the House of Representatives and 88 Senators, only 122 replied—18 Senators and 104 Representatives. Among these 88 favoured repeal of the Act, 26 opposed repeal, and 8 were undecided. It is of course probable that the advocates of repeal included a good many whose vote against the Bill would depend upon the proviso that it should be replaced by a free-comage law. Republican journals would have the public believe that President Harrison prompted the inquiry instituted by the New York *Times*, and are consequently disposed to twit him with failure. But if the bulk of the American nation obtains a clear insight into political problems, it is not by the aid of the American newspaper press.

THE METAL MARKET.

Messrs. S. W. Royse & Co. in their report dated June 3rd, say:—The state of affairs in the Pig Iron markets has been eminently unsatisfactory during the greater port of the month just concluded. Prices for both Scotch and Middlesbrough Pig Iron have gradually declined until about a week ago, the holidays and the Antipodean financial troubles having had a depressing effect. There has, however, latterly been some improvement, and prices have advanced and are now a little higher than they were at the beginning of the month. Scotch consumers have recently been purchasing more freely, but shipments from Glasgow are not satisfactory; from Middlesbrough, however, they are fairly good. Copper has fallen steadily, but is now recovering a little. Tin has had a serious fall in value, and is now about £7 per ton lower than at the beginning of the month. Spelter has also lost ground, but is at present firmer. Lead has fallen slowly but steadily, and closes easy.

NAVAL DISASTERS.

An American exchange publishes the following list of recent naval disasters, observing in the introduction that though there have been many accidents to modern warships at sea, none in modern times approached the ramming of H.M.S. *Victoria* by H.M.S. *Camperdown*. Of latter days among the notable casualties was the ramming of the Russian frigate *Oley* by the Russian ironclad *Kemi* in 1869. The *Oley* went down, but her crew was saved. In 1871 the Russian ironclad, *Admiral Spiridoff*, rammed her sister ship, the *Admiral Lasareff*, and the latter was saved from sinking by the speedy arrival of steampumps from Cronstadt, in the harbour of which the accident happened. In 1873 the Spanish ironclad *Numancia* rammed the Spanish corvette *Fernando el Catolico*. The latter immediately sank with all her crew but five men. In 1875 the French corvette *Jeanne d'Arc* rammed the French dispatch vessel *Forfait*. The latter sank, but the crew was saved. In the same year the English ironclad *Iron Duke* rammed and sank the *Vanguard*, but all on board were saved. In 1877 the French corvette *Thetis* rammed the French ironclad *Reine Blanche* and the latter was only prevented from sinking by running ashore. In 1878 the German ironclad *Grosser Kurfurst* was sunk by the ram of the *Koenig Wilhelm* and nearly all of the officers and crew were lost. The *Eurydice*, frigate, foundered in a squall off the Isle of Wight on March 24, 1878, and 300 lives were lost. The *Doterel*, six guns, was lost in the Straits of Magellan on April 26, 1881, and 643 lives were lost. The last marine disaster in which a vessel of the British navy figured occurred in the harbour of Gibraltar in 1889, when the Anchor line steamer *Utopia*, from Leghorn, having on board several hundred Italian emigrants bound for America, ran upon the prow of the British man-of-war *Anson* and went down, a number of lives being lost.

THE RADICALS.

The Radicals held a meeting in the Kinki-kan on Monday, to ventilate their views on foreign questions, especially that of Hawaii. Despite a 10 *sen* charge for admission, the large hall was crowded, the audience, however, not including any persons of note. According to advertisements published in several metropolitan papers, more than 30 Radicals were to speak. Of course no one expected that so many would attempt to speak, still less that it would be possible to hear them all out, yet some disappointment was felt when it appeared that only six contemplated addressing the meeting, and that they were politicians of no great repute with the exception of Mr. Hoshi Toru. The lectures commenced at 6 o'clock and closed at half-past 9. No disturbance occurred; nor was any speech suspended by the police. In short, the meeting was altogether very peaceful.

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Mr. Imanishi spoke first on the subject of "Crises in the intercourse of neighbouring States." He dwelt much on the importance of a close alliance with China. He was followed by Mr. Mizuno Torajiro, a fluent and very clever lecturer, who contended that because the Government had not been supported hitherto by public opinion, nay, rather had acted in opposition to it with reference to the question of Treaty Revision, the successful solution of the problem had not been possible. Let the Government simply proceed in harmony with the people's wishes and with unflinching resolution, and the difficulties said to obstruct the path of Treaty Revision would quickly disappear.

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Mr. Sugawara Tsutaye next spoke on the topic of the day, "The Hawaiian Question." He had been in America when the Hawaiian revolution occurred, and had proceeded at once to Hawaii to observe personally the progress of events, especially with reference to his own nationals. He claimed to have thoroughly investigated the question of the unjust repeal of the franchise privileges of Japanese in Hawaii, and to have come home convinced that those privileges must be recovered. He believed that a few months would decide the fate of Hawaii, as to what government she would be placed under, and simultaneously with the settlement of that question, Japan must have her just demand conceded. He suggested that the present system of sending hired labourers should be changed to one of ordinary emigration. Although this speaker's broad northern provincialisms and want of oratorical skill considerably marred the form of his speech, his earnestness and his arguments based on actual observation produced a deep impression on the audience. We understand that he intends to proceed once more to Hawaii by the next mail.

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A somewhat arbitrarily chosen subject, "Japan, Hawaii, and America," was next dealt with by Mr. Kanamori. His flippant tone detracted much from the value of his speech, which, for the rest, was devoid of points worthy of notice. Mr. Horiguchi Ichiro spoke at considerable length, apparently to kill time till the arrival of the last speaker. His subject was

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unfortunately selected, for its title was "Don't weary the public mind," and assuredly he himself did everything in his power to weary it, by interminable prosiness. He touched upon Japanese foreign affairs at random and elicited some applause at the expense of the Government, but on no particularly edifying topic.

* * *

Mr. Hoshi Toru, who ascended the platform amid prolonged cheers and clapping of hands, addressed the assembly on the subject of "The speedy realization of Treaty Revision." He began by explaining that the present Treaties do injury to Japan's interests in four ways; namely, juridically, financially, administratively, and in the matter of coast fishery. As an instance of administrative injury he referred to Yokohama, and explained that, without consulting the Foreign Representatives, regulations relating to harbour control or to the service of Japanese subjects under foreign employers, could not be put into operation. The Japanese Government was annually incurring a loss of 20,000 *yen* in connection with the administration of the Yokohama Settlement. For the policing and sanitary affairs of the place, an outlay of 80,000 *yen* was required yearly, whereas the Government could collect only 60,000 *yen* from the residents. A similar state of affairs prevailed in the Tokyo, Kobe, and other settlements where foreigners were living. Coming to the question of littoral fishery, he explained that it was very difficult to determine the limits where legal fishery ends and poaching commences. Still the Government was bound to take up the subject and enforce proper regulations in the interests of the Japanese people. Failure to enact and enforce such regulations resulted in the major part of the fishery profits being monopolized by foreign ships. The loss incurred by Japan in consequence of the present Treaties being so manifold, it became a question of paramount importance to revise them. True, both Government and people had by no means been idle in this business, but they had not worked in a manner calculated to attain the desired object. For while the former would have compassed their purpose by sacrificing the national dignity and interests, the latter's aim had simply been to obstruct the Government's policy. The time had now come, however, for the people to act not destructively but constructively, not negatively but positively. The Address to the Throne with reference to Treaty Revision presented by the Lower House last session, had been an important preparatory step. The Government was morally bound to exert itself so that the purpose of the Address might be realized, and the people were equally bound to cōoperate. The fact that the Hawaiian question attracted a large share of public attention was a fair indication that the people had become earnest about problems of an international nature. Mr. Hoshi did not omit to attack his *bêtes noirs*, the Progressionists. The Hawaiian question afforded him a handle. Some common-place controversialists (*Zokuron-sha*) he said, declared it an idle thing to be excited about Hawaii, a country so far away from Japan and at the same time, such an insignificant spot in the mid-Pacific. A country might be distant and might be insignificant, but the interest attaching to it became very great so soon as a number of one's own nationals settled there. There were about 20,000 Japanese living in Hawaii. Did the world contain any other foreign land where so many Japanese were living? Thus considered, it became absurd and incomprehensible to allege that the Hawaiian question should be disregarded merely because the place was far away and comparatively insignificant. But when it was observed that the advocates of that opinion were chagrined because they had been anticipated by the Radicals and consequently relegated to a secondary place, their action became perfectly intelligible. There was another reason for their apparent indifference to such a vital question. Who was it that had been responsible for the management of the country's foreign affa rs at the time when the franchise privileges previously enjoyed by the Japanese in Hawaii had been unjustly taken from them by the Hawaiian Government? The responsible persons had raised no voice of protest at that time. Could they do otherwise than assume an air of indifference at present?"

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Having discharged this shaft at the Progressionists, Mr. Hoshi proceeded to state his own opinions about the Hawaiian problem. He said that he considered the recovery of the franchise for Japanese in Hawaii to be closely connected with the assertion of a far more important right at home. The nature of the two was entirely the same, the only difference being in their relative magnitude. A thinker who did not regard the Hawaiian question with due seriousness must be considered at heart indifferent to the successful solution of the Treaty Revision problem. As to the policy to be pursued hereafter with reference to the latter problem, the great thing to be kept in view was practical achievement (*jikko shugi*), not idle talk. He held that the fate of the country was inseparably bound up with the issue of Revision. Treaty Revision unsuccessful, the nation's fate would be sealed. As a means toward attaining success, he suggested that the people throughout the country should organize an association which might be called "Associat on for the Realization of Treaty Revision." He deplored the fickleness of the Japanese disposition and the nation's lack of the sense of due proportion. They fell into a fever of extraordinary excitement over the re turn of a solitary traveller, yet left comparatively disregarded questions of such importance as the Hawaiian problem and Treaty Revision. No doubt the traveller had achieved a great exploit and merited a fitting welcome. But the reception given to him did not altogether please the Radical leader. Towards the close of the lecture, which lasted more than half an hour, Mr. Hoshi criticized the attitude of the anti-mixed-residence agitators. There were two different classes of agitators: the one asserting the impossibility of mixed residence in Japan, the other declaring it to be premature He scoffed at the former as a disgrace to the nation, their view being at bottom nothing more or less than an avowal that the Japanese are an inferior race not competent to cope with Europeans. As for the latter, he treated them with no more deference. If mixed residence were still premature, when would the time be mature for it? Next year, or five years hence, or twenty years hence? Japan must face her destiny stoutly, instead of timidly hiding herself away from international competition.

COUNT KATSU.

THE report that Count Katsu is seriously ill has, as our readers already know, proved incorrect. A wr ter on the staff of the *Mainichi Shimbun*, alarmed by the rumour, at once paid a visit to the retired statesman, and was agreeably surprised to find him in better health than ever, talking with several guests in his usual vivacious manner. When the writer alluded to the report about his illness, the Count of Hikawa said:—"Nobody need be disturbed even if I were seriously ill. I am an old man, past the age of usefulness. But such is the irony of fate: I have recovered even from a skin trouble from which I had been suffering, and I am really astonished at my own haleness." Asked about the origin of the false report, the Count said:—"My son-in-law (Mr. Hikida who lived next door) died a few days ago. Journalists, who think that it is time for me to die, seem to have hastily inferred some dangerous illness of mine. I am truly sorry for the friends who, misled by the false report, kindly came to inquire about my condition. As for myself, I am healthy enough, but my son-in-law having died, I have to take care of my grandchildren. . . . During the day, while the summer heat lasts, I devote my time to seeing visitors; but at night I take to reading. At present I am perusing a Chinese novel. I never lay it aside until about m dnight. In China hundreds and thousands of youngmen, who have studied solely for the Civil Service Examination, fail to obtain the much coveted official post, and in despair take to writing novels in which they ventilate their feeling of discontent. These novels are, therefore, of great service as showing the inner side of Chinese soc.ety and they are very interesting on that account. . . . In my youth I was too busy to read, but as Heaven has bestowed on me long life, I mean to spend the remainder of my days reading. I have by me a diary which I kept in my youth. I think it may be of some service to students of history, and I mean to publish it one of these days."

INDIAN EXCHANGES.

THE tremendous disturbance in exchange with India resulting from the recent appreciation of gold has attracted great attention in Japan. This country now imports 7½ million *yen* worth of goods from British India, the three principal staples of the trade being Indigo (212,293 *yen* worth in 1892), leather (365,850 *yen*), raw cotton (4,691,770 *yen*) and cotton yarn (1,814,393 *yen*). All these articles, except the last, are of vital importance to Japan in the development of her domestic industries, and she naturally experiences the greatest inconvenience from sudden and violent exchange fluctuations which upset her calculations and oblige her to disburse greatly increased amounts of money for unaltered quantities of goods. Until a fortnight ago a hundred Japanese *yen* were equivalent to 220 rupees in exchange on Bombay, but within the space of 24 hours, without notice of any kind, the same number of *yen* became worth no more than 190 rupees. Instead of being able to buy a rupee worth of raw cotton or leather with 45 *sen*, the Japanese consumer found himself called upon to pay 63 *sen*. A bale of Indian cotton, hitherto purchasable for 19 *yen*, could not be obtained for less than 22 *yen*, and American cotton, which had been costing 22 *yen*, rose to 25.50 *yen*. Of course this would give a serious set-back to the cotton spinning industry were not imported piece-goods and yarns similarly affected. No sound trade is possible under such circumstances. The News Agency says that special instructions have been issued to Japanese Consuls to watch the course of trade and the fluctuations of foreign exchange, but it is not easy to see what help can come from such action.

THE CAPTAIN OF THE "CAMPERDOWN."

THE *Straits Times* says:—Captain Johnstone, who commands H.M.S. *Camperdown*, was on the Straits Station about a quarter of a century ago, as senior lieutenant of H M.S. *Perseus*, when he was known as "Serious Johnstone." Then, ten years ago, he was again on the Straits Station in command of H M.S. *Egeria*. He is regarded as a naval officer of very great discretion. Gunnery Lieutenant Arthur C. Leveson, one of those saved in the loss of the *Victoria*, was born in Singapore, his father being a partner of Remé Bros., a firm that traded in Singapore in the time of Governor Cavenagh. Mr. Leveson passed into the navy with high examination honours. He is cousin to Mr. Lavino, Netherlands Consul-General. When the Duke of York took command of the *Melampus* Lieut. Leveson was one of the officers he especially selected to accompany him.

CHINA'S NEW MINISTER TO ENGLAND.

A TIENTSIN correspondent writes to the *Chinese Mail* (*Wah Tsz Yat Po*) under date 17th June, as follows:—The next M nister to England, &c., has been changed from Woo Wan-mi, at present Provincial Judge of Kwang Si, to Kung Yang Ku, official name Kung Chiao Wan, Provincial Treasurer of Sze-Chuen and formerly Customs Taotai at Shanghai. The latter begged hard to be excused, but peremptory orders have been sent him to come at once to Peking. It is said this appointment is particularly agreeable to England, more so than if Woo Wan-mi had gone.

FRANCE AND SIAM.

THE *Siam Free Press* of the 23rd inst. says:—There is no further news of interest from the Meikong. The Siamese legions have found discretion the better part of valour, and retreated

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from all positions claimed by the French. There appears to be little fear of any further conflicts along the Meikong Valley. Phya da Chow, Adjutant-General of the Siamese Army, is about to leave, if not already left, for the peaceful banks of the Upper Meikong. Several hundred troops left the other day for the East and more are said to be ready to follow. The majority of the French China Squadron are now in Saigon. There is a general feeling amongst judges of the situation that Siam will yield on the appearance of French force, or a determination to push matters to the extreme.

KOREAN NEWS.

THE King of Korea is said to have held a grand review of troops on the 26th ultimo. A "grand review" being held only once in twenty or thirty years, unusual interest was excited by the event. The ceremony seems to have been conducted in a very singular manner. It had been announced that the King would leave the palace at 9 a.m. Consequently from early dawn people began to collect in large numbers in the vicinity of the parade ground, until at the time appointed for the appearance of the Royal procession, the crowd of spectators must have been not less than 30,000 strong. Hour after hour wore on, but no Royal procession came in sight. Not until 5 p.m. were the persevering spectators apprised of the approach of the Royal train by the distant sound of pipes, drums, and other musical instruments incidental to Royal processions in Korea. The King and the Heir Apparent were on horseback, accompanied by a long train of officials and others numbering in all more than 10,000. When the King had taken his seat on the parade ground, the troops marched forward in succession and saluted His Majesty by bowing to the ground, the division coming last to make the salute being a company of artillery. The parade was under the command of Kan Keiko, General of the Imperial Guards. The total force mustered only seven or eight thousand, and was composed of most heterogeneous elements. It is stated that the review on the 26th ultimo being extremely unsatisfactory, the military authorities contemplate holding another parade of troops drilled according to the modern system.

* * *

Kan Keiko, who directed the review of the 26th ultimo, is reported to have been deprived of military rank on the ground that his conduct on that occasion was not correct. It is believed that his disgrace has been procured through intrigues of the courtiers under Bin Oshoku's leadership. They had viewed with uneasiness the rapidly growing influence of this active officer, and had consequently been on the watch for an opportunity to get rid of him.

* * *

The expenses of the above mentioned review are stated to have been out of all proportion to Korea's resources. Some correspondents calculate that the amount must have been larger than the sum required for the expenses of the Court during a whole year. At all events, the review evidently cost a great deal, since its expensiveness is said to forbid its repetition oftener than once in twenty or thirty years. The money required on the present occasion is said to have been borrowed from a certain foreign firm.

* * *

The Korean Prime Minister, Chin Shuntaku, is reported to have tendered his resignation. This is indeed not the first time that he has asked to be relieved of official duties. He did so on several occasions in recent years. His position in Korean politics is peculiar. Although nominally the head of the Government, he exercises little influence in the practical conduct of the administration. His father was an ambitious noble who died harbouring implacable resentment against the Tai Won-kun, then Regent of the Kingdom. Chin Shuntaku is consequently regarded by the Bin family as perfectly safe not to engage in any intrigue with its enemy the great ex-Regent. This, according to some Japanese correspondents, is the reason why he has so long been able to keep his position amidst constant changes in the *personnel* of his Ministry. But of late, since the death of his brother and his adopted son, he has begun to long for private life, and his desire for resignation has been strengthened by the growing difficulties of the Korean Government since the *Togaku-to* began to disturb the quiet of the country.

* * *

The murder of Japanese fishermen has, according to the *Tokyo Asahi Shimbun's* correspondents, been made a subject of diplomatic negotiations. The Korean Government is said to be greatly embarrassed about this question. It is expected that a commission will be sent to make investigations *in loco*.

PERSONAL AND POLITICAL.

THE papers state that Mr. Oishi's successor at Söul will be Mr Hara, Director of the Commercial Bureau in the Foreign Office. Mr. Hara is an official of great ability and enjoys the complete confidence of the Minister of Foreign Affairs. There would be nothing singular in his appointment. Rumour adds that he will be succeeded at the Commercial Bureau by Mr. Inouye Katsunosuke, Councillor of the Foreign Office.

* * *

Mr. Hoshi Toru, President of the House of Representatives, who recently went to Sendai on legal business, is said to have availed himself of the opportunity offered by his stay there to denounce the Progressionists as the sworn enemies of his Party. "Do they," he is reported to have remarked, "talk of an alliance with us? Nothing of the kind can happen, unless they dissolve their Party and beg to be admitted into our camp." Rumour also attributes to him an assertion that the *Jiyu-to* is no longer a Popular Party, and that consequently an impassable gulf stands between it and the *Kaishin-to*. We offer no opinion as to the accuracy of all this.

* * *

The Progressionists are said to have recently held repeated conferences to discuss some means of increasing their Party's influence. As one result of these meetings, it has been decided to despatch, at the close of the present month, Mr. Okuma Hidemaro, son of Count Okuma, and Mr. Kato Masanosuke to the Provinces of the North-east; Mr. Shimada Saburo, to the Provinces of Hokuriku-do; Mr. Koizuka Ryu to the Provinces of San-in-do and San-yo-do; and Messrs. Tsunoda Shimpei and Hadano Denzaburo to the Prefectures of Aichi and Gifu. It is also reported that Mr. Minoura Katsundo may possibly pay a visit to Kyushu.

THE YOKOHAMA MERCHANTS.

THE Japanese merchants of Yokohama pride themselves on their enterprise and progressive capacity. But unfortunately they are more celebrated, or notorious, for another quality, namely that of quarrelsomeness. There are parties and factions among them implacably hostile to each other, and this tendency has been such a standing obstacle to the smooth conduct of Municipal affairs, in so much so, indeed, that their mutual truculence at one time excited national attention. For the last few years they have been quarrelling about the disposal of a sum of money in their common possession. Attempts at reconciliation were made several times without success. But of late, through the exertions of several distinguished citizens of neutral position, the conflicting factions have begun to show a conciliatory mood. Taking advantage of this circumstance, several of the mediating citizens asked Mr. Kawata, President of the Bank of Japan, to lend his good offices for the settlement of the dispute. He gladly complied with the request, and going down to Yokohama on the 7th instant, convened a meeting of the principal merchants of all sections, whom he made promise that they would invest him with sole authority as to the disposal of the sum of money in dispute and that they would abide by his decision. A document drawn up on the basis of these promises is now receiving the signatures of all the merchants of the port. As soon as the operation of signing is completed, the document will be delivered to Mr. Kawata, who will then proceed to settle the dispute according to his own discretion. It is believed that there is now every hope of the quarrel being settled satisfactory and finally.

FIXED PROPERTY ACQUIRED FOR MISSIONARY PURPOSES IN JAPAN.

IT is doubtless fresh in our readers' recollection that a statement was published recently to the effect that in consequence of the agitation connected with the foreign ownership of land outside the Settlements, the various Japanese in whose names property was held for missionary purposes, had taken advantage of the situation and required that possession of such property should be absolutely given up to them, with which demand the missionaries had found themselves reluctantly compelled to comply. The story seemed to us quite incredible, and we commented on it in that sense. There has now reached us a letter from one of the leading missionaries, containing the following statement:—"With reference to your note on the subject of Japanese owners of mission property and their alleged appropriation of the same, I can say that, so far as our mission is concerned, there is not one word of truth in the whole story. The property acquired by us outside of the Settlements for mission purposes is held by Japanese trustees for the benefit of the Japanese church and there has not been a scintilla of misunderstanding or shadow of trouble in the matter. Neither do I know of any trouble in any other mission. Some years ago, I heard of a man in one mission who attempted to appropriate a property entrusted to him for a certain church, but who was immediately and emphatically restrained by a Japanese Court of Law."

MR. MICHIE.

ALL China coast residents remember Mr. Michie, of Tientsin, who for so long a time contributed to *The Times* most charming and astute articles on China and Chinese affairs. We find in the *N.-C. Daily News* the following paragraph in reference to him, which we sincerely hope may rest on a basis of fact:—A report is current in Tientsin that Mr. A. Michie has been requested by *The Times* to become its special correspondent in Cairo. The managers of the leading journal have become sceptical, it is asserted, as to the quality of the evidence submitted to the British public from Egypt. The optimistic views of the English administrators are quite incompatible with those of the natives and the French. *The Times* aspires to get at the real facts of the situation by sending a shrewd observer, entirely unbiassed, and uncommitted to any policy or opinion. Mr. Michie's many friends in China will be glad if this report is confirmed. There are few positions in which his robust common sense and his great journalistic ability could so readily be utilised.

ACTRESS'S STOLEN JEWELS.

IT is a recognised piece of theatrical advertising for the leading lady of a company, or a "star" on her first or preliminary tours, to lose her jewels at the hands of thieves. It lends a fictitious interest to the lady, it is supposed, among the female portion of the towns which she is exploiting, and induces some folk to attend the Theatre who would not come on the strength of the play-bill's announcement alone. Even women who have thoroughly established their reputation resort to the dodge, and Patti at one time had a mania for it, at least so unkind critics said. But we always thought that Sarah Bernhardt was above such things. Yet a telegram in an American exchange says that the divine Sarah has had 300,000 francs' worth of her jewellery stolen in the capital of Brazil. If it were not for the figures we should have been inclined to have believed the story, but as it is—well we cannot.

THE MAYET AFFAIR.

OUR readers doubtless remember that Mr. Hanabusa, who assisted Dr. Mayet to procure a residence in Tokyo and became in consequence the object of a most unreasonable attack

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on the part of certain hot-headed patriots, sued Mr. Kojima, a barrister to whom the house had subsequently been let, for arrears of rent, and won his case in the Kyobashi District Court. Against this judgment Mr. Kojima appealed to the Tokyo Local Court, and obtained a decision in his favour on the ground that, although the house was duly registered as Mr. Hanabusa's property, the terms of the lease showed that it was really held by Dr. Mayet, who could have no legal title to a house outside the foreign Settlements. Mr. Hanabusa appealed to the Supreme Court, and we read that on the 10th instant that tribunal ordered a re-trial by the Tokyo Local Court, it being the opinion of the Judges that the facts of the case had not been fully investigated by the lower tribunal. This decision was anticipated.

ELECTRIC RAILWAYS IN JAPAN.

THE introduction of electric cars on branch lines is engaging the attention of the Railway Council. Among the private railways, for which charters are sought, there are two electric lines, the Kobe-Mizuta and the Bo-So. It is believed that some members of the Railway Council doubt the expediency of introducing electric railways. The Council elected a Committee to investigate the subject from scientific as well as practical points of view. On the 10th instant, the Committee invited Mr. Fujioka Ichisuke, the best known specialist in electricity, to their meeting and asked his opinion. It is understood that he expressed himself strongly in favour of electric lines. The *Hochi Shimbun* is an ardent advocate of the electric system, which it declares the best for short branch lines. Our contemporary is so enthusiastic on this subject that some people suspect it of having a direct interest in the introduction of electric lines.

THE AMUR GOLD MINES.

Six years ago a company was formed under the auspices of the Viceroy Li to work the Muho Gold Mines in the Chinese part of the Amur regions. The shares were 50 Tls. and 20 Tls. were paid up by the shareholders. Finding that payment insufficient, and being unwilling to make a further call, the directors borrowed money from the Government. This borrowed money has been paid back, and in addition sufficient funds have been realized to supply the mine with American machinery, brought to the place at immense cost, and otherwise to improve the value of the property, so that, each share is now worth 50 Tls. There have not been any dividends, so far, but one is promised next year. The output of the mine for 1891—the last year reported—was 343,820 Tls. worth of gold and other minerals. The *North China Herald* says about the mine:—

> Reports made by independent observers who visited these mines three years ago, indicate that they are the richest mines that China, so far, is known to possess. Our readers may perhaps remember reading some account of these regions, how they were peopled and colonised by a band of escaped Russian convicts and desperate characters who under laws of their own flourished well and took out of the country immense quantities of gold, and how eventually they were driven out by Chinese troops sent for the purpose. The mines are seemingly exhaustless, notwithstanding the "first picks" made by the Russians, no less than over a quarter of a million taels weight of gold having been extracted within the last four years and still there are rich places not yet explored, which the report under review states "are expected to be even richer than those that have been exploited during the past six years."

JAPAN AND THE PACIFIC SLOPE.

It is well that Japan should be in possession of everything calculated to indicate the temper of the Americans towards Oriental races; or rather, the temper of the section of Americans inhabiting the Pacific Slope. We therefor reproduce the following from a San Francisco journal:—

"Japan is reaching out for new fields to colonize The success of the recent experiments in Hawaii has stimulated the Mikado's government to endeavour to repeat this work in Mexico and Australia. On the coffee and suger plantations of Mexico great difficulty is experienced in securing good reliable labour and in the Australian colonies every device has been tried unsuccessfully to fill the demand for hands on remote ranches. The Japanese are not ideal labourers, but they are far superior to the South Sea islanders that have been tried in Queensland and other colonies at the antipodes. We do not care how many of the Japanese swarm into Mexico and Australia, but we are not anxious to see them enter our ports, for were this immigration encouraged it would result in the same evils that have followed the influx of the Chinese."

THE MURDER OF MISSIONARIES IN CHINA.

THE Hankow correspondent of the *North China Daily News* describes the recent murder of two Swedish Missionaries at Sungpu on the 1st, of July, in the following terms:—

I have just sent you a telegram with the sad news of the murder of the Rev. Messrs Wickholm and Johanssen, two Swedish Missionaries belonging to Wuchang, in an anti-foreign riot at Sungpu on Saturday, and now in a hurried note send you the particulars as far as they can be gathered at present.

Sungpu is a market town in the district of Matsinhsien, sixty miles from here on the great road leading to Peking. It is a place of considerable trade; being near the borders of Honan many of the merchants of that province go to it instead of to Hankow. The inhabitants, who number about 20,000, are largely natives of other places, and being strangers themselves have always been very friendly to strangers Sungpu indeed has always had the good word of the foreigners who have frequently visited it.

A few months ago the Swedish mission rented a native house in one of the back streets, hoping in time to settle down and carry on work there. They got on with the people remarkably well, but after a time found that certain gentry and bad characters were getting up an agitation against them. Some of the people concerned in renting them the house were seized and put in prison at Matsin and very severely beaten In connection with this the matter was brought before Mr. Joh. Thyes, who is in charge of Swedish interests at this port, and by him represented to the Taotai with the result that the imprisoned men were set free, and the Matsin magistrate was to see to it that there would be no further trouble.

The next news they got, however, was to the effect that at a great feast and procession on Saturday the 1st instant, the foreigners were to be killed. This information reached the two murdered gentlemen who were then staying there, and the Consul in Hankow, at the same time. The Consul's information came from the Taotai with the request that he, the Consul, should therefore order the missionaries to withdraw. This, the Consul, being informed by the missionaries themselves that all was quiet, and that they anticipated no danger, declined to do.

The 1st instant was Saturday, but the feast began on the previous Wednesday when many thousands of country people were gathered into the town. Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday large numbers of people visited the missionaries' house, but all kept quite, and when Saturday morning came they fondly hoped they had outlived another false alarm. Alas, early in the day a crowd began to assemble evidently bent on mischief. They began by stoning, and then, as their courage rose, attempted to rush the house. Finding it no longer tenable, the missionaries made their way into the house of their landlord adjoining, and saw their own instantly looted and everything smashed. The landlord's house was next attacked, so they climbed over a back wall and into another house where they found refuge for a time in a garret. They were found out here also, and ultimately driven out of the garret on to the roof. The whole forenoon had passed in this way, and it was now two o'clock, the hour of their appearance and the end. As soon as they were seen on the roof, a great shout went up from the mob, and four men armed with iron rods sprang up after them. The missionaries, followed by these and pelted with stones and tiles from every side, retreated along about a score of houses when they could not get no further, so they leaped into the road and were immediately despatched.

The mob sprang on them, pierced them with their spiked carrying poles, pounded them with hoes, battered in their skulls, stripped even rag of clothing off them; in mere wanton wickedness inflicted nameless barbarities on their now dead and senseless bodies. Our informant saw them lying stark and unattended in the Sungpu street with no one to care for them save the native dogs

As soon as the foreigners were killed, a rush was made to find the natives associated with them, most of whom, however, escaped, but one was caught and badly beaten. He only escaped death through being a Sungpu man and several people therefore taking his part. When there was no more killing to be done, the missionaries' house was set on fire and that and the one adjoining burned to the ground. The above particulars have been gathered from one of the servants who escaped, and made his way as fast as he could to Hankow.

I have no time just now to comment on the above, but, I would point that the anti-foreign feeling created by the Chou Han propaganda proves to have done unspeakable mischief in all parts of Central China. It was only by rare good fortune that the bicyclist Mr. Lens escaped with his life from an unprovoked attack. On their last journey our veteran missionary, Dr Griffith John, with Dr. Gillison, were in similarly attacked by country people with their hoes and pikes, and had a very providential escape from death. Yet Chou Han has never yet been punished in any way. None of the parties concerned in the two Ichang riots were ever punished, and even the man who in the last one was caught by the foreigners and handed over to justice was dismissed free and unrebuked. All this has but one meaning and can tend to but one end

But where were the Sungpu authorities? Although the danger to the foreigners was according to themselves so great and imminent, they never did anything to ward it off. At Chiting, only 8 *li* away, was a military force and the *yamén* of the Hungchofu subprefect, a great official in these parts, but no steps were taken to prevent trouble. There is a small military official located at Sungpu with a few soldiers, and he turned out but could do nothing. The crowd attacked him early and drove him from the field.

The first thing to be done now is to bring the bodies in I hear the Ho family, in whose vicinity this dreadful murder was perpetrated, have covered them with mats and are taking charge of them. The street people were friendly throughout. The rioters came from certain villages from ten to fifteen *li* away, and the real attacking parties were hired cut-throats. A party leaves to-night to bring the bodies in. I shall join it and on my return hope to be able to send you fuller particulars.

* * *

The same correspondent writes on the following day:—

I hurried through my yesterday's letter in order to be in time to join the party about to proceed to recover the bodies of the murdered missionaries, but here, four-and-twenty hours after, I am still. The Taotai, on being interviewed by the Consuls with regard to granting an escort to this party, replied that he could do nothing till he had seen the Viceroy—thus it was eleven o'clock before word was brought from him. This was to the effect that on no account would an escort be granted to foreigners to go to Sungpu. He would send himself and have the bodies brought back, but any foreigner going would do so at his own risk, It was hard indeed to think of the mangled remains of our late dear friends as they lay in Sungpu and of our own inability to render them the last but necessary attentions which the living can pay the dead. Just as, in like circumstances, they would gladly have undertaken these for us, so there were many of us anxious to do so for them, but what could we do? Had we gone without the permission, and an escort so needful, we could have done nothing, even if we ever contrived to reach the place. Just as the great officials had denied us their help, so also would all the lower ones do, while the people, under these circumstances would not dare to aid us in any way. It was hard, but could not be helped.

However, to-day, as the result of fresh representations on the part of the Consuls, two of us are to be allowed to join the Viceroy's party which leaves for Sungpu to-night. I have nothing fresh to add to my yesterday's news, nor will there be much to tell till we come back.

This not seems to have been originated and put through in the usual way. First many false and malicious rumours were set afloat, and occasional placards posted of the old eye-gouging and heart-digging character. Then, when all was ready, the matter was finished off by a band of men evidently detailed for the purpose, and acting according to a pre-arranged plan. Yet the real root of it is probably to be found in the very unsatisfactory understanding between the native officials and foreigners as to their right of residing in the interior. The missionaries believe they have this right; those who send them out are of the same opinion, and send them out for this very purpose. The native authorities act as if they considered foreigners have no such right—in these parts at all events—and the foreign Consuls, although always doing the best they can for their nationals, will few of them commit themselves to a favourable opinion on the subject It would be well if our Ministers could have this matter definitely settled one way or another Surely they will never allow the wide adoption of this plan of settling such questions. It is a serious and solemn thing when a man receives a fortnight's notice to quit his residence, and because he is not out of it when the time is up, is ejected from it, and from the world, by means of the cruelest death that heathen ingenuity can devise.

A native friend who has just come in from Sungpu reports that he saw the bodies on Sunday evening, still lying where they fell, stark naked and without even the mat which they were credited yesterday. He says they were swollen to immense size, and no one was paying them any attention, nor had the native authorities up to that date taken the slightest notice of the matter. I have no doubt but this is a perfectly true statement, and probably would be found to be true at this very moment. We live in serious times; all these things mean much.

ELECTION DISTURBANCES IN KOZA DISTRICT.

FURTHER election disturbances have occurred in Koza District, Kanagawa Prefecture. A fight took place at Koide on the 12th inst. about 4 p.m. It broke out between two factions one

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led by Messrs. Natori Chozo, Kumazawa Tomojiro, and two other Progressionists while Messrs. Kaneko Kozayemon, a Radical candidate; Hachisuka, Headmen of Yamato-mura; Mute Kakunosuke, and about thirty Radicals led the other. Two of the former company were seriously wounded. They have been taken to Tokyo, and are under medical treatment at the University Hospital. About two hours later a party of twenty-five *Jiyu-to* roughs attacked the quarters of the Progressionists at Koide, and assaulted Mr. Nonaka and two other gentlemen, who were in charge of the office. Mr. Nonaka was severely injured. He also has been sent to the University Hospital. Messrs. Hasegawa and Kaneko, Radical candidates, were arrested, and taken to Yokohama on the 13th inst. Summonses have also been issued for Messrs. Sudzumoto Insnosuke, Yoshiwara Shikojiro, and other Radicals. Another violent combat would have taken place at Terao on the 13th inst. about 1 p.m., between over twenty Radicals and a party of fifteen *Kaishin-to* partisans, had not a large force of police fortunately arrived upon the scene of commotion in time. It is stated that the local authorities propose enforcing the Premonition Law in the District.

THE BILLIARD MATCH IN LONDON.

MANY people are under the impression that Ives, the American Billiard Champion, has beaten Roberts, the English Champion, at the regular English game, and that the superiority of carron-play to pocket-play has thus been clearly demonstrated. Such is not the case, however. The game between the two champions was not played on an ordinary English table, nor was Roberts allowed all the possibilities of his game. The size of the pockets was reduced and that of the balls increased specially to suit the convenience of the American. Moreover, Roberts was not allowed to play the spot stroke—we really do not see why the English spot stroke should be barred if the American rail carron is permitted—or to use the push stroke. In fact, large concessions were made to facilitate the American's play. The result is therefore most inconclusive and unsatisfactory. It is difficult to understand the rationale of such a contest. If a trial of strength is to take place at the English game, why on earth should the English table and the English balls be altered to something quite un-English? Harry Furniss, writing of the affair in the *St. James's Budget*, says:—

What the sporting papers call "a Great International Billiard Match," between the champion of England and the champion of America, commenced at Knightsbridge on Monday evening, and is to be continued during Derby week. John Roberts is opposed to Frank C. Ives in a game of 6,000 points up for £1,000. One or the other of the players must register 1,000 points each evening. There is no doubt whatever that John Roberts is *par excellence* the greatest billiard-player the world has ever seen, and as there is no one who can meet him on level terms and make a decent fight of it, we are never likely to see exactly what he can do when he is extended. After all, this is only a hybrid sort of competition. The American cannot play on a regulation English table, so he has the size of the pockets reduced and that of the balls increased, and Roberts must not play the spot stroke (of course that is no use to an American or a Frenchman), nor use the push stroke which is such a chief factor in his big breaks. It is my idea that if you tied one of Roberts's hands behind his back, bandaged up one of his eyes, made him stand on one leg, play with the wrong end of the cue, he would still be a match for any one. I have no doubt that the American is a born billiard-player, for his knowledge of strength and nursery cannons (his favourite game) is marvellous. Still his style is more acrobatic than graceful, and, like his appearance, it is somewhat strange. He wears a white tie, a cardigan jacket, and an anxious expression. If he honours us by stopping here long enough to master English billiards pure and simple, I fancy he will beat all our professionals but Roberts. This young man I believe was formerly a jockey and a champion racquet-player. Perhaps he will now carry off the medal at St. Andrews Golf Links, or qualify for international honours as a footballer!

THE NAVAL MASTER-ATTENDANT AT HONGKONG.

A NEW Master Attendant has been appointed to the Naval Dockyard in Hongkong *vice* Captain Edwards, who returned to England by the *Tyne* on the 14th of May, says the *China Mail*. The new official is Captain Andrew Miller. He has a good reputation as a scientist, and is the inventor of the torpedo boom. For the last three years he has been employed at the Admiralty revising the system of stores establishments on Her Majesty's ships. Since Captain Edwards left Mr. South, Chief Boatswain, has been acting as Master Attendant.—The name of the new Commodore's Secretary is Waymouth, but the Commodore's name has not yet transpired.

STEAMER BURNT AT SEA.

TELEGRAPHIC advices received at Hongkong on the 5th inst., state that the well-known Spanish steamer *Don Juan* has been lost by fire. The vessel left Hongkong on Thursday, 29th June, for Amoy and Manila. At Amoy a large number of Chinese passengers embarked for Manila, and out of some 250 people who were on board only 29 have been saved. The cargo has been totally destroyed. There are no further details of the sad disaster. It is stated that the steamer had 2,000 cases of kerosene on deck. The *Don Juan* was a vessel of 645 tons and was commanded by Capt. Beltran. Her officers and crew numbered about forty.

TECHNICALLY GUILTY OF SMUGGLING AT THE WORLD'S FAIR.

BERTRAM NAMITZ and Henry Castleman, exhibiters in the Swiss section of the Manufactures Building, were held to the Federal grand jury in $2,000 bail by Commissioner Hoyne. They had disposed of a beautiful brooch valued at $57 to Mrs. Ella Hirst of Washington, D.C. As the article was imported duty free and was at the time of its sale in a government warehouse, which all the main buildings of the Fair actually are, the offence was equivalent to smuggling. S. Mormoto, a Japanese exhibitor, was also held in $500 on a similar charge. He sold some small porcelain goods and delivered them to buyers at the Fair.

FAREWELL DINNER TO MR. SONE.

A FAREWELL dinner was given by Mr. Inouye, Minister of State for Education, on the 10th instant at his official residence Nagatacho, to Mr. Sone, the new Japanese Minister to France. Messrs. Furusuo Yoshikado, Maki Bokushin, Ogaki Heiji, Motoda Hajime, Yamoto Yoshinori, Tsuda Shimdo, O-oka Ikuzo, and other distinguished members of the National Union, Hirata, Sectional Chief of the Legislative Bureau; Midzuno, Chief Secretary of the Lower House; Abe, Chief Commissioner of the Ecclesiastical Bureau; and Tomita, Governor of Tokyo, were invited to meet him.

THE JAPANESE CYCLISTS ASSOCIATION.

THE Japanese cyclists of Tokyo have formed an association under the above name. The office of the association will be established for the present at the Kogun-sha Club, No. 12 Nichome, Minami Nabecho, Kyobashi-ku, Tokyo. It is stated to be the intention of the projectors to hire a suitable house for meetings, and to issue a monthly report to be distributed among the members. The association will subscribe to foreign periodicals relating to cycles. It will also see to the ordering of cycles from abroad at the desire of any of its members.

RETURN OF THE "MIIKE MARU."

THE Nippon Yusen Kaisha's steamer *Miike Maru* arrived at Yokohama, at 1 p.m. on Wednesday, from Honolulu with 495 passengers, "all well." A Japanese woman who was sick when she embarked at Honolulu died on the way home, this being the only case of sickness during the entire voyage. The *Miike Maru*, it will be remembered, sailed hence for Honolulu on 6th June, with 1783 emigrants, all of whom reached Hawaii's capital on the 18th idem, in good health.

THE BRITISH COURT.

H.B.M.'s COURT FOR JAPAN rises for its Summer Vacation on Monday next, July 17th. The holidays continue till Saturday, September 16th. During this period no ordinary civil suits, other than those now entered, will be heard, except such as are expressly ordered, and the time allowed defendants to answer petitions filed between the dates above given will be computed from the 18th day of September next. Admiralty, Bankruptcy, Summary Civil, and Police cases will be taken as usual, the registry office being open from 10 till 12 each day.

FIRE IN THE CHICAGO EXHIBITION.

THE vernacular newspapers of Tokyo published extras last evening with the following telegram:—

Chicago, July 11th 9.15 a.m.

A large fire occurred last night in the Exhibition buildings. The greatest confusion prevailed, and as many as seventeen lives were lost. The Japanese are all safe.

We possess no information whatever in addition to the above, and can therefore add nothing that would not be purely conjectural. The mention of the Japanese, at the close of the message, may be interpreted by some as indicating that the conflagration was in the Japanese Section, but we do not think that such an inference would be warranted. Had the Japanese Section been burned, the telegram must assuredly have said so.

SUSPECTED FOUL PLAY.

A BLUEJACKET belonging to the U.S.S. *Marion* named Byrne has lost his life at Hankow under mysterious circumstances and foul play is suspected. He left the hotel on the evening of the 25th ult. to go on board his ship for more money, but instead of this he appears to have gone to the city and walked along to a shallow lake or lagoon about a mile and a half from the hotel. Here the body was found next morning, quite naked except for a light singlet, the skull was fractured, and the back, legs, and shoulders were covered with bruises.

MEMORIAL SERVICE AT SHANGHAI.

A MEMORIAL service was held in Shanghai Cathedral on Sunday, July 2nd, in memory of those lost in the terrible disaster to H.M.S. *Victoria* off Tripoli. The officers and men of the British men-of-war and the officers of the German war vessels in port, were among those present. The Ven. Archdeacon Moule delivered a most impressive sermon from Psalm CXII. 7 and XLVI. and 1.

THE CANTON EXPLOSION.

LATER advices to the *Hupao* with reference to the disaster at the Canton powder works and magazine give the number of persons killed by the falling of walls or stones as over fifty, and badly injured nearly three hundred: but over 2,000 families have been rendered homeless by the collapsing of their domiciles.

ELECTION FOR THE HOUSE OF PEERS.

AN election was held yesterday at the Nobles Club to fill a vacancy in the Parliamentary representatives of the Barons. The result was:—

Baron Shikasono Sanehiro ....47 votes.
Baron Akamatsu Noriyoshi.....16 votes.

LIEUT.-COLONEL FUKUSHIMA'S HORSES.

IT is stated in the *Yomiuri Shimbun* that the Emperor has been graciously pleased to accept as a present from Lieut.-Colonel Fukushima the three horses which he rode during his transcontinental journey.

THE "HIDEYOSHI MARU."

A TELEGRAPHIC message from Nagasaki states that the *Hideyoshi Maru*, which went ashore off Kabashima, has been floated off. The damage was confined to her bow. She put into Telegami Dock on the 12th inst. at 9 a.m.

MR. F. L. COOMBS AND MR. E DUN

MR. F. L. COOMBS, ex-American Minister to this Court, and Mr. E. Dun, his successor, were received in audience by Their Majesties the Emperor and Empress on the 14th inst. at 10 a.m.

THE "CHISHIMA-RAVENNA" CASE.

A HONGKONG paper learns that Mr. Jno. J. Francis, Q.C., will be associated with Mr. J. F. Lowder in the *cause célèbre*, the Imperial Japanese Government *v.* the P. & O. S. N. Co.

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JAPANESE CLAIMS IN HAWAII.

CONSIDERABLE attention is attracted by the claims which the Japanese in Hawaii are advancing, or the claims which are advanced by Japanese politicians in their behalf. The Rev. W. B. OLESON has written a strong article on the subject in the *New York Independent*. He detects in these claims an evidence of Japanese aggressive designs, and being doubtless interested in promoting the cause of American annexation, he employs the bugbear of Japanese ambition to strengthen timid persons among his own countrymen. "Unless America annexes Hawaii," he says in effect, "Japan will do so, and that means that Hawaii would be brought, in a few years, under the domination of Asiatic rather than American civilization." We cannot, of course, be surprised that such a view finds an exponent in an American clergyman, though certainly the implied slur upon Japanese civilization is not just. But while conceding that Mr. OLESON, believing what he does believe, may fairly claim a hearing, we think it well to point out one weak feature of his argument. He asserts that it would be preposterous to claim that Japanese immigrants in Hawaii should enjoy, at the instance of the Japanese Government, political privileges which that Government does not accord to them in their own land. Now that is an apparently reasonable contention. But it is very far from being conclusive. There emigrate every year to the United States of America many Irishmen, for example, who do not possess, and are not entitled to possess, the privilege of the franchise in Ireland. Nevertheless, so soon as they become naturalized in the States, they acquire the right to vote like any one else. Of course their case is not in every respect analogous to that of Japanese labourers in Hawaii, but the parallel holds sufficiently to demonstrate that the privileges enjoyed by a man in his own country are not by any means a measure of the privileges he may acquire when he transfers his domicile to another country. It does not follow that because a Japanese residing in Hawaii did not possess the franchise qualification in his own country, he ought to be excluded from having a vote in Hawaii, any more than it follows that because British residents in Japan were not exempt from national taxation in Great Britain, they have no title to claim exemption in Japan. What the Japanese claim, as we understand, is that their people in Hawaii should not labour under any greater disabilities than any other nationals. Japan has a Treaty with Hawaii. It was concluded in 1871. One of its clauses says that the subjects of each of the high contracting parties "may remain and reside in all places, and ports, within the territories of the other, where trade with other nations is permitted, enjoying at all times the same privileges as may have been, or may hereafter be, granted to the citizens or subjects of any other nation." This is not a limited concession. The Treaty does not provide that Japanese residents, in order to be eligible for certain privileges in Hawaii, must have been eligible for corresponding privileges in their own country. It unconditionally guarantees to Japanese residents all privileges enjoyed by the citizens or subjects of any other Power in Hawaii. In short, it places Japan on the footing of the most favoured nation. Now, at the time of concluding this Treaty, the franchise was very widely enjoyed by foreign settlers in Hawaii. But in 1887 the Constitution was amended so as to limit the suffrage to male residents of Hawaiian, American, or European birth or descent. The Article of the Constitution bearing on the matter runs as follows :—

> Every male resident of the Kingdom, of Hawaiian, American or European birth or descent, who shall have taken an oath to support the Constitution and laws in the manner provided for election of Nobles; who shall have paid his taxes, who shall have attained the age of twenty years; and shall have been domiciled in the Kingdom for one year preceding the election, and shall know how to read and write either the Hawaiian, English or some European language (if born since the year 1840), and shall have caused his name to be entered upon the list of voters of his district as may be provided by law, shall be entitled to one vote for the Representative or Representatives of that district; provided, however, that the requirements of being domiciled in the Kingdom for one year immediately preceding the election, and of knowing how to read and write either the Hawaiian, English or some European language, shall not apply to persons residing in the Kingdom at the time of the promulgation of this Constitution, if they shall register and vote at the first election which shall be held under this Constitution.

Japan was thus excluded by the revised Constitution from the enjoyment of privileges guaranteed to her by treaty. The most-favoured-nation treatment conventionally assured to her was constitutionally taken away from her. Residents of American or European birth or descent were placed on a better footing than Japanese residents. A racial distinction was set up in disregard of the Treaty. The Japanese immigrants saw Portuguese labourers, circumstanced in other respects exactly like themselves, exercising franchise privileges denied to all Orientals. They saw themselves, in short, the victims of unfriendly discrimination such as no self-respecting persons would have been disposed to tolerate tamely. It may, of course, be contended that the right of altering its Constitution in accordance with national interests and irrespective of all international agreements, is inherent in every free State. Such a position may, we say, be taken. But there can be very little question as to the attitude that would be assumed by Western Powers were Japan, for example, to attempt any action of the kind. Suppose that the Constitution of Japan were altered, in accordance with prescribed processes, so as to limit to two or three nationalities privileges secured to all nationalities by Treaty. And suppose that Great Britain were among the nations discriminated against. Can there be the slightest supposition that HER MAJESTY'S Government would tamely acquiesce in such discrimination? It has always seemed to us that the only just way to consider these questions is to try and conceive what our own feelings as British subjects would be, and what the procedure of the British Government would be, were we ourselves and were British interests directly affected. If a treaty concluded by Great Britain with Hawaii in 1871 had contained a clause guaranteeing that British subjects in Hawaii should always enjoy whatever privileges other nationals enjoyed there, and if the Hawaiian Government, sixteen years later, amended the Hawaiian Constitution so as to limit the enjoyment of certain privileges to German and Italian subjects and to deny their enjoyment to British subjects, Englishmen would be the last people in the world to submit tamely, and if any advocate of tame submission were to urge that it was "preposterous" for them to claim in Hawaii privileges not enjoyed by them in Great Britain, the argument would be received with derision. What Japan protests against, as we understand, is simply this, that her people in Hawaii, though by Treaty guaranteed equal privileges with the most favoured nation, are discriminated against in a marked manner. Had the Hawaiian Constitution been amended in 1887, or at any other time, so as to limit the exercise of the franchise to persons of Hawaiian origin, Japan would, of course, have no ground of complaint. But the trouble is that all adult males of American or European origin in Hawaii are now in the enjoyment of a privilege which is denied to Japanese residents. The argument that the Japanese settling in Hawaii belong to a class not possessed of the franchise in Japan, is specious; nothing more. There is virtually universal suffrage in Hawaii. The lowest Hawaiian in the islands has a vote, provided that he be an adult male, can read and write and owes nothing on account of taxes. Japan, happily for herself, has not yet fallen to universal suffrage, but that fact has no bearing whatever on the treaty privileges enjoyed by her nationals in a foreign country. The only contention that can be advanced with any show of validity against Japan's claims is that her treaty with Hawaii is of a commercial character and can not be extended to include political privileges. What force such an argument may possess, diplomatists, we presume, would not have much difficulty in determining. At all events, three facts emerge very clearly: First, that the social status of Hawaiian, American, or European males residing in Hawaii has nothing whatever to do with their title to exercise the franchise. Therefore, the social status of Japanese residing in Hawaii should be equally excluded from the question of their right to exercise the franchise. Secondly, that the privileges secured by Treaty for certain na-

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tionals in a foreign country do not in any way depend on the privileges enjoyed by them in their own country. Therefore the question whether or no Japanese residents in Hawaii would be entitled to exercise the franchise in Japan must not be considered in the context of their title to exercise it in Honolulu. Thirdly, that unfriendly discrimination has been exercised against the Japanese in Hawaii, so that, while labouring men of other nationalities are permitted to exercise the franchise, Japanese immigrants of all classes are excluded from that privilege.

We have hitherto hesitated to touch this problem because, in the present temper of the Japanese, the expediency of supporting any of their foreign aspirations appears doubtful. But as a point of the commonest justice it is impossible to pass without notice allegations like those of Mr. OLESON. The Japanese are not so deficient in intelligence as to be unable to perceive that, were the cases reversed, such arguments would be laughed to scorn by the very men who now advance them.

THE PARLIAMENT OF RELIGIONS.

A VERY characteristic incident in connection with the Parliament of Religions at the World's Fair is reported in the China papers. The Rev. HAMPDEN C. DU BOSE, an American missionary at Soochow, recently received an invitation from one Dr. BARROWS (of Chicago, we presume) to prepare a paper on "Modern Taoism" as representative of "The Demon" in the religious triad of Dragon, Image, and Demon—the nicknames, apparently, given by missionaries of a certain class to the three great religions of China. Mr. DU BOSE, however, although fully recognising and sympathising with his correspondent's "desire to give the Christian missionary an opportunity to present the dark features of a heathen system"—evidently a congenial task—and "appreciating the privilege of being heard in a vast assembly," has been forced to decline the honour. He objects to the welcome extended by Americans to such "false teachers" as the representatives of Islam, Buddhism, Shintoism, and Hinduism, which makes America "a partaker in their evil deeds" (*sic*); asks why they should not bring their images as well as their essays; points out that "there is no way to test the moral character of these representatives of heathenism" (asking, for instance, what is the *personal* regard for truth of the writer on Confucianism?); is scandalised at the notion that the Unitarian and the Universalist, the Christian and the heathen, those that love God and those hate Him, should all meet as brethren beloved; complains that "evangelical religion is not accepted as the true religion," the tendency being towards eclecticism, as shown in the fact that among the subjects for discussion are "Elements of Perfect Religion as set forth and recognised by the Different Historic Faiths" and "Characteristics of the Ultimate Religion;" and satirically suggests, in conclusion, that Mormon polygamists should be prominently represented in the "Samaritan Parliament." Thus, and with something more, the Rev. HAMPDEN DU BOSE.

Now we will not pass such a slur upon this gentleman's character as to imagine that he ever so much as dipped into a certain licentious novel called "Tom Jones," written by a profane person of the name of FIELDING. At the same time it is difficult not to recognise a certain community of sentiment between the author of the letter above summarised and Mr. THWACKUM the philosophical theologian. "When I mention religion,' says THWACKUM, "I mean the Christian religion; and not only the Christian religion, but the Protestant religion; and not only the Protestant religion, but the Church of England." Probably Mr. DU BOSE would jib at the last member of this definition; but that is a detail. He evidently agrees with Mr. THWACKUM that the word Religion is inapplicable to any system of belief and worship outside of Christianity; nay he goes further, and brands all those who defend or promulgate any such non-Christian systems as "false teachers." We do not know whether Mr. DU BOSE uses this phrase as a synonym for "liars," or simply for "teachers of a false doctrine;" the expression is ambiguous, and we will give Mr. DU BOSE the benefit of the doubt. It is impossible to acquit him of what appears to us the very rankest bigotry and narrow-mindedness, but we certainly hesitate to charge him with accusing the great professors of Buddhism, Confucianism, and Mohammedanism of preaching what they secretly believe to be falsehoods, for that would prove any man not intolerant but simply stupid. One thing, however, is clear. In Mr. DU BOSE'S eyes, Christianity as he holds it—we are not sure whether he is a Presbyterian, a Methodist, or a Baptist, and the point is unimportant—contains everything that is true and nothing that is false; while every other religious system contains everything that is false and nothing that is true. This we call bigotry, and so it is; but there is something underlying it, and that is ignorance. No man who has ever made a sympathetic study of the great religions of the world would dream of denying the indications of eternal truth that they contain: the desire for goodness, the inculcation of purity and mercy, the aspirations Heaven-ward, the longing for a nobler and a higher life—imperfectly expressed, perhaps, inadequately carried out, mixed even with much that is wrong and foolish, but there nevertheless. It was of upright and conscientious men brought up among such systems as these that ST. PETER said, "GOD hath showed me that I should not call any man common or unclean. In every nation he that feareth Him and worketh righteousness is accepted with Him." And bigotry is not only founded upon ignorance; it keeps the bigot ignorant, it leads to intellectual stagnation, it blinds the eyes to new views of truth. Fancying that he has fathomed the Infinite, that upon all important subjects he knows the whole truth, that

> He can God's thoughts and acts portray,
> In fair historical array,
> From Adam to the Judgment-day,

what more, thinks the bigot, *can* he know? His creed is to him the epitome of the mind and the dealings of GOD, and there is an end of the matter. Mr. DU BOSE is, after all, only a type of the class to which he belongs. The same spirit is found in other directions and on a very much larger scale. Church No. 1 condemns Church No. 2 as schismatic and Church No. 3 as heretical. Church No. 3 in its turn brands all who dissent from it as unauthorised, schismatic, and rebellious; these have also their own opinion—unfavourable, of course—about Church No. 3; and all the Churches and denominations, while repudiating each other's theology and disputing the validity of each other's mechanically-conferred "orders," agree in denouncing the religious systems of all the world beside. Each, in a word, believes itself the sole depository of Truth, the whole Truth, and nothing but the Truth. "I am right, and everybody else is wrong," is the concrete expression of each individual or corporation. Belief is made the important thing; *then* comes character. "Granting us in this world remembrance of our creed" should, in all consistency, be the accepted termination of the Prayer of ST. CHRYSOSTOM.

The study of comparative religions, as is pointed out by a correspondent of the Shanghai morning paper, has been undertaken in order to discover what is truest and best in all, and in this way to hold fast that which is good. There was a time when nothing was really known of non-Christian systems. The orthodox party—the majority—believed that they possessed absolute truth, and in their ignorance they denounced every Sacred Book but their own as false, diabolical, dangerous, and offensive to the GOD they worshipped. It has since been established that systems which in the dark ages had been regarded as enemies are after all mostly friends. We find everywhere the recognition of an Almighty and Supreme Mind, over all and in all; we find it believed that by union with this Supreme Mind man reaches his highest development; we find it taught that the practice of virtue, gentleness, purity, and goodness is essential for the highest life, and that sin endangers everything. "These truths are acknowledged by the best qualified teachers to be among their fundamental truths. On these uni-

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versal truths each religion builds its own peculiar superstructure. Whichever will elevate man nearest the Divine and bring about most good to one's fellow-men is the one which will command the most universal homage; and religionists who despise other religions which also teach righteousness and peace, love and mercy, can hardly complain if they are classed with the proud Pharisees rather than with Him who lighteth every man who cometh into the world."

CONSULAR JUSTICE.

THE *Kaishin-to Toho*, a bi-monthly periodical published in the interests of the *Kaishin-to*, comments in a curious manner on the decisions recently rendered in the American Consulate and the British Court with reference to the COPELAND and *Chishima-Ravenna* cases, respectively. It considers that these two judgments were examples of justice and applauds them accordingly. But it adds:—"Injustice is the general rule in these tribunals; justice is rare. Nevertheless, when they render just judgments we applaud their justice, hoping thereby to encourage them in the exercise of that quality." This is very interesting. Does it really seem to the Japanese that unjust judgments are the rule in HER BRITANNIC MAJESTY'S Court and Consular tribunals in Japan? We say nothing about the Consular tribunals of other States, not because we desire to make an invidious distinction, but because, as an English journal, our chief concern is with British institutions. If there is one thing on which Englishmen pride themselves more than another, it is the impartiality of their legal tribunals. Their firm belief is that considerations of personality or nationality possess no manner of weight with the administrators of British justice, and that every man, no matter what his station or his race, is absolutely equal before the law. Is it, then, really true that the practice of British legal tribunals in Japan conveys to the Japanese an impression of partiality and injustice? Every one is familiar with the perpetual complaints formulated in the same sense by foreigners in Japan against Japanese tribunals. There have been innumerable instances where Japanese Law Courts rendered judgments in favour of foreign suitors, and in such instances we must assume that, from the foreign point of view, justice was done. Yet it is the permanent fashion with a certain class of foreign critics to condemn the Japanese Judiciary in uncompromising terms, and to write of it as though the last thing to be anticipated by any foreign suitor in a Japanese Court were even-handed justice or a competent interpretation of the law. That, of course, is mainly exaggeration. But, at the same time, it is not possible to deny that apparent failures of justice have occurred in Japanese Law Courts. Probably the same admission must be made with respect to Consular tribunals. Indeed, there are on record cases where the procedure of Consular tribunals has resembled a theatrical farce rather than a solemn process at law. As to British Consular Courts, however, we do not think that any such allegation can honestly be preferred against them. The Consul has an extremely difficult rôle to play. In many, perhaps a majority of, instances, he is called upon to act in the capacity of advocate for British subjects whose cases he has subsequently to try in his judicial capacity. It is not less unfair to the Consul than repugnant to every principle of judicial administration, that he should be required to assume these diametrically opposed characters in succession. But close observation of the practice of British Consuls in Japan—observation extending over a period of more than 25 years—persuades us that this conflict of functions leads them to favour, rather than to discriminate against, the Japanese suitor. Conscious of the necessity of divesting themselves wholly of the rôle of advocate when they assume that of judge, their tendency is to overstep the line in the other direction, and to remove every possible ground of suspicion that they are swayed by bias for their own nationals. The plain fact, as we think, is that they generally show conspicuous consideration for the Japanese suitor, and sometimes even a disposition to decide in his favour. Yet we now find a Japanese periodical declaring that injustice to Japanese is the rule and justice the exception in British Consular tribunals. Can it be possible that the eyes with which others see us are so curiously different from the eyes with which we see ourselves? Of course to argue gravely about the details of such a matter would be silly and bootless. The Japanese periodical advances no proofs whatever in support of its allegation, and it is not for us to attempt to demonstrate a negative. There are many valid objections to be offered to Consular Jurisdiction, but certainly we never expected that unjust administration of the law would be deliberately charged against British Consular Courts in Japan, and we are constrained to say that a more baseless accusation does not appear conceivable.

THE TOKYO ACADEMY OF MUSIC.

ALTHOUGH the Commencement Exercises at the Tokyo Academy of Music, on the afternoon of the 8th inst., were successful in many gratifying ways, and the performances of the graduating students testified to a remarkable advancement in artistic cultivation and understanding, the occasion could scarcely be considered a joyous one to those who have watched with interest the progress of this hitherto promising and creditable institution. The word "Commencement" never had a more unfortunate misapplication. What the proceedings really signalized was the extinction, as an independent establishment, of one of the very few Government schools the purpose of which has been to add the accomplishments of pure art to the course of training provided by the Department of Education. As a concession to the popular clamour for retrenchment in all branches of national expenditure, it has been decreed that this pleasant little shrine of the Muses shall no longer exist, except as a subordinate appendage to the Koto Shihan Gakko. It does not appear that any remarkable reduction of expenditure will be effected by the change. From what we learn, the amount set free cannot exceed a few hundred *yen* each year; but this, at least, may be diverted to some undertaking the "practical" character of which is distinctly recognized by the thrifty masses. No intimation has been given as to the direction in which the newly-created fund is to flow. Possibly it may be used in realization of the scheme of that suddenly converted economist who desires the dispatch of a garrison to sustain the dignity of a neighbouring Legation. Possibly it may serve as the nucleus of an endowment for promoting excursions by military officers through unfamiliar and unattractive regions, to the advantage of nobody on the face of the earth. The provident spirit of the populace, which is expected to accept with graciousness the sacrifice of a school which any capital in Europe would be glad to encourage, would, judging from recent manifestations, witness with tumultuous satisfaction either or both of these hypothetical appropriations. But with conjectures as to future disbursement we need not be concerned. The present certainty is that in order to save an infinitesimal outlay, one of the undoubted gems of the Department of Education has been depreciated and slighted, deprived of its proper setting, and if not absolutely relegated to obscurity, condemned to shine henceforth amid uncongenial surroundings, with little hope of fulfilling the meritorious purposes for which it was brought into existence.

Various arguments have been employed, within the past few weeks, to demonstrate that the Academy of Music was an expensive superfluity, productive of no beneficial results, and unworthy of further maintenance at the public cost. Not one of these is convincing, so far as we have seen, and few are entitled to any consideration whatever. The principal cry has been that the study of music, especially foreign music, is not "practical;" that it leads to no substantial profit, and that it can add nothing to the wealth or prosperity of the community. What this sort of reasoning would end in if carried to its extreme limit, we need scarcely take pains to point out. Its acceptance would justify the suppression of all the art-

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schools of the West; the destruction of all the famous galleries of painting and sculpture, and the abolition of the great conservatories of Music, quite as conclusively as the uprooting of this single humble institution in Uyeno. Those who regard it as effective have the most confused notions as to what is really "practical" and what is not; and would be at a loss to define precisely what they mean by the term. In the numerous discussions which the subject has latterly provoked, the lessons taught by the great monarch who first attempted to lead Russia out of barbarism have been frequently referred to, and applied, with due modifications, to the case in hand. The example seems to be very happily chosen. If ever a "practical" ruler lived, PETER THE GREAT was one. He bent his energies to the task of lifting his empire to the European level, and though he personally had no glowing fondness for the arts, he made them as much the object of his fostering care as he did the material forces which he laboured to develop. He resolved that his subjects should become familiar with the special studies and pursuits which were the visible signs of superior enlightenment in other races. He foresaw that these essential elements of a high civilization must be introduced and cultivated, if Russia were to take the place he coveted for her. What he did in this respect he did wisely and well, and for truly "practical" ends. No such absurd question as that of immediate pecuniary profit to be derived, or loss to be incurred, by his academies ever entered his mind. Yet it may be remarked, incidentally, that the practice of art is now lucrative in Russia; that large sums are earned by it; that successful musicians are liberally paid for their services, and that the business of music is prosperously conducted there on a large scale.

Ever since the opening of this country, thirty odd years ago, it has been the policy of the Government to encourage all things tending to the assimilation of Japanese and Europeans, and calculated to disprove the existence of any intellectual barrier between them. The people have likewise done their best to show that they are capable of distinguishing themselves in the most exacting of foreign avocations. At no time have they been backward in striving to demonstrate that, whether they like the stranger or not, they are determined to rival him in all his pursuits and even in his most difficult achievements. The aspiration thus to exalt themselves has been worthy of all praise. Without it, the Japanese would not stand where they do to-day. It is their misfortune, however, that they do not always fix their approval upon such lines of competition as can be most heartily commended. Only a few days ago, the inhabitants of Tokyo flung themselves into a frenzy of adulation because a fellow-countryman had successfully emulated one of the hardy deeds which, as a rule, have hitherto been carried through by Western adventurers. He had done a sort of thing which had brought more or less credit to hundreds of Europeans, but had never before been attempted by a Japanese. Consequently he became the temporary idol of the nation, though the thing itself was not particularly brilliant, nor on the whole was it much worth doing. Yet when it is known, and proved, that a body of young men and women have won distinction for their skill in the most delicate and beautiful of arts,—the art which is cherished above all others by intelligent foreigners,—and have compelled severe and fastidious judges to acknowledge with admiration their proficiency in the manipulation of difficult instruments, this same public, ardently impulsive and enthusiastic upon occasion, is not only totally indifferent, but so dead to that which, one might easily suppose, should stir its keenest sense of gratification and pride, that it stands ready to assist in demolishing the work thus far honourably accomplished, and to register its approbation of measures calculated to prevent the continuance thereof. Upon an exploit at which the outer world can at best but smile good-naturedly, an undiscriminating community lavishes whirlwinds of acclamation. For attainments of rare grace and skill; for the evidence of gifts and talents which a large proportion of the outer world values beyond all others, it has nothing to offer but mockery and contempt.

Much of the feeling with which the Ongakku Gakko is regarded—or disregarded—must be attributed to sheer ignorance. Clever as the Japanese are in adapting themselves to foreign ideas, and ready as they have shown themselves in submitting to influences from abroad, their sense of music, as the people of the West apprehend it, is almost entirely unawakened. They have, as a race, no conception of what it means, nor do they particularly care to have any conception. It may be questioned whether even the pupils of the Academy are able to comprehend how it affects Europeans and Americans, or to sympathize fully with the emotions it excites. That these students are on the right road we may be sure, and they are travelling rapidly; but great distances are yet to be overcome before they can attain a thorough appreciation of the art of which they are disciples. As for the masses, their notion seems to be that, since they do not understand what they hear when listening to an orchestra or a military band, there is nothing in it of sufficient importance to claim their attention. They admit that certain kinds of music may be tolerated as a pastime, and that for trivial social purposes its cultivation, to a reasonable extent, is permissible. But these purposes call for nothing more than dexterity in the handing of Japanese instruments. Therefore, they say, let the study of Japanese music proceed. If time and money are to be bestowed upon so insignificant a branch of education, let us, as a nation, cling to our own, and not seek to introduce an alien system which we have no fancy for, and which costs enormous sums, as compared with that which we like and are accustomed to. Our own is surely good enough; or, if anything better is wanted, let us develop that which belongs to us, and raise it to as high a level as the music of Western countries. Thus we may accomplish all that can possibly be desired, even by fanatics, without surrendering an atom of self respect, or acknowledging a slavish dependence upon foreign methods.

This brings us in contact with an unlucky fallacy which, we fear, is not confined to the unlettered multitude, and which has probably done much mischief in retarding the growth of a taste for real music. In the minds of many Japanese of indisputable intelligence, and generally broad education, are lodged the most singular convictions respecting the possibilities of their national music. It does not matter that these convictions are illogical and ill-defined; they are nevertheless cherished with obstinate perseverance, and are often advanced with as much confidence as if they were supported by wisdom and experience. Discussion upon this subject is not easy. It is by no means agreeable to say to a cultivated gentleman that he is groping in utter darkness, when he evidently believes he is conversing with you upon even terms, and that if he fails to impress you with the weight and clearness of his representations, it is simply because you are steeped in prejudice. Yet there is no other way of dealing with those who are beset with the idea that Japanese music possesses a positive intrinsic value, and needs nothing but elaboration and evolution to make good its equality with any school of music ever invented. The position of these theorists is not that their music, having arrived at a certain stage, may be carried forward in accordance with general laws, and wrought out as a part of the universal scheme of art, but that it may have a separate and lasting existence, all by itself, without regard to anything that has been, or can be, done elsewhere. They sometimes allow themselves the flattering fancy that inasmuch as Japanese drawing has had an acknowledged effect upon the decorative art of the West, the time will come when Japanese music will likewise influence the world's taste in sound-creations. On this ground, they would perhaps modify their opposition to the public endowment of a school of music, provided it were devoted solely to the advancement of native melody, on precisely the same principles as those of the school for instruction in native painting and kindred occupations. To suggest that the objects of the school for painters, etc., are praise-

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worthy simply because Japanese painting and similar pursuits have that in them which is worthy to be conserved and promoted, whereas Japanese music long ago reached the furthermost point to which it can be carried, and now deserves nothing so much as to be let alone, would have no result but to send the doctrinaires back to their lamentations over foreign prejudice. It is impossible to silence a contestant who has absolutely no knowledge of what he is talking about. No one can profitably dispute with a blind man concerning the variations of colour or the gradations of light and shade.

Few Japanese, we presume, would fall into the error of asserting that there could ever have been a distinct system of Japanese science, apart from the science of the world at large. Looking back fifty years, we can see traces of an imperfect and inaccurate scientific teaching, which has gradually been displaced by the efforts of men who have studied and mastered the methods of the West. Suppose that some devotee of the old routine had proposed that foreign science should be formally renounced, and that Japan should rely forever upon its own practices, and construct from them an independent school, quite as good as, though different from, the European. His leadership would not have been long triumphant. But his pretensions would have been just as reasonable as those of the adherents of Japanese music now are. The music of this country is in a stage so primitive that it can scarcely be called art at all. It is simply the rude expression of a natural instinct that reveals itself in the utterance of connected sounds. It has never passed beyond the simplest form of melody. When an attempt is made to clothe it with harmony, it ceases to be Japanese. A certain popular song has been chosen to do service as a "National Anthem," and a setting has been provided for it according to the foreign rules of harmony. Thus transformed, it produces an effect which is not unimpressive. But in gaining that very effect, it loses its Japanese character. If it were not that the first few bars are played in unison, that is, without any underlying chords,—not one Japanese hearer in ten thousand would know what he was listening to. And this is the case with all Japanese tunes—that is to say, with all that can be harmonized, for the majority of them cannot be made subordinate to rational harmonic treatment. If the bare original outline is filled up in a way that makes it acceptable to foreign ears, it becomes unrecognizable by Japanese. We merely take a succession of tones that have a meaning in this country—which meaning may, for aught we know, be wholly different from the meaning we attach to them, even in their naked simplicity—and by adding what we consider the legitimate combinations of sound, render them unintelligible to the native sense. Now, what place and what value have these melodies in the sphere of art? They are Japanese only so long as they remain undeveloped, and there is no Japanese way in which they can be developed. If developed at all, they become foreign music, so far as they become anything. They cannot represent any Japanese idea, except upon condition of remaining precisely as they are—unimproved and unaltered.

The most that can be hoped, as the extremest nationalists will in time discover, is that when the study of music is scientifically pursued, Japanese composers may introduce into their works some fragmentary touches of the old tunes, and thus impart to them a flavour which may be more or less distinctive, and perhaps recall the melodic associations of the past. To make use, once more, of the convenient example of Russia, we may remark that while there are now Russian composers of great repute, their productions have no other Russian characteristics than those conveyed by the same means. They occasionally—though not often—weave in a strain of ancient song, in reminiscence of the period when the music of the people was in its crude and unformed state, but they do this merely for fanciful effect, and not with any idea of adding to the artistic value of their creations. The pianist LISZT has done a great deal in this way with the early Hungarian music, sometimes going so far as to employ the fantastic and uncouth scales of former years. But he has accomplished little by this process that is worth remembering, excepting so far as his dexterous treatment of the themes gives them an interest. The themes themselves are of no importance. So it will be, hereafter, with Japanese themes. Antiquarians may find reasons for preserving them from oblivion, and they may be serviceable in studies which have no connection with art. But they will have no appreciable influence upon the Japanese musician of the future, and will be revived only with a view to local and traditional suggestions, if revived at all. When the divine art takes it proper place in this country, as it assuredly will, unless all imagination and all inherent feeling for what is beautiful dies out of the race—the wonder will be that any such illusion ever prevailed as that of developing music in narrow national channels, or supposing that it could live except upon the broadest conditions of unity.

That these views will ultimately be accepted by the leaders of Japanese progress, we do not for a moment doubt. We are even disposed to believe that, but for the unnatural and misdirected pressure of popular opinion, asserting itself in all kinds of spasmodic and experimental throes of economic virtue, the Academy of Music would not have been publicly discredited or deprived of its independent usefulness. The present Minister of Education is a man of too much intelligence and sagacity to voluntarily sanction the sudden overthrow of an institution which was demonstrating its power to produce remarkable results in a given direction,—setting aside the question whether the direction was or was not a laudable one. He would, we are persuaded, have given it time and opportunity to justify itself, if he had felt free to follow his own inclination; and the privilege of justifying itself is all that its friends would ask. It is as certain as that the destiny of Japan is to move onward, that foreign music must become a part of the educational system of the country. The beginning has been made none too soon, and the study has prospered beyond the most hopeful anticipation. The present check will be but momentary, yet it is none the less to be lamented. We can only trust that the error may be repaired with the least possible delay, and that, for the full accomplishment of this reparation, the Academy may be restored to its former position, under its accustomed auspices and direction, and with at least an equal provision of the means of doing its work thoroughly and well.

The concert of last Saturday, and the incidental exercises, were full of interest. The violin performances were, as usual, the best. It seems no longer possible to doubt that these young players have all the requisite accuracy of ear. Their perfect intonation, and the ability to keep a dozen or more instruments in exact unison, can scarcely be accounted for on any theory of purely mechanical training. Nor could such a theory be applied, under any circumstances, to the production of vocal sounds. These *must* be under conscious and intelligent control. The voices in the chorus of the Academy are not remarkable, either for quality or extent of range, but they are unerring in delivery, except where they may happen to be strained too high. In some of the part-songs, exceedingly difficult modulations of harmony were faultlessly rendered, even without the guiding aid of an accompaniment, and in one of the previous Uyeno concerts, complicated fugal passages were sung without a single deviation from the text. It is useless to imagine that these things can be done by training alone, without musical sensibility on the part of those who are trained. And, returning to the string instruments, it was observable on Saturday that one young lady changed from violin to viola, without losing any of her nicety of touch. Musicians will understand how much this signifies. Allowing it to be credible that the fingering of the violin could be learned by rote, the knowledge thus gained would avail nothing with the larger instrument, for though the method of manipulation is the same, the intervals are necessarily wider, and the correct measurement must be decided by the ear. That Mr. DITTRICH has brought

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about marvellous results by his teaching, no one can deny, but without a basis of genuine musical instinct to work upon, he could never have led his pupils to their present position. Few things could be pleasanter to listen to than the violin parts in the various selections offered, and, we may add, few things could be more attractive to the eye than the picture presented by the group of bright-faced and modest-mannered young students. One of them, apparently not the leader of the body, but distinguished by the singular litheness and freedom with which she directed the movements of her bow, was almost an ideal figure of artistic grace and symmetry. There could not be a more perfect violinist to look at. Let us believe that, as the years go on, her prowess—and that of her companions as well—will fulfill all that the appearance now promises.

The programme contained nothing of serious difficulty, and greater executive skill has been shown on other occasions; but almost everything was so well done as to merit the applause which was cordially bestowed. The scholars do not show to the best advantage at the pianoforte. One young lady played a Tarantella with considerable vivacity and neatness, and with perhaps as much expression as a Tarantella demands. But as a rule, the piano exhibitions were, as they always are, inferior to the rest. An interesting experiment was tried in the arrangement of one of BACH'S Gavottes for a number of kotos. These, of course, were tuned to meet the necessities of the case,—not as they ordinarily are for Japanese music. The effect was good, though the ingenuity of the device was probably more curiously regarded than the artistic result was approved. It served, for one thing, to prove the limitations of what is undoubtedly the best of Japanese instruments. To carry out the composer's intention, twelve kotos were needed. All that was done by them, together, could have been done by a single player on one European harp. Possibly a little resonance may have been added by doubling of some of the strings, but this was not necessarily an improvement. We should be sorry, however, to say anything in discouragement of experiments like this. They are always entertaining, and sometimes more than merely entertaining,—as in the case of a combination of kotos and violins, introduced at an earlier concert. Possibly the conjunction of other Japanese with foreign instruments might produce happy results,—as, for example, the kokiyu, which, when discreetly played, has a peculiarly plaintive and penetrating tone.

A farewell address was delivered by Mr. MURAOKA, which was listened to with profound respect by all who are acquainted with the distinguished services he has rendered, and who are aware of what the Academy has owed to his industry, patience and tact, and to his conscientious performance of duties which a man of less earnestness and fidelity of purpose would often have found too heavy a burden to uphold. It is gratifying to know that the transfer of the school does not necessitate his withdrawal from public labours, and that his talents will be available in another capacity; but we cannot refrain from again expressing the hope that circumstances will eventually warrant a reversal of the decree now enforced, and that in the event of resuscitation, his practised hand may resume control of the institution with which he has been so worthily identified.

THE IMPERIAL UNIVERSITY GRADUATES.

The annual Graduation Ceremony of the Imperial University took place on the 10th instant. The hour fixed for the commencement of the programme was 9 a.m., but at 8.30 H.I.H. Prince Arisugawa arrived, somewhat unexpectedly as it seemed. He was followed at about five minutes before nine by H.I.H. the Prince Imperial. After a brief rest in the College of Literature, Their Imperial Highnesses were conducted by the President, Dr. Hamao, to the principal hall of the University in the new Library Buildings. This new hall is a commodious well lighted room with good acoustic properties, and so spacious that it easily accommodated the great body of graduates, undergraduates, professors, and visitors. Notabilities were conspicuous by their absence on this occasion. The seats on the dais were almost empty and the two Imperial Princes were in a desert of chairs. This reluctance to attend is doubtless attributable in the first place to the season few persons having sufficient resolution to sit throughout a ceremony of the kind in the forenoon of a mid-summer day; in the second, to the very scant nature of the accommodation available in previous years before the building of the new hall; and in the third, to the dry-as-dust nature of the proceedings. Nevertheless, of those directly or indirectly interested a crowd filled the body of the vast hall. The Directors of the several Colleges presented the Diplomas to the graduates of their respective Colleges, beginning with Law and ending with Agriculture, which, though really a flourishing College, had this year only one graduate, owing to changes in the curriculum attendant on the College's conjunction with the University. The names of the Scholarship holders (*Tokutaisei*) were also read out, after which the President of the University delivered a brief address which was replied to by a graduate on behalf of himself and his comrades. The Minister of State for Education and His Imperial Highness Prince Arisugawa then spoke briefly, the Prince's address bringing the proceedings to a close. Refreshments, in the gentle form of sponge-cake and lemonade, were then served, after which the visitors were invited to inspect the new buildings of the University, the library, museums, and so forth, which are spacious and handsome edifices, well adapted to their purposes. This was the first really successful graduation ceremony at the University, owing to the fact that the completion of the buildings made ample space available, the visitors' sense of proportion being thus gratified by large lofty rooms and commodious passages everywhere, in pleasant contrast to the crowding and impossibility of due arrangement that disfigured previous ceremonies. The numbers of graduates were:—General Law and Jurisprudence 51; Constitutional and Administrative Law 24; Medicine 26; Civil Engineering 14; Mechanical Engineering 1; Naval Architecture 3; Electrial Engineering 4; Architecture, 5; Applied Chemistry 2; Mining Engineering 4; Science 5; Literature 1; History 7; Language 1; English Literature 1; Physics 5; Chemistry 1; Zoology 1; Geology 1; Agriculture 1.

The following is the list of graduates of the Imperial Japanese University for this year:—

COLLEGE OF LAW:—First Law Section.—Matsunami Juichiro, Osaka; Shibata Tamosuke, Tokyo; Kitamura Keiichiro, Tokyo; Umabuchi Yeitaro, Gifu; Inouye Tomoichi, Hokkaido; Matsuda Shiro, Tokyo; Shibano Zeko, Hiroshima; Iijima Kametaro, Tokyo; Kashiwagi Isaburo, Osaka; Tamba Tsunakichi, Aichi; Iwanaga Sabachi, Saga; Hori Shinji, Toyama; Sasaki Kiyomoso, Miye; Hisamoto Tanezo, Tottori; Okano Tatsuzo, Tottori; Hori Kenjiro, Ishikawa; Matsudera Takeo, Ishikawa; Takahashi Toshiyuki, Tokyo; Miyazaki Tsunesaburo, Fukui; Tanabe Keizo, Nagasaki; Kimura Heizaburo, Niigata; Mihama Choichiro, Nara; Imai Takutaro, Niigata; Suganuma Toyojiro, Oita; Ichikawa Sentaro, Ishikawa; Nagata Tsunesaburo, Nagano; Takuma Takeji, Kagoshima; Miyamoto Gosaku, Ibaraki; Nishina Torazo, Tokyo.

Second Law Section.—Katsumoto Kanzaburo, Miye; Nerii Kikuma, Yamaguchi; Mori Masataka, Tokyo; Shinoda Kunitaro, Aichi; Kobayashi Omosu, Tokyo; Horiguchi Kumaichi, Niigata; Yugawa Moto-omi, Tokyo; Miyamoto Heikure, Ibaraki, Honda Tsunetora, Ibaraki; Kigawa Yeiichi, Yamaguchi; Tsukui Shigeru, Hyogo; Kusunoki Tsunezo, Tokyo; Haradani Kaichi, Hokkaido; Takayama Koichi, Ibaraki; Tamura Takeshichi, Yamanashi.

Third Law Section.—Nitta Masutaro, Fukushima; Nibo Kamemaisu, Miye; Abe Kiyoshi, Saga; Kaneko Mikizo, Saitama; Ishikawa Takeyuki, Gifu; Matsui Shigeru, Hiroshima; Sugano Zenzaburo, Fukushima.

Administrative Law Section.—Mayeda Moriye, Niigata; Kuwabara Hasshi, Gifu; Ishikawa Yasoi, Kogawa; Shimodaira Taizo, Yamagata; Nakagawa Kojiro, Kyoto; Yoshida Yoshiharu, Fukuoka; Kikuchi Takeichi, Kumamoto; Kuwata Kumazo, Tottori; Ishiwatari Kminojo, Gumma; Nakamura Yojiro, Fukuoka; Ishikawa Hajime, Ibaraki; Wakabayashi Sanzo, Niigata; Mochiji Rokusaburo, Fukushima; Minobe Saunkichi, Hyogo; Hisatoku Tetsutaro, Tokyo; Ikebe Komao, Okayama; Tamagawa Toraji, Niigata; Takada Genjiro, Niigata; Tamura Matsutaro, Tokyo; Mayebashi Umkichi, Kochi; Obata Saburo, Yamagata; Hashimoto Tsunamaro, Aichi; Hashimoto Natsuo, Hyogo; Terazaki Sukeroku, Nugata.

COLLEGE OF MEDICINE. Medical Section.—Matsuura Ushitaro, Kumamoto; Tetsuka Kichi, Tokyo; Koike Sakuzo, Tokyo; Hashida Maju, Chiba; Miyamoto Shiku, Nagano; Toyota Tora; nosuke, Wakayama; Nishiyama Kenzo, Shiga; Misumi Jun, Tokyo; Shimazaki Sho, Yamanashi; Hayashi Kwa, Tokyo; Nakayama Moriluko, Tokyo; Nakada Tetsuzo, Yamagata; Iwasaki Senzo, Shidzuoka; Ito Aizo, Tottori; Yokotaro Tetsutaro, Aichi; Akimoto Riujiro, Tokyo; Murayama Tsunetaro, Ishikawa; Sugita Shigene, Tokyo; Sawabe Shozo, Kyoto; Kumano Shiji, Yamaguchi; Kawamura Masaharu, Shidzuoka; Nakagawa Saisuke, Tokyo; Tanaka Shutoshi, Yamagata; Umajima Keinosuke, Kanagawa, Matsumoto Juko, Kyoto.

Pharmaceutical Section—Ono Hyoro, Hokkaido.

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING:—Section of Civil Engineering. Nawa Mitsuo, Gifu; Hida Koichi, Tokyo; Endo Tokichi, Niigata; Sugamura Kyuzo, Yamaguchi; Tsugawa Tatenosuke, Kyoto; Magaki Jin, Okayama; Seta Sennosuke, Kagoshima; Sugino Mokichi, Gifu; Nakanishi Renjiro, Gifu; Sakanishi Yoshito, Iwate; Hida Hatujiro, Shidzuoka; Hashimoto Unoichi, Fukuoka; Takahashi Kuntaro, Hokkaido; Sakata Kuro, Tokyo.

Section of Mechanical Engineering.—Otsuka Kaname, Osaka.

Section of Naval Architecture.—Kojima Kadoya, Gifu; Yamamoto Kaizo, Saitama; Abe Seiga, Fukuoka.

Section of Electrical Engineering.—Itami Kichijiro, Tokyo, Okamoto Kosuke, Yamaguchi; Okamoto Keitaro, Osaka; Tani Saburo, Osaka.

Section of Architecture.—Nagano Uchuji, Niigata; Tsukamoto Minosuke, Kyoto; Okura Kisaburo, Tokyo; Mitsuhashi Shiro, Tokyo.

Section of Applied Chemistry.—Nishikawa Torakichi, Osaka; Tanabashi Toragoro, Niigata.

Section of Mining Engineering.—Nakamura Kyosaku, Yamaguchi; Hosoi Iwaya, Miye; Yoneda Yasubei, Niigata; Hoka Masashige, Iwate.

COLLEGE OF LITERATURE.—Section of Philosophy.—Matsumoto Bunzaburo, Ishikawa; Matsumoto Matataro, Gumma; Yoneyama Yasusaburo, Ishikawa; Watanabe Matajiro, Gumma; Matsudaira Yenjiro, Tokyo.

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Section of Japanese Literature.—Kikuchi Jujiu, Hokkaido.

Section of Japanese History.—Kikuchi Kenjiro, Hokkaido; Nakayama Saijiro, Tokyo; Kamibara Tan, Osaka.

Section of General History.—Saito Ugu, Saitama; Honda Asajiro, Aichi; Hasegawa Teiichiro, Ishikawa; Nakazawa Sumio, Okayama.

Section of Languages.—Yokoyama Seisei, Ishikawa.

Section of English Literature.—Natsume Kinnosuke, Hokkaido.

COLLEGE OF SCIENCE.—Section Natural Philosophy; Noda Tei, Fukuoka; Ota Tatsujin, Iwate; Iwaoka Hosaku, Nagano; Ujiiye Kensu, Iwate; Endo Matazo, Tottori.

Section of Chemistry.—Kanidani Toyotaro, Wakayama.

Section of Zoology.—Hirota Teishu, Kochi.

Section of Geology.—Wakimidzu Tetsugoro, Gifu.

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE.—Veterinary Section.—Asogai Matazo, Tokyo.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

VERACITY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Neither your correspondent "Ishmael," nor the writer of the extract he sends you, seems to be cognizant of the fact that when Mr. Herbert Spencer was made aware of the utter mistake he had made in these references to Bible language, he at once withdrew them, and by way of apology stated that, of course, for his multitudinous references to other literature, he was largely dependent on his secretaries, one of whom had furnished him with what seemed appropriate facts from the old Book. It is not necessary to accuse Mr. Spencer of wrong motives, though we could wish that he had a closer first-hand knowledge of the Bible. He would probably be better equipped for writing on Ethics if he had.

Yours &c., C. S. E.

Tokyo, July 10th.

LIEUT.-COLONEL FUKUSHIMA.

TO THE PROPRIETOR, EDITOR, AND MANAGER OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

GENTLEMEN,—In your newspaper columns of 22nd ultimo harsh comments were published on the conduct and adventurous career of Lieut.-Colonel Fukushima and Capt. Gunji, of our Empire of Japan. From what jealous motive did you stigmatize such courageous, enterprises as "the empty ambition of winning applause for oneself," as "a mere bit of ostentation," &c.? Not merely will such a proceeding injuriously affect the future enterprise of the subjects of the Japanese Empire, but also it was mainly owing to your harsh comments that a certain sect on of Government officials and persons of jealous predisposition, embodied by your writing, began to cry out, "Don't get into such a state of hysterical excitement," and so forth. Nothing could be more pernicious than such an affair. While, on the one hand, it must exercise an injurious influence on the development of other enterprising ideas, on the other, it will, in my opinion, impair, directly or indirectly, the honour of the military men of this Empire of Japan. I ask, consequently, that this letter be published in its entirety, in special type, in any convenient part of your paper for the period of one week counted from to-morrow. If published in the Japanese language it would be most appropriate, but a European language will do, together with the declaration that you have acquiesced in my request.

Otherwise I will, as is the duty of a subject of this Empire of Japan, persistently endeavour to make the affair a public question, on the ground that a certain injury has been inflicted on the national dignity. I ask that an immediate answer be given to me personally, or that a reply be made by 6 o'clock p.m. to-day. Should my request be denied I will proceed to take a step calculated to display decided resolution.

HITOTSUYANAGI YUMA,
A patriot of Aizu in the Empire of Japan.
July 7th of 2553 year of the Empire of Japan.

P.S.—The responsibility in these matters usually rests with the head of a newspaper office, but the editor also cannot be held free from blame. Hence I take as my opponents the three whom I have indicated above. It must be noted that I am not one of those vagabond *soshi* who are so fond of creating excitement. This should be distinctly understood. It is by a purely patriotic sentiment that I am led to act thus.

[We give this letter publicity, being unwilling to deny to a Japanese any opportunity of openly stating whatever objections he may have to urge to matter appearing in these columns. But as Mr. Hitotsuyanagi offers no reasons and has obviously misunderstood our criticisms, we deem the subject unworthy of further comment. Of course his request—or demand—that his letter should appear for a week consecutively, can not be entertained.—ED. *J.M.*]

REVIEW.

Landscape Gardening in Japan, by JOSIAH CONDER, F.R.I.B.A., &c. Messrs. Kelly & Walsh, Yokohama.

MR. CONDER, as an interpreter of Japanese art, has already laid the public under great obligations. His work on the Flowers of Japan and the Art of Floral Arrangement introduced the West to a new field of refined pleasure, and his essays on Japanese costumes, Japanese armour, and Japanese architecture had already invested him with the character of a clever and faithful student of this interesting country's artistic canons and customs. He now supplements the series with a book on "Landscape Gardening in Japan," perhaps the most valuable and attractive of the whole number. It is a beautifully printed volume, of large dimensions and handsome binding, its illustrations numerous and admirably executed, and its text composed so as to convey a maximum of information with a minimum of verbal ornamentation. Japanese gardens have always been admired, but seldom fully appreciated, by Western observers. They necessarily present many features characteristic of the nation's individuality and therefore not easily interpreted by alien eyes. But it is none the less true, to use Mr. Conder's words, that "the Japanese method, robbed of its local garb and mannerisms, reveals æsthetic principles applicable to the gardens of any country, teaching, as it does, how to convert into a poem or picture a composition which, with all its variety of detail, otherwise lacks unity and interest." In fact, Japanese gardens are like Japanese pictures. Both follow nature in their origin, but both alike aim at representing nature in accordance with canons dictated by the genius of man. The Japanese painter of a landscape and the Japanese gardener in reproducing it, alike act upon the conviction that everything accomplished by human agency must show traces of human handiwork, and that to attempt absolute realism is to commit the fundamental error of striving after the impossible. It is plain that such a postulate admits of large application. The extent to which traces of human agency may be suffered to appear, becomes a matter of arbitrary determination, and we thus find that Japanese art, while in some directions admirably faithful to nature, in others betrays subservience to conventionalities that lapse, in unskilled hands, into grotesque mannerisms. Mr Conder concisely interprets this phase of the country's art:—

> Though the people of Japan, both high and low, are unrivalled in their genuine love of nature, their manner of observation and enjoyment is one peculiar to themselves. It is a taste educated through the medium of their traditional customs, arts and cults. The national interpretation of nature, stereotyped into motives for their numerous liberal arts, has been continually before the humblest classes, in decorative designs applied to the simplest as well as the most costly industrial object, and has thus made them familiar with the accepted rendering of every form and combination derived from natural life. Such conventional representations have become the standard by which nature herself is viewed and judged. As with the Greeks, so with the Japanese, even female beauty has its established ideal type. In a similar manner, the pine tree, the plum tree, mountain, lake and water-fall, possess their ideal standards of comparison. Japanese landscape gardening may, therefore be described as a representation of the natural scenery of the country as it appears to and impresses the Japanese themselves, in a manner consistent with the limitations of their arts. Transferred to a foreign clime where landscape presents itself in a different garb, and regarded by a people who interpret nature in another manner, these lovely gardens can hardly fail to appear as examples of a quaint and fanciful conceit.

To complete this analysis it should be added, perhaps, that a prime object of the Japanese painter has always been to discover aspects of nature suited for pictorial reproduction. His aim has been to select, not scenes which embody the grandest and loveliest features of nature, but scenes which lend themselves, without material loss, to the purposes of his own art. It was this that impelled Keishoki, 430 years ago, to visit China in search of pictorial ideals in landscape and foliage, and it was this that inspired the Bunjin School to confine themselves to forms which the Occidental observer finds shockingly bizarre and unnatural until he has visited the gorges of the Yangtse or the hills of Akagi. So soon as a great master had thus attached to some scene the cachet of his pictorial approval, the general public accepted it as an ideal picture, and lesser men were content to copy it. The general effects of this principle can not be traced without extending our review to undue length. Nor, indeed, is it necessary to trace them here, since our purpose is merely to note that what is true of the painter is true of the gardener also: each selected only such aspects of nature as lent themseves to the purposes of his work. The landscape gardener was careful above all not to suffer any blemish of inconsistency or incongruity to disfigure his scheme. He studied carefully the combinations of rock and hill, tree and cascade, shrubbery and slope, seen in nature, and when reproducing these, he excluded every object of exotic or heterogeneous character. Yet he allowed himself a certain license. Rocks beaten into fantastic forms by the dash of mountain cascades, trees gnarled by age or twisted by tempest—such things as these he did not hesitate to employ in situations where the rush of torrents or the sweep of storms must be almost impossible intruders. But for the rest, "he was governed" says Mr. Conder, "by a scrupulous attention to æsthetic rules. Considerations of scale, proportion, unity, balance, congruity, and all that tends to produce artistic repose and harmony, are carefully preserved throughout the designs." His garden, too, as Mr. Conder notes, "is more than a mere representation of natural views: it is, at the same time, a poetical composition." "It expresses a mood of nature and also a mood of man. . . . It is designed to suggest a suitable idea and arouse definite pleasurable associations."

Having familiarized his reader with the general principles underlying the art of landscape gardening in Japan, Mr. Conder proceeds to a detailed account of the manner of giving practical expression to those principles. He prefaces this most interesting part of his subject by a brief history of the progress of landscape gardening in Japan. There we find it stated that the Japanese owe the rudiments of this most charming art to China. Undoubtedly such is the case, but an important corollary must be added, namely, that Chinese methods underwent radical modification in Japanese hands. It is scarcely possible any longer to recognise the exact relationship that originally existed between the gardens of China and those of Japan, and a curious fact is that wide divergence seems to have taken place at a comparatively early period, for even in gardens that survive, whether in reality or on paper, from days so remote as the Heian Epoch, we find that the genius of the Japanese artist had already impressed itself to the extent of obliterating well nigh every trace of alien suggestion. How much the priests of Buddha contributed to the development of landscape gardening in Japan, it is impossible to determine. But beyond all doubt their share was immense. Historians still differ as to the part played by Christianity in educating Occidental civilization. Some, indeed, declare that the religion of Christ was an impeding factor, and that science and philosophy with all their concrete results would have progressed much more rapidly had the tyrannical conservatism of the Christian creed been removed. We pronounce no opinion on this point, but merely note that, whatever may have been the case with Christianity, the ethic of Buddhism in Japan admits of no question, unless it be one of degree. The Buddhist priests were the prime promoters of this nation's civilization, and the great fosterers of its art. All through the fierce wars that devastated the country in the centuries prior to the Tokugawa era, the literature, industry, and art of Japan must have languished completely without priestly intervention; and it stands further on record that through the priests mainly were Japan's literary and artistic relations with China, India, and Korea developed and preserved. The Ashikaga epoch was the golden era of landscape gardening, as it was also eminently an era of Buddhist influence. Mr. Conder observes that the art of gardening in the Kamakura period remained chiefly in the hands of priests, and attributes many of the remarkable modifications of the Muromachi (Ashikaga) epoch to the introduction of the *Cha-no-yu* cult. But whether Bonze or *Chajin* were designer, it will generally be found that a majority of the fairest gardens in early and mediæval Japan lay within the precincts of temples. Mr. Conder describes in detail several of the most celebrated gardens now extant. His descriptions will add immensely to the enjoyment derivable from a visit to these lovely spots. Exhaustive chapters are then devoted to the subjects of stones (for rockeries and so forth); lanterns; pagodas; water basins; enclosures; wells; bridges; arbours; ornamental water, and garden composition, and all these pages being profusely illustrated, the greatest tyro is enabled to form a clear conception of the art of landscape gardening in Japan. Like every other æsthetic cult of this country, it is an art that astounds us by its mingling of principle

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and elaboration of detail. Nature lies at the base of all, but never on a basis of nature was there built a more painstaking structure of rule and precept. Landscape gardening in our own country had its beginning only a couple of centuries ago. In Japan the art has been practised for at least a thousand years without intermission, and during that lapse of ages and out of that persistence of pursuit there has grown up much that may be studied with advantage in the West. Japan has given us new and delightful conceptions in the field of decorative art; she has given us new and delightful conceptions in the field of flower arrangement, and she now, through the medium of a faithful interpreter, offers us new and delightful conceptions in the field of landscape gardening.

COMPLIMENTARY.

The following has been sent to us for publication:—

At Sea off the Coast of Japan,
July 8th, 1893.

The passengers on the Steamship *Empress of Japan, en voyage* from Vancouver to Yokohama, desire to express their appreciation of the urbanity and unvarying courtesy of the Captain and officers of the vessel. We were prepared by the concurrent testimony of those having previous experience to expect good service in a good vessel, officered by genial and obliging gentlemen; but in all these respects our anticipations have been surpassed. In memory therefore of the many forms of entertainment promoted by them, which have contributed so pleasantly to shorten the days spent at sea:

Be it resolved, that the thanks of the passengers are hereby tendered to the Captain and Officers of the steamship *Empress of Japan*.

(Signed) William T. Lusk,
Charles F. Bostwick,
N. Marsh,
J. P. Moore,
Allan McLain Hamilton
Committee.

THE CHILDREN'S CONCERT.

A meeting of the members of the Juvenile Choral Society was held yesterday afternoon in the vestibule of the Public Hall, Bluff, for the purpose of receiving the Treasurer's report of the financial result of the late concert. After rendering an account of receipts and expenditure, the Treasurer declared a balance of $55 51.

The President remarked that there would have been a considerably larger balance but for the experiment made of offering 3 tickets for $1, an accommodation intended only for families of children, but which had been taken advantage of by children of larger growth. She proposed that as the Society was financially in a flourishing condition, a further donation of $4 49 should be added to the balance in order to make up the sum of $60 necessary for the endowment of a child's cot for 12 months. This proposition was suggested from reading in that morning's *Japan Mail* a paragraph stating that a poor little infant, the child of a tea-firing godown woman having been severely scalded by upsetting a kettle of boiling water, had been by the doctor's directions immediately removed to the Jizen-kai Hospital where it was now receiving medical attendance and careful nursing which it could never have had in its parent's home. The fact that within a fortnight after giving the concert the result of their exertions had already been the means of alleviating the sufferings of one little child, although only a Japanese baby of the humblest class, could not fail to add to their pleasurable recollections of the entertainment in which they had recently taken part.

This motion received the assent of members, and the Treasurer was instructed to forward the sum of $60 to the Committee of the Jizen-kai Hospital.

The President also thanked the members for the satisfactory manner in which they had acquitted themselves under the very trying conditions of an oppressively sultry afternoon, besides the drawback of uniformly insufficient practice from the constant absence of members owing to sickness, which had prevented them from even one complete rehearsal of the whole choir.

The resignations of Masters Wilfred Smith and George Wheeler, through absence from Yokohama, were much regretted.

The President was happy to say that the strength of the Chorus remained unimpaired. A strong chorus was the best foundation for future performances. The President then asked the members to accord a vote of thanks to Miss Bloxham for playing the accompaniments, to Mr. Beart for his able assistance in directing the stage movements, to Mrs. Drummond for the loan of a piano, which had saved the society a considerable expense, and to Mrs. Jarmain, who had declined to make any charge for the pot-plants which decorated the platform.

This was unanimously responded to, and the meeting terminated.

CRICKET.

"WATER STREET" V. "THE REST."

Punctuality is a virtue seemingly unknown to the majority of the athletes and cricketers of Yokohama. Saturday's match—"Water Street" v. "The Rest," which brought the half-season to a close here—was called for 1.30, but it was 2.15 ere the game commenced, notwithstanding the secretary's hope, as expressed on the notice paper, "that intending players will be punctual." Winning the toss, "The Rest" went out to bat first, putting in Meaden and Marr. The pair remained together till 58 was scored, of which Meaden had hit up 46, when Lias bowled him clean. Dr. Wheeler took his place, but was caught out by Campbell before he had made anything—2 for 62. Duff then went in and had knocked up a few runs when he lost his partner Marr—4 for 85. Fifteen more runs were made and then the team's innings was finished—10 for 100. Shortly before four o'clock "Water Street" went in. Bremner and Philip, the first couple in, were disposed of for 3. Dickinson and Walford then got together and a change came over the game, 30 being registered ere the partnership was broken. Dickinson remained at the wickets until the innings closed, carrying out his bat for 74, although once or twice it looked as if his career would have closed at a shorter figure. "Water Street" won the match on the first innings with 9 runs to spare. "The Rest" went in again and fared much better, scoring 76 for the loss of five wickets, but time ran short and stumps were drawn with Duff at 29 and Layard at 8. In the first innings of "The Rest" Lias took 8 wickets for 22 runs, while Fenton, bowling for them, bowled 50 balls and obtained 6 wickets at a cost of 55 runs. Score and analysis:

THE REST.

1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
Dr. Meaden, b. Lias	46		—
Mr. Marr, b. Lias	16		—
Dr. Wheeler, c. Campbell, b. Lias	0		—
Mr. Duff, c. Walford, b. Lias	14	not out	29
Mr Layard, b. Walford	5	not out	8
Mr Fenton, b. Lias	0		—
Mr Chope run out	2	b. Ross	6
Rev. F. E. Freese, c. Ross, b. Lias	3	b. Lias	0
Mr Garät, b. Lias	2	b. Ross	20
Rev. G. Knox, b. Walford	0		—
Rev T. S. Tyng, not out	6	run out	3
Mr Griffin, b. Lias	0	run out	0
b. 6, l.b. 2	8	b. 7, l.b. 2	8
	100		76

WATER STREET.

Mr. Bremner, l.b.w., b. Fenton	2
Mr Philip, b Meaden	2
Mr Dickinson, not out	74
Mr Walford, c. Layard, b. Fenton	20
Mr P de C. Morrell, b. Fenton	8
Mr Dodds, c Griffin, b. Fenton	0
Mr. H.R. Campbell, b. Meaden	1
Mr. Lias, c. Layard, b. Meaden	0
Mr. Healing, l.b.w., b. Fenton	22
Mr. Ross, st Duff, b. Fenton	6
Mr Showler, b. Meaden	1
Mr. Sharp run out	3
W. I.	1
	123

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

THE REST (1st Innings).

	Balls.	Runs.	Maidens.	Wickets.
Mr Walford	65	12	7	0
Mr. Philip	30	99	3	—
Mr Ross	40	29	—	—
Mr Lias	52	22	4	8

THE REST (2nd Innings).

Mr Ross	35	32	2	3
Mr. Lias	40	24	2	1
Mr Philip	20	13	—	—

WATER STREET.

Mr. Meaden	84	42	5	4
Mr Fenton	50	55	—	6
Mr. Duff	30	28	—	1

ECZEMA.—A Book on "Skin Troubles," sent free for One Stamp by Messrs. NOTRH & RAE, Limited, Yokohama.

Describing the agricultural building of the World's Fair a Chicago correspondent says:—A good exhibit is that of the British North Borneo Company, which includes leaf tobacco for cigar wrappers, cigars made entirely from tobacco grown in British North Borneo, cigars filled with other tobacco, wrapped with Borneo leaf; various other products grown in the territory: map and illustrated handbook of British North Borneo, and stamps, post cards, and coins issued under the Company's administration.

THE CONFERENCE OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

SECOND DAY, FRIDAY, JULY 7.

The Conference convened at 8 30 a.m., the first half hour being spent in devotional exercises. At 9 o'clock the Bishop took the chair. The Presiding Elders' reports of the Aomori, Hakodate, and Nagasaki Districts were read, and the characters of the preachers within these districts were examined and passed. Attention was called to the fact that one of the Japanese preachers, one of the ladies of the Womans' Foreign Missionary Society, and one wife of a missionary had died during the year, and a memorial service was appointed to be held on Sunday. Visiting brethren, and Fraternal Delegates from the Evangelical Association of North America, the Canada Methodist Church, and from the M.E. Church South, were introducted to the Conference.

Dr. Eby, Rev. Hiraiwa, and Hon. S Ebara, M.P., addressed the Conference, and Bishop Foster responded.

The missionaries working under the auspices of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, and organized into a Woman's Conference, which meets at the same time as that of the general society, held their anniversary at 2 p.m. As it is here that woman's work is represented before the foreign and native brethren, the Japanese Bible-women take prominent part in the exercises. Mrs. J. F Keen, corresponding secretary of the Philadelphia Branch, U.S.A., is now visiting Japan, and presided with Mrs. Miyama as interpreter. The report of the past year was given by Miss G Baucus, whose summary of educational and evangelistic work was both interesting and encouraging.

After Miss Yamaka's excellent interpretation of this resumé, Miss Keen addressed the large audience, giving a few data as to the organization of the society in the United States, and its gradual growth, and prosperity during the twenty-four years of its existence. During that time the society has collected and disbursed the sum of $1,950,000 for the work in foreign fields, largely the gifts of the poor and received in weekly sums of two cents. It represents much sacrifice and devotion to the cause of spreading the knowledge of God through all the earth. The speaker dwelt upon the glory and privilege of making sacrifices for God, citing cases of noble heroism in His service, and urging all to a deeper consecration to Him.

The Tokyo Benevolent Society, desiring to establish a dispensary for the poor, made a plea through Mrs. Uchihara for contributions, and were greatly gratified at the results.

The exercises were interspersed with singing both in English and Japanese.

Mrs. Keen has borne the relation of Corresponding Secretary to the society for more than twenty years, and although traveling with her daughter for a much needed vacation, is giving all her time to a review of the work at each mission station, in obedience to the urgent request of her co-workers upon leaving home. Never before has the Womans' Society been visited by an official representative, and her presence and counsel are doubly welcome.

The Temperance Anniversary was held at 8 o'clock in the evening. Hon. Ando Taro and Dr. Leonard were the speakers, the Rev. J. Soper, Chairman.

A FEW THOUGHTS FROM THE SERMON PREACHED BY BISHOP R. S. FOSTER, DD., LL.D., AT AOYAMA, TOKYO, SUNDAY MORNING, JULY 9, 1893.

Text:—2 Tim. 1.15. "This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners."

This is an important text because it affirms an important proposition. The text declares that Christ was sent into the world to save the world. By implication the proposition also affirms that the world was lost and needed salvation. Such we are compelled to admit, is the case. Such, too, was the plain mission of Christ. Christ is the Son of God, and therefore divine, truly God, one with the Father and the Holy Ghost. Christ existed before He became man. He did not take His existence from parents in all respects in the same manner as ourselves, yet he possessed a positive human existence. He was born of a woman, and was a man with a perfect physical organization. He was conceived by the Holy Ghost in the womb of the holy virgin, was therefore Divine but also human. Scripture language is especially clear and plain on this point. There is no room for doubt on this question, for it is no question. Our God is one in essence, attributes, and nature. But He is at the same time a triune God, being God in three persons, uncreated, eternally co-existent, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. This is the God whom we

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Christians worship. The text assures us of the perfect Godhead of Christ. Christ is God, the Maker, Creator and Preserver of the universe. Not the human Christ who was seen by men's eyes, for no man hath at any time seen God. No man can see God and live. But the indwelling God is the creator of the worlds and of all existences. Christ is not only the Son of Mary but an incarnation of God, who thus appears to man and is born of a virgin. Christ began His career on earth by announcing a glorious Gospel, saying that He came forth from the Father with the specific and only mission of saving sinners. Yet He declares that He is one with the Father and that He pours out His blood, His life, as an oblation for sin. Christ is Divine. When we think of God we are to think of Him as Father, Son and Holy Ghost. We can only know of His existence, but are unable to comprehend Him. He is intelligent like ourselves, only infinitely superior. The Father is named first, not because He is older or greater, nor first in time, but first in relation. The Son is second in order and relation. Christ existed before time was, before manifestation began, for He was Himself the media of manifestation. "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." Here we have a clear, plain, strong declaration of Scripture that Christ is God. Nothing could be more positive. Christ appeared in the flesh in three forms, in the word He spoke, in the manner of life He lived, and the works He did. When He spoke of God He spoke of the things within Himself, for in Him dwelt the fullness of God. Yet He was weak in his humanity, often wearied, hungry, thirsty, abused, bruised, and killed at last. But in that same human form dwelt the power which created the worlds We have in Christ not only the son of Mary, but a Divine Being possessed of the deepest, greatest and most mysterious powers of God. Christ is the Friend and Saviour of mankind. The fact He came into the world to save man indicates this. His miracles demonstrate the truth of what he said. They were above the power of any mere man to perform. Men are often inclined to regard the life of Christ as something mysterious, mythical, and not as real history. But no life and no history was ever more real than that of Christ. He possessed the power to rebuke all manner of diseases by the mere word of His mouth or laying on of His hand. All nature was subject to him, both visible and invisible. Among intelligent and thoughtful men there is no doubt about the truthfulness of the gospel records. We, Christians, worship not merely the Christ as born of the virgin, but as the person he declares himself to be, as the word through whom all things exist. He engendered himself in the womb of the woman that he might save the world. Sun, moon and stars declare the power of God, but are inadequate as means of revealing his goodness and love, for God is love. He came in the form of flesh to open and reveal his heart as nature could not reveal him. Through Christ, God has come forth out of His concealment and has become known to man. Out of Him proceed all existences, including man who is made the crown of creation by his intelligence and free will, but who is thus also created capable of destroying himself. Christ came, not visible Himself, but revealing himself in visible form. In that body which men saw was a Being, invisible God. Seeing this world in ruin he addresses the race of His own creation in and through his body. He passes through all the sorrow and suffering of Gethsemene, the mock trial and the most ignominious death of the cross. All this that He might save the world. Glory be to Father, Son and Holy Ghost, as it was in the beginning, is now and ever more shall be, world without end! Amen. The world out of Christ is lost by its own sin. Sin? What is Sin? Sin is death. Sin not only causes death but it is death. No unholy soul can have communion with God, and there can be no life except by connection with Him. Sin is hostility to the law and throne of God. Cut off from God the soul dies. Men are "dead in trespasses and in sins." Jesus, God, came to take sin out of the heart and restore life. This is a faithful saying: Christ came not to destroy but to give life. He came to create a healing, saving influence, to pour Himself into human hearts. He came to awaken penitence, contrition, humility and sorrow for sin; but also a desire for salvation. He came to win men's hearts back from sin to God. All have been smitten by sin, but none are too great sinners that Christ could not save them if they will believe the glad message. How many are there here this morning who have joyously experienced this! Glory to God! Christ is in the world to-day, not in the flesh, but by the power of His word and Spirit unto salvation. We are here, not to preach philosophy, but Christ as a personal Saviour; we are here to promulgate the Christian religion which is God's religion. One word more. Christ saves by curing. Christ does not save in sin, but from sin. He causes men to renounce sin and sets them in the paths of holiness, righteousness and life eternal, preparing them for unspeakable glory hereafter."

SERMON, BY REV. A. B. LEONARD, D.D., DELIVERED SUNDAY EVENING, JULY 9, 1893, BEFORE THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

Text. 1. Thess. v. 25. "Brethren, pray for us."

Prayer is at once a duty and a privilege of all men. Jesus said men ought always to pray and not to faint. St. Paul told the believers to pray at all times and in everything to give thanks. Montgomery wrote:—

> Prayer is the Christian's vital breath,
> The Christian's native air,
> His watchword at the gates of death;
> He enters heaven with prayer.

There are no bounds to the privilege in prayer. We are told to be careful for nothing but with prayer and thanksgiving to make our requests known to God. These promises are not intended to encourage extravagant, reckless, or fanatical prayers. There are certain conditions which must be met before we can claim an answer to our prayers, and they are:—1st. We must abide in Christ. A penitent sinner may pray for pardon and forgiveness, but a Christian must abide in Christ or he can have no assurance that his prayer will be heard. The second condition is that His word must abide in us. With these conditions met, we need no qualifying "if" in our prayers when we pray for strength and help and guidance. But it is not the philosophy of prayer that I wish to speak of to-night, but concerning the prayers of the church for the ministers of the church. Paul as preacher prayed for the church at Thessalonica that their whole soul and body be preserved blameless till the coming of Christ, for faithful is He that hath promised; and then in turn he earnestly asked that they remember him in their prayers. Taking these two passages together, his prayer for the church and his request for their prayers, they suggest this great truth, that there must be a mutual dependence between the church and the pastor. Neither can be independent of the other, the church may pray for Paul, but they must look to him for teaching. If the preacher "gives to them of spiritual things may he not receive of them carnal things?" When a preacher and his church are thus united in mutual dependence they are strong in carrying on the work of the Lord. Though St. Paul was a man of great learning and ability and had the help of divine inspiration he felt it necessary to have the help of the church, and if he felt it necessary we have the same need. A preacher must be an extraordinary man. There are three qualifications which he must possess, ability, activity, and character. He must have ability to preach, activity in his work, and character and standing in the community in which he works. Ordinary men can get along with only the first two of these qualifications. A lawyer can become skillful in his profession, and so can a doctor, with ability and activity and a merchant may succeed in amassing a fortune if he has ability and is active. A spotless moral character is not absolutely essential to their success, but a preacher must have character, a spotless moral character or he can not succeed. False religions may have a corrupt priesthood, and this is one of their distinguishing features, but the Christian preacher must be a pure man. A preacher must be firm,—some men think they are firm when they are simply stubborn. There is a great difference between firmness and stubbornness. He must be firm to withstand flattery, and all attempts at intimidations, when the temptation comes that he is brilliant and if he will but be more broad and liberal he might become popular, he must withstand these temptations and having done all to stand. The preacher must be patient, sympathetic, and able to endure, not easily disturbed. He must be patient with himself. This does not mean being lazy, but holding still when it hurts, bearing when it is difficult, patient when success does not seem to come, sowing when there does not seem to be any prospect of a harvest. He must be patient with the people he would mould, he can not shape them at once, there are other influences at work, an enemy may destroy to-morrow all his work of to-day. He must weep with those that weep, be joyful among the joyful, always holding to the right, patient, forbearing, waiting to see what God will do in the outcome. He must be filled with the Holy Ghost. He is not equipped for his work unless so filled. This was needed at Pentecost, and has been needed all through the history of the church, and never was needed more than now. Being filled, he is then at his best, his spiritual faculties are illuminated, he will go out with divine enthusiasm and energy, God will honour the ministry of such an one, for he shall receive power after that the Holy Ghost has come upon him. But the preacher must do as well as be. His first and highest function is to preach. Nothing can take its place. Some may go when not called, but whomsoever God calls has the ability to preach. The preacher must study the word, he must make the preparation of his sermons his first work. The Lord will not supplement a man's laziness, he must do his best. He must be full of his theme, and then he can say, Lord help me! His theme must be Jesus. He must adopt the words of St. Paul "I am determined to know nothing among you save Jesus Christ and Him crucified." As in Italy all roads lead to Rome, so with the preacher all his sermons must lead to Christ. Neither his logic, oratory nor skill should attract the audience away from Christ the central point. All his sermons must point out the beauties of Jesus as the Saviour of men, or his preaching is a failure. St. Paul, realizing what he must do made this plea,—Brethren, pray for us! And so the preacher of to-day must not ask for an introduction to the best society, or what salary he is to receive; but for the prayers of his people. Paul knew that if he could have their hearts he could have all else. It is true now. Unless the preacher realizes this, he will never succeed. If we are to bind our people to us we must show them love, and secure their petitions to the throne of heavenly grace, and then we shall secure all else. If you will go home and enlist your people in a firm resolve that souls must be saved, sinners will be converted. May God baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and give you souls for your hire.

Saturday, July 8th.

The session to-day was devoted to regular minutes business. A fraternal greeting was received from the American Board's Mission, now in session at Kobe, and a telegram was sent in reply. The class of the second year on trial was called forward and addressed by the Bishop on the qualities of mind and heart requisite to success in the ministry, and after the usual examination six persons were elected to full membership in the conference.

The Rev. G. E. Dienst and the Rev. J. I. Seder, of the Evangelical Association of North America, were introduced, and upon invitation the former delivered a brief fraternal greeting. Ryu Sei Nan, a Chinese Wesleyan Methodist labouring among his countrymen in Yokohama, was introduced and addressed the Conference.

Monday, July 10th.

Dr. W. N. Whitney and Rev. Wada Hidatoyo addressed the Conference on the work of the Scripture Union, and on the motion of J. G. Cleveland the following resolution was adopted.

Resolved, that we have heard with pleasure the address of Dr. Whitney and his associate, Mr. Wada, and that we heartily endorse the work of the society and cheerfully commend it to our people.

The ordination services postponed from Sunday afternoon were held this morning at ten o'clock, when the candidates for orders were called forward, and the Bishop ordained eight Japanese and one foreign member of the Conference to the order of deacon, and afterwards assisted by Dr. A. B. Leonard and several elders, two were ordained elder.

Dr. D. B. McCartel, of the American Presbyterian Mission, Rev. A. R. Morgan, of the Methodist Protestant Mission, and Hon. Aido Taro, president of the Tokyo Temperance Society, were introduced. Dr. McCartel delivered a brief address in which he alluded to the fact that he had been a missionary in China and Japan for fifty years. Bishop Foster, in replying, stated that he had been a minister of the Gospel in active service for fifty-six years.

The reports of the Nagoya and Sendai districts were read and the characters of the elders in those districts were passed.

The doxology was sung and the Conference adjourned with the benediction by the Rev. Dr. Leonard.

Tuesday, July 11th.

At the session of the Conference this morning the Rev. J. C. Davison, presiding elder of the Tokyo District, and the Rev. G. F. Draper, of the Yokohama district, presented their reports.

The question of admission on trial in the Conference was taken up; the candidates were called forwards introduced to the Conference, and nine men were admitted on trial.

This evening an educational anniversary will be held. The Conference will probably adjourn on Thursday.

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LETTER FROM LONDON.

(From our own Correspondent.)

London, June 7th.

Big preparations are being made for the Royal Marriage, which will take place in St. James's Chapel on the 6th of next month. Subscriptions are being got up in all parts of the kingdom to present wedding gifts to the happy couple. A public holiday has been proclaimed. Various Royalties have signified their intention of attending the ceremony, including the Empress Frederick, the King and Queen of Denmark and the King of the Belgians, and the event bids fair to be only second in recent years to the Jubilee.

After its royal opening the Imperial Institute is now in full swing, and I believe is likely to prove a great boon to Colonials and Englishmen resident in foreign countries who may make it their headquarters in England. Of course, there are always plenty of croakers when any new institution is started who readily prophecy its failure, and maintain that there was no need of its establishment, and as this venture is on a particularly large scale one meets a host of people holding these pessimistic views. Nevertheless, the programme which the committee of the Imperial Institute have drawn up for carrying on the objects for which it has been built is thoroughly workmanlike, and if their future enterprise equals their past activity a successful issue must be assured.

The home-coming of a Duchess from prison is rather a rare event to celebrate, for it is not often that a lady of this rank gets there in the first instance. The Dowager Duchess of Sutherland however, is an exception, and after having "done" six weeks in Holloway Gaol, to which she was sentenced by Sir Francis Jeune, for contempt of Court, she was received home and presented by her friends with a solid silver casket, containing the sum £250, being the amount of the fine imposed. This presentation was made "as an expression of indignant protest against the severe order made by a Judge for having unflinchingly carried out a dying request of her husband." It will be remembered that the Duchess, having been granted permission to look over some documents appertaining to a law suit between herself and her step-son, tore up a paper and threw it into the fire before the law officers who were in attendance could prevent it, and it was not known by them what had been written on the paper. Although Her Grace was a first class demeanant while in Holloway, and had her own apartments and ordered her own commissariat, the confinement seems to have had considerable effect physically upon her, for from 12st. 2lb., her weight when she was admitted to Holloway, she has droped to 10st 10lb.

A paragraph appeared in the London *Daily Telegraph* a day or two since, under the signature of Reuter's Agency, to the effect that the *New York Herald* was to be turned into a limited company with a capital of $2,000,000. The solicitors of Mr. James Gordon Bennett, the proprietor, however, deny that that gentleman has any intention of dissociating himself from his paper. This might be perfectly consistent with the assumption that the former statement is true, as in that event Mr. Bennett would doubtless be prevailed upon to continue the direction of the concern.

Lord Revelstoke, the Hon. Francis Baring, and Mr. Stewart Hodgson, partners in Baring Bros., were the owners of some fifty-eight pictures sold at Christie's on the 3rd, and although the fact of such choice works being brought under the hammer is undoubtedly a striking sign of the present commercial depression, the prices realized tend to show that really first class art is never at a discount. A Gainsborough three quarter length portrait of Mrs. Drummond, in low cut pearl grey dress, with powdered hair falling in ringlets over her shoulders, was knocked down to Mr. Agnew for 6,700 guineas, whilst the same purchaser secured a portrait of Lady Rodney by the same artist for 2,300 guineas. A stormy picture of Hempstead Heath, by Constable, fetched 2,550 guineas, and the more recent production of Sir Frederick Leighton, the Daphnephoric, was knocked down at 3,750 guineas. A water-colour by Turner made 735 guineas and a portrait by Rubens of Elizabeth Brandt, the artist's first wife, 650 guineas. The total of the day's sale amounted to 25,572 guineas.

Mr. Pinero, who as a playwright has won more renown for his plays of a light type than for his more serious works, gave the playgoing public on Saturday night a striking example of what he is able to do of the latter description. "The Second Mrs. Tanqueray," which was produced at the St. James's Theatre by Mr. Alexander, is a story as sad and almost as gruesome as it is interesting and magnetic in its influence. Aubrey Tanqueray, the hero of the play, is presented to the audience in the first scene in his bachelor chambers, explaining to his two friends Frank Misquith and Gordon Jayne that he is going to marry a second wife. His first marriage had not been a success. His wife had been a woman of cold and reserved disposition and, as Tanqueray's old friends remark, the only time she was known to have any warmth was when she was dying of a fever. Being also of a different religious faith from her husband was a further reason for the non-existence of a thorough bond of sympathy between them. But withal there was no gainsaying that she had been a model of virtue. The prospective second Mrs. Tanqueray has a history, and a somewhat shady one, but she is of a passionate disposition and it is plain to see that Tanqueray is simply infatuated with her. The first scene closes as the future Mrs. Tanqueray is just paying a visit to Tanqueray in his Albany chambers, because she "felt bored and solitary." He endeavours to explain to her the unwisdom of this step, but feels sanguine that all will be right when they are married and living at his country place at Highcoombe, and he foresees no obstacles to prevent his raising his wife to his own social and intellectual evel. The remainder of the play shows the complete failure of Tanqueray's schemes for the future. Mr. and Mrs. Tanqueray live at Highcoombe with everything around to make them happy, but the husband's former friends refuse to take up the second Mrs. Tanqueray. Moreover, Mr. Tanqueray's daughter by his first wife has come home from her convent school, and being naturally of a disposition diametrically opposite to her step-mother, finds it impossible to be friendly with her. The climax is reached when the daughter accepts an offer of marriage from a man who proves to be one of her stepmother's former lovers. Mrs. Tanqueray rises to the occasion—denounces the engagement and explains the reason to her husband and step-daughter. The humiliation consequent upon this disclosure proves too much for Mrs. Tanqueray, and the play ends by her putting an end to her anxieties by taking poison.

Mr. Alexander as Aubrey Tanqueray looks quiet, dignified, and gentlemanly as he always does, but the second Mrs. Tanqueray is the great rôle of the piece, and this is taken by Mrs. Patrick Campbell with striking success. Although of serious nature the play seems to have caught on and will probably have a good run.

The most successful opera produced during the present season is "Paylicaci" by Leon Cavallo. Its success indeed has been phenomenal and equalled only by the *furore* which attended the first production of "Cavalleria Rusticana" last year. Like Mascagni, the composer of "Cavalleria Rusticana," Leon Cavallo had hitherto been little known, and he appears now to have become famous by a bound. "Paylicaci" is at the moment the trump card at the Covent Garden, and although played on an average two or three times a week always draws crowded audiences. "Cavalleria Rusticana," however, is still immensely popular, and the intermezzo it contains is simply divine. This has been published in the form of a song, with pianoforte accompaniment, and one seldom attends an At-home without hearing it rendered, with more or less success by some aspiring amateur vocalist. Signor Mascagni is dated to arrive in London this week, and will superintend the arrangements for the production of "I Rantzan," which will be produced in England for the first time on the 15th inst.

The new comic opera at the Savoy, "Jane Annie," libretto by J. M. Barrie and Conan Doyle, and music by Ernest Ford, is not such a great success as the former works that have been produced at this theatre. No comic operas have been so popular as those with W. S. Gilbert as librettist and Sir Arthur Sullivan as composer, and it is satisfactory to learn that they are working together again and may be expected to shortly lay before the public another production of their combined efforts.

The present theatrical season has probably so far been the worst on record. Theatre after theatre has had to close its doors from want of patrons, and the Palace Theatre of Varieties would probably have had to follow suit had it not been for the enterprise of Sir Augustus Harris, the Managing Director, who proposed and is carrying out with the sanction of the shareholders, a reconstruction scheme which may yet bring this magnificent music hall through its present difficulties. Plays which were praised alike by both press and public who witnessed them, have failed to draw audiences and have been withdrawn after a few weeks run. Notably amongst these may be mentioned "Black Domino" at the Adelphi, "Uncle John" at the Vaudeville, "Man and Woman" at the Opera Comique, and "Silver Shell" at the Avenue. The last was the first appearance of Miss Amy Roselle in a managerial capacity. On the other hand, a few productions are going unusually strong. "Becket" at the Lyceum draws splendid business, and to take the other extreme, "Morocco Bound" runs along merrily at the Shaftesbury.

"A Woman of no Importance," by Oscar Wilde, is a decided success, and the same may be said for "The Second Mrs. Tanqueray," by Pinero. "The Bauble Shop" at the Criterion, is to be withdrawn next week, after only a moderately long run. Several causes have been named for this indisputably bad business in the theatrical world, but undoubtedly the chief are first the delightful weather we have had for the time of year, which tends to make people seek their evening amusement out of doors rather than in the more or less heated and impure atmosphere of a theatre, and secondly the general depression of business.

In the face of this dismal theatrical outlook, a new theatre will be opened in Leicester Square on the 20th of this month, which has been built by Augustin Daly, of New York, and will be run under his management. Miss Rehan will make her reappearance in London again at the opening.

At the present time Eleonora Duse, the Italian actress, is the popular favourite on the London stage. Everybody is going to see her play in such pieces as "Camille," "Fedores," "La Locandiera," chiefly I should say, because she is so entirely different in her impersonations from what we have been accustomed to. She discards "make-up" of any kind and appears without rouge or powder. This, one might precipitately conclude was on account of her natural beauty; nothing of the kind. She is exceedingly plain and has not even a good figure, but in spite of all she has a wonderful magnetic charm that has the effect of enthralling her audiences the whole of the time she is on the stage. The key note to her success seems to be the perfect naturalness of everything she does, which is much appreciated by play-goers, who are weary of great effects for bringing down the curtain and studied posing at other parts of the performance.

Mrs. Brown Potter and Mr. Kryle Bellew are now in London "resting," and intend going to Calcutta again in the autumn, where they have secured the Corinthian Theatre for three years. Mr. Geo. C. Miln and Miss Louise Jordan have also taken up their quarters in St. John's Wood, and, I believe, are waiting an opening on the London stage.

Mr W. J. Montgomery, who was with Miln in the East, has married Miss Grace Hawthorne, an American actress who has attained some reputation in London and the provinces, and the couple are now touring the provinces with a company playing "Theodora."

Miss Frances Ross, who played in Yokohama also, I believe, in the Miln Company, is now "starring" in the Provinces with a company under the management of Morell Mackenzie, who went in for things theatrical shortly before his father's death.

A glove contest between Frank Slavin and Jem Hall, under the auspices of the National Sporting Club, which had been looked forward to as the most important event of the kind that had taken place in England for some months past, came off last Monday and resulted in a miserable failure. Slavin was backed as much as 2 to 1 on, but from the first round it was seen that something was very radically wrong in his form, and during two or three of the total seven rounds he seemed to be altogether at sea. At one time during the fifth round Hall seemed to have the prize within his grasp, for Slavin reeled and fell on one knee, but recovering himself almost immediately he got to work again and made a final effort to hold his own against his opponent. The end came in the seventh round, when Slavin was fairly knocked out by a blow which stretched him on the floor, and which was too severe for him to rally from. Neither of the men were up to form and the fight from the first was a foregone conclusion. Slavin scaled 13st., while Hall weighed only 11st. 5lb. The former's career as a fighting man appears to be over and although the latter displayed no particular style during this contest, he may do some useful work in the middle-weight class in the future.

A break of 2,539 is a pretty good record, even for a champion American billiard player, and this was registered last week during the match between John Roberts and Frank C. Ives at Knightsbridge. The game was for 6,000 up, and about the middle the American ran up this tremendous break by 1,267 canons in the angle of the right top pocket, bringing the scores up to:—Ives 5,000, Roberts 3,484. The latter failed altogether to keep up to his opponent, although he played a good steady game, making a capital 193 break in excellent style. A little later, however, Ives got the balls up again in the corner and added 852 to his total by another succession of canons, finally winning the match by 2,179.

One of the most profitable professions at the

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present time would seem to be that of bull-fighting Señor Lagartijo, bull-fighter, and first matador of Spain, has just retired from the public arena to spend the remainder of his days on his estate at Cordova, having amassed, it is said, an enormous fortune by his performances in the Ring. He has been making a farewell tour of the Provinces of Spain, during which his average share at each place amounted to close upon £2,000, and at his last performance in Madrid yesterday his receipts for the afternoon were no less than £5,000.

Lagartijo is immensely popular with the people, and on his appearance in the bull ring he was accorded a tremendous ovation by the 14,000 people who had paid fancy prices for their seats to view the show. The great matador's closing effort was well worthy of his successful career, for amidst wild enthusiasm he killed, one after the other, six bulls of the fiercest type.

Additional excitement had been roused among the spectators by the spread of a rumour that the bull fight would conclude with the cutting of Lagartijo's "coleta," the tuft of hair at the back of the head which, since the last century, has been the distinctive mark of the toreros, and that it would be offered as a prize in a lottery. But the report proved to be incorrect, and the retiring matador's coleta is to be taken off with due solemnity at a private entertainment to be given to his friends.

LETTER FROM CHICAGO.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Chicago, June 17th.

There seems to be something rotten in the New York Custom house, which a committee is now investigating. Among the witnesses Henny Binley, of the Japanese Fan Company, testified that, though they bought silks in Yokohama cheaper than any one else, they were being undersold by other firms.

Another Japanese has captured an American girl. The bride is a Miss Inez Smith, of Red Towers, N.J., a nurse girl: the bride-groom is Mr. Ichijo Masamobu, valet of Capt John J Phelps, son of Mr. W. W. Phelps, ex-Minister to Germany. The groom is reported to have boasted: "You American men too slow; I take her"!

At the last meeting of the Chicago Folk Lore Society, among the papers read was one by Dr. W. E. Griffis on "A Japanese Origin of Uncle Remus's Tar Baby."

At the recent commencement of the University of Pennsylvania, a Japanese (name not given) took high honours. At De Pauw University "Sasamari of Japan, after eight years with the university, was awarded the degree of Ph.D." At Illinois Wesleyan University, Myron C. Wilcox, of Foo Chow, China, received the degree of M.A., and John O. Spencer, of Tokyo, that of Ph.D. At Johns Hopkins University, Miss Florence Bascom, the first of her sex to get a degree from that institution, received a Ph D for a course in geology; she is a daughter of Dr. John Bascom.

Mr. Sahei Ohashi, of the Hakubun-kwan, has returned here from New York City, and will remain a few days. He is making a careful examination of the publishing business here.

The Duke of Veragua recently wrote an article for the *North American Review*, and when a cheque was sent to him in payment thereof, he returned it with the request that it be converted to charitable uses. The Duke's instincts as a Columbian guest of the country guided him aright. *Noblesse oblige.*

Washington, D-C., was the scene of a terrible disaster the morning of June 9th. The old historic Ford's Theatre, in which Lincoln was shot, has for several years been used as an office for some departments of the Pension Bureau, though it has been condemned. It suddenly collapsed, and buried scores of clerks beneath its ruins. Between twenty and thirty were killed, and large numbers were wounded.

A strike in connection with the work on the new drainage canal for Chicago grew into a riot near Lemont the other day. In an encounter between the strikers and the sheriff's posse two were killed and several wounded. The State militia had to be called out to restore order.

The financial situation is still very critical, as money continues to be tight. The locking up of so much capital in the World's Fair and associated enterprises, many of which have proved failures, is probably one cause of the stringency. The Exposition itself is now beginning to be more prosperous financially. It is gradually cutting down expenses, and increasing receipts. The fine weather has enlarged the attendance, and helped along the crops. The railroads are beginning to run cheap excursion trains, which will undoubtedly be a great feature of the summer. But the Exposition alone can only help a little in the circulation of money. The situation is really considered quite critical.

And yet Californians and others from the Pacific coast succeeded the other day in a single session in securing pledges amounting to $150,000 towards a mid-winter exposition to be opened in San Francisco, December 25th. Several of the foreign commissioners promised large portions of their exhibits.

Jacob T. Pitt, of Missouri, has been appointed U.S. Consul at Hankow, China.

Baron Fava is now "Ambassador" from Italy to the United States.

Recent advices from Samoa indicate the possibility of further trouble. Mataafa has returned to Samoa, and, having rallied his old adherents and new recruits, is causing a great deal of trouble. The reigning monarch, Malietoa, has appealed for protection under the terms of the tripartite alliance between Germany, Great Britain, and the United States.

Rev. Dr. Chas. A. Briggs, by unanimous vote of the Board of Directors of the Union Theological Seminary, New York City, has been continued in the department of Biblical History.

The great evangelist, D. L. Moody, is holding meetings in different parts of the city. Last Sunday morning he preached to an immense crowd in Forepaugh's circus tent on the Lake Front.

The Sunday question with reference to the World's Fair continues to haunt the public. As I stated in my last letter, three U.S. Circuit Judges, by a vote of two to one, decided in favour of closing. They, however, granted an appeal, and refused a supersedeas: but last Saturday Chief Justice Fuller granted the supersedeas, so that the Fair was open again last Sunday. Day before yesterday and yesterday the case was argued before a Court of Appeal, consisting of Chief Justice Fuller and U.S. Circuit Judges Bunn, of Wisconsin, and Allen, of Illinois. As the decision has to be rendered this morning, I hope to be able to give it at the end of this letter. The contestants have announced, that this decision will be accepted as final: *Keredomo.*

The following is the auditor's statement of Exposition finances to May 31st:—

Receipts from all sources	$10,300,545.91
Payments:	
Construction	$16,302,936.89
General expenses	2,949,045.09
	19,140,982.98
Balance assets	$ 2,255,563.93
Total gate receipts to May 31, including tickets sold prior to opening, good on and after May 1	$ 859,905.51

A party of ten cow-boys started on the 13th inst. from Chadron, Neb. on a race to the World's Fair.

On "Traveller's Protective Association" day at the Fair, ex-Minister Hubbard was a speaker on "Texas."

The Infanta Eulalia was, of course, overwhelmed with attention during her stay in Chicago. She was honoured one evening with a magnificent reception given by Mr. and Mrs. Potter Palmer at their residence. The Infanta, however, on many occasions succeeded in dodging committees, smashing set programmes, and going about the Fair in an independent manner. She attended mass last Sunday at St. Mary's Church; and, on account of the assembled crowd, was scarcely able to get into the building. On Wednesday she formally opened the Spanish Exhibits in several buildings, and held a reception in the Spanish National Building. Thursday morning she left for the East via Niagara Falls.

Just now ex President Harrison is the "biggest" visitor at the Fair: he came Monday, and will stay about ten days. He was one of the speakers last Thursday at the dedication of the Indiana Building. On the same day Arkansas celebrated the 57th anniversary of its admission into the Union by opening the State building.

The attendance at the Fair that day was about 200,000, of whom much the larger part were Germans. It was preeminently a German day in the city. Down-town there was an immense parade with 12,000 marchers and several floats. At the Fair grounds in the afternoon exercises were held in English in Festival Hall, and in German in front of the "castle," where Carl Schurz was the orator of the day. In the evening electric fountains and fire-works completed the celebration.

To-day is "Russian Day," "Bunker Hill Day," and "Midway Plaisance Day." This morning Russia "opens" in the Manufactures Building with ceremonies of which Greek Church ritual will be a part. In the afternoon there is to be a reception in the Massachusetts Building; and at 2 o'clock the people of the cosmopolitan Plaisance will march in procession through the grounds.

The past week has been taken up by the various meetings of the Congress of Moral and Social Reform. Vegetarianism, temperance, prison reform, charitable and philanthroyic work, pauperism, criminology, nursing, insanity, the work of the King's Daughters and Sons, labour colonies, and kindred sociological themes have been ably discussed. The greatest interest was felt in a paper on "The Principles of Nurse Training," by Miss Florence Nightingale (absent.)

The July *Popular Science Monthly* is to contain an illustrated article on "Moral Life of the Japanese," by Dr. W. D. Eastlake.

Prof. and Mrs. J M. Dixon, of St. Louis, are here visiting the Fair.

P.S.—The three judges decided unanimously in favour of opening the Exposition on Sundays.

THE CHICAGO EXHIBITION.

(From a Correspondent.)

Chicago, June 16th.

The most notable entrance to the Woman's Building, the outside and structure of which I described in my last letter, is that to the East, the broad, low flight of stairs leading almost directly from the quiet, beautiful lagoon—sluggishly sweeping around the Wooded Island—into the Vestibule so appropriately and tastefully decorated by the Women of England. Here a carved central column upbears a ceiling decorated with mural painting of drapery. On the southern wall is a picture of Florence Nightingale, "the lady of the lamp," as the poor Crimean soldiers called her, when night after night she visited their hot and fever-striken wards and witnessed and alleviated the agony of the wounded and suffering. On either side are pictures less suggestive of suffering, while opposite, laughing children dance and play and grave-faced students stand taking their degrees. These pictures are designated to show the different kinds of Women's Work in England. An upper frieze of sculpture in bas relief is very fine, while panelling of Tennessee marble forms a wainscoting, beautiful as unique. Lovely white lilies and feathery grasses are gracefully grouped at the base of the tall carved columns, whilst Oriental hangings and flags of Old England decorate the walls. A most artistically and beautifully carved court cupboard by Mrs. Barr, of oak 300 years' old, stands near one entrance door, and a fine buffet of carved walnut by the Countess of Tankerville makes a pendant to it on the other side.

Off the vestibule, to the north and south, open two large rooms. The exhibit in the north room is educational and here can be found examples of what student girls have learned in six months in the New York School of Applied Design. This exhibit is large and comprehensive, comprising all sorts of designs from the simplest to the most elaborate. Some beautiful specimens of wall paper designs, whose delicacy of outline and shades of colouring charm everyone who sees them, are well hung in the room. They have also patterns of silks for decorative use as well as for dress goods; rare mosaics, Persian rugs, and brilliant and rare Byzantine tilings fill and beautify some of the cases.

The Pratt Institute contrasts strongly with these beautiful drawings, a prominent feature being its laundry work for graduating classes, showing the way in which they get up the coarsest and most fragile fabrics and filmiest laces. Some of the cases contain very good and clever specimens of millinery and dressmaking accomplished in this institute. Chicago's trade school occupies a good position and arouses great interest; while a portion of the room is set apart for an interesting display of the New York and Brooklyn Training School for Nurses, the Associated Homeopathic Nurse School, the department of archæology of the University of Pennsylvania, the Bryn Mawr School of physical culture and various other institutes of learning; all these constituting one of the most attractive and scientific exhibits of women's educational work in the Building.

On the South side of the vestibule is the work of women in the savage state, the Smithsonian exhibit of the handicrafts of Indian women. Taking into consideration the low grade of Indian women's civilization as fixed by her own race, the articles displayed are marvellous, both in execution and design, and in the bright colouring and delicacy and clearness of design, can be found the inborn love of woman for what is refined and beautiful. There are water-jars and baskets woven of straw with bright colouring and good taste combined, and the many hued blankets which the Navajo Indians affect. Here too are to be found very good and instructive photographs of Indian women, young and old, as also of the mothers of the tribe.

In the same room is the wonderful and varied collection of Mrs. French Sheldon, the famous woman explorer of the interior of Africa. In many respects the exhibit looks more like a warrior's array, with its glistening spear points and protec-

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tive shields, but it is redeemed from this truculent spirit by its cases of beads and rude ornaments, exquisitely finely woven grass mats and hangings, showing that even in benighted Africa the feminine mind tends to the beautifying and adorning of the belles of the land.

Mrs. French Sheldon has also written a very clever and instructive book on her travells, called "From Sultan to Sultan," which I read with keen pleasure and can thoroughly recommend to any one wishing to improve his knowledge of the Dark Continent.

THE ETHICS OF CONFUCIUS, AS SEEN IN JAPAN.

All the systems of religious and ethical thought in the great nations of the East are being studied with eagerness by scholars whose "finds" are laid before the public in every variety of literary form. Much that has been written on Confucianism in China has been put in a popular way in newspapers and magazines. But while much has been written on Confucianism in Japan, it is largely hidden away in such publications as the "Transactions of the Asiatic Society of Japan." Not even such standard works as the "Encyclopædia Britannica," Rein's "Japan," and Griffis' "Mikado's Empire" have anything more than a few lines of direct reference to this subject, though the history of Japan has been very markedly influenced by the moral teachings of the Chinese sage. Mitford's "Tales of Old Japan" and Greey's "Loyal Ronins" introduce us, in a most captivating way, to the application of Confucius' teachings.

Twenty-five years ago, when I first took up Mitford's Tales in the library at Yale, I speedily threw the book aside as something incredible in its awful suicides. But eighteen years of life in Japan have made it apparent to me that such stories as "The Forty-seven Ronins" are simple history, revealing a state of society in which cool determination, desperate courage, and fearlessness of death in the face of duty are quite unique, and which must have their basis in some powerful, though abnormal code of ethics. This code is *The Five Relations,—Sovereign and Minister, Father and Son, Husband and Wife, Elder and Younger Brothers, and Friends.* These relations have so largely shaped the conduct of the thinking portion of the millions of Japan that they are worthy of being set forth in their Japanese dress. And if in so doing we can find one or two underlying ideas that control the practical working of the code, we shall be in a better condition to understand both Old and New Japan.

One difficulty in treating such a subject is to get suitable terms for translating these Eastern ideas. Nothing is more easy than to make a mistake here, and that, of course, would tend to vitiate whatever might be built on to the mistranslation. Even in cognate languages it is by no means easy to find words that exactly correspond. The same word in different ages comes to have an entirely different meaning. "Virtue," "family," "despotism," "people," "rights," "love," "reverence," when taken in connection with such widely differing civilizations and developments as those of the East and West, are words that mean one thing here and something considerably different there. It follows that when we attempt to look at the practical effects of a system of ethics, even though we strive to lay aside every bias and seek to get into the heart of the people of whom we speak, we often fall into errors, which only a wider study and perhaps a later generation of writers can fully correct.

In this connection it seems to me that Mr Benton's "Ethics of Confucius" in *The Popular Science Monthly*, November, 1891, while most interestingly written, and evidently from the pen of one who knows the people and has studied their literature, yet is to some degree faulty, in that he seems to have adopted the Western ways of thinking in his translation of the *Five Relations*, as *King and Subject, Husband and Wife, Parent and Child, Brother to Brother, and Man to Man.* To the ordinary reader, this may seem a mere trifle and not worth calling attention to. Yet a comparison of this translation with the one given above, which is Dr. Legge's, shows some important differences. *Husband and Wife* is the only relation which is translated alike by both. The other four have a broad meaning and a modern look, if we accept Mr. Benton's translation. In Dr. Legge's the words reflect a state of society that is ancient, and they have a more contracted meaning. They fit Confucianism in Japan, where the Confucian books are precisely the same as those used in China. The development here in Japan doubtless has resulted in many minor variations from the practices of the Chinese, but the ruling ideas have been the same there as here.

FIRST RELATION: SOVEREIGN AND MINISTER.

For ages past the sovereign of Japan has had no relation to the *people*. The sovereign never saw the people, nor were the people ever so privileged as to see their ruler. Since Confucianism gained its stronghold here, the relation of the sovereign was solely with those about his sacred person,—his ministers. True, he is sometimes spoken of as "the father of the nation," whose duty it is to rule justly and to cherish the people. There are some noble sentiments in Confucianism, but they are not so noble as the modern ideas that are associated with "the people." To forget the spirit of caste, or of "order," of which I will speak farther on, is to misunderstand the application of Confucianism in Japan. This first relation has various translations which are by no means exhausted in the above. After the sovereign came *Daimyo* and *Shomyo*, great and small lord, with their castles and retainers. In this stratum of society this first relation was called *Lord* and *Retainer*, and embraced about two millions called *Samurai*. This was the warrior and literary class,—of whom the whole world has heard. Further down in the social scale were farmers, artisans, merchants, and coolies. Among them this first relation meant *Master* and *Servant*.

To foreigners, the words "sovereign and minister," "lord and retainer," "master and servant," would naturally mean three distinct and widely separated relations. Here they are all combined in the words, *Kun shin*. The underlying thought that bound such separate duties into one was loyalty—the loyalty of the inferior to his superior. Thus even a servant might reflect the spirit of a *Samurai* by perfect obedience to his master. To translate this, however, simply by *master* and servant, as Rein does in his "Japan," page 448, is to take the weakest and lowest meaning of the terms.

So it was more poetry than prose when the sovereign was called "the father of the people," and the nation was likened to a great family. It was only through grade after grade, rank after rank, that the sovereign could be reached from the people. He was the high, they the low. Everything went on the up and down plan in accordance with the all-prevailing thought of superior and inferior. This is well reflected in the language. For example, pronouns are almost unused and unknown. When a Japanese wishes to say what we mean by "I told my master so" he says, "Servant made respectful mention of it to Master." In this style of pronounless talking the grades of superior and inferior are clearly marked off. This is the way in which all the five relations, even that of friends, is made to work. Various important words, such as *reverence* and *love* and righteousness, have meanings here that depend on the up-and down plan on which society is constructed. *Reverence* is used for one direction only, toward the superior; and *love* for the other direction only, toward the inferior. One never hears of a lord's reverencing his retainer, an inferior, of a retainer's loving his lord, a superior. It is always fixed. Reverence knows but one direction,—from the bottom to the top. Love knows but one direction,—from the top to the bottom. So the word *ai* is often translated, to be *gracious to, to be benevolent*. For long ages the East and the West have been strangers to each other. If, therefore, we carry over our ideas of social relations into our translations of their thoughts we miss the mark. The reverence of pantheistic lands is a very different thing from the reverence of the theism of the West. As Goethe well says: "A three-fold reverence has to be called forth in man by religion: a reverence for what is above, for what is around, and for what is beneath us. The last is the most difficult, and has been realized by Christianity only." A reverence for child-nature, such as Christ showed when He set a little child before the scholars of his day, strikes many an Eastern mind as a mistake. And that man, the inferior, should be taught to love God, the superior, with all his mind and strength, comes as a kind of surprise. That God, the superior, should love man is all right, but for men, the inferiors, to venture to love God seems almost impious, or else a weak and meaningless style of talking. Only a few days ago a Christian school was dedicated here, and the motto over the President's desk was "Reverence God, and Love Man." The President is a thoroughly able Japanese gentleman, and has studied in the States. Standing before a Christian audience I think this gentleman would have said, as we do, "Love God, Love Man." But he had mainly a non-Christian audience of scholars and officials, whose moral education is based on what Confucius taught. To their eyes a motto, "Love God, Love Man," would have seemed quite out of place. Reverence God meant something.

The moral ideal that was expressly taught in connection with this first relation was Uprightness, or Righteousness. Thus, the oldest nations of the earth, could never have existed during all these ages were there not some source of real moral power. The idea of this righteousness was that the retainer's life was not lived for himself but for his lord. To belong, body and soul, to one's lord, to be ready to die for him or with him, was the meaning of righteousness. Thus, when the Forty-seven Ronins, after years of plotting, at last killed the high official who had been the cause of the death of their lord, and were themselves condemned to commit *hara-kiri*, they most gladly obeyed. For this act they have received the title "Righteous Samurai," and their graves are ever green with the offerings of the people who count loyalty the one supreme virtue. Indeed, the graveyards of Japan have their full share of those who thus sacrified their lives to the idea of duty as they understood it. I write these words in sight of twenty-four tombs of the bravest and ablest of the ancient warriors of Senda, who disemboweled themselves on the death of their prince that they might completely fulfil their duty to him by accompanying him even through death. Women and children too, at times, share this spirit, and would courageously die by the deadly dirk rather than suffer defeat or betray the confidence that had been reposed in them. Only a short time ago a gentleman sent me a large picture of a band of boys, all in their teens, who fought in the Restoration, and were defeated. The picture represents them resolutely committing *hara-kiri*. In some instances, the spirit of righteousness compelled a retainer to rebuke his lord, well knowing that the act would of necessity be followed by death, or, worse yet, by degradation. In such ways as these did Confucianism aid in building up moral character. Of course, a large proportion of the people of all classes failed to come anywhere near the high moral standard; but in this respect they compare well with the nations that have so long had the Sermon of the Mount.

Laying aside, then, as far as possible, our Western ways of thinking, this first relation has a threefold meaning—Sovereign and Minister, Lord and Retainer, Master and Servant. And the ruling thought that runs from the bottom to the top of society is that the inferior owes his superior unquestioning loyalty and reverence, while the superior owes his inferior benevolence or love. The duties of the inferior, however, claim by far the most attention. The inferior, while he has rights, seldom ventures to claim them. He considers even his rights to be privileges, and so speaks of them.

The theory of government falls under this first relation, and is often spoken of by foreigners as despotic. It is so, yet my attention has been called to the fact that despotism here hardly means what it does in the West. With us, it implies a self-centred, self-seeking government. And such have been the governments of the least for the most part, no doubt, but such is not the theory. The Confucian ideal is, "The Empire is the Empire of the Empire, and not of one man." Equally with the lowest member of the organism is the highest debtor to the whole; or, rather, as his rank and power are greater so are his duties. 'As the father cherishes his children so is the father of the nation to love the people.' By this theory, the selfishness, tyranny, and lust of many men in power were balanced by the natural pity, love, and sympathy of others."

THE SECOND RELATION: FATHER AND SON.

Nothing can be more natural for us than to put the relation of husband and wife before that of father and son. But in these Eastern nations, just what we would not do is just the thing they would do. And the very weighty reason of it is that the relation of father and son gives the line of succession by which the *house* abides forever. To keep up the house and not let the family name be extinguished is the supreme wish. This is the immortality of the East. The house lives on, the individuals are but fragments of the house. They die and are somehow absorbed back into the house. If there be no natural heir, adoption readily supplies the deficiency. The magnificent scale on which adoption is practiced shows a foreigner at once that the words "father," "son," can hardly have the same depth of meaning they have in the English language. "Why did Washington let his house die out?" was once asked me by a Japanese gentleman, who could not conceive any reason for such neglect. He thought that our great general might have adopted some one to keep his house and name from perishing. "How long has he lived there?" I asked once concerning a certain person. As "he" is one of the

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pronouns that had to be translated into the mental contents of my pupil's brain, he took it to mean "house," and replied, "Oh, he has been there two hundred and fifty years." "How long have you lived here?" I asked a merchant. "Three hundred years," was the prompt reply, with a look of satisfaction at the thought of his house having passed through some ten generations.

Not only adoption, but also by concubinage, the house is kept unbroken. The imperial line, that is claimed to have existed over twenty-five hundred years, has stood by means of both adoption and concubinage. The present promising Crown Prince is not the son of the Empress, but "of the Emperor by Madame Yanagiwara A ko." Now that the East has shown us her methods of living long, the longevity of the antediluvians finds a possible solution in saying that Enoch, Noah, Methuselah are names of houses instead of individuals.

There is one more reason why the relation of father and son should come before that of husband and wife. The woman of the East, as everybody knows, holds a different place from the woman of the west. What concerns the line of succession is more important than what concerns a woman. Sometimes this second relation is freely translated *Parents* and *Children*, but in that case it must be borne in mind that the mother is a small part of the parents, and that all the children, save the heir, are of minor consequence.

Now what means the ever-recurring phrase *filial piety*? First, it means obedience, but of a different degree from the obedience of a western home. There is an absoluteness about it that is abnormal. Parents may to this day command their daughters to lives of infamy and take their gains. A father told me that he once took his little baby boy to a canal to throw him in, as he had more children than he could support. The little one's pretty smile and *coo* turned the father's heart, and the boy has become an educated man. The obedience a father might require is extreme, and is not balanced by a corresponding responsibility on the part of the parent. We can hardly use the word "parent" without thinking of the duties he has to his child. But here, the prevailing thought in this relation, as in all others, is that of duty from the inferior to the superior. They had a high ideal, and the noble words are in their books, that "the first duty of the parent is to instruct the child in the Way," and "the most efficient teaching is by example." Yet the burden of the teaching was that children owed everything to their parents. A man's first duty was to his parents rather than to his own children or his wife, and this obedience lasted for life. No coming of age freed the man from it. The classic, "The Twenty-four Model Children," that is in use in China and here, has one child seventy-years old acting like a schoolboy before his parents in order to deepen the impression that they still are young. I was told only the other day of a man who, on starting out on a bad road, was cautioned by his mother to wear straw sandals, as the road was slippery. His father, seeing him about to start, cautioned him to wear high clogs, as the road was muddy. How to fulfill his filial piety to both his parents perplexed him, but he solved it by going with straw on one foot and a clog on the other. When it was known in the village the head man called him up and openly praised him for his obedience. A man recently murdered his wife, and, on examination, he said his deed was done with her permission, in order to get her liver as a cure for his aged mother's eyes. His father said he got the idea from "The Twenty-four Children." Eight of these stories are briefly given in Williams's "Middle Kingdom," vol. i. pp. 514, 515. The conserving power in this teaching was that obedience was a duty, and a noble duty. It miscarried continually, but it tended to save the family line, and thus to save society and order.

In the second place, filial piety means *reverence* rather than love. The son, the inferior, is never taught to love his parents, but to reverence them. No child of the East would dream of beginning a letter with "My dear Father," "My beloved Mother." "When I first saw that form of a letter," a Japanese student once said to me, "I thought it a joke." Letters begin and end with reverential words, not with endearing terms. In strictness, a child should look not so high as to his father's face, no higher than to his girdle. On entering the room of his father, he sits at a distance, and bows with reverence. If the child dies, the father does not go to the funeral,—not because he does not love his child, not out of pride, but because duty requires him to uphold the distinctions of inferior and superior, the order of nature. To go to the funeral would be like reverencing his own child, an impossible thing. All this can be imagined as reasonable if one only keeps in mind that the emotional nature is not developed on the line of love, but is guarded and fenced in on the line of reverence. It would never do, however, to assert that children do not love their parents. There is love, but not in the free, open, joyous way we have learned it, not in the deep, intense manner of the West. Adoption and the free giving away of children show that there is something more important than affection between parents and children. It is the house, the family line, the name.

The third element in filial piety is *duty towards the dead*. The parents are kept in remembrance by tablets on which their sainted names are written in golden letters, and they are honoured with floral offerings

THE THIRD RELATION: HUSBAND AND WIFE.

Generally speaking, there is no courtship. Parents, or "go-betweens," settle who are to be partners. It turns out well, or endurable, in the majority of cases. The one thing that explains pretty much everything is that this relation is not one of equality, but of superior and inferior. The wife is not only inferior to the husband, but to his parents, under whose roof she goes to live, and whom she is equally bound to obey. As she has never "loved" her own parents, but reverenced and obeyed them, so now she is never said to love her husband, but to reverence and obey him. "The husband is to love his wife, yet not overmuch, lest he neglects his parents and brothers. The men who have brought ruin on family and kingdom by disregarding this rule have been innumerable. And yet not to love at all is also an evil, since by the wife he has the blessing of offspring and the worship of descendants. But let the love have limits as above set forth. The wife must be gentle. Her husband is in the place of heaven. His parents take the place of her parents, and thus obedience to father-in-law and mother-in-law becomes the first of her duties." This quotation, from Dr. Knox's translation of "A System of Ethics," ends with the statement that "husband and wife are different." They have different duties, different natures, a different station in the order of heaven. The wife is the inferior. The emotional nature is guarded by cultivating the spirit of reverence. The kiss between husband and wife, or anywhere else in the family, is regarded as too funny for anything, and inexplicable. "Every time I see foreigners kiss, I catch a sick," said a student who was trying to show his English. A husband and wife never walk out together side by side, but she goes behind, to follow and to obey being synonymous. If she dies the husband does not go to the funeral, but sends the children. A Japanese gentleman, Dr. J. Neesima, who was educated in the States, on leaving his school here for a second visit to America, surprised the students by saying it was hard to leave his wife and parents. That he should have mentioned his wife before his parents was such a violation of Eastern thought as could be gained only by long residence abroad. The order grated on the ears of the young men who heard him.

The relation of superior and inferior holds in another way, and is absolutely one-sided. The wife must be chaste. "Among ten thousand sins, adultery (on the woman's side) is the greatest" (Rein's "Japan," p. 447). The husband is perfectly free, and none but a bad wife will venture to complain of any excess on the part of her husband. We of the West are not stainless in this, and we must tread softly. The fact is, however, that the word "jealous" here applies only to the wife. Theoretically she has no right to so much as complain of her husband's illicit actions. Otherwise she is called jealous, as a term of reproach and contempt. No man is ever said to be jealous; only a woman can have that feeling. Hence "a jealous God" is a hard thing indeed to explain. It is almost the worst thing one could say of the God he would recommend.

Nevertheless, woman in Japan is woman still. Occasionally there were higher ranges of motive and action that put to defiance the up-and down relation, and that revealed the truly heroic and noble nature of woman. Nine Empresses have sat on the throne. Many a woman has put an end to her life rather than see dishonour come upon herself or upon her husband's name. While that band of boys spoken of above were resolutely committing *hara-kiri* at the sight of the downfall of their castle, on the other side of the town some mothers were slaying their infant sons, and then themselves, rather than run the risk of falling into the hands of their enemies. At times, the same lofty spirit that led the *Samurai* to die gladly for the sake of his lord, found the wife as willing to endure death for her lord, her husband, her heaven. In such case high praise was not begrudged. Men would then say, "Fidelity knows no distinction of high and low."

Concubinage is permitted. The wife must not be jealous at that. It may be for the sake of perpetuating the family line. Bringing disreputable dancing-girls to the house to entertain company while the wife is kept out of sight is not inconsistent with the *Samurai* idea of loyalty and righteousness. Seven reasons for divorce were recognized, and just what the practical effect was is difficult now to estimate. In this age, in which the simple up-and-down formation of the family and of society is done away with, and in which Japan has broken from old standards, and in the social confusion has not yet found new ones, divorce is amazingly common. For the year 1890 there were throughout the empire 340,445 marriages and 107,478 divorces. In some cities the proportion is nearly one half. In the olden days the wife had no legal rights as against her husband. It is sometimes claimed that she could divorce her husband. It is not true in the same sense as in the West. For here the "she" is an impersonal thing, and when the husband was divorced, it was hardly the wife's personal act. It was rather the act of the family and near relatives. It was the house rather than the wife who divorced the husband. That is, the husband was sent away from his wife's house, into which he had been adopted.

THE FOURTH RELATION: ELDER AND YOUNGER BROTHER.

Neither in China nor Japan is there any well-known word that means simply *brother*, or simply sister. The family and all society being built on the perpendicular, rather than the horizontal plan, rank, order, distinction, are all important. Every term that refers to a member of a family must at the same time describe the relative position. Hence, there is no way of simply saying, "He is my brother," "She is my sister." It must be either elder brother, younger brother, or elder sister, younger sister. These four English compounds are expressed by the short *Kei, Tei, Shi, Mai*. Reverence and obedience, as in the preceding relations, are due from the younger to the elder as to a parent. The common exhortation even now in Japan is, "Be obedient to your father and"—one would naturally expect—"mother." But it is not; it is "elder brother." The elder brother becomes the successor in the family line, and on him falls the responsibility of passing the house down to the next generation. The younger brother is given by adoption, if convenient, to some near family where there is no son, but where there is a daughter, whose husband he becomes. This may bring him the fortune of becoming the heir in his new place, in which event he drops the name of his own house, and takes that of his bride's house. It is sometimes humorously said that the young man gives up his own name and takes that of his bride. Strictly speaking, the name belongs to the house and not to any individual. In case a younger brother or sister dies, the elder, being one of the superiors, does not go to the funeral. At a funeral of a student recently I said to the eldest brother, "I did not expect to see you here to-day." To which he replied, "Oh, the times have changed, and we are giving up the old idea." Yet his father was not there.

In this relation the elder brother had his duties and responsibilities. They were not formulated in any such way that a younger brother would claim his rights, but there was a strong ethical idea that modified the assumption of selfish authority, and made the family a moral power in society. It was not a home in our meaning of the term. "The family is a unit," is a phrase that in the East should be amended to mean,—the family in all its living members, together with its dead, constitutes the unit.

THE FIFTH RELATION: FRIENDS.

This is a narrow relation, and has no reference to mankind. "Confucius knew nothing of universal philanthrophy" (Rein's "Japan," p. 447). What a friend owes a friend in the common intercourse of life is about the size of it. It had at times a nobler and wider interpretation. "Even the stranger is from the same womb of nature, and hence to be treated as a friend." How wide a meaning could be given to "stranger" would doubtless depend upon many things. The idea of "foreigner" was hardly included in it. The word "friends," too, had its interpetation practically limited by the rank or grade of the ever recurring "order of nature." The merchant and the *samurai* could hardly be called friends.

A word as to the practical workings of the Five Relations since the Restoration. Western ideas are coming like a flood. New political ideas have already revolutionized the form of government. New family ideas are revolutionizing family life. The words "home," "rights," "person," are being widely used. The true character of woman as wife, mother, daughter, is being recognized. Family, parents, love, liberty, are growing into new meanings. The distance between superior and inferior in the State and in the family is being greatly lessened. The result is that the traditional interpretation of the Five Relations, so far as it

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concerned the old "order of Heaven," is being badly wrenched and cannot possibly be preserved. They must now be interpreted so as to accord with a constitutional government and codes of law that recognize the rights of the individual, even of a woman. The interpretation of this brief system of ethics will progress, just as the theology progresses with new discoveries in science and psychology.

There are extreme conservatives who cannot see the impossibility of maintaining the semi-despotic interpretation of the past, although the government has become partly representative. "We have no rights save those the Emperor confers," said one of those extremists in the recent Diet, hoping thereby to exalt his Emperor and show his profound loyalty. He showed merely his ignorance of the real change that has come over Japan. He was silenced with swift replies—"Man has natural rights—unconferred."

Many able writers here are showing loud dissatisfaction with Confucianism, and are giving much thought to the family. It is being more and more seen that the living family, apart from dead ancestors, is not the moral power it might be. The line of succession will remain a very important point, but it will not be, as in the past, so much with reference to the dead as to the living and future descendants. The wife will more and more share responsibility with the husband, and the time will come when the relation of husband wife will take precedence of that of father and son. The "order of nature" will be better understood when personality is better understood. Love in the family and equality before the law in society will weaken the force of the once universal relation of superior and inferior, and a wider righteousness will result.

Sendai J. H. DE FOREST.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the CHESS EDITOR.)

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 77.

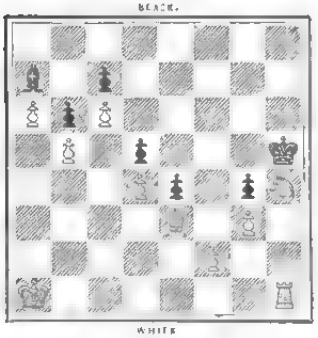
WHITE	BLACK
1—Kt to K B 6	1—Any
2—Mates accordingly	

Correct solutions received from J.W.E., W.H.S., Omega, J.D., P.E.F.S., O. Balk, and Digamma. A. TOZER (Cleveland). Thanks for problems.

Although in five moves the following problem will not be found more difficult than the average three-mover. It embodies a quaint conceit, the discovery of which will amuse rather than puzzle our solvers.

PROBLEM No. 79.
BY TH. HERLIN.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in five moves.

The Chess Column is rapidly becoming an indispensable part of every important newspaper. The *St. James Budget* has started a column under the direction of Mr. Gunsberg, and the *Times*, in its Weekly Edition, follows suit.

Played at Rome, at the villa of the Duke of Leuchtenberg, 11th December 1873.

MACDONNELL'S DOUBLE GAMBIT.

WHITE. Sig. Dubois.	BLACK. Duke of Leuchtenberg.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—B to B 4	2—B to B 4
3—P to Q Kt 4	3—B takes Kt P
4—P to Q B 3	4—B to R 4
5—P to K B 4	

This move is the invention of MacDonnell. If the double gambit be accepted, White obtains a rapidly developed game

	5—Kt to K B 3
6—Q to K 2	6—P to Q 3
7—Kt to B 3	7—B to K Kt 5
8—Castles.	8—Kt to B 3
9—P to Q 4	9—K P takes Q P
10—P to K 5	10—B takes Kt
11—R takes B	11—Q P takes K P
12—P takes K P	12—Kt to Q 4
13—B to Q R 3	13—P takes P
14—R takes K B P	

A risky attack. He should have played 14 Q to K 4; or, better still, 14 P to K 6.

	14—K takes R
15—Q to B 3 ch.	15—K to K 3

.....A perilous march of the K. Better was K to K sq.

16—Kt takes Q B P	16—B takes Kt
17—R to K B sq.	

Threatening mate at B 5.

	17—Kt to Q 5
18—Q to B 7 ch.	18—K takes P
19—Q takes Kt P ch.	19—K to K 5
20—Q to Kt 4 ch.	20—K to K 4
21—B to Q 3	

Still threatening mate at K 4.

	21—Kt to K B 3
22—R to B 5 ch.	22—Kt takes R

.....Had he played instead K to K 3, then follows 23 B to B 4 ch, and wins.

White mates in two moves.

The whole of this game is played very brilliantly by Signor Dubois. The mate by the combination of Queen and two Bishops in the middle of the board is very elegant.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, July 7.

In accordance with Mr. Gladstone's closure motion, Clauses 5, 6, 7, and 8 of the Home Rule Bill were passed. Mr. Balfour bitterly attacked the Government, charging it with stifling debate and trampling on the minority.

London, July 9.

Fifty thousand troops have been marched into Paris, and the riots still continue.

The Earl of Kimberley, in reply to a question in the House of Commons, said that he could not promise at present that no India Council Bills would be allotted at a rate under one shilling and four-pence per rupee.

London, July 10th.

A Circular has been issued by the Bimetallic League which strongly protests against the Indian Currency Act as increasing the appreciation of gold, which is the chief cause of the depression of trade.

London, July 12th.

The New Zealand Loan and Mercantile Agency has suspended. The liabilities amount to over £3,000 000 and are mostly British.

London, July 12.

The Khedive, who is visiting the Sultan at Stamboul, has had conferred upon him the Order of Merit, Nichan-i-Imtiaz.

London, July 13.

The Marquis of Dufferin is absent from his Ambassadorial post in Paris owing to the personal attacks of the Paris press.

A German gunboat has been ordered to Siam to protect German subjects.

"SPECIAL" TELEGRAM TO "JAPAN MAIL."

Nagasaki, July 10.

Mr. George Sutton, of this port, died suddenly this morning at 3 a.m. of apoplexy.

The steamer *Zambesi* has gone into dock here and will be followed by the *Akashi Maru*.

H.M.S. *Firebrand* arrived here on Thursday.

Nagasaki, July 11.

Mr. A. Harmand, of the Bellevue Hotel, has died from consumption.

The *Hideyoshi Maru*, running between Kuchinotsu and Shanghai, went ashore at Kabashima on the night of the 7th inst. She is expected to arrive here to-day, and will be docked at once.

[SPECIALLY TELEGRAPHED TO THE "JAPAN DAILY MAIL."]
(FROM THE "N.-C. DAILY NEWS.")

London, July 4.

It is officially reported that the collision between the *Victoria* and *Camperdown* was caused through the orders of Admiral Tryon, who left indequate room for manœuvring, and that if the Admiral's orders had been fully executed every pair of ships would have collided. Admiral Markham, second in command in the Mediterranean, who had hoisted his flag on the *Camperdown* while the *Trafalgar* was refitting, says that he questioned Admiral Tryon's signal because the ships were only six cables apart, and only obeyed after Admiral Tryon had signalled "What are you waiting for?" Admiral Markham felt confidence in Admiral Tryon's ability, supposing that he intended to circle round the second division, and then executed the order. After the collision, boats started from all the ships, but Admiral Tryon signalled "Stop boats," in the belief that the water was not gaining.

London, July 6.

The Emperor William, in a speech at the opening of the Reichstag, said:—The political situation is unchanged and foreign relations are friendly and untroubled, although Germany's military strength compares still more unfavourably than last year with that of our neighbours. His Majesty announced that a new Army Bill would be introduced, and, in urging that it be speedily passed, appealed to the deputies to preserve Germany's glorious acquisitions.

In the Paris riots the students have been joined by the revolutionary element, and the Republican Guard has repeatedly charged the rioters, who had overturned carriages and tramcars and barricaded the Boulevards

London, July 7.

Paris is still very much excited, and riots continue, but are now confined to the Socialists, several of whom have been killed by the military.

The Queen has conferred a Garter on the Casarevitch at Windsor.

London, July 8.

An immense ovation greeted the Duke of York and the Princess May, both on going to and returning from the Chapel Royal, St. James's, the scene in the chapel being of the most gorgeous description. The Queen and the bride and bridegroom stood on the balcony of Buckingham Palace in response to the popular acclamation. The crowd in the streets was the largest ever known.

Hankow, July 3.

Two Swedish Missionaries, named Inkholm and Johanson, were murdered on Saturday last at Sung-fu, which is about 100 miles north-east of Hankow, in an anti-foreign riot that occurred at that place. At the time of the despatch of the telegram from Hankow the bodies had not been recovered.

Hankow, July 7.

A great indignation meeting has been held here, at which resolutions were passed requesting the Consular Body to take action in regard to the murder of the Swedish missionaries.

What the House of Commons wanted a return of drunkenness in Scotland for it may be superfluous to inquire. This is a purely personal matter which it does not seem necessary to bruit abroad, even if the whisky in the north is strong and potent. No doubt the returns are creditable under the circumstances. It will be seen from the figures that the Scot discusses his raging liquor at fixed and regular periods. The number of persons taken to the stations for being drunk and disorderly during the last year between the hours of 8 a.m. on Sunday and the same hour on Monday, was only a little over twelve hundred, which was small, but the main part of the work seems to have been put in during the rest of the week, when close on fifty thousand had to be taken under the protection of the police. Then we come to averages which are nearly as complicated as those which a writer in this month's "Baily" humourously suggests for cricket. The average for the twenty four hours from Sunday to Monday morning was 24 48. It appears that the number of persons taken in charge is slightly on the increase.

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MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, Nagasaki and Kobe	per N. Y. K.	Friday, July 21st
From America ..	per P. M. Co	Friday, July 21st *
From Hongkong.	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, July 16th †
From Hongkong	per P. M. Co.	Thursday, July 20th ‡
From Europe via Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Friday, July 21st §
From America .	per O. & O. Co	Sunday July 30th.
From Canada, &c.	per C. P. M. Co.	Sunday, July 30th
From Hongkong.	per C. P. M. Co.	Thursday, Aug 3rd
From Europe via Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Wed'day, Aug. 9th.

*China left San Francisco viâ Honolulu on July 3rd. † Ancona left Nagasaki on July 12th. ‡ City of New York left Hongkong on July 12th. § Salazie left Hongkong on July 12th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For America	per P. M. Co.	Saturday, July 15th
For Europe, viâ Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, July 16th.
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki .	per N. Y. K.	Tuesday, July 18th.
For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co	Saturday, July 22nd
For America	per P. M. Co.	Saturday, July 22nd
For America ..	per O. & O. Co.	Thursday, July 27th
For Victoria and Tacoma	per N. P. Co.	Saturday, July 29th
For Hongkong .	per C. P. M. Co	Tuesday Aug 1st.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. M. Co.	Friday, Aug. 4th
For Europe, viâ Hongkong . .	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, Aug 11th

LATEST SHIPPING

ARRIVALS.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Pender, 8th July,—Otaru viâ ports 4th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. M Young, 8th July,—Kobe 7th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Benlarig, British steamer, 1,452, E. Boutiller, 9th July,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—Cornes & Co.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, Geo. A. Lee, R.N.R, 9th July,—Vancouver, B.C., 26th June, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,219, Wilson, 9th July,—Shimonoseki 7th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Palinurus, British steamer, 1,539, Jackson, 10th July,—Liverpool viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, R. R. Searle, 10th July,—San Francisco 24th June, Mails and General.—P M. S.S. Co.

Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 684, M. Matsumoto, 10th July,—Kobe 9th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,369, J. Giese, 11th July,—Hakodate 8th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, R Tipple, 11th July,—Kobe 10th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Ekstrand, 11th July,—Otaru viâ ports 7th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,053, Thompson, 12th July,—Honolulu 6th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nürnberg, German steamer, 2,007, B. Blanke, 12th July,—Hongkong 7th July, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Tsukushi Maru, Japanese steamer, 636, J. Will, 12th July,—Shimonoseki, Coal.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Port Albert, British steamer, 2,652, Bird, 12th July,—Hongkong viâ Kobe, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Riversdale, British steamer, 1,311, Peck, 12th July, Hakodate, General —Nippon Yusen Kaisha

Sorachi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,198, Renny, 12th July,—Otaru, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Frigga, German steamer, 1,400, F. Nagel, 13th July,—Hamburg viâ ports, and Hongkong 6th July, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, Marshall, R.N.R., 13th July,—Hongkong viâ ports, 5th July, Mails and General.—Fraazr & Co

Kintuck, British steamer 2,312, Kemp, 13th July,—London viâ ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Pender, 13th July,—Kobe 12th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,246, J. T. Smith, 13th July,—Hongkong viâ ports, 6th July, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Yokohama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,298, Swain, 14th July,—Shanghai and ports 8th July, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 14th July,—Moji, Coal.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,034, Walter, 14th July,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, T. Sakai, 14th July,—Otaru viâ ports 10th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 8th July,—Moji, Ballast.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Kumamoto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,240, Olsen, 8th July,—Honjo, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha

Pembrokeshire, British steamer, 1,716, Gedye, 8th July,—London viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Meiji Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,010, Allen, 9th July,—Nagasaki, Stores.—Lighthouse Department.

Indiana, American ship, 1,488, L. S. Colley, 10th July,—New York viâ Kobe, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, Geo. A. Lee, R.N.R., 10th July,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General. —Frazar & Co.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Pender, 10th July,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. M. Young, 10th July,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, R. R. Searle, 11th July,—Hongkong, Mails and General.—P.M.S.S. Co.

Curtatone (4), Italian cruiser, Captain Olivari, 11th July,—Kobe.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, Conner, 11th July,—Shanghai viâ ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 684, M. Matsumoto 12th July,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Palinurus, British steamer, 1,539, Jackson, 12th July,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Hefni, Norwegian bark, 824, O. A. Blix, 13th July, —Rangoon, Ballast.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,219, Wilson, 13th July,—Nagasaki, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Ekstrand, 13th July,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, R. Tipple, 13th July,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sorachi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,108, Renny, 13th July,—Otaru, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha

Benlarig, British steamer, 1,452, E. Boutiller, 14th July,—London viâ ports, General.—Cornes & Co.

Glenesk, British steamer, 2,275, Webster, 14th July,—London viâ ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Nürnberg, German steamer, 2 007, B. Blanke, 14th July,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—H Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Riversdale, British steamer, 1,311, Peck, 14th July, —Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, Marshall, R.N.R., 14th July,—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General —Frazar & Co.

Sakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,369, J. Giese, 14th July,—Hachinohe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tsukushi Maru, Japanese steamer, 636, J. Will, 14th July,—Shimonoseki, Light.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, from Kobe:—Captain Cass, Lieut. Cob Shore, Mr. Langdon-Brice, Mr. Lochavaher, Mr. G. J. Vanpete, Mr. and Mrs. Fransen Sanderutte, Mrs. E. Porrett, Mr and Mrs. Holms, Mrs. Death, and Mrs. Fisher in cabin; 5 passengers in second class, and 26 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, from Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. D. H. Bates, Jun., Mr. Chas. F. Bostwick, Dr. T. W. Lusk, Mr. W. C. Lusk, Miss Mary Lusk, Miss Anna Lusk, Miss Alice Lusk, Dr. Hamilton, Mr. Hamilton, Jun., Messrs. G. R. McDonagh, J. H. McDonagh, R. O. McCulloch, A. H. Marsh, T. M. McKay, Mr. and Mrs. Homer H. Swanzy, Mrs. Church, Dr. Stillwell, Mr. McNear, Mr. K. W. K. Wilson, Rev. and Mrs. J P. Moore, Messrs. A. Masoba, J. Yoshi, E. Meregalli, P. Okahashi, H. Halbert, and K. Kiyoka in cabin. For Kobe: Rev. B. C. Raynor in cabin. For Shanghai: Mr A C Shomburg in cabin. For Hongkong: Mr. G. K. Brewis and Rev. A. R. Macduff in cabin.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, from San Francisco:—Dr. W. E. Taylor, Miss Freeland, Miss Julia Learest, Miss. Gardiner, Mr. Pollett, Mr. E. Franco, and Mr. L. A. Belenc in cabin. For Hongkong: Mr. A. de Mello in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Omi Maru*, from Otaru via ports:—Messrs. Mowat, Wmazawa, and Mori in cabin; 2 passengers in second class, and 13 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Miike Maru*, from Honolulu:—5 Japanese in cabin; 1 Hawaiian in second class, and 489 passengers and 63 children in steerage.

Per German steamer *Nürnberg*, from Hongkong:—Mr. Aug. Rhetser and Mrs. Inanaga in cabin; 4 Chinese in second class, and 49 Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, from Hongkong viâ ports: Mr. H. McCallum, Dr. Sheppard, Mr. and Mrs. Valdes, maid, and child, Mrs. Tuason, Miss Tuason, Miss C. Legarda, Miss R. L. Legarda, Mr. W. Schleiper, Dr. Lindale, Mr. O. M. Dalton, Mr. F. Mercer, Mr Toohey, Miss Eastward, Mr. and Mrs. Budd, maid, amah, and child, Mr. H. A. Jeffries, Mr J. R. Stewart, Mrs. Featherley, Mrs Thwing, Miss Laughton, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard, Mr. H W. Fry, Mr. R. E. Humphries, Mr. and Mrs. Keermiff, Mr. J. Wara Hall, Dr. and Mrs. Means and child, Miss Andrews, Mr. R. Downie, Dr. and Mrs. Kimball and family, Mr. and Mrs. Chavannes, amah, and child, Mr W. Bowman, Mr. W. P. Bowman, Mr W Davies, Mr. and Mrs. Theodor, Mrs. Blanchard, Mr. Chas. S. Moore, R.A., Mr. A. J Brown, Mr. F. W. Styan, Mr. G. B. Smith, Miss Bing, Miss Forbes, Dr. Morrison, Dr. and Mrs Mainwright and family, Mr E. Stucken, Mr. and Mrs. Steel, Mrs. Abe, Mr. L. D Abe, Miss Pomeray, Mr. Th. de Berigny, Mr. W. A. Wilson, Mr. C N. Crosse, and Mr. Mitchell in cabin; 6 passengers in second class, and 334 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, from Kobe:—Messrs. H. Worbs, Inoue, Yasuoka, and Shimizu in cabin; 2 passengers in second class, and 20 passengers in steerage

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. R. Fraser Smith, Mr. W. A. Wilson, Mrs Stanbury, Mrs. Duval, Miss K. Duval, Mrs. Gourlay, and Mr. E. S. Hall in cabin. For Honolulu: Mrs. Brown, Mr A N. Brown, and Mr. J. S Brown in cabin. For San Francisco: Captain Lloyd, Dr. W. E. S. Fales, Mr. Moekenboer, Mr. A. Kollek, Mr. Wm. Kopper, Mr. Moss, and Mr. O H. Hahn in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Captain Iwanaga, Mr. M. Yokoyama, Mr. K Akita, Mrs. Mori and 2 children, Mrs. and Master Strigeff, Mr. W. Noyes, Mr. and Mrs. Yasuba, Mrs. Yasuba and daughter, and Miss Lube in cabin; Mr. U. Takei, Mr. S. Shimidzu, and Mr. and Mrs. Furushiro, children, and maid in second class, and 34 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Sendai Maru*, from Otaru viâ ports: One passenger in cabin; 14 passengers in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Miss Leavitt, Miss Gardiner, Miss Freeland, Miss D. Fitzgerald, Miss M. Mades, Mrs. McCartie, Mr. and Mrs Kramer, Mr. and Mrs. O R. Arison and child, Mrs. S. A. Gibson, Mr. S. Yamada, Mr. M. Hashimoto, the Masters Thompson (2), Messrs. T. Matsumi, G. Nagai, S. Asai, O Sasaki, G. N. Macondray and V. K. Lee in cabin; Miss Yamada, Miss Ito, Messrs. Tanaka, J. Nishi, K. Masai, Tagawa, Nisami, Ibara, and Matsumata in second class, and 87 passengers in steerage.

Per German steamer *Nürnberg*, for Hongkong viâ ports.—Messrs. F. Littlewood, E. Grosser, and H. V. Gielen in cabin; 5 Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—Mrs. Annan, Misses Annan (2), Miss Andrews, Mr. Barclay, Miss Bing, Miss G. Belgow, Mr. Banatwalla, Mrs. Blanchard, Mr. A. J. Brown, Mr. W. Bowman, Mr. W. P. Bowman, Mr. and Mrs. Chevannes and child, Mr. Dowson, Mr. O. M. Dalton, Mr. R. Downie, Mr. W. Davis, Miss Forbes, Sir Jervais Glynn and valet, Mr. Greene, Mr. and Mrs. Hurd, Miss Hurd, Dr. Heintze, Dr. Ward Hall, Mr. Inglis, Mr. Isgarisheff, Mr. A. W Jarves, Mr. and Mrs. Kurizuka, Mrs. Kruge, Miss Kruge, Dr. Kahn, Mr. Karanjia, Mr. Khurshed, Dr. and Mrs. Kimball and 2 children, Mr. and Mrs. Little, Mr. Lowenstein, Mr. C. Lullobhoy, Mr. Lufkin, Misses Legarda

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(2), Dr. and Mrs. Mears and child, Mr. F. Mercer, Mr. Miyabara, Mr. Mizotani, Mr. Marc, Mr Marston, Mr. McCallum, Colonel, Mrs, and Master Matteau, Mr. C. S. Moore, Dr. Morrison, Mr. Nagai, Mr. O'Brien, Dr. Anna Parke, Miss Potter, Mr. and Mrs. C. Putnam, Misses Putnam (2), Mr. and Mrs. Rose, Mr. Reid, Mr. and Mrs J. Ross, Dr. Sheppard, Lieut.-Colonel Shone, Mr. J. W. Smith, Mrs. Shafter and maid, Mr. E. Stucken, Mr. C. Sheehy, Mr. Soroki i, Mr. W. F. Styan, Mr. and Miss Thomsett, Mrs. Thwing, Dr Tindall, Mrs. Tuason, Miss Tuason, Mr. Tata and servant, Mr. Toohey, Captain and Mrs. Tallman, Mr. and Mrs. Theodor, Mr. Versepay, Mr. and Mrs. Valdes, maid, and child, Dr. Verbeck, Major-General C. Waddington, Dr. and Mrs. Wainwright and 2 children, and Captain Yendo in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, $444,890.00

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, $30,000.00.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—

TEA

	CANADA.	CHICAGO AND WEST.	NEW YORK AND EAST.	PACIFIC COAST.	TOTAL.
Kiukiang.....	—	300	—	—	300
Hongkong ..	—	—	22	196	218
Amoy	—	—	1,350	—	1,350
Foochow	2,636	—	—	395	3,031
Shanghai ...	1,247	850	1,260	—	3,357
Hankow	103	—	—	426	529
Hyogo	2,006	2,309	1,100	46	5,461
Yokohama ...	4,971	1,134	292	178	6,575
Total	10,963	4,593	4,024	1,241	20,821

SILK.

	NEW YORK.	MONTREAL.	TOTAL.
Hongkong & Canton	60	—	60
Yokohama	14	—	14
Total	74	—	74

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, Captain R. Pender, reports:—Left Otaru the 4th June at 2.30 p.m.; had light and moderate south-easterly winds and clear weather. Arrived at Hakodate the 5th at 8.30 a.m. and left the 6th at noon; had moderate E.S.E. winds and misty weather to Shiriya-saki; thence moderate N N E winds and hazy weather to Ogimohama. Arrived at Ogimohama the 7th at 11 a.m. and left the same day at 3 p.m.; had moderate and light N E. winds and fine weather up to port. Time of arrival 2.40 p.m on the 8th. Left British fleet at Nobiru Anchorage.

The Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, Captain Young, reports:—Left Kobe the 7th July at noon; had light variable airs and fine weather to Oshima; thence moderate E. to E.N.E. winds and fine weather throughout the passage. Arrived at Yokohama the 8th July at 6.35 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Fushiki Maru*, Captain Wilson, reports:—Left Shimonoseki the 7th July at 10 a.m.; experienced fine weather all through to arrival at Yokohama, the 9th July at 1 45 p.m.

The American steamer *City of Peking*, Captain Searle, reports:—Left San Francisco the 24th June at 3.25 p.m.; had light variable winds and fine weather until July 8th lat. 40.00 N., long. 149 00 E. where we experienced a very heavy gale commencing at east and back to north with high sea, thick squally, and threatening weather and falling barometer, lowest reading 29 38; gale lasting 30 hours; ship hove to 3 hours; fine weather to port. Time, 15 days and 5 hours. July 10th at 5.30 a.m. passed American ship *A. G. Ropes*.

The Japanese steamer *Sakata Maru*, Captain J. Giese, reports:—Left Hakodate the 8th July at 9.20 a.m.; experienced light S E. winds and fine weather; met steamer *Kumamoto Maru* on the 9th at 7 p.m. bound north. Arrived at Yokohama the 11th July at 9.15 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, Captain Tipple, reports:—Left Kobe the 10th July at 12.14 p.m.; had light variable winds, smooth sea, and fine weather all the way; passed Rock Island at 11.8 a.m. Arrived at Yokohama the 11th July at 4 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Omi Maru*, Captain J. W Eistrand, reports:—Left Otaru the 7th July at noon; had from light to moderate breeze and fine weather. Arrived at Hakodate the 8th at 6 30 a.m. and left the 9th at noon; had light to moderate N.W. winds and fine weather to 8 p.m., set in thick with fog, after midnight light variable winds and fine weather. Arrived at Ogimohama the 10th 10th at 11 45 a.m. and left the same day at 6 30 p.m.; had light S.W winds and fine weather Arrived at Yokohama the 11th July at 7 p.m. On the 9th, at 10 p.m., in thick fog heard the syrens of the English Fleet.

The Japanese steamer *Miike Maru*, Captain W. Thompsen, reports:—Left Honolulu the 28th June at 11 10 a.m.; had light variable winds and fine weather; crossed meridian at midnight on the 2nd July in 25° N. lat. Continued light to moderate west and south-westerly winds and fine weather, occasionally squally; passed Noshima at 9 a.m. on the 12th. Arrived at Yokohama the same day at 1 p.m. Time underweigh, 13 days 6 hours.

The German steamer *Nürnberg*, Captain B. Blanke, reports:—Left Hongkong the 7th July at 5.42 a.m; had during the whole voyage, light south-westerly winds with quiet sea and fine weather. Arrived at Yokohama the 12th July at 2.08 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, Captain R. Pender, reports:—Left Kobe the 12th July at noon; experienced gentle S.W. winds with fine, clear weather; passed Oshima the same day at 8.25 p.m; thence moderate N.N.E. winds with continuing fine weather; passed Rock Island the 13th at 11 a.m. Arrived at Yokohama the same day at 5 p m.

The American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, Captain Smith, reports:—Left Hongkong the 6th July at 2.57 p.m. Arrived at Nagasaki the 10th at 4 30 a.m. and left the same day at 5 28 p.m. Arrived at Kobe the 12th at 1.14 a.m, and left the same day at 3 51 p.m Arrived at Yokohama the 13th July at 7.50 p.m. Passage, 7 days, 3 hours, and 11 minutes.

The Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, Captain Swain, reports:—Left Shanghai the 8th July at 5 a.m.; experienced light airs from south to S.E., accompanied with fine, clear weather. Arrived at Nagasaki the 9th at 6.40 p.m. and left the 10th at 5 p m.; continued light airs from west to S.W. Arrived at Shimonoseki the 11th at 8.45 a.m. and left again at 11 a.m.; had similar weather up to arrival at Kobe the 12th at 6.20 a.m. and left again the 13th at noon; had moderate winds from N.W. to N.E. up to arrival at Yokohama, the 14th July, at 3.45 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Sendai Maru*, Captain Sakai, reports:—Left Yokohama the 4th July at 11.30 a.m.; had light and fine weather; light wind and fog throughout the afternoon; passed Inuboye Light at 8.37 p m Arrived at Ogimohama the 5th at 11 10 a m.; had gentle wind and rain. Left at 3 p. m.; rounded Kinkasan at 4.33 p.m., thick fog, kept whistle going; on the 6th dense fog; from 9.30 a.m. to 1.20 p.m., moderated speed by reason of thick fog. Arrived at Hakodate at 5.10 p m.; on the 7th, light wind and cloudy. Left at 2 p.m.; rounded Shirakami Lighthouse at 4 55 a.m. Arrived at Otaru the 8th at 7.35 a.m., light airs and fine, clear weather; on the 9th, light wind and fine, partly cloudy, weather. Left Otaru the 10th at noon; had strong S. S.W. winds and high sea, ship labouring hard; from 8.30 p.m. to 5 a.m on the next day slowed down engines through thick fog; on the 11th, light wind and fog, moderated the speed at times. Arrived at Hakodate at 4.30 p.m. and left the 12th at 0.25 p.m.; had light wind and fine weather; rounded Shiriya-saki at 2 30 p m.; on the 13th, light breezes and fine, pleasant sky; rounded Kinkasan at 8.7 a.m. Arrived ot Ogimohama at 9.55 a.m. and left at 3.25 p.m.; had light breeze and fine weather; passed Inuboye Light on the 14th at 5 2 a.m.; rounded Noshima Lighthouse at 11.5 a.m., light wind and fine weather; at 1.43 p.m. Kannon-saki west, half mile. Arrived at Yokohama at 3 p.m.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Import merchants have had another trying week, owing to the continued unstable condition of exchange, which has put an almost complete stop to business in this line. In Yarns there has been some enquiry, and buyers are willing to pay $1 50 to $2 00 per picul more than formerly, while in Piece-goods, Grey Shirtings have been taken at a rise of 15 cents. The demand is, however, very slight and limited. Holders do not as yet seem sure of their position and refrain from giving any reliable quotations; our usual list is therefore withdrawn.

COTTON PIECE GOODS

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8¼ lb. 38½ yds 30 inches	—
Grey Shirtings—9lb. 38½ yds 45 inches	—
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	—
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches	—
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	—
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 32 inches	PER YARD. —
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	—
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42 3 inches	—
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	PER PIECE. —
Turkey Reds—2 8 to 3lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	—
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	—
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	—

WOOLLENS

	PER YARD.
Flannel	—
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	—
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	—
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	—
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	—
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	—
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	—
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	—
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 4 to 3½ lb. per lb	—

COTTON YARNS

	PER PICUL.
Nos 10 24, Ordinary	—
Nos. 16/24, Medium	—
Nos 16 24, Good to Best	—
Nos 16/24, Reverse	—
Nos 28 32, Ordinary	—
Nos 28 32, Medium	—
Nos. 28 32, Good to Best	—
Nos 38 42, Medium to Best	—
No. 32s, Two-fold	—
No 42s, Two-fold	—

	PER BALE.
No. 20s, Bombay .... Nom.	—
No 16s, Bombay . Nom.	—

METALS

The condition of this market continues as last reported and no sign of revival has as yet appeared. Our usual list of quotations must be omitted as holders will not fix their prices until they know just where they stand with regard to exchange.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ¼ inch	—
Flat Bars, ½ inch	—
Round and square up to ½ inch	—
Iron Plates, assorted	—
Sheet Iron	—
Galvanized Iron sheets	—
Wire Nails, assorted	—
Tin Plates, per box	—
Pig Iron, No. 3	—

KEROSENE.

No new feature to report in this market, neither buyers or holders appearing anxious to come to terms. There have been no arrivals during the week and prices remain firm.

Chester	$1.55 to 1.57½
Comet	1.57½ to 1 60
Devoe	—
Russian Anchor	1 55 to 1 57½
Russian Moon	1 52½ to 1 55

SUGAR

The activity reported in our last has continued on a fair scale, and a considerable business has been transacted. Browns have enjoyed a well-sustained demand and prices show a rise of from 5 to 20 cents per picul, while a good trade has been done in Whites at slightly higher rates.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	$5.05 to 5.15
Brown Manila	5.30 to 5.60
Brown Daitong	4 30 to 4 35
Brown Canton	4.30 to 4 60
White Java and Penang	6.75 to 6.85
White Refined	7 05 to 8 90

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last issue was of the 7th instant. Since that date settlements on this market amount to 250 piculs, divided thus: *Filatures*, 190 piculs; *Rereels*, 60 piculs. There have been no direct shipments this week, so the total export business remains as above noted, 250 piculs.

Arrivals are now coming in more freely and the stock is working up. Buying is far from general, and while prices for Europe are only fairly steady, those for American silks have advanced. This naturally pleases the Japanese who were complaining that the coarse silks were not paying them at last week's quotations.

Advices from consuming markets do not get much brighter; commercial and financial affairs both in Europe and America interfere very much with trade, to say nothing of any political complication which may possibly arise through the death of Monsieur Carnot, President of the French Republic,

Exchange has not experienced any violent fluctuations during the week, but the tendency has been decidedly in a downward direction.

The arrivals during the past week have been principally *Filatures* and *Rereels*, with a few *Hanks*, other kinds not being represented in our stock at present.

There has been one shipping opportunity since we last wrote, the English mail steamer *Verona*, on the 8th instant, taking 83 bales for France. This departure makes the total export date to 202 piculs, against 716 piculs last year and 1,489 piculs on same date in 1891. Particulars of the shipments by the outgoing mails,—Canadian, American and French, will appear in our next issue.

Hanks.—No business this week and no fresh sales since the *Hachiofi* which we reported at $560.

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Filatures.—Demand for Europe continues, small parcels being taken from day to day at quotations, and holders would like to be moving a little faster. The top price actually paid this week has been $950, but we leave quotations unchanged until some more decided business takes place. In full sizes for the American market, several parcels of so-called *Shinshu Filatures*, (reeled from alien cocoons), have been done at $780. Dealers report that no true *Shinshu* silks will arrive for some time yet.

Re-reels.—Further transactions have taken place at a rise of $45 per picul on the week, $745 being paid yesterday for *Tortoise* chop and equal silk. Lower grades, like *Shorusha*, brought $690 and holders confidently anticipate a little further rise.

Kakeda and *Oshu* sorts have not yet appeared upon the scene.

QUOTATIONS.

Hanks—No 1	—
Hanks—No 2 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu	—
Hanks—No. 2½ (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2½ (Joshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2½ to 3	—
Hanks—No. 3	$555 to 560
Hanks—No. 3½	540 to 545
Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers	—
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	—
Filatures—No 1, 10/13 deniers	950 to 960
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den	—
Filatures—No. 1½, 10/14 deniers	910 to 920
Filatures—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 den	780 to 800
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	850 to 870
Filatures—No 2, 14/18 deniers	—
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—(Oshu) Best No 1	—
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	750
Re-reels—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	720 to 730
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	690 to 700
Re-reels—No 2½, 14/18 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Kakedas—Extra	—
Kakedas—No. 1	—
Kakedas—No. 1½	—
Kakedas—No. 2	—
Kakedas—No 2½	—
Kakedas—No. 3	—
Kakedas—No 3½	—
Kakedas—No. 4	—
Oshu Sendai—No. 2½	—
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	—
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	—
Sodai—No 2½	—

Export Raw Silk Tables to 14th July, 1893:—

		Season 1893-1894	1892-93.	1891-92.
		Bales	Bales	Bales.
Europe		171	369	217
America		31	320	1,212
Total	Bales	202	689	1,429
	Piculs	202	716	2,489
Settlements and Direct Export from 1st July	Piculs.	380	900	Piculs. 1,250
Stock, 14th July		1,420	2,150	2,250
Available supplies to date		1,800	3,050	3 500

WASTE SILK.

A small business has been done in old fibre, comprising *Noshi*, 3 piculs; *Kibiso*, 22 piculs; together, 25 piculs.

No actual sales are yet reported in new Wastes, but it is known that one firm is negotiating for some fairly large parcels, and the market will probably open on the basis of our quotations.

The English mail steamer *Verona*, 8th instant, took 11 bales weighing 34 piculs, and the export figures to date are 34 piculs, against 739 piculs last year and 103 piculs at the same date in 1891.

Pierced Cocoons.—Some enquiries are in the market for these, but no stock has arrived as yet, beyond a couple of piculs, samples.

Noshi.—As mentioned above, some transactions are on the carpet, price named being $152½ for best *Filature* and $72½ for *Joshu*, old and new mixed.

In other sorts, no business.

QUOTATIONS.

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	$150 to 155
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	—
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	—
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Shushu, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Shushu, Good	—
Noshi-ito—Shushu, Medium	—
Noshi-ito—Bushu, Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	—
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	70 to 75
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	—
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	—
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	—
Kibiso—Shushu, Best	—
Kibiso—Shushu Seconds	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Good to Fair	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Middling to Common	—
Kibiso—Hachoji, Good	—
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	—
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	—
Mawata—Good to Best	—

Export Table Waste Silk to 14th July, 1893.

	Season 1893-94	1892-93	1891-92
	Piculs.	Piculs	Piculs
Waste Silk	34	739	103
Pierced Cocoons	—	—	—
	34	739	103
Settlements and Direct Export from 1st July	Piculs. 25	Piculs. 110	Piculs 50
Stock, 14th July	2,575	3,800	2,550
Available supplies to date	2,600	3,910	2,600

Exchange has fluctuated from day to day, the general tendency being downward. Present quotations are:—LONDON, 4m/s. Credits, 2/6⅜. Documents, 2/6⅝; 6m/s. NEW YORK, 30d/s. U.S $61⅞; 4m/s. U.S $62¼; PARIS, or LYONS, 4m/s fcs. 3.22

Estimated Silk Stock, 14th July, 1893:—

Raw.	Piculs.	Waste	Piculs.
Hanks	40	Cocoons	—
Filatures	1,070	Noshi-ito	1,100
Re-reels	310	Kibiso	1,180
Kakeda	—	Mawata	105
Oshu	—	Sundries	190
Tsuyusam Kinds	—		
Total piculs	1,420	Total piculs	2,575

TEA.

Considerable activity has been displayed in this market during the past week, the daily settlements averaging 2,000 to 2,500 piculs. Although buyers have been operating freely, the large arrivals from the interior have exceeded the sales, thereby causing the stock to accumulate and prices to decline. Even at the present rates the low grades are very dear, being of very inferior quality.

	Per Picul
Common	$14 to 15
Good Common	16 to 17
Medium	18 to 19
Good Medium	20 to 21
Fine	22 to 23
Finest	24 to 26
Choice	27 to 28
Choicest	31 to 33

EXCHANGE.

Exchange has not fluctuated to any great extent, but there has been a decline in rates which close with much uncertainty.

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	2/6
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	2/6⅛
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	2/6⅛
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	2/7⅛
On Paris—Bank sight	3 13
On Paris—Private 4 months' sight	3 25
On Hongkong—Bank sight	Par
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	1 ⅛ dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	71½
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	72½
On America—Bank Bills on demand	59⅝
On America—Private 30 days' sight	62
On America—Private 4 months' sight	63
Silver	33⅛

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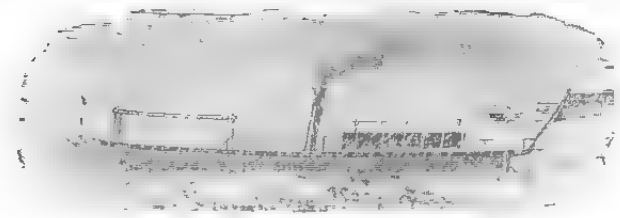

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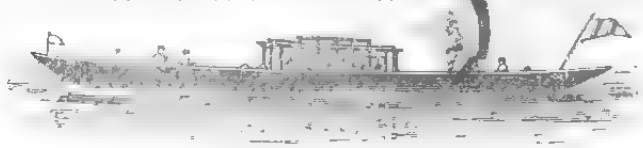

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NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JULY 22ND, 1893.

BIRTHS.

At No. 3, U.S. Legation, Tokyo, on the 15th instant, the wife of Dr. W. N. WHITNEY of a Son.

At 105A, Bluff, Yokohama, on Saturday, July 22nd, the wife of S. L. GOLDMAN of a Daughter

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

FIFTY-FOUR houses were burnt at Hamamatsu on the 13th inst.

LIGHTNING has cut off several farming-folk during the week, women especially.

DYSENTERY continues to rage with unabated severity in Hiroshima Prefecture.

MR. NAKAMURA Mo, Japanese Consul at Manila, has been released at his own request.

H.M. THE EMPRESS was present at the Mid-summer prize-day of the Nobles' School for Girls, Tokyo.

ARCHDUKE FRANZ FERDINAND of Austria is expected to arrive in Nagasaki about the 2nd of August.

RAIN has fallen in the North and West, but the drought still continues in the South-eastern provinces.

H.B.M. COURT FOR JAPAN rose for the summer vacation last Saturday. His Honour the Judge is visiting Hokkaido.

SOME ninety houses were burnt at Takata, in the Onuma District of Fukushima Prefecture, on the 12th inst.

THE Soma case is again exciting public attention. A case brought in the Tokyo Local Court by Mr. Nishigori, against the present Viscount, his mother, and various servants, has been thrown out, but his Counsel has appealed.

THE Hongkong Government has been petitioned to make the Japanese *yen* legal currency in the Colony, in place of the Mexican dollar.

MR. OISHI having resigned the position of Minister to Korea, Mr. Otori, Minister to China, has received the appointment, additionally.

THE Ice-trade of Tokyo and Yokohama has been booming during the last few hot days. The price went up nearly 15 per cent. last Tuesday.

SATURDAY'S sailing race was one of the smartest seen this season. *Maid Marion*, *Momotaro*, and *Molly Bawn* won prizes in their respective classes.

THE *Ajiya Kyokai* and the Geographical Society entertained Mr. Otori and Lieut.-Col. Fukushima at a dinner at the Imperial Hotel on the 13th inst.

H.I.H. THE PRINCE IMPERIAL leaves the capital to-morrow by the 5.30 a.m. train from Shimbashi for Numadzu, where he intends staying nearly four weeks.

PROFESSOR KATO HIROYUKI, Mr. Ozaki Saburo, and Judge Kojima Ikeu have been appointed attendants in the *Kinkeinoma* in the Imperial Household.

H.I.H. THE CROWN PRINCE having completed his elementary course in the Nobles' School for Boys, was presented with a certificate of proficiency on distribution-day.

THE Kanegafuchi Cotton Spinning Company declares a dividend of 7 per cent. for the half-year. The Hirano Cotton Spinning Company declares a 21 per cent. dividend.

IT is reported that a Japanese woman, living at Furuno, Aichi District, Owari Province, gave birth on the 9th inst. to four children, two boys and two girls. They are all doing well.

MR. MATSUDA MICHIO, one of the ablest Judges of the Tokyo Court of Appeal, has sent in his resignation, owing, it is said, to some difference of opinion between himself and the President of the Court.

THREE forged paper notes purporting to represent one 1-*yen* and two 5-*yen* notes, were discovered on the 15th inst. among the day's receipts of three different shops at Ushigome, Tokyo.

MR. OISHI, Japanese Minister to Korea, was released from his post on the 15th inst. at his own request, and Mr. Otori, Japanese Minister to China, received the additional appointment of Minister to Korea the same day.

SEVERAL cases of cholera have been reported in Yokohama, Tokyo, Osaka, and other districts within the last few days. A good deal of unwholesome fruit, either over-ripe or not nearly ripe, is being hawked just at present.

UKAJIMA MASAJIRO, late of the Kanagawa Ken police force, was fined $100 in the Yokohama Chiho Saibansho on Wednesday, for causing the death of a prisoner named Watanabe, through tying him up in such a way that the cord around the back and neck caused strangulation.

THE Koza district of Kanagawa Prefecture is in the throes of a municipal election. About a thousand *soshi* have been hired by either side, and many fights have naturally occurred. The police have arrested the candidates of the *Jiyu-to* and *Kaishin-to* and many of the ringleaders of the disturbances, while a general confiscation of sticks, clubs, and other weapons has taken place throughout the district.

A SLIGHT shock of earthquake was felt in the capital on the 19th inst. at 8h. 38m. 23s. p.m. The duration was two minutes thirty seconds, and the direction from east to west, the maximum horizontal motion being 0.4 milimetre in 0.9 second.

THE total number of passports issued by the Foreign Department during the last year to Japanese wishing to proceed abroad was 10,209 (8,643 males and 1,566 females). Japanese who returned home during the year numbered 3,648 (2,931 males and 717 females).

PUBLIC attention is drawn to the fact that pick-pockets are now infesting the Tokaido trains, the greatest number of robberies being reported between Shidzuoka and Nagoya. Four out of six passengers in second class carriages during the night of the 16th inst. are said to have had their watches stolen.

THE death is announced of Mr. Itaya Kakutaso. It took place at Kumamoto on the 9th inst. The deceased gentleman was a graduate of the Law Department of the Michigan University, America, and had been for some years Instructor in the Waseda Semmon Gakko, Count Okuma's institution in Tokyo.

THE net profits of the Osaka Cotton Spinning Co. during the past half-year amount to *yen* 80,132.311, of which *yen* 16,037.535 has been added to the reserve fund, and *yen* 5,600.000 voted as remuneration to officers, leaving a balance of *yen* 58,494.776 available for distribution. To this *yen* 5,029.626, a sum brought over from the previous account, were added, making a total of *yen* 63.524.402. Of this amount *yen* 60,000.000 was declared as a dividend at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum, and *yen* 3,524.402 carried forward to the new account.

THERE is not yet much recovery in the Import trade, and the uncertainty in the movements of exchange is still the principal factor in maintaining a want of confidence amongst merchants. Yarns are in some request, but no trustworthy quotations can be given, as the actual business done is small. Piece-goods are also in demand, and there have been enquiries in other lines, but values are irregular. The Metal market is also upset, and a few transactions to supply pressing wants being all there is to record, quotations must be called nominal. There has been a fairly good demand for Kerosene, and arrivals having been small for some time the stock is gradually shrinking and prices moving upward. The Sugar trade continues active, and a good demand for Browns at full rates has very much reduced the stock. Whites have also been in much request and prices raised in consequence. The Silk market is dull and lifeless, notwithstanding that there is a fair assortment of good Silk now on offer. With very little demand, together with the present attitude of holders, there is no immediate prospect of extensive business, which cannot take place until a radical change in the situation occurs. The recent activity in the Tea trade has largely subsided, and as the demand declines and large parcels continue to arrive the stock is beginning to assume very large proportions. Holders manage to maintain late rates, however, though these are bound to come down before anything like a clearance of the leaf at present on offer can be effected. Exchange has again fluctuated, and there is no stability in present quotations.

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THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The principal topic of writing during the week has been the so-called revelations about the Soma mystery. Thus far nobody ventures to say exactly how much truth there may be in the startling disclosures made by Nishigori and one of the accomplices of the crime or crimes. As happens usually in sensational cases, many persons seem strongly inclined to put confidence in the extraordinary allegations, and several papers challenge the judiciary to make a thorough investigation of the matter and to give full satisfaction to the doubting public. The Public Procurators of the Tokyo Local Court are severely criticized for refusing to institute a prosecution. They are told that, even though the charges put forward by Nishigori and others should prove unfounded, it would still have been proper on their part to organize a legal investigation, so as to give the accused an opportunity of clearing themselves from the terrible charges laid at their door. Moreover, apart from the disclosures just made, the matter had always remained a mystery and strange stories had circulated about it. So even, without any application for the institution of a criminal suit, it was, say these papers, plainly the duty of the Public Procurators to investigate the matter of their own accord; and so soon as serious charges were brought forward in due course, there could have been no excuse for the law officers' refusal to move. The matter has now been brought before the Tokyo Court of Appeal, and the Judges and Procurators of that tribunal are strongly urged to take up the case in the interests of justice as well as of public morality. This affair, the metropolitan papers observe, is no longer a private concern of the Soma family: it has become a judicial and social question in which the public in general are equally interested. Some papers are so extravagant as to censure the Minister of the Imperial Household, alleging that, as the supervisor of the noble class, he ought to have prevented the crime from assuming such dimensions. If only he had done his duty, these papers with infinite faith in the paternal possibilities of officialdom, think that it would have been quite possible for him to nip the conspiracy in the bud.

* * *

Mr. Oishi's resignation has not elicited from the Tokyo papers the attention that it would have received had popular enthusiasm continued as warm as it was when he arrived in Tokyo. The fact is that the public have gradually come to appreciate the true aspects of the case, and to perceive that under all the circumstances, Mr. Oishi's resignation was unavoidable. For the Minister himself, it was a splendid opportunity to go out of office, since he enjoyed the credit of having brought to a satisfactory conclusion negotiations which had baffled the diplomatic ingenuity of his predecessors for nearly four years. It was also to be expected that resigning under such circumstances, he would be regarded by some people as the martyr of a policy which happens to be espoused by every political party. But things have not turned out exactly in that way, and now that Mr. Oishi has left the Government, he is certainly not more popular than he was when he set out for Korea six months ago. Besides the explanation offered above for this unexpected turn of events, it is also to be remembered that a large proportion of those who joined in the enthusiastic welcome given to the returning Minister, were actuated not so much by admiration for the man himself, as by a desire to harass a Cabinet which they believed averse to any spirited foreign policy. So far as we are aware, the *Kokkai* and the *Mainichi Shimbun* are the only papers of importance in the capital that have commented editorially upon Mr. Oishi's resignation. The *Kokkai* has paid dear for its extravagant enthusiam in his behalf. We have already reproduced the gist of the note, in which our opinion, was principally responsible for that paper's suspension. In a leading article published in the same number, our contemporary regards Mr. Oishi's resignation as an indication of the present Ministry's inability to endorse the strong policy recommended by him. It also infers from the combination in one person of the Ministerial functions at Peking and Söul, that the Cabinet treats Korea altogether as a secondary consideration, and it concludes that with such a weak and perfunctory Government in power, Mr. Oishi's resignation was a foregone conclusion.

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The *Mainichi Shimbun* writes much in the same strain. Like the above journal, it contemptuously alludes to "the peace-loving policy" of the Government, and states that, there being a fundamental difference of opinion between Mr. Oishi and the Cabinet, resignation was unavoidable. The Progressionist organ is also opposed to the idea of the same person discharging the dual functions of Japanese Representative in Korea and China, and urges upon the Cabinet the importance of sending a special Minister to each of these countries. It agrees with many others among the metropolitan journals in regarding Mr. Otori's appointment as a temporary measure

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The perceptible diminution of Mr. Oishi's popularity must not be taken as a sign that the general public has become less enthusiastic in clamouring for a strong foreign policy. Even sober papers like the *Jiji Shimpo* urge the Government to turn its attention more to foreign affairs. The *Jiji* admits the expediency of depriving the Opposition of pretexts for attacking the Government by carrying out the measures that form the principal items of the Opposition's programme. But since the Government's efforts in that respect have already been successful in diminishing, to a great extent, the ardour of popular antagonism, the *Jiji* thinks it high time to divert into foreign channels the energies thus freed from domestic complications. The fate of the present Cabinet depends upon its ability or inability to make a wise use of the present opportunity. Our contemporary does not advise the Government to pursue a policy of territorial aggrandizement; what it advocates is that the national energies should be diverted into foreign fields of peaceful activity, such as the extension of steam navigation, the encouragement of emigration, and so forth. At the same time the Ministers of State are advised to lose no time in approaching the question of Treaty Revision. A portion of the people, it is true, would oppose them on the subject of Mixed Residence, but such opposition is unworthy of any serious notice. As to foreign Governments, the *Jiji* is informed that they are, on the whole, favourably disposed to revise the treaties, and there is little doubt of their consenting to Japan's reasonable demands. Lastly, with regard to the Eastern Question, the *Jiji* believes that there is a growing tendency among Chinese statesmen to appreciate the necessity of a close alliance between their country and this empire. The opportunity is therefore favourable for Japan to approach the Peking Government with a view to a general understanding on this question.

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The railway mania has again invaded business circles in Japan. Lines for which charters are asked now number thirty. These lines are independent of those to be built in accordance with the Railway Construction Law. The *Nippon* thinks that, with a few exceptions, the proposed roads have been projected for speculative purposes. In their prospectuses the projectors announce that they confidently expect on their investments returns ranging between 7 and 40 per cent., whereas, even on the Hokuriku line, which is regarded as the most profitable of those to be officially laid during the first period defined by the Railway Construction Law, the interest expected is only 3 per cent. In view of this circumstance, the profits claimed for the new private lines must be considerably in excess of trustworthy figures Brilliant forecasts are made merely to allure capitalists, and so soon as the projectors succeed in pocketing some money by the sale of shares, they will be the first to abandon the enterprises. Capitalists are warned of the danger threatening them, and are advised to recall the bitter experiences of a few years ago, when a similar mania existed for railways. The Government, at the same time, is recommended to exercise particular care in granting charters.

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The San-yo Railway Company's section, to be laid between Hiroshima and Shimonoseki, is the subject of much discussion in the press. The company recently submitted a plan of the road to the Railway Authorities, and the latter are reported to have expressed a determination not to approve the plan, because, according to it, the line is to be laid along the coast, an extremely undesirable route in that part of the country from strategical points of view. The Authorities insist on the adoption of an inland line secure from the attack of a foreign enemy's warships. The line selected by the company is estimated to cost about 5,900,000 *yen* and the work would be completed in two years, whereas the one insisted upon by the authorities would cost 18,900,000 *yen* and require ten years to be finished. The press in general take the side of the San-yo Railway Company, the *Jiji Shimpo*, being notably indefatigable in pressing the claims of economic over strategic considerations. If the Government thinks that strategic necessities imperatively demand the selection of the inland line, it ought, in the *Jiji's* opinion, either to undertake the construction of the line with State funds, or to give a subsidy to the company amounting to the difference (13,000,000 *yen*) between the estimated costs of the two roads. But a better plan, in our contemporary's opinion, would be to allow the company to construct the line along the coast, and to employ the above mentioned sum of 13,000,000 *yen* for building war vessels to guard the line against the attack of foreign enemies.

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The *Yomiuri Shimbun* thinks that the best policy would be to use the above-mentioned sum of money for the construction of forts on the coasts of Bungo and Iyo. Works for the defence of the Shimonoseki and Ki-Tan Straits being in process of construction, the Bungo-Iyo strait is the only unprotected ingress to the Inland Sea. The defence of the last mentioned strait by means of forts is considered by some people to be impossible, but the *Yomiuri* is assured by certain Naval experts that the thing presents no insuperable difficulties. Our contemporary urges the Authorities to substitute the construction of strong forts there for the laying of an inland line between Hiroshima and Shimonoseki.

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The rupture between the Radicals and the Progressionists has been made complete, if it was not complete long ago, by violent competition between their candidates in the elections for the Local Assembly of Kanagawa. Feeling runs so high on both side, that the polling is conducted in the midst of continuous quarrels and fighting, several hundreds of armed *soshi* being engaged by each side. The dispute, at first local, has finally been transferred to Tokyo, where the organs of the two parties daily hurl at each other charges of treachery, cowardice, injustice, and what not.

* * *

The Franco-Siamese affair attracts considerable attention in Tokyo. The papers express much sympathy with Siam, and observe that right seems to be on her side. They do not believe that the present complication will immediately imperil the independence of the country, for England will never allow France to become Mistress of Siam. They do believe, however, that it is only a question of time until Siam is absorbed by one or the other of her powerful neighbours. The Opposition papers call upon the Government to keep vigilant watch over the turn of events in Siam, but the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* taunts these papers with the absurdity of urging the Government to be energetic while refusing to grant the funds necessary for the development of the country's capacity to be energetic.

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EDITORIAL NOTES.

PERSONAL ITEMS.

Concerning Mr. Oishi, it is reported, with apparent confidence, that so soon as his resignation is accepted, he will start on a tour in America and Europe, first going to Chicago to see the World's Fair. He will not, the report continues, attach himself to the *Jiyu-to* or to any other political party, preferring to maintain a neutral position in politics. We should think that Japan's international relations, with Mr. Oishi on an Occidental tour, will be safer than they would be with Mr. Oishi in Sōul.

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It is reported that the National Unionists are in an embarrassing position. According to rumour, many of them complain that Count Saigo, who at the time of re-entering the Cabinet assured them of his continued interest in their Party, has since gradually grown cooler and cooler until he now even refuses to receive or converse with them. Besides Count Saigo, the party has lost several powerful members, as for example Mr. Sone Arasuke, Minister to France, Mr. Sokabe Michio, Governor of Gifu, and Mr. Watanabe Hiromoto. The Vice-President of the Party, Viscount Shinagawa, too, is said to be not over hopeful. Messrs. Sassa, Furuoho, Ooka, and Maki are reported to have asked Viscount Kabayama to join their Union, but the ex-Minister of the Navy is not at all inclined to cast in his lot with any political association. They are also said to have addressed themselves to Mr. Yasuba Yasukazu, the well known ex-Governor of Fukuoka. While in that locality he rendered great service to the National Unionists by employing his vast influence in their behalf at the time of the last general elections. Indeed his influence was so great not only in his own Prefecture but in the neighbouring localities, that he was called the Governor-General of Kyushu. He is now requested to become the Vice-President of the Party, it being in contemplation that Viscount Shinagawa, who occupies that position, should be promoted to the Presidency vacated by Count Saigo. Mr. Yasuba, who lately went to Fukuoka to preside over an important political meeting there, returned to Tokyo on the afternoon of the 14th instant.

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Lieutenant-Colonel Fukushima continues to be an object of interest to the educated class in the capital. On the 13th instant, he was the guest of the Ajiya Kyokai and the Tokyo Geographical Society at the Imperial Hotel. He spoke about his travels in Russia and Siberia. On the 15th instant, the journalists of the capital invited him to dinner at the Maple Club, Shiba.

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Count Inouye Minister of Home Affairs, will start for Hokkaido about the 24th or 25th inst. It is stated that he will be accompanied in his northern travels by Mr. Maki Bokushin of the National Unionist party. Baron Ozawa of the House of Peers may also, it is said, join the party.

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Count Itagaki was to leave Tokyo for Miye by the 9 50 a.m. train to-day, accompanied by Messrs. Saito Keiji, Misaki Kamenosuke, and Tatsuno Shuichiro. The Radical organ states that the Count will not tarry in Ise more than a few days, as pressing party business necessitates his speedy return to Tokyo, but that the campaign will be continued by Mr. Hoshi or some other leaders of the party. The *Jiyu Shimbun* does not deny a rumour that discontent exists among the members of the Party against the leaders in Tokyo, but states that the facts have been very much exaggerated.

* * *

Lieut.-Colonel Fukushima has produced a most favourable impression on all persons brought into contact with him. He is evidently a man of great simplicity and directness of purpose, and despite the commotion that his exploit has provoked, he preserves his mental equilibrium and is not at all elated about his own doings. He avers that no one was more surprised than himself to discover the importance attached by his countrymen to his journey. For his own part, he entertained no idea of achieving anything extraordinary. Fond of travel and of riding, he had already made some expeditions that interested him greatly, and it seemed to him that by journeying over-land from Berlin to Vladivostock, he should be merely prosecuting the travels already begun by him in Europe and Asia Minor. As for the journey itself, he pronounces it a perfectly simple affair, within the compass of anyone with health, strength, a good horse, a fairly furnished purse and some knowledge of languages. All these essentials the Lieutenant-Colonel possesses, being a strongly knit, hardy soldier, who speaks, with more or less fluency, English, German, French, Russian, and Chinese. He makes merry over the excitement that his people have been kind enough to display, and while admitting very frankly that he is pleased to have attained such an unexpected reputation, declares that he has not established any manner of title to it. Nothing, in short, could be more excellent than his demeanour under the circumstances, nor can any one, after a minute's conversation with him, retain the impression that he has had, or is capable of having, the slightest intention of posing before the public. We are sorry, at the same time, that he allowed himself to be persuaded into wearing his travel-stained uniform on the occasion of his entry into Tokyo. The procedure imparted to the affair a theatrical effect which we now see that the Lieut.-Colonel himself would have been the first to avoid. One explanation offers, however; perhaps he had nothing else to wear at the moment.

* * *

Mr. Oishi, who has been relieved of his official functions, will, as already stated, proceed to America and Europe, his intention being to remain abroad for a few years. According to the *Nippon*, he is said to have mentioned in his letter of resignation that, being unaccustomed to diplomatic usages, his continued presence in Korea would not be beneficial to Japan. As to his foreign travels, some papers state that it was Count Inouye who advised him to go abroad; and that he will be instructed by the Government with certain investigations connected with the question of Treaty Revision. But that is incredible.

* * *

As to Mr. Otori, who, in addition to his post of Minister to China has received the further appointment of representative in Korea, some papers regard the nomination as a temporary measure, and state that before long a permanent Minister will be sent to the Korean Court. We are not prepared to affirm that Mr. Otori's appointment to Sōul will be permanent, but according to our information, the arrangement will continue in force for some time at any rate. Mr. Otori has expressed to certain journalists surprise at his appointment. He had come home he is reported to have said, with the intention of resigning his post of Minister to Peking, but having been selected by the Government to repair the injury which Mr. Oishi's negotiations about the indemnity question inflicted on the amicable relations of the two countries, it is his determination to contribute everything in his power towards the maintenance of peace in the East. The Government, he is represented as saying, have given him this additional appointment simply because there happens to be no other person available for the purpose. But he does not attempt to deny his fitness for the post of Minister to Korea, because he is acquainted with the state of things in China, and knowledge of Chinese affairs is a most important qualification for the Japanese Representative in Korea.

* * *

Sunday last, it was rumoured in Tokyo that Mr. Sonoda, the chief of the Metropolitan Police, had suddenly died in the Prefecture of Shiga, where he had been making an official inspection. But the rumour has proved to be entirely without foundation. A telegraphic message received from Kanazawa says that Mr. Sonoda arrived there on Monday, hale and sound. It is a mystery how the erroneous report originated.

* * *

The numerous admirers of Mr. Yano Jiro, ex-Director of the Commercial College, are collecting contributions for a gold medal, about two inches in diameter, to be presented to him. The medal, it is stated, has been struck in accordance with a design prepared by Mr. Chiosonne. It is said that young men, who owe their positions more or less to Mr. Yano, number about three thousand.

THE MEXICAN DOLLAR.

Much uneasiness has been caused in Hongkong by telegraphic news that Mexico, harassed, like other silver-using countries, by perpetual fluctuations in her medium of foreign exchange, and perhaps failing to see why she should not invest her dollar with an arbitrary value as her great neighbour does—is taking measures to prevent silver coinage. That means that, one of these fine mornings, the Mexican dollar may be declared worth 4*s.* 2*d.* instead of its silver value of 2*s.* 6*d.* Now Hongkong's unit of currency is the Mexican dollar. According to the Queen's Order in Council of 1863, "the dollar of Mexico, or such other silver dollar of equivalent value as may from time to time be authorised by the Governor or Officer administering the Government of Hongkong" is the only legal tender of payment within Hongkong and its dependencies. No dollar except the Mexican has hitherto received official recognition. Hence Hongkong is confronted by the contingency of being unable to procure her currency except at a price 70 per cent. higher than the value it commands in commercial operations in China. The Mexican dollar is indeed a miserable coin. It circulates, for the most part, by weight, in a chopped and defaced condition. The Banks do not redeem their own notes with clean dollars. "If a man takes a note to the Bank that issued it," says the *Hongkong Daily Press*, "and asks for clean dollars in change, he will not get them, but will be tendered dollars supposed to be weighed at 7.17. If he pays the identical dollars in again they will be credited to him at some smaller amount, for dollars paid in are always found to be light, so that by the simple process of drawing money out of the Bank and paying it in again a man can in course of time get rid of the whole amount, whatever it may be, without ever spending a cent of it." However, an assured supply of even chopped dollars would be incomparably more welcome than the prospect of having to pay 4*s.* 2*d* for dollars worth only 2*s.* 6*d.* Naturally, if any such contingency were immediately imminent, the Government of Hongkong would at once legislate the Mexican dollar out of its present place of honour. In that event the Colony would doubtless fall back on the Japanese silver *yen*, a beautiful and trustworthy coin far superior to the Mexican dollar, and already freely current within and without the Colony. But the *Hongkong Daily Press* apprehends that the Japanese *yen* also may some day be raised to a fictitious value by Japan's adoption of the gold standard, and argues that Hongkong ought not to remain dependent on a foreign State in such a matter. There is not the least chance of Japan's taking such a step, but if the competition of the Mexican Mints should cease to hamper Hongkong's coinage operations, the Colony may perhaps be in a position to have a Mint of its own. Such a step has very little to recommend it in the face of the universal uncertainty now existing with regard to currency questions, but the facts of the situation are, at any rate, worth noting.

RAILWAY ITEMS.

The projectors of the Bantan railway (a line some 35 miles in length which is to branch off from the Sanyo railway at the Shikamo Station and go inland to the town of Ikuno), having recently acquired the charter for their line, propose holding a meeting at the Bankers' Hall, Sakamoto-cho, Tokyo, on Friday. The business will be the organization of the Bantan Railway Company, the election of the Pre-

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sident and Directors, and to consider the advisability of petitioning the Imperial Household Department to subscribe for a number of the shares of the new company. The last proposal has probably been suggested by the fact that the celebrated silver mines of Ikuno, close to the Western terminus of the line, from which it expects to obtain a considerable amount of traffic, belong to the Imperial Household.

* * *

A decoration of the Sacred Treasure of the Fourth Class, was recently conferred upon Mr. Hermann Rumschöttel, Engineer of the German Government who for several years acted as the Chief Engineer of the Kyushiu Railway, in recognition of the services rendered by him in the development of railways in Japan. We hear that the German Emperor had previously similarly honoured Mr. Takashi Shinkichi, the president of the Kyushiu Railway Company. The Kyushiu line is the only railway in this country which is built entirely on the German system.

* * *

In order to meet the requirements for the construction of the O-u and Hokuriku (Fukushima-Aomori and Tsuruga-Toyama lines) systems of the Government Railways, which are very shortly to be begun, and to provide for the constantly increasing traffic on the State's existing lines, a large order for steel rails and locomotives —some hundred miles of the former and thirty of the latter—was issued by the Government a short time ago. It is now reported that the rail contract has been obtained by the Barrow Hematite Steel Company, who have undertaken to deliver the rails free on board at one of the ports in England at the rate of £3.11.0 per ton. Such extreme lowness in the price of this material is unprecedented in the annals of railways in Japan, and must be very satisfactory to the capitalists in this country engaged in the numerous new railway projects now on foot, for the present unfavourableness of exchange is more than counterbalanced by the extraordinary cheapness of the original cost of material. Of the order for locomotives by far the greater part, we hear, went to English makers; a very few going to America.

* * *

We read in the *Yūji Shimpo* that the changes proposed by the Railway authorities with regard to the construction of the Fukushima-Aomori line have passed the Railway Council. It had been decided in February, during the previous session of the body, that the section between Aomori and Hirosaki should form the Construction Section for the current fiscal year, which will close on the 31st of March, 1894. The Engineer placed in charge of this section recently reported that the line could be brought to a conclusion easily by the appointed time at a cost of about *yen* 800,000. However, construction works would be much facilitated were the section extended for about 15 miles on this side of Hirosaki to the town of Ikarigaseki, which is a most convenient point in the district for obtaining supplies of timber, stones, &c. The appropriations for the construction expenditure of the O-u system for the present fiscal year being *yen* 1,500,000, the Railway authorities, rather than leave *yen* 700,000 idle, not only took up the Engineer's suggestion but added the further proposal of commencing work from the Fukushima end as well. Now that these alterations have been approved by the Council, the work from Aomori will be proceeded with at once, and that from Fukushima will commence in the course of a month or two.

CURRENT POLITICS.

THE *Nippon* publishes an account of a conversation said to have taken place between a writer on its staff and a certain Minister of State, whose name is not given but whose identity there is not much difficulty in guessing. The first topic discussed was Administrative Reforms. The labours of the Administrative Reforms Investigation Committee, the Minister is reported to have remarked, had not yet been brought to a conclusion, but had progressed enough to permit the preparation of the Budget for the coming fiscal year. The Committee was daily holding meetings. It was not expected that the results of its deliberations would give satisfaction to everybody. The Cabinet's resolution, however, was to sweep away all the abuses and evils that had accumulated in the administration during the past twenty years. But there had not been time enough to accomplish the task since the Ministry came into power, and it was consequently still impossible to publish the results of efforts thus far made. The Cabinet was so busily engaged in the necessary investigations, that it could not take any vacation. The Minister then proceeded to dilate upon the Cabinet's attitude towards the Popular Party. People seemed to think, he said, that the Government was afraid of the Popular Party. Nothing could be farther from the truth. The present Cabinet did not recognize the existence of such a party; what it really feared was that it might not be able to discharge its duty to the people in general. There was a rumour, the Minister continued, that certain politicians intended to raise in the coming session of the Diet the question of official interference in elections. Nothing could be sillier than such a course. What did the Opposition do while the Cabinet charged with having actually interfered in elections was in power? So fearful was the Lower House of dissolution, that it dared not go further than the passing of a Representation couched in ambiguous language. It would be the acme of folly to employ such a question as an offensive weapon at this eleventh hour against a Cabinet that had nothing to do with the matter. Passing then, to the coming session of the Diet, the Minister is reported to have stated that the fifth session might not pass smoothly. The Ministers of the Crown would not shrink from advising the Emperor to order the dissolution of the Diet, should the Cabinet's conscientious endeavours to promote the true welfare of the people be wantonly thwarted from destructive motives. But even in that case, the Minister could assure his guest that the Cabinet would never commit the folly of interfering in elections. With regard to foreign affairs, he is reported to have remarked that nothing could be more unjust to the present Cabinet than to accuse it of want of a definite foreign policy. The first thing a Ministry was called upon to settle on coming into power was its foreign policy. But foreign policy could not be publicly announced in the same manner as domestic policy. Count Ito had declared, or made it be declared, in the Diet that his Cabinet would see that Japan discharged her duties to other Powers and maintained all the rights to which she was duly entitled. That was the essence of the foreign policy of the Government. But the details of foreign policy might not be talked about in public. Look at Russia; she was always professing peace. But how many secrets lay behind that simple declaration? It might, however, be stated that the present Cabinet was endeavouring to revise the Treaties on a basis of equality. After Treaty Revision had been accomplished, there would be less necessity for the Government to preserve secrecy about its foreign policy. Concerning Hawaii, it would be easy to annex it, but annexation was one thing and retaining possession another. There could not be much harm in the Radicals interesting themselves in the matter, but the Government had already obtained a satisfactory result about Hawaii by recourse to ordinary diplomatic procedure. The conversation then turned to Korea and Mr. Oishi, but the writer is not disposed to give further information.

SILVER LOANS.

THERE is some dissatisfaction in Hongkong over the result of a loan contracted by the Government of the Colony in the spring of this year. When the method of raising the money came to be considered by the Legislative Council, some of the unofficial members were in favour of borrowing in silver, but the official members advocated a sterling loan. The contention of the former was that the future of silver being altogether uncertain, to contract a sterling loan meant an operation of gambling, whereas the latter claimed that by borrowing in sterling recourse could be had to the London market and a better rate of interest might thus be obtained. The official vote carried the day and the loan was contracted in gold last April at 2s. 8⅝d., the rate of interest being one per cent. better than that obtainable by borrowing in silver. But on July 1st the dollar had fallen to 2s. 4d., a difference of 13¼ per cent. as compared with the time when the loan was floated, and people then began to cry out against the unwisdom of the Government. It is very easy, of course, to be wise after the event, but in this case we do not see that even such wisdom is shown by the critics. For, in the first place, they raised their voices in the presence of an obviously exaggerated and unreal appreciation of gold. It should have been plain to them that the silver price of the yellow metal must decline again before a temporarily steady point was reached. In point of fact it did decline, so that the dollar came to be worth 2/6 within a few days of the outcry. In the second place, the Government's calculation had shown that not until the gold price of the dollar fell 5d. would the gain of 1 % interest be converted into a relative loss. And in the third place, the proceeds of the loan have not yet been converted into silver, but are still held in sterling. The Government is doubtless acting in accordance with the advice of the best London financiers, but a Government never can be right in the eyes of some folks At all events it should not be forgotten that operations of which exchange constitutes a factor are just as difficult for officials at present as they are for merchants and bankers. The judgments of those not directly responsible should be lenient.

THE BANK OF JAPAN.

THE amounts of convertible notes and reserves in the Bank of Japan for the week ended the 15th inst. were as follow :—

Convertible Notes.	Yen.	Reserves and Securities.	Yen.
Notes issued	125,966,395	Gold coin and bullion	21,800,200
		Silver coin and bullion	66,238,538
		Public Loan Bonds	8,806,500
		Treasury Bills	—
		Government Bills	28,000,000
		Other securities	—
		Commercial Bills	1,121,157
	125,966,395		125,966,395

Of the above total issue of notes, the sum of *yen* 8,011,168 is in the treasury of the Bank, *yen* 13,000,000 has been transferred on loan to the Government, and *yen* 104,955,227 is in actual circulation, the latter showing an increase of *yen* 739,178 as compared with *yen* 104,216,049 at the end of the previous week.

DR. PRITCHARD.

THE home papers record the death of a well-known aged scientist, the Rev. Dr. Pritchard, Savilian Professor of Astronomy at Oxford. Professor Pritchard was a Fellow of St. John's College, and the author of a large number of books and articles on astronomical subjects. In 1886 he was awarded the Gold Medal of the Royal Astronomical Society for his "Uranometria Nova Oxoniensis." One of his works—an article in the Bible Dictionary—dealt with the Star of the Magi; and in connection with this we recall an amusing incident. On one occasion the present writer sent a letter to the Professor asking a question about that mysterious phenomenon. Dr. Pritchard replied at once, with his unfailing courtesy and good humour, and his letter began, "My dear Star." The characteristic slip occasioned considerable mirth.

SILK CULTURE AT AMOY.

HERE is an interesting item from the columns of our Shanghai morning contemporary, affording another conspicuous illustration of the suicidal policy of the Japanese in allowing the eggs of their silk-worms to be sent abroad :— "The effort made by the Chiangchiu Taotai to get the people here to go in for silk cultivation has made much progress, but so far has not resulted in any profit to those who attempted it. The Christians who collected a large sum of money towards this most excellent work have necessarily had to spend much of it in the various things needed to start the enterprise. A fine piece of ground has been obtained and

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planted with mulberry trees, and a small house built on it for the use of those who are looking after it. A house in the city has also been got for the rearing of the silkworms, and the preparing of the silk. Then eggs had to be brought from Japan, and all these many expenses have left a small balance on the wrong side. But next year there is bound to be no inconsiderable profit. What we, however, have to be most thankul for, is this remarkable fact, that whereas the worms of all the other cultivators died before coming to maturity, we only lost about 10 per cent., and those were not the Japanese worms, but some from Chinese eggs that the Taotai very urgently pressed upon us against our wish. It has taught us a lesson not to use any but Japanese eggs at present, and the Taotai himself says that next year he will only buy Japanese eggs."

THE EMPRESS AT THE NOBLES' FEMALE SCHOOL

On Tuesday the graduation ceremony at the Nobles' Female School was graced by the presence of Her Majesty the Empress. Her Majesty arrived at the school at 9 a.m., accompained by Lady Muromachi, *Gontenji*, Viscount Kagawa Keizo, Grand Master of Services to Her Majesty, and Mr. Sannomiya Yoshitane, Master of Services, together with several other officials and Court Ladies. Her Majesty wore European costume. Received at the gate by the members of the Faculty and students, she was conducted by Mr. Nishimura, Director of the school, to an apartment specially prepared for her reception. There the Director presented to Her Majesty a copy of the eighth annual report on the working of the institution. At 9.30 a.m. the Faculty and students of the School as well as the invited guests and parents of the students, took their seats in the great Hall in which the ceremony was to be held. The walls were adorned with curtains having crimson stripes on a white ground, and behind the Imperial Throne was hung another curtain with gold chrysanthemums on a purple ground. On either side of the Throne were placed large blocks of ice. An organ on the right and three musical instruments on the left of the Throne, together with a few handsome vases of flowers, completed the decorations on the platform. The Empress's arrival in the Hall was the signal for the students to sing two poems, composed by Her Majesty. A concerted piece was then performed on the organ and the *shô* instruments, after which the Director presented diplomas to the students who had finished the whole course of study, and certificates to those who had completed their term courses, and awarded prizes to the students who had distinguished themselves at the term examination. Mr. Nishimura then addressed a few words to the graduates. He congratulated them upon the great honour conferred on them by Her Majesty who had been graciously pleased to conduct the ceremony in person, and reminded them of the importance of always laying to heart the instructions which Her Majesty had once given them as to the duties to be discharged by good mothers. Docility and grace were the two qualities specially distinguishing the fair sex of this country. These qualities must, of course, be cultivated, but Japanese women were now called upon to go a step further, and, in common with the stern sex, to nourish the spirit of loyalty and patriotism. The aim of the graduates, therefore, should be to be gentle and graceful in times of peace, and courageously to discharge their duties towards their Sovereign and their country in seasons of peril and war. Lady Hoshina Nei, on behalf of the graduates, then red a valedictory address written in the style of the national classics. She expressed deep-felt thanks to the Empress for the patronage Her Majesty had been pleased to bestow on the School, and she also thanked the members of the Faculty for their guidance and instruction. After this, one of the students played on the organ, and three others on the *shô*. The ceremony was concluded with a song in which all the students joined. It was about 12 when the Imperial party left the School. The invited guests partook of a cold collation, while ordinary spectators had tea served to them. Among the invited guests, the principal personages were Their Imperial Highnesses Princess Komatsu, Princess Kanin, and Princess Arisugawa, Jun.; Viscount Hijikata, Minister of the Household, and Marquis and Marchioness Nabeshima, Princess Shimazu, Prince and Princess Ichijo, Viscount Yamao, Master of Prince Arisugawa's Household, Mr. Otori, Japanese Minister to China and Korea, Madame Sannomiya, Mr. Takamine, President of the Higher Normal School, Mr. Hosokawa, President of the Tokyo Female Normal School, Mr. Kano, Director of the First Higher Middle School, and so forth. The graduates were ten in number. Their names are Ladies Harada Sô, Hasegawa Yoshi, Hoshina Nei, Kawata Ito, Yoshiwara Shizuye, Ooka Kô, Yano Matsu, Kosaki Naka, Mishima Take, and Suzuki Uta.

COMPANIES STARTED IN OSAKA.

THE *Jiji Shimpo* gives the following list of the various enterprises started, those that increased their capital and those that wound up their affairs, in Osaka during the first half of the current year:—

COMPANIES STARTED.

Name.	Capital. Yen.
The Japan Spinning Company	2,000,000
The Noda Spinning Company	250,000
The Osaka Gauze Silk Company	100,000
The Nissei-Exchange Company	200,000
The Osaka Theatrical Company	150,000
The Osaka Thread Spinning Company	200,000
The Osaka Engineering Company	200,000
The Electric Apparatus Company	300,000
The Kiushu Tanko (coal mine) Company	500,000
The Osaka Woollen Cloth Company	100,000
The Osaka Flour Drying Company	500,000
The Osaka Joint Stock Bank	200,000
The Sakai Joint Stock Bank	100,000
The Kishi-wada Joint Stock Bank	100,000
The Osaka Loan Bank	100,000
The Japan Yuzen Company	150,000
The Osaka Coal Oil Company	200 000
The Sakai Brick Company	100,000

If to the above 18 Companies be added those with capitals of less than 100,000 *yen*, the total number is brought up to 45 and the aggregate capital to 10,207,500 *yen*.

COMPANIES OF WHICH THE CAPITAL WAS INCREASED.

Name.	Amount of increase Yen.
Land and Marine Insurance Company	200,000
Osaka Alkali Company	610,000
Osaka Twisted Thread Company	120,000
Osaka Sulphuric Acid Company	300,000
Osaka Beer Company	100,000

If to these five be added five other Companies which increased their capitals by sums less than 100,000 *yen*, we have a total of ten Companies, and an aggregate increment of 1,560,000 *yen*.

COMPANY OF WHICH THE CAPITAL WAS DECREASED.

Name.	Amount Yen.
Thirty-fourth National Bank	125,000

If to this be added six Companies which decreased their capitals by sums less than 100,000 *yen*, we have a total of seven Companies, and an aggregate reduction of 185,200 *yen*. The number of Companies that wound up their business in the same interval was sixteen, and the aggregate capital involved 120,000 *yen*.

* * *

Extending these statistics to the whole empire, it appears that the total number of Companies formed during the first half of the year was 282, with an aggregate capital of 29 600,799 *yen*, to which have to be added 49 National and Private Banks with an aggregate capital of 7,390,000 *yen*, the grand total being 331 companies and 36,990,799 *yen*. Further changes due to increase of capital or winding up of affairs aggregated 10,462,300 *yen*, so that the final total of capital involved in such enterprises from January to June, 1893, was 47,452,099 *yen*.

THE NATIONAL UNIONISTS.

THE National Unionists at a recent meeting discussed their programme for the approaching session, of the Diet. They do not appear to have come to a very extensive conclusion, the subjects enumerated in the report of their proceedings being only four, namely, the extradition of Japanese criminals from Hawaii; the recovery of the franchise for Japanese residing in Hawaii; restrictions upon the going of Japanese students to America; and injury to Japanese property by Koreans in the island of Zekkei. Just at present political parties find difficulty in discovering any pegs on which to hang questions, and it is noticeable that their tendency is to have invariable recourse to the field of foreign policy

* * *

A significant fact about the doings of the *Kokumin Kyokai* is that they take no action whatever on the subject of Mixed Residence. A majority of them opposed the Address to the Throne, presented by the Lower House last session, with reference to Treaty Revision, and this action of theirs was confidently interpreted by persons desirous that it should bear such an interpretation, as signifying that the National Unionists were hostile to Mixed Residence. Impartial inquirers knew very well that the inference was quite inadmissible. Among the National Unionists there are doubtless some who believe that the time has not yet come for throwing open the whole country to foreign trade, travel, and residence. But the opposition of the Unionists to the Treaty Revision Address was based, in the first place, on party motives; in the second, on an objection to the method of an Address as compared with the less emphatic step of a Representation to the Government; and, in the third, on a belief that since a Treaty Revision Committee had been appointed by the Emperor and was actually in session, the Diet was not called upon to interfere. Those who opposed because of an objection to Mixed Residence were a paltry minority. Their numerical insignificance is proved by their subsequent inability to obtain the slightest Party approval of their view. The National Unionists have a good deal to say about Hawaii and Korea in framing their programme, but nothing whatever to say against Mixed Residence.

* * *

Another significant fact is the appointment of Mr. Sone Arasuke to be Japanese Representative in Paris. Mr. Sone was the leader of the National Unionists in the Lower House. He voted against the Address to the Throne on Treaty Revision. It goes without saying that if his vote had been prompted by opposition to Mixed Residence, he never could have obtained, nor ever would have accepted, office from the present Cabinet, which is distinctly pledged to the principle of Mixed Residence. Still less would he, entertaining such views, have been selected to represent Japan in the principal capital of continental Europe. The truth is that the minority which arrayed itself in the Lower House against the Address to the Throne dwindles to the pettiest proportions when the question of Mixed Residence alone is the test applied. Writers who maintain the opposite view merely deceive themselves and the public.

THE NOBLES' COLLEGE.

THE annual commencement exercises took place at the Nobles' College on the 15th instant. The ceremony was held at the unusually early hour of 7.30 a.m. When the guests and the parents and guardians of the students had taken their seats, the members of the Faculty and the students stood up and made an obeisance to photographic likenesses of Their Majesties the Emperor and the Empress. A few minutes later, H.I.H. the Crown Prince entered the Hall led by Colonel Takashima, Vice-President of the College. His Imperial Highness took a seat on a dais erected on the platform. The principal feature of the day was the presentation of a certificate of graduation in the elementary course to His Imperial Highness. Viscount Tanaka, President of the College, on handing the certificate to the Crown Prince, congratulated him on the satisfactory manner in which he had finished the elementary course; commended His Imperial Highness for the untiring diligence he had always manifested in his studies; and hoped that the Prince might continue to increase at the same rate in virtue and knowledge. Congratulatory addresses were also presented to His Imperial Highness by Mr. Yanagisawa, son of Count Yanagisawa, on be-

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half of the students in the higher courses; and by Mr. Baba Yoshiwo, on behalf of the students in the elementary course. His Imperial Highness then read a reply in which he modestly ascribed whatever progress he might have thus far made in knowledge to the guidance and instruction of the President and the Professors of the College. After this, speeches were delivered by Lieutenant-Colonel Fukushima and Professor Murata. It was about 11 o'clock when the Crown Prince left the Hall accompanied by Colonel Takashima. Refreshments were served to the guests and the students.

GRADUATION CEREMONY AT THE SEMMON GAKKO.

On Saturday afternoon, at 4 o'clock, the annual graduation ceremony was held at the Semmon Gakko (Technical College), Waseda, Tokyo. A very large number of visitors attended by invitation. The proceedings commenced punctually at the appointed hour, with the presentation of diplomas to 128 graduates, and of prizes to 11. Countess Okuma was present during this part of the ceremony, despite the delicate health from which she is suffering, but as the proceedings took place upstairs, in the principal hall of the College, Count Okuma did not attend, the effort of ascending and descending stairs being painful to him since the loss of his leg. Countess Okuma on leaving the hall received an ovation. After the diplomas and prizes had been presented, Professor Hatoyama, M.P., Principal of the College, briefly addressed the Graduates, on behalf of whom a reply was read by one of their number Mr. Doi Yogen. The Chief Manager, Mr. Ogawa, then gave an account of the history of the college during the past year. He was followed by two of the teachers, Messrs. Inouye Tatsukuro and Tsubouchi Yuzo, the latter of whom spoke for a considerable time with much eloquence and wit. The whole party then adjourned to Count Okuma's residence, where they were received by the Count and partook of a cold collation laid in the westerly end of the spacious and beautiful grounds. Count Okuma seemed in excellent health and spirits, and did the honours with all his wonted cordiality.

RE-ASSESSMENT OF THE TAXABLE VALUE OF LAND.

Re-assessment of the taxable value of land will be one of the most important questions discussed in the coming session of the Diet. There exists, as our readers may remember, a league including a large number of the members of the Diet and other influential persons, the sole object of the association being to bring about re-assessment. Some time before the termination of the last session of the Diet, the members of the league decided to hold a general meeting in Osaka on the 5th of August, to consider the course of policy to be pursued next session. In pursuance of that decision, Messrs. Higashio Heitaro and Amakasu Bumpei, both members of the House of Representatives, are reported to have issued invitations to the members of the league throughout the whole country, to send deputies to the general meeting, which will be held on the above mentioned date in the Seikan-ro restaurant, Higashi-machi, Kita-no-Shinchi, Osaka. According to the present programme, the deputies are to arrive at Osaka at latest by the evening of the 4th of August. After the proceedings of the day have terminated, a social reunion will be held in the same restaurant.

PRIVATE RAILWAY PROJECTS AND THE RAILWAY COUNCIL.

Among the numerous new railways contemplated by private companies, we give a list of those which are at present in such a stage of progress that formal applications for their charters have reached the hands of the authorities, and will therefore probably be dealt with by the Railway Council now sitting. It will be observed from the list—tabulated according to the dates of the applications for charters—that there are 11 projected lines in all, with an aggregate length of 162 miles, and estimated cost of construction of *yen* 4,458,000, and that the applications of 6 out of the 11 were presented within the last month, which shows the general rush that was made to be in time for the present meeting of the Council. Of these 11 lines, 3 are to be of the Standard gauge of this country, viz. 3 ft. 6 in., 2 are electric railways, and the remaining 6 small narrow gauge railways of mainly 2 ft. 6 in. width, to be worked by light locomotives of from 7 to 15 tons in weight. This accounts for the extreme lowness of the estimated cost of these lines—some being so low as less than *yen* 10,000 per mile. The projectors of many of these small railways had originally intended to build tramways over the roads indicated; the prevailing abundance of money in the country seeking employment, however, made them change their plans, and decide upon construction of railways in lieu of trams

	M. CH.	YEN.
Kobu Railway (Standard)		
Extension from Misakicho to Yorozuyo-bashi, Tokyo.		
Length, ...	70	
Estimated cost of construction		160,000
Date of application June, 1890.		
Shin-kaku Railway (Electric)		
Kobe to Mitamachi.		
Length.....	17 32	
Estimated cost of construction		300,000
Date of application May, 1861.		
Nanwa Railway (Standard)		
Takata to Gojo in Yamato province.		
Length.....	12.40	
Estimated cost of construction		500,000
Date of application Oct., 1891.		
Boso Railway (Electric)		
Soga to Ozuma in Chiba Prefecture.		
Length.....	11.75	
Estimated cost of construction		230,000
Date of application Dec., 1892.		
Kajima Railway (Narrow)		
Kurashiki in Bitchiu to Mino in Bizen.		
Length.....	11.21	
Estimated cost of construction		168,000
Date of application Feb., 1893.		
Toyokawa Railway (Narrow)		
Ikeda machi to Toyokawa-machi, Aichi Prefecture.		
Length.....	4.	
Estimated cost of construction		50,000
Date of application June, 1893.		
Settan Railway (Narrow)		
Odo in Settsu to Yagi in Tamba with a branch from Ikuse to Mita-machi.		
Length.....	35.	
Estimated cost of construction		800,000
Date of application June, 1893.		
Nara Hase Railway (Narrow)		
Nara to Hase in Yamato.		
Length.....	18.	
Estimated cost of construction		400,000
Date of application June, 1893.		
Settan Railway (Narrow)		
Umeda, Osaka, to Funaoka.		
Length.....	34.	
Estimated cost of construction		1,500,000
Ryomo Railway (Standard)		
Extension from Maebashi to Shibukawa, Gumma Prefecture.		
Length.....	11.	
Estimated cost of construction		300,000
Date of application June, 1893.		
Ota Railway (Narrow)		
Mito to Ota, Ibaraki Prefecture.		
Length	6.	
Estimated cost of construction		50,000
Date of application June, 1893.		
Total	162. 8	4,458,000

In a previous issue we stated that the granting of the charter to the Nanwa Railway had been approved by the Council at the second meeting on the 3rd instant. That body has held three meetings since and we learn that a similar decision has been arrived at in respect of the Kojima Railway. The Shinkaku and Boso, the two Electric Railways, occupied much of the time of the Council at these subsequent meetings. Electric railways are quite new to the country and the Council evidently mean to have the matter investigated thoroughly before sanctioning their introduction. The subject now rests in the hands of a special committee of seven selected to confer with eminent electricians and to furnish a report. The question of amending the law for the purchase of private lands for public purposes the provisions of which have been found to cause much delay and annoyance in obtaining the right of way, is also being treated.

THE "HINAICHIZAKKYO" FOLKS.

Mr. Oi Kentaro has succeeded again in getting himself and his anti-mixed-residence views brought before the public. The *Kokkai* speaks of his party as though its numbers were considerable, and declares that it has many associates in the House of Peers. But no name is mentioned of affiliated peers except that of Mr. Miura Yasu. It is, indeed, added that the leaders of the anti-mixed-residence movement, Messrs. Oi, Sassa, Furusho, Abai, Kammura and Motoda, have hopes of inducing Prince Konoye to become their President, but evidently the Prince's consent is very doubtful. We cannot see how any prospect of effecting anything lies before this little band of agitators. The *Kaishin-to* are pledged to oppose them; the *Jiyu-to* have taken the complete opening of the country as a principal plank in their platform; and the people at large must see that Japan can not adopt a policy of isolation except on condition of abandoning her claim to be treated as an equal by Occidental states. Mr. Oi Kentaro and his fellow-thinkers have always been among the most clamorous in demanding that the Treaties be revised on a basis of equality, but their anti-mixed-residence agitation invests that demand with a character of complete absurdity.

THE JAPANESE IN SAN FRANCISCO.

The Japanese in San Francisco are reported to be very much excited over the decision of the Board of Education closing the doors of the public schools in that city to their countrymen. The grounds for this decision are stated to be, first, that the Japanese do not contribute to the maintenance of these schools; and secondly, that such of them as enter the public schools there are usually past the ordinary school age. The Board think that the Japanese had better go to the schools established by Chinamen. The decision was adopted on the 14th of last month. The principal Japanese residents at once held a meeting to protest against the decision. A deputation appointed at the meeting called on the Chairman of the Board of Education, who is said to have declared himself entirely in sympathy with them, and to have promised to do everything in his power to secure the rescinding or modification of the decision at another meeting which was to have been held on the 28th ultimo. The Japanese residents also presented a petition to the Board of Education respectfully protesting against deprivation of a privilege which they had hitherto been allowed to enjoy freely. The Rev. Mr. Harris, invariably the friend of Japanese in San Francisco, is said to be taking active measures in their behalf. Nothing is as yet known as to the result of the meeting of the Board of Education on the 28th ult. Should it be impossible to obtain either the rescinding or modification of the obnoxious decision, the Japanese intend to establish an independent school of their own. The affair, as might have been expected, has excited considerable attention in this country, and the whole press remonstrates against the unfriendly and unreasonable decision of the San Francisco Board of Education. The Rev. Mr. Harris's name is mentioned in grateful terms in connection with the question. Reports from San Francisco state that a large section of the public shows sympathy with the Japanese.

A MYSTERY.

The late Viscount Soma Masatane's death, which took place in February, 1892, under suspicious circumstances, remains to this day a mystery. It was rumoured at the time that his tomb at Aoyama contained nothing but rice, his body having been secretly interred in a corner of the gardens at the back of the family mansion at Atarashibashi. Not only his death, but his whole life were mysterious. Most of the relatives of the family as well as the majority of his former retainers pronounced

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him crazy and unfit to inherit the estate. But a son of the former Chief Seneschal of the clan claimed that he was *compos mentis*, and instituted a suit in his behalf, praying for his reinstatement as *pater familias*. The suit lasted several years, and while it was still pending, his death took place. On the 22nd of February, 1892, he was to have appeared in Court, but that morning the Court was informed that he had suddenly died of sickness. His sole friend and advocate, Nishigori Katakiyo, the above mentioned son of the former Chief Seneschal of the clan, petitioned the Authorities to order a *post-mortem*, in order to see whether any trace of poison could be found. There must have been some plausible reasons in this petition, for the funeral was suspended and an examination of the body was made by police authorities and a duly authorized medical practitioner. They, however, pronounced that death had been due to natural causes, and gave a certificate for the interment of the body. That finally ended the matter, as it seemed. But recently one of the accomplices in the supposed murder of the unfortunate nobleman is reported to have made a confession to Nishigori, who has been secretly engaged attempting to unravel the mystery. Relying principally upon this confession, and upon testimony given by the mistress of the deceased Viscount, Nishigori has bought a charge of murder by poison against Viscount Soma Jun-in, his mother, Lady Nishida, and the stewards and family physician. The Tokyo Local Court accepted this suit on the 17th instant, and we may look forward to an important trial. Nishigori sustains his charge by seven allegations. First, although the late Viscount's death was stated to have taken place at 7 a.m. on the 22nd February, 1892, his mistress says that he lived till 5.30 p.m. on that day. Secondly, the same witness alleges that he vomited blood at the time of his death and that his body turned purple. Thirdly, the blood vomited by him is still kept in the Metropolitan Board of Police, and its analysis will disclose the presence of poisonous matter. Fourthly, the same witness further states that, at the moment of his death agony, her late lord commanded her to convey a message to Nishigori to secure his eldest son's succession to the family estates. Fifthly, the accused, in order to prevent the discovery of their crime, excavated the grave to the extraordinary depth of 35 feet, and their original order was that it should be dug to the depth of 40 feet. Sixthly, the deceased nobleman's eldest son is maltreated by the accused and is in danger of sharing the fate of his father. Seventhly and lastly, the circumstances under which the death of the late Viscount's father took place in 1888, and the circumstances under which his wife—now deceased—was married to him throw light upon the accused parties' relations with the late Viscount. From these statements, the case does not seem to stand on very strong ground, but it is reported that as the trial progresses better proofs will be forthcoming.

A NEW COMPOSITION FOR PRESERVING METAL.

THE *Kokkai* contains a statement which, if correct, has great interest. Matsumura Yuji, says our contemporary, a potter of Saga, now residing in Kobe, while engaged in experiments relating to the glazing of Keramic wares, discovered a composition which, when applied to the surface of metal, has the effect of preserving it effectually against rust. The composition does not require to be renewed from time to time like paint. It is virtually everlasting. The discovery was made in 1890, and the inventor applied, in due course, to the Department of Agriculture and Commerce for a patent. He has not obtained one yet, however, inasmuch as the judges of the Patent Office are of opinion that the properties claimed for his invention cannot be considered proved until pieces of metal coated with the new composition have emerged without rust from an interment of five or six years in the ground. Meanwhile, he has submitted the subject to the Engineering Bureau in the Home Department, and has obtained the very strong approval of Mr. Furuichi, the head of that Bureau. The composition is applied to the surface of the metal by heat, and the only metal in the case in which it cannot be used is zinc. The inventor claims that the process is very cheap, and that a ship's bottom once coated with the composition would be proof against all danger of corrosion for an indefinite time.

DR. KITAZATO.

It is stated in the vernacular press that Dr. Kitazato has resigned the Directorship of the Contagious Diseases Laboratory. The Laboratory enjoys State aid, but belongs to the Sanitary Association of Tokyo, and is, consequently, a private institution. Attached to it, there are to be erected hospital buildings for the reception of patients suffering from contagious diseases. It was against the location of the buildings in one of the most flourishing parts of the District of Shiba that the principal citizens of the neighbourhood began an active agitation, of which mention has been made more than once in these columns. Dr. Kitazato, as well as the members of the Sanitary Association, have repeatedly assured the excited citizens of the groundlessness of their apprehensions from a hygienic point of view. But nothing could allay their apprehensions, and moreover they were unwilling to have the popularity of their picturesque district impaired by such an adjunct as a contagious diseases hospital. Their crusade against the institution grew stronger and stronger, until at last even threats of violence were conveyed to Dr. Kitazato and some of the members of the Sanitary Association. There being no prospect of the agitation dying out, Dr. Kitazato seems to have thought it better, in the ultimate interests of his studies, to sever his connection with the Laboratory altogether. Since he associated himself with the ill-fated institution, he has seen nearly one-half of his working hours wasted every day in interviews with deputations of citizens and in visits imposed on him by their agitation. He is reported to be at present engaged in a scientific investigation now nearly completed, and for the moment he intends to devote himself entirely to this particular line of research. It is not yet known whether the Sanitary Association will approve his resignation, but presumably they have no choice.

VICTORIA PUBLIC SCHOOL BOYS.

WE are always pleased to note the progress of boys that have left the Victoria Public School for other educational establishments, and have just heard of several who are doing remarkably well, W. Correll and H. and E. Loomis in the United States, and young Bird and Sydney Wheeler in England. The latter, who went to Bedford Grammar School, has already made a fine record, as in three weeks after entry, taking his place among boys of his own age, he was promoted to next form and at the Christmas Examinations took the papers of the form above his own, coming out first in three very important subjects, Mathematics, French, and Geography. After the Christmas Holidays he received double promotion, two other single promotions, and finally at Easter Exams., another double. He obtained the prize for the term for highest total of marks, and when heard from last he was at the top of his new form. This is creditable alike to the industry of Sydney Wheeler and to the good grounding he received in the Victoria Public School.

A MINING FRAUD.

AN interesting case of a mining fraud has just been tried in Tokyo. The mine (silver) in question, is located in the village of Yamori, Yamamoto District, Prefecture of Akita. It is commonly called the Tsubaki silver mine. The lessees of the mine, Chichii Kyuyemon and Miyakoshi Kyugoro, applied, in November, 1890, for the additional lease of the adjacent field covering 21,204 *tsubo*. When they had forwarded their application, they were surprised to learn that the enterprising miner, Mr. Furukawa Ichibei, the lessee of the Ashio copper mine, had subsequently applied for the lease of an adjacent field covering 237,500 *tsubo*. Perceiving the futility of competing with so formidable a rival, they resorted to a daring criminal artifice to disconcert him. One of them, Chichii, came up to Tokyo in May, 1891. At an inn in Bakuro-cho, he became acquainted with two mining speculators, Umemura Kakichi and Tsunoya Hantaro. Through the introduction of these new friends, Chichii asked Takata Naomatsu, an employé of the Mining Bureau, to secretly carry out of the office the application for a lease he had forwarded thither some time previously. As Takata refused, Chichii pursuaded another employé of the same Bureau, Inokuchi Toshihide, to undertake the dangerous task, and this time he was successful. Having obtaining the document of application, he changed the figures 21,204 *tsubo* into 117,001 *tsubo*, and had it secretly restored to the Bureau. The next task was to effect a like change in the duplicate kept by the Prefectural Government of Aomori. For this purpose, Chichii obtained the services of Osaki Sosogu, clerk of that Government. Osaki undertook the dangerous business for 3,000 *yen*, to be paid in monthly instalments of 50 *yen*. Chichii in course of time obtained the additional lease of 117,001 *tsubo*. He gave a thousand *yen* each to Inokuchi, Umemura, and Tsunoya. To the latter, he promised to pay in addition a sum of 20 *yen* per month as long as the Tsubaki mine should be worked. Mr. Furukawa was surprised to find the greater part of the field he had applied for leased to Chichii and Miyakoshi. Suspicion suggested by the circumstance led to official investigation, which ultimately revealed the above facts. All the culprits are now in prison.

SUMMER SCHOOLS.

SUMMER schools are becoming very popular in this country. For example, the students of the Imperial University and five other educational Institutions propose to listen to lectures upon Buddhism at the Shokaku-ji temple at Futamiga-ura, Province of Ise. The lecturers are to be priests of the first order, such, for instance, as Kato Gyokai, Atsumi Keiyen, Shimaji Mokurai, and Akamatsu Renjo. The Kwansai Railway Company has consented to make a discount of 30 per cent. on fares for students and others connected with this summer school. Another enterprise of the same nature is at Hakone, organized by Christian students, who have been meeting there for the past few summers. A third is at Kamakura, and is composed of the students of Buddhist schools. Yet another summer school of importance will be opened at Nikko for the benefit of teachers in primary schools, there being three courses, namely, National Literature, Mathematics, and Gymnastics. The fee will be 1 *yen* for a course, 1 *yen* 50 *sen* for two courses, and 2 *yen* for three courses. The boarding expenses will be fixed at figures below 5 *yen*. This school will be opened on the 1st, and closed on the 30th of August. The instructors will be Mr. Sekine Masanao in National Literature, Mr. Noguchi Yasuoki in Mathematics, and Messrs. Tsuboi Gendo, and Kobayashi Seijiro in Gymnastics.

THE KOBE STABBING AFFRAY.

A TERRIBLE affair, says the *Kobe Chronicle*, happened last Saturday morning on board the British ship *Orpheus*, which had only arrived in harbour a few hours previously. A Japanese managed to convey whisky on board, apparently of the usual deleterious nature, which had such a quick effect upon those who partook of it that a row speedily ensued. Half-mad, two men named Smith and Ragen started a quarrel, and the first-named after a few moments drew a knife and stabbed Ragen three times in the neighbourhood of the heart. As if this were not sufficient, Ragen had no sooner fallen than a man named Murray, acting as cook on board, rushed forward, and, snatching a sheath-knife from one of the other men standing by, plunged it twice into Smith's neck and once into his shoulder. By this time the men standing round appear to have recovered their senses. The two men who commenced the row were now in-

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capable of continuing the conflict or offering resistance, but Murray was seized and disarmed and placed in confinement until he could be sent on shore, which was done shortly afterwards, Sergeant Toms taking charge of the man and lodging him in the Consular Gaol. Both the injured men were immediately attended by the doctor who visits ship cases, but their condition was considered too dangerous to allow of their removal to the hospital. On Saturday it was scarcely thought that Ragan would recover, but yesterday some slight improvement was observable, and there are hopes that his wounds may not result fatally. Smith is very seriously injured, and it is feared that he may succumb to his injuries. Doubtless neither of the three men have now any clear knowledge of what took place, the whole dispute apparently being the outcome of drunken frenzy caused by the vile decoction sold under the name of whisky at Japanese liquor-stores.

HONGKONG'S COINAGE AND THE JAPANESE YEN.

At a meeting of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce, held on the 13th inst., Mr. T. Jackson proposed and Mr. J. H. Scott seconded, "That this Chamber move the Government to make the Japanese *yen* legal tender in this colony." The resolution was carried unanimously. The Hon. T. H. Whitehead then moved "That a Special Committee be appointed by the Committee of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce to inquire into and report on the desirability, in the interests of trade, of the coinage of a British dollar, equal in weight and fineness to the Mexican dollar, for circulation in this Colony concurrently with the dollars which are now legal tender;" but after a short discussion the resolution was not put to the meeting. As far back as 1877 the Hongkong Banks petitioned the Government in favour of a British dollar.

ELECTION DISTURBANCES.

A TELEGRAPHIC message from Sakata received by the *Asashi Shimbun* states that a violent election fight occurred there on the night of the 17th inst. between *Min-to* and *Rí-to* partisans. Two *Min-to* representatives in the Town Assembly were wounded. Two reporters on the staff of the *Sakata Shogyo Shimpo* were arrested in connection with the disturbance

* * *

It is alleged that in consequence of the violent character assumed by the competition between the *Jiyu-to* and the *Kaishin-to* in the election of members for the Kanagawa Local Assembly, the *Kaishin-to* politicians have procured a reinforcement of two hundred *soshi* from Tokyo At what price the assistance of these gentlemen has been obtained we do not read, but they are not expensive: any one can procure them for any purpose at quite moderate rates.

* * *

The *Yomiuri Shimbun* states that about noon on the 13th inst., while Messrs. Ishizaka Shoko, Suzumoto Inanosuke, and Morichi Sayemon, Radicals, accompanied by sixteen *soshi*, were passing Goshomi-mura, the villagers were called together by the ringing of a bell. They attempted to assault the *Jiyu-to* partisans, but were prevented by the police. On the morning of the 14th inst., about eight o'clock, nearly sixty *soshi* of the *Kaishin-to* broke into the residence of Dr. Watanabe, a Radical, at Tana-mura, and two medical students were seriously wounded.

* * *

A riot took place at Fujisawa about eleven o'clock in the forenoon of the 17th inst., between some fifty or sixty *soshi* of the Radical Party and a nearly equal number of disorderly youths belonging to the *Kaishin-to*. Their weapons having been previously confiscated by the police, the lads resorted to stone-throwing. Few persons were injured. The police eventually dispersed the mob.

* * *

It is stated in the *Asahi* that fifty constables were sent to Koza District between the 17th and 18th inst. for the purpose of restoring order. This brings up the police-force in the district to two hundred. The number of *soshi* and gamblers hired by the two political parties reaches at present nearly one thousand.

* * *

Details of the serious fight, which occurred at Fujisawa on the 17th inst., between supporters of the *Jiyu-to* and *Kaishin-to* show that two or three *Jiyu-to soshi* were severely wounded, more than ten persons being slightly injured, while two persons hired by the *Kaishin-to* were severely wounded, three others receiving slight injuries.

THE GREAT CHINESE POTTERIES.

THE celebrated potteries at King-teh-ching, the potteries where so many immortal specimens have been produced during the past 700 years, seems to be a decidedly rowdy and disorderly place at present. A missionary correspondent of the *North China Daily News* visited the place lately, and tells us this:—

Proceeding, we at length reached the far-famed Potteries—the long-looked-for dreadful Potteries where almost everybody had warned us not to go. Such a wild and lawless conglomeration of people from all the eighteen provinces are supposed to constitute the population that it was with some misgiving and more prayer that the solitary Western landed

And it *was* a lively time the two or three days we spent there—little leisure for *ennui*; a rare place for those young gentlemen of France who "would be as mad as night only for wantonness." It was much against us to have a lame foot, a shaky knee, and only one servant; but we got into the city, and did well. The getting to our boat was the part we were not sure about; the whole of the river side for a great length is composed of almost nothing but broken pottery—the accumulated waste of centuries These King-teh-ching Potteries were established A D. 1004.

As we anticipated, the people were expecting us, and as we reached the wide expanse of pottery-beach a wild howl announced our arrival, and almost immediately we were surrounded by a rough and increasing crowd

After difficulty and delay we reached our boat, and sat there talking and bookselling for perhaps an hour, till quite wearied, and till the juvenile part of our audience were impatient for some fun. One of the first items on the programme was a shower of crockery in the water, to splash us well; the next was the swaying and pushing by one part of the crowd of the other part into the water—that was fun for *us*. Then we tried to fasten up outside other boats, but could not, and even ually, the showers of missles increasing, to my regret we had to retire a mile or so.

As the boat was slightly injured, and I had been struck several times, too, we deemed it perhaps as well to inform the officials of our coming, and especially of our staying These officials, the "fathers and mothers of the people," would be blamed if any of their turbulent children seriously injured the foreigner, it seems only right to let them know one has come, if there is likelihood of a bother. We have never sent before, save to give the officials a present of books, but found these mandarins very nice, and much concerned about us, promising to send runners early in the morning.

The "runners" must have been walkers; at any rate as they didn't arrive by the time we thought well, went back to our landing-place of the previous day, and got right into the Pottery part this time. What a crowd! We were proceeding, about as roughly as I remember anywhere, when up rushed two soldiers in their red bordered jackets, and laying about them right and left, they affirmed that they were going to stay till we were out of the place. We heard that they got a beating for being late. After them came two men bearing official proclamations, and, before long, six more *yemén* people. Altogether by dinner-time our official escort was a formidable half score, following and proceeding us, shouting, vociferating, keeping the people back, and generally making confusion so confounded that if we hadn't taken active measures to silence our helpers, we should have been prevented from doing just what we had come to do—sell books,

But altogether, though the people were pretty nearly as rough as we expected, we came through the Potteries all right, and only sustained one pocket-picking and one small robbery by night in the whole district. We saw much that interested us; it is said that the people are jealous of foreigners learning their trade secrets, but we saw no reason to believe this report and had we had more time and a smaller following would have learned and seen probably all we cared to. It will be a hard place to open for the plucky missionary who tries it, will King-teh-chiog.

* * *

It is curious and interesting to contrast this account with that given of the same place by Père d'Entrecolles, in 1717 A.D.:—

It is astonishing to find that a place so populous where there is so much wealth, where a multitude of vessels touch daily, and which is not enclosed by walls, is nevertheless governed by a single Mandarin, without the slightest disorder arising. In truth, King-teh-ching is only a league from the district of Fu-liang and 18 leagues from Jo-chou, but it must be admitted that the police there are excellent. Each street has a chief appointed by the Mandarin, and if it be a long street, there are two or three of such headmen. Each headman has ten subalterns, each of whom is responsible for ten houses. Their duty is to preserve good order, to hasten to any scene of tumult, to quell it, and to give information of it to the mandarin under penalty of the bastonnade, which is freely administered, &c.

Things were better managed 176 years ago than they are now, apparently.

THE DROUGHT.

THIS long continued spell of dry weather begins to cause much uneasiness in the agricultural districts. It does not appear that any serious harm has yet been caused, but should the absence of rain endure for another ten or fifteen days, a very inferior rice harvest must be anticipated. The vernacular press publishes telegrams from various places describing an anxious state of affairs. Kiushu appears to be the worst. The farmers there have ceased working and are praying at the Shrines for rain, none having fallen since a period prior to the *Niubai*. From Otsu it is reported that the drought has lasted for 22 days, and that the crops are in a parched condition, and in Hyogo Prefecture even drinking water is said to be scarce. As we write, however, the sky is overcast, and though no rain has yet fallen in Tokyo, there is every appearance of a speedy break in the weather.

THE CHICAGO FIRE.

THE alarming telegram received some days ago about a fire in the Chicago Exhibition was of course believed implicitly at first, but owing to one reason or another doubts subsequently began to be entertained, and on the 12th instant an inquiry was despatched by wire from the Department of Agriculture and Commerce to Mr. Tejima, the Japanese Commissioner. The reply, given in at Chicago at 6.30 p.m. on the 14th instant, reached Tokyo at 10.14 a.m. on the 15th. It ran as follows:—

The coal depôt in the Stores Court has alone been burned.

In this cablegram no allusion is made to killed or wounded persons, but it is plain that neither the exhibits buildings nor their contents have been injured. The first message, saying that 17 deaths had occurred, may prove to have been an exaggeration.

MICROSCOPIC WRITING.

A STATEMENT recently made in Tokyo that a Japanese caligraphist now living is able to write several verses of the Sutras on a grain of rice, was received with polite incredulity. Here are two or three historical facts taken from the *Bookworm*, which show that this Japanese penman has had plenty of equally neat-fingered predecessors:—"Dr. Heylin, in his 'Life of King Charles,' records that during the reign of Queen Elizabeth 'there was one who wrote the Ten Commandments, the Creed, the Pater Noster, the Queen's name, and the Prayer of our Lord within the compass of a penny, and gave Her Majesty a pair of spectacles of such an artificial making that by the help thereof she did plainly and distinctly discern every letter.' A somewhat similar feat was that 'rare piece of work brought to pass by Peter Bales, an Englishman, who also exhibited before Her Majesty the entire Bible written in a book, containing as many leaves as a full-sized edition, but fitting into a walnut.' In St. John's College, Oxford, is preserved a portrait of Charles I., in which the engraver's lines, as they seem to be, are really microscopic writing, the face alone containing all the Book of Psalms with the Creeds, and several forms of prayers. About forty years ago, a specimen of microscopic penmanship was exhibited in America. It consisted of the following inscription, written upon glass in a circle much smaller than the head of an ordinary pin ($\frac{1}{\sigma\frac{1}{5}\tau}$ part of an inch in diameter): "Lowell and Sculer, Watchmakers, 94, Exchange St., Portland. Written by Fermat at Paris, 1852." At the Dusseldorf exhibition, a few years ago, a gentleman showed a postal

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card upon which the whole of the first three books of the Odyssey were written, the remaining space being filled with the transcript of a long debate which had taken place in the German Parliament a short time before. The whole card contained 33,000 words. In the spring of 1882 a Hungarian Jew sent to a Vienna paper a grain of wheat on which he had written 309 words taken from Sissot's book on Vienna. Layard, in his History of Nineveh, mentions that the natural records of the Assyrian Empire were written on bricks in characters so minute as to be scarcely legible without the aid of a microscope, and that, in fact, a variety of this instrument was found among the excavations."

* * *

Concerning the equally interesting subject of microscopic mechanism, we read in the same journal:—"That minute mechanical construction can also lay claim to considerable antiquity is evidenced by the works of Pliny and Adrian, who relate that Myrmicides constructed out of ivory a ship with all her appurtenances and a chariot with four wheels and four horses, both so small that a bee could hide either of them with its wings. A still more wonderful work is that of Mark Scaliot, a London locksmith, who, in 1570, manufactured a lock consisting of eleven different pieces of steel, iron, and brass which, together with the key belonging to it, weighed only one grain. The same artist constructed a chain of gold containing forty three links, which he fastened to the lock and key, and upon these being attached to the neck of a flea the insect was able to draw them with ease. Hadianus Junius saw at Mechlin, in Brabant, a cherry stone carved in the form of a basket, in which were fourteen pairs of dice, the spots on the latter being visible to the naked eye. A cherry stone carved by the Italian sculptor, Rossi, and containing a glory of sixty saints, was shown at Florence for many years. A still more marvelous curiosity was a set of 1,600 ivory dishes which were said to have been purchased by one Shad from the maker, Oswald Northingerus, and exhibited before Pope Paul in VI. These dainty turnings, though perfect in every respect, were scarcely visible to the naked eye, and could be easily enclosed in a casket the size of a peppercorn. A Jesuit, Father Ferrarius, made twenty-five wooden cannon capable of being packed away in the same space. In 1764, on the birthday of King George III., a watchmaker of London, named Arnold, presented himself before the King to exhibit a curious repeating watch of his manufacture. This watch was in diameter somewhat less than a silver two-pence, contained 120 distinct parts, and weighed altogether less than six pennyweights! Not very long ago a London newspaper announced that a jeweler of Turin had made a tugboat formed of a single pearl. The sail is of beaten gold studded with diamonds, and the binnacle light at the prow is a perfect ruby. An emerald serves as its rudder, and the stand on which it is mounted is a slab of whitest ivory. The entire weight of this marvelous specimen of the jeweler's craft is less than half an ounce, but the maker values it at £1,000."

THE GRAND DUKE OF AUSTRIA.

THE statement contained in the *Kokkai* and reproduced by us on the 18th instant with regard to the movements of the Austrian Prince Imperial, requires to be largely corrected. His Imperial Highness' original programme was to visit Siam, and Count Coudenhove, Secretary of the Austro-Hungarian Legation in Tokyo, proceeded thither to meet him. But owing to the trouble between France and Siam, the Siamese part of the route has been given up, and a telegram received in Tokyo on the 18th instant, announces that His Imperial Highness may be expected to reach Nagasaki on August 2nd. There he will be met by His Excellency Baron Biegeleben, the Austro-Hungarian Minister, who leaves Tokyo for the purpose about the 25th instant, and by a Japanese Committee of Welcome, consisting of Messrs. Sannomiya, Yamanouchi, and Ito, Major Muraki, of the War Department, and Captain Kurooka, I.J.N. A night will be spent at Nagasaki, and on the 3rd the party will proceed by a Japanese man-of-war to Misumi, the port of Kumamoto. Thence a drive of 25 miles will take them to Kumamoto, where another night will be passed. From Kumamoto the next stage will be to Shimonoseki, and after one night there they will go on to Miyajima, spending a night there, and travelling the next day by man-of-war to Mihara, where the Sanyo railway will be taken for Okayama, the next stopping place. At Kobe the halt will be brief, the party going on without loss of time to Kyoto. Of course the Prince may prolong his stay at any of the above places, and how long he will remain in Kyoto we have no information. Similar uncertainty exists as to the journey from Kyoto to Tokyo, for though the present programme contemplates a stoppage at Nagoya only, it is possible that Miyanoshita and Hakone may also become places of sojourn.

UTOPIA UP TO DATE.

AUSTRALIAN papers have lately been filled with long accounts of a communistico-socialistic scheme, *à la* Edward Bellamy, which has been planted in the republic of Paraguay. The prospectus of the scheme has been much discussed in Yokohama of late; it would doubtless be of interest, therefore, to give an Australian poet's description of the affair;—

Come all ye noble fellows discontented with a lot
Where the only things worth having are those you haven't got.
Cease to labour for a pittance eight long weary hours a day,
But pay up sixty sovereigns and be off to Paraguay.

Have you that within which tells you you're the sport of Fortune's tricks?
Were you meant to be a ruler? Are you forced to carry bricks?
Do you feel that you should give command and others should obey?
Fork out your sixty sovereigns; you're the man for Paraguay.

Is your life here cramped and bounded? Do you feel a vague unrest?
Does a yearning for the undefined swell out your manly chest?
Does the mighty distance beckon? Does the vast call you away?
You'll have something real to long for when you get to Paraguay.

Do you feel that you could much improve the general scheme of things
If only you could lay your hand upon the central springs?
Does the painful riddle of the earth upon you spirit weigh?
You may start a perfect system when you go to Paraguay.

There all the discontented ones will find a sweet content,
For all things will be settled by a general consent,
And all the headstrong people who are bound to have their way
Will all be sure to get it when they go to Paraguay.

DIFFERENT OPINIONS.

THE editor of the *Siam Free Press* has received a warning from H.B.M.'s Consul at Bangkok, acting under instructions from Captain Jones V.C., H.M.'s Representative in Siam. The editor, summoned to the Consulate, was told that the general tone of his writing was objectionable to the Siamese Government, and on asking to have this warning conveyed in writing, received the following:—

Bangkok, June 30th, '93.

Sir, I am to forward to you in writing the memorandum of what I just now said to you.

I am, yours obediently,

E. H. FRENCH, H.B.M. Consul

The Siamese Government having complained to the British Government that articles published in your paper are a serious danger at the present moment to public security, I am now instructed to warn you to be more discreet for the future in the tone of your articles and extracts.

* * *

We cannot ourselves pretend to be constant readers of the *Siam Free Press*, but we opine that the Siamese Government and Her Majesty's Representative would not have taken such an exceptional step without ample reason. That opinions differ materially on the subject may be gathered, however, from the following two extracts, the first from the *North China Daily News*, the second from the *Bangkok Times*:—

Captain Jones appears to us, who have read the *Siam Free Press* regularly for some months, to have acted very unadvisedly. That paper has written about the present crisis with intelligence and independence, it has criticised at times the government of Siam, and no paper that is worth its salt can help constantly criticising the actions of Eastern governments. It seems to us that before taking this unusual step, Capt. Jones should at least have insisted on the Siamese Government specifying its charges. It is to say the least undignified on the part of the British representative to allow himself to be made the vehicle of such a vague and unsupported charge as that the tone of the *Siam Free Press* was a serious danger to public security. We can at least congratulate our contemporary on having the influence of its article recognised in such high quarters.

* * *

It says much for the forbearance of the Siamese, regarded either as a nation or individually, that for considerably over a year they have permitted the existence, in their very capital, of a blackguardly publication such as the *Siam Free Press*. It is entirely unnecessary for us to dilate upon the nature of the calumnies for which that journal has been made the vehicle, to vent the baffled spleen (we admit with regret) of a few disappointed Europeans, to truckle to to the avowed enemies of the Government. The private character and public actions of every worthy citizen, whether foreign or Siamese, have been attacked with a ferocity and a malignity which it is no exaggeration to say is almost without parallel. Certainly the nominal proprietor of the publication was ultimately thrashed—but in any South American Republic he would have been lynched, in Japan the *soshi* would long ago have stayed his hand; in China the representatives of his own Government would have deported him; whilst in Egypt his office would have been summarily closed, as was done in the case of the *Bosphore Egyptien*. In Siam he was at first simply thrashed, and as he was subsequently honoured with mention in the Commons by a patriotic countryman, he thought that he had all Great Britain at his back to protect him.

In that belief his writings became, it possible, more rabid and anti-Siamese than ever. The best test of his policy, perhaps, is the fact that the French press repeatedly reproduced his articles in support of their own. Under cover of pretended counsel the Siamese were insulted and derided in every issue, whilst the most offensive and often openly inimical expressions of opinion which could be found in distant, ill-informed, and irresponsible journals were extracted. And at length the end has been reached. It has been officially intimated to him that this policy will be no longer tolerated. He feebly tries to make capital out of the fact, as he did out of his thrashing, but it is utterly ineffectual. There is a fictitious ring about the cry for a "free press" which men of this type raise so glibly and readily. Many a ruffian has been canonised as a martyr because he was burnt or gibbeted without all the due formality of trial, and in the same way the summary thrashing administered by the two Siamese probably to some extent strengthened that power for evil which the *Siam Free Press*, like its predecessor, openly endeavoured to exert. The catalogue of injury which that organ and its director have wrought is too long to be reproduced here—reference need only be made to the lie published in 1891 that the French had occupied Luang Phrabang, or to the overt attacks upon the very personages to whose charity the slanderer was long indebted for a living, and by whose clemency alone he was ever permitted to remain a single day in this country.

THE SILVER QUESTION.

MR. MORETON FREWEN, writing in the *Fortnightly Review* about the currency crisis in the United States, says:—

For the coming six months the commercial world must be dominated by the silver campaign in the United States; out of that struggle is likely to come, either the suspension of all silver purchases, with an acute crisis everywhere, and then, educated by the disaster, the dawn of intelligence here, and a monetary union of some kind; or, on the other hand, the United States single-handed will open her mints to silver; in this case also a Wall Street panic will be arranged so that timid and ignorant investors may be once more plundered; but beyond these alternative conditions of disturbance and disaster, the world is now emerging from the most remarkable economic crisis since the discovery of the great silver-mines of Potosi in the sixteenth century. Public opinion all over the world is in revolt against a cosmopolitan "government of the banks by the banks for the bankers," and the grand jury which is now empanelled to pronounce on the "crime of 1873" is a jury of all the nations. Should President Cleveland, as is most likely, fail in his intention to repeal the Sherman Act, and should both Chambers proceed to pass a Free Coinage Bill, will the President veto such a Bill? Here is an issue which has been perpetually before the nation for ten years past. The nation has been assured by one set of disputants that only open mints to either metal can maintain an equilibrium between the two, and has been assured by the other side in the controversy that open mints will result in a silver currency, such being the admitted alternatives, under what possible pretext can a majority vote be set aside by the President? If seventy millions of educated people prefer unanimously either bimetallism or a silver currency, to the present *étalon boiteux*, why should the President intervene, at the instance of some *arbitrage* houses who play in Wall Street upon the foreign exchanges? But is not the United States entirely able to act as the world's money-changer? What has been the lesson of history? For seventy years France exchanged gold for silver at a worse ratio than the American ratio, and this too in spite of quite unprecedented fluctuations in the comparative production of the two metals from the mines. What France did until 1875, that the United States is today far better equipped to do. What would be the position were the mints of the United States open to silver? Silver would at once be coined for the bearer into legal-tender money, and the proceeds lodged in the nearest bank. Did this depositor require gold, his purchase in New York of any one of a hundred securities listed on the London market would give him the means of drawing gold from the Bank of England. What was it that France formerly did? If so much silver was unloaded on the French mint that silver tended to become redundant in the French currency, that silver was carried forward to India or China by British merchants, to be exchanged in Asiatic ports for a hundred millions sterling of exports, which were on their way to England to be paid for in gold. Silver then, to any amount, could be exchanged for gold bills on London, and every 154 ounces coined in Paris was in effect a demand draft on the Bank of England for an ounce of gold. Thus

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a steady exchange value, closely corresponding to the mint ratio, was maintained between the two metals. But to-day there is in all the world of commerce not a money-changer left to give gold for silver. The weight of evidence, then, would seem to show that America can settle the silver difficulty single-handed. People who are concerned to invent dangers point to the probability of French coined silver being melted and sold at a loss for American gold—of rupees to be exported from India to New York; but such predictions will not be taken very seriously by those who have studied the present currency conditions of the world. Let us, however, for the sake of argument, assume that the American currency does become a depreciating silver currency, and that, to a lesser degree, the silver dollar depreciates in terms of gold, just as the rupee does, the effect of this depreciation, just as in the case of India, would check United States imports and would stimulate exports. This depreciation of the currency would act, in short, just as a tariff does in reducing imports, but unlike the tariff, would not diminish the exporting capacity of the country. I can imagine no result so satisfactory as this, both to Protectionists and Free Traders in the United States. The gap between gold and silver—a very small gap, if any, when once that mighty nation had opened its mints—would embarrass England's exports to America just as they are embarrassed by the "cheap rupee;" would stimulate all exports to gold standard nations; and would enable the United States to secure an increasing amount of trade, *via* her Pacific ports, with the silver-using myriads in Asia. A better object lesson than this, both for Wall Street and Lombard Street, it would be difficult to imagine.

THE SÔMA AFFAIR.

We learn that the Public Procurators of the Tokyo Local Court, after accepting the criminal suit brought against the supposed murderers of the late Viscount Sôma, changed their minds and decided that the suit could not be entertained. Mr. Nishikori's lawyer is reported to have carried the matter before the Tokyo Court of Appeal. According to another report, Mr. Nishikori has presented a document on the subject to Mr. Yoshikawa, Minister of Justice. It is not yet known whether the Court of Appeal will entertain the suit. Meanwhile, the Tokyo papers publish what purports to be the confession of one of the accomplices in the crime alleged to have been perpetrated against the late Viscount Soma Masatane. The document is long. It describes in tolerably clear style the origin of an atrocious conspiracy against the unfortunate nobleman, his persecution, the endless bribing of officials and physicians, and ultimately his murder under horrible circumstances. The story is so long, minute, and circumstantial, bringing into unenviable prominence the names of a host of distinguished personages, that many people reading it will doubtless be reluctantly impelled to suspect some truth in its allegations. But at the present stage of development, it would be evidently rash to pronounce any opinion whatever upon the merits of the case. The publication of the document has created widespread excitement throughout the country, for it prefers most damaging charges against a large number of persons, who are honoured and respected, and who occupy high places in the Government and in society. Should but a tithe of the story prove true, it will bring shame and ruin into many a respected family. Such being the case, we should certainly not have taken upon ourselves the grave responsibility of giving publicity to the contents of the document, had not the metropolitan press lent its columns for the so-called "confession's" insertion, and sent out copies containing it to all parts of the country. The document is addressed to the Court, but it seems that it was first forwarded to Mr. Nishikori, through whom it was presented when he instituted the criminal suit above alluded to. Its writer does not reveal his identity, being afraid of the evil report that must attach to him; but he promises to give evidence in person when the trial commences, and so soon as everything connected with the shocking affair shall have been cleared up, he declares his intention of killing himself, in order to obtain the forgiveness of his late master, for he was a hereditary retainer of the Soma family. Thus much prefaced, we proceed to give an outline of the story as narrated in the anonymous confession.

* * *

Some time in 1874, certain retainers of the Soma family, Tomita Kyusuke, Kimura Yasozayemon, Otsuki Yoshinobu, Shiga Naomichi, and others, conspiring with Furukawa Ichibei and Yukioka Shobei, head clerks in the employ of Izutsuya Zensuke, drew from their master's coffer a large quantity of old coins on the pretence of depositing them with the above named merchant, Izutsuya. Izutsuya was then on the point of bankruptcy. The conspirators knew this and meant to turn the event to good account. The bankruptcy took place at the end of the month in which the sham deposits were made, and the house of Soma stood in the account as the loser of old gold coins (aggregating 170,000 *ryo* according to ancient values) besides a sum of 70,000 *ryo* which had been really deposited with the merchant at interest. The conspirators took the coins, which they had never deposited with Izatsuya, to the Mitsui Bank and the Treasury, and had them exchanged for paper money, realizing by the process a sum of 1,020,000 *yen*. They invested 1,000,000 *yen* in the Ashio Copper Mine, in the name of Furukawa Ichibei. Two of the gang, Shiga and Aota, on a subsequent occasion carried out of the Soma mansion 50 gold *oban*, 500 *ryo* of old gold, and 1 000 *ryo* of silver 1 *bu* pieces, representing to their master that these coins had been taken by robbers on a certain stormy night. They conveyed the coins to the house of a friend at Negishi, through whose agency they sold them in Kanda and Osaka. The conspirators are stated to have committed several other criminal acts. The master of the house, Soma Masatane, was at this time studying in Mr. Fukuzawa's school, the *Keiwogijuku*, but young as he was, he conceived a suspicion of the criminal conspiracy of his retainers, and gave orders for a through reformation in his household management. The audacious robbers were greatly alarmed. But they were equal to the occasion. They succeeded in persuading the relatives of the unfortunate young nobleman that he had lost his reason. He was sent for a time to Nikko, and they prepared a family prison into which they forcibly thrust him on his return. This was in June, 1877. They then set up his younger brother as *pater familias*, and continued to carry on their nefarious practices. One of the several robberies which they are said to have committed under the new master relates to a sum of 700,000 *yen*, of which they obtained possession in money and bonds. But they were not suffered long to remain unmolested in the enjoyment of their ill-goten fortune, Nishikori Katamiyo, a former retainer of the Sôma clan, began to stir himself on behalf of the unfortune Masatane, wrongfully deprived of his birthright and confined in a family prison. He brought suit against the conspirators, but they successfully resorted to corrupt on. Among those who are said to have received money at different times the following are mentioned:—Count Yamada, Minister of Justice, 30,000 *yen*; Viscount Kagawa of the Household Department, 5,000 *yen*; Mr. Yoshikawa, then Governor of Tokyo, 3,000 *yen*; Judge Oshima of the Tokyo Local Court, 5,000 *yen*; Mr. Sonoda, Chief of the Metropolitan Police, 10,000 *yen*; the Metropolitan Board of Police, 36,000 *yen*; Judge Nozaki of the Tokyo Local Court, 2,000 *yen*; Doctors Iwasa Sakaki, Miyake, Sasaki Masakichi, and Baelz, 5,000 *yen* each; Mr. Yanagiya Kentaro of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, and several others. The total amount disbursed in the form of bribes is said to have exceeded 100,000 *yen*. The man who carried the money to the late Count Yamada is declared to have been Okabe Kôki. In consequence of this wholesale corruption, Nishikori was defeated at all stages of the suit. But he was indefatigable in harrassing his wily opponents, instituting prosecutions against them time after time on one pretext or another. While legal proceedings were going on, the mistress of the disinherited nobleman bore a son to him, for he was allowed to be served by a female attendant in his family prison. The conspirators, from one motive or another, gave out that this child's real father was a youth named Iwasaki, a servitor in the house. The woman, named Shinonome Shige, was naturally indignant at this, and caused them a great deal of trouble. She was pacified only by the intervention of Marquis Asano, who is represented as having been on good terms with the conspirators, since he borrowed a large sum of money from the Sôma family through their mediation. It would be tedious to follow the confession into all its details. Mention may, however, be made of another fraud said to have been committed. Nishikori having in his possession a letter of attorney signed by Sôma Masatane, his opponents desiring very much to annul the instrument, sought the advice of Judges Nozaki and Oshima of the Tokyo Local Court. In obedience to the latter's counsel, they caused the writer of the document from which we are quoting to approach the imprisoned nobleman and obtain his signature to a blank paper. He asked the use for which the paper was intended, and being assured that it was to be used as a notice to the Imperial Household Department [these words are in blank but there is no doubt of the allusion], he finally did as he was asked. With this paper they drew up an instrument destroying the effect of the one in Nishikori's hands. But a Judge of preliminary investigations, in the Tokyo Local Court who, we are led to believe, was either above corruption or perhaps below it, entertained doubts as to the authenticity of the later instrument, and demanded the appearance in Court of Soma Masatane, whose evidence bought the whole fraud to light. To hasten to the culminating point. The Court of Appeal ordered the attendance of Masatane on the 22nd of February, 1892. Things were now taking a very unfavourable turn in the Court, and the unscrupulous conspirators in their desparation decided to poison their deposed master. On the 21st of February, the unfortunate nobleman was released from confinement and taken to Meguro in the western suburb of the capital on pretence of recreation. There poisonous food was served to him at tiffen, Dio Nakai Tsunejiro and Sakai Shuku having prepared the drug. It was calculated that the poison would take effect by 6 o'clock the following morning. About that hour the victim began to vomit a quantity of blood, but did not succumb. Notice was sent to the Appeal Court that he could not appear as he had died suddenly. At noon, however, as there was are prospect of his speedy death, the murderers suffocated him by wrapping him in a *futon*, but it was not until about 4.30 p.m. that he finally ceased to breathe. When police officers came with a physician to inspect the body, the accomplices in the crime thought that everything was over, as the officers put the vomited blood into a flask and took it away with them. It was then that they bribed Mr. Sonoda, Chief of the Metropolitan Police and several of his subordinates. Meanwhile Nishikori applied for the dissection of the body. But through the exertions of Judges Oshima and Nozaki, a license was issued for the burial, and the crime was hushed up for the moment. The writer states that the grave at Hoyama was dug to the depth of 35 feet, and that the original intention was to sink the coffin to the depth of 40th feet. Such is the wonderful story. We confess to considerable difficulty in penning it gravely

THE SUSPENSION OF THE "KOKKAI."

The *Kokkai* has been suspended, the contents of its issue of the 18th instant being deemed injurious to public peace and tranquility. The offensive matter is doubtless to be sought in a leading article on Mr. Oishi's resignation and in an editorial note on the same subject, especially the latter. The *Kokkai* was always favourable to Mr. Oishi, but its zeal has perceptibly increased since its editorial control passed into the hands of Mr. Suyehiro, an intimate friend of the former Minister to Korea. Mr. Suyehiro, like Mr. Oishi, has written much on the now popular Eastern Question. He poses as the advocate of an almost aggressive policy in Korea. Mr. Oishi's resignation has afforded to the well known journalist a good opportunity to ventilate his dissatisfaction with the so-called conciliatory and knock-kneed policy of the Government. In the editorial note above alluded to, the *Kokkai* states that before Mr. Oishi's arrived in Tokyo, many of the Ministers were of opinion that he should be

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not only dismissed but also deprived of official rank; that their attitude changed when the public gave a splendid welcome to the returning Minister; that his speech, lasting over six hours, before the Ministers of State in full conclave in the Premier's official residence, contributed still more to change their attitude toward him; that on his subsequent presentation of a memorandum on Korean policy, the Cabinet divided into three sections, some endorsing the strong policy urged by him; others, while not particularly in favour of such a policy, still advocating the adoption of some of the measures recommended by him; and finally a third section, who, merely from motives of political expediency, were reluctant to cause him to resign; that although the Cabinet thus decided to send him once more to Korea, he tendered his resignation on the 25th ultimo, seeing that there was no prospect of his policy being adopted in its entirety; that the Ministry, fearing lest his resignation should provoke strong public opposition, tried every means to make him reconsider his resolve; that in order to allay the fears of the Ministers, he assured them that he would not foment any agitation against the Government; his intention being to go abroad at once; that a certain Privy Councillor, taking alarm, reminded the Ministers of the danger of permitting him to leave the Government, as he would certainly get up a powerful agitation against them; that the Ministers were again in excitement and were inclined to prevail upon Mr. Oishi to withdraw his resignation; and that Mr. Oishi again assured them of his peaceful intentions, so that they finally consented to let him resign. The effect of this note is certainly to represent the Cabinet in a very pitiable light, and moreover our contemporary incidentally publishes certain official secrets relating to the Korean policy recommended by Mr. Oishi. These things, together with the sarcastic tone of the leading article, doubtless induced the authorities to order the suspension of the paper.

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Concerning Mr. Oishi, it is a noteworthy circumstance that popular enthusiasm in his favour has cooled perceptibly. It was generally believed, and he apparently encouraged the belief, that he did not return to Japan for the purpose of resigning. His friends asserted that he had a definite policy for Korea, and that, if his policy were adopted by the Government, he would proceed to Sōul once more. But gradually it has become clear that he left Sōul with no intention of going back there, at any rate as Japan's Representative. Even by the *Kokkai's* own showing, the Cabinet is not disinclined to endorse his views on essential points. But all the same time he has been praying hard to be relieved of his functions. In proportion as these facts gradually became known, even his admirers, who had been loud in his praise, began to suspect that his conduct while at Sōul had really been such as to render his prolonged stay there inexpedient, if not intolerant. But he has still some friends who, like the editor of the *Kokkai*, are resolved to stick to him through thick and thin. We wish that the Government could have allowed Mr. Suyehiro to talk without police interruption. Surely his remarks were extravagant enough to supply their own antidote.

FRANCE AND SIAM.

THE *Pall Mall Budget* gives the following account of "how the Siam question was hatched:"—"About 13 years ago, when a number of obscure St. Etienneois began to let off their restlessness and to find scope in the Far East for their spirit of mercantile adventure, under, of course, the fostering influence of State protection, their patrons were M. M. de Freycinet, Gambetta, Jules Ferry, and, more important than all these statesmen, the late Baron de Reinach. The first of the far eastern adventurers, after Lieut. Garnier, who began to make a noise about far eastern traditional rights of France, was Dupuis, a St. Etienne bagman, who wanted to trade with Yünnan by the Red River. He was never known in his native land to have any stock-in trade worth a few hundred pounds, but that did not prevent him getting up a claim against the mandarins of Hanoi for something approaching a sum of £800,000, for damages done to self and goods, but goods particularly. Out of the sum demanded he promised £80 000 to a syndicate of deputies, who agreed to obtain for him at the cost of their country the money to which he said he was entitled. Dupuis had the good fortune to be supported by Count Kergaradec, a friend of the late Duc Decazes, and, what was yet of more import, of a Mdlle. Valtesse, a professional beauty, who was the neighbour of Gambetta at Ville d'Avray. She was the direct cause of the expedition in which Captain Rivière perished. Dupuis was also seconded by some politicians who had pushed up and on in the years of the war as correspondents of an obscure provincial newspaper which had a deal of young muscle in it, *L'Eclaireur de St. Etienne*. A professor of mathematics of the Lycéum of St. Etienne, a M. Deloncle, was during the war the confidential secretary of M de Freycinet, when he was joint War Minister with Gambetta. He was a fountain head of news, and later of influence, to the *éclaireurs* of *L'Eclaireur*. When M. de Freycinet succeeded M. Waddington as Premier and Foreign Minister, his intimate relations with them recommended them to Baron de Reinach, who sent one of them on a mission to Burmah which, being found out, led the India Office to consent to the occupation by a British force of that country. M. de Freycinet represented as senator an Indian constituency, which was one of the reasons why the St. Etienneois became so intimately connected with Indian and Indo-Chinese affairs. Baron de Reinach had many schemes in his head in connection with Burmah, Tong-King, and Siam. There were ruby mines in the former State that he hoped to finance. He wanted to obtain a concession for a canal across the Malacca Peninsula at Krah, and to launch a Meikong steam navigation company, which, after the British had taken hold on Burmah, might have been expected to recommend itself to French patriots as a certain means to turn the position of the former and place Siam at the mercy of the French coming there from Cambodia and Annam. The baron merely thought of lucre. Siam was first openly coveted here in modern times in 1862, when an Embassy was sent to the Emperor Napoleon III.; and its members, who were presented to him in the throne room at Fontainebleau, entered his presences on all fours, and crawled from the door of the presence chamber to the throne on which he and the Empress stood. The Mission lodged in the same house at the corner of the Champs Elysées and the Rue de Bel Respiro, which was six years later the residence of the first Chinese Embassy that came to Europe, and which had for its chief an American, Anson Burlinghame. Cochin China had been taken two years previously, and the Catholic missions had begun to ask when it would be the turn of Siam. "The traditional right of France" was invoked, and it was remembered that Louis XIV. exercised a kind of suzerainty, as was shown in the protocol observed in the presentation to him of the Siamese Embassy, which was bear-led by the Abbé de Choisy, and which passed in Paris for a false one, got up by Madame de Maintenon to amuse the old unamusable King. Louis Quatorze unquestionably intended to be the Suzerain of all Indo-China. Through the Catholic missions out there he had plenty of excuses for claiming that high situation. The Catholic missions were, for the same reasons that made him go forward as their champion, treated as confederates by Gambetta, and even by Paul Bert. I wonder we do not now hear something of them, now that the Siamese question, which has so often slumbered and slept in the archives of the Foreign Office within the last two hundred years, has again started up and entered an acute phase. The person who has awoke it is M. Lanessan, the "viceroy" of French Indo-China. He was a client of Baron de Reinach, after being one of M. Clémenceau. I believe that Lanessan is hot foot after the realisation of the former, or, at any rate, after some result that will enable a syndicate to finance a concession and deputies who are in the thing to vote a subsidy. Siam under the hand of France, and Russia threatening on the Herat side, Great Britain would feel in regard to India and Egypt in a tight place. The French have the lower Meikong. They did not claim the western watershed of the mountain range parallel to the Annam coast until quite recently. The first no sy claimant was Prince Henry d'Orléans, now in all possible respects the rival of the Duc d'Orleans. But the *arrière pensée* of the gang round M. de Freycinet when he created the Protectorates was to make, as soon as native troops could be formed, expeditions on the Laotian territory, and possess themselves of the monopoly of Meikong navigation. If the French entrench themselves strongly on the Meikong, and open railway communications between that river and Annam, they are pretty sure to absorb Siam later on. Admiral Humann has been consulted on the following point—whether, it being impossible to take Bangkok without a fleet of gunboats for shallow water, or without getting into a quarrel with other European Powers, it might not be well to strike a rapid and decisive blow by seizing on some one or more of those islands on the east side of the square bay at the bottom of which the short river-way to Bangkok is entered. I should not wonder if before the year were out the news came of the occupation of the Island of Samit, in the Gulf of Siam. The taking of it has been often debated on in Ministerial Councils here; and if the bureaux at the Marine Ministry had had their will a French force would now command from that point the mouth of the Menam. A strong despatch was sent early last spring to Admiral Humann to say that information had been received from a good source that the Siamese Government has sent arms and munitions to the Laotians by the Bang-pa Kong river, and that he was to make a demonstration on a given message from Paris reaching him. He advises the creation of a French naval station in the Gulf of Siam, near the mouth of the Menam."

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A remarkable point in the above analysis is that it predicts precisely what has occurred, namely, the occupation of the Island of Samit, in the Gulf of Siam. France took possession of that island about a month ago, and, holding it, she undoubtedly commands the mouth of the river on which Bangkok lies. The operation is precisely the kind of step that Great Britain herself would have taken under the circumstances. We do not criticise it, but merely note its consequences. By way of corollary, too, we may observe that the telegram which described the firing upon French men-of-war by the Siamese, spoke of the act having been entirely unprovoked. But when the war-ships of a Power that has just seized by force of arms a portion of another State's territory, appear at the mouth of the river leading to the latter's capital, it is not easy to agree that there has been no provocation whatever.

THE PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL S. N. COMPANY.

WE take this from the *London and China Express*:—"The report of the P. & O. S. N. Company for the half-year to March 31 states:—The directors have recently entered into arrangements with Messrs. Caird and Co. to build two new steamers for the company, which appear in the Fleet List as the *Japan* and *Caledonia*. The first named will be a large carrying passenger and cargo steamer, while the latter will be the largest and swiftest mail and passenger steamer which the company have yet built. The *Japan* will be at work during the autumn of the present year, but the *Caledonia* will not be delivered until the latter part of 1894. It is satisfactory to observe that the company's various services have been performed with complete efficiency, and without accident or interruption of any kind. The state of shipping business during the period covered by this report has been generally unsatisfactory. So far as China is concerned, the position is somewhat better than India, a recovery to a certain extent having taken place from the poor freights which obtained in this trade a few month ago. On the other hand,

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Australian business, which has been on a downward incline for a considerable time, has recently been brought almost to a standstill by the financial disasters which have overtaken that country. In these circumstances, and with a low rate of exchange to contend against, it follows that the Company's revenue has suffered considerably during the period under review. Fortunately, however, this loss has been mitigated to a certain extent by the cheapness of coal and of coal freights, which have been such as to enable supplies of fuel to be laid down throughout the East at a lower figure than has ever been known before. The balance of revenue and expenditure is therefore on the whole sufficient to justify the Directors in recommending the payment of the usual interim dividend."

IVES IN ENGLAND.

MUCH interest appears to have been caused in London by the play of Ives, the American champion billiardist. It is admitted that his "all round" play can not be compared with that of Roberts, but in certain varieties of stroke, he appears to have no rival. Speaking of the French carom table and the regulation English table, the *Pall Mall Gazette* says:—"The French carom table has been unable to make any inroads in the United Kingdom, or to drive the English table from parts of Greater Britain; but it has invaded Canada and is in high favour there; is to be found in Australia and is almost without a competitor in the United States. Of course, it rules the roast in France; but the tables that are used in Canada, the United States, and such other countries as prefer cannons to a mixed game, excepting France, are made in the country of "Uncle Sam." The difference in the tables makes the difference in the game, but it does not follow that an American billiard expert will not play a respectable game, even with little or no practice, on an English table, for nearly all American billiard experts are adepts at the game of "pool." This was demonstrated in the recent game between Roberts and Ives. The latter's "all round" play was not to be compared to that of Roberts, as he was not at home on the table on account of its size and the presence of six pockets; but it was clearly evident that he could "hole" a ball when he pleased. The difference in the style of their play, each man being easily champion at his own game, has given rise to a great deal of discussion, the conclusion generally arrived at being based upon misapprehension that, honestly defined, means pure ignorance. The stroke to which objection was taken by many, and which undoubtedly robbed the match of much of its charm, was not the stroke by which "Tom" Taylor made 1,457 points in 1891, or by which Dawson, at a latter date, made nearly a thousand points; nor were the balls in the position from which Roberts has intentionally driven them more than once in match games. The balls which enabled Taylor to make a record break were jawed. This is a point which has never been disputed. The balls were 2 1-16 in. in diameter, and the pocket was 3⅛ in at the fall of the slate. The balls used in the Roberts-Ives match were 2¾ in. in diameter, and the pocket was 3¼ in.—larger balls and a smaller pocket. In the Roberts-Ives match the white ball was within a fraction of an inch of the fall of the slate, in fact almost overhung the miniature precipice. The red ball was comfortably ensconsed against the cushion. The balls were not frozen, as there was always daylight between them. It was only possible to cannon off them without driving the white ball into the pocket by a knowledge of the science of the game superior to that possessed, in this particular department, by any English player, and by a delicacy of touch which has heretofore not been called into play in English billiards by English players. Roberts made the statement that two men who were looking at the game could make the stroke almost as well as Ives. Both of these men have since attempted the feat and failed to accomplish it. Ives cannoned off the white ball by putting on reverse side—"English," he calls it—so that when the cue ball touched the white it held the latter in position; it fact made it cling to it, instead on driving it into the pocket. The desire to see Roberts and Ives matched again is very general. Roberts said last week that he was willing to play Ives a game of English and a game of American billiards, the maker of the majority of points at both games to be declared the winner. Ives at once agreed to the proposition, but nothing further has been done in the matter, as Roberts went to Liverpool on June 5th to play North. The American champion went to Paris on June 7th, but before he went he said he was willing to play Roberts and bar the shot by which he made one break of 2,540 and another of 852 in the recent match."

* * *

As to the effect of Ives' peculiar break on the game, the following gives a clear idea:—"The billiard contest in which John Roberts and Frank Ives, the American player, were engaged at Humphrey's Hall, Knightsbridge, last week was on the 1st inst. marked by an extraordinary performance by Ives. At the close of the previous night's play the figures were left at—Roberts, 3,000; Ives, 2,243; and on resuming the leader for a long time had so much the best of the play that his opponent's prospects of success seemed to be rapidly decreasing. After making his unfinished break of 106 of the previous evening into 140, Roberts followed with others of 67, 49, 139, 31, 34, and some of lesser value, and increased his total to 3,484 as against the 2,461 of Ives, whose chief efforts during the night had been 29, 19, 36, 25, and 45. At this point Ives commenced his extraordinary performance, as, after making ten ordinary cannons, he got the balls fixed just outside the top right hand pocket, and keeping them there continued to make cannon after cannon, until he eventually ran on to 4,001, when, having made his proper proportion of points, the contest was adjourned until next night. The break, which was unfinished, amounted to 1,540. At the cessation of the play the balls were in exactly the same position, and there was no apparent reason why Ives should not go on as long as he liked. On the 2nd inst. he increased the lead to 2,540 making his total 5,000 as against the 3,484 made by Roberts. There was a good deal of dissatisfaction among the spectators, as Roberts had no opportunity of playing. On the 3rd inst. the match was concluded. Ives winning by 2,179 points."

THE MISSIONARY MURDER IN CHINA.

THE awful murder of two Swedish Missionaries, the Rev. O. F. Wilkhon and the Rev. A. D. Johansson, in Sung-pu has evidently created a feeling of profound horror throughout the foreign communities in China. The unfortunate gentlemen were driven from house to house; like hunted rats, they hid in a garret; were discovered; forced their way through the tiles; fled along the roofs of twenty-five houses, pelted with missiles all the time by the murderous mob below; finally had to jump into the street; were instantly overwhelmed with a rain of blows and stones; were beaten and pounded until the only mark of identity remaining was the condition of their teeth; lay for three days naked and horribly mutilated at the place of their assassination, and were finally brought to Hankow by a circuitous route in a condition that baffles description. Attempts made by foreigners in Hankow to expedite the recovery of the corpses, attempts which ought to have been officially assisted in China of all countries, since there the people attach paramount importance to the treatment of the bodies of the dead and their restoration to their homes—these attempts met with only obstruction and prevarication, and elicited from the Viceroy a declaration that he, the deputed ruler of fifty millions of Chinese, was not competent, or at any rate would not guarantee, to protect two foreigners travelling to a distance of fifty miles from the capital of his jurisdiction for a legitimate purpose with which every Chinaman should sympathise. It is not easy to imagine what must have been the burning indignation of the foreign community in Hankow as they reflected that the mangled remains of their murdered friends were lying a few miles away, and that they could not reach them to pay the last tribute of respect. The missionaries fell on the forenoon of Saturday July 1st, in a town fifty miles distant from Hankow. Their bodies were not brought to the latter place until the morning of Sunday, July 9th. It is plain that Chinese officialdom does not exhibit much helpfulness in these crises.

* * *

If anything could add to the horror of this brutal affair the following incident may be noted—we take it from the Hankow correspondent of the *North China Daily News*:—

Mr. Wikholm was engaged to be married, and the lady who was to have been his wife was on the eve of starting for China. Going down in the steamer *Taiwo* we had some letters to post, and one from him to her. We put it before Li Taotai and also another to the same address bearing the news of his death and the terrible nature of it. We told him the story, never thinking but even he would feel its pitifulness. But no. It seemed to strike him as the funniest thing he had heard for a long time, and he leaned back in his chair with immoderate laughing. Yet all we have got to appeal to in our difficulties and dangers in China is the sense of justice and humanity which exists in a breast like that of Li Taotai. No wonder the murdered corner in our churchyard is filling rapidly, and men cease to hope for justice.

* * *

The following is the official account of the occurrence, sent by the District Magistrate to the Prefect of Huangchow:—

Chang Tsih-k'ing, District Magistrate of Macheng, respectfully petitions as follows:—

The Swedish missionary, Mei Pao-shan (Rev. O. F. Wikholm), with his servant, Tang Tsan-chun, having rented a house and sold books in Hokiapu (name of a suburb of Sung-pu) in my district, against the wishes of the whole neighbourhood of Sung-pu and Chiting; they (the people) posted placards threatening serious disturbances, as has been already reported. I therefore petitioned the Hankow Taotai, to request Consul Ting (Mr. Thyen) to cause that missionary and his followers to return to Hankow. To my surprise that missionary, Mei Pao shan, not only paid no respect to his Consul's command that he should return, but on the contrary brought the missionary Yoh Chuan-tan (Rev. A. D. Johansson), together with a native of Huangpi named Chou Heng-chu, to sell books and continue to live in the same house.

At this place (Sung-pu) the great festival of *T'ien Chung* was about to be held, as has been customary from ancient times; and to stop, or to hinder it, would have been very difficult. I therefore commissioned Ting Kai-tai, a *Patsung* (small military officer) to go and exhort those missionaries to come to the City (Macheng) and keep out of the way. But, although he used a hundred methods to induce them, those missionaries and their followers obstinately refused to hearken. I therefore again, on the 16th day of the present month (29th June) most earnestly petitioned the Hankow Taotai to get the Consul, with all expedition, to contrive some plan of getting them back (to Hankow), as is on record. At this time, since the missionary Mei would not listen to advice, and come to the City to be out of the way for a little, I personally, on the 14th day of the month (June 27th), went to the place and instructed the military officers, the gentry, and the police to securely protect them. The 15th day (June 28th) was the festival, and although the number of people was immense, they were happily controlled, and all was peaceful without disturbance.

On the 17th (30th June) a man named Chow Li came in from Ventienlo, in the South-East of my district, to report that his father had been beaten to death; further, on that day also, a man named Wangsis hui, of Sispichu, came and reported that his daughter had been driven to commit suicide by hanging through bad usage. Two cases. Whereupon I took the coroner and went to hold inquests. While thus engaged a village elder named Kiang fu came and reported that on that day, in the afternoon, four men named Wu Chi tai, Cui Yuen ts'an, Cheng Kwan-shou, and Chu-ying had been taken and bound up in their house by the foreigners at Hokiapu; and on the 18th (1st July), between seven and nine o'clock in the evening, the country people raised a faction, and took the two men Mei Pao-shan and Yoh Chuan-tan (Messrs. Wikholm and Johansson) and beat them to death. At the same time, at the house where the foreigners lived, a fire broke out, how caused I do not know, and burned down two front houses, but the foreigners' house was not burnt. On the 20th (3rd July) I

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personally went to Hokiapu and held an inquest. The whole bodies of the missionaries had received heavy wounds by bricks and stones. Whereupon they were coffined and the police told to take care of them.

The comments made on the above from the foreign side are :—

The only crime alleged against the missionaries was that they did not go away when they were asked to go. Nothing, however, is said about the lying promises of perfect protection in which they put confidence, and thus were induced to stay on. It is true that the Consul advised the missionaries, in case of trouble being imminent, to retire for a time. The account of the visit of the *Patsung* to the missionaries should be carefully compared with Mr. Wikholm's account of that visit as given in his letter. The District magistrate is lying when he says he went himself to Sung-pu, and instructed the minor authorities to protect them. He never went. The missionaries' house was burned. The Magistrate contrived to be out of the way when the horrid deed was done. The men said to have been bound by them were not bound till after the missionaries were dead, when the people of the street did it on account of their having burned a house too many. It was the third day after the riot before he found it convenient to go, during all which time the bodies of the missionaries lay where they fell, stark naked and uncovered. It does not occur to him that the murderers are to be sought for, or any one called to question for this dreadful outrage.

* * *

We must not, however, allow natural indignation to obscure certain facts. Thus, it is beyond question that the two missionaries were asked by the Chinese Authorities to return to Hankow during the Sung-pu festival. In effect, the Authorities warned them of the danger of remaining in Sung-pu during the ten days of the great festival, and thus virtually admitted their own incompetence to guarantee the missionaries' safety if they did remain. Yet they remained. Whether to have retired at the suggestion of the Authorities under such circumstances would have been a course calculated to finally imperil the permanency of missionary opportunities everywhere in China, is an obviously germane question. But, on the Chinese side, it will certainly be contended, and contended with much justice, that no government can undertake to effectually control the proceedings of great mobs, and that every missionary is bound to cōoperate, as far as is reasonable and possible, with those upon whom devolves the responsibility of protecting him. There is much to be urged on the other side, as showing that perfunctoriness in the discharge of their duties of protection is the very least sin chargeable against same Chinese officials, but still the above facts have to be noted. And further it has to be noted that the local officials actually did attempt to stem the riot. In the account prepared by Dr. Griffith John, an account which obviously represents the case in the worst possible light for the Chinese, we read :—

At 10 o'clock, the Sung-pu Magistrate made his appearance on the scene; but to no purpose. He had had his opportunity of helping the missionaries; and he might have rendered them real service had he been so minded. But his mock proclamation had only added fuel to the fire, and his interference at this time must have been regarded by the mob as sheer impertinency." His chair was attacked, and he had to run for dear life. About 12 o'clock, the constable of the place came forward, and tried to quiet the crowd; but his attitude towards the missionaries had been hostile from the day they arrived at the place. His position now as their defender must have appeared ridiculous in the eyes of the mob; so they gave him a blow on the head, and he retired bleeding.

THE "BURNING" OF THE "DON JUAN."

The loss of the Spanish steamer *Don Juan* by fire was accompained by scenes of a terrible and heart-reading character. We take the following details from the *Hongkong Daily Press* :—

It appears that the fire was discovered about 7 p.m. on the 3rd inst. on the 'tween deck, where there were 1,000 cases of kerosene stored. The flames spread so rapidly that there was no time even to lower the two-life boats, which were burnt. The vessel was at the time about 30 miles off Cape Darigayos. The first news received of the disaster at Manila was a telegram from Captain Beltran stating that the vessel had been destroyed by fire and that a boat containing 20 of the crew, Senor Rodoreda, first class passenger, and eight Chinese had reached the shore. A later telegram gave the names of those saved, and included the first and second officers, the doctor, the first and second engineers, and others. The vessel had on board 225 Chinese passengers, most of whom embarked at Amoy. Of these, in addition to those saved in the captain's boat, 21 reached land safely in other boats, this being unknown to the captain at the time of the despatch of his first telegram. Later on it transpired that the loss of life fortunately had not been so considerable as was at first feared, the steamer *San Antonio* having picked up 92 of the Chinese passengers and 9 of the crew, making the total of those saved 142.

The *San Antonio* had left Manila on the 3rd inst on a coasting voyage and on the 4th arrived at San Fernando, Union. On the first officer going ashore at this port he was informed by the Governor that news had just been received from the headman of Darigayos that the steamer *Don Juan* was on fire and that some of her crew had arrived there. The chief officer hurried back on board and conveyed this information to the captain, who got his vessel under weigh as speedily as possible and made for Darigayos. A boat was sent ashore to gather further information and there the three boats of the *Don Juan* and some of the survivors were found who stated that the captain and officers were in the neighbouring village of Namacpacan. The first officer of the *San Antonio* proceeded on horseback to the village named to obtain particulars from the captain as to the whereabouts of the derelict. Captain Beltran told him that he had left the ship when it was no longer possible to remain on board, and described her situation at the time he abandoned her, urging the importance of speedy aid, as many of the passengers had life belts and spars, &c., by which it was possible they might be able to keep afloat for some time. Without losing a moment the officer hastened back to Darigayos, and informed Capt. Yribar of the statements he heard. The *San Antonio* at once left for the spot indicated by the captain of the *Don Juan*, which was W. 50 N. from Cape Darigayos. At 3 30 a.m. she picked up two of the crew, who were floating by the aid of life belts, and at 4.15 she came across a Chinaman, who was clinging to a table, and so exhausted that he was almost unable to support himself. About the same time the glow of the still burning wreck was observable and at 5 15 the *San Antonio* reached her. The ill fated *Don Juan* presented a terrifying spectacle, the bow and the stern of the vessel being crowded with men, who in attitudes of excited supplication besought the assistance of those on board the *San Antonio*. The whole of the midship portion of the steamer was enveloped in flame, which divided like a growing volcano the two crowds of Chinamen, who were not unnaturally possessed by a frenzy of terror. The *San Antonio* sent off four boats and succeeded it saving 98 from the flames, or the equally terrible alternative of sharks which in large numbers surrounded the ill fated vessel and whose appetite had already been whetted by numerous hapless creatures who, too impatient to await the final result, had thrown themselves into the water. Having concluded the work of rescue the captain of the *San Antonio* directed his attention to the salving of the burning vessel. The *Don Juan* was, with difficulty, taken in tow, it being necessary to use an anchor to connect the hawser between the vessels, and attempts were made to subdue the flames. This, however, it was found impossible to accomplish, as when the *San Antonio* reached Manila her charge was still burning. At 3 45 on the afternoon of the 5th the vessels commenced their voyage, proceeding slowly in order that a draught of air which might fan the flames should not be created. At 5.30 on the morning of the 7th they arrived at Manila, where, the *Don Juan*, still burning and making water, was beached.

The Chinese who were saved describe the horrible scene which occurred during the conflagration. To escape from the flames the passengers climbed into the rigging and the upper portions of the vessel, but the fire increasing every moment caused many to loss their hold and fall into the flames beneath, or on to the deck. In this way a number of lives were lost. Several men threw themselves into the sea, others sought the side ladders, but the majority crowded fore and aft into the limited spaces untouched by the flames. One boat was lowered, but so crowded was it that the sharks, which swarmed in the waters in great numbers, almost immediately overturned it and the occupants fell a speedy prey to their voracity.

The captain of the *San Antonio* supplied those whom he had saved with food and clothing and seems to have performed his duty in a very able and energetic manner. On his arrival the Governor-General personally complimented him upon the promptitude and success of his action.

THE PROS AND CONS OF ESOTERIC BUDDHISM.

Professor Max Müller's attack on Esoteric Buddhism has provoked a rejoinder from Mr. A. P. Sinnett, the author of "Esoteric Buddhism." It is a very pretty rejoinder. Professor Max Müller says there can be no such thing as Esoteric Buddhism because its doctrines are not set forth in the Buddhist books. Mr. Sinnett replies that precisely because it is esoteric the ordinary books do not contain it. Professor Max Müller calls Madame Blavatsky the founder of Esoteric Buddhism and describes her as a "clever, wild, and excitable girl, in search of a new religion she could honestly embrace." Mr. Sinnett replies that she was not the founder of Esoteric Buddhism at all, and that as for her wild excitable girlhood, she was sixty years of age when the title and doctrines of Esoteric Buddhism were first given to the world. There is much skilled fencing of this sort, and, curiously enough, there is an interesting episode in which pig plays the leading part. Professor Huxley has been attacking Christianity in connection with the legend of the swine and the steep place. Professor Rys Davids and others have represented Buddha as dying from too much roast pork. "Dysentry caused by eating roast pork" was the cause of the great philosopher's death, according to Alabaster and Rys Davids, who infer that succulent viand from the "dried boar's flesh" served to the Buddh by Kunda, the coppersmith of Pava. Mr. Sinnett ridicules these "laborious students" and their literal stupidity. An ultra-confirmed vegetarian like the Hindoo religious teacher would never have eaten roast pork, he says. The textual students should have thought of that. Moreover, they should have known that boar's flesh is an Oriental symbol for esoteric knowledge, derived from the boar avatar of Vishnu which lifted the earth out of the waters, allegorically, with his tusks. Buddha died—*i.e.* his enterprise came to an end—through too daring an attempt to popularize esoteric knowledge. Professor Max Müller would fain slaughter the teacher's imitators for a similar crime.

BIRTHDAY HONOURS.

Some of the honours bestowed in the Birthday *Gazette*, says "Atlas" in the *World*, have been received with universal acclaim, the most popular among them being, certainly, that conferred on Mr. John Tenniel, the excellence of whose art is only equalled by the modesty of his manners and the simplicity of his spotless life. By his journalistic brethren the compliment paid to Mr. J. R. Robinson will be heartily endorsed. To his foresight and energy is undoubtedly owing the success of the journal, the fortunes of which have been under his management for so many years. His support of the political party to which he is attached has been unflinching and unflagging; and in private life, as after more than thirty years' experience, I am able to testify, he is one of the most trustworthy of friends and advisers. Mr. Edward R. Russell, the editor of the *Liverpool Daily Post*, is not merely a strong political power in the North, but a charming writer, and in all matters connected with the stage an able and an accomplished critic.

A NOVELTY IN HORSE SHOES.

What is a probably somewhat of novelty is a set of horse shoes made from aluminium, to the order of a Crieff jeweller, for a customer. The shoes have been made to the pattern of the original steel ones, and are exactly the same in size and shape; but the metal is of quite a different appearance from steel. It is of a white, silvery colour, and the great advantage over steel is its extreme lightness, the four shoes being under 1 lb. in weight, while the ordinary steel ones weigh over 3 lbs. They must, therefore, be of great benefit to horses travelling distances. It is also claimed for the new metal that it is more durable than steel. It may be remembered that some time ago the experiment was tried in the Russian

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army, when after some time the shoes were examined, and it was found that the aluminium shoes were just showing signs of wear when the steel ones were well worn. The drawback for the present is the price.

MARRIAGE IN ANCIENT JAPAN.

At the ninth ordinary meeting of the Japan Society, Mr. W. G. Aston read a paper on "The Family and Relationships in Ancient Japan (prior to 1,000 A.D)." The information contained in the essay was large and interesting, as might have been expected from a Sinologue of Mr. Aston's eminence. Of course Mr. Aston gave considerable prominence to the fact that a remarkable degree of freedom existed in ancient Japan in the matter of marriages. The only cases in which marital union was distinctly forbidden were, parent and child, a man with his wife's mother, and a man with his wife's daughter. There was neither law nor custom to prevent a man marrying his maternal aunt, his niece or his half sister. Mr. Aston naturally adduces these facts as evidences of undeveloped civilization. Certainly they do bear that interpretation. But we are somewhat surprised to observe that neither in Mr. Aston's paper nor in the discussion provoked by its reading, was any mention made of one of the most remarkable features of marriage in ancient Japan, namely, that a bride did not go to live in the house of her husband: a married couple lived apart, the husband merely paying periodical visits to the home of his wife. Under such circumstances there was obviously much less impropriety in the notion of a man's contracting marital relations with several women simultaneously. Further, since the children of these unions were brought up in the homes of their mothers, half brothers and sisters often had no knowledge whatever of their relationship, and to give effect to any prohibition of intermarriage between them would have been a matter of the greatest difficulty. This is evidently an essential factor in the proper understanding of ancient Japan's marriage customs. Another interesting point which Mr. Aston does not mention, relates to the manner of young folks coming together. On occasions when youths and maidens assembled, a kind of dance called *utagaki* was performed, during which the youths selected partners who afterwards became their wives. In towns this dance was held in the market place; in the country, on the hills.

SEALING SCHOONERS.

It appears to us, judging from the language employed by the vernacular press, that every vessel which engages in sealing operations in these seas is regarded as a poacher by the Japanese. To all alike the term *mitsuryo-sen*, or "secret fishing craft," is applied. Thus the News Agency reports that, according to official records, the number of such vessels entering the port of Hakodate from the 1st to the 29th of June was forty, thirty-nine of them being sailing schooners, and one a steamer, and they are all grouped under the title of *mitsuryo-sen*. Their total catch is put at 35,496 seals, which, at 20 *yen* per skin, aggregates 709,920 *yen*. The News Agency, however, should be well aware that there is such a thing as pelagic sealing, and that the exceptional number of vessels employed in sealing operations this season, is chiefly attributable to the success achieved by pelagic sealers last year. Pelagic sealing is a perfectly lawful occupation, and there can be no warrant for applying the epithet *mitsuryo-sen* to vessels engaging in such work. The publication of reports like that now furnished to the vernacular press by the News Agency, tends merely to mislead the public, and to create among the Japanese a false impression that the marine products of their territorial waters are the constant object of predatory raids by foreign marauders.

JAPANESE INVENTIONS.

Japan is beginning to have inventors of her own in the domain of foreign science and industry. It is, of course, a mere question of time until she is able to emerge from the student stage and enter that of the designer. Some critics hold that she possesses imitative ability only, and that the talent to originate has not been vouchsafed to her. That is plainly a premature judgment. Nothing could be less reasonable than to expect that a nation which, twenty-five years ago, was almost a complete stranger to the arts and sciences of the West, should now be in a position to make inventive additions to Western knowledge and Western processes. What Japan may hereafter achieve in that line, it is impossible to tell. We observe, however, that two officers of the Navy have just been handsomely rewarded for their work as inventors. The first is Mr. Shimose Masasuke, a Naval Engineer. The certificate conferred on him by the Naval Department in consideration of his invention, says that, after many years of thought and experiment, he succeeded in discovering an explosive which has proved to be of the highest value, and which will have the effect of greatly augmenting the offensive capacities of the Navy. A reward of 1,200 *yen* accompanies the certificate. The second inventor is Captain Yamanouchi Masuji of the Navy. His certificate is couched in similar terms of praise, and from it we learn that his inventions are a quick-firing automatic gun (*jido-sokusha-ho*) and a disappearing carriage, both of which are pronounced to be excellent designs and most useful for purposes of naval warfare. Captain Yamanouchi receives a reward of 700 *yen*.

HAWAII AND THE UNITED STATES

The Hon. T. M. Cooley, writing in *The Forum*, says some very pertinent things about the so-called Provisional Government in Hawaii and its procedure. We quote one or two paragraphs:—

A provisional government is supposed to be a government *de facto* for the time being, set up in some emergency to preserve order, or to continue the relations of the people it acts for with foreign nations. In general it is not supposed to have any authority beyond that of a merely temporary nature growing out of some great necessity and ending with that necessity. Hence when, immediately upon the creation of a provisional government, a commission starts out to offer its country to a foreign nation, the very title the Government bears seems to negative its authority. It is offering to give away what it is only authorized for the time being to preserve and protect.

In the present case the desire of the people in the premises was not expressed, nor was it called for. The facts appear to be, that persons of foreign birth resident in the islands took possession of the Government, and immediately started to make a tender of the island to the United States. Their acts in organizing a provisional government, in the absence of explanation or public announcement, implied only that they had overturned the native Government on account of its retrogressive course, and that their powers would be laid aside when a permanent government on the proper basis should be organized by general action of the people.

The Provisional Government avers with some positiveness that the offer of the islands to the United States is in conformity with the majority of the people, but if such is the fact, it seems a great error in policy that it took no mean of securing the evidence of such will. The great haste in making the offer suggests a doubt as to the correctness of the claim. The United States Minister without authority, declared a protectorate of the islands, but what it was intended to protect them against, unless it was the people themselves, whom the Provisional Government assumed to represent, is not apparent. No foreign nation was interfering or showing any desire to interfere. President Harrison immediately disowned the protectrate, but the Minister floated the United States flag over the Government building at Honolulu, and the Provisional Government thereby continued to have the moral support which had assisted in its establishment at first. When the removal of the flag was ordered, it seemed necessary for the Provisional Government to make careful provision for putting down by force any opposition to its action.

The number of the people supporting the offer of annexation may or may not be a majority; we do not know. Foreigners entitled to citizenship are few as compared with the natives, but foreigners effected the revolution, and even they, as we now learn, are not unanimous in desiring the transfer.

The questions we are concerned with now are whether the Provisional Government is shown to possess delegated power to propose, and whether the United States has constitutional power to accept the annexation of these islands. The question of power involved is precisely the same that it would be if it were proposed to annex any other independent country in the world to United States; Russia, for instance, or France. Hawaii is recognized as an independent member of the family of nations. If we annex it, the treaty will be the law that will govern thereafter. Apparently it is expected that these islands will be taken as an outlying colony of the United States, not as a territory of the sort we now possess and govern, and not, so far as we are notified, with any expectation that they are to be by and by accepted as one of the States of the American Union. The annexationists are said to prefer colonial government.

NAVAL NEWS.

Lord Charles Beresford has been officially informed, to his great joy, that he has been selected for the Chatham Reserve.—Admiral Seymour, second in command of the channel Squadron, is to have another year, and Admiral Tracey remains at Malta till the end of this year, in spite of his early promotion.—Captain Pearson was offered the important post of Commodore at Hongkong, but declined it.—Mr. Bedbrook, Inspector of Machinery at Malta, is laid up with the fever indigenous to the place.—It is believed that Captain Swinton Holland, now in the *Australia*, will probably get a home appointment, very likely the *Invincible*, or her successor, in Southampton Water.

COTTON.

The *Jiji Shimpo* publishes some figures with respect to the transactions in foreign and domestic cotton in Osaka, by the Naigwai Wata-Kaisha, during the first half of the present year. They are as follow:—

Quantity of Japanese Cotton purchased	167,115 *kwanme*.
Cost of above	189,250 *yen*.
Quantity of Japanese Cotton sold	149,255 *kwanme*.
Price obtained for above	169,066.76 *yen*.
Quantity of Chinese Cotton purchased	8,427,481 *catties*.
Cost of above	1,419,630 *yen*.
Quantity of Chinese Cotton sold	6,876,930 *catties*.
Price obtained for above	1,170,880 *yen*
Quantity of Indian Cotton purchased	8,060,821 *catties*.
Cost of above	1,578,166 *yen*.
Quantity of Indian Cotton sold	7,117,190 *catties*.
Price obtained for above	1,388,652 *yen*.
Quantity of American Cotton purchased	277,186 *catties*.
Cost of above	64,591 *yen*.
Quantity of American Cotton sold	270,571 *catties*.
Price obtained for above	63,003 *yen*.

It appears that the quantity of cotton handled by the Company shows no marked difference as compared with the figures for the second half of 1892, but as prices ruled lower in the Japanese market, the Company's profits were not so large, and the shareholders will have to be content with a dividend of about 12 per cent. The Company also found itself with a large stock of unsold cotton to carry on to the second half of the year, but upon that fact it may congratulate itself very heartily, since the recent appreciation of gold has necessarily had the effect of greatly increasing the silver price of imported cotton.

EXPORT DUTIES.

The advocates of abolishing export duties are not discouraged by their failures in the last two sessions of the Diet. They are said to be more resolute than ever. At present the promoters of the movement have recourse to the familiar expedient of going the round of the Ministers' residences and impressing upon their Excellencies the vital character of the proposed reform. Their league of fellow-thinkers is said to number more than thirty thousand, and they entertain hopes of getting the Bill introduced next session as a Government measure. Judging from the reception given to Government measures in previous sessions, we should not have supposed that to be franked by officialdom was a special help to any Bill, but Messrs. Taguchi Ukichi and Tsuzuki Kanekichi who head the promoters in this case doubtless, understand what they are about.

MR PFOUNDES.

Mr. Pfoundes, who is continuing his course of lectures on Buddhism, has written to us with reference to an extract from the periodical *Bukkyo*, which appeared in our Summary of the Religious Press for May, and which contained some remarks not wholly complimentary to Mr. Pfoundes. We, of course, are not at all responsible for anything appearing in the columns of a vernacular periodical, but inasmuch as we had been the means of bringing the *Bukkyo's* statements to foreign notice, we were of course willing to give equal publicity to Mr. Pfoundes' explanation of the misconceptions of which he had been the victim. Now, how-

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ever, he appears to labour under the mistaken impression that the *Bukkyo* has repeated its stories, and that they have been again reproduced in these columns. Such is not the case. The one and only reference to Mr. Pfoundes was that contained in our Religious Summary for May, and inasmuch as his own version of the affair then noticed by the *Bukkyo* was subsequently published in our correspondence columns, we see no occasion to reproduce the additional disclaimers now forwarded to us by him from Kyoto.

POLITICAL TOPICS.

It has of late been rumoured in certain quarters that the formation of a new political party was under contemplation by Messrs. Oi Kentaro, Furusho Kamon, Sasaa Tomofusa, Abei Iwane, Sakamoto Noriyoshi, and a few others. The rumour doubtless has its origin in the fact that these gentlemen recently held several meetings. There is, in our opinion, nothing improbable in the thing itself, for different as Mr. Oi and Messrs. Furusho may appear in political opinions, their characters have much in common, both being conservatives and believers in physical force. Many people will probably feel inclined to take exception to this view of ours and to assert that Mr. Oi is anything but conservative. No doubt, he has thus far led the extreme wing of the progressive army of modern Japan But whatever may be his political code, his character is essentially conservative. He is thoroughgoing and at times violent, and the operation of these traits has imparted to his past career a decided tinge of extreme radicalism. But we affirm, none the less, that Mr. Oi is steadily though slowly drifting towards conservatism, and one of these days we shall not be surprised to find him in the camp for which nature certainly destined him. For the present, however, there seems little likelihood of his joining hands with the nationalistic conservatives. The repeated meetings which he lately held with these men were, we are assured, for the purpose of conferring on the question of Mixed Residence about which he is in entire accord with them. It is now reported that these meetings were also attended by Mr. Miura Yasushi, a well known member of the House of Peers, a life-long rival and enemy of Mr. Mutsu, the Minister of Foreign Affairs. The advocates of the Anti-mixed Residence agitation show a great deal of energy, but the time has assuredly long passed when they could hope to attain their object.

* * *

There seems to be much discontent among the Radicals of Kyushu about the intended visits to their district of Messrs. Hoshi, Kono, and Matsuda. In spite of the strong denial of the Radical organ, the Kyushu tour of these Radical leaders is believed by a large section of the public to be prompted chiefly by the object of making the Kyushu politicians declare once for all their allegiance to either the *Jiyu-to* or the *Kaishin-to*. The Radicals of Kyushu are said to resent the implied insult to their political sincerity. They say, according to report, that as there is no question of the fact of their belonging to the *Jiyu-to*, there can be no occasion for them to renew their allegiance to a Party towards which their attitude has always been steadfast. They, consequently, think that the gigantic campaign which the head-quarters of the party in Tokyo have decided to conduct in Kyushu is wholly superfluous. Further, it is only in parts of Saga and Oita that some adherents of the Progressionist Party can be found. The whole of the remaining island of Kyushu may be said to be under the sole control of the Radical Party. Why, then, is it necessary to proclaim so loudly the necessity of a political campaign against the Progressionists in Kyushu? In a word, the alleged ambiguous Radicals of Kyushu are stated to be very much excited against the attitude of their head-quarters in Tokyo. As to the charge of ambiguity, they explain that they sincerely deplore the tendency of the men at head-quarters to force a rupture between their Party and the Progressionists, and that, on this point, they are inclined to differ from the leaders of the Party, but that in all other respects they are as sincerely attached to the *Jiyu-to* as any others among its members. It was probably the ill-disguised antagonism of the Kiushu folks to the crusade which certain leaders of the Party had commenced against the *Kaishin-to*, that led the head-quarters to decide on the Kiushu campaign. Report now has it that the sullen attitude of the Kyushu Radicals is causing keen anxiety to their leaders in Tokyo, and that the projected tour may possibly be given up.

* * *

Despite the excessive heat, the Administrative Reform Investigation Committee is daily holding long and animated conferences. It is believed to be now considering regulations concerning the management of finance. Evidently the object of the Cabinet is to make as thorough reforms as possible.

MR. SHIMOSE MASACHIKA

In our recent comments on inventions made by Japanese, we referred to Mr. Shimose Masachika, whose scientific achievements have just been so handsomely recognised by the Government, as a Naval Engineer, such having been the description given of him by the vernacular press. A more accurate statement, however, would be that Mr. Shimose is a graduate of the former *Kobu Daigakko* (Engineering College). He now belongs to the Naval Department, but has had no training in Naval matters or in Naval Engineering. Some months ago, a number of Naval experts—former students of the *Kobu Daigakko*—a few of the foreign Professors of that institution, and others, combined to give to Mr. Shimose a dinner at the Maple Club, in connection with his work on explosives; work the value of which was appreciated by his hosts, who anticipated the official recognition it has now received. Mr. Shimose has distinguished himself considerably in chemical research. In 1883, 1884, and 1885, in conjunction with Dr. E. Divers, F.R.S., he contributed several papers to learned Societies in England and Germany, and in the *Chemical News*, vol. xlviii. p. 283, we find an essay by Mr. Shimose alone on the "Separation of Tellurium and Silenium from each other," these rare chemical elements having been found by Dr. Divers and Mr. Shimose to exist in Japan. Of course Mr. Shimose's researches on these bodies have nothing in common, as regards their matter, with his work on explosives, which has now won him official distinction, but they must have had much to do with that work on account of the training they gave him in original investigation which leads to discovery and invention. At all events, as a chemist, Mr. Shimose's whole education was in the *Kobu Daigakko*, an institution of which we may justly say that it has been the *alma mater* of mos. of the chemists and engineers who are doing good work in Japan.

* * *

Apropos silenium and tellurium, we observe that in an essay recently published by an American chemist, he refers with much approval to the Divers-Shimose method of separating the two bodies, and says that he has found it excellent, and has used it successfully for the purpose of obtaining pure tellurium.

HYDROCYCLING.

"Hydrocycling," says a home journal, "is not likely to become a popular recreation. That fact may be confidently asserted at the outset, no doubt to the great consolation of waterman, who have been sadly upset by the recent performance of F. Cooper, R. J. Atkinson and J E. L. Bates. These gentlemen, on May 2nd, pedaled from Oxford to Putney, 102 miles, on a water cycle in 19 hours, 27 min., 50 sec., which effectively lowered the triple sculling record established by W. F. C. Holland and R. C. Lehmann in 1889, when these well-known and accomplished oarsmen covered the distance in 22 hours, 28 sec. Mr. Cooper was once a professional cyclist of great note and held the championship for several years. The hydrocycle, on which the record journey from Oxford to Putney was performed, is Mr. Cooper's personal hobby. For nearly two years it has occupied all his spare time, and he has economized neither pains nor money in its construction and continual improvement. The result is a total expenditure of nearly two hundred pounds. Mr. Cooper thinks the lowest price at which a new machine could be constructed is $200, and this he believes will be an effectual bar to the popularity of hydrocycling, although he stoutly maintains that the pastime has everything else to recommend it. The present machine is, in outline, something like a racing skiff, and is constructed of the same material. It is balanced on water by means of out-rigged copper floats, and is moved by a small propeller. In the boat are three sets of handles, saddles and pedals exactly like those of a 'cycle, which set the propeller in motion and of which the foremost is fitted with steering-apparatus."

GERMAN AND JAPANESE POLITICS.

The similarity that exists between Germany and Japan in certain phases of political life, is well illustrated by the following extract from *The Times'* Berlin correspondence :—

> Compared with what we are accustomed to at home, an electoral campaign in Germany is singularly tame and uneventful. The Government being in theory independent of parties, its members do not descend into the arena. No Minister would think of addressing a body of electors, and when Dr. Miquel the other day chose to take a few of his political friends at Frankfort into his confidence, and allowed his semi-private remarks to be published, the proceeding was considered quite unusual. Thus the Chancellor, whose lucid and earnest language could not fail to carry weight with the constituencies, is debarred from all opportunity of directly reaching the masses who have to pronounce upon his policy. The influence of the Government can only make itself left through the semi-official Press, by the wholesale circulation of pamphlets on the situation—a favourite mode of propaganda with all parties—and by the collective action of the bureaucracy, every member of which is supposed to exert himself in the good cause.

In Japan, also, the Government is theoretically independant of parties, and it would seem that, in the days of the Matsukata Cabinet, the collective action of the bureaucracy was supposed to be exerted in behalf of the Government at times of election. But the Radicals and Progressionists have exploded that theory. They have made it quite plain that, whatever may be the case in Germany, every member of the Japanese bureaucracy is not supposed to exert himself in the good cause, and that, if he does, he will become the object of unceasing parliamentary impeachment. With respect to this, we cannot but speculate incredulously on the permanency of official abstention when the Radicals themselves come into office. Another conspicuous difference between Japan and Germany is that whereas the German Emperor does not hesitate to proclaim his opinion on political questions with vigour and decision, the Japanese Sovereign theoretically and practically stands altogether outside the political arena.

CRIME AT SEA.

There was an odd story told in the Liverpool police-court the other day, says the *Pall Mall*. The master and chief engineer of a screw steamer were charged with casting the vessel away in Cardigan Bay. It was said that the engineer made a leak to give the captain an excuse for running his ship on shore. However, she was saved by the Salvage Association, and floated round to Liverpool. Here, it seems, that another determined effort was made to sink her. All the men on board but one were inveigled ashore by the irresistible prospect of drinks; then a mysterious figure was seen leaving the engine-room. Next moment it was discovered that the valves had been opened, and that the ship was again sinking. Pirates and buccaneers and marooners are gone for ever, but clearly the romance, or at any rate the mystery, is not yet all gone out of the crimes of the sea.

THE FRENCH TERMS.

Reuter's telegram with regard to the terms dictated by France to Siam is evidently incomplete. A mere monetary payment, with the order that a Siamese fort or anchorage will be

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occupied until Siam has disbursed the amount, cannot satisfy France. The French claim that, in connection with their protectorate of Annam, the limits of which were fixed several years ago, they have been the constant objects of Siamese aggression, and have allowed themselves to be pushed out of positions in the valley of the Meikong which they were really entitled to occupy. We do not know how just the claim may be. At all events, the French believe in it, and we may take it for granted that their first condition in making peace with Siam would be to insist upon the latter's permanent withdrawal from the valley of the Meikong. That most important point, however, Reuter omits altogether. Neither does he tell us whether the indemnity demanded is in pounds sterling, or in francs, or in dollars. If in either of the latter denominations, it would be a reasonable amount, but three million sovereigns seems an excessive demand under the circumstances, France having incurred very little expense, so far as we know.

COMICAL ADVERTISING.

THE *Kaishin Shimbun* is making another strong bid for popular favour, reducing its subscription price to 20 cents per month and introducing fresh features. Yesterday it announced its intentions to the Yokohama public in a strange and diverting fashion. Six men formed a procession two deep. Two men of the front row clad as coolie-deliverers carried big banners, one in white with gold characters, the other blue and white. Between them walked a man on high one-step *geta*, whose lower limbs were swathed in bright orange-coloured *hakama*. His duty was to "spout" forth the virtues of the *Kaishin* and the peculiar benevolence which animated its proprietors in lowering the price. A lusty-lunged fellow he was. The second row consisted wholly of the band—and such a band! It was composed solely of a drum a flute, and an antiquated trumpet of three notes. Limited, however, as it was in musical range, and still more in the number of its musicians, it managed to produce a volume of sound, which though blatantly repellant, was most effective in drawing attention to the object in hand. The whole thing was carried out with all the unsmiling nonchalant self-unconciousness for which the Japanese are at all times remarkable.

ANNOYING AN EDITOR.

MR. LABOUCHERE writes in *Truth*:—"During the last few weeks I have received a number of anonymous letters, all in the same handwriting, couched in terms the reverse of complimentary. Some of them were on the paper of the East India United Service Club, St. James's Square. This did not trouble me, as I receive so many of such letters that I am accustomed to them On Thursday last, however, my anonymous friend sent orders signed in my name to a number of tradesmen, desiring them to send me goods. He ordered two hearses, each with two mourning coaches, and requested a representative of the Cremation Company to call and arrange for my cremation. He also ordered a marriage cake of Messrs Buzzard, a bed of Messrs. Shoolbred, furniture of Messrs. Maple, Messrs. Druce, and Messrs. Barker & Co., coal of Messrs. Whiteley, Ricketts, Herbert Clarke & Co., Cockerell, and Lee, a coat of Mr. Cording, caps of Messrs. Lincoln & Bennett, a billiard-table of Messrs. Thurston, prints of Messrs. Clifford, carpets of Messrs. Swan & Edgar, beer, spirits, and wines from several firms, some of which was delivered, and a vast number of other goods from West-end houses, including an umbilical belt for hernia from a City firm. He also sent letters to various physicians in my name, and they have favoured me in reply with prescriptions for divers diseases. He further engaged cabins for me to India and to the United States. No content with this, he ordered a salmon to be sent in my name to Mr Gladstone, a travelling-bag to Mr. Asquith, a Stilton cheese to Sir William Harcourt, and a haunch of venison to Sir George Trevelyan. And he supplemented these liberal orders by issuing invitations, in the name of a mythical niece, to a large number of people to a party at Twickenham and to a dinner at my London house. All this is far more annoying to the tradesmen than to me, and I would therefore suggest to my friend to revert to his old plan of anonymous letters. Neither of the hearses came, owing to representatives of the firms having called to know how many men would be required to carry my corpse downstairs. Had the hearses arrived, it would have been curious, as the mutes would have possibly disputed in which way I was to be moved off, and would have had to appeal to me, eating my marriage cake and arrayed in my umbilical belt, to decide to which I would give preference."

"THE JAPANESE BRIDE."

MRS. JOSEPH COOK, writing in *Our Day*, thus reviews Mr. N. Tamura's "The Japanese Bride":—

We have seen the Japanese woman apotheosized by Sir Edwin Arnold. He would not have her educated for fear that in this process she might lose some of the qualities so charming—to men! Alice Mabel Bacon has given us a much truer picture of Japanese girls and women, having come into close personal relations with some of the best types of this race on their own soil in this country But in this little book we have the Japanese woman as she appears in the eyes of one of her own countrymen who says in the prefatory note:—"I have frankly painted our home life which foreigners never penetrate and which most Japanese hesitate to reveal, feeling it to be a shame to open the dark side of our home life in public, and especially before the gaze of foreigners I have tried to write with sincerity, in the spirit of loving truth, without any fear." The Rev Naomi Tamura, of Tokyo, Japan, is a graduate of Auburn Theological Seminary and a post graduate of Princeton His Church in Tokyo is one of the largest among the Presbyterian churches in Japan, numbering over four hundred members and is entirely self-supporting

Mr. Tamura said, on coming to America for the first time, that what impressed him most was not our great national institutions, extent of territory, or lofty scenery, but our Christian homes. So great was his conviction that the Japanese needed family life like ours that on his return after his four years of study in our land, he immediately sent the young woman whom he was to marry to the United States for a three years' residence and instruction in the Christian home On her return to Japan they were married and established their home on a Christian basis designed as an object-lesson to teach the Japanese the beauties of the Christian home life.

Mr Tamura says plainly that "there is no such thing in Japan as marriage for love Our people do not understand the distinction between love and passion." When one considers that polygamy is not uncommon in Japan and has the sanction of the Imperial Court, it is easy to understand that it might be a dangerous thing to do too much for the elevation and education of the women. An educated woman may become sufficiently self-assertive to protest against such a wicked and unnatural state of things Is this what the government of Japan fears in its present attitude toward the education of girls?

We hear that the higher schools for girls are being closed all over Japan. What does it mean that such a progressive nation should take this course of retrogression? Centuries of subjection have thoroughly taught the Japanese woman submission, even to permitting her own most sacred personality to be sold to pay her father's debts if he demands this supreme sacrifice—and there are fathers in Japan who do require this of their daughters. The greatest need of the Japanese is to be taught that they must give up their chief vices, licentiousness and lying, for this was Neesima's verdict against them, if they are to take the place they covet among the enlightened and progressive Christian nations of the world.

It will be observed that Mrs. Cook falls into the old and often exploded error that polygamy is not uncommon in Japan. We find it scarcely conceivable that she should be perplexed about the meaning of the word "polygamy," yet not less untenable is the notion that she should be so ignorant of a subject about which she undertakes to write as to imagine that the laws of Japan recognise more than one wife. Time and again has this blunder been enunciated, and time and again has it been publicly corrected There is no such thing as polygamy in Japan. There has been nothing of the kind for many centuries. A man can have only one legal wife. If he chooses to have a concubine, that is his own private affair. The law takes no note of a concubine. The relationship of concubinage does not exist for the law. Essays on this subject would be more interesting did their writers take the trouble to furnish themselves with elementary knowledge before writing.

* * *

Mr. Tamura thinks that "there is no such thing in Japan as marriage for love." "Our people,' he says, "do not understand the distinction between love and passion." A nice distinction, in truth! Where is it understood? In what part of the world does it find practical application? Mr. Tamura has a "Rev." before his name. He is a graduate of two American educational institutions. He is at the head of a Presbyterian church in Tokyo. With what object has he published a book in English denouncing his own countrymen and countrywomen? Does he expect to correct their faults by proclaiming them in a foreign language? Apparently Mr. Tamura has yet to learn that no man ever yet established his superiority to his own nationals by abusing them.

* * *

Mrs. Cook, on her side, declares licentiousness and lying to be the chief vices of the Japanese. Are they indeed so? As for lies, they abound everywhere. They are a universal weapon. They may be more plentiful in Japan than they are elsewhere. But what nation has such a monopoly of truth that it can afford to occupy the judgment seat? One fact is patent, namely, that those in Japan who are loudest in accusing the Japanese of deceitfulness and falsehood are themselves eminently conspicuous for the same vices; are themselves incapable, apparently, of obeying the commonest principles of truth and justice. We should hesitate equally to say that licentiousness is a chief vice of the Japanese. What is at all events beyond question is that licentiousness in Japan prevails nowhere so abundantly and disgracefully as in the neighbourhood of the foreign settlements. These are problems not to be solved by any off-hand verdict. Were the truth accessible, it would probably be found that vice and virtue are distributed with tolerable impartiality among all the civilized nations of the world. There are, indeed, marked degrees of concealment and openness. But that is a difference of fashion, not of fact.

* * *

Mrs. Cook "hears" that the higher schools for girls are being closed all over Japan. She is wrongly informed. Nothing of the kind has taken place, or is taking place. We cannot compliment her on the accuracy of her information or the care she has shown in qualifying herself to become a nation's accuser.

THE "KALAO HUI" SCARE AT ICHANG.

THE following is the official account of the extraordinary scare recently caused at Ichang by rumours of a *Kalao Hui* rising:—Another telegram to the native officials at this port with reference to the *Kalao Hui* rising near Lilingshsien, Hunan, recently, and the arrival of their emissaries at Ichang, states that no sooner had the people of that city and its environs received intimation of the matter than a general exodus was the result. Upon the officials sending their runners to stop the stampede and asking the reason for it, the answer received was that they saw their neighbours going and hence followed their example. Proclamations are now out informing the people that the rumours are all false, and to prove them, numbers of soldiers and *yamén* runners sent by the military and civil officials of Ichang and the neighbouring district towns have gone into the country south of these cities, attired as carriers, countrymen, fortune-tellers and Taoist priests, but secretly armed to arrest any body of men illegally assembled together. Following the receipt of the above telegram, news is published by the *Shènpao* to the following effect:—The foolish in Ichang city are still moving their families, to places outside of the South gate. Many are doing so surreptitiously owing to the prohibition of the authorities who try to show them the absurdity of such a step. Hence people moving always do so either at daybreak or at dead of night in order to escape observation. Upon being questioned why this is done the reply is: "Others are moving and why should not I?" The country along the Pao-t'ah river has been emptied of nearly nine-tenths of its inhabitants. The fields are deserted and the cultivator of the soil is nowhere seen for over twenty miles of country, and such was the haste with which the country-people left their homes on the first approach of rumour of a *Kolao Hui* rising in the neighbourhood that they had no time even to carry along their cattle and sell them, and so cut off the nose-rings from them and allowed them to run wild hoping some day when peace has returned to

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get them back! The ripening cotton crops have been left to dry or rot while the second wheat crop which has already been gathered lies neglected in the homesteads unheeded by the thresher. To such an excess did the scare amongst the country folk of Ichang prefecture come to, that little children, three days old, were unhesitatingly thrown into the river so that the mothers might escape the more easily! Those fleeing frequently looked back as if they expected to see hostile *Kolao Hui* horsemen on their track. The fugitives generally fled to the country west of the Pao-t'ah river or into the recesses of the wooded hills, so that when the soldiers and runners of the various *yámen* appeared on the scene of the deserted country it seemed as if an enemy had occupied it, with the exception that there were no burning houses visible. The very poor and aged of course remained, and being questioned by the soldiers replied that twenty-five miles from Ichang at a place called Magpie Hill there was an unfathomable cave in the recesses of which was a formidable band of insurgents preparing to invade the valleys below. Eventually, the government troops visited the spot but found an ordinary sized cave with nothing remarkable about it and stuffed half-full with overgrowth and creepers, without the slightest indication of having been occupied by man. Near there were a few straw-huts occasionally occupied by the country-people who visit the place for fire-wood. Hence the groundlessness of all these rumours which has caused such a stir and scare amongst the country people of Ichang and its environs, as well as amongst the city people.

AN AMERICAN TRAVELLER'S TALE.

An American traveller writes to the *Sunday Inter-Ocean* an account of his peregrinations in the West Indies and South America, and amongst the numerous headings to his article are "Sir Walter Raleigh's Lies," "Two Centuries ago he found Oysters growing on Trees in Trinidad," &c. This traveller says:—"While in Paramaribo I secured a genuine treasure, a musty little volume which is no less than Sir Walter Raleigh's own account of his first voyage to these parts, made in 1595. After perusing it one is almost reconciled to the beheading of the gallant old nobleman at the hands of an ungrateful sovereign, if for nothing more than the lies he told." This story of the "genuine little treasure" is rather good, coming from one "reconciled to the beheading of the gallant old nobleman," who simply related what he doubtless saw, and may now be seen any day on the coast of China, namely, oysters growing on trees. The "musty little volume" will be much more difficult to swallow than the "oysters growing on trees," at least with those who have travelled farther afield than the person who so glibly writes of Sir Walter Raleigh's "lies." The lucky possessor of the "genuine little treasure" writes:—"Space permits of a quotation of a few lines only." Speaking of the island of 'Trinidado,' where the party first landed, he says:—'It hath stores of deer, wild pork, fruits, fish, and fowl. It hath also for bread sufficient maiz, cassavi, and of those roots and fruits which are common everywhere in the West Indies. It hath divers beasts which the Indies have not. A salt river hath store of oysters upon the branches of the trees, which were very salt and well tasted. All their oysters grow upon those boughs and sprays, and none on the ground." It is a pity that space permitted of so short a quotation from the "musty little volume," which, if it exists outside the imagination of this traveller, must contain a great deal of interesting and original matter, and probably many facts equally if not more wonderful than the fact that oysters grow upon trees.

THE JESUITS.

Paul von Hornsbruch, after thirteen years of membership of the Jesuit Order, withdrew from it, and has now written an account of the manner in which Jesuits are trained. The *Literary Digest* publishes a condensed translation of the Graf's paper from the *Preussische Jahrbücher*. It is an account that will well repay perusal:—

Jesuitism undermines, in a certain degree even destroys, the character and individuality of its members. This is most clearly proved by the method used in educating the novices. The daily routine of the novitiate is a continual attack upon the development of individual energy. Not only from hour to hour, nay, for every quarter of an hour, distinct rules regulate his life. The free will, the inclination to any particular occupation is blunted by such treatment. The novice thinks: what I do now is only for the time being, and the interruption may come at any moment. Thus he learns gradually to do what is commanded without the slightest emotion. Everything is regulated. The walk, the carriage of head and hands, the motion of the body—literally nothing is left to the free choice of the novice. If he wants a drink of water, he must ask permission to take it, the same if he would make use of paper and pen. Every novice is given a "guardian angel!"—that is to say, two novices are bound by the rules to point out to each other their faults. This is aggravated by the so-called "stoning" (*lapidatio*), which occurs several times a year. The novices kneel down (each one by turns), and the others criticise them. Thus one will say: "*N. N.* walks too quickly;" another, "he walks too slowly, talks too loudly, or not loudly enough," and similar remarks. The quintessence of this system is the so-called rule of modesty, which contains the following regulations: 'The forehead should not be wrinkled, still less the nose; the lips should not be compressed, nor should they be parted; in conversation never look another straight in the eyes, but rather look before. The hands should always be at rest. Never laugh loudly, do not move your hands and avoid all show of emotion in your face."

The religious exercises are in a like manner directed against all individuality. On the whole, a pious Catholic sees in the confessional a divine ordinance, and in confessing he submits to the will of the Almighty. Besides, the knowledge that the secret lies hidden under the seal of the Holy Sacrament takes away the reluctance to confess. With the Jesuit this is quite different. Not only has he no certainty that his confession will be kept a secret, he knows that the contents of his confession will influence his future life, the work for which he will be used, the place to which he will be sent. God requires only that man should confess his greatest and worst sins; but the Jesuit Prior requires of the novice a written declaration and description of his whole past life. Not only must he reveal his sins, not only must he speak again of things which have been forgiven long ago in the holy confessional, nay—even his innermost thoughts must be made known! Nor is this all. When the novice has thus once "balanced the accounts of his conscience," he continues this kind of work by a written confession once a week and a résumé at the end of each month. When the novitiate is past, and the lay-brother becomes a "scholasticus," this confession is no longer obligatory, but still very advisable. The Jesuit General, Claudius Aquaria, goes so far as to say that secrets told in the sacramental confession must be revealed to the Prior, and may be used by him "for the good of the Order." Thus the divine seal of secrecy is broken for the sake of a human institution.

Nor is the scientific education of the Jesuits adapted to foster individual character. In philological and mathematical studies greater freedom is allowed than in other studies because the subjects treated of are not very inducive to individualism. This is, perhaps, the reason that the Jesuits have numbered so many great mathematicians and astronomers in their ranks. But doubly strict is the supervision in philosophy, theology, and literature. Thus it happens that, after seven years of study, the young Jesuit has his mind stuffed with the systems and works of men who in reality wield no influence. But his teachers have left him in entire ignorance of the modern giants of thought, whose works he is not allowed to examine and whose names he never hears. If the Jesuit wishes to extend his knowledge, he cannot, like others, make use of a library at his discretion. If he wishes to read any book, he must first ask permission of his superiors, and they will determine whether his desire is harmful to the Order or not.

The thing which dissatisfied me most is the destruction of all patriotism. The Jesuit is educated to look upon all countries and climes alike. Europe or Asia, German or French, republic or monarchy, it is all the same to him. Such an international community, formed out of so many heterogeneous national elements, cannot but destroy the national preference of its members, whether republican or monarchical. I felt this more than others, perhaps, as a German, a Prussian, and a member of an old family which has always been true to the institutions of the country.

SOCIALISM.

What is Socialism? How few could answer the question with any degree of assurance? All of us have an idea that Socialism is a monster of some kind and that its advent would be an unmixed evil. Yet we read that in such a country as Germany, among such a people as the Germans who reduce everything to its fundamental idea, Socialism is steadily growing. The telegraph says that the Socialists have carried the elections in Berlin with the exception of one division. What, then, is Socialism? Dr. Schäffle has answered very fully in his "Quintessence of Socialism" and Mr. J. Russell Endean epitomizes his views of the principles and objects of socialism thus:—*Nationally*.—Complete disruption of the Empire; forcible overthrow of the monarchical principle of government, and the substitution for it of an untried system, in which, all men being equal, the logical result will be a State in which no man would be capable of passing judgment upon his fellows, and then anarchy of the worst description would speedily follow. *Socially*.—Absolute obliteration of every class distinction of society now existing, and the creation of a common level for all, above which level no single member of the community would be permitted to rise. *Individually*.—Under any and all circumstances the necessaries of life would be universally supplied; but every ordinary incentive to industry and action would be removed; there would be no field for the cultivation of personal ambitions or benevolent aims. Complete subjection to all orders of the State would be enforced, in whatsoever form that State should be constituted. Contemplate the condition to which this country would be reduced with every private enterprise wiped out and every shop closed; all Stock Exchange operations a dream of the past; no more interest for money borrowed, as there would be none to lend and none in circulation; all distinctions between man and man destroyed; all impulse to active individual effort crushed out; every earnest, active labour without reward, and the work of all reduced to one common labour and standard! Is this a condition to which to reduce a great and mighty nation—a nation that for many generations has held the foremost place in the history of the world? If, then, nothing is offered by Socialism as a panacea for present social ills but the lifting up of the lowest classes to the level of the artisan, and the bringing down of every class above that level to the same plane, and as the evils it would create are manifestly far greater, vastly more onerous, and profoundly more mischievous and demoralizing than any at present existing, it follows that every attempt to establish its principles is opposed to the best interests of the individual, of society, and of the State; that Socialism is visionary, unpractical, destructive, and repulsive to every civilized community, and, therefore, its condemnation as a system for the betterment of humanity cannot be too strongly pronounced."

THE BENEFITS OF CRICKET.

Mere walking exercise, although it is invaluable, hardly fulfils the idea of perfect recreation. Sir James Paget says "good active recreations" ought to include "uncertainties, wonders, opportunities for the exercise of skill in something different from the regular work." Why should the literary man, the doctor, and the stock-broker, or the merchant not play cricket at forty-five? What is to become of his dinner hour, is it asked? If a better luncheon were taken at mid-day, and a lighter dinner at six in the evening, there is no reason whatever (says a writer in the *Hospital*) why a man of forty-five and up to sixty-five or seventy should not be in the cricket-field at half-past seven and play briskly until nine or half-past. An hour and a half at cricket after a light dinner would make middle-aged men so young that they would not know themselves. Writers would write twice as brilliantly, and business men would be cleverer and keener by half. As it is, the average middle-aged Englishman of the professional and business classes grows fatter, wheezier, more pompous and more dull and uninteresting every year of his life. To get a laugh out of him is impossible; to crack a joke at his expense is to commit the unpardonable sin, "Poor old porpoise," as somebody has called him. His innocent pleasures have vanished with his youth, and "he has nothing now left to live for but his respectability; his solemn respectability, and his money-bags." The contrast between the youthful Englishman and his middle-aged parent is sometimes startling. The former is all life and fun; the latter is a moving

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mountain of ponderosity and fat. It is all for want of out-door exercise and recreation. Twenty-five years ago the solemn father of to-day was the fun-loving son of a middle-aged father. If anybody had then shown him in a prophetic mirror the figure he would cut at the end of a quarter of a century, he would have committed suicide in sheer vexation and disgust. But all this rotundity, wheeziness, irritability of temper, incapacity for work, and general disgust with life and all things in it, can be cured easily, and cured for ever, and the cure for the vast majority of cases is one or two hours' daily exercise and recreation in the open air.

A MARVEL AT FIGURES.

M. Jacques Inaudi is an arithmetical phenomenon. His manager, M. de Thorcey, presented him to a large number of press representatives at the Hotel Victoria in London recently. Inaudi gave an exhibition of his powers that was absolutely convincing. Any sum or problem suggested was placed upon a blackboard by M. Thorcey. At one time the blackboard contained a sum in subtraction containing seventy-two figures, one of addition containing thirty figures, a sum in division of millions divided by thousands, and three other propositions, another to find the cube of 19,125, and the third to find the cube root of 156,742,916. Inaudi did not see any of the figures. They were called out to him, proposition by proposition. Then he repeated them, beginning at the first. Then he began to calculate. His lips move rapidly, and he squeezes first the finger of one hand and then the other. He does not object to interruptions, but will answer any question, no matter what the subject may be, if he knows anything about it. To ask him questions seems rather to help him. Finally he said, "Now for the result." Then he rapidly gave the correct solution to each problem, doing them all in five minutes. He does not care to see figures. He likes to hear them, and when he is calculating he seems to see them in his head, his eye seeming to be turned inward. Curiously enough, the only English Inaudi speaks relates to figures. Two months ago he could speak no English. As he had decided to come to England he determined to learn something of the language. He can find his way about so far as English is concerned in figures, but no further. He is modest of manner, quiet of speech, and is so plainly a marvel in his particular line that, if properly coached, he should prove an attraction. M. Inaudi and his manager, M. de Thorcey, were introduced to London show life by M. C. M. Ercole, the Parisian impresario.

ESOTERIC BUDDHISM.

Professor Max Müller tells us what he thinks of Madame Blavatsky and Esoteric Buddhism. He speaks very quietly but with words of absolute conviction. Esoteric Buddhism has had followers in this country. If it be a fraud, it is certainly a most clever fraud. The great Oxford Professor commences by admitting very frankly that Buddhism and Christianity have many features in common. He will not endorse any idea of mutual borrowing or stealing. He holds by the doctrine of the universality of a certain amount of religious truth from the hoariest antiquity. Whatever of good the two creeds possess in unison, he insists upon calling a common inheritance. At the same time, when there is question of facts and legends, the Professor makes this remarkable admission:—"When it is pointed out that there are great similarities between the life of Christ and the life of Buddha, I feel bound to acknowledge that such similarities exist, and that, though many may be accounted for by the common springs of human nature, there are a few left which are startling, and which yet remain a riddle." He then passes on to speak of Madame Blavatsky:—

It is owing no doubt to these coincidences that the very remarkable person, Madame Blavatsky, felt strongly attached to the study of Buddhism. I have never met her, though she often promised, or rather threatened, she would meet me face to face at Oxford. At first she treated me almost like a Mahâtma, but when she found there was no response, I became, like all Sanskrit scholars, a very untrustworthy person. Like many people in our time, she was I believe, in reach of a religion which she could honestly embrace. She was a clever, wild, and excitable girl, and everybody who wishes to take a charitable view of her later hysterical writings and performances should read the biographical notice lately published by her own sister in the *Nouvelle Revue*.

Madame Blavatsky was one of those who want more than a merely traditional and formal faith, and she thought she could find what she wanted in India. To India, therefore she went with the object of being initiated into its ancient lore and mysteries. There she met Dayânada Sarasvati, the founder of the Arya-Somâj, but neither did he understand English, nor she any Indian language. Still, there sprang up between the two a mutual but mute admiration, but this did not last long and when they began to understand each other better they found they could not act together. I am afraid it can no longer be doubted that Dayânada Sarasvati was as deficient in moral straightforwardness as his American pupil.

Unfortunately she took into her head that it was incumbent on every founder of a religion to perform miracles, and here it can no longer be denied that she often resorted to the most barefaced tricks and imposition in order to gain adherents. Many were taken aback by the assurance with which this new prophetess spoke of her intercourse with unseen spirits of letters flying through the air from Thibet to Bombay, etc., etc. Her book called "Isis Unveiled" shows an immense amount of drudgery and misdirected energy, but to quote her blunders would be endless.

No one can study Buddhism unless he learns Sanskrit and Pali. But even her informants must have been entirely ignorant of those languages or they must shamelessly have imposed on her. Whether she herself suspected this or not, she certainly showed great shrewdness in withdrawing herself and her esoteric Buddhism from all possible control and contradiction. Her Buddhism, she declared, was not the Buddhism one might study in the canonical books, it was *Esoteric Buddhism*. It is not in the dead letter of Buddhistic sacred literature, she says, that scholars may hope to find the true solution of the metaphysical subtleties of Buddhism; and, to make all controversy impossible, Madame Blavatsky tells us that "when she uses the term Buddhism she does not mean to imply by it either the exoteric Buddhism instituted by the followers of Gautama Buddhism, nor the modern Buddhistic religion, but the secret philosophy of Sâkyamuni, which, in its essence, is identical with the ancient wisdom-religion of the Sanctuary, the pre-Vedic Brahminism. "Gautama," we are assured, "had a doctrine for his 'elect' and another for the outside masses."

Madame Blavatsky might have achieved some success if she had been satisfied to follow in the footsteps of Rider Haggard or Marion Crawford; but her ambition was to found a religion, not to make money by writing new *Arabian Nights*.

If I were asked what Madame Blavatsky's esoteric Buddhism really is, I should say it was Buddhism misunderstood, distorted, caricatured. There is nothing in it beyond what was known already, chiefly from books that are now antiquated. The most ordinary terms are misspelt and misinterpreted. *Mahâtma*, for instance, is a well-known Sanskrit name applied to men who have retired from the world, who, by means of a long ascetic discipline, have subdued the passions of the flesh and gained a reputation for sanctity and knowledge. That these men are able to perform most startling feats, and to suffer the most terrible tortures is perfectly true. Some of them, though not many, are distinguished scholars. But that some of these *Mahâtmas* are impostors is but too well known to all who have lived in India. If there is any religion free from esoteric doctrines, it is Buddhism. Buddhism was the highest Brahminism popularised, everything esoteric being abolished, the priesthood replaced by monks and these monks being in their true character the successors and representatives of the enlightened dwellers in the forest of former ages. I will only add that now that my series of the Sacred Books of the East has been brought out with the coöperation of the best Oriental scholars, they will, for the future, render such aberrations as Madame Blavatsky's Esoteric Buddhism impossible.

COLOUR IN PHOTOGRAPHY.

Of the latest development in photographic processes, the *Courrier des Stats Unis* says:—M. Berget, of the laboratory staff in the department of physical research at the Sorbonne, has recently submitted at a meeting of the Photo Club of Paris some landscape negatives in colour which the Messrs. Lumiere have obtained by the method of M. Lippman. After many experiments the Lumieres have succeeded in making gelatine-bromide plates that retain their sensitiveness long enough, and are of a texture sufficiently delicate, to permit the reproduction of colours. The pictures of these negatives are like aquarelles. Here is a cluster of flowers; roses, violets, jasmines appear in their proper colours, their real colours, with all their infinite delicacy of multiple and various tints. Everything is there, the green, the white, the blue, the red, the rose, and the violet, with their subtle, velvety hues; everything is there except the fragrance of the flowers. Here, again, is a bit of park scenery with a sky of exactly rendered blue, with gravelled pathways which one distinguishes with perfect clearness from the earth graded for the greensward; here is a ravishing little cottage, all bathed in sunshine—and what sunshine!—and here a vista under the trees, made of sombre greens and light greens, the lights deliciously distributed, and the whole view giving the sensation of nature itself. M. Berget gave on this subject the following explanation; "Colour photography has certainly just made a great step forward. The problem is to-day settled, for we have now films equally sensitive to all the colours. Observe the blues and the whites in the landscapes which have been shown us. In ordinary photographs the sky is, as you know, of a crude white; it is said to be solarized. In these new photographs the sky comes out with its own true blue. As to that white which is the resultant of all the simple colours in combination, it is admirably reproduced by the new films, because they are sensitive to all the simple colours alike. It must be said, however, that it still remains to accelerate the time of exposure, which is now from twenty-five to thirty minutes, while at first it exceeded an hour. . . . Another desideratum. Every colour photograph now taken is unique, as was formerly the case by the daguerreotype process. We need to discover a method of making colour prints on paper.

NOTICE TO SEALERS.

H.B.M.'s Consul has issued the following notice to masters and owners of sealing vessels:—"British Sealers are hereby warned under instructions from Her Majesty's Government, not to approach nearer the Commander Islands and Robben Island than a distance of thirty miles, nor nearer to any part of the Russian coast in the Behring Sea and other parts of the North Pacific than a distance of ten miles, an agreement prohibiting sealing within these limits having been arrived at by Her Majesty's Government and the Russian Government. An Order of Her Majesty in Council has been passed rendering British ships infringing the agreement liable to seizure by British or Russian cruisers, and British Naval officers have been instructed accordingly."

OHIO WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY.

Quite a sensational sequel is recorded of the recent "hazing" affair at the Ohio Wesleyan University. What happened originally was that a dozen Sophomores, members of the Delta Omikron Alpha fraternity of the College, broke into a Sigma Nu meeting, and branded, with lunar caustic, the initial letters of the Sophomore society on the cheeks, chin, and brow of five members of the Sigma Nu lads. It is claimed that the victims of this practical joke are disfigured for life, but we have never heard of lunar caustic that could make perennial marks on the body of a man. The affair was reported to a newspaper by Frank Gerhart, one of the senior students, and he is said to have been dismissed from the College for telling the tale. Summoned before the Faculty of the College, he was required to make a complete denial of his story to the newspaper, and on his determined refusal to do so, he was expelled "after six years of exemplary conduct as a student and a gentleman." "Gerhart," we read "in his letter to the newspaper to which he had communicated the facts complained of, says that never in his life was he so cruelly and disgracefully used as when in the presence of this Faculty." "No criminal, no matter how bad, was ever so greatly abused in any court of justice in the land." He was called "a liar" by several different members of the Faculty. "His determination to stand by his utterances appears to have angered the college officials beyond endurance. They had done their utmost to hush up the almost incredible story of the brutal affair of the hazing." These things are exceedingly difficult to credit.

THE HON. SIR FRANCIS PLUNKETT.

The *St. James's Budget* has an excellent picture of the Hon. Sir Francis Plunkett, and the following notice:—The Hon. Sir Francis Plunkett, K.C.M.G., who has been appointed Her Majesty's Representative at Brussels, at present British Minister at Stockholm, is a man of considerable experience as a Diplomatist. He has been in the Diplomatic Service since 1855, entering it as an attaché at Munich, and afterwards serving successively at Naples, the Hague, Madrid, St. Petersburg, Vienna, Berlin, Florence,

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Washington, Paris, and Tokyo. He was appointed representative to the Court of the King of Sweden and Norway in 1888."

THE SHOSO-IN ANTIQUITIES.

THE *Official Gazette* announces that the celebrated collection of objects of art in the Shoso-in, at Nara, will be open to view by ticket from the 1st to the 31st of August. The objects are taken out for purposes of airing every year during August, and an opportunity to view them is then afforded. Various classes of Japanese are enumerated as eligible for admission, and all foreign employés of the Government, applying through their respective Departments, and foreign residents or tourists applying through their Ministers, can obtain tickets of admission. Applications should be sent in before the 25th instant.

DEATH OF CAPTAIN SAMUEL ASHTON.

HONGKONG papers announce the death of Capt. S. Ashton, for many years well known on the China coast in the service of Douglas Lapraik and Co., of Hongkong. Captain Ashton, who had been ailing for a lengthened period, was the senior master in the Company's service, and was exceedingly popular both with owners and passengers. He had been off actual service for some time, seeking health in various places, but without receiving much permanent benefit by the change.

SERIOUS STABBING AFFRAY ON BOARD SHIP.

A CORRESPONDENT, writing from Kobe on Saturday, says:—As a consequence of some whisky smuggled on board the British ship *Orpheus*, now in this harbour, several of the crew became intoxicated. A row took place between two men named Ragen and Smith, and the latter stabbed the former three times in the neighbourhood of the heart. Shortly afterwards, a man named Murray took a sheath knife from one of the other men and stabbed Smith twice in the neck and once in the shoulder. Murray is in gaol, and the other two men lie in a precarious condition.

ISRAELITES AND NEWSPAPERS.

THE increasing control of the Press by Hebrew bankers in Europe is arresting attention. In Berlin they own the chief newspapers, and in Paris nearly every paper is controlled by men of that race. A movement is on foot in the latter city to establish a journal which shall not be under Jewish management. The wonderful talent, indeed, the positive genius, of the Jewish race in finance is everywhere acknowledged. And in nothing have they displayed more sagacity than in securing the control of great journals in all the chief cities of the world. In these days money and the Press are the two most powerful levers.

ELECTION DISTURBANCES.

THE *Boyeki Shimbun* states that about four o'clock on the afternoon of the 20th inst. another serious fight broke out at Shibuya-mura between the *Jiyu-to* and *Kaishin-to*, the quarrel originating with the latter party. The combat took place in front of the office of the Progressionists while a party of about one hundred *soshi*, led by Messrs. Yamada Taizo and Hijikata Fusagoro, was passing on their return from the voting station. Seven lads were wounded, two very severely. Four disturbances are said to have occurred during the previous day and night, resulting in several casualties on either side.

IMPERIAL THANKS.

THE Chinese Consul General at Singapore (with his Assistant) called on the 20th ult. at Government House in full official costume, to hand to the Governor a copy of an edict, issued by the Emperor of China conveying the thanks of His Majesty to Sir Cecil C. Smith for the assistance given under His Excellency's auspices towards the relief of those who suffered from the famine in China in 1887.

FIRES IN HAMAMATSU AND FUKUSHIMA.

A TELEGRAM from Shidzuoka Prefecture received by the *Asahi Shimbun* states that fire broke out at Hamamatsu on the 13th inst. at 4 a.m., and before the flames could be got under control fifty-four houses were destroyed. A message from Fukushima Prefecture reports a great conflagration which took place at Takata during the night of the 12th inst. The number of houses destroyed has not yet been ascertained, but some seven persons were more or less seriously injured.

MADAME KOLEMINE.

MR. LABOUCHERE, in *Truth*, says:—I hear that Madame de Kolemine, the morganatic wife of the late Grand Duke of Hesse, from whom she was divorced under circumstances which caused a European scandal, has just been married to one of the Secretaries of the Russian Embassy at Berlin, who is to be forthwith transported to Lisbon. Madame de Kolemine has a large annuity from the Grand Duke of Hesse (or from the Queen?), which was settled on her when the divorce took place, just nine years ago

THE YAMAMOTO OIL WELLS.

OWNERS of shares in the Yamamoto oil wells company of Niigata—the *Taihei-Kaisha* as it is called—had a most agreeable surprise lately when the wells suddenly began to give largely increased quantities of oil. The shares, which had been selling up to that time in bundles of ten for ten cents a bundle, rose rapidly in value, and were soon quoted at 1.20 *yen* to 1.30 *yen* each, a rise of twelve or thirteen hundred per cent. in a few days.

FARMERS' DISTURBANCE IN KOCHI.

A KOCHI telegram dated the 17th inst. received by the *Asahi Shimbun* states that a violent fight took place there in connection with the Monobe gawa water-privileges. Two farmers were severely wounded. Another combat occurred among inhabitants of the banks of the Yodogawa. These commotions arise from the great scarcity of water, owing to the long-continued drought.

A GOLD MINE.

AN American, going to the southern part of the State of California, bought a tract of some 200 acres and divided it into four sections. He planted alfalfa in the entire tract. When he finished curing the crop upon one section he was ready to begin with the next section, and so on, so that in a single year he procured from the tract practically seven crops. He received for his baled alfalfa over $60,000.

PRINCESSES TSUNE AND KANE.

PRINCESSES TSUNE and KANE, now spending a few weeks' in Nikko, seem to be enjoying themselves hugely among the parks and beautiful walks of the place. They never fail to attract attention when promenading, attended as they are by quite an imposing escort. These little ladies are very robust and are fond of outdoor exercise.

COLLISION AT SEA.

UNDER the heading "Lawless behaviour of a foreign ship," the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* reports that as the *Choju Maru*, a vessel owned by Mr. Yoshida, of Takashima-mura in Nagasaki Prefecture, was entering the Nagasaki harbour with a cargo of coal from Takashima, she came into collision with a Norwegian steamer, the *Viorg* (?) and was sunk. The Norwegian steamer, however, proceeded on her voyage without paying any attention.

THE ROYAL WEDDING.

MR. N. J. HANNEN, H.M.'s Consul-General at Shanghai, received on the morning of July 9th, the following telegram from the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, dated London, 8th July, 4.50 p.m.:—

"The Queen and Royal Family send warm thanks for kind congratulations."—"ROSEBERY."

THE DUKE OF CONNAUGHT.

IT is stated in a home paper that in October next the Duke of Connaught is to be appointed Quarter-Master-General at the Horse Guards, and that H.R.H. and the Duchess will then take up their residence at Bagshot Park. It is now probable that the Portsmouth command will be offered to Lieutenant-General Davies, who has been employed in the south of Ireland during the last four years

ISINGLASS.

MR. MCCALMONT had a bet of 5,000 to 100 about Isinglass, which he "stood out," and the Derby stake was £5,500. He took this wager about fifteen months ago, and at a more recent period he was laid a big bet about his horse winning the treble event—Two Thousand, Derby, and Leger. The odds against a treble event must be enormous, and it looks very much like "coming off" in this case.

"CHISHIMA"-"RAVENNA" ACTION.

THE Record of Appeal, in the appeal raised by the defendants in this action against the decision of Judge Mowat, who has refused their application for leave to bring a counter-claim against the Imperial Japanese Government, was inspected by the barristers engaged in the case on Monday, and was then sent on to Shanghai by the outgoing mail.

THE EUROPEAN TOUR OF PRINCE KOMATSU.

IT is announced that His Imperial Highness Prince Komatsu Yorihito, who leaves Tokyo at the close of this month for the purpose of taking a trip in Europe, will be accompanied by Her Imperial Highness Princess Yaye, and that the duration of the trip will be about a year.

SURVEYING.

COLONEL WOODTHORP and Captain Close of the Royal Engineers have returned to Bangalore after having surveyed the whole country bordering the Shan States and Siam. The country has been mapped as far as the Red River on the Tonquin borders and all information obtained as to geological and topographical features.

THE NEW COMMODORE AT HONGKONG.

INTELLIGENCE was received in Hongkong on the 11th inst. stating that Capt. George T. H. Boyes has been appointed to succeed Admiral Bury Palliser. Capt. Boyes is at present serving in H.M.S. *Anson*, the flagship of the Rear-Admiral, second in command of the Channel Squadron.

EARTHQUAKE IN NIKKO.

A RATHER startling and severe earthquake of some moments' duration occurred in Nikko on Wednesday, evening July 19th, at 8.40 p.m. The first shock was quite severe and caused a general shaking of the houses in the village and in the vicinity of the temples; but beyond a slight scare there was no damage done.

DESTITUTE "RUSSIANS"

THE *Asahi* says that six Russians, who were cast up on the beach of Shiodani, Hokkaido, some time ago, were brought to Yokohama on the 17th inst. in the *Takasago Maru*. A police constable of Hakodate accompanied them. They were handed over to the Russian Consul through the Yokohama police authorities.

MR. SANNOMIYA YOSHITANE.

IT is gazetted that the Vice-Grand Master of the Board of Ceremonies, Mr Sannomiya, has been permitted by the Decoration Board to accept decorations conferred on him by the King of Annam and the Sultan of Turkey.

DR. KITAZATO.

DR. KITAZATO, who lately resigned the Presidentship of the Infectious Diseases Investigation Hospital at Shiba, Tokyo, is, according to the vernacular press, intending to proceed abroad to carry out his investigations.

THE KOBE STABBING AFFAIR.

ACCORDING to the *Kobe Chronicle*, the second charge of stabbing on board the *Orpheus* came before the Consul on Thursday, when George Burke was examined and committed for trial.

THE LITTLE PRINCESSES.

THEIR Imperial Highnesses Princesses Tsune and Kane left Tokyo for Nikko on the 15th instant, and are expected to remain there until the beginning of September.

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THE JAPANESE REPRESENTATIVE IN KOREA.

THE much talked of change has been effected in the Japanese Representative at the Korean Court. Mr. OISHI MASAMI is relieved of his functions, at his own request, and Mr. OTORI KEISUKE, hitherto Japanese Minister in Peking, has been appointed to succeed him. It must remain, we presume, an official secret how far Mr. OISHI'S temporary retirement is due to his own wish and how far it has been dictated by the Cabinet. There can be no doubt that he was the reverse of a *persona grata* in Korea, but of course it does not follow that unpopularity must in his case be regarded as an evidence of incapacity. A large section of his countrymen have agreed to endorse his procedure in Söul. They do not pretend that he allowed himself to be trammelled by any of the recognised rules of diplomatic etiquette. On the contrary, they admit very frankly that he conspicuously disregarded those rules. But they claim that Korea is not a country where the courteous and patient methods of Occidental diplomacy can be safely observed. It is necessary, they say, to treat the Koreans according to their own standard, and only by overstepping the ordinary limits did Mr. OISHI succeed in settling the difficult business entrusted to him. That, being solely a matter of opinion, cannot be discussed with advantage here. We are not aware, however, that any precedent can be adduced under any circumstances for the fashions adopted by Mr. OISHI in Söul, and whether he was the victim of necessity or the subject of impetuosity, it can not be thought desirable that diplomacy of such a nature should be inaugurated by the Representative of a country engaged, as Japan is, in establishing her international status. Further, whatever may be said of Mr. OISHI'S record in Söul, his action after his return to Japan was not calculated to increase the nation's confidence in his prudence. The speeches delivered by him at public dinners and the information placed by him at the disposal of the public press were remarkable departures from any recognised code of official reticence. That he does not return to Söul in the capacity of Japanese Representatives seems to us an emphatically commendable decision. Mr. OTORI KEISUKE, who succeeds him, will go to the Korean Capital presumably with a full knowledge of the very great difficulties lying in the path of every Japanese Representative in that country. In Japan's eyes her great rivals in the peninsula are the Chinese. It is against Chinese domination in diplomacy and Chinese competition in commerce that the Japanese gird continually. But the contest does not proceed on equal terms. China enjoys in Korea all the advantages of irresponsible power. The Chinese Representative's relations with the Korean Ministers of State and with the Korean Sovereign stand on a footing very different from that occupied by any other Power, and the Chinese trader's dealings with the Koreans are guaranteed against inconvenience and chicanery by processes independent of the slow, uncertain, often incompetent, action of the native judiciary. To secure a semblance of equal treatment for his nationals under such circumstances is virtually beyond the strength of any Japanese Representative. If he attempts to exercise exceptional authority or to claim exceptional privileges, he merely plays China's game, since every embarrassment that Korea experiences from a foreign source drives her closer into the arms of her Suzerain. If he works strictly in line with Occidental States, he provokes the discontent of his own people, who have constantly before their eyes the more favourable situation of the Chinese. A diplomatist to be entirely successful amid these conditions must be more than human. We do not look to see any Japanese Representative successful. His doom is either to evoke abroad the criticism that has fallen to Mr. OISHI'S lot, or to become at home an object for the attack of political parties. Probably Mr. OTORI KEISUKE is as capable as any Japanese diplomat of steering a comparatively uneventful path through this entanglement. But it will not be a path leading to any special renown for himself.

THE FRENCH IN SIAM.

THE *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, in an extra issued on Saturday night, publishes the following telegram, received by it from a correspondent in Hongkong :—

> At noon to-day (13th instant) the forts at the mouth of the Meikong River and six Siamese war-vessels lying there, suddenly and without any apparent reason, opened fire on the French men-of-war and despatch boat. The French immediately replied, and two of their vessels, having driven off the Siamese Squadron, entered the river, despite the torpedoes and other obstacles that had been placed there, and made their way to the Siamese capital the same night.

This is a startling piece of intelligence. It will be at once perceived that the *Nichi Nichi's* correspondent has written "Meikong" in mistake for "Menam," a somewhat inexplicable error seeing that the whole of the present dispute between France and Siam relates to a title which the former claims to have obtained from the King of ANNAM to portions of the Meikong Valley ; seeing, in short, that the Meikong has been in everybody's thoughts for the past month, and that its mouths are in French Cochin China, four hundred miles distant from the mouth of the Menam on which Bangkok stands. Such a blunder would suffice to throw doubt on the authenticity of the whole telegram, were it not supplemented by a message from the French Admiral HUMANN, who wires from Saigon to the French Legation in Tokyo :—

> On the 13th of July, the two French ships, *Comète* and *Inconstant*, were attacked without any provocation on their part, at the mouth of the Menam River by six Siamese men-of-war and by the guns mounted in the forts. The French vessels repulsed the attack, forced their way into the river, despite the obstacles and torpedoes placed there, and anchored before Bangkok during the night.

There can be no doubt, therefore, that the French, instead of confining their military operations to the scene of dispute, and imposing upon Siam the embarrassing if not impossible, task of dislodging their forces from the valley of the upper Meikong —a course which France would certainly have chosen as obviously the most economical and prudent—have been compelled to carry the war into Siam itself, and to push their war-ships even to the Siamese capital. Many theories are formulated about the motives of France's action in this complication. Some interpreters of the times confidently assert that the friction between France and England on the banks of the Nile has been deliberately transferred by the former to the banks of the Meikong, and that since Great Britain cannot be compelled to evacuate Egypt, she is at any rate to be cut off from access to the south-western regions of China. It is often true that the springs of international action lie deeper than every-day eyes can penetrate, and it is always true that the spirit of a controversy between two states in one quarter of the globe is pretty sure to influence their relations in all other quarters where their interests clash. Were there no Egyptian trouble, France might perhaps show greater toleration in her dealings with Siam, and Englishmen would certainly regard her Oriental enterprise with less jealousy. But there is no occasion to delve far in search of explanations when sufficient and satisfactory reasons lie on the surface. Ever since the GARNIER explorations in the Red River and the operations which added Tonquin to French dominions, France's objective point has been to open up for herself a tradal route to the south-west of China. Her present procedure in the Valley of the Meikong is but the inevitable sequel of her campaigns in 1883 and 1884, and though the success of a Power adopting an exclusive commercial policy cannot inure to British interests, we see no cause to suspect that any deliberate attempt is now being made to strike at Great Britain across Siam's back. Moreover, if Yünnan be really worth tapping, there ought to be sufficient inducement for opening a route *vid* Kiang-Hung-Ssu-Mao as well as *vid* Laokai-Manhao. Yet, with French men-of-war menacing the Siamese capital, and menacing it under circumstances that warrant stern and decisive action on France's part, whatever may be the rights and wrongs of the original question, it is impossible not to feel that consequences reaching much further than the Valley of the Meikong may be coming into sight. Siam's procedure throughout has been of the most fatuous and ill-advised character. She

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appears to think that a question between herself and a Power like France as to the ownership of territory, can be settled by isolated surprises, involving the death of three or four people, and unprovoked fusillades that simply serve to show her own weakness. She is preparing for herself a rude lesson. Explanations of the action at the mouth of the Menam River may be forthcoming, but at present it looks as though Siam were deliberately playing France's game.

PROPHET VERSUS PRIEST.

CERTAIN facts, or certain considerations, put forward by us in connection with a recent incident in the Parliament of Religions at the World's Fair in Chicago, suggest a comparison between the two rival spirits animating and influencing the social and religious life of men. One is the Prophetic spirit; the other, the Priestly. Both have existed from time immemorial; both prevailed among the pre-Christian Hebrews; both exist among us to-day. Which is the nobler, the diviner, the more fruitful?

Now it is a striking fact that, in the Old Testament records, we find few, if any, examples of a great, authoritative, moving influence among the Jewish priesthood. It is true that one or two of the prophets sprang from the priestly caste; but in exercising their prophetic function they rather stepped outside the limits of their priestly character than drew their inspiration from it. The very first priest of whom we read, the High Priest AARON himself, was so little of a leader, was so weak-minded and pliable a man, as to make an Egyptian beast-idol for the people to worship, in compliance with the popular demand. Many are the follies and weaknesses, gross, too, are the sins, laid at the door of individual priests and Levites during the course of Jewish history; and at best the priest seems to have been little but a respectable office-holder in a system of ceremonial worship, a formalist by vocation, a man with no great personal virtues or strength of character, and utterly unfitted to exercise that irresistible and almost divine power over the sleepy consciences of his fellow-men of which they stood so sorely and so constantly in need. In fact, such attributes were not necessary to the priest as such. His duty was to carry out certain ordained details of ritual observance, to offer the temple sacrifices with due formality, to repeat so many prescribed prayers, and to see that the fat and the lean and the blood of the immolated beasts were properly disposed of; and even this was not unfrequently accompanied by abuses of the gravest nature. Lapses into idolatry, too, were by no means unknown, and the worship of JEHOVAH every now and then became exceedingly corrupt. In a word, the influence for good exercised by the priesthood, as such, upon the Israelitish people, was simply nil; and had it not been for the counter-influence of another class—an unclassed class, if we may be allowed the paradox—the national degradation would have proceeded with even more alarming rapidity. These were the prophets. In them we find all those high and broad and noble characteristics in which the priests, as a caste, were lacking. They were the moralists, the politicians, the social reformers, the religious radicals of their day. On shams, luxury, formalism, hypocrisy, injustice, they had no mercy. One ridicules the vanity and extravagance of the Hebrew ladies, as seen in the fashions of their dress. Another arouses the moribund patriotism of the times, and tells his countrymen how to defend themselves against the threatening attitude of Assyria. A third denounces the empty ritualism of the priests, and goes so far as to deny that the LORD had had anything to do with the institution of their sacrificial code. Be real, be strong, be pure, was the prophetic cry. Religion does not consist in the slaughtering of animals, but in a just and upright life. To judge the cause of the poor and needy *is* to "know the LORD," says one—who was certainly not a priest. No wonder the priests feared and hated these unauthorised interlopers. Could any teaching be more dangerous, more upsetting, more subversive of the priestly influence? One priest indeed, a man named AMAZIAH, seems to have been driven out of all patience by the fulminations of a certain herdsman and market-gardener—a person, one would have thought, almost beneath the notice of an ecclesiastic high in the royal favour. It appears, according to the racy account of the affair given by the herdsman himself, that the political and religious condition of the country had reached so scandalous a pitch as to justify expressions on his part which included both KING and people in condemnation of the most unqualified description; in fact, he predicted the assassination of the KING and the enslavement of the entire community. This was more than the loyalty of AMAZIAH could stand, and he forthwith laid a formal complaint before JEROBOAM, accusing AMOS of high treason; adding that the land at large was not able to bear his words. Then, turning to AMOS, he exclaimed in a burst of exasperation, "O thou seer, go, flee away into the land of Judah, and there eat bread and there prophesy; but don't prophesy any more at Bethel, for it is the King's chapel and the King's court." The reply of AMOS was more forcible than polite, and subsequent events showed how true the instincts of the priest had been. Neither then nor at any other time could the formalist and the reformer live in peace together. But though the priest may spurn the prophet and drive him from his sight—it is the prophet who prevails at last.

And the two classes still exist—will exist, probably, till the end of time. We have our prophets, and we have our priests. The prophetic messages which come to us may not be entirely free from error; there was much that was very human, very earthy, even in EZEKIEL and HOSEA; we need not then be surprised to find some proportion of alloy in GOETHE, in CARLYLE, in TENNYSON, in SPENCER, in EMERSON, in RUSKIN, in MATTHEW ARNOLD, and in JAMES MARTINEAU. But all these men, inasmuch as they have each a real message to deliver to the world, are real prophets; they are seers, inasmuch as they have a vision and an insight into truth, or certain sides of truth, deeper and more discriminating than their fellows; all alike bear witness to the eternal fact that the perception and diffusion of Light are matters of inspiration and not of ecclesiastical appointment. The priestly spirit is slow to take this in, especially when the prophet, the man with a message, does not bear the official authority and *imprimatur* of a visible organisation. To the priestly spirit the eloquent and impassioned Christian orator, the devoutest and most consecrated religious worker, may be no more than a "false" teacher, an unauthorised intruder into sacred things; in its view, the laying-on of a bishop's hands is of more importance than the devotion, the eloquence, the spirituality, the immense influence for good that comes direct from GOD; the rawest curate, with his monumental ignorance, has a sacred right to preach,—the greatest intellects outside the Church have none. But the message, whoever be the bearer of it, will be delivered in spite of everything. Not all priests have the priestly spirit; far from it. MAURICE and ROBERTSON are dead, but they have a multitude of successors, and their successors are not persecuted as they were in their day. The priestly spirit still lingers, and perhaps it will never wholly die; but it is being gradually weakened, its outworks are being undermined, and every year as it rolls by shows with increasing force how any man—we had almost written every man—may be a channel of the divinest inspiration, the mouthpiece of some one of the many voices of Truth. And there is another prophet among us—one but lately come, and regarded with fear and hatred by the priestly spirit. Its name is Science. "Thank GOD for Science!" exclaimed the venerable Bishop FOSTER only the other day. "It has done more to clear away the rubbish that had gathered round religion than any other thing. Science is GOD'S great missionary to us all; it has taught us more about Him than we ever knew before; may GOD bless and prosper Science!"

A professor who used to teach the grandfathers of the present generation of students objected to the pronunciation of "wound" as if it were spelled "woond," and his students used to hunt for chances to make him explain his objections. One day he stopped a student who was reading to the class, and said, "How do you pronounce that word?" "Woond, sir." The professor looked ugly, and replied, "I have never found any ground for giving it that sound. Go on."

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THE POPULATION OF JAPAN.

IN view of the strong tendency now shown by the Japanese to form schemes of emigration and in view also of the industrial development exhibited by the nation, all figures bearing upon the population of the country and its increase are interesting. It has been shown that, in the matters of density of population and rate of increase, only two countries of Europe stand above Japan: they are England and Belgium. This fact has been known for years, but no analysis has been lately published showing the actual change of population up to the date of the last statistics. We have now before as the eleventh volume of Annual Statistics issued under the auspices of the Cabinet at the close of last year, and containing figures for 1890. From it we take the following, showing the increases in the urban and rural districts during the five-year period 1886-1890:—

Years.	Totals.	Totals for cities containing 10,000 inhabitants and upwards.	Totals for rural districts.
1886.....	38,507,177	4,506,066	34,001,111
1890.....	40,453,461	6,087,061	34,366,400

ANNUAL RATE OF INCREASE PER CENT.

For the whole country	For cities.	For rural districts.
1.01	7.01	0.214

This table shows that there existed, during the period under examination, a marked influx of population into the towns; a circumstance doubtless attributable, in great part, to the rapid development of manufacturing enterprise during the five years ending 1890. Nevertheless the proportion that the urban population bears to that of the whole country is still remarkably small, being only 15 per cent. against 61.5 per cent. in England and Wales. Taking the case of invididual cities and towns, we have the following:—

POPULATION OF CITIES AND TOWNS.

	January 1st, 1873.	January 1st, 1886.	January 1st, 1891.
Tokyo.....	595,905...	1,121,883...	1,761,800
Osaka.....	271,992...	361,694...	483,609
Kyoto.....	238,663...	245,675...	297,527
Nagoya	125,193...	131,492...	179,174
Kobe	40,900...	80,446...	142,965
Yokohama.....	64,602...	89,545...	132,627
Kanazawa ...	109 685..	97 653...	93,531
Nagasaki	29,656...	38,229...	60,581
Wakayama ...	61,124 .	54,868	55,668
Hakodate	28,825...	45,477...	55 677
Naba (Loo choo)	14,610...	27,193 ..	43 185
Kofu	15,529...	18,411...	33,055
Kochi	39.757 .	30.987 .	33 039
Mayebashi.....	15,663...	16 585..	32,531
Utsunomiya ...	15,061...	20,475 .	31,268
Gifu	10,800...	23,167 ..	30 994

Here we see that the places remarkable as commercial centres since the Restoration, namely, Tokyo, Osaka, Kobe, Yokohama, and Nagasaki, are also conspicuous for the rapid increase of their population. Towns, again, where industry is flourishing, as Mayebashi, Utsunomiya, Kofu, and Gifu, show a similar tendency to grow in population. On the other hand, places like Wakayama, Kanazawa, and Kochi, which owed their former prosperity to feudal conditions abolished in 1870, are gradually dwindling. It is somewhat surprising to find that Kyoto has not grown quicker, but Kyoto has always been conservative, and has many disadvantages that militate against its commercial prosperity.

The number of towns containing thirty thousand inhabitants and upwards was only 23 in 1873. It increased to 27 by 1886 and stood at 35 in 1891.

The population of the empire was 40,453,461 in 1890. But it has to be remembered that no census is taken in Japan according to the fashions practised in Europe. The returns are based on the registrations which every unit of the nation is supposed to effect from time to time. How far the accuracy of the result is influenced by this circumstance, there is difficulty in judging. In view of the attention paid by the people to registration and of the care exercised by the Authorities, we think it improbable that many names are omitted from the official lists. But it is possible—though with regard to this also much caution is observed—that some names are duplicated in different localities. One can only conjecture on these points. On the whole, the official figures, as set forth in the Annual Statistics, are fairly trustworthy.

What population is Japan capable of supporting? In attempting to answer that question, the population of the north-eastern provinces of the main island may probably be taken as furnishing a fairly correct basis for calculating the average rate throughout the empire. If we adopt that plan, it results that 12 millions approximately may be added to the present population, making 52 millions in all, and then again we must allow for improved methods of agriculture and the development of other means of sustenance. On the whole, therefore, sixty-five millions seems a reasonable estimate. With an annual average increase of 1.01 per cent., not many years will be needed to bring the population of the empire from 40 to 65 millions, and it is consequently easy to understand the anxiety shown by some statesmen to devise means for allowing the increment to proceed, unchecked by the calamitous methods which nature employs to prevent population from over-stepping the limits of sustenance.

CORRESPONDENCE

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

THE TREATMENT OF FOREIGNERS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Hatsuoji, as you no doubt know well, is a little nest high up among the hills but within 10 *ri* of Kobe, and about equally distant from, and therefore within easy reach of, Kyoto for missionaries. Quite a number of these gentlemen have for a number of years past summered here with their families. They have enjoyed the kindly hospitality of the reverend clergy of the temples (and thereby hangs a tale that I hope soon to unfold), and for their benefit several houses have been built by the neighbouring farmers who have consulted the tastes of the foreigners and furnished them with various sorts of vegetables, poultry, eggs, etc.

On the crest of the hill quite an artistic bronze *Dai-Butsu*, with an elegant Indian crown, sits upon his lotus leaf and smiles serenely upon the landscape of the Kioto valley, Osaka, and the blue sea, nor does he seem displeased to see the foreign children playing near him.

His smile is still unchanged, but the foreigners who have at a considerable expense established themselves for the Summer, smile not to-day with an equally unruffled composure.

The reason is, that a particularly polite policeman visited the settlement yesterday, and after inspecting all the passports and finding everything to his satisfaction, summoned all the owners of the property upon which the foreigners were temporarily domiciled, before the Ibaraki Police Office and informed them that they must eject the foreigners forthwith.

The people of the village and the servants are naturally somewhat agitated, and it is difficult to get supplies.

The foreigners also are far from feeling quite calm, for some of them have come from a great distance (in one case 300 miles) and they have large families and a retinue of servants.

If the foreigners are driven out of this place it will be at considerable expense. Some of them have been so enamoured of the scenery and coolness that they have secured the refusal of their habitations for the summer for a term of years ahead, in one case at least that I know of, for five years. The question naturally arises, are we the only foreigners that are being ejected without warning from the summer resorts?

Is it any use to try to go elsewhere? Is the same rule applied to all the Summer resorts? Unzen, Arima, Kamidzu, Nikko, Matsushima, and the islands in the Inland Sea? Is the rule being applied everywhere? People come from China every Summer to cool off? If so they ought to know it, that they may be saved expensive journeys, and foreigners in all the open ports who visit the summer resorts for any length of time ought to know about the new rule.

If this place alone is subject to these restrictions, we would like to know it, that we may seek other places exempt from the rule.

In a word, we want to know what to do, and what the Japanese want us to do.

To fathers of large families the exact definition of the limitation of their privileges is a matter of considerable importance.

None of the foreigners here would have taken the time, labour, trouble, and expense of coming here had they been informed that they were unwelcome; and those who are here are warning away their friends as fast as possible. Quite a number of intending visitors have been stopped already, although some who were unwarned in time are now on their way.

Yours truly,

神和

Hatsuoji, near Osaka, July 13th, 1893.

[This affair is absolutely inexplicable to us. We can only account for it on the supposition that the policeman has committed an extraordinary blunder. Foreigners in other Summer resorts have not been in any way molested, so far as we know.—ED. *J.M.*]

GENERAL SIR HOPE GRANT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I send you a few extracts, from the pen of Lord Wolseley, of the career of General Grant, which may interest your readers:—"Sir Hope Grant owes his first military opportunity to his proficiency on the big fiddle. In the army about to sail in 1841 for the first China war, Lord Saltoun was appointed to command a brigade. That gallant defender of Hougoumont played the fiddle, and was very fond of music, and when talking over the dreary prospect of a six months' voyage, he said to his old comrades Sir David Baird, how much he wished to find a brigade-major who played the violoncello, with whom he could while away many a dreary hour on board. "Why don't you take young Hope Grant, he is a great musician and plays the big fiddle," said Baird. The result of this conversation was Hope Grant's appointment to Lord Saltoun's staff. During many a dreary day in that long voyage of over 23 weeks, these two musicians fiddled away to their mutual enjoyment. A strong friendship was got up between them; which lasted throughout their lives. I (meaning, Lord Wolseley) often sat listening with pleasure to his solos after a march, and sometimes after a hard day's fighting.

Like Marlborough, his book-learning was slight, but he could shoot a stag or land a salmon, play tennis or golf, or ride to hounds, even as a youth, better then most men. He excelled at all manly games and sports, and his skilful and daring riding was a proverb amongst his contemporaries. No man ever had "better hands on a horse" than he had. The greatest brute, the most vicious kicker or buck-jumper, seemed instinctively to recognize him as master before he had been many minutes in the saddle. But he often said he preferred a good game of golf to the best run of the season.

Sir Hope Grant entered the Army at the age of eighteen with a fortune of £10,000. When he was

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thirty-two he had gone through the money, one-half of it being the price of his commission and steps, the other half being muddled away in riotous living. Fortunately, about this time, an influence came into his life which changed everything. A lady, for whom all through his career he had a most affectionate regard and friendship, had already obtained an ascendancy over his mind, and had turned his thoughts to spiritual things. By what one may term her teaching, the inanity and unworthiness of the harum-scarum side of existence were brought home to him, and she implanted in him a craving for something better and higher and more worthy of a rational being. During the first China war the seed sown by her took root, and soon developed into a goodly tree. This war was in every way the turning point of his life, both in a worldly and spiritual sense.

A curious incident happened to Grant at the Battle of Sobraon; when the 9th Lancers were formed up before the battle, a brigadier-general rode on to the parade drunk, when his men hissed him. Sir Hope Grant finding his immediate superior refused to take action, went the next morning after the battle to the offender and said, "Unless you resign at once, I must report the fact that you were drunk yesterday when going into action." The brigadier at once placed Grant under arrest for using insubordinate language to his superior officer, and for falsely accusing him of disgraceful conduct. He was kept under arrest for six weeks, and he barely escaped from having to leave the Army, although the Court of Enquiry practically justified the accusation he had made. No man who, either in his civil or military capacity did such good and distinguished service to England as Sir Hope Grant performed in 1860, has been so miserably rewarded as he was.

His religion influenced all he did. His Maker was always uppermost in his mind, and to him he confided his cares, troubles, and difficulties, and to Him he looked at all times and under all circumstances for a way out of them. His trust was indeed in God, and I very much doubt if any man, even Abraham himself, ever had a more complete or practical faith in the Almighty. In all that he did, in all that befel him, he traced the hand and directing guidance of God. Whatever went wrong, his spoken or recorded view of the situation always was, "It does'nt matter, it will all come right, for it is ordered by God." When upon his death-bed he saw an aide-de-camp break down and burst into tears, he said: "What's the matter, Bobby? Why, death is only like going from one room into another."

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

X. MILITZ.

July 15th, 1893.

A QUERY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Will you kindly give the name of the Chinese Philosopher and the book from which the interesting quotation is made at the close of your recent Editorial entitled "What is the Matter?" and greatly oblige,

Your truly, A STUDENT.

[Name of the philosopher:—Lieh-tzŭ.
Name of his book:—Ch'ung Hsū Ching, or "Classic of Fulness and Emptiness."
Name of the book in which it is translated:—"Leaves from my Chinese Scrap-book" by F.H.B.
"What is *the* Matter" is presumably a joke on the part of Mr. Student!—ED. *J.M.*]

GOUIN'S ART OF TEACHING AND STUDYING LANGUAGES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—A large number of your readers are interested in M. Gouin's Art of Teaching and Studying Languages, and I therefore venture to make a suggestion to those who are following his method. It is not my purpose to explain the system to those who are not familiar with it, but simply to make a practical suggestion to those who have found difficulty in applying it. Neither is it my purpose to make a way through the difficulties which attend the acquisition of what M. Gouin calls "objective language." To be sure the author says himself (Trans. p. 299): "If in order to apply our system each teacher had to construct it for him or herself, its application might as well be renounced at once." The lack of detailed treatment in the book has brought many to a halt, and they, as well as I, have written to the author or translator asking for the detailed treatises. But, while waiting for a reply, having no better system to use in learning Japanese, I have tried to reconstruct it for myself and have prepared a series amounting to about 1,000 sentences. It certainly has paid me to work at the system even without the author's detailed treatises.

The suggestion I have to make, however, concerns the so-called "subjective language," or the language which expresses thoughts and emotions. It was hard enough to get anything out of my teacher in the objective language, but according to M. Gouin's system in the acquisition of the "subjective language" here was work that the teacher positively must do. Such expressions as those on pp. 144, 157, 163, 174, etc. must proceed in the first instance from the teacher. This requires on the part of the teacher ingenuity and enthusiasm, ingenuity to skilfully interject the proper subjective phrases a proper number of times, enthusiasm to make them interesting. At this point my Japanese teacher failed entirely. Whatever progress we might make in the objective language, it was certain that we should make no progress at all in the subjective language according to M. Gouin's method.

In the "time series" as applied to the objective language, there was a certain inevitableness. After the miller had hoisted his sacks on his shoulder, he must carry them to the mill. The time series is methodical, logical, and therefore inevitable; any person with ordinary wit can construct such a series in a familiar language, and therein lies the beauty of the system. But I have found no logical category which includes the subjective expressions given. They proceed from the teacher's mouth in no order and simply according to his mood. But it is quite contrary to the nature of a Japanese teacher to labour hard enough to give birth to a sufficient variety.

With this practical difficulty in my way, I was compelled to cast about for some means of *drawing out* from the teacher the subjective phrases of this language. For this purpose I studied over and over the chapters in M. Gouin's book on this subject. The problem before me was simply to find a logical means of attaching the subjective language to the series lessons. It is not necessary to relate all the steps I went through, but I found the secret, if it is a secret, in some expressions on pp. 42 and 43 of the book. It seemed to me that there was a distinction to be made between the psychological relationship of "means to an end" and of "cause and effect." Not only does every child ask "what is that for?" but also "why?"

Without clearly seeing whither I might be led, I began to construct a set of series parallel to the time-sequence series, by simply asking "why" after every step, and in this way I doubled these steps. Instead of 1,000 sentences I have now 2,000, and not only so but these new sentences belong almost entirely to another language, viz., the subjective.

To illustrate.
The maid goes and seeks her hatchet.
Why?
Because without a hatchet she cannot chop wood.
Cannot, or is unable, is clearly a "relative phrase,"
She takes a log of wood.
Why?
Because she wants to split it.
Wants, expresses a subjective idea.
She draws near to the chopping block.
Why?
Because it is a convenient way to chop wood on a chopping block.
It is a convenient way, is subjective language.
She kneels down near this block.
Why?
Because she wishes to place the wood upon it.
Wishes is the expression of a mental act.
She places the wood on the block.
Why?
Because it won't do to drive the hatchet into the ground.
It won't do, gives a new subjective expression.
She raises her hatchet.
Why?
Because she must drive the hatchet into the wood hard.
She brings down her hatchet.
Why?
Because otherwise it is impossible to split wood.
It is impossible.

Every question "why," so far, has produced a relative phrase which is in constant use, and this will be found to be true of every action performed by a voluntary agent. Why does the dog show his teeth? Because he is angry. Why does the silk-worm rest about once a week? Because his skin feels too tight, or Because it is necessary to slough off his old skin.

But the next sentence furnishes no such subjective language.

The hatchet cleaves the air.
Why?
Because the maid brings it down hard.
Nor the next.
The blade strikes the wood.
Why?
Because the maid aims it straight.

These two why's do not furnish "relative phrases," *i.e.*, those on which others depend or to which they are related, because the subjects, hatchet and blade, are inanimate.

But as I went on I found that it was by no means useless to ask why, even of such sentences, for a large proportion of them yielded scientific expressions. Why does the bucket echo in the well? Why do the shavings burst into flame? are questions that every child asks until it is discouraged by the ignorance or indifference of its elders to questions that only science can answer.

I by no means claim that this simple expedient provides a complete subjective language, but I was astonished to see the variety of phrases that arose naturally from its use, and as I kept working at it, it seemed to me to possess one distinct advantage over M. Gouin's method, and that is that the relative phrases have a direct connection with the subject of the lesson in hand. M. Gouin, on the other hand, is obliged to connect his relative phrases with another subject, such as "pronouncing" "making progress," "speaking English," etc. But, to use his words "The relative phrase should arise quite naturally, without effort, with reference simply to the subject of the series" (p. 177) and *not* as he says "to the manner in which it is presented." It is certainly not "a faithful reproduction of the material process" to call off the attention of the pupil from the subject in hand to the method of recitation. "The relative phrase is a real conception *bearing upon some concrete fact* (p. 177, italics mine) and not upon an abstraction like making progress." To keep a pupil's mind jumping from the subject of the series off to "continuing" and "pronouncing well" and "working hard" and "learning English" and back again between every two sentences is simply to set at defiance the principles of pedagogy. To use M. Gouin's own figure (p. 181), he does not mix the yeast (subjective language) with the dough (objective language) which the pupil is kneading. Or take another figure of his, that of stones and mortar (p. 145). According to M. Gouin's application of his system, while the child is building a monument of stones, the teacher continually calls off his attention from that to the mortar which the teacher himself is hoeing over. Time and again, M. Gouin states the principles that should be applied and then in the application denies them. It is well said on p. 54:—"No sooner does a fact of the external world present itself than immediately the mind takes possession of it and judges it. A linguistic system cut according to the pattern of nature must be required to reproduce this beautiful harmony." But in the application of the system there is no connection whatever between the subject matter of the series and the relative phrase as there is in nature.

For example, p. 174
Pupil—I walk towards the door.
Teacher—Very good! Have the kindness to continue.
Pupil—I draw near to the door.
Teacher—Go on, and do you utmost to pronounce well.
Pupil—I get to the door.
Teacher—You will not regret having worked hard.
Pupil—I stop at the door.
Teacher—Rest assured that in six months you will speak English well.

To say nothing of the inducement thus offered to the vice of self-consciousness, it cannot be long before this constant diverting of the attention will prove irksome to the pupil.

On the other hand, where a teacher is a real teacher, I see no reason why these relative phrases may not be connected directly with the series in hand? For example:—

Teacher—Have the kindness I beg you to, etc. } Go to the door.
Pupil begins the series.
I walk towards the door, etc., etc.
I stop at the door.
Teacher—Go on please, and try to open the door.

Or, as I have suggested above, my own plan has been to give rise to the subjective expressions (3 and 4 on p. 174) by the use of the question Why? For instance:—

Teacher—I turn the handle.
Pupil—Why?
Teacher—Because it is necessary in order to open the door, etc., etc.

Afterwards, of course, the parts are reversed and the teacher asks, Why?

As I have said before, in my own experience, on account of the lack of initial force in Japanese teachers, I cannot depend on freely interjected phrases from the teacher, but have had to rely upon the why as a sort of pump to extract what I

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want. I may say, in closing, that it is only because I am so thoroughly convinced of the excellence of M. Gouin's system, that I have ventured to write in this critical strain. His method of learning the objective language is so nearly perfect that it ought to be reinforced by a more scientific method of learning the subjective language

WILLIAM NOYES.

Maebashi, July 17th, 1893.

WAS NOBUNAGA BAPTIZED?

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—Recently I was told by a Japanese gentleman of great intelligence and superior education, that Nobunaga was baptized by the Jesuits. Is that a historical fact?

Yours truly, G. S. B.

May 8th, 1893.

[We have to apologise for inadvertently failing to insert this letter up to the present. We have never heard that Nobunaga was baptized. The great nobles Otomo Sorin and Ouchi Yoshitaka were converts, as was also the Shogun Yoshiteru, of the Ashikaga line, but as to Nobunaga we can not speak.—Ed. *J.M.*]

PRIZE DAY AT THE VICTORIA PUBLIC SCHOOL.

The Midsummer prize day of the Victoria School took place on Friday afternoon, in the school buildings, Bluff. H B.M.'s Chargé d'Affaires, Mr. de Bunsen, was in the chair, and others present included Mr. Wilkin, Mr. Troup, Mr. W. B. Walter, Mr. M. Russell, Mr Allcock, Mr. Johnstone, Rev. F. Freese, Mr. Home Cook, and many ladies. Upon the walls of the room were suspended the drawings of the boys, many of them being most meritorious.

Mr. de Bunsen, in taking the chair, said that he expected the ladies and gentlemen present would not desire a long speech in such warm weather as now prevails, and he did not intend to inflict them with one, but on behalf of the Committee he welcomed them at the school that afternoon. He was pleased to see so many present; for it showed that the community took an interest in the school. They all took an interest in it as a school, but more as an institution that commemorated a great event of which they were all very proud, the fiftieth anniversary of the accession to the Throne of their most gracious Queen. He was sure that the boys must always have their interest sustained in that event, for the portrait of the Queen was always hanging before them on their school walls. Perhaps their loyalty would be more aglow now than ever, as the marriage of the Duke of York was so fresh in their memories, having taken place but the other day. But interest in the School extended beyond English circles, as he had been pleased to find at the public meeting held last spring, when several American ladies and gentlemen had come forward to show their sympathy and offers their support to the institution. He congratulated the boys upon gaining their holidays, although they no doubt had a very enjoyable time at school, where they found most congenial studies and received excellent instruction from Mr. Fardel and Mr. Fenton.—(Applause.) He now called upon the Head-master, Mr. Fardell, to make his report.—(Applause.)

Mr. Fardell, who was received with applause, thanked Mr. De Bunsen for so kindly presiding at that day's ceremony. He also thanked him for his donation of the English Literature prize, and Mr. Troup for six presentation prizes. The boys, he continued, on their return from the last holidays had been agreeably surprised to find a renovated school building; they hardly new the old house, and he was sure this fact had a great influence upon the interest which they took in their studies. The work of the whole school for the year had very good and a very good spirit had prevailed among the boys, there being no case of breach of discipline calling for severe punishment. The examinations which had been carried on during the past week had demonstrated that good work could be accomplished by the Victoria School boys. The work of the 1st division in mathematics, science, and French was good. He was agreeably surprised also to discover the excellent progress made in physiology, a subject rather difficult for boys to handle. In this division he had specially to mention Poole, Austen, Russell, Pohl, and Wheeler. The second division boys had been handicapped in the late examination by their sudden promotion from the primary division, owing to the number of boys who had left at the close of last year. But in this second division competition had been very keen. The Head-master then read the examination marks which each lad had gained. Out of a possible 300, one obtained 269, another 264, another 244, an other 239, etc. Science had been taught in this division, but the strongest study was arithmetic, and here again the competition was keen. Referring to outside school work, Mr. Fardell said the boys had played several football matches during the winter, and had won a victory over what was considered the second eleven of the Y.C. & A.C.—a victory of which they were very proud. In cricket, against other Yokohama boys, the school had been universally victorious. He was glad to notice the interest taken in the school by old boys, and mentioned one or two cases which had fallen under his particular notice. Having referred to the great interest which the study of English Literature had evoked among the boys, Mr. Fardell went on to express a hope that the Yokohama community would take a deeper interest in the welfare of the institution in the coming year. It was most discouraging to face, morning after morning, bare benches which ought and might be filled. He thought that there were quite 70 boys in Yokohama over 8 years of age who could attend the Victoria School. If they attended, then the school might engage three and possibly four masters, instead of two, as at present. With more boys in each class competition would be greater and better work could be done all round.—(Loud applause.)

The following programme was then carried out by the boys:—

PROGRAMME.

"The Wind in a Frolic"	H Lee.
"Bourgeois Gentilhomme," Act II., Scene VI.	
M Jourdain	G Wheeler.
Le Philosophe	R. Pohl
"The Deserted Village"	V. Sale.
"Henry IV.," 1st Part, Act II., Scene IV.	
Prince Henry	C. Poole,
Falstaff	F. Booth.
Poins	A Austen,
Bardolph, Peto and Francis	M. Mendelson.
Mrs. Quickly, and Quickley	H Russell
"St. Ignatius"	G. Wheeler.
"The Charge of the Light Brigade"	S. Kuan.

"Vivat Regina"

The Shakespearian scene was exceedingly well done, Master Booth's "Falstaff" being exceptionally good for a schoolboy. The French recitation was also very deserving of the praise accorded by the chairman. At the close of the recitations,

Mr. Bunsen said—The time has now come for me to distribute the prizes, but before doing so I must congratulate Mr. Fardell and Mr. Fenton upon the recitations which we have just heard. I think they exhibit clear evidence that each was well thought out by the boys, who must have given a good deal of time to them. The recitations generally show that the boys appreciated and understood what they were saying. I could hear every word of them, except, perhaps, the last, which I have never heard before. It is with great satisfaction that I congratulate Mr. Fardell and Mr. Fenton upon the result of their exertions. I hope they will be repeated on future occasions and will improve more every year.—(Loud applause.)

The prizes were distributed as follows:—

PRIZES.

1ST DIVISION.

G. Wheeler	Literature,
C. Poole	(1st class) Arithmetic
A. Austen	(and class) Arithmetic.
K Ozawa	Geometry and Algebra.
R Pohl	Science.
R. Pohl	(1st class) History.
A. Pohl	(and class) History.
A. Austen	Geography.
H. Russell	Grammar.
R Pohl	French.

2ND DIVISION.

W Johnstone	Composition and Writing
V. Sale	Writing and Composition
H. Lee	Reading, Literature.
H. Cook	(and class) Grammar.
E. Bunting	Scripture
M. Sakamoto	Geography.
J. Charlesworth	Science,
W. Carst	Geometry.
J. Drummond	Arithmetic.
J. Charlesworth	Highest Marks.
V. Sale	Highest Marks.

CERTIFICATES.

V M Sale	Latin.
J. Charlesworth	French.
H. Lee	Grammar.
E Bunting	Science.
G. Russell	Geography and Arithmetic.
H Austen	General Application.
H. Russell	Arithmetic and Geography.
F. Booth	Arithmetic and Literature.
A Kingdon	French.
G. Wheeler	History.
A. Austen	Euclid, Nat. Sc. & Grammar.

The Chairman then thanked the company for their attendance and congratulated the boys again upon reaching their holidays, which hoped they would prove very pleasant.

Mr. A. J. Wilkin moved a vote of thanks to the chair.—Carried with applause.

The Chairman, in acknowledging, said that he should always be happy to do anything to promote the success of such a gathering during his stay in Japan.

The National Anthem was then sung and the assembly dispersed amid cheers for the Head-master and his wife, Mr. Fenton, and the Ladies.

BAPTIST CONFERENCES.

The minutes of the Fourth Annual Conference of Missionaries of the American Baptist Missionary Union in Japan and of the Fourth Annual Union Conference of Baptist Missionaries in Japan—a Conference made up of the missionaries of the former Conference and those of the Southern Baptist Convention and held at the same time and place as the former Conference—have just been published. The representatives from the ten stations occupied by missionaries was large. The meetings were held in the recently built chapel of the Kobe Baptist Church.

Several new names have been added to the list of Baptist Missionaries in Japan during the last year, but more have been lost so that about one-third of the force, *i.e.* seventeen, is in the home land.

The evangelistic work of the year has resulted in 213 baptisms, and the work among the churches has resulted in spiritual growth on the part of many members and the cutting off of some three score whose lives proved their unworthiness of church membership. The year closes with 18 churches all but one of which are listed as "not-self supporting,"—77 outstations, 61 Sunday schools, a force of 85 Japanese workers and a membership of 1,304 which has contributed during the year 770 *yen* toward the expenses of the churches.

The hopes of a year ago that a boy's school would be established during the year, have not been realized. Action was taken, however, which, if there is a successful issue, will give Baptists in Japan what they have long needed—the power to equip their workers and educate their young men in their own institutions.

Uncertainty of permanent policy and the absence of teachers part of the time has been a hindrance to the best work of the Theological School. The six students in attendance have, however, done good work, and at the close of the year two were graduated.

The four girls' schools with their 81 boarders and 122 day pupils show a progress which, as the report says "is especially encouraging at a time when the Government and people are so ready to criticise the Mission School." Conversions have taken place and work been carried on in five preaching places and many Sunday Schools.

Rev. F. G. Harrington and Kushino San his helper have brought out Vedder's History of the Baptists, Evert's Concise Comments on Baptism, and a church manual compiled from Standard Church Manuals in English. Bible revision and Hymn Book revision has made but small progress. It was decided that Baptist Sunday School Helps be published and also an edition of the New Testament in a more convenient shape than that now in use.

The Committee on "Religious Publications in Japan" reported the publication of more than 30 periodicals, and 125 books and tracts "Embracing all the departments of Theology, Exegesis, Homiletics, History, Narrative, Poetry, Religion in its relation to Politics, Astronomy, &c.," besides Bibles and Scripture portions.

The Annual Sermon was preached by Rev. J. H. Scott of Osaka upon the "Certainty of success in Christian Service." The following papers were presented:—An Historical Sketch of the Theological School, by Rev. C. K. Harrington; a Biographical Sketch of Rev. C. H. Carpenter, the founder of the Nemuro Mission, by Rev. W. B. Parshley; Sketch of the Nemuro Mission, by Mrs. C. N. Carpenter; and a paper on "Methods of Work," in which direct preaching to the masses was earnestly advocated, by Rev. E. H. Jones. The sessions were the most satisfactory of any held since the Conferences were organized.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CONFERENCE.

Tokyo, Wednesday, July 12th.

The statistical report for the past year was presented this morning. Some of the principal features are as follows:—Total number of members and probationers 4,034; a gain of 239. Baptisms 423, a loss of 43. Six new church buildings were reported and a gain of $6,525 in the valuation of church property. $1,561.63 was raised for pastoral support and $7,149 14 were reported as raised for all purposes. 13 new Sunday schools were organized and 1,298 more seat-holders were enrolled than in the preceding year.

It was voted that the next Conference be held at Aoyama, Tokyo.

At the afternoon session the Rev. Dr. Leonard

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presided, and the time was taken up with hearing reports from committees.

In the evening the Rev. Dr. Leonard preached a very able sermon from Acts ii: 4, the subject being "The Holy Ghost the Requisite for Success in the Ministry."

Tokyo, Thursday, July 13th.

The closing session of the Conference was held this morning. After the reading of the minutes of the previous day, and the presentation and adoption of various reports and the appointment of the usual committees, Dr. Leonard briefly addressed the Conference. Bishop Foster then made an earnest address and read the appointments for the ensuing year. A hymn was sung and after prayer by the Bishop, the benediction was pronounced by the Rev. Dr. Leonard and the Conference adjourned *sine die*.

The following are the appointments of the foreign members of the Conference, and the presiding elders for next year:—

Aomori District.—J. W. Wadman, Presiding Elder.

Fukuoka District.—Kurimura Saeiachi, Presiding Elder.

Hokkaido District.—Julius Soper, Presiding Elder.

Nagasaki District.—I. H. Correll, Presiding Elder.

Professors in Chinzai Seminary, Nagasaki.—H. B. Johnson, E. R. Fulkerson.

Nagoya District.—D. S. Spencer, Presiding Elder. W. S. Worden, absent on leave.

Sendai District.—Matsumoto Sogo, Presiding Elder.

Sendai.—H. W. Swartz.

Shinshiu District.—G. F. Draper, Presiding Elder. Matsumoto, Henry B. Schwartz.

Tokyo, East District.—Ogata Sennosuke, Presiding Elder. Publishing Agent, Charles Bishop.

Tokyo, West District.—J. C. Davison, Presiding Elder. Philander Smith, Biblical Institute, John Weir, Dean. M. S. Vail, Professor. Anglo-Japanese College. J. E Belknap, B. Chapell, R. T. Alexander, Professors. J. O. Spencer, Dean, Jennie S. Vail, Instructor. Harriet S. Alling, absent on leave.

Yokohama District.—J. G. Cleveland, Presiding Elder.

Tokyo, Thursday, July 13th.

The Conference of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church which has been in session at Aoyama, Tokyo, during the past week, closed to day. The following are the appointments:—

Hokkaido District.—Hakodate, Caroline Wright Memorial School. Miss A. Dickerson, Principle. Miss M. S. Hampton (Superintendent of Bible Women); one to be supplied.

Aomori District.—Hirosaki Girl's School and Evangelist Work, Miss G. Baucus.

Sendai District.—Yonezawa Girl's School, Miss M. E. Atkinson. Evangelistic Work, Miss L. Imhof. Sendai, Miss F. E. Phelps (Superintendent of Bible Women). Mrs. H. W. Swartz

Tokyo District.—Tokyo Anglo Japanese Seminary, Miss E. R. Bender, Principal, Miss B. J. Allen; one to be supplied. Industrial Department, Miss E. Black stock. Tsukiji Girl's School, Miss R. J. Watson, Principal: Miss J. E. Locke. Day Schools, Miss M. A. Spencer (Superintendent of Bible Women). Evangelistic Work, Mrs. B. Chappell, Mrs. J. Weir.

Yokohama District.—Bible Training School, Miss M. B. Griffiths, (Superintendent of Bible Women). Day Schools, Miss M. E. Simmons. Evangelistic Work, Mrs. G. Draper, Mrs. G. F. Draper.

Nagoya District.—Nagoya Girl's School, Miss M. E Wilson, Principal. Mrs. C. W. Van Petten (Superintendent of Bible Women). Evangelistic Work, Mrs. D. S. Spencer

Nagasaki District.—Nagasaki Girl's School, Miss E. Russell, Principal; Miss A. S. French. Biblical Department and Evangelistic Work, Miss P. Greer (Superintendent of Bible Women) Fukuoka Girl's School. Miss L. Seeds, Principal; Miss G. Tucker.

Absent in United States:—Miss E. J. Hewitt, Miss A P. Atkinson, Mrs. C. W. Van Petten, Miss A. L. Bing, Miss M. A. Danforth, Miss R. E Forbes.

ECZEMA.—Book on "Skin Trouble," sent free for One Stamp by Messrs. NORTH & REA, Limited Yokohama.

LETTER FROM CHICAGO.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Chicago, June 28th, 1893.

The following is a sample of the news items which may be found in the reliable (re-l e-able) press of our country:—

"Yoshi Hoti, the eldest son of the Emperor of Japan, who is coming to the World's Fair, is only 14 years old, but is said to resemble Nanki Poo in his fondness for flitting."

The first issue of the "Chinese American," edited by Wong Ching Foo, made its appearance the other day. It contains four pages, printed, all except four columns, in the Chinese language. The front page displays a cartoon of the Chinese dragon trying to strangle the American Eagle and make it disgorge the Geary Bill! The editor appeals to Chinese in the United State to discard their native customs, and to become worthy American citizens; and he proposes during the Exposition to hold here a congress of such Chinese as are willing to become U.S. citizens.

A dispatch from Shanghai to the *Standard* of London states that Li Hung-chang has intimated, that a new treaty will be necessary between the United States and China.

Henry M. Smythe, of Virginia, has been appointed U.S. Consul at Foochow, China.

The U.S. Attorney, the U S. Marshal, the U.S Collector, the U.S. Special Agent and six Special Inspectors of Customs, all of the Puget Sound District, have been removed by Secretary Carlisle on the charge of having surreptitiously admitted Chinamen on forged certificates, and also smuggled in opium.

In both England and America Christians are aroused over the sentence of death imposed upon several Armenians for alleged sedition.

The Supreme Court of Illinois has declared the Crerar will valid in spite of the contention of Canadian heirs. The city of Chicago thereby secures $2,000,000 or more for another public library.

Yorkton College, a Congregational institution in South Dakota, has obtained $100,000 for endowment, of which one-fourth comes from Dr. D. K. Pearson, of this city.

The University of Chicago has just bestowed its first degrees, and assigned its fellowships for another year. The degree of B.A. was given to ten persons; B.Ph. to four; B S to one; various certificates and degrees in theological work (English and Scandinavian) to 37 persons; M.A. to two gentlemen; M.Ph. to two ladies; and Ph.D to one (Eiji Asada). Mr. Asada has held a fellowship in the Semitic department; wrote a thesis on "The Hebrew Text of Zechariah I. VIII. Compared with the Different Ancient Versions;" and is to be Professor of Old Testament Interpretation in the Theological Seminary of the Tokyo Eiwa Gakko. Thus the university which first admitted Japanese to its teaching force has given its first Ph D to a Japanese. It was, moreover, a pupil of Dr. Harper at Yale who was appointed to the first Semitic chair (at the Doshisha) in Japan. President Harper, consequently, feels a deep interest in Christian educational work in Japan.

The university sermon was preached by Rev. O P. Gifford, D.D., Sunday evening on "The Christian Choragus." The convocation exercises were held in Central Music Hall, Monday, the 26th inst. Head Professor W. G. Hale spoke on "The Place of the University in American Life"; and President Harper made a report on the work of the year. He mentioned a number of small gifts, and the further extension of time in raising the $500,000 needed for general equipment. The hard times are hindering philanthropic enterprises.

The other day a bronze statue of the Fort Dearborn massacre was unveiled on the home property of Geo. M. Pullman, of the Pullman Car Company. His residence, at the foot of Eighteenth Street, stands on the very spot of the massacre. Mr. E. G. Mason, President of the Chicago Historical Society, to which Mr. Pullman presented the statue, in accepting it, told the story of the event of 81 years ago; and ex Pres. Harrison made an appropriate address.

Last Sunday the Anarchists in Waldheim Cemetery uncovered their monument to the memory of the "martyrs;" and the next day were overjoyed to hear that their three friends (Schwab, Fielden, and Neebe), who were serving terms in Joliet, had been pardoned by Gov. Altgeld. It has been long expected that Neebe, who has served about half his term of fifteen years, would be pardoned, and that Schwab and Fielden, sentenced for life, might have their term commuted. But our Anarchist Governor not only pardoned all three unconditionally, but went out of his way to arraign Judge Gary, the jury, ex-States Attorney Grinnell, Captain Bonfield, and others. If he had contented himself with exercising his executive privilege of pardon, he might have been criticized, of course; but, in setting himself, a lawyer and a judge of no repute, to overturn completely the verdict on the ground of an unfair trial, he has thoroughly aroused public indignation.

Lizzie Borden has been acquitted of the charge of murder.

The coroner's jury in the Ford's Theatre calamity have thrown the responsibility upon Colonel Ainsworth (in charge of the building), Superintendent W. G. Covert, Engineer Francis Sasse, and George W. Dant, contractor for the work which caused the disaster.

Forest fires in the Mesaba (Minn.) iron range have caused a loss of about $1,000,000, and have left nearly 4,000 people homeless.

A special train returning from the races was derailed June 20 in a tunnel in Brooklyn. Ten or more were killed, and more than 100 injured. In Wisconsin lightning, and in Kansas a cyclone, have also been very destructive of property and life.

In the tenth American Derby, run at Washington Park, this city, last Saturday afternoon, the winner of the $50,000 prizes was Mr. J. E. Cushing's Boundless

The Spanish Infanta, Eulalia, and her suite have returned to Europe. Just at present, the Exposition has no special attraction in the way of a "big bug," but is yet very largely attended.

One day last week there were about 150,000 people in attendance; and the daily record generally runs up to 100,000 or more. The Fair is now open every night till 11 o'clock.

The attendance on Sundays (from 50,000 to 75,000) has gravely disappointed the ardent advocates of Sunday opening. The people, too, are complaining that only about half the exhibits are open or uncovered; and are justly claiming that 25 cents only should be the admission fee on Sunday. The Japanese exhibits are mostly closed or covered. Last Sunday Rev. Dr. Thomas, an independent liberal divine of this city, preached in Festival Hall to a large congregation.

The big University of Chicago telescope, minus its lens, is to be put up in the Manufactures Building.

In the Danish section of the Agriculture Building is a milking machine which was successfully tried the other day on four cows.

The Korean exhibit is minus two skins, one of marten and the other of sable, stolen by two women who escaped capture.

In order to establish unity in the organization of the Exposition, all standing committees, excepting Executive, Finance and Legislative, have been abolished; and the authority has been vested in the Council of Administration, of which Director-General Davis is the chief executive officer

Last week the Commerce and Finance, Congresses were in session, and discussed banking and finance, boards of trade, stocks and bonds, water and railway commerce, and insurance (fire and life).

SOME HIGHWAYS AND BYEWAYS IN CENTRAL JAPAN.

BY W. WESTON, M.A., F.R.G.S., ENGLISH ALPINE CLUB.

ON THE NAKASENDO.

Travellers whose wanderings have led them to the summits of the loftier peaks of Central Japan, must often have been struck by the appearance of a remarkable mountain lying just on the borders of the provinces of Shinshiu and Mino. Not that there is anything unusual in its height, for its proportions are of but modest measurement, but its attractiveness lies in its commanding situation which enables it to take a place in the view from nearly all the highest peaks of many of the greatest ranges in the Land of the Rising Sun. As the mighty chain of which the Komagatake of Shinshiu rears the loftiest head trends southwards, its receding heights grow gradually less, until that neighbourhood is reached where the Nakasendo crosses over from Shinshiu into Mino. Here the diminishing ridges seem as it were to make one final effort to assert themselves, with the result that Ena-San stands out from his surroundings an object really worthy of more than a passing glance.

Even as the Englishman of average height when seen in the company of a number of brawny Life Guardsmen will cut but an insignificant figure, yet if you set him in the midst of a squad of Japanese soldiers of ordinary stature he will at once attract attention. So, too, would Ena-San be lost if placed side by side with the giants of the Japanese Alps; but when viewed as he actually stands he forms a distinctly noteworthy feature in the landscape. Situated on the boundary line between Shinshiu and Mino, the western flanks of the mountain send down more than one good sized

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stream to help to swell the volume of the silvery Kisogawa flowing swiftly on his way to the Owari Gulf, while from the eastern side the impetuous Tenrugawa receives the Achugawa and other tributaries as he gathers his forces for the work of cleaving a passage through the great mountain mass that bars the way to the Pacific.

As I had so frequently found Ena-San occupying so prominent a place in the view from other mountain tops of much greater height, it was only natural to expect that the converse would hold equally good, and that the climb would be repaying for the sake of the extensive prospect it would afford. Moreover, one could get no information about the peak, for although it stands so near to the great mid-mountain road, a route popular enough with those who do care to get away from the more fashionable and crowded country resorts, still no foreign traveller had hitherto, apparently, made the ascent. Consequently the expedition offered the additional attraction that ever accompanies a plunge into the unknown, for in mountain travel and exploration not the least pleasurable element is that of uncertainty as to what amount of success will attend the venture.

A perfect spring day greeted us when, on May 8th, our party of three, Messrs. Noel Buxton and H. O'Rorke, both of Trinity College, Cambridge, and myself, met at Kyoto station with the above mentioned expedition in view as the objective point of a ten days' journey in the interior.

Our plan was to proceed as far as Gifu by train and then, striking the Nakasendo at Kano, to make our way to the village nearest to the foot of Ena-San, from which the ascent could be accomplished. No sooner, however, had we alighted at Gifu than a difficulty presented itself in the person of a policeman, who on asking for and proceeding to examine our passports, informed us that as the 'Fuji mi-ju-san shu' ('the thirteen provinces from which Fuji is visible') named therein did *not* include Mino, he could not allow us to proceed further! For we were now in that province, but without any official permission to travel therein. Evidently he had not been up Ena-San, the summit of which, lying, as it does, partly in Mino affords, as we later on discovered, an enchanting view of the "Matchless Mountain." This fact would seem to call for a rearrangement of the list of the "Thirteen Provinces," in order to take in that of Mino, for though at present not officially included it certainly is geographically entitled to be so. As a matter of fact, though not having at our fingers' ends a catalogue of the provinces in question, we fully believed the limb of the law to be in error, and after a while, through appealing to his benevolence by taking him into our counsels, begging for his kind offices in getting information for us as to our proposed ascent, we succeeded in diverting his thoughts from Mino in general to Ena San in particular, the result being that a few moments later saw us and our baggage safely packed into *kuruma* and bowling merrily along the road which leaves Gifu at its southern end, and joins the Nakasedo shortly afterward a. Kano. The latter place suffered severely during the Earthquake of 1891, most of the houses being then wholly or partially destroyed, and now a large number of new white wooden buildings stand out in marked contrast to the rest, to remind one of the awful catastrophe that then brought almost universal ruin on the little town. The portion of the road between Kano and Ota is one of the most level and best kept bits of which the Nakasendo can boast, and a bicycle rider would find on it a stretch of 15 miles well worth his attention. Beyond Kano one passes through a sort of plantation of young pines, the scent of which in the clear cool freshness of a spring afternoon is most delicious. Just beyond Unuma, some miles from the start, we found that a new road had been recently made by which a climb over some barren hills on the left is avoided, and a fine view is gained of the old castle of Muya na on the right, standing on a conical hill near some grand cliffs which form the left bank of the broad Kisogawa. The view of the river at a point a little further on is very beautiful, especially near the spot where, 4 *cho* after the old and new roads reunite, a steep little ascent on the left hand side of a path leads up to a cave in the cliff above, called Iwaya-no-Kwannon. Soon comes Katsuyama, a village from which a branch road leads off to Seki and Takayama. At length after a pleasant ride of three hours, we find ourselves at Ota and a few minutes more the pretty guest-room of the Iwaya littered with the contents of our *kori* and *rücksacks*, in that hopeless state of chaos to which the arrival of a foreign traveller generally succeeds in reducing the neat quarters allotted to him, in an incredibly short space of time.

The next day, by way of gaining time and also rendering ourselves independent of the extortionate demands of the local *jinrikisha* men, we decided to charter a private *basha* to take us as far as Ochiai at the foot of Ena-San, a distance of about 38 miles. In spite, however, of all our good resolutions over night, it was nearly 8 a.m. before our carriage was on the move, but when once a start had been made it seemed really as if we were next door to a solution of the problem of perpetual motion. The native *basha* may not inaptly be likened to a cross between an ambulance waggon and a hearse, and our subsequent experience on this occasion very nearly proved that it was capable of fulfilling the functions of both these vehicles. For whilst the incessant jolting over a very cobbly road was from the start painfully trying to the frame, an incident later on occurred which for a moment was startlingly suggestive of a serious catastrophe.

What an extraordinary turnout it was, to be sure! A horse of sadly attenuated frame tied up by odds and ends of straps and strings between the shakiest of shafts! A driver of repulsive mein, and, as it afterwards transpired, of absolutely no experience, this being his maiden attempt in such a capacity, held the reins. A small boy of intense self-importance performed on a tin horn with a view to announcing our approach to those deaf enough not to have been already alarmed by the hideous rattling of our chariot. Whilst a general superintendence of the whole turn-out was exercised by a white-haired cur of diminutive proportions but of ubiquitous activity, his time being spent between hurrying on ahead to clear the way in case rattle and horn should have been insufficient to do so, and scurrying excitedly back with an air of "Don't be frightened, leave it to me and I'll see you safely through," clearly depicted on his canine countenance. Such were the size and characteristics of our vehicle and its accessories, indeed, that our driver assured us it would be impossible for us to cross the Kisogawa in the ferry at Imawatari, just beyond Ota, and that a détour would be necessary in order to avoid it. Accordingly we diverged to the left and in half an hour had passed through Moriyama, from which still another road branches off to Takayama in Hida, and descended a steep zigzag to the Hidagawa here spanned just above its confluence with the Kisogawa by a picturesque bridge which affords a striking view up stream of emerald waters shut in by rocky verdure-clad banks. In another half-hour we are crossing the Kisogawa itself a Kaneyama, whence a villainous road doubles back, almost as if ashamed of itself, in the direction of Fushimi, where it at length leaves us in better company at its juncture with the Nakasendo. Before doing so, however, it treated us to an experience which will long linger in our memories as one of those unforeseen incidents of travel which help to give it a zest in spite of the temporary drawbacks that may chance to attend them.

The *basha* had just arrived at a particularly rutty part of the road, so rutty, in fact, that I was obliged to get out and walk in order to relieve an injured knee from the intolerable shaking which was getting almost too much for it. Just as I was well out of the thing and in a position to command a full view of its gyrations, the driver, in the most insane manner, executed a manœuvre which brought the roof of the carriage into contact with the widely overhanging eave of the roof of a wayside cottage stretching an unusual distance over the road.

A grand crash is heard; the *basha* gives a lurch; the horse, urged on by its driver, gives a furious tug; a sound of rending timbers, and then the vehicle slowly parts in twain. For a moment, the *basha* seems within measurable distance of being requisitioned as an ambulance waggon, if not a hearse, for as the horse pursues his course and then stops dead, with the shafts and the fore part of the carriage still attached to him, the rest of the machine slowly topples over and its occupants are forthwith shut in as completely as the nocturnal candle by the descending extinguisher. In a few moments, however, the wreck is resolved in to its component parts, the photographer of the party in the meantime seizing the opportunity to get a shot at the unique view afforded by this novel and unexpected situation. Then "all shoulders to the wheel"—literally applied, help to reduce chaos to order, and by dint of a good deal of grunting and growling on the part of the native contingency, and a certain amount of effort on our own, we have managed to put the puzzle together again, the horse's harness being strengthened by the addition of an *obi* ingeniously fixed as a crupper, which ultimately proved to be the most stable part of the whole turn-out.

An hour's drive from Fushimi through pleasant, though not striking scenery, brought us to Iiji, where we once more parted from the Nakasendo proper, diverging a little to the right along the Nakakaido, a newer road which takes one as far as Kamado, a distance of 3¼ *ri*, then landing us on to the Shita Kaido, which ultimately joins the Nakasendo again at Oi, one of the largest towns on this part of the route. On the way, a couple of passes have to be crossed, the first being the Garaishi-toge, at the western foot of which we made a halt for lunch at Hashimotoya inn, where most obliging attention tempted us to prolong our rest. The summit of the pass, a half hour's walk from the inn, is marked by a tea house where various fossils and crystals found in the neighbourhood are exposed for sale. Whilst examining some of these our attention was attracted by the curious evolutions of an army of dark coloured caterpillars, which kept together and marched about with such regularity as to make one wish to be able to stay and study their odd behaviour more closely. On the ascent, too, a number of huge rocks—many of a dull purple tint,—are worth noticing, lying about the hill sides in strange isolation from each other, and likely to afford the geologist an interesting study. The second pass to be surmounted is the Hambara-toge, shortly after beginning the descent of which the valley of the Ogawa and the dark imposing form of Ena-San itself attracts the eye. By the time Kamado was reached it had become quite plain that the *basha*, as far as its giving any advantage in the way of time was concerned, was a complete fraud. The old driver, who had been making the most extravagant promise about landing us at Ochiai while the day was still young, now admitted that he was a stranger to these parts, and unaccustomed to his present vocation. And as it seemed likely that we should, if we survived long enough, have to stop short, by at least 10 miles, of our proposed resting place for the night, we came to the conclusion that the only thing to be done was to exchange the horse-power carriage for a man-power one, which, after half an hour of the wrangling usual at such junctures, we accordingly did. So, bidding a glad good bye to the cranky old conveyance, with its unhappy beast and its rascally old coachman, to say nothing of the tiny conductor with his self-importance, his dog, and his tin horn, and the amusing, even if sometimes inconvenient, humours of the whole company, we transferred ourselves to *kuruma* and sped away. Soon the scenery begins to assume a more commanding aspect. The shingles of the broad spreading roofs of the wayside cottages, studded with blocks of stone to protect them from destruction by wind and snow, present an almost Alpine appearance, and the impression is further heightened by glorious views of snow-clad Ontake and Komagatake, which burst upon us as we pass out of Oi and press on the last stage of our journey to Nakatsugawa. Travellers whose acquaintance with the Nakasendo has been confined to the hot months, when the scorching summer's sun has melted the larger part of the glistening slopes of snow, will be unable to realize the grandeur of the view that is gained when, whilst the dazzling mantle of pure white still covers their shoulders, these grand peaks stand out solemn and majestic in all the soft radiance of a gently waning sunny afternoon in spring time. It is nearly seven o'clock by the time Nakatsugawa, with the broad, pebbly bed of the stream which gives the village its name, is reached, and right glad are we to dismiss our *kuruma* and find rest and refreshment under the hospitable roof of the Tamaruya, a three nights' stay at which justifies one in giving it and its host a hearty recommendation.

ASCENT OF ENA-SAN.

The day following our arrival proved too wet to do more than loaf about, and gather information anent our eagerly anticipated climb. Judging by the drift of this, we had evidently a formidable expedition before us.

At first we were strongly advised to abandon all idea of making the attempt. The distance was so great, they said, and the snow so deep that no one ever dreamed of setting foot on the mountain until later in the year when the *yama biraki*, the "mountain opening" had taken place. For Ena-San is a sacred peak, and at its foot in a secluded grove stands the Ena-jinsha, the shrine dedicated to the guardian spirit of the mountain. This last item of information we gladly seized upon, and we enquired whether we could not get a night's accommodation there, so as to shorten the length of the climb. "No," was the reply, "for the priests and their relatives are such strange exclusive folk that they will give no hospitality to outsiders and will take in none but their own kith and kin." It was quite evident that between superstition and ignorance we were unlikely to get much reliable information as to the real possibilities of the ascent, so after bespeaking the services of a couple of coolies, one of whom had already been up the mountain, and laying in a stock of provisions, extra clothing and wraps in case of a bivouac in the forest, we turned to *futon*, cheering ourselves, in spite of the bad weather, with the consoling dictum of a well-known traveller and authority on all things Japanese, including that ticklest of all subjects, the moods of Japanese weather, viz., that after a spring day's rain one may safely congratulate oneself as

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the fortunate possession of a certain prospect of a brilliant morning and uninterrupted views.

In spite of all our good intentions, consequent on our host's pressing injunctions to start at daybreak, it was not till just after six a.m. that we were actually on the move. But the delight of it all whence once we were! What a perfect day it was! A cloudless sky, a keen fresh air, and nature to greet us in all the freshness of her spring attire, what more would we have, or indeed, desire? Striking across the fields to the S.E. of the village, our way leads us to the foot of the lowest outlying spur of Ena-San where, at the little hamlet of Nakamura, a temple of Hachiman stands shaded in a dark grove of stately cryptomeria. Turning to the right we are soon on the margin of the broad stream of the Nakatsugawa, from whose banks well wooded heights rise up on either hand, the slopes on the left affording a grateful shade as the path gets steeper and the sun's rays gain in strength. Nearly an hour and a half from the start a bridge is passed which crosses the river to a little cluster of cottages called Hashiba, but we leave this on our right, and as the valley opens out we turn up the hill side on our left and find ourselves at the shrine of Ena-jinsha, and consequently at last within the sacred precincts of the guardian deity.

Having just before this caught up a peasant trudging out to begin his day's work in the hills, and not being particularly impressed with the carrying-and going powers of our previously engaged "guides," we enlisted his services with a view to enabling all to march as lightly burdened as possible. At a distance of some four miles from Nakatsugawa, and at an altitude of 2,000 feet above sea level the gradually dwindling track turns sharp to the left—northwards—and ascends a valley called Shōgwani dani, and at 8 30 we reach the actual *fumoto*, the real base of Ena San, the height being 2,400 feet, or nearly 5,000 feet below the summit.

So steep is the ridge we are now on that a brisk climb of half an hour suffices to lift us 1,100 feet at an altitude of 4,150 feet. An opening in the trees on the sharp *arête* affords a fine view of Komagatake and Ontake, but the latter peak is seen to greater advantage still some 750 feet higher up. The nearer prospect as the eye plunges down from the crest of the ridge on which we are now standing is extremely striking. The steep, well-wooded slopes fall down on the left to the noisy waters of a torrent feeder of the Nakatsugawa, straight in front and on the right rises the main mass of Ena San itself, with white streaks of snow in the gullies, or showing through the dark trees near the summit of the mountain. Here and there the track passes over the broken head of a landslide and care is needed to avoid a slip. But the scene is very beautiful, and whether it is the roaring torrent far below, and the massive flanks of the mountain rising so imposingly above, or the varied hues of the bright azaleas, and the soft cooing of the doves, all combine to produce an effect whose charm will long linger amongst the pleasantest of memories.

The first snow was reached at an altitude of 5,300 feet, and a climb of 350 feet more landed us, at 10.30, on the edge of the main ridge of Ena-San at a point from which we could overlook part of its eastern side, but the prospect, though pleasant is not particularly remarkable. After this comes the hardest work of the day, the last 1,500 feet taking nearly two hours steady going, owing to the softness of the deep snow which covered the head of the mountain. Almost at every step one was up to the knees and an occasional plunge sent one even deeper still. But the scene was grand. The calm solitude of the forest of pines, whose tall straight stems were buried far enough in the snow to bring the lower branches down to or even underneath the surface, with the clear blue vault of heaven seen through the branches here and there, made infinitely worth the trouble that it cost, at any rate to one of the party to whom an injured knee proved somewhat trying. The summit of Ena-San really consists of three peaks in an undulating ridge, of which the northernmost is the highest. This, and the middle one also, are crowned by a small shrine, the loftiest point being also marked by a surveying station, the altitude being 7,350 feet.

It was 12 45 when the top was gained, and as we turned down the Eastern side of the summit ridge, the effect was almost like that of a sudden transition from winter to summer, emerging abruptly as one did from the cold and shade of the silent forest into the warmth and freedom and brilliancy of the spring sunshine. Of the view it would be difficult to at all adequately convey a fair impression, either as to its beauty or its extent. In many respects it is probably superior to that from almost any other such point of vantage in Central Japan, being high enough to enable the eye to sweep over a grand semicircle of the most majestic mountains, now still wearing their snowy robes of virgin whiteness on their massive shoulders, and yet low enough to give one an impression of their size, which is comparatively lost when one views them from one of themselves of equal height.

Far away to the N.W. stands the cone of Hakusan, the great "White Mountain" of Kaga; then nearer, and more to the N. comes Ontake, with the Shinshu Komagatake closer still, a little to the E. of North; whilst between these two, but far beyond them, rise the twin summits of Norikura, the "Saddle" peak, to the right of whose eastern slopes shoots up in the far distant sky the piercing shaft of Yarigatake, the "Spear" peak, the Matterhorn of Japan, behind which again, Tateyama is just to be seen. Circling round eastwards come Asamayama's smoking volcanic cone, Yatsugatake with its many summits, the fine peak of the Koshū Komagatake, and just beyond it the sharp point of Hoogan, with the lofty serrated ridge of the greatest of all the many mountains that own the name of Shirane-San. Almost due E. stands the graceful form of Akaishi-San, and looking over its shoulder, the peerless Fuji, a truncated cone of sharpest outline standing clear and distinct against the background of a cloudless sky.

But it is not alone the grand mountain peaks and ridges that arrest attention. In the nearer foreground are two of the greatest rivers of Japan, for we are standing on a spot high up on the water parting between the Kisogawa on the west, and Tenriugawa on the East, whose courses, after running parallel for some distance on either side of the intervening mountain range, now begin to diverge, the Kisogawa here taking a sudden turn westwards, whilst the Tenryu pursues its impetuous way southwards through the great rift which forms its channel before its loses itself in the Pacific Ocean. So enchanting indeed was the situation that we were tempted to linger almost indefinitely on the summit, and not till three hours had all too quickly sped away did we tear ourselves from the spot. Truly it was worth living for, and whatever fair prospects one may ever be permitted to look on, this will ever be ranked amongst the choicest recollections that one's brightest memories can recall. To gain such prospects as these, is it not to acquire a possession of priceless value, which can only pass away with life itself? For, as Cowper puts it:

> His are the mountains and the valleys his,
> And the resplendent rivers his to enjoy
> With a propriety that none can feel—
> But who, with filial confidence inspired,
> Can lift to Heaven an unpresumptuous eye,
> And smiling say "My Father made them all.

A glorious sunset fitly crowned a day whose varied beauties had made our lives the richer by its bright experiences, and the last view of the great mountains was that of Ontake's robe of shining snow lighted up by golden rays that brought back happy memories of bygone days in Alpine highlands. And when nature's charms were at length hidden by the dark robe of night, it was pleasant to find that one's fellow creatures had gifts to bestow just where we had been led to except the very reverse. But on stopping for rest and refreshment on our homeward way at one of the group of farmhouses adjoining the Enajinsha shrine, we were accorded the heartiest welcome, and not only was a kindly interest shown in our day's doings, but every effort was made to supply our wants in more material ways.

(TO BE CONTINUED)

THE U.S. CONSULAR-GENERAL COURT FOR JAPAN.

Before W. D. TILLOTSON, Esq., Consul-General and Judge.—WEDNESDAY, July 19th.

TSUJIMURA SADA VERUS THE EXECUTORS OF JOHN EDWARD COLLYER.

PRELIMINARY PROCEEDINGS.

This is a case in which Tsujimura Sada presses for payment from Stuart Eldridge and Thomas Melvin Laffin, Executors of the estate of John Edward Collyer, deceased, of a legacy of $4,000. Mr. Uchiyama Rossetsu appeared for plaintiff, defendants being unrepresented.

His Honour first asked Counsel whether he intended making the day's proceedings preliminary to the trial of the suit or not.

Mr. Uchiyama Rossetsu said he wished to ask some questions upon the accounts, and from the answers which he received he would be able to gain a knowledge of the defence for the other side, and this would enable him to bring rebutting evidence.

His Honour—You wish to ask questions upon the accounts and see what sums have been paid out?

Mr. Uchiyama Rossetsu—Yes, at present it is merely a few questions upon the accounts that I wish to put to the executors.

His Honour—Well, the accounts have been filed, and it is shown that the executors owe nothing to the estate, and that in fact the estate is insolvent. But to return to my first question, is it not better to make to-day's proceedings preliminary to the real hearing of the suit?

Mr. Uchiyama Rossetsu—Yes, sir. I only wish to get a clearer insight into the accounts. It is the plaintiff's contention that there is money still belonging to the estate.

His Honour—Well, it will make matters simpler if we treat these proceedings as preliminary. It was quite right of you to wish to examine the accounts and to ask questions upon them, so as to find out that things are as represented. If we make these preliminary proceedings it will save the necessity of drawing assessors.

Mr. Uchiyama Rossetsu—Then we will adopt the course your Honour suggests.

His Honour—Does this meet with the approval of the executors?

Defendants said they acquiesced.

His Honour—The suit is based upon the accounts, their correctness is disputed. If they are found correct then the suit falls to the ground.

Dr. Eldridge said he had no objection to questions being put.

His Honour (to Mr. Uchiyama Rossetsu)—You would like to examine the executors?

Mr. Uchiyama Rossetsu—Yes, sir.

Both defendants were then sworn.

Thomas Melvin Laffin, sworn, deposed—I first came to Japan eight years ago. I was then chief officer of a sailing ship. I entered the employ of Mr. Collyer in August of 1885, in the capacity of assistant and runner. I never saw any books that M. Collyer kept. I never saw any books while I was there. I decline to say how much salary I received.

His Honour did not see the purpose of the question.

Mr. Uchiyama Rossetsu—I will explain why I wish to know. In the books, Mr. Laffin's salary for one month is put down at $75. Then there are two months put down at $150, that is $75 each, and there is no mention made of a rise; but the accountant's report shows that for April, May, and June Mr. Laffin claimed a salary of $100 a month.

Witness—My wages at the time Mr. Collyer died were $100 a month. In February or March he told me he would raise my salary to $100 a month.

Mr. Uchiyama Rossetsu—The last entry in Mr. Collyer's handwriting regarding Mr. Laffin's salary is the entry I just read, "Two month's salary, Mr. Laffin, $150." But to resume. When was Mr. Collyer first confined to his room—that is during his last illness?

Witness—Mr. Collyer was confined to his room about the 1st or perhaps the 6th of June. He left the management of the business wholly to me during the time which elapsed before he died. Three or four days before he died he called me into his room and gave me charge of his affairs. During the few days before his death there was no business doing; I did not collect anything till he died; that is the reason why my accounts start on the day after his death. He never kept any accounts that I saw. The leaves cut from the account book were cut before I saw the book. He (Collyer) destroyed all his papers, letters, and books during May. How he made up his accounts I cannot say, for I never saw him doing anything in that line, except writing out a bill now and again. I do not know how he kept his accounts. After Collyer's death we made a public auction of all his effects, and then I started on my own account. I do not know that there was any goodwill attached to the business. It was not offered for sale. If Langfeldt or Palmer had wished to have bought it they could have had it. There was no running contract, or any contract with the P. M. and O. & O steamship companies. This I can prove by the manager of the companies here: Collyer was supplying them, but there was no contract. The business with these companies amounted to a good figure, but there is little profit attached to it. If the companies had wished they could have taken their custom from Collyer at any time. When I put up my sign "Successor to Collyer" I did so without the consent of anybody. I have received $200 for administering the estate.

Mr Uchiyama Rossetsu—I see that Dr Eldridge received the same amount—$400 in all for the executors.

Dr. Eldridge said he thought this payment had been sanctioned by the Court.

His Honour—I do not remember whether I gave my consent or not.

Mr. Uchiyama Rossetsu—It is no great point. The sum is very reasonable, and no objection can be taken to it if the Court's consent was given.

Dr. Eldridge said he had understood the Court had granted consent.

The matter then dropped.

Witness, continuing—I thought the lease that

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Collyer had of the premises became void on his death. I had to get a new one when he died.

Mr. Uchiyama Rossetsu—Under ordinary circumstances this lease should have been running still—it does not expire until 1895.

Witness—I did not make any attempts to secure the continuance of the old lease in the interest of the estate. I took over the whole premises and some more, when the lease was transferred to me. I only found one will a mong Mr. Collyer's papers. There was no former will found.

Mr. Uchiyama Rossetsu said he asked the question because Mr. Greathouse had informed him that there was one.

Dr. Eldridge said he had no knowledge of such a will. Mr. McCance first overhauled the deceased's papers, and his list was signed and in Court.

Witness continuing—We advertised for all creditors to send in their accounts and when these were presented we paid them. We also wrote three letters and did all we could in reference to a claim proceeding in America by Collyer against others, but have received no answer.

His Honour asked the nature of this claim.

Dr. Eldridge—It has reference to an inheritance from his father's estate for $500. We have written the lawyers in the case but have received no answer.

Mr. Uchiyama Rossetsu—The case is in the Supreme Court in Duchess County, New York.

Dr. Eldridge—We have done all we could to get that money.

Witness continuing—The shares in the Eastern Whaling Company are my personal property and have nothing to do with the estate.

Mr. Uchiyama Rossetsu—That concludes all the questions which I have to ask to-day. My contention will be that Laffin had no right to assume and take to himself the goodwill of the business, or to take a lease of the premises without first trying to secure them for the benefit of the estate which he was called upon to administer. My contention will be that no proper steps were taken to sell the goodwill by public auction or by approved private sale. The answers which he has given this morning to my questions upon the accounts show that he made no attempt to make any money for the estate in any way.

Mr. Laffin—What was I to make it out of?

Mr. Uchiyama Rossetsu—From the sale of the goodwill of the business. The answers given this morning go to prove that he has become possessed of a business which he has never bought. Beyond putting up the sign "Successor to J. Collyer," for which right he never paid, he did nothing whatever. I can bring witnesses to prove that the goodwill could have been sold for a good price. A goodwill there must have been, even if the office or premises contained but five chairs and a desk; for a business of this description takes years to build up. Although there was no written contract with the O. & O. and P. M. Companies, they continued to do business with the estate after the death of Mr. Collyer, just as they did before he died.

Mr. Laffin—I beg your pardon. I went round to Mr. Center myself and asked him to give me the contract, and he gave it to me.

Mr. Uchiyama Rossetsu—Well, you could not have done that if you had not Mr. Collyer's business.

Mr. Laffin—Oh, yes I could.

Mr Uchiyama Rossetsu—Then I shall also bring evidence to prove that books were kept by Mr. Collyer—perhaps not by double entry, but still books whereby he could carry on his business—and these books have not since been properly kept. I only came from Sendai this morning, and so have been unable to go into the accounts, but if my client is telling the truth, books were kept by the deceased; he kept them for his business purposes.

Mr. Laffin—Well, I never saw them the whole time I was there.

His Honour (to Mr. Rossetsu)—That is all you want to say.

Mr. Uchiyama Rossetsu—Yes Having recapitulated the points which he would bring evidence upon, Counsel asked for an adjournment, to allow time to prepare his case.

His Honour—Do you not wish to examine Dr. Eldridge?

Mr. Uchiyama Rossetsu—No, sir. He admits all that his co-executor has said.

Dr. Eldridge said that all that Mr Laffin had said was true. He, himself, had searched for all books and papers concerning the estate, and these were all produced.

Mr. Uchiyama Rossetsu—It will not be any detriment to the case to have an adjournment now. The estate cannot be wound up yet for there is still that case in the U S. Court. It is only $500 it is true, but the estate cannot be closed until it is known whether it can be recovered or not. It was the duty of the executors if they could not obtain information from the lawyers to write to the Court in America.

His Honour—The executors can be discharged by the order of the Court.

Mr. Uchiyama Rossetsu concurred.

His Honour—For what purpose do you propose to call witnesses?

Mr. Uchiyama Rossetsu—To prove that the estate was not properly administered; that they did not attempt to sell the goodwil ; or obtain anything for the estate from the old lease.

Dr. Eldridge—We did not receive any information that the goodwill would be brought by anybody.

Mr. Uchiyama Rossetsu—One man, Mr. Langfeldt, told me himself that he would have given a good fair price for it.

Dr. Eldridge—We never had any hint of that kind.

Mr. Uchiyama Rossetsu—I contend that it was the business of the executors to find out whether anyone would make an offer for it.

Mr. Laffin—Mr. Langfeldt did say that if I would join him he would buy the business, but I did not care to sell myself to him. I did not propose to do so.

His Honour—The sale of the goodwill of the business of a dead person is a question which I have not investigated, and I should not like to pronounce an opinion upon it without thorough investigation of the matter. Could you furnish me with authorities or precedents upon the subject?

Mr. Uchiyama Rossetsu said that he would hunt them up and send them to his Honour.

The Court then adjourned till Saturday morning, at ten o'clock.

YOKOHAMA CHIHO SAIBANSHO.

(CRIMINAL DIVISION.)

Before Judge MARUYAMA SEIZO and Associate Judges BAN TERUKICHI and KANOKOJI SHOGORO.

WEDNESDAY, July 19th, 1893.

SERIOUS CHARGE AGAINST A POLICEMAN.

Ukajima Masajiro, late of the Kanagawa Ken police force, was charged with having caused the death of Watanabe Kangoro.

Mr. Kokubo Sangai, Chief Government Procurator, prosecuted, the accused being unrepresented.

The accused, on taking the stand, in answer to the Chief Judge, said he was forty-five years of age, a *shizoku* of Ishikawa Ken, Nomigoro, Doromachi, and until lately a police constable attached to the Yokohama (Iron Bridge) Police Station.

The Procurator said, in making the charge against accused, that from the evidence adduced at the preliminary examination, it appeared that at 2 o'clock in the morning of the 3 d July a man named Watanabe Kangoro was arrested for creating a disturbance at a small drinking shop (*meishuya*). The man was very violent and disorderly when arrested and continued to act in the same manner in the station itself Accused in order to prevent him from causing damage, got a rope, tied it round Watanabe's right wrist, passed it round his neck and then secured both hands together behind the man's back. He then conducted him outside and tied him to a bar. During the course of the next two hours, the rope choked Watanabe, and he died. No one seemed to be on guard at the time, which he, the Procurator, could only characterise as most reprehensible Three witnesses who had been examined had borne out the points detailed above.

Accused said he joined the police force in the fourth month of the 20th year of Meiji (April, 1887), and had continued in the service ever since. He was transferred to Yokohama from another station in the Prefecture. He was one of the constables in charge of the station at 2 a.m on the 3 d. Late on the 2nd, Hirai Yamachi brought in a man named Watanabe to the station, who had been creating a disturbance at a small drinking shop kept, he believed, by one Tada Kiwa. Accused took over the man, Watanabe, from one of the Inspectors. He was informed by the policeman who arrested the deceased that he had been breaking glasses and bottles in a *meishuya* and creating a disturbance. Hirai tried to pacify him, but the man became more obstreperous, so he was arrested. He came to the station with his hands tied up behind him, he believed, but did not take particular notice. The man was put into the waiting-room, where he continued to act in a very disorderly manner, throwing the furniture about and assaulting the police. Accused then tied Watanabe with his hands behind his back; he did not tie it so that the rope would go around his neck. He could get up.

(The rope was here produced in Court, and the accused ordered to show in what manner he had tied the deceased. This was done upon the Court usher by simply tying both hands together behind the man's back.)

Accused, continuing, said he simply tied both hands together behind the man's back, as just shown by him—with a lot of slack, which he tied to a bar. When he saw the man next, he had the slack twisted round his neck, with the portion tied to the bar taut.

The Judge did not think the tying was quite so simple as explained by accused. It seemed that the right hand was first tied, the rope then being thrown round the man's neck and then his left hand secured.

Accused said he was certain he did not put the rope around the man's neck. There was not sufficient rope to go around as indicated by the Judge.

The Procurator contended that there was more than enough. The usher was again tied up, when the Procurator pointed out that it bore out his argument as to the manner in which the man had been tied, and as indicated by the doctor who examined the deceased.

Accused urged that the marks on the man's neck would not bear that out.

(A diagram of the man's body, drawn by the doctor, was here produced and shown accused. There was a mark round the throat and both sides of the neck with a cross-mark over the right shoulder blade and both wrists.)

Accused, continuing, said the man was tied up some time past three o'clock. Tamejiro, one of the witnesses, was the first to see Watanabe dead, at about 4 o'clock. Accused then went out, and saw the deceased squatting on the ground with the rope wound round his neck. The rope was immediately taken off and the occurrence entered in the report book.

The full charge by the Procurator, based upon the evidence adduced in the Preliminary Court, as well as the evidence of the three witnesses who had been examined was then read.

Accused, continuing, said that until the man was put into one of the cells he had charge of him, but not after. He was placed there to recover. The man placed in charge of prisoners can sleep from 12 midnight until 6 a.m., as there is generally no danger to be apprehended, but should there be, a man is then put on watch. Deceased was placed in the room as it was airy, in order to permit him to cool off and recover, as drunkards generally do, in the cool air.

The rope was shown accused, which he recognised as the one used by him.

The Procurator addressed the Court. He first pointed out the great importance of the case, and went on to refer to the rules in the various police stations and the evidence which had been adduced, which, he submitted, could in no way be controverted. But what required clearing up was the mode of tying, and how the man became strangled. Accused says it was an accident. The mark around the man's neck required no explanation, but the one on the back, which was in the form of a cross. It was impossible, as contended by the accused, to think this was accidental, as it would then be straight down the man's back. He could account for it in no other way than that the man's right hand was first tied, the rope passed round his neck and both hands secured behind. The marks on the deceased's wrists were also antagonistic to accused, for had they been tied as he said the marks would have been on one side of each wrist, instead of which both wrists were marked all round, the right being worse than the other. Consequently, he accused's defence could not be entertained. On making enquiries, he had learnt that the manner he had mentioned,—that of passing a rope around a man's neck and securing both wrists behind—was often practiced upon obstreperous persons, so that should they move they would choke themselves and consequently kept quiet. Besides, there was no mark on the bar to which deceased was secured, as the wood being soft the slightest strain would have left a mark upon it. If the man was strangled in falling some mark must have been left. Seeing that deceased was removed to the back and left there as he was behaving in a most disorderly manner, it was absurd to contend that by simply tying his hands behind his back, with about three feet of slack, would be sufficient to quiet him. The stake or bar to which he was tied was lower than deceased hands. The man must have been so tied that, however much he desired to move, he was unable to do so. As it was, when he was taken to the back, he was barely able to move and had to be led out. The deceased immediately squatted down: had he been tied as indicated by accused, he would have been able to walk about at least. The man must have been half strangled during the process of tying, and as he was drunk did not have sufficient sense to say whether it hurt him or not. There could be no particle of doubt that the man died through having

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been secured in such a manner. He would again say that it was highly reprehensible to put a man into a cell, tied up, without a guard. Taking every thing into consideration he was of opinion the matter came within Section 317 of the Criminal Code, which provided a fine of $100, and he urged that the full penalty of the law be inflicted. The accused being a policeman, and therefore a keeper of the peace, his conduct should be met with full punishment.

The accused then briefly addressed the Court. He pointed out that the man had only been tied in order to prevent him doing mischief and to sober up. As for the law, he did not think the full penalty applied, as it was an accident which occurred while he was doing his duty.

The Judges then retired to consider their verdict. On resuming, after a recapitulation of the evidence that had been adduced in the case, the Chief Judge intimated that the manner in which the man had been tied was borne out by the evidence, *i.e.*, that the man was strangled by the rope which had been tied around his neck. Accused would therefore be sentenced under Rule 317 of the Criminal Code, and ordered to pay $100.

The Court, before retiring, intimated to accused that he would have the usual period in which to appeal.

H.B.M.'S SUPREME COURT, SHANGHAI.

[IN BANKRUPTCY]

ON APPEAL FROM H.M.S. COURT FOR JAPAN AT KANAGAWA.

Re DAVID SHEARD BREARLEY. *Ex parte* THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION, a Creditor, Respondent. JAMES RAMSAY PARSONS, Appellant.

This was an appeal brought by James Ramsay Parsons, Acting Agent of the Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China, at Yokohama, from an order made by H.B.M.'s Court for Japan on January 25th, 1893, in connection with the bankruptcy of Mr. David Sheard Brearley of Yokohama. The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, one of the creditors, opposed the appeal

Mr. W. A. C. Platt appeared for the appellant, and Mr. Chas. Dowdall for the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank.

In the petition of appeal the following facts were set out. In the month of September, 1891, David Sheard Brearley by deed assigned to James Ramsay Parsons, as security for an overdraft, the lease of certain land and buildings situated in Yokohama, and also the benefit of a covenant by the superior landlord at the termination of the lease to take over at a valuation the said buildings. David Sheard Brearley was adjudged bankrupt on April 8th, 1892. In January, 1893, an order was made on an application to the Court for Japan by the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, a creditor of the bankrupt, calling upon James Ramsay Parsons to show cause why an order should not be made for the delivery up of the deed of assignment aforesaid, by reason of the non-registration thereof as a mortgage; and why it should not be declared that the debt secured by the said deed had no priority over the judgment and simple contract debts of the bankrupt. On the return day of the said order to show cause, the order was made absolute. Thereafter by consent, the said lease and the benefit of the said convenant were sold, and the proceeds of sale were deposited in Court to abide the result of this appeal. The proceeds of the sale of the lease amount to $200 net, and the proceeds of the sale of the benefit of the covenant amount to $3,331.50 net. The appellant is dissatisfied with the order aforesaid on the ground that it is bad in law. He says that the assignment of the lease aforesaid, was not a mortgage of land or houses needing registration within the meaning of the Order in Council of 1881, but that at the most it was the assignment of a chattel interest; and he says further that the assignment of the benefit of the covenant aforesaid was not a mortgage needing registration under the Order in Council, 1881.

The appellant therefore prays: That the order appealed against may be reversed; or that the said order may be varied by striking out that portion thereof which directs the delivery up of the assignment of the benefit of the said covenant; and that the appellant may have the costs of the appeal.

The answer filed by the Hongkong and Shanghai Corporation, was as follows:—

The said Corporation submit that the order of the Court for Japan made herein on the 25th day of January, 1893, is not bad in law. They say that the deed referred to in paragraph 1 of the petition of appeal was a deed of mortgage of land and houses needing registration within the meaning of the China and Japan Order in Council of 1881, that the said deed had not at the date of the Order of Her Majesty's Court for Japan above referred to been registered in accordance with the provisions of the said Order in Council, relative to such deeds of mortgage, and that the mortgage debt secured by the said deed should have no priority over the judgment and simple contract debts of the above named David Sheard Brearley, contracted before the registration of the said deed. The said Corporation also say that the covenant mentioned in paragraph 1 of the petition of appeal formed an integral part of the lease therein also mentioned, and that the assignment of the benefit thereof was subject to the provisions of the said Order in Council of 1881, relative to the registration of mortgages of lands and houses.

Mr. Platt, in stating the case for the appellant, said that in April, 1886, Mr. Brearley took a lease of certain premises, of which lease a copy had been put into Court. It was a lease for ten years at an annual rent, with a provision in it by which at the termination of the term the lessor agreed to take over and pay for the buildings on the land, the value to be assessed by two competent judges. Mr. Brearley entered into possession of the property and erected certain houses upon it. In the year 1891 he was in difficulties with the Chartered Bank and executed an assignment of the buildings to the Bank as security for his overdraft. By this deed of assignment, which was executed in Dec. 1891, it was provided that if by the 28th of February following the debt were not reduced to a certain sum, he was to pay a rent of $100 to the Bank, and if at the end of another year the debts were not all paid the Bank should sell the premises. Brearley went bankrupt on February 8th, 1892, and in the following January the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank applied to the Court at Yokohama for an order that this deed of assignment should be given up to be cancelled on the ground that it was never registered as a mortage. It had not been registered as a mortgage because it was not considered to be a mortage. The Judge in the Court below made an order that the assignment should be given up and cancelled and this was the order which was now being appealed against. The grounds of appeal were first, that the order appealed against was bad in law, because the deed of assignment referred to was not a mortgage on land and houses within the meaning of the Order in Council of 1881, but was an assignment of chattel interests and did not need registration within the meaning of the Order of 1881. It was contended at Yokohama that the document was merely an assignment, but for the purposes of argument the learned Counsel would assume that it was a mortgage, and a mortgage pure and simple of a lease. The mortgage of a lease was not included in the Order in Council of 1881, which referred expressly to the mortgage of "land and houses" and made no provision for the mortgage of a leave.

The Chief Justice pointed out that all documentary titles to land in China and Japan were in the form of a lease.

After some discussion on the point, Mr. Platt went on to say that the second ground of appeal was that the lease or the mortgage was really to be separated into two parts; first the lease proper and then the agreement by the lessor to purchase these buildings on the terms of the lease. This latter was a separate agreement altogether, and might just as well have been put upon a separate piece of paper, and the fact of the two instruments being included in one deed made no difference at all.

Mr. Platt continued his argument at considerable length. At the close of his address, Mr Dowdall stated the case for the respondents, contending that the order of the Court below was not bad in law and that the mortgage was a complete instrument including everything and not capable of being separated in the manner argued by Mr Platt, and as such the mortgage required registration according to the terms of the Order in Council.

At the close of the proceedings their Lordships reserved judgment.—*Shanghai Mercury.*

The biter has been bitten and "The Hustler" hustled, in Lexington, Kentucky, "The Hustler" being the local goody-goody journal, which shrieked each week that it appeared for Local Option and Prohibition. It got the former, and soon afterwards its own *quietus*, a bomb thrown by some thirsty and exasperated soul having wrecked the building. That is a ruffianly and stupid mode of warfare. Where argument has not prevailed bombs will not convince. They advance the enemy's cause instead of retarding it.

THE FAMILY AND RELATIONSHIPS IN ANCIENT JAPAN.

The Ninth Ordinary Meeting of the Japan Society was held on the 30th May, at 20 Hanover-square, W., to hear a paper on "The Family and Relationships in Ancient Japan (prior to A.D. 1,000)" by Mr. W. G Aston, C.M.G., M.R.A.S., Honorary Member J.S., and late Japanese Secretary, H.B.M. Legation, Tokyo; and also to continue discussion (adjourned from the last ordinary meeting) on Mr. D. Goh's Paper; "The Family Relations in Japan," read on April 12 last. Professor William Anderson, F.R.C.S., presided. Mr. Arthur Diosy, one of the hon. secs. of the society, in the unavoidable absence of Mr. Aston, read the paper, from which we take the following:—

The able and comprehensive paper which was read before this Society at the last meeting by Mr. Goh, leaves little to be added on this subject that is of much importance or interest. It may, however, be worth while to offer, by way of supplement, a *résumé* of such information regarding the Japanese family in ancient times as can be gleaned from the older records of China and Japan. No such full and broad account as Mr. Goh has given us of the modern family relation in Japan can be prepared from these sources, nor do I even pretend to have exhausted the small quantity of materials which are available; but there is this advantage in the data derived from the more ancient annals—they enable us in great measure to realise what is essentially Japanese in the family customs and institutions, and to distinguish it from the elements of Chinese origin which subsequently intruded themselves. Everything belonging to the latter class I have endeavoured to exclude from the scope of this paper. Our earliest information regarding ancient Japan comes to us from China, and affords a glimpse of Japanese customs and civilisation as they were known to the Chinese during the first three centuries of the Christian era. From the notices of Japan in the Chinese literature of this time we learn that the Japanese were an agricultural race, but they had no oxen or horses. They could build ships for transporting merchandise and had markets for the exchange of products of different parts. The use of coins was apparently unknown. They were acquainted with the arts of weaving and of brewing a fermented liquor. Their arms consisted of spears, shields, and bows and arrows, the latter being tipped with bone or iron. The dead were buried in caverns, and in the case of the death of persons of royal rank, large tumuli were raised over the remains and a number of their attendants, not, however, including their wives, were buried alive round the tomb. They had distinctions of rank indicated by tattoo marks on the face. Their clothing consisted of one piece of cloth, which in the case of women was put on by passing the head through a hole in it after the fashion of the American Indian blanket. They practised divination by burning bones, and had a sort of medicine men who were not allowed to comb their hair, to eat meat, or to approach women. Slavery was known, and the laws and customs are described by these early Chinese narrators as strict. The notices which relate to the family relations of the Japanese at this time are meagre. We are told that parents and brothers and sisters had their sleeping chambers apart but not without separation of the sexes. I take this to mean that parents and children slept apart, but that at other times there was no restriction of social intercourse of the sexes as in China, where the women had separate apartments and had to practise much more reserve in their relations with men. The women are more numerous than the men. All men of high rank have four or five wives, others two or three. The women are chaste and not jealous. That the ancient Japanese practised polygamy cannot be doubted, but our Chinese informant puts the case too broadly. His statements about the number of women is not credible and there is no such thing as a polygamist nation. In no country will the national proportion of the sexes allow more than a small number of men to have more than one wife. The wives and children of those who break the law are confiscated, and for grave crimes the offender's whole family is extirpated. Mourning lasts for ten days only. They had formerly Kings, but for 70 or 80 years great confusion and civil war prevailed. After a time it was agreed to set up a woman as sovereign, she was unmarried and her younger brother assisted her in governing the country. At her death a King was raised to the throne, but the people would not obey him, and a girl, only 3 years old, a relative of the previous Queen, was made sovereign and order restored. The former of these two royal princesses is probably identical with the

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Jingo Kogo of Japanese legend, and no doubt there is an historical foundation for both narratives. Our principal native sources of information are the annals known as the "Kojiki" and "Nihongi," which were compiled in the early part of the 8th century of our era, probably from considerably older materials. It is now admitted that these works, for the period up to the end of the 5th century, contain much that is legendary or fictitious, and do not deserve the name of history. But this hardly diminishes their value, as a legend is almost as good evidence of a custom or national mode of thought as an authenticated historical narrative. For our present purpose the leading fact deducible from the notices in the above-named work is the very notable absence of restrictions on marriage in Ancient Japan. There is no endogamy, and nothing resembling the Chinese exogamic prohibition of marriage between persons of the same surname. In this latter respect Japanese custom coincides with that of Korea in ancient times. At least the Korean history, known as the "Tong," mentions without disapproval the marriage in A.D. 461 of a King of Silla to his paternal uncle's daughter. It is not a little remarkable to find in the "Chûen," a Chinese work written several centuries before the Christian era, the notion that consanguineous marriages have a tendency to be unfruitful. In the case of marriages between relations there was also a remarkable degree of freedom in Ancient Japan. Marriages of maternal aunts, nieces, and half sisters are spoken of without disapproval. The latter were very common, as were also marriages to two or more sisters at the same time.

The table of prohibited degrees was accordingly a very short one. The "Nakatomi no Harahi," an ancient formula of prayer for the purification of the people, enumerates the cases of incestuous unions as follows:—Parent and child a man with his wife's mother, a man with his wife's daughter. The "Kojiki," referring to the same ceremonial, mentions marriages between "superiors and inferiors," by which apparently the same thing is intended. The absence from this enumeration of unions between brothers and sisters of the full blood tends somewhat to corroborate the view held by Messrs. Satow and Chamberlain that these connections were common and were not condemned in Ancient Japan. I do not think that the case in which the gods are said to marry their sisters can be relied upon as evidence of the standard of morality in Ancient Japan. There are plenty of similar cases in Greek mythology, but no one now-a-days draws inferences unfavourable to the morality of the early Greeks from such myths as the marriage of Jupiter and Juno.

> His sister she, in Saturn's reign,
> Such mixture was not deemed a stain.

Incidents of this kind proceed from the necessities of the mythological narrative, and are quite independent considerations. The more direct evidence which we have on this subject points the other way. The case of Prince Karu, who had an amour with his sister about A.D. 434, shows that his conduct was not only repugnant to his own sense of right, but was regarded with detestation by the official classes and the people. According to the "Kojiki," it led to his banishment, and both "Nihongi" and "Kokuji" agree in stating that it cost him the succession to the Imperial Throne and eventually his life.

No satisfactory information is to be extracted from the "Kojiki" and "Nihongi" respecting the form of marriage in ancient Japan. There are passages which convey the impression that there was none whatever, but the authors of these works perhaps took the ceremony for granted, as something too familiar to require mention. A modern author states that the custom at a somewhat later period was for the bridegroom to serenade the bride with Japanese songs and to write her love-letters, after which he proceeded to her house, not clandestinely, but as a matter of arrangement with her parents, and with some degree of ceremony for the consummation of the marriage. This was called *mâu iri*, or "entering the curtain." It was not till some time after that the bride removed to her husband's house. According to a Chinese author, a similar custom prevailed in ancient Korea, where the bride did not join her husband until a child had been born and grown to some size. Another Chinese author says that it was the practice in Ancient Japan for the bride to "bestride fire" before entering her husband's house. This statement is not improbable in itself, but as the same writer adds that there was no marriage between persons of the same surname his authority has little weight. There was no fixed rule for the arrangement of the preliminaries of marriage. Sometimes the suitor paid his addresses direct to his inamorata, but there are also cases in which the father or the elder brother by the mother's side literally gave the lady away, or the services of a go-between were employed. Presents given by the bridegroom are also mentioned, but this may be merely an echo of the Chinese practice. There is no mention of a dowry. At no period of Japanese history was there any religious ceremony of marriage, nor have I found any trace of the form of marriage by capture.

The position of women in ancient Japan may be described as on the whole a reasonably dependent one. They were not shut up in harems, and in many ways enjoyed far more liberty than is usually permitted to their sex in Eastern countries. There was no law or tyranny of custom to prevent them from taking a leading part when favoured by circumstances and natural abilities. There are three cases in the ancient histories in which widowed Empresses retained the reins of government after their husband's death and a princess also became a Mikado, although the historians of later times have refused to enrol her in the list of Sovereigns. Female chieftains are also mentioned. Indeed, the Chinese in these early times seem to have imagined that the "monstrous regiment of women" was the regular practice in Japan, for it was called by them for hundreds of years the *Nio ô Koku* or "Queen-country." It is true that the marriages of the Japanese women were often, perhaps usually, arranged for them, a practice not unknown in more civilized countries, but there are frequent instances of their asserting their independence in this important matter. The Mikado himself was rejected by a lady to whom he paid his addresses in person, and two sister princesses, who were asked in marriage by the Prince who afterwards became the Emperor Yuriaku, flatly refused to entertain his proposal, saying that he was a murderous ruffian with whom their lives would not be safe for a single day.

It is understood that the present Queen of Korea has made a successful resistance to the establishment of polygamy in the Royal household without in any degree forfeiting her husband's affection or esteem. Closely associated with the subject of the family is that of names in Ancient Japan. We find mention of two kinds of names in the old histories so often referred to. One is the personal name, corresponding to our Christian name, and was usually suggested by some personal peculiarity of the bearer, or by some circumstance attending his birth. The common people seem to have had no other than this personal name, but the nobility had also an appellation which is called by the Japanese *uji* or *kabane*. It means surname or gentile name. But although these appellations became surnames at a later period of Japanese history, it is plain that in the times with which we are dealing they were only the names of offices, which, however, were usually hereditary in the family. In short, they resemble very closely, in some cases, our own territorial titles like Duke of Bedford or Marquis of Downshire, while others correspond rather to such official titles as Chancellor of the Exchequer. By degrees, however, they became mere titles, with only a nominal connection with the offices, just as was the case in modern Japan with such appellations as Chikugo-no Kami, Mondo-no Sho, &c. The fact that they were frequently granted as an honour or taken away as a punishment, shows that they were not of the nature of ordinary surnames. But while this is the general character of the appellations met with in the "Kojiki," "Nihongi," and other works of this period, it would be too much to assert that there were no genuine family names in Japanese antiquity. There are some indications to the contrary which require further examination before a definitive conclusion can be arrived at. In any case the absence, whether complete or only partial, of such names goes to show that the organization of the family had attained no great degree of development at this time. There is no clear mention of such larger family groups as the Slavonic House-Community. Nor is there much trace of any tribal organization like the Roman "gens," the Greek "phratria" or the Scottish clan, not to speak of the curious tribal arrangements of the natives of Australia or the North American Indians. At the earliest period known to us, the government of Japan was already a kind of feudal system administered by hereditary chieftains who were more or less under the control of a central authority.

Notwithstanding the assertion of the great scholar Hirata, quoted by Mr. Goh, I must say that I do not find any traces of ancestor worship in Ancient Japan; nor is it mentioned by Mr. Chamberlain in his Introduction to the translation of the "Kojiki." Hirata was doubtless a profound scholar, but he was also a bigoted theologian, and he was in no wise scrupulous about claiming for Shinto anything which he thought good in itself. The worship of the Sun goddess, from whom the Imperial family trace their descent, and of other gods who were regarded as the ancestors of certain noble families, may be thought an exception. But they were doubtless worshipped rather as gods than as ancestors. The practice of adoption, almost a necessary consequence of ancestor worship, was unknown to the ancient Japanese.

The virtue of filial piety in its modern form seems also to be an essentially Chinese institution. The ancient Japanese were doubtless not deficient in this virtue, without which society can hardly exist. But of that highly specialised, and, to our minds, overstrained, devotion of children to their parents, which is inculcated by Chinese teaching there are no examples in the ancient histories, if we except certain passages in the "Nihongi," where a Chinese inspiration is plainly discernible. The short period of mourning—namely, ten days, in Ancient Japan—is not compatible with Chinese ideas of filial piety, and it is also significant that the Japanese language has no word for this virtue corresponding to the Sinico Japanese term *koko*.

There is little to be learned from the old records respecting the law of the succession of property in Ancient Japan. Judging from the succession to the throne, there would appear to have been a tendency towards the recognition of a right of primogeniture. The eldest son of the Empress was his father's successor oftener than not. The "Nihongi" sometimes thinks it necessary to give reasons for his being passed over, which was infrequently the case. But some of these reasons are obviously frivolous and create a suspicion that they were invented afterwards, in order to account for a departure from what had become an established custom.

The "couvade," although practised even at the present day by the Ainos, the immediate neighbours of the Japanese, was unknown, and indeed seems hardly consistent with the institution of the "parturition house," already referred to.

This last-named cruel custom was found to be in full force in the island of Hachijo, when visited by Messrs. Satow and Dickins in 1878. Polyandry, and serviate, and the patria potestas (except in a rudimentary form) are other institutions connected with the family of which no traces are to be found in Ancient Japan. The blackening of their teeth by women soon after marriage is a custom of modern introduction. I trust that these few notes, serving as a mere supplement to Mr. Goh's admirable paper on the more modern aspect of the family relations in Japan, may lead to some further investigation of what is a most interesting branch of Japanese sociology.

DISCUSSION ON MR. GOH AND MR. ASTON'S PAPERS.

Dr. Grigsby, after complimenting the authors of both papers, said that he was glad to find that it was at last being recognised that the art of Japan was not the only thing for which Japan was interesting to English readers. There were three distinct stages in the Japanese construction of society. The first was—What Japanese society was before it was influenced by China, and he believed scholars agreed that it was about A.D. 700. From that date to about A.D. 1,400 Chinese influence worked unaffected almost by external or internal causes. Then began that extraordinary epoch in Japan known to Japanese scholars as the beginning of the rise of the Tokugawa dynasty which lasted till about 1867 or 1868. In that year they all knew that the old fabric of the Japanese constitution was broken up, the Mikado was restored to his original position and the epoch of modern influences on Japan took its rise. Although we could mark these three distinct periods, we had never yet been able to learn how much of the modern family relations in Japan was to be traced to these influences—how much was due to Chinese influence and how much was due to what he might call the native genius and disposition of Japan. What had struck him whilst he was at the Tokyo University was the remarkable similarity between the Roman and Japanese law. In Japan as in Rome, the father was supreme. The practice of adoption was also common to both systems, with, however, one remarkable dissimilarity. In Rome, if a child was adopted he could not marry his sister by adoption. But in Japan this restraint did not exist. It frequently happened that a son was adopted in order that he might marry the daughter of his adopting parent. Take again the position of women. Mr. Goh stated that divorce was much easier in Japanese law than in English law. There was no doubt of it, and it was just the same in Roman law, except that it was not so well defined. He might be asked with reference to the present influences in Japan, "What will be the future of Japan from the point of view of these great institutions and these great legal ideas?" Mr. Goh, in his paper, had spoken about certain codes having been enacted, and there was a new criminal code being enacted now. He ventured to think that most of them would agree with him that the genius of Japan in all these

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social, ethical, and local problems would work itself out, not by any fixed codes, but, as in England, by gradual progress. In conclusion, he hoped that Japan would continue to assimilate all that was best in Western civilisation, not in a stereotyped and mechanical way, but by changing it and adapting it to the spirit and genius of the Japanese nation, and that she would go on as she had in the last twenty or thirty years, with renewed energy and increasing progress in the path of civilisation, which had already secured her the admiration of the Western world.

Mr. Jonas, referring to his residence in Osaka, said that amongst the old merchant families many of the ancient customs of the Japanese were still upheld. With regard to the law of primogeniture he narrated the following:—In a family named Smai, with whom I was very intimate, the eldest son was rather wild, caring more for outside amusements than attending to business. His father when retiring, or becoming Inkyo, as the Japanese call it, thinking this son would not worthily represent the family, called together a meeting of the family relations, and there it was solemnly decreed that the younger son should become the head of the family, and reside in the family house, the eldest being provided with a smaller house for himself and his family. On the death of the father a few years after, this decree was not altered. The eldest has his share in the business, but under the rule of the younger. Continuing, he said:—It is seldom that family property is left by will; it is usually arranged in family conclave. I have often watched the great respect paid by children to their parents, and the love shown by parents to their offspring. There is no more indulgent mother than the Japanese mother, and I am certain this filial respect is more through the affections than by forcible inculcation, as in China. There is no distinction made between the sexes as in China. We come now to a great point—the supremacy of the husband; but from what I have seen and know, as soon as he has passed the Dai Dokoro into the house the real home ruler is the same as all the world over, with few exceptions the wife. The servants in Japan are fairly good with foreigners, but in my friend's houses they were more than good, having the interest of the house at heart, and I found out the cause. They often are born in the family, and all are treated more as humble friends than as servants, sharing in the family pleasures and sorrows. I may offer a word with regard to the custom of Iri-muko, or the importation of a husband in a good family where there is no son, but only daughters left to continue the house. I came across such a case, and although I knew nothing about this at the time, I soon noticed that the husband, although nominally the head, was not so. The old bantos and others did not seem to pay him that respect that they would have done if he had not been Iri muko. No transactions could be concluded without his wife being consulted. He appeared to me more like a puppet than anything else. Sho, or concubinage, I am certain in its old sense is fast dying out. I will only add that I am certain that perfect social intercourse on an equal footing can be had with the Japanese, but you must learn their customs and ways, and try and make them forget that you are a foreigner in all except appearance.

Mr. Okoshi agreed that there was a great similarity between the ancient Japanese laws and the Roman laws, especially as regards the practice of adoption, but after Justinian the law was modified to a certain extent; that was to say, in Japanese adoption, when the child was adopted, it had no tie whatever with its real parents, and became the heir of the family where it was adopted, but in the older Roman law the adopted son had certain rights of inheritance in his own family. While endorsing generally the correctness of the description of Japanese family life in the part which Mr. Goh had given, he (the speaker) found in the paper several contentious matters upon which he wished to make a few remarks. With regard to the relations between husband and wife, he thought Mr. Goh had somewhat exaggerated the subordination of the wife on the one hand and the sovereignty of the husband on the other. He thought it possible that many ladies who listened to Mr. Goh's description might be led to look with suspicion on Japanese husbands, whilst English husbands might perhaps feel regret that their wives were not so docile and obedient as the Japanese woman that had been sketched to them. They had no power to hold real property, nor could they obtain government appointments, and when they were married they were bound to adopt the religion of their husbands. But all this was altered now. A wife had full liberty to believe any religion she liked; she had the right to hold real property either by acquisition or legacy; and she had the sole power of disposing of her own property, that was to say, when she had saved she could register it in her own name and nobody could touch it. She might have any other property in shares, stocks, railways, banks, and government securities. In olden times a Japanese woman's property consisted only of her hair ornaments and mirrors. These were about the only things she could call her own. In those days when a man died without male issue the house was dissolved and all the property confiscated to the Government. Now, when a woman is left a widow with children, she can keep a family register, and administer and manage the property left by her husband until one of her sons attains his majority. Many Government appointments, except, of course, in the diplomatic and consular services, were now open to women who held office in the Government schools and colleges. Mr. Goh had stated that there was no check to divorce, except the family council, but at the same time, even as the law stood now, if one of the parties thought the ground of the divorce was unfair he or she could appeal to the court, which would grant the divorce only on justifiable grounds. Therefore it could not be said that there was no check at all. The equality of the sexes was by no means recognised even in England, else why were they not allowed to exercise the Parliamentary franchise?

Major Poore said that they were all grateful to Mr. Goh for calling their attention to the subject of the family system—a subject which had been little studied in any shape, and not at all its true bearings. Four principal points of this system were particularly important. First, the judicial character of the ancient family system; secondly, the possibility, in consequence of experience being handed down from the parent to the child as a living spirit; thirdly, the very important part that forms of politeness play in this, as they obliterate self consciousness in the child, and thereby give the mind full play; and fourthly, filial piety. Attention had been drawn to the great similitude in Japanese, Chinese, and Roman, law. He had himself been struck with the resemblance between the administration of the Japanese family and the procedure of the old County Court or Quarter Sessions of this kingdom, where the forms were very similar.

Mr. H. Muter said that it was not clear from Mr. Goh's paper whether in describing the family relations in Japan he was speaking of the present generation or of bygone days. If the former, Mr. Goh made several assertions which he (the speaker) could not altogether agree with; if the latter it was a pity he had not dealt with the subject with more freedom. It appeared to him that the lecturer had drawn his conclusions from small sects of persons, which were not anything like a fair representation of the family system of Japan as a whole. As to the relations between parents and children there was no doubt that fathers in the olden time did exercise great power, but there had been a great change with the decline of feudalism. The father in Japan of to-day had no conspicuous influence or power; certainly he ought not to be compared to the man whose will was law, and who looked upon his children as private property. As to Japanese parents choosing matrimonial companions for their children he (the speaker) did not think the latter were so completely in the hands of the former as the lecturer would imply, and certainly in the present day children, especially sons, consulted their own tastes a great deal more than they used to do. The Japanese father was no such terrible personage as Mr. Goh had painted him. With regard to husband and wife, he did not agree that marriage in Japan was considered the greatest event in human life, as it was nothing more nor less than a civil contract, with very little or no religious element in it. Therefore, in order to sever the marriage tie, it was not necessary that either party should be guilty of gross misconduct, and the lesser troubles of human life, therefore, led to a dissolution of the bond. Moreover, divorce did not take place in Japan as often as the foreigner thought. This was especially true with regard to the upper classes. The Japanese wife was expected to be faithful, obedient, and to look after the comfort of her husband. She enjoyed liberty and freedom in a degree not far behind sisters in European countries. The only difference was that the schemes and ideas of the Nippon wife were very often carried out not in her own name but in the name of her husband, while the contrary often was the case in European countries. He did not hesitate to say that the Japanese husband is, his opinion was the tamest of all husbands.—(Laughter.) The seven reasons of divorce were all nonsense. They were the exploded principles of nearly two hundred years ago. If Mr. Goh had wished to prove that there were a great many peculiarities in the Japanese family life, he (the speaker) thought that he proved quite the reverse. For instance, when he said that "the youngest child is often the pet of the family; that children are expected to be obedient to parents, and that step-mothers in-law are often objectionable persons," &c.—he was saying what would apply to most civilised countries in the world.

Mr. Shidachi proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Goh and Mr. Aston for their papers; Mr. Diosy seconded, and it was carried with acclamation.

Mr. Goh briefly replied, and the meeting terminated.

We regret to hear that Mr. W. G. Aston had actually started for London to be present and read his paper to the Society, but that on reaching Axminister he was seized with a severe fit of coughing, and was ordered to return by a medical gentleman.

Concerning the *saké* to be used on the occasion of the annual dinner, to which we have already referred, a very lengthy correspondence has taken place with H.M.'s Board of Customs as to the rate of duty at Berlin, where there is generally a supply due to the fact that a large Japanese student colony is resident in the German capital. On arrival here it was entered as wine, at the rate of 2d. per bottle duty, but the Board of Customs put it under the much higher spirit rate. After many letters and discussions this decision was upheld, but as it was found to be 29 under proof it got finally admitted for 6d. per bottle.—*L. and C. Express.*

QUESTIONS TO SPECIALISTS.

REPLY BY MISS UME TSUDA, TEACHER OF ENGLISH IN THE PEERESSES' SCHOOL AT TOKYO.

Are American scholarships for Japanese women a desirable method of advancing higher female education in Japan?

No. 26, Shimo Ni Ban Cho, Tokio, Japan,
October 7, 1892.

My dear Mrs. Cook:—You are already familiar with many aspects of the Japanese woman's life and duties, and I know that I have your sympathy on the subject of American scholarships for Japanese women. I can therefore only give you my impressions as they have come to me during my two months' stay in Japan since my return. Coming to Japan from the free air of America, I expected, of course, to find much that would seem hard and strange, yet I had hoped for some signs of progress and advancement in the work for women. I had thought, perhaps, new avenues of employment might gradually open, that woman's life might grow broader and richer from the influence of the material progress that Japan has made in the past few years. Six or seven years ago there was a very strong tide in favour of better education for women, and a movement to give them better rights and advantages.

It was then that several good schools were started for women, and the prospect seemed a fair one for the advancement of women's education. I have been greatly disappointed since my return to find many changes in the world of Japan. We have been often called an impetuous and changeable nation. Movements rise rapidly, we rush ahead, and then comes a reaction so strong that the former advance is swept away. With rapid changes we must look for reactions, but I had hoped that the movement for the improvement of educational matters for women, and the establishing of better schools was not one of these fickle changes but that it was the result of a decided public opinion.

I find on my return here that we have been going back since 1886, and just at present everything seems to be standing still in every way. People often speak of the failure the experiment has proved of educating our young girls. Many of them declare that the result of the five or six years better training and study has resulted in either ruining their constitutions or in making them hopelessly conceited and unwomanly. It is the favourite argument that a woman is not fitted physically for mental work, and that to study as men do would make her always discontented and unhappy in her after life.

Perhaps it may be that the educational experiment of the past few years has not been in all phases wise, and it has been far from perfect. It is, indeed, a hard thing to graft such a new and strange growth on to the old Japanese civilization—to expect that the old Japanese ideals and standards will fit in with the new Western learning. It indeed requires a wise and cautious head to be a leader at such a time.

Feeling as I do, that the one thing that Japan needs most at the present day is the elevation of one-half of her people, and the education of the future wives and mothers, can you wonder that I

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most thoroughly desire a class of earnest, native women workers who can take up the work, showing in their own persons a happy combination of Japanese education, refinement, and culture, and the best results of Western civilization and religion? The work of changing public opinion, of gradually opening the way for higher and better things, can only be done by the native women for the women of Japan.

There are many things that make me sad as I look around the world of Japan. I need not here repeat to you that women in the eyes of the law are nothing, that it is a woman's fate to be always a dependent. The laws of marriage and divorce are such that a man has perfect power over his wife and children, and the woman is helpless. As long as women remain ignorant, they accept the situation as inevitable. They will endure many things in order not to be sent away from home and children. The fact that home life is as happy as it is, is not of any law or custom, but merely that most Japanese men are not cruel or mean by nature, and so life goes on happily in many homes. But many of us feel that a woman's right should not be a matter of sufferance. Yet as long as women are ignorant and are incapable of thinking themselves, or of doing anything for themselves, and since they allow everything to be decided for them, how can we expect either law or custom to change? Without education, we cannot plead for better rights for women. When they are capable of taking greater responsibility and of understanding something more than mere house hold routine, then I think the day will not be far off when greater power will be granted them.

Of the girls' school in Tokyo, one of the very best government schools, was given up two years ago, as so much was said against it. The Tokyo government Normal School is excellent, but it is open only to graduates of country Normal schools, and of these only a very limited number. The school with which I am connected, the Peeresses' school, is quite large and flourishing, with over three hundred scholars, but it is an elementary institution and the work does not cover more than a grammar school course. Yet even here we would be glad of women teachers, better prepared. The High schools in the country open for girls are some of them fairly good, and the missionary schools give an English education which enables girls to read English quite well, but in Japanese branches and in the different branches of study, such as science and mathematics, which should be taken in Japanese, they are below the standard of Japanese High schools. There are no colleges for women, no higher school of any sort, where preparation for advanced work can be taken. The best institution is the Tokio Normal School, which is open to only a few, as I have just said.

Thus at the present time the only thing a woman can do is to go to America or Europe for higher study. Yet how few are able to undertake such a plan! In Japan where women have no property or power, where living is so cheap that fifty or sixty dollars will be enough to lodge and board a person for a year, and four or five hundred dollars enough for a man to keep a good sized family comfortably, how is it possible for a woman teacher to be able to get the means for the long journey to a foreign country, for an entirely different costume and life, and the expenses of study in some college? Few, indeed, are so fortunate as to be able to go, yet this has by no means diminished the desire to go forward for higher things to a foreign land. The scholarship founded in Philadelphia for Japanese women, though it has not yet been publicly announced, has been received with great interest, and already many inquiries have been made about it. The great trouble is that many cannot apply for it for lack of other means—for the scholaship only covers tuition and board, and many cannot take the long journey and all the incidental expenses of a stay in America. Yet the four hundred dollars offered is a very great thing, and means may be found for helping any worthy candidate who should find herself unable to accept the offer owing to the lack of means to do so. The scholarship matter has been put into the hands of an excellent committee of Japanese men and women, consisting of several prominent persons in the educational world, and these persons who are exceedingly interested in it, believe it will be a very great thing for Japan, a stimulus to the school and to women in general. The examination to be held for it will not be given until next spring, and I think the candidate will be sent some time later on. I have on hand several letters asking about it, though I myself have mentioned the matter only among my own personal friends.

So you will see that among the women themselves there is no lack of interest. I am, indeed, looking forward to the time when some of these women will return, when they may be shining lights in the different circles in which they work, and when they can themselves take up the different problems of the day, social, educational, and moral. The Japanese women must, indeed, lead in all matters for women, and until better workers arise, and by their judgment and wisdom change the tide, we cannot hope for much progress. We want living examples to show the scoffing world that education does not spoil a woman. We want a woman to plead the wrongs of women. We want a clear head and a clever tongue to show the men how much is unjust in the lives of the women. We want better teachers for our schools, and leaders in good movements pertaining to women.

The Japanese committee of the Philadelphia Scholarship for Japanese Women will be glad to find any openings for young women in America, where they could go and study to prepare for their work. They would gladly correspond on the matter with any friends who might like to help any of the workers here. Will not the ladies so full of good works for their countrywomen, find some place in their hearts for Japanese women and lend us a helping hand? The harvest here in Japan is truly plenty, and the workers are few. Educate for us one worker and you have sent us a life missionary, one whose life must be in her work, for it is among her own people and blood.

I cannot tell you in this letter, long as I have written you, and rapidly as I have passed from one subject to another, half of what I wish to on all the different things concerning the need of better work for women. But I feel sure, dear Miss Cook, that you will understand in spite of the inadequacy of my poor plea, how deeply I feel about it. Will you not ask for me that help may be given to hasten the day of better things for the women of Japan? So much has been written lately and said about Japan that I think the women of this country are well known to American women, and I hope that you will all agree with me that our women are worthy of better things than they have now.

I am, with kind regards, very sincerely yours,

UME TSUDA.

LETTER FROM THE REV. DR. WM. ELLIOT GRIFFIS, BOSTON, TO MRS COOK.

I am glad you have undertaken the work for Miss Tsuda and for Japan. I think the enterprise is a most excellent one in itself, and also, for strengthening the ties between our country and Japan. It is one of the best things in the world to be done, and I trust that the enthusiasm of a conviction may be reached in your own mind. The Japanese girls educated in our mission school at Kobe might fill the need, but the Peeresses in Tokyo very naturally like to have those of their sex and country-women who have been educated along with American young ladies in the highest institutions of learning here. The Japanese government never had any definite scheme of sending female students to be educated abroad, and for the past year or two there has been a great reaction against the higher education of women; hence, all the more need of Miss Tsuda's plan being carried out. Education and missionary work need to be founded on bases unshaken by currents or eddies of opinion. The daughters of the nobles are, in many cases, able to pay for their education, but in too many instances rank and title mean financial burdens that allow little margin for liberal education.

It seems to me that to send to Japan every few years a Japanese graduate from one of our best American women's colleges would prove a great influence for good both in toning up the educational standard in Japan, and influencing social life purely and strongly. To my mind, Miss Tsuda's scheme is like the building of a dyke which is greatly needed to hold what is already accomplished, and to serve as a basis for the higher safeguards.

ALICE MABEL BACON'S LETTER TO MRS. COOK ON THE JAPANESE SCHOLARSHIP.

I did not understand that Miss Tsuda's plan was for a scholarship fund simply for noble girls, but as I have understood the matter from her letters to me, she means to make it an opening for the bright girls educated in any school in Japan to get such further training in America as will fit them for teaching special higher branches in any of the schools in Japan. As the scholarship is to be awarded only upon competition, it should help girls educated in missionary schools and who mean to do missionary work upon their return to Japan, quite as much as those educated in government schools. In fact, I think the pupils in the missionary schools are likely to have the best chance, as they usually have more skill in English than the students of the government schools.

The Japanese government has not, so far as I know, ceased altogether sending girls to America to study, and a course of study abroad is still sometimes awarded as a prize to a remarkably good scholar in the government schools, but the number of girls who have had such advantages given them by the Japanese government might easily be counted up on the fingers of your two hands. The present reaction against foreign ideas, and especially the higher education of women, combined with the spirit of strict economy that is now playing so important a part in Japanese politics, has probably prevented any girls from being sent out in this way for the past two or three years. The girls thus educated are usually expected to teach in some government school upon their return.

I think the value of Miss Tsuda's scholarship scheme is largely that it will give a stimulus to the higher education of women that will be entirely independent of the government or of temporary changes in public opinion and will help to furnish the very class of intelligent, broad minded women that Japan so much needs to lead the way in the reform of many abuses that have grown up about the home life, and the position of the wives and mothers in Japan.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, July 14.

For the Indian Government, tenders are invited for a loan of 350 lacs of rupees at 3½ per cent. The balance of the 4½ per cent loans will be paid in October, and 4½ per cent. paper will be accepted at par in payment of subscriptions to the loan.

London, July 17.

The Reichstag has passed the Army Bill, and the session is closed.

The French Minister at Bangkok has been instructed to protest against the firing of the Siamese gunboats as a violation of the Treaty of 1856.

Later.

The French troops have occupied the forts at Donthane Typhum, on the Upper Meikong, and Siam has agreed to withdraw her troops if fighting is suspended mutually.

[SPECIALLY TELEGRAPHED TO THE "JAPAN DAILY MAIL."] [FROM THE "N.-C. DAILY NEWS."]

London, July 10.

Sir Charles Dilke, Mr. Labonchere, Mr. Burns, and other Liberals, voted against the closure in the discussion of the 6th Clause of Home Rule Bill.

July 11.

In the new Reichstag the Army Bill has been read the first time.

In a speech at the Junior Constitutional Club, the Marquis of Salisbury advocated a direct appeal to the popular vote and the referendum system in a great constitutional crisis.

At a grand luncheon at the Guildhall, at which seven hundred persons were present, the King of Denmark was presented with the Freedom of the City and an address which were contained in a gold casket. The Cesarewitch was also present, and in a speech said that he hoped the Russian and British nations would henceforth be united.

July 12.

Mr. Asquith, Q.C., Secretary of State for the Home Department, has been commanded to publish the following:—Her Majesty the Queen wishes to express to the people how much Her Majesty is gratified and touched by the great loyalty to herself and family which was so strikingly evinced on the occasion of the marriage of her beloved grandson and his dear bride, which, indeed, is nothing new, for the Queen, through weal and woe, has ever met with the warmest kindness and sympathy. The Queen knows that the people of her vast Empire are well aware that her heart truly beats for them and for all their joys and sorrows, and that in the existence of this tie between them and herself lies the real strength of the Empire. Her Majesty concludes in joining with her people in the warmest prayers and good wishes for the welfare and happiness of her grandchildren.

July 15.

The Reichstag has passed the first clause of the Army Bill, dealing with the peace effective

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footing of the army, which virtually ensures the passing of the bill.

Clause 10 of the Home Rule Bill has been negatived; Clauses 11, 12, 13, 17, 20, and 21 have been withdrawn; Clauses 14, 15, and 16 have been postponed, and the others, up to Clause 27, have been carried.

(From the "Courrier d'Haiphong.")

Paris, June 29.

In the new Reichstag there is a majority of twelve in favour of the Army Bill.

The commercial negotiations between Germany and Russia have been broken off.

There has been trouble at Rangoon between the Indians and Mussulmans.

The reservists are summoned for the 5th of September.

(From Tonkin Papers.)

Paris, July 5th.

The report of the Budget Commission expresses a regret that funds are not sufficient to allow of the fresh reductions asked for by M. Le Myre de Vilers in the contribution from Cochin-China; the report recognises fully the justice of the request, especially in view of the monetary crisis, which is now causing much sympathy to be felt in Paris towards the Far East. The report, however, recommends a reduction of 10,000f. in the contribution, as a "mark of sympathy." The Budget has been voted.

July 6th.

A correspondent of the London *Times* asserts that the story of Siamese massacring French and Annamite troops treacherously is false; that the French force, under Sergeant Grosgurin, wilfully commenced hostilities, and that in self-defence the Siamese turned on them and killed them.

The rioting grows worse in Paris. Troops have been called out, and the mob has had to be driven back repeatedly by cavalry charges.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

Solution of Problem No. 78.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—B to Q R 3	1—Any.
2—Mates accordingly.	

There appears to be a second solution to the above (Problem No. 78) commencing with Kt to K 4. Solvers sending either of the solutions are duly credited with a correct answer.

Correct solutions received from W.H.S., J.D., Omega, P.E.F.S., Digamma, J.W.E. and O.B.

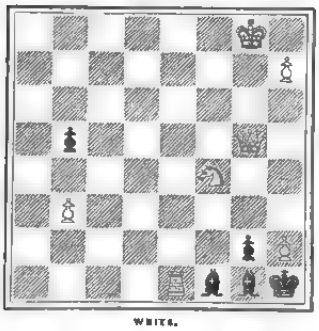
M A W.—Kt × P on K Kt 4 is Black's defence to Q to K 7.

J.W.E. is also credited with a correct solution to Problem No. 75.

Problem No. 80.

By S. Loyd.

Black.



White.

White to play and mate in three moves.

Our Problem Editor having gone away for a trip to Hokkaido, *Omega* takes entire charge of the Chess column *pro tem.*, and is thereby debarred from competing as a solver for the present. The above specimen of S Loyd's captivating style will be welcome to all our friends.

There is nothing new or startling in local Chess circles, the Club is closed during the hot weather, and although we hear of a few enthusiastic players burning the "midnight-oil" occasionally, we cannot look for any general activity until the season reopens in October.

Not much news of importance from Europe or America. It is reported that Herr Lasker intends to take up his residence in New Orleans (the city in which the great Morphy lived and died) becoming Professor of Mathematics in one of the colleges there. It is said that Lasker has challenged Steinitz to a match for $5,000 and the World's Championship; everyone hopes that the veteran will accept, and give us a fine display of remarkable games.

We give the following interesting example of Blackburne's work done in 1887.

Queen's Gambit.

WHITE. Blackburne.	BLACK. Englisch.
1—P to Q 4	1—P to Q 4
2—P to Q B 4	2—P × P
3—Kt to K B 3	3 P to Q B 4
4—P to K 3	4—P × P
5—B × P	5—P to K 3
6—P × P	6—Kt to K B 3
7—Castles.	7—B to K 2
8—Kt to B 3	8—Castles.
9—Q B to B 4	9—Kt to B 3
10—R to B sq.	10—P to Q R 3
11—P to Q 5	

Risky to say the least, but "Fortune favors the bold."

	11—K. to Q R 4
12—P to Q 6	12—Kt × B
13—P × B	13—Q × P
14—Q to K 2	14—Kt to Kt 3

.... P to Q Kt 4 would have been stronger than this retreat.

15—B to Kt 5	15—R to K sq.

... ... R to Q sq. to gain the open file would have been better.

16—K R to Q sq.	16—P to R 3
17—B to R 4	17—R to Q sq.
18—Kt to K 4	18—Q Kt to Q 4
19—Kt to K 5	19—P to K Kt 4
20—Kt × Kt P	

The initial move of a beautiful combination.

	20—P × Kt
21—B × P	21—Q to B sq.
22—Q to B 3	22—Kt to Q 2
23—B to R 6	

White is not content with winning the exchange.

	23—Kt × Kt
24—Q to Kt 3 ch.	24—Kt to Kt 3
25—B × Q	25—R × B
26—R to B 4	26—P to Kt 4
27—R to K Kt 4	27—K to Kt 2
28—P to K R 4	28—Kt to B 3

If ... ... R to R sq.; 29—Q to K 5 ch., Kt to R 3; 30—K R to Q 4, etc., or if 29 ..... P to B 3; 30—Q to Kt 5, R to R 3; 32—P to R 5 wins.

29—P to R 5	29—Kt × P
30—Q to K 5 ch.	30—Kt to B 3
31—R R to Q 4	31—R to R 2
32—K R to K B 4	32—K to R 2
33—Q × Kt	33—P to K 4
34—R × Kt	34—Resigns.

MAIL STEAMERS

The next mail in due

From Shanghai, Nagasaki and Kobe	per P. M. S.	Friday July 28th
From America	per O. & O. Co	Sunday July 30th *
From Canada, &c	per C. P. M. Co.	Monday, July 31st †
From Hongkong.	per O. & O. Co	Thursday, July 27th ‡
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co	Sunday, July 30th
From Hongkong	per C. P. M. Co.	Thursday, Aug 3rd
From Europe viâ Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Friday, Aug. 4th
From America	per P. M. Co	Tuesday, Aug. 8th
From Europe via Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Wed'day, Aug. 9th.

* *Belgic* left San Francisco on July 13th. † *Empress of China* left Vancouver on July 25th. ‡ *Gaelic* left Hongkong on July 26th. The English mail is on board the steamer *Prior*.

The next mail leaves

For Hongkong...	per P. & O. Co	Sunday, July 23rd
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki ..	per N. Y. K	Tuesday, July 25th.
For America	per O. & O. Co	Saturday, July 29th.
For Victoria and Tacoma	per N. P. Co.	Saturday, July 29th
For Europe, viâ Shanghai	per M. M. Co	Sunday, July 30th
For Hongkong	per C. P. M. Co.	Tuesday Aug 1st.
For Canada, &c	per C. P. M. Co	Friday, Aug. 4th
For America	per P. M. Co.	Saturday, Aug 5th.
For Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd.	Friday, Aug. 11th

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Tam O'Shanter, American barkentine, 562, Wm. Patterson, 15th June,—Port Gamble, 6th May, Lumber.—Order.

Ancona, British steamer, 1,880, W. D. Mudie, 15th July,—Hongkong 7th, Nagasaki 12th, and Kobe 14th July, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co

Angers, British steamer, 2,076, Pinkham, 16th July,—Middlesboro' viâ ports, General.—Smith, Baker & Co.

Firebrand (4), gunboat, Lieut.-Commander G. Tufnel, 16th July,—Hongkong.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Ekstrand, 17th July,—Kobe 16th July, General.—Nippon Yuser Kaisha

Pathan, British steamer, 1,763, Wight, 17th July, —Hongkong viâ Kobe, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, Nirei, 17th July,—Otaru viâ ports 13th July, General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Pyrrhus, British steamer, 2,299, Batt, 18th July,—Liverpool, viâ Shanghai 14th July, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

City of New York, American steamer, 1,943, F. H. Johnstone, 19th July,—Hongkong viâ ports, 12th July, Mails and General.—P. M. S S. Co.

Salazie, French steamer, 4,016, A. Paul, 20th July, —Marseilles 11th June, Hongkong 12th July, Shanghai 15th, and Kobe 19th, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

China, British steamer, 2,600, Wm. B. Seabury, 20th July,—San Francisco 3rd July, viâ Honolulu 10th, Mails and General.—P. M. S S. Co.

Riversdale, British steamer, 1,311, Peck, 20th July, —Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, T. Sakai, 20th July,—Kobe 19th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. M. Young, 20th July,—Otaru viâ ports 20th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mogul, British steamer, 1,827, T. Golding, 21st July,—Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C., Mails and General —Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,358, Haswell, 21st July,—Shanghai and ports 15th July, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, J. Nirei, 21st July,—Kobe 20th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Glengyle, British steamer, 2,244, Gasson, 22nd July,—London viâ ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

DEPARTURES.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,246, J. T. Smith, 15th July,—San Francisco viâ Honolulu, Mails and General —P. M. S.S. Co.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,034, Walter, 15th July,—Otaru, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Pender, 16th July,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Oxus, French steamer, 2,500, Dupont, 16th July, —Shanghai viâ Kobe, Mails and General. —Messageries Maritimes Co.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, T. Sakai, 16th July.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kintuck, British steamer, 2,312, Kemp, 17th July, —London viâ ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Sirene, German ship, 1,437, Sasermilch, 17th July, —Vancouver, B.C., Tea.—Frazar & Co.

Frigga, German steamer, 1,400, Voltmer, 18th July,—Hamburg viâ ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, Nirei, 18th July,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yokohama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,298, Swain, 18th July,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Firebrand (4), gunboat, Lieutenant-Commander G. Tufnel, 18th July,—Hakodate.

Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,053, Thompson, 19th July,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Ekstrand, 19th July.—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sophie Sutherland, American schooner, 149, A. C. Sutherland, 19th July,—San Francisco, Sealing Gear.—Captain

Argyll, British steamer, 1,668, Williamson, 19th July,—New York viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

China, British steamer, 2,600, Wm. B. Seabury,

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22nd July,—Hongkong, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co

City of New York, American steamer, 1,934, F. H. Johnstone, 22nd July,—San Francisco viâ Honolulu, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Pyrrhus, British steamer, 2,299, Batt, 22nd July, —Liverpool viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Mogul, British steamer, 1,827, T. Golding, 22nd July,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. J. Moncrieff in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Omi Maru*, from Kobe:—Messrs. K. Numan, W. C. Bonger, Pow Ah Lei, K. Kotora, K. Shiraki, and K. Fukuma in cabin; 3 passengers in second class, and 61 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, from Otaru viâ ports:—2 passengers in cabin; 2 passengers in second class, and 13 passengers in steerage.

Per American steamer *City of New York*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. Dakin, Mr. Kehling, Mr. Shibata, and Mrs. da Silva in cabin. For San Francisco: His Excellency Augustin Heard and family, Rev. and Mrs. McGrivary, and Rev. McFarland in cabin.

Per French steamer *Salazie*, from Marseilles viâ ports:—Mr. E. Guillochon, Mr. Kasahairo Kanenishi, Mr. Ellinam, Mr. and Mrs. Tower, Mr. G. Scheffer, Mr. A. Snell, Mrs. D. de la Rama, Mr. S. de la Rama, Mr. de la Rama, Mr. S. Rodriguez, Mr. Paul Rouget, Mr. Gaillard and boy, Mrs. Ramasse, Mrs. S. J. Rouzel and 5 children, Messrs. James Spoerri, Victor Gielen, Bérard, Buichi, Jarodis, and Hirai in cabin.

Per British steamer *China*, from San Francisco:—Hon. A. D. Jones, Messrs. H. Copiru, T. Delsis, W. L. Merrimann and family, A. Blankhertz, T. O. Kita, M. Ohama, M. C. Maultzsch, Yee Cha Yun, P. M. Skinner, Dr. J. H. Hartwell and family, General and Mrs. Zubathin, Mr. E. Knaff, Rev. E. Asada, Rev. U. Tamura, Mr. V. Marshall Law, Mrs. Smith and son, Messrs. H Hidakata, K Matsumoto, T. H. Box, and Chan Ball in cabin. From Honolulu: Mr. F. Dembar Walker and Mr. D. W. Detbler in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, from Otaru viâ ports:—5 passengers in second class and 31 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, from Shanghai and ports.—Mr. and Mrs. E. F. Creagh, Captain Tufnell, Mr. Von der Oster, Mr. B. Rosenbaum, Mr G. Greenhill, Miss Glover, Mr Glover, Mr. Derigin, Mr. and Mrs. C. W Home, Mr. K Yasukawa, Mr. E. Grosser, Miss A. E. Gulisk, Mr. S. Zarine, Mr Zessen, Mr. W. E. Whymark, and Mr. M. Takei in cabin; Mr. Lee Bow Sang and Mr. Yok Foo in second class, and 44 passengers in steerage. For San Francisco: Mr. F. W Aldis, Mr. P. McGregor Grant, and Mr. F. S. Deacon in cabin; Mr. Fred. Salvador in second class.

DEPARTED.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, for San Francisco viâ Honolulu:—Mr. K. Bando, Dr. E Bedloe, Mrs. Brown, Mr. A. N. Brown, Mr. J. L. Brown, Miss N. A Danforth, Dr. Fales, Mr. E W. Fincke, Miss Gourlay, Lieut. A. van Graefe, Mr O H. Halm, Mr. E. S. Hall, Mr. James A. Hamilton, Mr. A. P. Happer, Mr. Harry D. Hawks, Miss Mary Hid, Mr. Kapper, Captain A. P. Kirkpatrick, R.A., Mr. A. Kollik, Captain Lloyd, Mr. T. Minami, Mr. Moekenboer, Mr. Moss, Mr. M A Newell, Mr M Rautenberg, Mrs. V. Spaulding, Mrs Stanbery, Mr. S. Wilcox, Miss N. Wilcox, Rev. and Mrs Worden and four children, and Lieut. M. Yamanouchi, I.J.N., in cabin.

Per French steamer *Oxus*, for Shanghai viâ Kobe:—Messrs. Mundt, A. Hoag, Zeveryn, Mrs. Rolland, Messrs. L. A. Levy, John Whym, A. De Ath, C. F. Himlim, O. Vivals, Roudier, Groshaeny, Vivier, Salcaca, A. Lum, L. Rojer, and G Hundt in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Mrs. H. Bugbird, Mrs. Parrott, Admiral K. Tsuboi, Rev. Fulkerson, Rev. C. M. Williams, Rev. I. H. Correll, Messrs. J. O. Pollitts, R. Ingles, Y. Ezaki, T. A. Singleton, A. F. King, R. Matsumoto, D. Jackson, E. Helm, C. N. Crosse, J. K. Trafford, Berigny, and Mr. Sugi and two daughters in cabin; Messrs. Hashimoto, Aiko, and Hori in second class, and 87 passengers in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, $30,000.

Per French steamer *Oxus*, for Shanghai viâ Kobe:—Raw Silk for France, 198 bales; Waste Silk for France, 3 bales. Treasure for Hongkong, $100,000.

Per American steamer *City of New York*, for San Francisco viâ Honolulu:—

TEA.

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	CHICAGO.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	252	—	299	—	551
Hyogo	—	833	594	1,136	2,563
Yokohama	5,489	1,854	1,196	2,916	11,455
Amoy	158	—	—	—	158
Total	5,899	2,687	2,089	4,052	14,727

SILK.

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	HARTFORD.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	—	25	—	25
Hongkong	—	29	—	29
Yokohama	—	156	—	156
Total	—	210	—	210

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Omi Maru*, Captain J. W. Ekstrand, reports: Left Kobe the 16th July at noon; had light variable winds and fine weather; passed Oshima the same day at 8.30 p.m., had same weather to port. Arrived at Yokohama the 17th July at 5 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, Captain Nirei, reports:—Left Otaru the 13th July at noon; had fine, clear weather and moderate northerly breeze. Arrived at Hakodate the 14th at 7 a.m. and left the 15th at noon; had cloudy and dirty weather and occasional dense fog and generally thick haze with gentle south-easterly breeze. Arrived at Oginohama the 16th at 12.30 p.m. and left at 6.10 p.m.; had fine weather and moderate to strong west and north-easterly breeze and thick, misty weather and smooth sea. Arrived at Yokohama the 17th July at 7.15 p.m.

The American steamer *City of New York*, Captain F. H. Johnstone, reports:—Left Hongkong the 12th July at 1 p.m.; left Nagasaki the 16th at 5 p.m.; left Kobe the 18th at 6 p.m.; fine weather all the way.

The British steamer *China*, Captain Seabury, reports:—Left San Francisco the 3rd July. Arrived at Honolulu the 9th and left the 10th; passed Midway Island the 13th at 1.15 p.m. and Ocean or Cure Island the same day at 5 p.m.; had fine weather entire passage. Time, San Francisco to Honolulu, 5 days, 14 hours, and 12 min.; detention Honolulu, 1 day, 9 hours, and 5 min.; Honolulu to Yokohama, 9 days, 6 hours, and 38 min.

The Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, Captain E. W. Haswell, reports:—Left Shanghai the 15th July at noon and arrived at Nagasaki the 17th at 2 a.m. Left Nagasaki the same day at 5 p.m. and arrived at Kobe the 19th at 7 a.m. Left again the following day at noon and arrived at Yokohama the 21st July at 3 p.m.; experienced moderate to fresh southerly winds and fine, clear weather to Nagasaki; thence had calms and light variables through Inland Sea to Kobe; along the coast moderate south-west veering to south-east winds were met, and fine weather with slight haze to arrival.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS

Yarns have experienced but a very slight demand during the week, and as yet no reliable quotations can be given. In Piece-goods, Turkey Reds have been to the front and enjoyed a good demand, while other lines show some indications of moving. Holders are firm and prices rule high, but in the absence of any business it is impossible to give a trustworthy list of quotations and the following must therefore be taken as nominal.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8½lb, 38½ yds 39 inches	—
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 38½ yds 45 inches	—
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	—
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches	$1.50 to 1.90
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.65 to 2.50
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 32 inches	PER YARD. 0.13 to 0.17
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	—
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 12 3 inches	—
Turkey Reds—2.6 to 2.4lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	PER PIECE. 1.22½ to 1.35
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	1.42½ to 1.60
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	1.75 to 1.97½
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.12½ to 2.32½

WOOLLENS

	PER YARD.
Flannel	$0.24 to 0.38
Italian Cloth, 10 yards, 32 inches best	0.29 to 0.31½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0.25 to 0.29
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0.19 to 0.25
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.12 to 0.19
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.32½ to 0.12½
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.50 to 0.57
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.30 to 0.65
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 4 to 3½lb, per lb	0.37 to 0.51

COTTON YARNS.

	PER P. CUL.
Nos. 10/24, Ordinary	—
Nos. 16/24, Medium	—
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	—
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	—
Nos 28/32, Ordinary	—
Nos. 28/32, Medium	—
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	—
Nos 38/42, Medium to Best	—
No. 32s, Two-fold	—
No. 42s, Two-fold	—

	PER BALE.
No 20s, Bombay	Nom. —
No 16s, Bombay	Nom. —

METALS

Practically no change to report in this market. There has been a very small business done to supply immediate needs, but otherwise the week has been without feature. We resume our list of quotations, but give them only as nominal.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ¼ inch	$3.60 to 3 70
Flat Bars, ½ inch	3.70 to 3 75
Round and square up to ½ inch	3.60 to 3 80
Iron Plates, assorted	3.00 to 3 15
Sheet Iron	3.85 to 4 00
Galvanized Iron sheets	7.00 to 7.25
Wire Nails, assorted	4 70 to 5 20
Tin Plates, per box	5.30 to 5 50
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.30 to 1 32½

KEROSENE.

This market at length shows some prospect of revival. Demand during the past week has been good, especially for American oil, and a fair business has been transacted. Holders have but a small stock on hand, however, and prices have risen accordingly.

Chester	$1.60 to 1.62½
Comet	1.62½ to 1 65
Devoe	—
Russian Anchor	1.57½ to 1.60
Russian Moon	1 55 to 1.57½

SUGAR.

Another active week in Brown, which again shows a considerable rise in value. Hongkong grades have been in especially good demand and the stock of these now stands at the very low figure of 8,090 piculs. Whites have continued to move off at a lively pace, and prices have risen sharply in consequence

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	$5.00 to 5.15
Brown Manila	5.50 to 5.60
Brown Datong	4.50 to 4 60
Brown Canton	4.50 to 4 85
White Java and Penang	6.75 to 6 80
White Refined	7 60 to 9.25

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last was of the 14th instant. Since that date settlements on this market amount to 308 piculs divided thus:—*Filatures*, 202 piculs; *Reereels*, 94 piculs; *Kadeda*, 12 piculs. In addition to these purchases, direct shipments are 23 bales, making total export business for the week 330 piculs.

The market is dull and displays no animation, although supplies are coming in plentifully. In spite of this, dealers try to work prices up with every fresh sale which they make and seem to succeed fairly well with the two or three buyers who are in the market.

We are glad to say that the rumour current here ten days ago relative to the death of M. Carnot proves unfounded. We have quite enough troubles in the silk trade without any political complications. Advices from consuming markets are still very dull and give no encouragement to shippers. Our friends on the other side all appear to be looking for lower prices in the future, and there seems nothing for it but to wait patiently until they are ready to operate.

Exchange has, on the whole, been upon a higher basis, closing at the quotations given below.

Present arrivals include a few boxes of *Kakeda*, but no business has been done on this market in them, although we hear of a few piculs having been settled up country.

There have been four shipping opportunities since we last wrote, the German mail steamer, *Nurnberg*, 14th instant, taking 8 bales for Genoa; the Canadian steamer, *Empress of India*, same day, had 14 bales for New York; steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, 15th instant, 51 bales for the same destination and the French mail steamer *Oxus*, 16th instant, 198 bales for France. These departures bring the present export figures up to 479 piculs, against 1,618 piculs last year and 1,709 piculs on the 20th July, 1891.

Hanks.—No business reported, although the stock is increased about 70 piculs. The last quotations are quite nominal in the absence of trade.

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Filatures.—About 200 piculs have changed hands, principally in fine sizes, at the quotations given in our regular list. In full sizes, some so-called *Shinshu* have again been done at prices ranging from $800 to $810.

Re-reels.—A few parcels of *Joshu* have again passed the scales at $745 for good average quality, with second sortings at $690.

Kakeda.—Our settlements include 12 piculs, bought in the interior by a foreign firm; price has not transpired. A few further arrivals have come in to market but have not yet been shown thoroughly round the trade.

In other sorts, no stock and no business.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK).

Hanks—No 1½		—
Hanks—No. 1 (Shinshu)		—
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)		—
Hanks—No 2½ Shinshu)		—
Hanks—No 2½ (Joshu)		—
Hanks—No 2½ to 3		—
Hanks—No 3	Nom.	$555 to 560
Hanks—No. 3½	Nom.	540 to 545
Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers		—
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers		—
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers		950 to 960
Filatures—No 1, 13/15, 14/16 den		—
Filatures—No. 1½, 10/14 deniers		920 to 930
Filatures—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 den		800 to 810
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers		860 to 870
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers		—
Filatures—No 3, 14/20 deniers		—
Re-reels—Extra		—
Re-reels—(Oshu) Best No. 1		—
Re-reels—No. 1, 13, 15, 14/16 deniers		750 to 760
Re-reels—No 1½, 13/16, 14/17 deniers		720 to 730
Re-reels—No 2, 13/18 deniers		680 to 690
Re-reels—No. 2½, 14/18 deniers		—
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers		—
Kakedas—Extra		—
Kakedas—No 1		—
Kakedas—No 1½		—
Kakedas—No 2		—
Kakedas—No 2½		—
Kakedas—No. 3		—
Kakedas—No 3½		—
Kakedas—No. 4		—
Oshu Sendai—No 2½		—
Hamatsuki—No 1, 2		—
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4		—
Sofus—No. 2½		—

Export Raw Silk Tables to 21st July, 1893.—

	Season 1892-1893.	1892-93.	1891-92.
	Bales	Bales.	Bales.
Europe	377	858	438
America	96	707	1,212
Total { Bales	473	1,565	1,650
Total { Piculs	479	1,618	1,769
	piculs	piculs	piculs.
Settlements and Direct Export from 1st July	700	2,000	2,300
Stock, 21st July	2,300	2,200	2,450
Available supplies to date	3,000	4,200	4,750

WASTE SILK.

Settlements since our last advices are 143 piculs, of which 140 piculs are *Noshi* and 3 piculs *Boshi-wata*. No direct shipments this week.

Arrivals of new fibre are still small and consist principally of *Joshu Noshi*, mixed old and new. Probably the next week may bring us fresh supplies upon which some business may transpire.

The French mail steamer *Oxus* took 3 bales *Boshi-wata* for Europe, and the export figures to date are 55 piculs, against 847 piculs last year and 112 piculs at the same date in 1891.

Pierced Cocoons.—About 200 piculs have come in and appear to be of fair quality, but at present no transactions have taken place. Dealers talk of high prices.

Noshi.—A few piculs *Filature* at $151 and 136 piculs *Joshu*, mixed quality, ranging from $72 to $75, have changed hands. Better quality of good assortment should be here in a week or two.

Kibiso.—Nothing done. The stock consists of old fibre, mostly inferior quality.

In other sorts, nothing to remark.

QUOTATIONS —(NEW WASTE).

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best		—
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	$150 to	155
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good		—
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium		—
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best		—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best		—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good		—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium		—
Noshi-ito Bushu, Good to Best		—
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best		—
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good		—
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	70 to	75
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected		—
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds		—
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best		—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best		—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds		—
Kibiso—Joshu, Good to Fair		—
Kibiso—Joshu, Middling to Common		—
Kibiso—Hachoji, Good		—
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low		—
Kibiso—Nori, Good to Common		—
Mawata—Good to Best		—

Export Table Waste Silk to 21st July, 1893.

	Season 1892-93. Piculs.	1892-93. Piculs.	1891-92. Piculs.
Waste Silk	55	847	112
Pierced Cocoons	—	—	—
	55	847	112
Settlements and Direct Export from 1st July	piculs. 170	piculs. 300	piculs. 50
Stock, 21st July	3,700	4,200	3,150
Available supplies to date	3,870	4,500	3,200

Exchange has fluctuated somewhat, with Silver quotations in London, closing as follows:—London, 4m/s. Credits, 2/6⅞; Documents, 2/6⅞; 6m/s Credits, 2/7; New York, 30d/s. U.S. $62¼; 4m/s U.S. $63¼; Paris, or Lyons, 4m/s. frs. 3 23, 6m/s. frs. 3 25.

Estimated Silk Stock, 21st July, 1893:—

Raw.	Piculs.	Waste.	Piculs.
Hanks	70	Cocoons	208
Filatures	1,730	Noshi-ito	1,489
Re-reels	450	Kiriso	1,508
Kakeda	40	Mawata	108
Oshu	—	Sundries	387
Tavasan Kinds	10		
Total piculs	2,300	Total piculs	3,700

TEA.

The activity reported in our last has somewhat subsided, and during the past week demand has fallen off to a considerable extent. Supplies continue to arrive freely, and the stock now on offer is unusually large. In spite of this, however, holders keep prices up, not even giving way on the lower grades, which are poor quality and very dear at present quotations. Sales of the current season up to date exceed those of the same period last year by 1,100 piculs.

	per picul.
Common	$14 to 15
Good Common	16 to 17
Medium	18 to 19
Good Medium	20 to 21
Fine	22 to 23
Finest	24 to 26
Choice	27 to 28
Choicest	31 to 33

EXCHANGE.

Exchange has continued to fluctuate, and rates close as follow:—

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	2/5⅞
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	2/6⅜
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	2/6⅝
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	2/7
On Paris—Bank sight	—
On Paris—Private 4 months' sight	3 12
On Hongkong—Bank sight	3 23
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	⅛% prem
On Shanghai—Bank sight	⅛% dis
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	71⅞
On America—Bank Bills on demand	72⅛
On America—Private 30 days' sight	60⅝
On America—Private 4 months' sight	61½
On India—Bank sight	192¼
Silver	61½

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Visitors to Kowaki-dani who bring a rod with them will be shown the haunts of the speckled Trout, a nice stream of several miles in length being within easy walking distance of the Hotel; Hakone Lake is also well stocked with a variety of fish, including salmon, and the Fishing is FREE; while Entomologists will find rare and valuable specimens in the surrounding hills, and the Flora of the district is extremely interesting to the Botanist.

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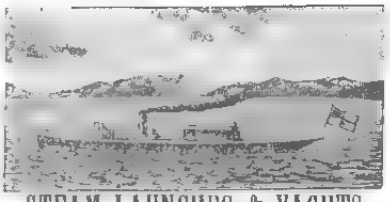

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JULY 29TH, 1893.

BIRTHS.

On 23rd inst., at No. 88, Bluff, Yokohama, the wife of B. HYDE PEARSON, of a Son.

On the 27th inst., at Dzushi, the wife of G. K. DINSDALE of a son.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

RINDERPEST has broken out at Ishiyama, Otsu.

THE Exchange Regulations were promulgated on the 21st inst.

THE *Kokkai* was released from suspension on the 23rd inst.

H.I.H. THE CROWN PRINCE left for his summer holiday at Numadzu on the 23rd inst.

MR. WATANABE, Minister for Finance, inspected the Yokohama Harbour Works on Monday.

DYSENTERY and small-pox are very severe in Nagasaki, Niigata, and Saga Prefectures.

Two deaths, from cholera are reported in Yokohama as occurring during the present week.

THE submarine cable between Goto and Nagasaki has been laid with satisfactory results.

THE compilation of the Budget for the 27th fiscal year was completed on the 22nd inst.

IN Saturday's sailing race for the "B" division *Petrel* won the first and *Sayonara* second prize.

MR. SONE ARASUKE, the new Japanese Minister to France, leaves for his post by the French mail on Sunday.

H.M. ships *Impericuse*, *Leander*, and *Severn* arrived here from the North this week, and proceeded South

MR. NAKAJIMA, Japanese Minister to Italy, is said to have obtained the Government's permission to return home for the benefit of his health, which has been much impaired since his arrival in that country.

COUNT INOUYE, Minister of Home Affairs, left for Hokkaido this week, attended by a numerous suite.

COUNT ITO and Count Saigo, by order of the Emperor, are inspecting the Admiralty Stations of the Empire.

THE Kwanset Railway Company has declared a dividend of 4 per cent. for the nine months ending June.

H.M.S *Severn* returned from the North on Wednesday and left at daylight next day, for Hongkong

H.I.H. THE EMPEROR was present at the graduation festival of the Non-commissioned Officers School on the 25th inst.

A JAPANESE woman was killed by lightning at Nogami, in the Fukaisu District of Hiroshima Prefecture, on the 19th inst.

A FIRE occurred at Shirakawa, Fukushima Prefecture, on the 15th inst, destroying twenty-one houses, and damaging three others.

MAJOR OCHIAI TOYOSABURO, of the Engineers, has been appointed military *attaché* to the Japanese Legation in Germany.

MR. KIBA TEICHO has been appointed Chief Commissioner of the Bureau for General School Affairs in the Educational Department.

OVER eighty representatives from all parts of the country attended the meeting of the Japan Sanitary Association at Nagoya on the 21st inst.

THE death is announced of Viscount Inaba Hisamichi, which took place on the 23rd inst. The deceased was in the fifty first year of his age.

THE Kobu Railway Company's application for the removal of the station at Kokubuji to Naito-shinjiku has been rejected by the Railway Authorities.

A MOST extraordinary fall of hail was experienced in the Tone District of Gumma Prefecture on the 18th inst. at 4 p.m. Much damage was done to the crops and plants.

THE Tokyo Gas Company declares a dividend at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum The Tokyo Bay Steamship Company's dividend for the half-year is 9 per cent.

A COMET has been visible at Iwakuni, Yamaguchi Prefecture, for some time past. It is visible in the heavens to the north-east until about nine o'clock in the evening.

A VIOLENT storm broke over Yokohama early on Wednesday morning and the temperature fell 20 degrees within a very short time. It is still very cool for the time of year.

DURING a violent thunderstorm on the 19th inst. a school building at Koma-mura, in the Taki District of Hyogo Prefecture, was struck and damaged by lightning. Ten pupils were injured.

ABOUT two o'clock on the morning of the 17th instant, an extensive forest fire broke out at Byobu-yama in Mie Prefecture. The flames raged for over four hours, and destroyed an area of about one square *ri*.

ON Wednesday evening Suzuki Hikosuke, a *betto* in the employ of Messrs. Cobb & Co., Yokohama, resenting a kick which an American citizen named Willett bestowed upon him for insolence, took up an axe and attempted to cut Willett down. Willett thereupon fired three shots at the man, wounding him in two places. The *betto* is now in hospital and Willett held to bail at the U.S. Consulate.

PUBLIC subscriptions are being collected in the capital to raise funds towards erecting in Uyeno Park a monument to commemorate the late Messrs. Miura and Nishiyama, who lost their lives while investigating the eruption of Azuma-yama.

A VERY rich vein of gold is said to have been discovered at Meiji-mura, in the Minami-amabe district of Otta Prefecture. The lode is said to extend from Kawanobori in Ono District to Tsukumi in Kita-amabe District.

DURING the late election disturbances in Koza District, Kanagawa Prefecture, a *Kaishin-to* supporter, named Niito Jutaro, was assaulted while leaving the residence of his comrade at Ebina-mura on the night of the 19th instant. His wounds are so severe that very little hope remains of his recovery. The patient is under medical treatment at Noge Hospital, Yokohama. Two *soshi* engaged in the same election were killed by lightning while partaking of *saké* in the open air.

THE sudden death is announced of Mr. Kato Katsu (22), eldest son of Mr. Kato Katsuya, M.P., now residing at Tamachi, Ushigome, Tokyo, which took place on the night of the 23rd instant. About seven o'clock the same evening the deceased left his residence to attend church, and as he did not return by nine, messages were sent to friends and relatives, but these failed to discover him. His body was finally found dead in the compound of the play-ground attached to the Military Preparatory School at Ichigaya. A *post-mortem* examination disclosed the fact that deceased died from congestion of the brain.

THE Import market shows little change, and the want of confidence continues. In Yarns, both single and double, there has been some movement, though the demand is of a somewhat intermittant character. Piece-goods have revived as to certain lines, White Shirtings and Turkey Reds being mostly in request, and silk-faced Satins and Velvets have found buyers. The Metal market is a blank, neither buyers nor sellers inclining to business. Only a few transactions are recorded in Kerosene, but prices remain firm for all descriptions. The active condition of the Sugar market for some time past is fully maintained, and Browns continue to sell briskly at full rates, unaffected by heavy arrivals Whites also are in good request at late rates, and the market closes very firm. There has been a little more life in the Silk business, though buying is far from general, but as during the next month the highest qualities may be expected to arrive and a large assortment placed on this market, holders look forward to a considerable increase in transactions. Prices have been somewhat irregular, and, as was noted last week, while Silks suitable for Europe were somewhat easier, those taken for America were hardening in value. But a small business has been done in Waste, and, though arrivals come in pretty freely, there is not yet a good assortment on offer. The Tea trade has fallen off very much, due to the paucity of buyers. There is a large stock on the market, and these conditions have induced a decided downward tendency in prices, assisted in some degree, doubtless, by the approach of the third picking. Exchange, which has not fluctuated greatly, is down a point on the week.

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THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The Soma affair continues to occupy the most prominent position in the columns of the vernacular press. The Tokyo Local Court, which at first refused to take up this matter, has since changed its mind and decided to open a criminal prosecution against Viscount Soma Jun-in and others concerned. To complicate the matter, the latter have just instituted a suit of false accusal on against Mr. Nishikori. The more we know about this affair, the greater is the mystery. The papers judiciously hesitate to pronounce their opinion on the question, but they at the same time refuse to think that there is nothing at all in the affair. The confession, alleged to have been written by one of the accomplices in the supposed crime, is too circumstantial to be discarded as a forgery. Further, although Mr. Nishikori, who has been before the public for the past ten years or more as the protector of the late Viscount Soma Masatane, may not be so disinterested and pure-hearted as some credulous people seem to regard him, he is certainly intelligent and sensible enough to know the fearful consequences of preferring the serious charge of murder by poison without making himself sure of the fact. These considerations, together with the circumstance that, apart from Mr. Nishikori's allegations, more or less suspicion has always lurked in the public mind about the manner of the late Viscount Soma's death, have led the Tokyo papers to attach to this question more importance than it really deserves. But in justice to them, it must be noted that, with the exception of the *Jiyu Shimbun*, and perhaps one or two others, they have shown, upon the whole, admirable moderation and sense of responsibility, taking care not to prefer serious charges of corruption against men occupying honourable positions in society. In this respect, the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, the *Fiji Shimpo*, the *Mainichi Shimbun*, and a few others, are most worthy of commendation. The *Fiji* has not alluded to the affair, except in the most indifferent and casual manner, but in a short editorial note it has urged upon the legal authorities the advisability of taking up the prosecution and so effectively dispel all the doubts and suspicions that are entertained about the matter. The *Nichi Nichi* has, on the contrary, devoted much space to this topic, but it has endeavoured to collect reliable facts procurable from all sorts of persons connected with the lamentable affair. In a leading article, it severely criticises the conduct of those journalists, who, in utter disregard of all sense of justice and responsibility, do not hesitate to throw injurious imputations upon men of honour and position on the strength of the most incredible and unreliable rumours and reports. The *Mainichi* writes in a similar strain, and comments on the gravity of the responsibility which a newspaper incurs when it publishes anything injurious to the honourable name of a respectable member of the community, it being impossible in most cases to completely efface the evil effects of the report, even when its baselessness has been most satisfactorily proved.

* * *

The *Jiyu Shimbun*, which has freely opened its columns for the use of Nishikori and his partisans, professes to have no fixed conviction either for or against the suit brought by him. In other words the Radical organ claims to be perfectly impartial about this affair. But in the very next line, it declares that "its object has been to bring to trial criminals who have hitherto escaped justice," and that in this object its efforts have been entirely successful; that is to say, our contemporary had made up its mind from the first that the serious criminal charge to which it gave publicity in its columns is founded on facts. The equivocal manner in which the *Jiyu* is now writing shows that it is beginning to repent of the fearful responsibility which it has heedlessly taken upon itself.

* * *

It is stated that the former vassals of the Soma clan are indignant with Nishikori for having brought disgrace upon the family of their former lord, and that some of them have sent him challenges to duel. The metropolitan papers recommend the police authorities to effectually protect the person of Nishikori, for his removal at the present moment will most seriously affect the elucidation of facts, whatever those facts may be. The adherents of the Soma family are also warned against committing any rash act in the excess of their anger, for any attempt on the life of Nishikori is sure to prejudice the public against them, whatever may be the motive of their action.

* * *

It is believed that the Administrative Reforms Investigation Committee has completed its labours, and that things are nearly ready for the carrying out of the contemplated reforms. The results of the above mentioned Committee's deliberations have not yet been made public. But the *Fiji Shimpo* thinks that the Representatives of the people will have to admit that the reforms about to be carried out are satisfactory. Will there be then no more friction between the Government and the Opposition? Our contemporary cannot answer this question in the affirmative, because what they want at heart are not reforms but the reins of Government. They are impatient to get into office, but they know that as yet they are not in a position to undertake the administration of State affairs. They, consequently, pretend that their object is simply to secure the reform of the Government, and they have made it the principal weapon of attack upon those in power. The removal of these weapons will only make them the more unscrupulous in their methods. The *Fiji*, therefore, advises those in power to take measures to apply a remedy to the part which is ready affected. In other words, the Cabinet is recommended to give official positions to the politicians of the Opposition.

* * *

The disposal of the surplus of more than 10 million *yen* now lying in the Treasury and of the surplus which is to be caused annually by the reforms which are about to be carried out, will be one of the most important questions for discussion in the coming session of the Diet. The *Choya Shimbun* believes that the Radicals, the Progressionists, and other sections of the Opposition will demand the employment of the surplus for the re assessment of the taxable value of land and the reduction of the land tax. If the Ministry tries to adopt the Opposition programme on this subject, there will be, in the *Choya's* opinion, a split in its members leading to the retirement of one or two Ministers. If, on the other hand, the Cabinet intends to employ the surplus for any other purpose, it must be prepared to meet with the most determined resistance of the Opposition. This question, our contemporary thus thinks, is the most dangerous rock lying in the path of the present Ministry. Some persons believe that the Cabinet will pursue some middle course, avoiding collision with either the Opposition or the strong elements among its own members. But the *Choya* thinks that no such middle course is possible, and advises the Government to choose between the two lines of action above mapped out. As to our contemporary, it is in favour of the utilization of the surplus for any purpose but those desired by the Opposition.

* * *

The departure of the Minister for Home Affairs for Hokkaido has turned journalistic attention to the northern island. It is expected that, as the result of his personal observations, the Cabinet will lay before the Diet at its next session a scheme for the speedy development of Hokkaido. The *Yomiuri Shimbun* approves the propriety of Count Inouye's tour, but warns him that, if he carries back from the north the fatal idea of giving protection and aid to private individuals, his plan, however excellent in other respects, will never receive the consent of the Diet.

* * *

The *Mainichi Shimbun* advises politicians and men of business to utilize the hot season for paying a visit to Hokkaido. The most superficial observers cannot help being struck with the immensity of the resources that remain undeveloped in that island. The time, in our contemporary's opinion, has arrived for the opening of those resources, for there are now practically inexhaustible sums of money seeking some profitable investment. Hokkaido offers a most promising field for the employment of the capital now lying idle. People hesitate to invest their money in Hokkaido because they do not know anything about it. So the *Mainichi* advises them to go north and see things for themselves.

* * *

The *Fiji Shimpo* thinks that speculation in stocks has already reached a dangerous stage, and requests the leading business men of the capital to use their influence to check, if possible, the evil tendency before it assumes fatal dimensions. That stocks of all sorts should rise at a time like the present, when money is lying idle, is quite natural, but our contemporary regrets to notice that the present rise in stocks is abnormal and dangerous. In their eagerness to make money, men of limited means, says the *Fiji*, are buying shares in companies, the financial positions of which are well known to be anything but sound. If the mania is allowed to go on unchecked, our contemporary fears that a panic like that experienced in 1889-1890 will be inevitable.

* * *

The *Mainichi Shimbun*, writing on the Hawaiian question, remarks that the Hawaiians ought to be grateful to the Japanese residents. For it was the latter that have thus far prevented and will in future no doubt prevent Hawaii from being annexed to the United States. Had there not been Japanese labourers on the sugar plantations, the *Mainichi* thinks that Spreckles and other influential sugar men would not have so strongly opposed annexation. Our contemporary then goes on to exhort the Japanese in Hawaii to save money and cultivate their minds, so that they may be able to obtain commanding positions in that country to which they are entitled by their numerical strength, if not by anything else.

* * *

The *Fiji Shimpo* gives some wholesome advice to Japanese students. Our contemporary alludes to the fact that American students are earning money by pushing chairs at the World's Columbian Exposition. Many Japanese, says the *Fiji*, would be disposed to regard these students with contempt, for they have a notion that manual labour is degrading. But the Tokyo paper highly admires the conduct of these American students, who are independent enough to earn their fees by honest work. The Japanese students are told to imitate the noble conduct of their *confrères* beyond the sea. The students, however, are not alone to blame, for the public in general is inclined to look down with hearty contempt upon manual labour of all kinds. Every work is noble, and the public is recommended not to set an artificial value upon men by the nature of the work in which they are employed.

* * *

The proceedings in the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce on the subject of the adoption of the Japanese silver *yen* as legal tender, have been viewed by the Japanese press with genuine satisfaction. The Tokyo papers appreciate the compliments which the members of that important assembly of British men of business paid to the Japanese coins and Mint. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* advises the Japanese Government to undertake the task of coinage, if the English Government sees fit to adopt the recommendation of the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce. Our contemporary alludes to a fact brought out in the recent discussions in the above named Chamber, namely, the possibility of China's commencing the work of coinage, in which case the Japanese silver *yen* will be in danger of being crowded out of Chinese ports, and possibly also out of Hongkong. The *Nichi Nichi* does not think that the circulation of Japanese coins in the Eastern ports is a thing which should be secured at all cost and trouble. But it believes that the confidence which a country's coins enjoy outside its boundaries is no small advantage to it. For this reason, our contemporary would recommend the Government to utilize every opportunity to extend the sphere of the circulation of the Imperial pieces.

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EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE SOMA AFFAIR.

It is still unknown what action the Tokyo Court of Appeal will take in the Sôma affair. Meanwhile, our readers may be interested in learning what the sober representatives of journalism and the officials accused of perfunctoriness have to say about the matter. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, which, doubtless with justice, claims to be entirely neutral, has instituted inquiries in official circles concerning the allegations contained in the anonymous confession. Mr. Awaya, one of the Public Procurators of the Tokyo Local Court, is represented to have stated that he and his colleagues decided not to act upon the information filed by Nishikori, because the latter's statements were entirely unsupported by evidence, and moreover because the subject had previously engaged the attention of the law officers when no proof whatever had been adduced in support of the charge of murder by poison. As to the anonymous confession now published, Mr. Awaya explained that the Court could not accept such a document, because it did not set forth either the name or address of its writer, and because it contained internal evidence showing that the man was not sincere and consistent in his statements. The police authorities were also interviewed by the representative of the *Nichi Nichi*, and the following facts were elicited from them: The cause of Viscount Soma Masatane's death having been duly certified by attending physicians, it was not incumbent upon the police authorities to make any inspection of the body. Nevertheless, in view of various rumours then current and also in consideration of an application for examination, an inspection was performed by Dr. Yamane, Chief of the Medical Bureau in the Metropolitan Board of Police, assisted by the Chief of the Police Office of Kôjimachi Ku, a Sergeant of Police, and a police physician named Kubo Etsuzo. These officials found nothing suspicious about the body, except that a quantity of blood had flowed from the nose. The family retainers present at the inspection alleged that it was not blood, but red wine, which the deceased had drunk in large quantities just before expiring. The officers were not satisfied with this explanation, and put about half a teacup full of the suspicious fluid into a flask which they had brought with them. On analysis, it was discovered to be blood, not wine. About one half of the blood was sent to the Imperial University, while the remaining part is still kept at the Medical Bureau. It is not said whether the blood on analysis was found to contain any trace of poison, but it is stated that, the quantity now preserved being very small there would be much difficulty in detecting the presence of poison, even though poison had been administered to the deceased. The Police Authorities further told the *Nichi Nichi's* representative that the Metropolitan Board of Police did not take at that time any further action, because there was no proof of murder by poison, and that under the circumstances the dissection of the corpse could not be performed by the Police Authorities, because the relatives of the deceased had not asked for it. Though there could be little hope of much light being thrown upon the matter by analysis of the remaining quantity of blood, the Police Authorities were of opinion that, if mineral poison was used, it would not be difficult to discover traces of it by exhuming and examining the body now interred in Aoyama Cemetery.

* * *

The *Choya Shimbun's* representative waited upon one of the alleged accomplices in the crime at the Soma mansion, on the 21st instant. As he entered the waiting room, he heard across the yard the sound of men playing the game of *go*. He was received by a man of an uncommonly large build, about forty-five or forty-six years of age, slightly bald, dark in complexion, with penetrating eyes. This man was Aota Tsunazo, one of the assistant stewards of the Soma family. Asked about the serious charge brought against him and others, Mr. Aota smiled and quietly but with emphasis denied the accusations *in toto*. He told his interviewer that, there being hundreds of hereditary retainers at least as faithful to the house of Sôma as Nishikori claims to be, the latter's clamours for revenge and justice would be swelled by a chorus of supporters had the alleged crime been really committed. As to the vomiting of blood by Sôma Masatane, Mr. Aota admitted that blood had come out of his mouth when his body was moved after death, but denied that any had been vomited by him before expiring. With regard to the nature of the disease, Mr. Aoata produced a death certificate drawn up by Drs. Nakai and Sakaki, in which it was stated that the deceased had been suffering for 15 years from chronic brain trouble and kidney complaint and that the immediate cause of death was paralysis of the heart. In reply to a question as to the whereabouts of the mistress of the deceased, Mr. Aota said that she was still living in the house and that she had been much astonished to learn that she had been introduced to the public in the character of a witness supporting Nishikori's statements. Referring to the report published in the *Hochi Shimbun* that Okada Yasutane, uncle of the late Soma Masatane, was the writer of the now celebrated confession, Mr. Aota declared that the report was entirely groundless and that Mr. Okada was indignant at the falsehood. Mr. Aota, then, alluded to the charge brought against himself and others that they had practised wholesale corruption, and observed that the majority of the persons said to have received bribes were entirely unknown to himself and to the others implicated, and that, however debased the officials of the present day might be, he could not believe that so many were purchasable by money. Mr. Aota is stated to be a man of eloquence and ability, quite different from ordinary standards in a nobleman's household.

* * *

Not the least strange incident connected with this strange affair is the action of the *Jiyu Shimbun*. That newspaper, as we stated in a previous issue, has received notice of a suit instituted against it on a charge of *Kwauri bujyoku*, contumelious behaviour towards officials. We are not sure whether the gravamen of the *Jiyu's* offence lies in its original action with regard to the anonymous confession, or in its subsequent procedure with regard to a contradiction addressed to it by the Soma family. It made itself conspicuous at the outset not only by publishing the anonymous confession in full, but also by appending comments that amounted to declaration of belief in the terrible accusations formulated by the confession's author and by some strong allusions to the morality of officialdom. That was sufficiently injudicious. The confession was anonymous. It contained matter in the highest degree incredible. The main accusation embodied in it had already been the subject of a judicial inquiry and had been dismissed as unfounded. Yet the *Jiyu Shimbun* was content to accept as conclusive and to endorse as true this anonymous collection of marvellous assertions. There followed immediately an explicit denial from the Soma family. They addressed to the newspaper a brief but emphatic statement that the whole story was "*makon no setsu*," a baseless tale. The *Jiyu* had no choice but to give publicity to the denial; the law imposes that obligation. It accompanied the publication, however, with an explanation amounting virtually to this, that, while necessarily inserting the contradiction, it did not withdraw its own comments or abandon its belief in the truth of the confession. Thereafter the action spoken of above was instituted in the law Courts. Unless the *Jiyu Shimbun* has some knowledge entirely beyond the facts thus far laid before the public, its procedure must be described as an extraordinarily reckless piece of journalism.

* * *

Meanwhile, a new reason for doubting the so-called confession is that Mr. Tanaka Shozo has connected himself with the business. Repeated experiences have taught the public to conclude that Mr. Tanaka Shozo's association with any affair at once drags it down to the level of burlesque. So far as foreigners are concerned, it was enough to be invited to credit the wild absurdity that Dr. Baelz had accepted a sum of five thousand *yen* in return for concealing the facts of a foul assassination. So far as the Japanese are concerned, it will doubtless suffice to know that, should the law officers fail in their duty, Mr. Tanaka Shozo will bring this business before the Diet.

* * *

Mr. Aota, one of the assistant stewards of the Soma family, continues to be interviewed by representatives of various newspapers. Omitting the points touched upon in the interview previously referred to in these columns, we shall briefly allude to the more important features of his statements to later interviewers. Concerning the date on which Soma Masatane was to appear in Court, Mr. Aota observes that the summons was served on the 20th of February, 1892, the date assigned for the deceased nobleman's attendance being, not the 22nd of the same month, as alleged, but the 3rd of the next month. As to the grave, he denies that it was dug to a depth of 35 feet. The actual depth was 13 feet, the custom of the Soma family having always been to bury their dead at that depth in a coffin with double covers. The bottom of the grave was paved with bricks, and it was lined on all sides with slabs of stone.

* * *

Dr. Nakai Tsunejiro, principal physician in charge of the late Viscount Soma, admits the latter vomited blood and that his body presented a purple colour, but explains that such occurrences are not uncommon or unnatural in cases of death from paralysis of the heart.

* * *

Mr. Okano Kan, counsel for Nishikori, has also been interviewed. He insists that the date for the appearance of the late Viscount Soma in Court was the 22nd of February, 1892. The summons stated that if he should be unable to attend court on that date, the proceedings would be held at his own house. As to witnesses, it was stated by Mr. Okano that, besides Shimonome Shige, the mistress of the late Viscount, there are two others, namely Shimazu Katsujiro, a police constable, and his wife. The couple had been on good terms with the mother of Shige, and had access to the Soma mansion in the capacity of messengers to the latter from her parents. It is stated that they know the facts of the case very well and are ready to give evidence. Referring to the writer of the anonymous confession, Mr. Okano believes that the document was drawn up by Mr. Okada Yasutana, uncle of the late Viscount Soma. Mr. Okada, it is said, had been adopted into the family of the chief Senescal of the Soma clan. Being a simple-minded man, he was easily, according to Mr. Okano's version, drawn into the crime by the artful conspirators. But discovering that he had been duped, he was deeply chagrined and made the celebrated confession. On the other hand, as already noticed, Mr. Okada himself has denied this allegation.

* * *

In addition to the charge of alleged murder by poison, Nishikori has instituted a suit against his opponents for preferring a false and malicious accusation of forgery against him. The reference is to his prosecution some years ago on the ground of having forged a letter of attorney in the name of the late Viscount Soma Masatane. In consequence of this prosecution, Nishikori was put into jail, not being released until the charge fell to the ground. At that time he brought a criminal suit for false and malicious accusation, but nothing—so the story runs—came out of it, the case never having been pushed to trial.

* * *

Denials of the charges made in the anonymous confession are pouring into the office of the *Jiyu Shimbun*, in whose columns the document was first published. Our contemporary inserts the denials according to the Newspaper Regulations, but positively refuses to withdraw the allegations it has given publicity to after due consideration. Never was a newspaper in

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a more embarrassing, or apparently less justifiable, position.

* * *

It is announced that the Chief Public Procurator of the Tokyo Court of Appeal has finally given instructions to the Public Procurators of the Tokyo Local Court to institute a prosecution with reference to the Soma affair. Preparatory to instituting the case, the Public Procurators of the Tokyo Local Court summoned Nishigori and questioned him on various points connected with the affair. It is stated in the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* that the police authorities have made every preparation for setting the detective force in motion on the first receipt of notice from the proper Court of Law. As to the suit for libel brought by Viscount Kagawa against the *Jiyu Shimbun*, which was to have been heard on the 25th instant, it has been postponed at the request of the accused's counsel. It is believed that this case will not be tried pending the prosecution for murder by poison

* * *

Various rumours are circulated about this affair, but, as the Court has decided to take it up we do not feel justified in referring to them.

* * *

Viscount Soma Junin and others, against whom a charge of murder by poison has been brought by Mr. Nishikori, have lodged in the Tokyo Local Court a counter-suit against the latter for false accusation. They have been able to secure the services of no less a barrister than Mr. Hoshi Toru, President of the House of Representatives, who will be assisted by Mr. Saito Jiro. It is a singular coincidence that, while the Radical organ is bringing itself into awkward scrapes by too thoughtless and enthusiastic espousal of the cause of Nishikori, one of the most distinguished leaders of the same party should consent to place his services at the command of the other side. But there is, of course, nothing unnatural in this, as the matter in question lies entirely outside politics.

THE PROJECT OF A STEEL FOUNDRY.

It is reported in the Japanese papers that Mr. Amenomiya Keijiro, of Tokyo, projects the establishment of a steel foundry. The details are not published, but it is stated that the undertaking is to be on a large scale. A representative of the *Kokumin Shimbun* recently waited upon the enterprising projector and asked for his version of the programme. Mr. Amenomiya dwelt much on the importance of a steel foundry for Japan, from economic, industrial, and strategic points of view, and regretted that the matter did not receive the attention of either the Government or the Diet during the latter's fourth session. He admitted his inability to undertake the task alone, and the necessity of obtaining suitable cōoperators. His idea is to ask for a guarantee of 5 per cent. annual interest by the State. The personality of the projectors thus becomes a question of the most vital importance to the success of the scheme, for unless they are acceptable to all parties and factions, it will be extremely difficult to obtain the approval of the Diet. Thus far he has not been able to secure any cōoperator satisfying this difficult standard of qualifications, with the exception of Mr. Takashima Kayemon, President of the Hokkaido Mining Railway Company, and Mr. Kanehara Akiyoshi, a well known millionaire of Enshu. The capital of the company will be not less than 20 million *yen*, an amount which Mr. Amenomiya thinks it very easy to raise in the present state of the money-market. In proportion as the scheme progresses, Mr. Amenomiya intends to approach the different small steel foundries throughout the country with the view of negotiating their amalgamation into the works contemplated by him.

DEATH OF AN OLD HONGKONG RESIDENT.

Death has suddenly removed one more familiar figure from amongst us, says a Hongkong contemporary of the 19th ult. Mr. William Legge died at an early hour this morning, after but a few hours' illness. He complained slightly on Monday, although he went around to see his constituents as usual, but yesterday he did not come to town. Failure of the heart apparently was the cause of death, and he passed away quietly and without pain. Mr. Legge came out here to join Messrs. Smith, Archer and Co., late in the Sixties, and subsequently he was in the employ of Messrs. Russell & Co for several years. He afterwards became a broker, first in the firm of Hughes & Legge, and next on his own account. Mr. Legge has taken an active part in Scottish celebrations, in many forms of sport, and in nearly every public movement in Hongkong for many years. His death will be regretted by many, and general sympathy will be extended to his widow. The funeral took place this afternoon and was largely attended. St. Andrew's Society, of which Mr. Legge was an old and much respected member, was fittingly represented.

THE SUSPENSION OF THE "KOKKAI."

The *Kokkai* has been suspended, the contents of its issue of the 18th instant being deemed injurious to public peace and tranquility. The offensive matter is doubtless to be sought in a leading article on Mr. Oishi's resignation and in an editorial note on the same subject, especially the latter. The *Kokkai* was always favourable to Mr. Oishi, but its zeal has perceptibly increased since its editorial control passed into the hands of Mr. Suyehiro, an intimate friend of the former Minister to Korea. Mr. Suyehiro, like Mr. Oishi, has written much on the now popular Eastern Question. He poses as the advocate of an almost aggressive policy in Korea. Mr. Oishi's resignation has afforded to the well known journalist a good opportunity to ventilate his disatisfaction with the so-called conciliatory and knock-kneed policy of the Government. In the editorial note above alluded to, the *Kokkai* states that before Mr. Oishi's arrived in Tokyo, many of the Ministers were of opinion that he should be not only dismissed but also deprived of official rank; that their attitude changed when the public gave a splendid welcome to the returning Minister; that his speech, lasting over six hours, before the Ministers of State in full conclave in the Premier's official residence, contributed still more to change their attitude toward him; that on his subsequent presentation of a memorandum on Korean policy, the Cabinet divided into three sections, some endorsing the strong policy urged by him; others, while not particularly in favour of such a policy, still advocating the adoption of some of the measures recommended by him; and finally a third section, who, merely from motives of political expediency, were reluctant to cause him to resign; that although the Cabinet thus decided to send him once more to Korea, he tendered his resignation on the 25th ultimo, seeing that there was no prospect of his policy being adopted in its entirety; that the Ministry, fearing lest his resignation should provoke strong public opposition, tried every means to make him reconsider his resolve; that in order to allay the fears of the Ministers, he assured them that he would not foment any agitation against the Government, his intention being to go abroad at once; that a certain Privy Councillor, taking alarm, reminded the Ministers of the danger of permitting him to leave the Government, as he would certainly get up a powerful agitation against them; that the Ministers were again in excitement and were inclined to prevail upon Mr. Oishi to withdraw his resignation; and that Mr. Oishi again assured them of his peaceful intentions, so that they finally consented to let him resign. The effect of this note is certainly to represent the Cabinet in a very pitiable light, and moreover our contemporary incidentally publishes certain official secrets relating to the Korean policy recommended by Mr. Oishi. These things, together with the sarcastic tone of the leading article, doubtless induced the authorities to order the suspension of the paper.

* * *

Concerning Mr. Oishi, it is a noteworthy circumstance that popular enthusiasm in his favour has cooled perceptibly. It was generally believed, and he apparently encouraged the belief, that he did not return to Japan for the purpose of resigning. His friends asserted that he had a definite policy for Korea, and that, if his policy were adopted by the Government, he would proceed to Sōul once more. But gradually it has become clear that he left Sōul with no intention of going back there, at any rate as Japan's Representative. Even by the *Kokkai's* own showing, the Cabinet is not disinclined to endorse his views on essential points. But all the same time he has been praying hard to be relieved of his functions. In proportion as these facts gradually became known, even his admirers, who had been loud in his praise, began to suspect that his conduct while at Sōul had really been such as to render his prolonged stay there inexpedient, if not intolerant. But he has still some friends who, like the editor of the *Kokkai*, are resolved to stick to him through thick and thin. We wish that the Government could have allowed Mr. Suyehiro to talk without police interruption. Surely his remarks were extravagant enough to supply their own antidote.

BURIED ALIVE.

Here is a horrible story taken from an American exchange:—

One year ago Charles Bower of Morrison was married. Nine months later he was a widower. He became crazed with grief eventually, and his affliction produced dementia which was pronounced incurable. He raved continually about his wife and entertained the idea that she had been foully dealt with.

So strongly did he believe in this that his friends decided to disinter her body. They did so yesterday, and the body was found face downward, and all evidence which goes to show that the woman had been buried alive was plainly evident. The glass in the lid of the coffin was broken to atoms. The shroud enveloping the form was torn to shreds, the limbs were twisted and distorted, the hair matted, and in her hand she clenched a bunch of it.

Those who were engaged in disinterring the body fell back entirely overcome. The most composed man in the party was the demented husband. He assumed an air of complacency and assisted in the work of rearranging the body.

He has shown no signs of mental aberration since, and from all appearances his mental powers have been restored.

THE MEIJI JO GAKKO (GIRL'S SCHOOL).

The Meiji Jo-Gakko of Tokyo celebrated its sixth annual graduation ceremony on the 19th instant. The exercises began a little before eight in the evening. The large hall was packed to overflowing with students and guests, ladies forming a preponderating element of the latter. After a chorus of welcome by the students, prayer by Mr. Iwamoto Zenji, Principal of the School, reading of a psalm by one of the teachers, and another chorus *On Graduation*, by the students, the serious part of the programme commenced with a composition in Japanese by Miss Kamiya Kuwa, one of the graduates in the Ordinary Course. Miss Kamiya being unable to attend on account of sickness, the reading was entrusted to Miss Fukuda Tori, another graduate in the Ordinary Course. The young authoress returned thanks for kindness and sympathy she had received from the members of the school faculty, and then went on to allude to the difficulties and hardships which she looked to encounter in the world she was about enter. After a duet played on the organ by Misses Takenouchi Ume and Tagawa Kō, both graduates, Miss Mishioka Tō, a graduate in the Higher Course, read an essay on the part to be played by women in the world. She based her thesis upon the common duty of humanity, and then proceeded to insist that each unit of society possesses a special mission; that men and women have different rôles to play, and that a woman's highest functions are those of wife and mother, her duties in which capacities Miss Nishioka expounded at some length. A song of farewell to the graduates was then sung by the students of the higher classes, after which Miss Sato Suke, as representative of all the students of the school, read an address congratulating the graduates upon the happy occasion. Then followed a song by some of the students; a valedictory address by Miss Tomita Yaye, a graduate in the

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	24—Kt takes P ch.
25—Kt to Kt 2	25—Kt to Kt 5
26—B takes Kt P !	26—P takes B
27—Q R to K R sq.	27—K to Q 2
28—Q R to R 7 ch.	28—K to B 3
29—R to Kt 7	29—P to R 4
30—R takes P	30—P to R 5
31—Q R to Kt 8 !	31—K to B 2

. . . . . 32. . . . P to R 6 ch., and then if 32—K to Kt 3, 33 . . . . K to B 2 would have been much better. White could not win by 33—R takes B ch., etc., as the Knight would be able to reach K 3 in time to stop the Pawn. The inversion of moves, or deferring of the check until after White's 33—P to Q B 3, makes the difference between a possible draw and a lost game. White's K to R sq., in answer to . . . P to R 6 ch., would not help if the Knight could play to K 3, which of course it could not do after P to Q B 3. It seems as if White should have played this move instead of 31—R to Kt 8. As it is, however, the game is over. Black can do nothing to stop the winning advance of Knight's Pawn.

32—P to Q B 3	32—Kt to Q 6 ch.
33—K to R sq. !	33—Kt takes K P
34—P to K B 4	34—Kt to B 3
35—P to Kt 6	35—Kt to K 2
36—R to Kt 7	36—Resigns.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, July 20.

The French Government has delivered an ultimatum to Siam, and has demanded an indemnity of three millions besides payments of certain sums to private persons. Unless this demand be complied with, France threatens to blockade Bangkok, but if Siam accepts the proposed terms, France will occupy a fort or a good anchorage as a pledge of Siam's good faith.

London, July 23rd.

France, being bent upon a policy of aggrandisement, has despatched a foreign legion, which has left Oran for Siam. Sir Edward Grey, under Secretary for Foreign Affairs, has confirmed the news of the ultimatum, which was presented on Thursday evening. He says that, besides the indemnity, France requires the recognition by Siam of the right of Annam and Cambodia to the left bank of the Meikong. She also demands the evacuation by the Siamese of the forts there within a month.

London, July 25.

The financial clauses of the Home Rule Bill have passed the Committee.

London, July 27.

The French will occupy islands in the Gulf of Siam, and have hoisted their flag on Kongsamlen to serve as a basis of operations.

Later.

All the clauses of the Home Rule Bill have been passed, and the report is fixed for the 7th August.

[SPECIALLY TELEGRAPHED TO THE "JAPAN DAILY MAIL."] (FROM THE "N.-C. DAILY NEWS.")

London, July 19.

Sir Edward Grey, Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs, in reply to a question in the House of Commons, said that Her Majesty's Government had taken every measure of precaution for the protection of British interests at Bangkok, and that more ships were ready in case of emergency. While the autonomy of Siam was of the greatest importance to India, France had declared herself no less anxious to preserve the integrity of that country.

July 20.

At the Court-martial arising out of the collision between the *Victoria* and *Camperdown*, it was stated that Admiral Tryon refused to change his orders while the collision was impending, and only after repeated urging did the Admiral consent to the order being issued "engines full-speed astern," but when it was too late. Other witnesses confirmed this statement, adding that Admiral Tryon, after the collision, admitted that it was entirely his fault.

"SPECIAL" TELEGRAM TO "JAPAN MAIL."

Nagasaki, July 24.

A collision occurred in Hongkong Harbour on the 20th inst. by which the steamer *Amigo* was sunk.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IN DUE

From Shanghai, Nagasaki and Kobe	per N. Y. K.	Friday, Aug. 4th
From America .	per O. & O. Co	Sunday July 30th *
From Canada, &c	per C. P. M. Co	Monday, July 31st †
From Hongkong.	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, July 30th ‡
From America ..	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Aug. 8th §
From Europe viâ Hongkong	per M. M. Co	Friday, Aug. 4th ‖
From Hongkong.	per P. M. Co.	Thursday, Aug 3rd ¶
From Hongkong	per C. P. M Co.	Thursday, Aug 3rd **
From Europe viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Wed'day, Aug. 9th

* *Belgic* left San Francisco on July 13th. † *Empress of China* left Vancouver on July 17th. ‡ *Perim* left Nagasaki on July 26th. § *Peru* left San Francisco on July 22nd. ‖ *Yarra* left Hongkong on July 29th. ¶ *City of Peking* left Hongkong on July 27th. ** *Empress of Japan* (with French mail) left Hongkong on July 26th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For America	per O. & O. Co.	Saturday, July 29th.
For Victoria and Tacoma	per N. P. Co.	Saturday, July 29th
For Europe, viâ Shanghai	per M. M. Co	Sunday, July 30th
For Hongkong .	per C. P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Aug 1st.
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki ..	per N. Y. K. .	Tuesday, Aug 1st.
For Canada, &c	per C. P. M. Co	Friday, Aug. 4th
For America	per P. M. Co.	Saturday, Aug 5th.
For Hongkong ..	per P. & O. Co	Saturday, Aug. 5th
For Europe viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, Aug. 11th

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Anaconda, American schooner, 40, A. Lawson, 22nd July,—Hakodate 7th July, 131 Seals.—Captain.

Harima Maru, Japanese steamer, 436, Kawamuro, 22nd July,—Yokkaichi 21st July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Akashi Maru, Japanese steamer, 856, Trennt, 23rd July,—Nagasaki, Coal.—Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,053, Thompson, 23rd July,—Kobe 22nd June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,369, J. Giese, 23rd July,—Hachinohe 21st July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, M. Fukui, 23rd July,—Yokkaichi 22nd July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, R. Tipple, 23rd July,—Otaru viâ ports 19th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kanazawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 895, Nakai, 24th July,—Otaru, Coal.—S. Asano & Co.

Kumamoto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,240, Olsen, 24th July,—Honjo 21st July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Benalder, British steamer, 1,294, C. K. McIntosh, 24th July,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—Cornes & Co.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,219, Wilson, 24th July,—Shimonoseki 22nd July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 704, Tamura, 24th July,—Yokkaichi 23rd July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Priok, German steamer, 1,635, Madsen, 25th July,—Hamburg viâ ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, Y. Arai, 25th July,—Handa 24th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Harima Maru, Japanese steamer, 436, Kawamuro, 26th July,—Yokkaichi 25th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Pender, 26th July,—Otaru viâ ports 22nd July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Severn (12), cruiser, Captain R. F. Henderson, 26th July,—Hakodate.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, Nirei, 26th July,—Kobe 25th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, M. Fukui, 26th July,—Yokkaichi 25th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Bankoku Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,475, Okuma, 27th July,—Otaru, Coal.—S. Asano & Co.

Riversdale, British steamer, 1,311, Peck, 27th July,—Hakodate 25th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,695, W. G. Pearne, 27th July,—Hongkong viâ ports 20th July, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 684, M. Matsumoto, 27th July,—Kobe 26th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Leander (10), cruiser, Captain Castle, 28th July,—Hakodate.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, Conner, 28th July,—Shanghai and ports 22nd July, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Achilles, British steamer, 1,470, Bartlett, 28th July,—Liverpool viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Alert (4), U.S. corvette, Lieut.-Commander Book, 28th July, Kobe 27th July.

Caroline (14), cruiser, Captain C. J. Norcock, 28th July,—Hakodate.

Harima Maru, Japanese steamer, 436, Kawamuro, 28th July,—Yokkaichi 27th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Imperieuse (10), flagship, Captain J. M. McQuiae, 28th July,—Hakodate.

Oweense, British ship, 2,334, Birchell, 28th July,—Kobe, Tea.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Spondilus, British steamer 4,150, Hocken, 29th July,—Havre viâ ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

DEPARTURES.

Riversdale, British steamer, 1,311, Peck, 22nd July,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, T. Sakai, 22nd July,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, Nirei, 22nd July,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 934, Y. Arai, 22nd July,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tsukushi Maru, Japanese steamer, 636, J. Will, 22nd July,—Nagasaki, Ballast.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Ancona, British steamer, 1,880, W. D. Mudie, 23rd July,—Hongkong and Kobe viâ Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Harima Maru, Japanese steamer, 436, Kawamuro, 23rd July,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 684, M. Matsumoto, 23rd July,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, M. Fukui, 24th July,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, R. Tipple, 25th July,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Akashi Maru, Japanese steamer, 856, Trennt, 25th July,—Nagasaki, Ballast.—Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

Glengyle, British steamer, 2,244, Gasson, 25th July,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,358, Burdis, 25th July,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,053, Thompson, 25th July,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, Y. Arai, 25th July,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 704, Tamura, 25th July,—Hachinohe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Benalder, British steamer, 1,294, C. K. McIntosh, 25th July,—London viâ ports, General.—Cornes & Co.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,219, Wilson, 26th July,—Shimonoseki, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Harima Maru, Japanese steamer, 436, Kawamuro, 26th July,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kumamoto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,240, Olsen, 26th July,—Honjo, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,369, J. Giese, 26th July,—Fushiro, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Angers, British steamer, 2,076, Pinkham, 27th July,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—Smith, Baker & Co.

Severn (12), cruiser, Captain R. F. Henderson, 27th July,—Nagasaki.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, J. Nirei, 27th July,—Otaru, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, M. Fukui, 27th July,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Bankoku Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,475, Okuma, 28th July,—Otaru, Ballast.—S. Asano & Co.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Pender, 28th July,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Riversdale, British steamer, 1,311, Peck, 28th July,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

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Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. M. Young, 28th July,—Otaru viâ ports, General. Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, from Kobe viâ Shiotsu:—4 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Mitke Maru*, from Kobe:—1 passenger in cabin, 60 passengers in steerage.

Per German steamer *Prink*, from Hamburg viâ ports:—Miss Hansmann in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, from Otaru viâ ports:—Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Borthwick in cabin; 1 passenger in second class, and 41 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, from Kobe:—Messrs. J. Mori and R. Matsumoto in cabin; Mr and Mrs. N Tsuboi and Mr. K. Yoshitake in second class, and 15 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. and Mrs. V. A C. Hawkins, child, and servant, Lieut. C. Coffin, Lieut Carey, Mr. and Mrs. L. Dowlee, Lieut Rouecroff, Mr. L. C. Rozario, Rev. and Mrs. Beck, Mr. D. Jackson and servant, Mr. A. H. Groom, Mrs. Bushneff, Mr. R. Pollak, Mr. T. Dreste, Mr. G. Meffre, Mr. T. A. Singleton, and Mr. G. T. How in cabin. For San Francisco: Mr. W. T. Todd, Mr. E. A. Bather, and Mr A Rodrigues in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Sarkio Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Mrs. Uchida and child, Mrs. Boyle, Mrs. Iwano, Messrs. P. Blesky, W F. Loughottom, H. Schultz, T. Okoji, A. J. Lives, MacKwick, J. K. Parry, H. C Parry, S. Parker, R. W. McAdams, H. Grage, H. Tennant, and A. Stockmann in cabin; Messrs. E. Laundrey, Osborne, McCormack, and S Ide in second class, and 40 passengers in steerage. For San Francisco: H.E. Yang, Chinese Minister, Mrs Yang and 3 children, and 40 of the Minister's Suite in cabin; 8 of the Minister's Suite in second class, and 28 of the Minister's Suite in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *China*, for Hongkong:—Captain S. G. Moore, Mr. and Mrs. C. Popham, Mr. E. B. Luard, Major McLaughlin, Lieutenant Garsia, Mr. A. Lennox, Mrs. Featherley, Mr. J. R Stewart and native servant, Lieut. J. Quain, Mr. Wing Poo, and Mr Ah Yuen in cabin.

Per American steamer *City of New York*, for San Francisco viâ Honolulu:—Mr. F. W. Aldis, Mr. A. J. Anderson, Mr. J. S. Attics and child, Mr J. A. Benson, Mr. Wm. B. Burling, Mr R. A. Carter, Mr Martin Colson, Mr. F. S. Dencon, Lieut. E F. Deriagin, I R N., Rev. Mr McFarland Rev. and Mrs McGilvary, Mr. P. McGregor Grant, Mr. N. H. Geesta, Mr. C. Haensel, Mr. W. H. Hallett, H.E. Augustus Heard, Mrs. Augustus Heard and servant, Rev. and Mrs. Knox and 4 children, Mr E. C. Lufkin, Rev M. Power, Mrs. W. J. Ramage, Mr. E. W. Roper, Mr. Frederick Salvador, Captain Ch. Tessen, I.R N, and Captain S. Zarine, I R.N., in cabin.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. H U. Jeffries, Miss Tucker, Miss Seeds, Mr. H. G Neville, Mr. and Mrs. Bottenheim, Mr. Ph. Lieder, Mr. and Mrs. Makelam and infant, and Mr. W. Sonyee in cabin; 3 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—His Excellency and Mrs. Matsu, Mr and Mrs. Nakada, Dr. and Mrs. Hartwell and 4 children, Mr. and Mrs. Dakin, the Misses Scott (2), Rev. D. B. McCarthee, Messrs B. Sugi, Kani, Noda, A D Jones, M and S Sakabi, and Rev. J. Bosshard in cabin; Messrs. Markim, Katakura, Batai, Hirai, Sarokides, Nakamura, Ishikawa, and Master Yamada in second class, and 89 passengers in steerage.

CARGOES

Per British steamer *Ancona*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Silk, 117 bales; Waste Silk, 40 bales.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, $204 000 00.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, $670.00.

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, Captain J. Nuei, reports:—Left Kobe the 20th July at 1 p.m.; had fine weather and light westerly breezes. Arrived at Shiotsu at 4.35 p.m. and left at 7.20 p.m.; had same weather and light easterly breeze; passed Oshima at 2 a.m. on the 21st and made Rock Island at 5.36 p.m.; fine weather and moderate easterly breeze and smooth sea; from Rock Island to port clear weather and calm. Arrived at Yokohama at 11.40 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Kumamoto Maru*, Captain C. Olsen, reports:—Left Honjo the 21st July at 1 p.m.; off Tapsuki-saki, experienced thick and foggy weather; Inuboye abeam at 10.7 p.m. on the 23rd, calm and fine weather to port. Arrived at Yokohama the 24th July at 10.55 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Fushiki Maru*, Captain Wilson, reports:—Left Shimonoseki the 22nd July at 6 a.m.; experienced splendid weather all through to arrival at Yokohama the 24th July at 2.50 p.m.

The German steamer *Prink*, Captain Madsen, reports:—Left Hamburg the 27th May and left Hongkong the 18th July. Arrived at Yokohama the 24th July at 11 p.m.; experienced S.E. winds and squally weather and high swell from Hongkong to the North of Formosa Channel; thence to port fine, clear weather with smooth sea and light variable winds

The Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, Captain R. Pender, reports:—Left Otaru the 22nd July at noon; experienced moderate S.S W. winds with dense fog throughout the passage to Hakodate, where arrived the following day at 10.20 a.m. and left the 24th at noon; had gentle westerly and S.W. winds with misty weather, passing through fog banks at times. Arrived at Ogimohama the 25th at 9.25 a.m. and left the same day at 3.30 p.m.; had fresh E N.E. winds with rainy weather to Inuboye-saki, which was passed at 5.30 a.m. on the 26th; thence to port strong N.E. winds with clear weather. Arrived at Yokohama the same day at 3.30 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, Captain Nuei, reports:—Left Kobe the 25th July at noon; had fine weather and light north and easterly breeze and moderate south-easterly swell; passed Kasino at 9.15 p.m.; at 9 a.m. on the 26th passed 4 masted ship bound eastward; at 10 a.m. commenced to blow from east with quick sailing clouds; at 1.19 p.m. passed Rock Island blowing moderate gale. Arrived at Yokohama at 8.40 p.m.

The British steamer *Gaelic*, Captain Penrne, reports:—Left Hongkong the 20th July at 3.57 a.m. viâ ports; had light winds and fine weather to Kobe; thence to port strong N.E. winds and head seas. Arrived at Yokohama the 27th July at 5.50 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, Captain Conner, reports:—Left Shanghai the 22nd July at 4.30 a.m. and came to inside Woosung Bar on account of low tide, crossed the Bar at 7 p.m. the same day. Arriving at Nagasaki the 24th at 9 a.m.; experienced moderate S.E. to N.E. winds and fine, clear weather, throughout the passage. Left again the same day at 5 p.m., arriving at Shimonoseki the 25th at 6.30 a.m. Left again at 11 a.m., arriving at Kobe the 26th at 7 a.m.; experienced light variable winds and fine weather. Left again the 27th at noon, arriving at company's buoy the 28th July at 3.30 p.m.; experienced moderate north-westerly winds and fine, clear weather to Rock Island; thence to port light easterly winds.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS

Both Single and Double Yarns have experienced some slight movement during the week, but the demand has been intermittent, and does not promise any activity in the near future. In Piece Goods, White Shirtings, and Turkey Reds, have moved off at a fair pace, while a few small transactions are reported in Silk-faced Satins and Velvets. In the Woollen department, Blankets have been in fair demand, but all other lines give no indication of revival.

COTTON PIECE GOODS

	PER PCE. &c.
Grey Shirtings—8½lb, 38½ yds 39 inches	—
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 38½ yds, 45 inches	—
T Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	—
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 41 inches	$1 50 to 1 90
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	1 05 to 2 50
Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black 12 inches	0 43 to 0 17
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	—
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 32 inches	—
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	PER PIECE. 1.22½ to 1 35
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb, 24/25 yards 32 inches	1.42½ to 1.60
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	1.75 to 1 97½
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5lb, 24.25 yards, 32 inches	2 2½ to 2 32½

WOOLLENS

	PER YARD
Flannel	$0.24 to 0 38
Italian Cloth, 20 yards, 32 inches Best	0 29 to 0 31½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0 25 to 0.29
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0 19 to 0.25
Woollen Lunda Lunas—Cloth, 24 yards 31 inches	0 12 to 0 19
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0 32½ to 0 42½
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0 50 to 0 57
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0 30 to 0 63
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 4 to 3½lb, per lb	0 37 to 0 51

COTTON YARNS

	PER P CEL.
Nos 10/24 Ordinary	—
Nos 16/24, Medium	—
Nos 16/24, Good to Best	—
Nos 16/24, Reverse	—
Nos 28/32, Ordinary	—
Nos. 28/32, Medium	—
Nos 28/32, Good to best	—
Nos 38/42, Medium to Best	—
No. 32s, Two fold	—
No 42s, Two-fold	—

PARCELS.

No. 20s, Bombay	Nom. —
No 16s, Bombay	Nom. —

METALS

An absolutely blank week to chronicle in this market, neither holders nor buyers having shown any desire to operate. In the total absence of business, the following quotations are again given as nominal:—

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ½ inch	$3 60 to 3 70
Flat Bars, ¾ inch	3 70 to 3 75
Round and square up to ¾ inch	3.60 to 3 80
Iron Plates, assorted	3 00 to 3 15
Sheet Iron	3.85 to 4 00
Galvanized Iron sheets	7.00 to 7 25
Wire Nails, assorted	4 70 to 5 10
Tin Plates, per box	5 30 to 5 50
Pig Iron, No 3	1.30 to 1 32½

KEROSENE

A few small transactions have been done during the week, but prices show no further rise and remain firm at last week's quotations.

Chester	$1.60 to 1 62½
Comet	1.62½ to 1 65
Devoe	—
Russian Anchor	1.57½ to 1 60
Russian Moon	1 55 to 1 57½

SUGAR

The activity in this market has continued throughout the week, and Browns have moved off at a lively rate. Prices are unchanged in spite of an arrival of 11,518 bags from Hongkong. Whites have also enjoyed a well-sustained demand, and prices close firm.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	$5.00 to 5 15
Brown Manila	5.50 to 5.60
Brown Daitong	4 50 to 4 60
Brown Canton	4.50 to 4 85
White Java and Penang	6.75 to 6 80
White Refined	7 60 to 9 25

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last issue was of the 21st instant, since which date settlements on this market are 546 piculs, divided thus: *Hanks* 22 piculs, *Filatures*; 335 piculs; *Rereels*, 189 piculs. There have been no direct shipments this week, so the total export figures remain as above, 546 piculs

Prices have been somewhat irregular, quotations for fine sizes being rather lower while full sizes have advanced. There has been a fair amount of daily business, but buying is by no means general, some of our regular shippers doing but very little. Reports from foreign markets do not seem particularly good and some buyers look for lower prices in the future.

During the coming month we should see some very good quality, for this is the time of the year when the cream of the crop should put in an appearance.

Exchange has kept fairly steady, closing a point lower than last week. The position of this factor causes silk to lay down at favourable rates in consuming markets, although our dollar quotations are so much higher than they were last year.

There have been two shipping opportunities since we last wrote. The *City of New York*, 22nd instant, carried 156 bales for the New York trade, while the *Ancona*, 23rd instant, had 117 bales for Europe. These departures make the present export figures 758 piculs, against 2,531 piculs last year and 2,807 piculs at the same date in 1891.

Hanks.—A few more bales of *Hachoji* have been taken at the last price—$560, but there is no general demand for this class and the stock is unimportant.

Filatures.—The bulk of the transactions have been in this class, operators purchasing to some extent both fine and full sizes. Silks for Lyons are a turn easier, the market there not responding to present quotations. Several parcels of full sized *Filatures* have been taken up for the States, $840, $810 and $795 being paid for various "Shinshu" *Filatures*, according to quality. True *Shinshu* silks are expected on the market early next month and are reported to be of superior quality. In *Koshu* sorts, good prices have been paid for

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Higher Course; a chorus by all the graduates and a violin and organ duet, the violin being played by Miss Ishizaka Toshi, a graduate of the Academy of Music and now a teacher in the school. Then took place the most important function of the evening, the distribution of diplomas and certificates. The names of the graduates in the principal courses were as follow:—In the Higher Course, Misses Nishioka Tō, Tomita Yaye, Matsui Man and Masuda Taki; in the Ordinary Course, Misses Oiwa Kazume, Takagi Kō, Sato Kiye, Kadota Ei, Ishikawa Taka, Suganuma Hana, Odagiri Naka, Katao Hisayo, Shingai Fumi, Tsuchiya Shizuka, Kamiya Kuwa, Saiki Sakura, Fukuda Tori, Tagawa Ko, and Kinchi Suye; and in the elective Ordinary Course, Misses Watanabe Aki, Tanaka Take, Uraki Toki, Oshima Aya, Kubo Haruyo, Machida Tatsu, and Suzuki Gen. There were also several other graduates in the *Koto* and Gymnastic courses. Mr. Iwamoto, Principal of the school, then addressed a few words of counsel to the graduates. He reminded them of the insignificance of the knowledge acquired in the school, as compared with the immensity of the knowledge they had still to acquire in the course of their life; he regretted that the school had not been able to do for them all that it could have desired, but he had no hesitation in claiming that he and his colleagues had spared no pains to complete the education of those under their care, with the limited means at their disposal. They had endeavoured, not so much to cram facts into the students' minds, as to show them the way to approach nature and nature's God. They had also sought before everything to make the students think for themselves. The graduates were now about to enter a world not always kindly and sympathetic. They would no doubt come in contact with a state of things very different from what they had been fond of conceiving in their optimistic meditations. But he advised them not to throw away the truth they had learned in the school, however different the realities of the world might seem from the ideal universe which they had hoped to find. Let them always strive to follow the guidance of the truths which it had been the endeavour of their teachers to instil into their minds. With regard to occupations, he told them that every honest occupation was noble. Nothing was essential in any sphere of action except integrity. The things to be shunned before everything else were ambition and vain-gloriousness, and the great rule of life should be to devote themselves to the perfection of their character, being always actuated by the hope that when they departed for the better world, they might leave behind them "footprints on the sands of time." This address was delivered in such an earnest and sympathetic tone that it produced a marked effect upon the graduates, some of whom were seen to be in tears. Miss Sato Kiye replied to the Principal in the name of all the graduates. After a song and a *koto* and *shakuhachi* duet, there was a most interesting display of halberd fencing. It was noticeable that the students had made great progress in the use of this weapon since the last graduation ceremony. This brought the programme to a conclusion at a little past two o'clock.

* * *

There are now 110 students in the school. The most note-worthy characteristic is the entire absence of a tendency to forwardness, unfortunately discernible in the girls of some other educational institutions conducted in western style. A nationalist of the purest type, Mr Iwamoto seems to insist on the development of the hereditary beauties of Japanese female character. In a talk with him at the conclusion of the ceremony, we learned that the reaction against female education in the modern style has nearly died out, and that brighter days are dawning on this vital branch of national progress.

AN ADVENTUROUS TRAVELLER.

We mentioned some time ago that a youth named Harada Toichiro, a native of Aizu—that renowned clan which stoutly held its ground for more than a month against the Imperialists in the war of the Restoration,—had made a journey on foot from Shanghai to Sōul through Peking and Manchuria. We also stated that he had left Sōul for an excursion in the interior of Siberia. That was, if we remember rightly, some time in February last. It now appears that he has successfully completed his travels, for, according to an informant of the *Kokkai*, who has just returned to Japan from Vladivostock, the intrepid traveller recently arrived at the latter place safe and sound. A poor man, he possessed little money when he began his travels from Shanghai. He is said to have earned a nightly lodging by selling drugs which he carried himself, and when he had no money to pay for a bed, he slept in the open air. He did not carry any arms, and was wont to say that the secret of safety in travelling lies in possessing neither money nor weapons. He was surprised, the *Kokkai's* informant states, at the extravagant enthusiasm which his countrymen at Vladivostock had manifested in welcoming Lieut.-Colonel Fukushima. "There can be no difficulty," he is represented to have observed, "in travelling when one is supplied with money by the Government and has horses to ride on. But folks take no notice of one who has travelled over thousands of miles on foot and with scanty means. They are incapable of distinguishing between circumstances. I will put my journals into the fire; it is not worth while to publish them for such unthinking folks." He entertained the intention of going to Saghalien for the purpose of exploring that island thoroughly. But as he had no money to pay for the passage, he contemplated making the voyage as a sailor on board a Russian ship.

THE JAPANESE EDUCATIONAL QUESTION IN SAN FRANCISCO.

Concerning the Japanese educational question in San Francisco arising out of the Board of Education's decision to close the doors of public schools to Japanese, news has come that, owing to agitation on the part of the Japanese residents, headed by some influential Americans, the obnoxious decision was rescinded on the 28th ultimo. It is said that Mr. Chinda, Japanese Consul at San Francisco, attended the meeting of the Board of Education on that day and made a strong speech protesting against the injustice of denying to his countrymen a privilege which they had so long enjoyed, and testifying to the good conduct of Japanese youths now studying in the different public schools. It is not stated whether Mr. Chinda attended the meeting in his official capacity or simply as a leading member of Japanese society in San Francisco. The motion for the revocation of the hostile decision was carried by a vote of 7 to 2. This news has naturally caused considerable satisfaction to the press in Japan.

JAPAN AND KOREA.

The *Tokyo Asahi Shimbun* has the following:—"It has of late been rumoured that our Naval force in Korean waters would be increased, and the rumour now takes the form that, simultaneously with the appointment of Mr. Otori to the Japanese Legation at Sōul, the Cabinet decided to station two war-vessels at Ninsen and another at Fusan. One of the war-ships to be stationed at Ninsen will be a fast sailing cruiser, which will be used for conveying Mr. Otori between Korea and China, and also for carrying messages between Korea and Japan. This decision will be carried into effect when Mr. Otori goes to Sōul."

* * *

The question of coinage in Korea is a mystery to outside folks. It was reported some time ago that the Korean Government, influenced by the Bin family, had decided not to entrust the work of coinage to the Japanese Mint at Osaka. But the Chief of the Commission to Japan, who was said to have been at once ordered home in consequence of that decision, is still staying at Osaka. Mr. Omiwa, a member of the Commission, came to Tokyo on the 21st instant. He says that both the Foreign Office and the Finance Department requested him to inform the Korean Government of the willingness of the Japanese Government to undertake the work of coinage. While such is the attitude of the Japanese Government, Mr. Hasegawa, Acting Director of the Mint at Osaka, is reported to be unwilling to undertake the task on account of strained relations between Mr. Omiwa and Mr. Masuda, the latter of whom formerly held a contract with the Korean Government for the work of coinage. It is difficult to understand why such a circumstance should hinder the Government Mint from undertaking the work.

* * *

The *Takao Kan* which left Fusan on the 26th ultimo for the district where the murders of Japanese fishermen took place, returned to that port on the 10th instant. It is stated that great difficulties were experienced in finding the bodies of the murdered fishermen, through the inability of the surviving crew to indicate the exact sites of the murderous assaults. Their bodies were finally discovered and identified, and the local Korean authorities are reported to have promised the speedy apprehension of the culprits.

DEATH OF MR. JOHN STEWARD LAPRAIK.

The *China Mail* of the 14th July says:—We have the sad duty of recording the death of one of the worthiest and most sincerely respected members of the community—Mr. John Steward Lapraik, of Messrs. Douglas Lapraik & Co. The sad event occurred about nine o'clock last night at the house of his son, J. D. Lapraik, at Stewart Terrace, Mount Gough. For the last year or two, and more particularly during his visit to England, the deceased gentleman was subject to heart spasms, which had of late become more acute, but which did not prevent him from paying assiduous attention to his office duties. Only so recently as the previous afternoon he was present at and took part in the proceedings of the special meeting of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce at the City Hall. Yesterday morning he was not feeling well and was seen by Dr. Cowie, who found that, in addition to the affection of the heart, Mr. Lapraik was suffering from pneumonia and other complications, which rendered it imperative that he should take the greatest possible precaution. About nine o'clock he was sitting up in bed taking some food when he fell back dead into the arms of his daughter-in-law. Drs. Cowie and Cantlie were sent for, but Mr. Lapraik was beyond their skill. The deceased was only 54 years of age. He leaves a widow and three sons and two daughters. Mrs. Lapraik, her youngest son and two daughters, are in England. The remains of the deceased will be embalmed, and sent home, but a memorial service will be held in a few days. * * * In an editorial the same paper remarks:—The death of Mr. J. S. Lapraik removes a landmark from this Colony. The name of Lapraik has been identified with the history of Hongkong almost since the Colony was established. When Mr. Douglas Lapraik (founder of the firm and uncle of the deceased) left for England some twenty-eight years ago, it was recorded that one of the commercial powers of the place and a pioneer of progress in the young Colony, had gone into honoured and well-earned retirement. His successor, whose death is now universally regretted by the Hongkong community, has been even longer connected with the commercial and social life of this City than was his uncle. Although Mr. John S. Lapraik spent a number of years in England in the Eighties, his interest in Hongkong was always of the keenest kind; and when he came out here once more last year, he entered heartily into the life of the place with all his old genial interest. By his death the China trade has lost one of the straightest business men of the Far East—a class of merchant we can ill afford to lose at present. His social qualities and his recognised straightforwardness made him a general favourite; and there are few residents here whose loss would produce more sincere regret than was felt this morning when the news became known that John S. Lapraik was no more. Few men have done more

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good by stealth than he has. He was open-handed as he was open-hearted, and his kindly advice was not unfrequently strengthened by a helping hand. Many struggling friends will miss him sadly enough. His death is mourned by all his friends, and it is doubtful whether he has an enemy anywhere. Of the loss which his family here and at home have sustained it is not for us to speak, beyond saying that the sympathy of his many friends goes out to them unstintedly.

THE NAVAL ENGAGEMENT AT BANGKOK.

HOSTILITIES have been commenced in earnest, says the *Hongkong Daily Press* of the 15th inst., between the Siamese and French forces. A naval engagement has taken place, with particulars of which a representative of this paper has been courteously supplied by M. Gueyraud, the French Consul, who yesterday evening received a telegram from the Admiral. It appears that on Thursday night, the 13th inst., the French gunboats *Inconstant* and *Comète* were lying off Paknam, at the mouth of the Menam, when they were unexpectedly attacked by a fleet of six Siamese gunboats, and at the same time the forts at Paknam opened fire. A sharp engagement followed which resulted in the repulse of the Siamese, and the Frenchmen immediately proceeded up the river and anchored off Bangkok. Obstacles has been placed on the bar of the river, which was supposed to be closed to navigation at night and to require careful pilotage during the daytime. Torpedoes had also been placed in the river. Notwithstanding these obstacles, however, the French succeeded in making their way up without meeting with any accident. The gunboat *Lutin* was already at Bangkok, where she has been stationed for some time so that there are now three French vessels lying off the city. What will happen next? It may be that this encounter will prove the beginning of the end and that Siam, having been worsted, will make her submission without offering further resistance to the French demands, which will naturally be increased by this event. The European community at Bangkok have for sometime past been preparing for emergencies, registering themselves at their respective Consulates, making inventories of their property, and lodging their valuables with the branch of the Hongkong and Shanghai bank for safe custody The chief apprehension was that in the event of active hostilities breaking out a rising of the lawless elements of the city, particularly of the Chinese, might take place, which the Siamese authorities might be unable to control. The European residences are so scattered that any scheme of concerted defence in such an emergency would be difficult to carry out. All possible precautions have, however, been taken, and there are now a number of foreign men-of-war anchored in the river, which it is to hoped may be sufficient to overawe the elements of disorder. The vessels are in addition to the French, the British cruiser *Pallas* and gunboats *Linnet* and *Swift*, and the Netherlands gunboat *Sumbawa*. The British gunboat *Daphne* and the German gunboat *Wolf* are on their way from Hongkong to Bangkok.

LOSS OF LIFE IN CHIUSENJI LAKE.

THE detailed intelligence from Chiusenji relating to the recently reported death of a student of the Upper Normal School indicates a very singular accident. It appears that 29 of the students accompanied by two teachers were staying at Izumi-ya beside the lake, whither they had proceeded from Tokyo on the 19th instant Nine of them took a boat that was moored at the back of the inn, and rowed out to a distance of about a hundred yards from the shore. One of them jumped in to have a swim, and after remaining in the water for about twenty minutes, attempted to re-enter the boat, but fell back exhausted, and was seen to be keeping himself afloat with the greatest difficulty. His companions, becoming sensible of his danger, made efforts to rescue him, but before they could turn the boat, he sank, and they were unable to give him any assistance. It is conjectured that the unfortunate youth must have been seized with cramp. The depth of water at the place of the accident being very great, his body had not been found when the news was despatched to Tokyo. Mr. Takamine, the Principal of the School, at once proceeded to Chiusenji. The name of the deceased was Kawata Hyakutaro. He was a native of Oita Prefecture, and having been three years in the School, would soon have graduated.

THE HONGKONG MERCHANTS AND SILVER.

WE take the following from the *Hongkong Daily Press*:—

The enclosed letter has been sent to H.E. the Viceroy of India by Messrs. David Sassoon, Sons & Co., on behalf of the Hongkong merchants engaged in the Ind an trade:—

Hongkong, 3rd July, 1893.

His Excellency the Marquis of Lansdowne, G M.S.I., G.E.M G., G.M I.E., Viceroy of India.

My Lord Marquis,—On the 26th June we had the honour of sending the following telegram to your Excellency:—

"All merchants engaged in India trade Hongkong earnestly urge Viceroy take no steps calculated to injure Indian trade with China. At present it is impossible to get remittances to India, banks fearing closing mints, a protected rupee and unprotected dollar. Indian business at a standstill in the meantime."

On the 29th instant, we received the following reply:—

"Viceroy desires me to acknowledge your telegram twenty-sixth You are no doubt by this time fully aware of the action taken by the Government of India.—FINANCE."

Before the receipt of your telegram it was publicly announced that the Mints in Ind a were closed to the free coinage of silver The news was received with consternation by all those engaged in the Ind an trade in this Colony.

The immediate effect was a fall in the exchange between India and China from the minimum to which the rate could then go, namely, 200 rupees for 100 dollars, to 189 rupees for 100 dollars for her, even at said heavy fall there was not any stability; the rate subsequently fell to 176 rupees for $100, and now closes at $\frac{1}{8}$.

The trade between India and China has been a constantly expanding one, and if left unfettered by the financial measure recently decided upon, would increase with even greater rapidity in the future than it has done in the past.

Your Excellency's petitioners hope that the influence of the Indian Government will be given towards supporting silver as far as may be practicable. They are of opinion that with an artificially protected rupee, and silver being generally unprotected, the trade of India will decrease as steadily as it has increased in recent years. They look with apprehension to the future, and earnestly request that remedial measures may speedily be decided upon.—We have the honour to be, your Excellency's most obedient servants,

On behalf of the Trade,

DAVID SASSOON, SONS & Co.

We have the honour to append a list of the signatories on whose behalf we despatched telegram of the 26th June, and as whose representat ves we now beg to address your Excellency

DAVID SASSOON, SONS & Co

For the Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation, T. Jackson, Chief Manager.
Jardine, Matheson & Co.
For the Chartered Bank of India, Australia, & China, T. H. Whitehead, Manager, Hongkong.
For the Mercantile Bank of India, Limited, John Thurburn, Manager, Hongkong.
Butterfield & Swire
For the Comptoir National d'Escompte de Paris, L. Glénat, Acting Agent.
For the Bank of China, Japan, and the Straits, Ld., Hongkong, S. L. Darby, Acting Manager,
For the National Bank of China, Limited, Geo. W. F. Playfair, Chief Manager
David Sassoon, Sons & Co.
E. D Sassoon & Co.
Reiss & Co.
Holiday, Wise & Co.
Bel lios & Co.
Gibb, Livingston & Co.
Gilman & Co.
Douglass Lapraik & Co.
G. de Champeaux, Agent, Messageries Mar times.
W. H. Ray, Secretary, China Traders Ins. Co., Ld.
H. H. Joseph, Supt F. & O. S N. Co
For the China Fire Insurance Company, Limited, Jas. B. Coughtrie, Secretary.
For the North China Insurance Co., Limited, W. H. Percival, Agent.
N. Mody & Co.
M. S Sassoon & Co.
S. J. David & Co.
Framjee Hormusjee & Co.
Cawasjee Pallanjee & Co
Mahomed Hajee Essack Elias.
R. S Woonwal a & Co.
Hajee Adum Esmail & Co.
E. N Mehta & Co.
Tata & Co
Ebrahimbhoy Pabaney
P. F. Talati,
H. A Asger & H. Esmail

DR. KITAZATO

ACCORDING to the *Tokyo Asahi Shimbun*, the report that Dr. Kitazato intends to go abroad to continue his scientific researches seems to be incorrect. It is not yet known whether the Tokyo Sanitary Association will accept his resignation of the Directorship of the Contagious Diseases Investigation Laboratory, but Dr. Kitazato appears to be resolved to persist in resigning that position, for the *Asahi* informs us that he is erecting at his own expenses hospital buildings at Hirowo, Azabu, capable of admitting 120 patients. The work will be completed in September. The private laboratory which he possesses in Shiba Park will be used for purposes of medical consultation. Hitherto the Doctor has alloted to such purposes only one hour daily, from 4 to 5 p.m., but hereafter he intends to extend the time to several hours. The consumptive patients he has thus far treated are said to number about 70, of whom 16 have completely recovered. He is not a rich man, but he hopes that the hospital which he is establishing at Hirowo will enable him to prosecute his favourite investigations without recourse to the assistance of other people.

* * *

At the bottom of the agitation against the ill-fated Laboratory, professional jealously seems to be at work, supplemented by personal spite and other discreditable sentiments. In truth, Dr. Kitazato's case illustrates the old experience that sudden celebrity always provokes more or less envy and opposition. It has to be remarked, however, that several of those who set their faces against the establishment of a contagious diseases laboratory in Shiba were doubtless influenced by a very simple and natural objection to the immediate proximity of any building connected with disease and death. The presence of such an institution must reduce the value of neighbouring property anywhere. However perfect might be the prophylactic arrangements at the laboratory itself, no body of citizens could be expected to view with complacence the prospect of their quarter becoming a highway for the passage of contagious-disease patients, or to be satisfied with the certainty of having always in their vicinity a place surrounded by such unpleasant associations. We confess that, were we included among the Japanese residents of Shiba, we should be inclined to sacrifice science to selfishness in such a matter

THE AMERICAN DERBY.

THE American Derby, ran at Washington Park, Chicago, was won by a horse named Boundless in the fast time 2.36. The distance is a mile and a half, and the weight 8st. 10lb., the value of the stakes being $50,000. Last year, carrying the same weight, the winner took 3.04¼. There were 15 runners, certainly not a large field, as fields go in big events, but the starter did not manage to "get 'em off" in less than one hour and three-quarters, the principal portion of which time appears to have been spent by that official and the jockeys "slanging" each other. Boundless was strongly fancied by his owner owing to a remarkably good private trial, and to having kept perfectly cool and quiet during the dreary long wait at the post, whereas in one hour and three-quarters before the flag fell, two or three horses most fancied fretted themselves into a foam and were entirely finished at the end of a mile, the jockey on the favourite declaring that the loss of the race by his mount was due to nothing else but the fiddling at the post.

INDEX MAKING.

THE last new industry for women—and one much patronised by Mr. Stead—is index-making. Certainly a good index is a *sine qua non* for the thorough usefulness of a good book, and, as certainly, no work could very well be drier than compiling one. And yet, even here, there is ample play for humour—even if it be unconscious humour. We have just lighted on a splendid example, quoted by Sir Herbert Maxwell in the *Nineteenth Century*. One John Burton is the authority for it. It appears that a student, consulting the index of a book of legal decisions, came upon the following entry: "Best, Mr. Justice, his great mind." Accordingly he turned up the reference, prepared to admire an instance of magnanimity or mental acumen upon the bench, and found the passage: —"Mr. Justice Best said he had *a great mind* to commit the witness for perjury!"

THE EMPEROR AT THE MILITARY COLLEGE.

THE annual graduation ceremony of the Military College took place on the 25th instant. As usual the Emperor honoured the occasion with his presence. His Majesty left the Palace at 8.30 p.m., Marquis Tokudaiji, Grand Chamberlain, riding in the same carriage. The suite comprised Viscount Hijikata, Minister of the Household, Mr. Hanabusa, Vice-Minister of the Household, and several Chamberlains and

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physicians. At the gate of the College the Emperor was received by the members of the faculty with Colonel Hadano, President, at their head, while the higher officials invited for the ceremony welcomed the Imperial suite at the porch. After a short rest in a chamber specially provided for the purpose, the Emperor gave audience to the officials of *chokunin* rank connected with the college. His Majesty drill proceeded to the inner court to review the lery, exercises of the students in infantry, artillery and cavalry tactics. These exercises lasted a long time, the Emperor all the while standing in the open air without anything to shield him from the rays of the sun, and evincing the most lively interest in the various military evolutions. After the drill was over, the Emperor again took a short rest in the Imperial chamber, and the President of the College then presented to His Majesty theses by the graduates, plans of fortifications drawn by the students, and so forth. The Emperor next attended the granting of certificates to the graduates. Before receiving certificates, several of the graduates delivered addresses on various military subjects. Their names and the subjects of their discourses were these.—Mr. Kiuchi Suyeo, a graduate in the Infantry Department, on Methods of Defence against Cavalry Attack; Mr. Matsumura Kiyoshi, a graduate in the Fortification Department, on Coast Defence Guns; and Mr. Okano Tomojiro, a graduate in the Engineer Department, on methods of Crossing Rivers The President then distributed the certificates, and the ceremony was brought to a conclusion at 11 a.m. Among the invited guests, we may mention H.I.H. Prince Arisugawa, President of the General Staff Office; General Count Oyama, Minister of War; Lieutenant-General Kawakami, Vice President of the General Staff Office; Major General Kodama, Vice-Minister of War; Mr. Hamao, President of the Imperial University; Viscount Tanaka, President of the Nobles' College, and so forth.

THE HONGKONG CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND THE JAPANESE "YEN."

AT the recent meeting of the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce, called to consider the advisability of recommending the Government of the colony to declare the Japanese *yen* legal tender, the Chairman, Mr. J. J. Keswick, said, in reference to the *yen*:—

The *yen* is of at least equal value with the Mexican dollar, is highly appreciated by the Chinese, is an unusually handsome and well finished coin, and I may say that its history for nearly twenty years has been in every respect satisfactory as to uniformity of value. Such being the case, I think I may venture to say that your Committee would be glad if this meeting would favourably view a recommendation to the Government that it should be made a legal tender. The popularity of the coin, and the not unnatural desire of the enterprising and progressive Japanese Government to furnish the trading medium of the East, seem to indicate it as the most valuable auxiliary we can obtain if there is to be, as we fear, an uncertainty in the supply of the Mexican coin. It is not the first time that this proposal has been before this Chamber. Our predecessors in the seventies recommended the Government to legalize the *yen*, but for some reasons with which I am unacquainted, possibly that there was no necessity at the time, no effect was given to the suggestion.

Mr. T. Jackson, Chief Manager of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, speaking on the subject, said:—

I was one of the members of the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce in the 70's which the Chairman has alluded to when the question of the introduction of the Japanese *yen* was advocated, and I do not know now any more than I knew then why it was not legalised. We had abundant evidence then of the purity and honesty of the *yen*, of the very excellent administration of the Japanese Mint, and we knew not only the quality and character of the Mint but also the men who conducted it, because they were the men who had been employed by the Government in the Hongkong Mint. Since that time our experience of the Japanese *yen* has been uniformly good, and I do not believe that there is any place in the world where there is a better and truer coin, than the *yen*. It is almost universally used by the Japanese themselves, although the legal tender in that country is the Mexican dollar according to treaty. It has been received with great favour in the Straits Settlements, and here, although not a legal tender, we would have no difficulty in paying it away to the only people we have to pay hard cash to—the Cantonese. Under these circumstances, I think that it is highly desirable that the *yen* should be placed on a proper footing in this colony, legalised, and allowed to circulate concurrently with the Mexican dollar.

* * *

The Japanese were once very anxious to have their silver *yen* declared legal tender money in Hongkong. That it should be so declared was one of the promises made by that specious official Sir John Pope Hennessy. On the whole, they will be pleased to think that the desire of 15 years ago is now about to be accomplished. But we suspect that they care very little, one way or the other. The coining of *yen* pieces is not a profitable operation. On the contrary, it shows a distinct loss. It is from the profits on subsidiary coinage that the Osaka Mint is maintained. Japanese financiers will not be overjoyed at the prospect of having to coin an increased quantity of *yen* pieces.

* * *

Mr. Granville Sharp's remarks at the meeting are worth quoting for reasons that will make themselves variously apparent to various readers:—

An idea has occurred to me only this morning, about an hour before I came into this room, that perhaps the application which the Japanese make to us to allow them to do the work of coining the Japanese *yen* for circulation in Hongkong and the Straits, might be turned into an enquiry on our part whether the Japanese Government would be willing at their mint, their magnificent mint—one of the best mints in the world—at Osaka, and with all the advantages which that mint possesses and which have been referred to by the Chairman in connection with the Japanese *yen*, whether they would coin a British dollar on the same terms on which they propose to coin the Japanese *yen* They might possibly refuse, but I think it is quite possible that they might consent. The cost would be the same, and if the Japanese Government will coin a British dollar, and make that dollar legal tender in Japan, we may very well in return make the Japanese *yen* legal tender in Hongkong and Singapore. I have had no opportunity of seeing the members of the Committee on the subject, because the idea occured to me one hour ago, but it seems to me that it might lead to a solution of the difficulty in which we are at present placed The Japanese would find great advantage in it, and I believe that nothing would do more good in Japan at the present time of excitement and questioning, than the circulation of a number of our coins with our noble and revered Queen upon them. I have just returned for the eighth time from a visit to Japan and amidst all its beauty of scenery and people there is something lacking there. There is something lacking, and I am not quite sure that Englishmen are loved as much there as they ought to be or as they were. Possibly it is that those Englishmen and other foreigners with whom the Japanese come into most close contact are not those whose influence is calculated to impress favourably the Japanese as a nation. I do think that while they are studying earnestly the English language, English literature, and English history, it would be a fine thing if we could possibly get them to look favourably on the English character, and I do think that the Queen's head would do more to pave the way for treaty revision in the sense in which the Japanese desire their treaties to be revised than anything else they could possibly adopt. It would bring us more closely together; there is no question about that. You will remember the song of the French poet of the first Empire which says "You make the laws; let me write the ballads." And I think we will find that of advantage to us in Hongkong. There is too little disposition on the part of the Chinese to render unto Cæsar the things which are Cæsar's, and I do not think the Chinese in Hongkong behave to us as they did 35 years ago when I first came here. I think they want to see the Queen's head among them a little more, and a few more of those dollars which once circulated in the colony and which are now hoarded up for their beauty and the associations which linger round them.

PERSONAL ITEMS.

COUNT ITO, Minister President of State, and Count Saigo, Minister of State for the Navy, will leave Tokyo either on the 24th or 25th instant on a tour of inspection to the Naval Depôts of Yokosuka, Kure, and Sasebo. It is not known how long they will be away, but it is believed that the tour will require about four weeks. It is also stated that the inspection is undertaken by special order of the Emperor.

* * *

Count Inouye, Minister of State for Home Affairs, will leave Shimbashi for Hokkaido on the morning of the 25th instant. The official members of his suite include Mr. Tsuzuki Keiroku, Councillor, Mr Saito, Private Secretary, Messrs. Kuchi and Ota, Secretaries of the Home Department, a police serjeant, two police constables, and two clerks. They proceed on board the *Mike Maru*, and will be absent from the capital seven weeks.

* * *

Mr. Otori, the new Minister to Korea, is reported to be dividing his time between study of diplomatic papers bearing on that country, and frequent visits to Mr. Oishi whose recent experiences in Sōul are naturally valuable to the new Minister. He is expected to leave for Sōul very soon, his intention being to make that city his head-quarters for the present. Under existing circumstances he does not consider his presence in Peking necessary, but will make occasional visits to that city when special reasons offer.

* * *

Mr. Yasuba Yasukazu, whom the public looked to see elected Vice-President of the National Unionists, was appointed Manager in Chief of that Party (*Kongi-cho*) at a meeting held on the 22nd instant. It was decided at the same time that he should undertake a political campaign in Aichi Prefecture, accompanied by Messrs. Motoda Hajime, Ooka Ikuzo, Wada Hikojiro, Minaye Giichi, and Arai Go. There is an expectation that Mr. Yasuba's tour will be more or less successful, as he was Governor of the locality for several years and still possesses considerable influence there

* * *

Count Itagaki, according to accounts published in the *Jiyu Shimbun*, met with a splendid reception in the Province of Ise. Triumphal arches, fireworks, processions with flags and banners, great social gatherings, in fact everything that could appeal to the imagination of the populace was resorted to by his followers in the locality. In one district popular enthusiasm is represented as having risen so high that the road between Tsuge and Nabari, a distance of over twenty miles was watered throughout its entire length for the passage of the Radical leader. The Count returned to Tokyo on Sunday the 23rd instance. It is believed that the campaign begun so auspiciously by him will be continued by Messrs. Hoshi Toru and Matsuda Masahisa.

* * *

Messrs. Toki Horyu, Ashitsu Jitsuzen, Shaku Soyu, and Yabuchi Hanryu will leave for the United States on the 4th proximo to attend the Parliament of Religions as representatives of Japanese Buddhism. Before their departure, they will invite the principal Buddhists of the capital to a conference at the Seishoji Temple, Shiba.

THE HANABUSA-KOJIMA CASE

THE Supreme Court has rejected *in toto* the decision of the Tokyo Local Court in the Kojima-Hanabusa case, and has sent the case down for re-hearing. It will be remembered that the Tokyo Local Court decided in Mr. Kojima's favour, that is to say, decided in the sense that the house originally occupied by Dr. Mayet and subsequently rented by Mr. Hanabusa to Mr. Kojima, was not the real property of Mr. Hanabusa, and that, consequently, he was not competent to sue for arrears of rent. The Supreme Court utterly rejects any such reasoning. It says, in effect, that a tenant's business is to carry out the provisions of his lease, and that he cannot be permitted to live in a house without paying rent because he chooses to raise a dispute as to whether the man that let him the house or the man who collects the rent is the real owner.

SHOOTING AFFRAY IN YOKOHAMA.

A MOST unfortunate affair occurred in Yokohama on Wednesday just before five o'clock. Messrs. Eyton and Pratt were engaged in disposing by auction, at Messrs. Cobb and Co.'s Livery Stables, of a herd of Holstein cattle, the property of Mr. M. Willett, of Tokyo, when an altercation arose between the latter and a *betto* named Suzuki Shikosuke, commonly known as Owari, which led to most disastrous results. Suzuki Shikosuke was engaged in carrying some sacks of bran down the yard, and in doing so twice jostled against Mr. Willett, the second time, it is said, with intention. This

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annoyed Mr. Willett, and he remonstrated with the man, receiving in reply a cheeky answer. Losing for the moment control of himself, Willett kicked the man, whereupon the *betto* threw down his bran sack and ran to the stable. Here he divested himself of his scanty clothing and emerged at a run bearing an axe in his hand. He made at once for Mr. Willett and aimed a blow at him. In self-defence Willett drew his revolver. In quick succession he fired three shots, aiming low. Two of the shots took effect in the *betto's* right thigh and calf. Immediately the whole of the Japanese stablemen and boys employed at the yard rushed for Willett, picking up every imaginable implement that came to hand. He ran from the yard at once, pursued by the yelling mob and made his way down Water Street, round No. 32, and into Main Street, intending to get to the U.S. Consulate—Willett being a U.S. citizen. Feeling pumped of breath, however, he ran into Messrs. Curnow & Co.'s store, the nearest place of refuge. Mr. Harry Russell was in the shop, and Willett asked for shelter, saying that he had shot a Japanese and was chased by a mob. The hunted man then made his way up-stairs, when Mr. Maurice Russell came along saying that he could not allow Willett to stay on his premises, as the Japanese would follow him and do harm to his business stock, besides annoying his family. He then conducted Willett to a side door from whence he ran to Messrs. Caudrelier's opposite, where Mr. Andreis afforded him the protection he implored, and for the time being the chase was over. A cordon of police quickly formed round the premises, and they found their work cut out in keeping back the crowd, which increased every minute, and in clearing the thoroughfares. Mr. Scidmore and Mr. McCance, who were sent for, were also quickly upon the scene, and to these officials Willett gave himself up. He did not leave the premises, however, until the crowd had dispersed. Willett says he fired the first shot to scare the *betto*, but finding he was resolved to cut him down, he was compelled to shoot at the man's leg in order to save himself. The beginning of the affair originated, it is said, by the Japanese *betto* in the morning, when Willett remonstrated with the man for not attending upon his cows properly. The *betto's* wounds are said to be slight; he is at present in Noge Hospital.

KYUSHU AND POLITICAL PARTIES.

UNDER this heading, the *Nippon* writes as follows:—"Kyushu lies in the remote western corner of the Empire; but from political points of view, it occupies a position of commanding influence. Let us cite a few instances of the great importance that politicians of different parties attach to that island. Mr. Kono Hironaka of the Radical Party recently started for a campaign there, and his party intends to hold a grand meeting at Oita in October. The project of such a meeting on the part of the Radicals has led to a much talked-of conversation between Mr. Mtasuda Masahisa of the Radical Party and Mr. Kawashima Jun of the *Domei* Club, as well as to the hurried return to their respective Prefectures of Mr. Sasaa Tomofusa of the National Unionist Party and Mr. Minoura Katsundo of the Progressionist Party. As to Mr. Kono's campaign, it is reported that it has no connection whatever with the projected meeting of October. Everything concerning that meeting is managed by Mr. Hoshi Toru and Mr. Matsuda Masahisa. The relationship between Messrs. Hoshi and Kono is well known and need not be described here. As to Mr. Matsuda, he is one of the three leaders of the Radical Party, but unlike Messrs Hoshi and Kono, he does not possess followers of his own. Mr. Hoshi is now very anxious to bring Mr. Matsuda into his own camp, for though possessing many adherents, his influence is not sufficient to give him the sole control of the affairs of his Party. He doubtless thinks that, if he goes hand in hand with Mr. Matsuda, and thus unites the Radical elements of Kyushu and of the Kwanto districts under this joint leadership, he will be able to manage every thing in the Party pretty much according to his own wishes. Mr. Matsuda, too, is understood to see the necessity of close alliance with Mr. Hoshi, for, having few personal adherents, he is very often mortified to see his counsels quietly ignored by the Party. A compact has therefore been formed between these two Radical leaders, and the grand meeting of October is to be a means of consolidating their power in Kyushu Such being the case, the Progressionists are not at all alarmed by the news of the projected Radical meeting, for they are convinced that it will only serve to hasten a split in the camp of their enemies. They, consequently, think it unnecessary to undertake any counter movement in Kyushu, and are contented with despatching thither Mr Minoura to observe the doings of the Radicals. As to the National Unionists, their stronghold lies in Kyushu, and they seem determined on a counter campaign against the Radicals. They have already sent thither Mr. Sasaa Tomofusa, who possesses more influence in Kyushu than any other member of their Party. They also propose to hold a grand meeting at Oita simultaneously with that of the Radicals. Lastly, with reference to the *Domei* Club, the members of that political body appear resolved to take a neutral position. One of them, Mr. Kawashima, is an old friend of Mr. Matsuda, and is reported to have recently expressed to the latter strong disapproval of the course the Radicals intend to take in Kyushu. Political parties in Kyushu, Mr. Kawashima is reported to have told Mr. Matsuda, have each a history essentially different from that of the parties in other parts of the country. He therefore thinks that it will be merely waste of labour to try to make the Kyushu politicians declare decisively for either the Radical or the Progressionist Party. The primary object of the Kyushu politicians is, in his opinion to demolish Clan Government, and so long as that object remains unattained, the time cannot be said to have come for them to think of declaring for either of the rival parties."

* * *

The first indication of intimate relationship between Messrs. Hoshi and Matsuda, was furnished by the latter's hearty endorsement of the crusade against the Progressionist Party commenced by the former. Mr Kono, on the other hand, is believed to be anything but pleased with the course Messrs. Hoshi and Matsuda are taking. Consequently, a split is feared in the ranks of the Radicals, sooner or later, if the two first-named leaders persist in their career of hostility to the Progressionists. But, in our own opinion, events are more and more unfavourable to the revival of a working understanding between the Progressionists and the Radicals. Whatever may be the inclination of some of the leaders at head-quarters the members of the two parties in the provincial districts have always remained bitterly hostile to each other; and the keen contests in which they recently engaged in Kanagawa and other localities make it no longer possible for their leaders in the capital to entertain any hope of a reconciliation. Thus, even if a split does take place in the Radical camp over this issue, it will be an altogether trifling affair, nothing beyond the backsliding of a few members at most.

THE BEST TYPE OF WAR-VESSEL.

To Japanese politicians, who are at present so keen about "fixing a basis" of naval policy, and a type of war-vessel, the following will be of interest:—

London, June 29th.

Vice-Admiral P. H. Colomb of the British Navy who is regarded as one of the leading naval authorities in the world on matters of naval strategy and tactics, was interviewed to-day. He gave a rapid yet comprehensive summing up of his opinions concerning the relative value of battleships like the *Victoria* and *Camperdown*, compared with swift cruisers of high manœuvering capacity.

"In the first place," said the Admiral, "I cannot make a direct comparison of the value of these two classes of warships for fighting purposes, because they are intended for entirely different work. Cruisers cannot do battleships' duty, nor battleships perform the service of a cruiser. The battleship is expected to fight offensively and defensively anything that meets her. A cruiser is a scout for a fleet or a convoy for merchantmen; a destroyer of commerce or a fighter of its own class. A cruiser cannot fight battleships, but battleships cannot catch a cruiser. Abstractly, their respective values cannot be compared."

"But," I asked, "is it not likely for a battleship to become less and less desirable as a cruiser's speed, coal-carrying capacity and rapidity in turning are increased?"

"Not at all. As long as a power with which we may some day go to war has battleships we must have them. We cannot give up command of the sea. Our national life depends upon it. We must be able not only to meet the enemy's fleet with equal or greater force, but to make him stay away from our shores by attacking him on his own waters. Satisfactory defence demands the power of aggression. We must be able to follow the enemy wherever he goes. We must have enough battleships to go to the enemy's coast and attack him at home He will then run a risk of not only losing the fleet sent against us but of suffering damage in his own ports. An enemy that knows us capable of repulsing and attacking at the same time will never dare send a fleet against us."

"But as gunnery improves do you not think armour will become practically useless, as in the case of the soldier on shore?"

"The comparison," replied Admiral Colomb, "is not a fair one. As long as the foot soldier's armour gave protection he wore it. A ship has good protection against a gun, and armour is constantly improving in quality. Your own countryman, Harvey, has recently made an improvement in the construction of armour, greatly increasing protection."

"Do you think the situation of the United States puts a different face on the policy we should adopt in building a navy?"

"To a certain extent," replied the Admiral, after a moment's reflection. "You see, there is only one power that could attack you advantageously, and that is Great Britain, and, of course Great Britain and the United States are not going to war. The only other nation with a very large navy is France. It would be very difficult for her to send a fleet across the ocean to operate at a distance of 2,000 miles from her supplies. She might seize a harbour like Gardiner's Bay, Long Island, for instance, as a coaling and supply station, but she would need a powerful convoy for coaling her steamers across the Atlantic to protect them against United States warships. The expense, as well as the danger, would be enormous, besides the fleet would always be harassed by torpedo-boats and rams whenever it approached the coast, and that risk would be too great Besides, what could she do? She could not blockade the whole coast, and would hardly try to force an entrance into your great harbours in the face of mines and torpedos"

"What kind of ships do you think the United States should build?"

"Battleships, armoured cruisers and torpedo boats," said Admiral Colomb emphatically "If you have war with any South American State, some of whom are accumulating rather efficient warships, you would have to be strong enough to take the aggressive on the shores of your enemy. Now if Chile, for instance, had two or three battleships it would be useless to send cruisers to the Chilean coast. They could not attack Chile's sea ports, nor even blockade them, for the Chilean battleships would raise the blockade whenever they wished to do so. Therefore you must have a greater force of battleships than Chile.

'If I had control of your Navy Department, I should look at the nations with whom the United States might go to war. Then I should provide enough battleships to be superior to the battleship of any one of these possible enemies, and continually keep up this superiority I would also build fast cruisers, many of which should go armoured. I think very highly of vessels of such types as the *New York*, which are fast, have large coal carrying capacity, mount guns of high power, and carry enough armour to protect them against any antagonist, not provided with equal or better battery. Besides these you need fast torpedo boats of all sizes, as a warning to European Powers that you have means of coast defence, in addition to your land fortifications which, of course, would be sufficiently strong to keep up a heavy fire over channels where mines and torpedoes would be situated."

MR. E. B. GREENE.

WE take from an American exchange the following note about the collegiate career of the son of one of our best known and most highly esteemed fellow-residents, Dr. D. C. Greene:—A non-resident fellowship of $500, to be used by a student of history or political science, was awarded to Evarts B. Greene for the college year 1893-4. Mr. Greene is a student of history, now a third year graduate, and will use this fellowship in study at Berlin, Germany. Mr. Greene was born at Kobe, Japan. He is 22 years old. Thirteen years ago, he, together with his parents came from Japan and settled in Evanston, Ill, his parents afterward returning to Japan. Mr. Greene was prepared for college in the Evanston High School. In the fall of '85 he entered Northwestern University, entering the class of

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'89. At the end of his junior year he made application for entrance in Harvard and registered with the junior class in the fall of '88. At this time he was awarded Price Greenleaf money, and in the senior year held the Bowditch scholarship. Graduating with the Harvard class of '90, Mr. Greene received honours in political science. Entering the graduate school, he held the Townsend scholarship and was assistant in United States history, holding this latter place for two years. The work taken up in the graduate school was in United States history, and soon an original study was begun on "American Provincial Government," which has been kept up during these years and will constitute the thesis for the Ph.D. Last year Mr. Green held the Thayer scholarship, and this year has been an appointed assistant in history. Taking the Harvard A.M. in '91, he will be a candidate for the Harvard Ph.D. in June. He will leave for Germany in July.

THE GOVERNORSHIP OF THE STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

THE *London and China Express* says:—

A telegram from Singapore announces that Sir Cecil Clementi Smith, the Governor of the Straits Settlements, who retires in October, will return home in August. Mr. W. E. Maxwell, the Colonial Secretary, leaves Marseilles on 25th inst., on his return to the colony, and will act as Administrator. The appointment of the new Governor is notified this morning, the Queen having been pleased to approve of the appointment of Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Charles Bullen Hugh Mitchell, K.C.M.G., Governor of Natal, to be Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Straits Settlements, on the retirement of Sir Cecil Clementi Smith, G.C.M.G., from that Government. Thus the suggestion recently made that a quasi military Governor would probably be appointed to such places, as Singapore, which are fortified coaling stations, has been adopted. Mr. Maxwell is expected to arrive at Singapore about July 19, and will take over the acting Government when Sir Cecil Smith leaves about a month later. The latter will be on leave till the end of October, and it is possible that the arrival of the new Governor may be delayed until November or December. In that case the *interregnum* may be prolonged for that period, in which case the budget for 1894 will be put through before the arrival of the new Governor. The following is the record of services of the new Governor:—

Mitchell, Lieut.-Colonel Sir C. B. H., late (R.M.) K.C.M.G. (1883), C.M.G. (1880)—Colonial Secretary, Br. Honduras, July 1868; administered the Government in 1870, 1874, and 1876, Receiver-General Br. Guiana, 1877, Colonial Secretary of Natal, Nov. 1877; acted as Governor 1881, 1882, and 1885-6; Governor of Fiji, 1886; of Leeward Islands, 1888, but did not take up appointment; administered Government of Natal and Zululand, 1889; appointed Governor, Oct. 1889.

A MEMORIAL OF THE WORLD'S FAIR.

WE are glad to see that permanent memento of the great World's Fair at Chicago is to be given to the public in the form of a handsomely illustrated book with a descriptive text carefully and judiciously compiled. We cannot do better than reproduce the prospectus issued by the Bancroft Company of Publishers, Auditorium Building, Chicago, with reference to this work:—

It is expected that exhibits in the World's Fair will be productive of good results, and amply repay the exhibitors; doubtless it will be so. A grand display, upon which twenty or thirty millions of people from every quarter of the earth gaze with admiration, will certainly have influence.

This is one view of it. Another view is to consider the carrying power of the human brain, and imagine its condition at the end of a day, after having been brought by its owner past three or five miles of exhibits, each exhibitor having striven to outdo all the rest. If at the end of such a day the bewildered mind sinks to sleep, only to rise next morning with few definite impressions as to what was seen yesterday, how will it be to-morrow, or at the end of a week, or a fortnight, after fifty miles of the dazzling display have been travelled over? Any one of these fifty or seventy thousand brilliantly beautiful pictures might be profitably studied for a day at least. They have probably cost their owners, every one of them, a hundred days of study and of labour. Thoroughly to comprehend a dozen of them might prove more beneficial than a superficial view of thousands without a knowledge or understanding of any. It is indeed a remarkable mind which from so brief a glance can carry away very much of this great show.

What then is the best form to have it in—that portion of the exposition which is desirable for the future pleasure and profit of ourselves and others—a form at once portable, beautiful, and permanent? Unquestionably a well written and finely illustrated book. It is the only form in which any considerable portion of this magnificent spectacle, so soon to disappear forever from our eyes, can be possessed and preserved.

Such a book is "The book of the fair, by Hubert Howe Bancroft, in its influence more wide-reaching and lasting than the Fair itself. It is at once a souvenir for those who attend, and the exhibition itself for those who cannot attend. Like the Fair, such a book in the family is an object lesson, a work of perpetual instruction. It were indeed a pity for those who are so fortunate as to be able to come to Chicago and see the Fair for themselves, not to carry or send home the best and most beautiful reproduction of the Fair in Book form. And it is no exaggeration or vain boast to say that the only book worthy of the name, or which at all does the subject justice, is our book of the fair. It may seem to some a wonder that it is true; it may seem a wonder that so grand a theme should not have a score of books to spread its glories throughout the earth. But when the cost of such a work in time and money is considered, there is nothing strange about it. Few would care to assume the labour and the risk. The publishers of this work are accustomed to large enterprises. They never in a single instance have failed to carry to successful completion any work undertaken by them. This work will prove to be all and more than is promised. Therefore send to your children and to your friends "The book of the fair." You will regret it if you do not.

DEATH OF DR. MACGOWAN.

DR. DANIEL JEROME MACGOWAN, the oldest foreign resident in Shanghai, and one of the best-known men in China, says the *N.-C. Daily News* of Friday last, passed away quietly yesterday morning, at his residence in Boone Road, in his 79th year. Born in Fall River, Mass., he first came to Ningpo, as a missionary doctor, exactly fifty years ago. During the Civil War in the United States, he served as a surgeon with the northern armies and made himself much respected at Washington. He returned to China in 1865 as the agent of a syndicate that proposed to build a telegraph line to China by way of Behring Straits, and from that time made Shanghai his head-quarters. His wife, who was equally popular with himself, died about 1878, and he was never quite the same man after her death. He leaves only one child, a daughter, the wife of Sir Chaloner Alabaster, whom he had intended soon to rejoin in England. Sir Robert Hart gave him an appointment in the Customs in 1879, and he served in Shanghai and in Wênchow, at which latter port he had full scope to pursue his studies in folk-lore and natural history. He was a man of vast and various information which he was always anxious to add to, and to impart to others, and he was a contributor to our columns from the first, as well as to numerous other missionary, scientific, and literary publications. He was a thoroughly genial, kind-hearted man, at home in any company, and always with something fresh to tell, a man of unfailing energy in the pursuit of knowledge, and who bore his years wonderfully, as his recent long and arduous trip in Siberia showed. He only returned from Tientsin on Saturday last, and, had been ailing, but refused for some time to consult a doctor. He was expecting from the Viceroy Li Hung-chang letters of introduction to the new Minister to the United States, etc., Yang Ju, to whom the Viceroy recommended him for the post of adviser to the Legation at Washington. He took to his bed on Tuesday and Dr. Jamieson was sent for, but on Wednesday he got up and dressed himself preparatory to going out. He was persuaded to return to bed, where he died quite quietly, just as milk was being given him, of exhaustion and old age, at 10.30 a.m. yesterday. A telegram announcing his death was at once sent to Lady Alabaster in England.

NIKKO.

NIKKO will soon enjoy the advantages of the electric light. By the end of August, at latest, it is expected that all arrangements will be completed for this great addition to the comfort of sojourners. One of the difficulties of people spending the summer vacation at Nikko is lamps. The very inferior lighting apparatus locally procurable is always a source of dissatisfaction, and no one likes to carry valuable lamps to and from a summer resort eighty miles distant in the hills.

* * *

A new hotel, the Kobayashi, was opened on the 19th instant. It is excellently situated both for coolness and prospect, and being built in foreign style with rooms finished more carefully than is usual in such edifices, the hotel should become popular. The opening ceremony was quite an affair, no less a person than Mr. Hoshi Toru, President of the House of Representatives, attending, together with all the local magnates and several notables from Tokyo.

THE AMERICAN SILK INDUSTRY.

THE extraordinary development of the American silk industry during the past ten years has prompted the Rose and Trumbull Company (No. 318, Broadway), to collect and publish in a separate volume the portion of the United States Census of 1890 bearing on the Silk Manufacturing Industry. The first half of the volume contains a mass of interesting statistics, the second is occupied by a directory giving, first in local, and then in alphabetical order, the names and special branches of business of all the silk manufacturers and dyers of the States. From the statistical portion we learn that the value of finished products of silk manufacture in 1890 in America was $69,154,599 (gold) against $34,634,876 for 1880, an increase of 100.33 per cent. in ten years. Further, whereas the silk goods made in the States aggregated only 38 per cent. of the silk goods consumed there in 1880, they aggregated 55 per cent. in 1890. Almost the only item in which a falling off appears is the handkerchief production. This decreased from $3,881,590 in 1880 to $1,913,224 in 1890, and is doubtless still decreasing, handkerchiefs of American manufacture being steadily displaced by these imported from Japan. Concerning this point, we find the following in the volume now before us:—"It may be remarked in this connection that the competition developed in this line from Japan, which is rapidly adopting the latest improved mechanical methods and appliances and possesses such a cheap and abundant supply of skilful, patient and industrious labour, is well calculated to excite even graver apprehension in the minds of many American silk manufacturers and other interested parties as to her possible competition with us in other lines of the industry than exists at present."

* * *

It must be confessed, however, that, gratifying to Americans as this development of the silk manufacturing industry may seem, it rests, in part at any rate, on a very artificial basis. Take, for example, the item of laces for dress and millinery purposes. Here we find a decline from $437,000 in 1880 to $261,750 in 1890, or 40.10 per cent. decrease. Concerning this the census says:—"By far the most important check to the manufacture of this class of goods during the latter part of the past decade undoubtedly resulted from the question which arose as to the construction of the clause in Schedule N. of the Tariff Act of 1883. The inadvertent omission of the word 'vegetable' in said clause led to a large importation of laces being entered as 'hat trimmings,' and consequently, as claimed by the importers, liable to a duty of but 20 per cent. ad valorem, instead of 50 per cent. as silk goods, to which classification American manufacturers claimed they properly belonged. The resulting lawsuits of importers for a refund of duties naturally placed American manufacturers at a disadvantage. A final decision of the Supreme Court of the United States in 1889 sustained the claims of the importers, and as a result during the present census year American lace machinery remained largely idle, it being estimated by one of the principal manufacturers in this line that not more than one-third of the machinery was in operation during that year. Early in 1890 this matter was rectified by an Act of Congress amending the Tariff law, so that all imported laces composed of silk, or of which silk is the component material of chief value, become subject to a duty of 50 per cent." It appears therefore that even with the advantage of an import duty of 20 per cent. the American lace manufacturers could not compete with imported goods.

* * *

The capital involved in the silk-manufacturing industry in 1880 was $19,125,300 and in 1890 it was $51,007,537, an increase of 166.70 per cent. On the other hand, whereas the net value

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of finished goods produced for each dollar of capital invested was $1.80 in 1880, it fell to $1.36 in 1890, a difference largely due to decline in prices from which the world has suffered so severely of late, but due also to the enhanced cost of labour, for whereas the amount of wages paid per capita in 1880 was only $292 annually, in 1890 it was $387, an increase of 32.53 per cent. Labour is the old Man of the Sea in States with a protective tariff. If capital reaped the whole benefit of the protection, a return to free trade would be comparatively easy. But the labourer gets the lion's share, and will not consent to part with it in obedience to any economic theory.

THE LOSS OF H.M.S. "VICTORIA."

LATEST mails from the West bring news as to the manner of the loss of H.M.S. *Victoria*, flagship of Rear-Admiral Tryon, of the Mediterranean Squadron. On Thursday morning, June 23rd, the Mediterranean fleet steamed out from Beyrout, Syria, where a most pleasant stay had been whiled away in exchange of hospitalities betwixt the navy and European residents. The next port of call was Tripolis. The weather was sunny, there was no breeze, and the sea was like a mirror. About 3 o'clock in the afternoon, the fleet was steaming along in double column, each pair of vessels being abreast with six cables lengths between, and the bow of each being two cable lengths from the stern of the vessel ahead. Soon afterwards, Admiral Tryon signalled the order for single line. At the time the order was given the *Victoria* and *Camperdown* were almost exactly abreast. Both slowly turned inward with a sweeping movement and their bows converged. The *Victoria* was slightly ahead as they approached. The *Camperdown* pushed heavily upon her and rammed her on the starboard side of the bow. She tore with tremendous force through the *Victoria's* hull and drove her ram through to the *Victoria's* middle. It was just 3.30 o'clock when, with the great rip in her hull, the *Victoria* began to founder. Admiral Tryon tried at first to run his vessel ashore, but the distance, nearly five miles, was too great. The great ship turned over broadside, and eight minutes after she was struck went down. Rigid discipline was maintained. The invalids and prisoners were brought on deck, and provision was hastily made for their safety in case of the worst. The crew remained at their posts. When five minutes were up, Admiral Tryon apparently realized that his vessel was doomed beyond all hope of safety. He then gave the order, "Let every man save himself." Many of the men rushed from their posts and jumped into the sea. Others were hurrying from below to follow them when the end came. The bow disappeared gradually at first, then rapidly plunged so that the hull stood almost perpendicular in the water, and paused motionless for a moment, and finally rolled completely over. Two tremendous explosions were heard, and then the *Victoria* settled under. Admiral Tryon did not leave the ship. He was the last man seen as she first plunged her bows under water, standing on the bridge as long as it was possible to stand anywhere on the deck. Many of the vessel's complement were torn to pieces by the revolving screws ere the vessel took her last plunge, others were sucked into the gigantic vortex which the huge mass made as she sank in eighty fathoms of water, while the great majority must have been blown to pieces by the explosions or drowned at their posts below. The *Camperdown* had a sixteen foot hole stoved in her bow. She made a deal of water, and was only kept afloat by the closing of her water-tight compartments and by pumping. The rescued officers of the vessel confirm the story already told, but can give no explanation as to the cause of the collision. They state that Admiral Tryon's order was sixteen points to starboard for one division, and the same to port for the other division. This gridiron movement, as it is called, is defended in naval circles as teaching commanders how to handle their ships, and enabling the admiral of the fleet to bring the flagship readily free to windward, or *vice versa*, in order to bear the brunt of an action or to obtain the best position to control a squadron. The officers of the *Barham* state that even after the men of the *Victoria* were ordered to save themselves, they persisted in their gallant attempt to fix the collision mat in position. This usually occupies ten minutes. All agree that Admiral Tryon showed rare heroism. After he had ordered all to save themselves, the coxswain ran up to him with a life belt. Tryon refused to take it, and told the man to see to his own safety. Telegrams that reached the East from the Southern and Chinese telegraph lines state that as soon as the collision was observed on board the other ships of the Fleet, boats put off to rescue the survivors, and to render other aid, but Admiral Tryon signalled them back, thinking that his danger was far less than it was. But even if these boats had approached directly the enormous vortex would have drawn many of them under and many more lives would have been sacrificed. At the Court-martial which is being held at Malta, it has been stated that Rear-Admiral Markham, who was flying his flag on the *Camperdown*, questioned the order given by Admiral Tryon to form into single line because the ships were only six cables apart, and only obeyed after Admiral Tryon had signalled "What are you waiting for?" Admiral Markham, feeling confidence in Admiral Tryon's ability, supposed that he intended to circle round the second division and without waiting any longer executed the order. Later in the Inquiry it was stated that Admiral Tryon refused to change his orders while the collision was impending, and only after repeated urging did he consent to the order being issued "engines full-speed astern," but then it was too late. Other witnesses confirmed this statement, adding that Admiral Tryon, after the collision, admitted that it was entirely his fault. The result of the Naval Court-martial is awaited with interest in every maritime quarter of the globe.

FORMOSA.

FORMOSA appears to be suffering severely from the injudicious fiscal policy of the Government. Mr. Pelham Warren, in his trade report (1892) for Tainan, says :—

It had always been held by the Chinese authorities that the trade of Formosa required fostering, and that every encouragement should be given to immigration from the mainland.

With this object taxation was avoided as far as possible. The land-tax was assessed at very low rates, no duties were charged on goods imported or exported in native bottoms, and last, though not least, likin was unknown. The only duty levied was one of the nature of a tonnage due collected each voyage from the junks trading either to the treaty ports or non-treaty ports of the island.

This state of things continued from the opening of the island to foreign trade until 1886, and the general prosperity and trade of the island advanced steadily as was hoped. There was a constant stream of immigration from the mainland, chiefly from the neighbourhood of Amoy, and the population rapidly increased.

Sugar being the principal article of export from South Formosa the amount exported in any one year is usually taken as a fair indication of any improvement or falling off in the trade generally.

In 1880 the sugar export had increased steadily from 658,094 cwts. in 1870 to 1,288,095 cwts. During the next 4 years the export fluctuated somewhat, but was never below 840,000 cwts., while in 1884 it amounted to 1,070,238 cwts. In 1885 the island was blockaded by the French fleet and trade was consequently very much injured; but it was confidently hoped that the injury would be only temporary and that trade would revive after the withdrawal of the blockading force, and there seemed no reason to doubt that the previous ratio of steadily increasing prosperity would be maintained.

Unfortunately, 1886 saw not only the imposition of likin on exports but also the re-assessment of the land tax. Land that had previously been untaxed, or very slightly taxed, was now put on the new register and taxed beyond what in very many instances it could bear. I know of one case in which the annual tax on a small plot was raised from 5 dol. to 50 dol., and doubtless other land was taxed in proportion. The people refused to pay this increase; force had to be employed and for many months the whole country was in a state of disturbance amounting almost to rebellion. Many of the smaller farmers were ruined and gave up their land; others who resisted payment were treated as outlaws and had to take refuge amongst the civilised aborigines and the Hakkas. Immigration stopped, as South Formosa was no longer considered a desirable place in which to invest capital or labour, and trade declined steadily until in the year under review the entire sugar crop exported in foreign bottoms amounted only to 665,042 cwts.

In consequence of the decrease in the rural population wages have risen and the cost of production is much higher than formerly. Food, too, is dearer; in some districts it has almost doubled in price, whilst the ground under cultivation is not nearly so productive as formerly, repeated cropping without manuring having impoverished the soil, while the producers are not inclined to invest money in improving cultivation or in opening up fresh ground.

* * *

How seriously the operations of foreign merchants are hampered by the fiscal system, Mr. Warren shows in the following :—

The general import trade in foreign bottoms has suffered greatly at the hands of the junks, and as long as the system of differential duties continues unchecked there will be no improvement. To take one instance, kerosene oil is laid down at Takow by junk 5 c. a case cheaper than by steamer, and the importers by junks are consequently in a position to undersell the foreign importer, who obtains his oil direct from the mainland by steamer. No duty is charged on imports by junk, and in addition to this junks are able to take cargo direct to the small ports on the coast. Should foreign merchants wish to send cargo by native boats from the treaty ports to these small ports, the authorities insist on treating such cargo as export, and demand payment either of likin or transit duties. The case is much the same if the foreign merchant sells at the port; the Chinese purchaser being compelled to pay likin if he sends forward the cargo by boat, though if he sends it overland it is treated as an import, and is therefore free, no likin being leviable on imports. The cost of land carriage is so heavy, as compared by that by water, that nothing save opium is sent overland and the Chinese merchants find it better to purchase goods in Hongkong, send them to Namoa, and export them thence in native craft to the small ports which supply the districts for which these goods are destined. Even in the treaty port the foreign merchant cannot compete with the native, much less in the outlying districts. The above reasons account to a great extent, for the stagnant condition of general foreign import trade during the past 10 years. The returns of foreign trade by no means show even approximately the amount of foreign goods consumed in the country; it is doubtful whether they even show the amount consumed at the treaty ports and in their immediate vicinity.

In my last report I pointed out the injury that was inflicted on foreign carrying trade by the system of differential duties, the obstacles placed in the way of foreign merchants and the facilities afforded to native craft. The same state of things continuing, and the evil increasing steadily, the foreign merchant is completely handicapped.

THE ANTARCTIC WHALERS.

THE *Active* and *Polar Star*, two of the three ships of the late whaling expedition, have arrived at Dundee from prosecuting the Antarctic whale fishing. Both vessels have been successful as regards seals, but the whale fishing is a blank. At the north shore of the Erebus and Terror Gulf, Captain Robertson, of the *Active*, discovered a sound ten miles long and 1½ mile broad, which he named Active Sound. At the north end a firth was found, which he named Firth of Tay. At the head of the Firth a deep bay was discovered, and this was named Gibson Bay.

TONQUIN MATCHES.

HERE is an important item of news for Japanese match manufacturers, taken from Mr. Consul Fraser's trade report for Kiungchow, 1892 :—"On October 11, 1892, a great match manufactory, established with French capital (Fabrique d'Allumettes d'Hanoi), which had begun to send out its boxes in May, was opened with a brilliant ceremony, at which the Governor-General of French Indo-China and other notabilities were present by invitation. This enterprise has the latest improvements in machinery from Paris, and employs 200 Annamese women

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workers, trained by the French engineer M. Courtois, who set up the plant. This is confidently looked forward to by the French colonists as likely to compete favourably with the Japanese match factories. To give the new matches a start they were protected by the imposition of an import duty of 18 dol. a case on Japanese matches imported into Hanoi. At the present rate of progress it will be long before this new manufacture finds its way to the markets of China, although the matches, of which I have seen samples, are excellent."

CITY POPULATION

THE *Bulletin of the American Geographical Society* says:—"The ninth volume of "Die Bevölkening der Erde," which is wholly devoted to statistics of population, contains a list of 270 cities, known to have a population of more than 100,000. Of these the principal are:—

London	4,415,958
Paris	2,712,598
New York Brooklyn	2,352,150
Berlin	1,763,543
Canton	1,600,000
Vienna	1,364 548
Wu-chang-Han-Yang-Han-Kau	1,200,000
Tokyo	1,155,290
Philadelphia	1,105,377
Chicago	1,099 850
Langtan	1,000,000
Si-ngan	1,000,000

There are twenty-three cities numbering between 500,000 and 1,000,000."

THE EXTRADITION TREATY BETWEEN RUSSIA AND THE UNITED STATES.

WE take the following from an American exchange:—

The much-controverted Russian extradition treaty is now the law of the land. The President has proclaimed it, and this makes it law. More than six years have elapsed since the treaty was negotiated by Secretary Bayard. It then contained provisions which were deemed by many incompatible with the principles always maintained by the United States in regard to political offences and the treaty was not ratified. During the last administration Secretary John W. Foster secured from the Russian Government modifications which did away with most of the objections and the treaty was ratified, though not without opposition Since the ratification there has been a strong agitation against the treaty on the grounds that under the Russian system of jurisprudence its provisions would be made the agency of all manner of injustice on the part of the Czar's government Nevertheless the general trend of sentiment has been in favour of giving the treaty a trial. Following is the treaty:—

Art.—1 The high contracting parties reciprocally agree to surrender to each other, upon mutual requisitions and according to their respective regulations and procedure, persons who, being charged with or convicted of the commission of any of the crimes and offences specified in the following article, shall seek any asylum or be found within the territory of the other; provided, that this shall only be done upon such evidence or criminality as, according to the laws of the place where the fugitive or person so charged shall be found would justify his or her apprehension and commitment for trial if the crime or offence had been there committed.

CRIMES SPECIFIED.

Art.—2. Persons convicted of or charged with any of the following crimes as well as attempts to commit, of participation in the same as an accessory before the fact, provided such attempt or participation is punishable by the laws of both countries, shall be delivered up in virtue of the provisions of this convention: 1. Murder and manslaughter, when voluntary 2. Rape; abortion. 3 Arson 4. Burglary, to be defined by the act of breaking and entering by night into the dwelling-house of another with intent to commit felony; robbery, defined to be the act of feloniously and forcibly taking from the person of another money or goods by violence or by putting him in fear; larceny, when the value of the property stolen shall exceed $200 or 300 roubles. 5. Forgery, and the utterance of forged papers including public, sovereign, or governmental acts 6 The fabrication or circulation of counterfeit money, either coin or papers or of counterfeit public bonds, coupons of the public debt, bank notes, obligations, or, in general, of any counterfeit title or instrument of credit; the counterfeiting of seals and dies, impressions, stamps, and marks of State and public administrations and the utterance thereof. 7 The embezzlement of public moneys by public officers or depositaries. 8 Embezzlement by any person or persons, hired or salaried, to the detriment of their employers, when the value of the property so taken shall exceed $2000, or 3000 roubles, 9 Piracy or mutiny on shipboard, whenever the crew, or part thereof shall have taken possession of the vessel by fraud or by violence against the commander to Wilful or unlawful destruction or obstruction on railroads which endangers human life

Art. 3.—If it be made to appear that extradition is sought with a view to try or punish the person demanded for an offense of a political character, surrender shall not take place; nor shall any person surrendered be tried or punished for any political offence other than that for which the extradition was granted; nor shall the surrender of any person be demanded for an offense committed prior to the date at which this convention shall take effect. An attempt against the life of the head of either government, or against that of any member of his family, when such attempt comprises the act either or murder, of assassination, or of poisoning, or of accessoryship thereto, shall not be considered a political offence or an act connected with such an offence.

Art. 4.—The contracting parties shall not be required to deliver up their own citizens or subjects in virtue of the stipulations of the present convention

Art. 5.—If the person demanded be held for trial in the country on which the demand is made it shall be optional with the latter to grant extradition or proceed with the trial; provided, that unless the trial shall be for the crime for which the fugitive is claimed the delay shall not prevent ultimate extradition

Art. 6.—Requisitions for the surrender of fugitives from justice, accused or convicted of any of the crimes or offences hereinbefore mentioned, shall be made by the diplomatic agent of the demanding government. In case of absence of such agent, either from the country or from the seat of government, such requisitions may be made by the superior consular officer. When the person whose surrender is requested shall already have been convicted of the crime or offense for which extradition is demanded, the demand therefor shall be accompanied by a copy of the judgment of the court that pronounced the sentence, bearing the seal of said court. When the person whose surrender is asked shall be merely charged with the commission of an extraditable crime or offence, the application for extradition shall be accompanied by an authenticated copy of the warrants of arrest or of some other equivalent judicial document.

ISSUANCE OF WARRANTS.

Art. 7.—It shall be lawful for any competent judicial authority of the United States upon production of a certificate by the Secretary of State stating that request has been made by the Imperial Government of Russia for the provisional arrest of a person convicted or accused of the commission therein of a crime or offence extraditable under this convention, and upon complaint duly made that such crime or offense has been so committed, to issue his warrant for the apprehension of such person. But if the formal requisition for surrender, with the formal proofs hereinbefore mentioned be not made as aforesaid by the diplomatic agent of the demanding government, or, in his absence, by the competent consular officer, within forty days from the date from the date of the commitment of the fugitive, the prisoner shall be discharged from custody and the Imperial Russian Government will, upon request of the Government of the United States, transmitted through the diplomatic agent of the United States, secure the provisional arrest of persons convicted or accused of the commission therein of crimes or offences extraditable under this convention. But if the formal requisition for surrender, with the formal proofs herein before mentioned, be not made as aforesaid by the diplomatic agent of the demanding government, or in his absence by the competent consular officer, within forty days from the date of the arrest of the fugitive, the prisoner shall be discharged from custody

Art. 8.—Articles in the possession of the fugitive that have aided the commission of the crime or offence, and any article or property which was obtained through the commission of the crimes or offence charged, and also any other article that may serve to convict shall, if the demand for extradition be granted, be delivered to the authorities of the demanding government, even where, owing to the death or escape of the fugitive, extradition cannot take place Such delivery shall also include articles of the character above mentioned which the fugitive may have concealed or deposited in the country of refuge and which may subsequently be found there. The rights of third parties to the above mentioned articles shall, nevertheless, be duly respected, and they shall be returned to the owners free of expense after the conclusion of the case.

Art. 9.—In case the person whose extradition is demanded under the present convention is also claimed by another government preference shall be given to the government whose demand shall be earlier in point of time, provided the government from which extradition is sought is not bound by treaty to give preference otherwise.

Art. 10.—The expense occasioned by the arrest, detention, and transportation of persons whose extradition is requested shall be borne by the government making the application.

Art. 11.—The present convention shall be ratified and the ratifications shall be exchanged at St. Petersburg as soon as possible. It shall take effect the twentieth day after its promulgation in the manner prescribed by the laws in force in the territories of the contracting parties. It shall remain in force for six months after notice of the termination shall have been given by either of the contracting parties

This treaty seems to us to be a distinct advance in civilization. Nothing can be more opposed to the principles of right then the practice of granting asylum to men who have been engaged in attempts to murder the head of a friendly Power's Government. All nations ought to unite in hunting down such miscreants. Russia's system of administration is not according to our Anglo-Saxon ideals, but it is Russia's, and, after all is said and done, every country has precisely the form of government that it deserves to have, just as every community has newspapers suited to its standards of intelligence and refinement Reform must come by processes other than assassination and savagery.

NEWS FROM KOREA

ACCORDING to the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* correspondent, writing from Sōul on the 14th instant, the new Korean Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Nan Taitetsu, does not seem to be getting on well with his colleagues, especially Bin Eishuku, who appears to be the most powerful member of the Korean Cabinet. Nan, moreover, has an aged mother in the country whom he is anxious to comfort by living with her. From these circumstances, he is said to be desirous of being relieved from his official functions. It the event of his resignation, his successor will be, in the opinion of well informed persons, Bin Heishoku, who occupied the post before him. At all events a change of *personnel* in the Korea Foreign Office seems to be regarded as a foregone conclusion in Sōul.

* * *

Bin Eishoku, according to the same correspondent, is also expected to resign before long, his father being seriously ill. Among his probable successors, the most likely candidates are Bin Eitatsu, Minister of the Department of Ceremononies, and Bin Eikan, Minister of War.

* * *

The 12th instant fell on the day on which, according to time-honoured custom, the King of Korea was to view the harvesting of wheat and barley. This ceremony was not performed this year, owing, it is said, to the lack of funds to pay the expenses. Whenever the King goes out among his people, it is the custom to give presents of money to the poor in the districts through which the royal train passes, and the poor being very numerous among his subjects, this custom is said to be an exceedingly costly one.

* * *

Mr. Hattori, editor of the *Tō-a Bōeki Shimbun*, a Japanese newspaper at Fusan, was recently prohibited by Consul Murota from residing in Korea for two years. The Japanese Consuls in Korea and China are invested with authority to prohibit the residence in the respective countries of those Japanese whose presence may be deemed prejudicial to public morality or peace. It is not rare that this extraordinary power has been exercised for reasons of morality, but it is the first time that political reasons have necessitated recourse to its execution. The Consul's order prohibiting the journalist's residence in Korea does not specify any particular action of the latter as being objectionable. Mr. Hattori is stated to be a politician of progressive principles, his journalistic experience having been obtained in various provincial Radical organs. The relations between him and Mr. Murota, the Japanese Consul at Fusan, are said to have been considerably strained from the first moment he assumed the editorial control of the *Tō-a Bōeki Shimbun*.

* * *

According to a letter of the *Nichi Nichi's* occasional correspondent from Fusan, Mr. Hattori's expulsion has been made necessary on account of his tendency to instigate the hatred of the lower orders of Japanese against the higher classes. The immediate cause of the extreme measure against him is said to have been his violent writings on the subject of the recent murders of Japanese fishermen, the manifest drift of his articles being to denounce the course pursued by Consul Murota and thereby purchase the favour of the Korean Government

THE SUSPENSION OF THE "HOCHI SHIMBUN."

THE *Hochi Shimbun* has been suspended by order of the Minister for Home Affairs, its issue of the 25th instant having been considered by him to be prejudicial to the public peace There is no doubt that the objectionable matter is contained in the leading article on the Holiday Season of the Clan Government. In that article, the Progressionist organ charges the Ministers of State with disloyalty to the State and neglect of their official duties, because they "vie with each other in going on holiday tours. They are told that, so far as the public knows they have not done anything to redeem the solemn promise of reform which they made during the fourth session of the Diet. Even with regard to the Navy, in which they vowed to effect thorough reforms with the utmost expediency, they have accomplished nothing—remarks the *Hochi*—beyond revising the Organization and other regulations of the service Our contemporary then goes on to assert that the Civil Service of the Empire is entirely demoralized, and in support of this extravagant charge it refers to various rumours circulated about

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the integrity of some members of officialdom, to a certain Minister of State said to be engaged in speculation, to the corruption of legal and police officials, to the illegal practices of certain engineers connected with the Yokohama Harbour Works, and so on. Under such a state of things, the Ministers of State, if they knew their duty, ought not to leave the capital at the present juncture. They are also reminded of the fact that various grave affairs affecting the foreign relations of the Empire demand their serious attention, such, for instance, as Treaty Revision, the Portuguese Consular question, the Hawaiian question, the Korean question, and so forth. That they are anxious to leave the capital to escape from its heat at a time like the present, when various matters of the gravest importance are demanding their attention, shows, in the *Hochi's* opinion, how little they have the interests of the country at heart, and how little they care about the solemn responsibilities of their exalted positions. Some people, our contemporary goes on to observe, think that those in power are now at ease, because, the Opposition being divided among itself, they feel confident of their victory in the coming session of the Diet. If such be their idea, the Progressionist organ would like to tell them that they cherish hope where there is no ground for hope. The ill-will between the Radicals and the Progressionists is, in its opinion, limited to a small section of both parties. "Consequently, if the Cabinet Ministers allow themselves too much to indulge in dreams of paradise, they are doomed one day to awake and find themselves at the bottom of hell." Such in brief is the gist of the *Hochi's* article, but we do not pretend that we have done full justice to the extravagant violence of tone in the original.

* * *

Perhaps it is not necessary to observe that there is no truth in the Progressionist organ's charge against the Ministers of State that they are starting on tours of pleasure. As to Counts Ito and Saigo, who are going to inspect the different Naval Depôts, their tour, we have reason to believe, has been specially ordered by the Emperor in view of the completion of reforms in the Navy. With regard to Count Inouye, not even the Progressionist organ will venture to deny that his official tour in Hokkaido is a measure of the highest importance for the proper settlement of the much agitated question of the development of the northern island. The Opposition papers have always been particularly loud in recommending the Ministers of State to visit Hokkaido. Moreover, we are informed that the Minister for Home Affairs took with him a formidable quantity of official papers, to which he hopes to attend during his tour in the north.

* * *

The *Hochi* is too sagacious not to be aware of the injustice of the violent charges it prefers against those in power. Its object no doubt is to sound the temper of the people against the present Cabinet.

ORIGINALITY.

WHAT so delightful as a new idea? And we have just lighted upon one. It explains why the Japanese are so courteous and good-tempered. The reason is that they live on rice and fish. Conversely, the reason why Europeans are so rude and angry is because they live on meat. "In no country," declares Mr. Ernest Hart in the *Hospital*, "is home rendered so unhappy and life made so miserable by the ill-temper of those who are obliged to live together as in England. If we compare domestic life and manners in England with those of other countries where meat does not form such an integral article of diet, a notable improvement will be remarked. In less meat-eating France urbanity is the rule of the home; in fish-and rice-eating Japan harsh words are unknown, and an exquisite politeness to one another prevails even among the children who play together in the streets. In Japan I never heard rude angry words spoken by any but Englishmen. I am strongly of opinion that the ill-temper of the English is caused in a great measure by a too abundant meat dietary combined with a sedentary life. The halfoxidised products of albumen circulating in the blood produce both mental and moral disturbances. Brain workers should live sparingly if they would work well and live long. Their force is required for mental exertion, and should not be expended on the task of digestion, for they should remember that the digestion of heavy meals involves a great expenditure of nerve force. The healthful thing to do is to lead an active and unselfish life, on a moderate diet, sufficient to maintain strength and not increase weight."

CUSTOMS RETURNS.

THE following is a summary of the Customs Returns for June, showing the foreign trade of the empire for the month :—

	1892. SILVER YEN.	1893. SILVER YEN.
Exports	6,081,351 870	7,018,665 550
Imports	6,009,826,730	7,298,113 560
Total exports and imports		14,316,779.110
Excess of imports		279,448 010

CUSTOMS DUTIES.	SILVER YEN.
Exports	151,337 390
Imports	239,843 772
Miscellaneous	10,871 320
Total	402,052.482

TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS TO AND IMPORTS FROM VARIOUS FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

	Exports. Silver Yen.	Imports. Silver Yen.	Total. Silver Yen.
United States of America	5,113,740 860	643,534.610	5,757,275.470
China	559,197.830	1,649,371 480	2,208,668.700
Great Britain	880,057.980	1,552,829.070	2,412,886 450
Hongkong	1,009,459.640	250,618.300	1,260,077.940
British India	187,426 510	1,024,631 680	1,212,058.190
France	378,675 590	258,263 560	1,016,939.150
Germany	82,731.940	571,453.270	654,185.210
Canada & other British America	457,906.460	1,065.970	458,972.430
Korea	106,805.700	141,216.520	247,022.220
Belgium	3,507 470	68,350.480	71,857 950
Philippine Islands	23,395.000	55,586.990	69,982.990
Australia	52,047.500	23,640 260	75,687 760
Switzerland	1,752.000	51,025 430	52 777.430
Russia	49,588 530	1,477 100	51,065 630
Austria	9,370.500	38,960 380	48,330.880
Italy	16,408.900	4,500.830	20,909 730
Hawaii	17,739.130	788 000	18,527 130
Holland	4,082 970	1,691 310	5,774 340
Spain	—	5,333.530	5,333 530
Portugal	—	1,368.220	1,368.220
Denmark	256.000	326 610	582.610
Siam	196.000	24.400	220.400
Peru	—	109.720	109.720
Turkey	60.000	46.900	106.900
Sweden & Norway	58 050	—	58.050
Other Countries	74,076.330	198,498 080	272,574 410
Total	6,886,387.730	7,298,213.560	14,184,601.290

TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS AND IMPORTS FROM AND TO EACH PORT.

	Exports. Silver Yen	Imports. Silver Yen.	Totals. Silver Yen.
Yokohama	3,856,064.410	2,851,155.800	6,707,216 210
Kobe	2,495,944.930	3,681,801 810	6,177,746.740
Osaka	127,954 240	451,640 830	579,595 070
Nagasaki	271,074 640	328,665.770	600,240.410
Hakodate	20,405 660	1,060.960	21,466.620
Niigata	2,536 560	136 160	2,672.720
Shimonoseki	28,102 930	48,638 730	76,741.660
Moji	84,130.950	—	84,130 950
Kakata	1,202.900	436.200	1,639.100
Karatsu	86,467.000	—	86,467 000
Kuchinotsu	127,338.000	—	127,338 000
Idzugahara	46.500	1,490 320	1,536.820
Shishimi	1,067 780	2,235.540	3,303 320
Simuna	414 850	912 370	1,327 220
Pashiki	1,024 400	—	1,918 400
Otaru	3,617 800	—	5,017 800
Specie and Bullion { Exports			1,596,418 610
Specie and Bullion { Imports			531,528.770
Total			2,127,947.380
Excess of exports			1,064,889 840

VALUE OF EXPORTS AND IMPORTS BY JAPANESE MERCHANTS AND GOVERNMENT.

By Japanese Merchants { Exports		833,705.850
By Japanese Merchants { Imports		1,500,927 610
Imported by Government		17,516.930

SHANGHAI NOTES.

BOYD & Co. Limited, Shanghai, declare a dividend for the year of Tls. 10 on ordinary Shares, add Tls. 25,000 to reserve, place Tls. 15,000 to the maintenance and depreciation account, and carry forward Tls 2,027 81. * * * The *N.-C. Daily News* has been informed by Mr. R. M. Campbell that the Directors of the Agra Bank, Ltd., have determined upon the Bank withdrawing from business in Shanghai. * * * At the celebration on the 16th inst. at Soochow of the eighteenth anniversary of the birthday of the mother of H.E. K'uei Chün, Governor of this province, gifts in money, silk, precious stones, pearls and such like, estimated at something near Tls. 150,000, were sent to the Governor's *yamên* by all the officials of Kiangsu. They were, however, courteously refused by his Excellency. * * * A Chinese gentlemen who arrived at Shanghai on July 17th from Huchow at the foot of the Tahu Lake, states that a few days ago, five natives, one of them a well-known bully, went to the residence of the Rev. Mr. Mason and demanded that he should subscribe to the festival then about to take place and that he should abstain from animal food for three days in honour of the god of Thunder. Mr. Mason replied that his religion taught him differently, and refused, whereupon the bully said it was a very easy matter to put him out of the place. Mr. Mason reminded him that he was there by treaty right and took the names of the five men, who then went away. A couple of days afterwards a big poster was put up in the temple telling the people in letters inches square to go to the "Jesus Hall" where they would see for themselves that dead men's bones were made into medicines. Besides this, the usual absurd charges were made against the missionaries. The Chinese gentleman and some of his friends removed the poster. * * * Late advices from Ichang state that to allay the feeling of terrorism in that city as to a *Kolao Hui* outbreak, which has exercised the people of that prefecture lately, the authorities somehow managed to arrest a "suspicious" character. He was questioned and tortured and of course denied being a *Kolao Hui* man, but did not refuse to give a number of names of those who he said were members of that society, which means that a number of men who have been unlucky enough at one time to have opposed the culprit are to be given over to the hands of the authorities. Four have been arrested in this way. * * * Huang Tao.ai of Chinkiang on his return from Soochow, where he had been to assist at the celebration of the birthday anniversary of the Governor's mother, had a very narrow escape from drowning on the afternoon of the 17th inst. It seems that a steam-launch had been engaged to tow Huang Taotai's house-boat as well as the houseboat of Lin Taotai, Co-Director of the Kiangnan Arsenal, who was also returning from the same errand. On the boats approaching the vicinity of Lake Tienshan, near Quinsan, a sudden gale arose, and the towing rope snapped in two. A sudden gust striking Huang Taotai's boat amidships broadside on quickly capsized it, turning the boat bottomside up. Lin Taotai promptly gave orders to stop the steam-launch and bringing his own boat alongside the overturned boat ordered the bottom to be smashed in by means of axes and soon an outlet was made for the imprisoned inmates. Huang Taotai and four of his suite were saved, but two servants and three boatmen and boatwomen, five in all, were drowned. Liu Taotai brought Huang Taotai up to Shanghai on the evening of the same day, the latter being in a fever through the scare and involuntary bath. All the baggage and some valuable presents refused by the Governor have gone to the bottom through the accident, but divers sent by the Shanghai magistrate, a cousin of the Chinkiang Taotai, are now at work trying to recover the things as well as the dead bodies of the servants and crew. * * * The week before last some 263 Chinese tramps arrived at Shanghai from the neighbourhood of Kiukiang, *viâ* Woosung, and camped near the joss house at the back of "Wayside." They were carefully watched and in a few days left for some other place after being assisted by the local authorities.

THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT AND KOREAN COINAGE.

IT is announced in the vernacular press that the work of Korean coinage, about which so many contradictory reports have lately been published, has been definitely entrusted to the Japanese Government. According to the *Hochi Shimbun*, the secret intrigues of the family and the indiscretion of Mr. Hasegawa, Acting Director of the Mint at Osaka, at one time threatened to induce the Korean Government to place the work of coinage in the hands of some foreigners other than Japanese. It seems that there must have been some misunderstanding between Mr. An, chief of the Commission to Japan in connection with

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the question of coinage, and Mr. Omiwa, one of the members of the same Commission. Both Mr. An and the Korean Minister in Tokyo seem to have thought that the Japanese Government was not willing to undertake the work. The Korean Minister, however, having found out his mistake, telegraphed to Mr. An at Osaka on the 22nd or 23rd instant to come up to Tokyo immediately. At first Mr. An was disinclined to come to Tokyo, and wired back to that effect. Meanwhile, Mr. Mutsu, Minister for Foreign Affairs, called to the Foreign Office on the 24th instant both the Korean Minister and Mr. Omiwa, who had come to the capital a few days previously, and acquainted them with the favourable attitude of the Japanese Government on the question of coinage. On the morning of the 25th instant Mr. An unexpectedly arrived in Tokyo, and now, after consulting with him and Mr. Omiwa, the Korean Minister has sent a formal note of application to the Japanese Government for the coinage of the bullion which had been brought by Mr. An, amounting to 22,000 *yen* in value. As to the continuation of the work, that will be settled after the return of the Commission to Söul. Mr. An will leave for Korea on the 3rd of August, Mr. Omiwa staying in this country a little longer than his superior.

* * *

Mr. Omiwa has been interviewed by a representative of the *Kokumin Shimbun*. According to him, the Korean Government's object is to turn out new coins to the sum of 6,000,000 *yen* during the next five years. The bullion in the possession of the Korean Government amounts to about 100,000 *yen*. When that is used up, the purchase of material will be entrusted to the Bank of Japan or some other bank of good standing. As to the denominations, the highest grade will be *ryo* (=10 *sen* in Japanese money) which will be made up of 10 *sen*, a *sen* being composed of 10 *bu*. A *bu* is thus the lowest unit, corresponding to 2 *rin* in Japanese money.

MR. STANLEY AS HUMANITARIAN.

A CHARACTERISTIC incident occurred lately at the Colonial Institute on the occasion of a lecture by Mr. F. C. Selous, the "mighty hunter," upon his sporting experiences in Africa. At the conclusion of the address, Mr. H. M. Stanley rose, and to the astonishment of all present expressed a wish that Mr. Selous had been fined £10 each for the eight hundred beasts he had killed—but *not*, adds the *Saturday*, boasted of. Mr. Selous was amiable enough to deny himself the pleasure of the most obvious of all retorts, which is perhaps a pity. But, asks the *Saturday*, "why this tenderness for four-footed game only? And if you come to arithmetic, what would be some people's 'tottle' at £10 a head for bipeds—*excluding* ostriches and other feathered fowl?"

ARREST OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE KANAGAWA LOCAL ASSEMBLY.

THE *Boyeki Shimbun* says that Mr. Suzumoto Inanosuki, President of the Kanagawa Local Assembly, was summoned to the Yokohama Local Court on the 26th inst. and after examination before Preliminary Judge Kato, was sent to Tobe Prison on suspicion of having been an accomplice in the attempted murder of a Progressionist during the recent election disturbances in Koza District. Messrs. Yamada Kakoku, a Radical representative in the Lower House, and Oshima Seigi, Nagai Shigeru, Uyeno Zuikichi, and Shizawa Daisuke were examined as witnesses in connection with the case the following day.

SAN FRANCISCO'S WINTER EXHIBITION.

SAN FRANCISCO has finally resolved to organize a winter exhibition with whatever Chicago exhibits can be procured for the purpose. The following is the programme thus far formulated:—

First—The fair shall be called the "California Midwinter International Exposition."

Second—The Exposition shall be conducted under the direct management and control of an executive committee, constituted as hereinafter provided for and subject to such rules and regulations as may be prescribed by said executive committee, and shall embrace four buildings, of which three shall be about the size of the present Mechanics' Institute building, and one is to be built of durable material and shall, after the Exposition, be donated to the Golden Gate Park as a permanent museum building. Said buildings shall cost in the aggregate not to exceed $500,000.

Third—The Exhibition to open on the 1st of January, 1894, and to continue for six months.

Fourth—The executive committee shall consist of nine persons, of whom five shall be residents of San Francisco, and three shall constitute a quorum; said executive committee to be appointed by the Mayor of the city and county of San Francisco, and the Mayor shall be an ex-officio member of this committee.

Fifth—The executive committee shall organize by electing the following officers, namely: A president, a vice-president, a secretary and a treasurer, and shall appoint such committees as may be found necessary. The president of the executive committee shall be general manager of the Exposition. The secretary and the treasurer need not be members of the executive committee.

Sixth—The executive committee shall appoint the following officers of the Exposition: An assistant general manager, who shall be superintendent of grounds and buildings; a superintendent of machinery; a superintendent of exhibits, concessions and admissions; an architect; a chief engineer; a superintendent of the women's department; a superintendent of department of commerce; a superintendent of department of mining; a superintendent of agriculture; a superintendent of department of fine arts, and such other officers and assistants as may be necessary. The executive committee shall have full power to lessen or increase the number of officers in this section enumerated.

Seventh—The executive committee shall prescribe the duties of its officers, appointees, and employés, and may allow them reasonable compensation for their services. The executive committee shall have full power to do all that is necessary for the conducting of the Exposition as herein outlined, and shall be held accountable to the people of the State for a proper use of the funds entrusted to it for the purposes of the Exposition.

Eighth—There shall be Boards of Commissioners, consisting of three persons from each county of the State. Said commissioners shall be selected at a public meeting called for this purpose, and the credentials of the persons so selected shall be approved by the executive committee. The duties of said commissioners shall be to raise funds and to organize the exhibits of their respective counties and said commissioners shall be subject to such rules and regulations as the executive committee may prescribe.

Ninth—The National Commissioners from California to the World's Columbian Exposition at Chicago shall constitute an Advisory Board to consult with the executive committee from time to time with reference to the control and general management of the exposition.

THE UNITED STATES TREASURY AND SILVER.

ONE of the most interesting and valuable documents published in recent times with reference to the silver question, is Secretary Carlisle's account of the operation of the silver purchase laws of the United States and their consequences. *Bradstreet's* summarizes the Secretary's statement thus:—

Secretary Carlisle prefaces his statement regarding the operations of the silver purchase law with a brief reference to the coinage of silver since the establishment of the United States Mint in 1792. He recalls that from that time to 1873, a period of eighty one years, the total amount of silver dollars coined was 8,045,838. In 1873 the coinage was stopped by Act of Congress, but in 1878 it was resumed under the so-called Bland Allison Act, by the terms of which the Secretary of the Treasury was directed to purchase and coin into standard silver dollars of 412½ grains each not less than $2,000,000 worth nor more than $4,000,000 worth of silver bullion each month, and between the date of that Act and the 14th of July, 1890, a period of twelve years, there was coined $378,166,793. In addition to this there has been coined from trade dollars $5,078,472 and from the seigniorage of bullion purchased and coined under the Act of July 14, 1890, the sum of $6,641,109, making in the aggregate $389,886,374 in full legal tender silver money issued by the government since 1878. Of this amount only $58,016,019 were in actual circulation on the first day of the present month, the remainder, being held in the Treasury as part of the assets of the government, or being represented by outstanding certificates. The Act of July 14, 1890, Secretary Carlisle points out, required the Secretary of the Treasury to purchase 4,500,000 fine ounces of silver bullion each month, and it provided that he should continue the coinage of silver dollars at the rate of $2,000,000 per month until the 1st day of July, 1891, and under this Act there have been coined $29,408,461, which makes the total coinage of silver dollars under all Acts since 1878 $419,294,835, or more than fifty times as much as was coined during a previous period of eighty-one years.

The uncoined silver purchased under the Act and now held in the vaults of the Treasury amounts to 124,292,532 fine ounces. This large quantity of silver cost the people of the United States $114,299,920, but it is not worth that amount to day, owing to the decline in the value of the metal. At the market price of the metal to-day it would bring only $103,411,386. This represents a loss of $10,888,530. But this is not all. By the terms of the Act the Secretary was required to pay for all silver bullion purchased by the issue of the new United States Treasury notes payable in coin, and it provided that upon demand of the holder of any such notes they should be redeemed in gold or silver coin, at the discretion of the Secretary, "it being" in the language of the Act, "the established policy of the United States to maintain the two metals on a parity with each other upon the present legal ratio, or such ratio as may be provided by law." In the execution of this declared policy of Congress, Mr. Carlisle points out, it has been held to be the duty of the Secretary of the Treasury, when the necessity arises, to exercise all the powers conferred upon him by law in order to keep the government in a condition to redeem its obligations in such coin as may be demanded, and to prevent the depreciation of either as compared with the other.

How the law has worked in practice is shown by some statistics covering the period of eleven months from May 31, 1892, to May 1, 1893. During this period the coin Treasury notes issued for the purchase of silver bullion under the Act of 1890 amounted to $49,961,184. The amount of these notes paid in gold during the same period was $47,745,173. In other words, all the silver purchased under the law during the eleven months was paid for in gold, with the exception of $2,216,011 worth. Meanwhile, the bullion itself is stored in the vaults of the Treasury, and can neither be sold nor used for the payment of any kind of obligation. Under this showing it is plain, as the Secretary points out, that if the policy of the silver purchase law is continued and the Treasury Department shall be compelled to issue bonds or otherwise increase the interest bearing public debt, it will be done for the purpose of procuring gold with which to pay for silver bullion under the Act of 1890. No criticism which has been passed upon the bill could be more eloquent than the simple statistical showing made by the Secretary of the Treasury in this statement. Whether Congress can resist the logic of the figures is a matter for the future to determine. The Secretary has at least done his duty in pointing out whither the maintenance of the present policy must lead.

COLOURED PHOTOGRAPHY.

WE have already reproduced M. Léon Vidal's enthusiastic notice of the Lippmann-Lumière process for obtaining coloured photographs. Concerning this, Mr. Frederic Ives, a Philadelphian photographer of note, now on a visit to England, has been interviewed by a representative of the *Pall Mall Budget*, with the following result:—

Well, what do you think of this Lippmann-Lumiere process?—"I am inclined to think that M. Vidal has either seen a miracle, or is stating what is not. The colours got by it are due to interference of light by thin films on plates backed with mercury. They are what we call iridescent simply, and are such as you can often see on the surface of stagnant pools. Even if they possessed no other drawbacks, the fact that white light in these photographs comes out a deep brown would be sufficient to condemn them; but it happens besides that the colours in the rest of the photograph are merely a matter of the length of exposure; so that although, perhaps, once in the course of ten miles a tree may come out green, it is just as likely to be pink or blue or anything else in the remaining nine. The colours are an accidental effect, and vary according to the light in which they are looked at."

How does M. Lippmann print his photographs?—"They are not printed at all. By inclining the plate at a suitable angle to the light you can get a coloured effect, that is all. And the colour varies with the angle. Those beautiful greys and whites that M. Vidal spoke of were nothing more than the ordinary reflection of the sky off a glossy surface."

What led you to the idea of heliochromy?—"It is not new. Mr. Collen, the Queen's painting master, suggested the idea of photographing three images to represent the three primary colours twenty-eight years ago, and various methods of carrying it out have been tried abroad by Cros and Du Hauron in France and Dr. Vogel in Germany. But they did not hit the true idea. It has taken me years to perfect my three colour screens in such a way as to make each image when taken a true representation of one of the fundamental colour sensations, so that when the three were once more blended in a common image through similar screens the actual colours of nature would be returned to the eye."

And have you succeeded in this?—"Look at these specimens."

Here Mr. Ives brought down his heliochromoscope, a small square box with an eyepiece, some-

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what resembling a camera. After turning it towards the light, he slipped in front of it what appeared to be an ordinary photographic negative with three pictures on it arranged in trefoil. This, however, he asserted was not a negative, but a simple positive taken on glass instead of paper. The images were not coloured, but merely differed from one another in regard to the arrangement of light and shade. On putting one's eye to the eyepiece there appeared in full relief an absolutely perfect representation of a dish of fruit; glossy red apples, mottled yellow bananas, and a luscious bunch of green grapes covered with a tempting bloom that made one's mouth water more than all the efforts of Dutch *genre* painters could ever do. Several similar objects followed; then came photographs of coloured pictures, of oil paintings, of Swiss scenery in all the living colours of nature. "How is it," one exclaimed in breathless amazement, "that the world knows nothing of this?"—"Perhaps because I am not quite ready to supply cameras to the world. I have only just succeeded in perfecting my own."

Does your camera reproduce every colour and shade in nature?—"Certainly. That is more than the Lippmann process can claim. Or less, perhaps I should say; for the Lippmann process is certain to photograph in colours, whether the object is coloured or not. My camera does not do that. Here is a photograph of an ordinary photograph pasted on to bands of bright colours; you see the photograph remains in brown monochrome while the bands are bright. One photographic worthy has described my process as 'looking at ordinary photographs through coloured glass'! I can't think why people should wish to detract from it. It is a perfectly honest scientific process, and I have not forced it on them. Since Captain Abney and others of the leading scientists have taken it up, however, this pettiness has ceased."

When do you expect to be ready to supply heliochromoscopes and chromograms?—"Can't say. I have promised my friend Mr. Swan the first. I have had a great many requests. A dealer in oriental rugs in America when he saw my pictures offered me a hundred dollars for a heliochromoscope and a set of photographs of the rugs that he used to carry about with him to show their colours and patterns. There are many uses that could be found for the instrument, quite as many, at all events, as there ever could be for the phonograph, which does the same service for sound as this for sight, and does it far less perfectly."

MR. F. L. COOMBS.

By to-day's mail Mr. F. L. Coombs takes his departure from Japan, after having filled the post of United States Representative for a little over a year. In that short space of time his high qualities have won for him universal respect and the esteem and regard of all nationalities. In his official capacity he has invariably shown sound judgment and clear insight, and in society it would have been difficult for any one to make more numerous and hearty friendships. Mr. Coombs will be greatly missed in Tokyo, but we trust that from the career of public usefulness which undoubtedly awaits him in his own country, he may be able to spare time to re-visit a land where he will always be remembered with affection. We wish him every success and every happiness.

* * *

The ex-United States Minister came down to this port on Thursday, leaving Shimbashi by the 3.35 p.m. train. He was accompanied to Shimbashi Station in the same carriage by Mr. Dun. The Ministers of State and other higher officials as well as the members of the Diplomatic Corps being mostly away from the capital in this season of the year, there were comparatively few friends and acquaintances to bid him farewell. There were present, however, His Excellency Mr. Hayashi, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs; Private Secretaries Nakata and Goh of the Foreign Office; several members of the Diplomatic Corps, and some private friends.

OBSERVATIONS AT SEA.

For the observation of the sea currents, glass bottles will be let into the sea lying between Awa, Chiba Ken, and Chishima (Kurile Islands), Hokkaido. Any person who finds any of these bottles anywhere, whether on sea or coast, will oblige by taking out the post cards to be found in the bottles and forward the same to *The Imperial Fisheries Commission, Department of Agriculture and Commerce, Tokyo, Japan*, filled with the details there in requested, viz.:—1 Where and when (dates and hours) the bottles were found. 2. The names of the ship and the persons who have found them and their nationality. 3. The numbers found.

THE GRAND DUKE.

The Austrian Crown Prince's programme has been considerably altered owing to the cutting out of the Siam portion. He arrived at Hongkong on the 25th instant, and will probably reach Nagasaki on the 1st proximo, being thus three or four days earlier than the calculated time, even allowing for the omission of the visit to Bangkok. Japan's preparations have thus to be much hastened, but as they were in a tolerably forward condition, no inconvenience is likely to ensue. Mr. Sannomiya, Vice-Grand-Master of Ceremonies, left Tokyo for Nagasaki by the first train on the 26th instant.

ALLEGED FORGERY OF THE "KIRIN BEER" TRADE MARK.

The *Nippon* says that a Japanese, named Fukuda Otokichi, a liquor dealer at Isezakicho, Yokohama, has been prosecuted by the Yokohama "Kirin" Beer Brewery Co., for having forged the trade mark of the Company, and then placed it upon bottles containing an inferior beer. He has been engaged in the trade for some time. The authorities of the Yokohama Local Court visited the dealer's shop on the 25th inst. and confiscated one hundred and fifty bottles of the spurious beer. The man is in custody.

DEATH OF MR. C. D. BOTTOMLEY.

Another old China hand has joined the great majority in the person of Mr. C. D. Bottomley, his death occurring at Buxton, Derbyshire, on the 10th instant. He arrived at Hongkong in the early sixties and after serving in several commercial houses became a partner of Messrs. Douglas Lapraik & Co. He went home three years ago. As an all round sport he was very popular, being for years coxswain of the English Four. He was several times chairman of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank.

CALLED.

Amongst the calls to the Bar to the degree of Barrister-at-Law on the 14th June were the following names:—Lincoln's Inn: Arathoon Seth, St. Paul's College, Hongkong. Inner Temple: Kuoyi Ajasa, London. Middle Temple: Long Ong Siang, Downing College, Cambridge (100 guineas Middle Temple International Law Scholar, 100 guineas Council of Legal Education Studentship in Roman Law); and Ichitaro Shimizu, Bachelor of Law, Imperial University, Tokyo, Japan.

THE WORLD'S FAIR—ANOTHER CANARD.

A telegram despatched by Mr. Tsuda Yuzo, a special correspondent of the *Asahi Shimbun* in America, on the 21st, at 10 a.m., states "that somebody tore down the Russian national flag in the Engineering Gallery of the Fair, whereupon Russia closed its exhibition rooms and the affair became an international question." This telegram is startling in its fresh originality—we reproduce it for that reason alone.

PICTURES OF JAPAN IN AMERICA.

A correspondent writing from America says:—"Blum's pictures have all sold—some for thousands. The Cherry Girl is ravishing. Some of the best of his pictures appeared in the illustrations of his articles in the April, May, and June *Scribner's* on Japan. The process-reproductions were not very successful, and the articles were not generally interesting, though indicating remarkable literary fluency."

MR KATO MASAKAZU DROWNED.

The *Yomiuri* says that Mr. Kato Masakazu, ex-member of the House of Representatives for Aichi Prefecture, was drowned on the 19th inst., while bathing in the Shinkawa, a river running through Aichi District.

IMPERIAL AUDIENCE.

H.I.H. Prince Komatsu Yorihito, and his equerry, Mr. Nagasaki Seigo, visited the Palace on the 27th inst. to bid farewell to Their Majesties the Emperor and Empress. Mr. Sone, the new Japanese Minister to France, and Major Ochiai Toyosaburo, newly appointed military *attaché* to the Japanese Legation in Germany, were admitted to an Imperial audience the same day.

FRANCE AND SIAM.—THE FRENCH MINISTER LEAVES BANGKOK.

The *Official Gazette* says the French Minister in Tokyo visited the Foreign Office on the 27th inst. and informed H.E. Mr. Hayashi, Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs, that he had received a telegram from the French Government to the effect that as the Siamese Government declined to accept the claims preferred by France, the latter Government instructed its Minister in Siam to leave Bangkok and to enforce the blockade. He also said that written instructions would follow.

FAREWELL DINNER TO H.I.H. PRINCE KOMATSU YORIHITO.

The Premier and Countess Ito, the Minister for Agriculture and Commerce and Countess Goto, and the Minister of the Imperial Household and Viscountess Hijikata gave a farewell dinner on the 24th inst. at the villa of Mr. Okura Kihachiro, at Mukojima, to H I H. Prince Yorihito, who is on the point of proceeding abroad. Their Imperial Highnesses Prince and Princess Komatsu (senior) and Princess Komatsu (junior) were also present.

DOUGLAS LAPRAIK AND CO.

The misfortune that has fallen upon this Company in regard to the deaths that have occurred within a short space of time is unprecedented. Only a few weeks ago, Mr. T. E. Davies, on the way home for the benefit of his health, died in America, a week ago the announcement of the death of Captain S. Ashton reached this from Hongkong, and the last mail brought the news of the death of Mr. J. S. Lapraik in Hongkong and Mr. C. D. Bottomley in England.

AN OLD EASTERN PRESSMAN.

The *Doncaster Gazette*, one of the oldest provincial papers in England, has recently changed hands, and become the property of Mr. Bulgin and Mr. Cooke. The first named gentleman was for several years editor of the *China Mail*, and has for some time past been editor of the paper of which he now becomes part proprietor.

THE PROHIBITED "MEXICAN."

There seems to exist, among the débris in the hold of the *Don Juan*, a large quantity of Mexican Dollars, and the authorities have taken due precaution that the coins should not be landed. The importation of Mexican Dollars is prohibited in Manila, and smuggling is largely carried on.

THE KOZA ELECTION RESULT.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun* says that the election of representatives in the Kanagawa Prefectural Assembly for Koza has resulted in a victory for the *Jiyu-to* candidates, Messrs. Oshima Seigi, Hasegawa Hikohachi, Kaneko Kozayemon, and Shimura Daisuke.

AN EDITOR EXPELLED FROM KOREA.

The *Jiji Shimpo* says that Mr. Hattori, chief editor of the *Toa Boyeki Shimbun*, a Japanese commercial newspaper published at Fusan, was ordered by the Japanese Consul-General on the 12th inst. to leave within the next fifteen days, his writings being deemed prejudicial to public peace and tranquility.

TO MARINERS.

The following telegram was received by Mr. Hannen, H.M.'s Consul-General at Shanghai, on July 21st, from the Harbour Master at Hongkong:—"Warn masters wreck Northern Fairway."

HIGH WAVES AT TIENTSIN.

A telegraphic message from Nagasaki dated the 26th inst. and received by the *Asahi*, states that a rumour is current that a high tidal wave has occurred at Tientsin.

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THE YOKOHAMA HARBOUR AND WATER WORKS.

IN view of the present mood of Japanese public writers we cannot be surprised that a newspaper like the Yokohama *Boyeki Shimbun* should be ready to attack the reputation of an eminent Englishman like the late Major-General PALMER, especially since Major-General PALMER is no longer here to defend himself, and since some of his countrymen are sufficiently lost to every sense of justice and patriotism to circulate with approval the scandals uttered about him. It ought to be the privilege and duty of every English newspaper published in Japan to defend the reputation of English experts against Japanese detractors when the detractions are unfair and biassed. But some English newspapers seem, on the contrary, to derive inexplicable pleasure from the occupation of circulating such detractions, if not with expressed approval, at any rate with the silence that signifies endorsement. The *Boyeki Shimbun* announces that the two million *yen* spent upon the Yokohama Harbour Works planned by Major-General PALMER is virtually lost money, since fresh injuries are daily developing in the concrete blocks; and that the Yokohama Water Works, designed by the same hand and constructed only five years ago at a cost of eleven hundred thousand *yen*, are partially a failure, since they have already proved insufficient to supply the town. This comment about the Harbour Works displays only ignorance. The use of concrete blocks as they are used in the Yokohama Harbour Works, is not an experiment, made now for the first time in Japan. Such a method of construction is common in the West and has been endorsed by years of successful practice. If some of the blocks in the Yokohama Works have proved defective, the fault does not rest with the designer of the Works, and to try to fix the responsibility on Major-General PALMER is as unfair as it is dishonest. As for the Water Works, so far from being open to adverse criticism, they are an admirable piece of engineering which would have reflected high credit on their designer among any people competent to appreciate their merits. Their plan was made by Major-General PALMER within strictly defined limits of capacity, and if the population of Yokohama has exceeded the expectations of the Japanese Authorities who fixed those limits, the designer is in no way accountable for the fact. Had Major-General PALMER been asked to construct Water-Works of sufficient capcity to supply the probable wants of Yokohama for thirty or forty years, he would certainly have provided a considerable margin, and if the margin proved inadequate within five or ten years, his judgment might have been pronounced faulty, but his engineering skill could not have been questioned. He was not required to do anything of the kind, however. Hard and fast conditions were prescribed, and his work satisfied them, in the most thorough manner. It now appears that the Japanese Authorities, in fixing those conditions, underestimated the future growth of Yokohama, the result being that the Water Works already require enlargement. Major-General PALMER has not a scintilla of responsibility for that, and indeed, in view of the extraordinary increase in the Japanese population of Yokohama during the past few years, the Authorities also may fairly be excused. These attempts to tear to pieces the reputation of an Englishman whose ability did honour to his nationals in Japan, and whose fair fame ought to be guarded by them again foreign detraction, are not less miserable than disgraceful.

In view of the interest of this subject to the residents of Yokohama, it seems advisable to refer in detail to the erroneous statements that have been made about the Water Works. The story circulated is that, whereas about 1,750,000 gallons are daily pumped up at the intake, some 500,000 gallons are lost *en route* to Noge, owing to a defect in the construction of the works. It is specifically added that the defect consists in the absence of iron pipes in a tunnel through which the supply passes, and lest this fault might not be understood by the general public, the information is appended that the full amount of water cannot, consequently, be sent through the tunnel lest it should collapse under the pressure. It would have been difficult to concoct a tale displaying greater ignorance. Two absolutely irreconcilable assertions are made: first, that the engines at the intake, working at their full capacity, pump up daily a certain quantity of water, nearly 30 per cent. of which is lost by leakage *en route* to the reservoir; secondly, that owing to unduly weak construction of a tunnel it cannot be used for the transmission of a full head of water, and consequently a supply much below the capacity at the intake is all that can be sent through it. In one case, we have the Works operating at their full capacity throughout, but the result is insufficient owing to leakage; in the other, we have the insufficient result attributed to the necessity of limiting the activity of the works owing to a weak link in the chain of communications. We do not understand how any newspaper, the editor of which scans the contents of his columns with any degree of discrimination, could publish such obviously contradictory allegations. For the rest, the whole story is erroneous, the facts being these:—The Yokohama Water Works were constructed to supply 18 gallons per head daily to a population of 70,000—the then population of Yokohama—with a considerable margin for possible increase. The pumping power at the intake is 1,800,000 gallons and the capacity for discharge at Noge 1,750,000 gallons. The amount of water pumped up at the intake is measured by the revolutions of the engine, each stroke of the piston lifting so much. We need scarcely say that this amount is not a mathematical certainty, since it varies with the head of steam, but the variation is so trifling as to be unworthy of notice for the purposes of the present explanation. The outflow at Noge, however, is certain, being measured by the capacity of the pipe, a known quantity. The Works are doing exactly what they were designed to do. The story of leakage *en route* is a myth. Equally groundless is the assertion about a defective tunnel, not strong enough to carry a full head of water. In brick tunnels, the world over, there must necessarily be a little oozing, let the construction be never so perfect. But in the case of the Yokohama Water Works, whatever paltry oozing may take place in the brick tunnels, is more than fully compensated by inflow from springs in places where the tunnels are cut through rock. The plain fact is that the Works show not the slightest defect of any kind. They are in operation at their full capacity, the maximum amount of water being delivered daily at Noge without let or hindrance. So far from the plan or execution of the Works betraying any faultiness, they are now, after five years, doing the utmost that could ever have been expected of them, and so far from affording any ground for hostile criticism, they reflect the greatest credit on their designer and on all the engineers engaged in their construction. The trouble simply is this—that the population of Yokohama has almost doubled in the short space of five years, and that an increase so extraordinary not having been anticipated, the capacity of the Works is now insufficient to meet the daily demand on them. But, as we have already said, Major-General PALMER had nothing to do with any estimate as to possible growth of population. In that respect he simply obeyed instructions.

One other point deserves notice. A statement has been made by a foreign local newspaper to the effect that the perils attending a conflagration are now greatly increased owing to the water supply being cut off from 8 p.m. to 4 a.m. That is a misapprehension. Many of the hydrants are connected with the main pipe, from which the water is not turned off at any time during the 24 hours, and as for those not connected with the main, the water can be turned on within a few minutes at any time.

CHRISTIAN WORK IN JAPAN.

THE self-assertive tendency developed in Japan during recent years is in part responsible for the publication of a very interesting pamphlet entitled "Brief Survey of Christian Work in Japan in 1892." This pamphlet takes the place of the Ame-

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rican Board Mission's annual report. The last issue of the latter, containing information for 1891, caused some offence to the Japanese. They considered that the report might convey an erroneous impression that foreign missionaries were the heads of the work of propagandism, and that the Japanese were their hired assistants. Hence the American Board resolved to substitute for its annual report a pamphlet in which the writing should be, as far as possible, from Japanese pens, and the matter should, as much as possible, "reflect the real spirit and influence of the Kumiai Churches." Thus, even with regard to the compilation of an annual record, the national sensitiveness of the present generation of Japanese makes itself felt. Doubtless the missionaries are acting prudently when they refrain from ruffling this somewhat morbid feeling. There are times when tenderness is more essential than dogma and sympathy than sermons. It may be that Japan's mood has not been understood, is not as even yet understood, by all the missionaries. But certainly some gave conspicuous evidence of their sagacity and of their knowledge of the country when, as much seven years ago, they inculcated the necessity of standing aside and allowing the Japanese ostensibly and actually to manage their own religions affairs. We cannot pretend to endorse Japanese feeling to its full extent. We cannot forget that whatever Japan knows of Christianity, she owes to the preaching of foreign missionaries, preaching which has gone hand-in-hand with secular instruction of the most valuable character. But the missionary has to think wholly of the cause he represents, not at all of the credit it may bring to himself personally. There can never be any rapidly successful Christian propagandism in Japan until the genius of really able Japanese propagandists becomes available. We must have a Japanese LUTHER or a Japanese WESLEY. The foreigner may have all the genius, all the eloquence, all the magnetism necessary to win disciples, but between him and the Japanese masses there stands the insuperable barrier of language. No foreigner can speak movingly to the Japanese in their own tongue. There are among the missionaries men who have devoted interminable toil to master the language of the country; men who have willingly sacrified their health and strength in the effort. But not one of them has attained such linguistic proficiency as to be able to divest his speech of every alien element. Even the message of the Gospel loses half its force and half its beauty when couched in faulty idiom and defective syntax. Apparently the cleverest foreigner must be content so to couch it. Therefore, what the missionary has to hope for is that the Japanese may become their own propagandists, and an obvious means to that end is to throw on them as much as possible the work of organization, of administration, and of teaching. These are general considerations; they have been true from the outset. But the special circumstances of the time give them exceptional force. To present to the Japanese at present anything clothed in foreign garb does not enhance its shapeliness in their eyes. The missionary is called upon to exercise that wisdom of the serpent recommended by the founder of his faith. His success up to the present has not been such as to justify confidence. After thirty years of preaching and teaching there are but a hundred thousand Christians in Japan—44,812 Roman Catholics, 35,534 Protestants, and 20,325 of the Greek Church. Yet Japan is bound to have Christianity. That fact has never been open to question, except in the eyes of those who fail to distinguish between the Creed and the Church. The Protestants of Japan do not aggregate one per cent. of the population. Yet they are divided, on the most favourable calculation, into twelve sects. That division represents the Church. The Church has not always been favourable to civilized progress. On the contrary, it has often opposed and impeded progress. But the Creed is the basis of all civilized progress in the Occident. Japan must have the Creed, in whatever form she takes it. Some time ago, there was much talk of Japanese philosophers who proposed to reconstruct Christianity; to make a Christianity for Japan. Happily we hear nothing now of that quaint misconception. A church they may build after their own models and according to their own fancy. But the materials, the Christian Creed, as the Occident has cherished it for two thousand years, is immutable. It is the creed that "elevates the individual by its doctrine of the fatherhood of GOD and the common brotherhood of man; that raises childhood; that protects and elevates woman; that sanctifies marriage; that rescues the unfortunate; that emancipates the slave; that limits the horrors of war." There may be something better in another planet, but not in the genius of Japan, we opine.

MISSIONARY METHODS AND RESULTS.

THE Honorable Mr. CURZON, in one of his admirable articles recently published, says that a chief result of Christian teaching in Japan has been to galvanize into new life Buddhism which the foreign faith came to destroy. That idea did not originate with in Mr. CURZON. It was suggested to him in the East, not by any means for the purpose of imputing failure to Christian propagandism, but as indicating one of the signal benefits conferred on this country by Christianity. If Christian propagandists in Japan had accomplished nothing beyond awakening the religious sense of the nation, they might still claim to have done much for the country. The interesting question is, has Buddhism been roused to thoroughgoing opposition, or, true to its traditionally eclectic disposition, is it seeking rather to engraft upon itself whatever features seem good and attractive in Christianity. The writers of a "Brief Survey, of Christian Work in Japan in 1892," allege, in effect, that the latter is the case. There are, they say, two wings in the Buddhist camp. One is utterly hostile to Christianity. The other, broad and catholic, "feels the new life of our times, and claims that Buddhism is wide enough to hold all the truth of all the religions in the world." Those who entertain this view are advocates of the New Buddhism. "They renounce the old pessimism, with its idea that life is not worth living, and proclaim the opposite doctrine that whatever enriches and ennobles this life is to be sought for with all the heart. Some individuals come so near Christianity as to raise the half suspicion that they are going over to the enemy's camp. But there is no probability of such a step. Their writings, however, have led some Christians to say—'it is Christianized Buddhism. They are studying Christian methods of work, and are adopting them in many important lines, such as, in having a distinctively religious marriage ceremony, and in educational and missionary methods. In spite of the dissensions among themselves, and the exposures of their moral decay, they feel confident that their history, their philosophy, and their religious influence on the great nations of the East, will win them a fair place in the Congress of Religions to which able representatives will be sent." If all this be true—and we have no reason or right to doubt it—contact with Christianity has not only revivified Buddhism but has also renovated it. Perhaps the truest converts to Christianty are to be found in the ranks of the Buddhist priesthood itself. Shintoism, however, according to the "Survey of Christian Work," remains absolutely conservative. The advent of Christianity has not affected it in any perceptible manner.

Dr. L. BUSSE, a Professor in the Imperial University, confirms the above views in an interesting essay, condensed and translated for the "Survey of Christian Work," by the Rev. H. K. MILLER. It is an essay touching on many things, among others, on the subject of passports. The missionary's manner of using a passport has often been severely criticized by journalists and others. It is asserted by faultfinders that since the declared object of a passport is either to recruit the health or to engage in scientific research, a missionary is not entitlad to employ a passport for the purpose of going outside Treaty Limits to preach. Professor BUSSE defends the missionary, asserts that his motives have invariably been honest, but, at the same time, predicts that if doubts be thrown on his integrity by any considerable section of the public, he will desist from preaching in the interior. We venture to think that

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the Professor does not take sufficiently strong ground. The original and sole object of imposing conditions with regard to the issue of passports was to provide against trade being conducted by foreigners outside Treaty limits. That object is no more defeated by the preaching of a sermon or the delivery of a lecture on ethics than it would be by a poetical reading or by a performance on the fiddle. It cannot be asserted for an instant that the passport privilege is abused by a missionary who delivers a religious discourse wherever his passport permits him to go. The whole matter, as we think, resolves itself into this, that if preaching or religious propagandism be the prime object in obtaining a passport, then the letter of the passport regulations is undoubtedly violated. Unless a man's health demands change of air, or unless he has some scientific investigations to conduct, he can not honestly avail himself of a privilege explicitly granted in consideration of health or scientific investigation alone. So soon, however, as a passport has been obtained for either of the purposes defined as legitimate, there is nothing that we can perceive to prevent its holder from preaching sermons or otherwise engaging in religious propagandism. It has been the habit to speak of the question as "delicate" and perplexing. We fail to see how either adjective applies. A man can be in no manner of doubt as to his own primary object in applying for a passport. If that object be simply religious propagandism, then he is not conscientiously in a position to avail himself of the present passport regulations. If, not religious propagandism, but the recruiting of his health or the pursuit of scientific research be his main purpose, then his propensity to preach or propagandise no more disqualifies the missionary for obtaining a passport than does the propensity to play on a fiddle or blow on a horn disqualify a musician. We are speaking now of the strict letter of the law. But the hardship of the thing is that those who insist most pointedly and harshly on the missionary's exercise of extreme tenderness of conscience, betray the most complete callousness in their own practice. Nobody dreams of being confined within the four corners of the passport regulations. It is perfectly well understood that the passport system has only two objects. first, to preserve the principle that power to restrict foreigners to Treaty Limits still rests with the Japanese Government; and secondly, to prevent operations of trade in regions where no provisions exist for adjudicating disputes inevitably incidental to trade. When a foreign resident wants to make a trip into the interior, he does not pause for an instant to consider whether the state of his health really dictates change of air and scene. He is content to think that travel and recreation can not fail to benefit him physically, and therefore he has not the slightest compunction in applying for a passport on hygienic grounds. The fiction becomes still more transparent in the case of a tourist. Robust folks, blooming with health, come here to amuse themselves, and obtain passports applied for without an atom of compunction and granted without a pretence of strictness. In short, it comes to this, that every foreigner residing in Japan or visiting Japan is free to obtain a passport at his own convenience and for his own pleasure, the conditions as to sickness and science having lapsed into dead formulæ. Is the missionary to be placed at an emphatic disadvantage as compared with all other foreigners? Is he alone to be discriminated against? Is he alone to be tied to the letter of a law which no one else considers, and the neglect of which defeats no good purpose nor interferes with any laudable object? If no such unfair and unwarrantable distinction is to be made against the missionary, then the question whether he engages in religious propagandism outside Treaty Limits, has nothing to do with his title to enjoy the passport privilege. We all go into the interior whenever we can afford time and money, and when we are there, we pursue any legitimate pastime or profession—commerce excepted—that we please. There is no conceivable reason why the missionary should not be equally free

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

"OHIO WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY" AGAIN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In closing up your item of news concerning this University "hazing" affair, in a recent issue of the *Mail*, you fittingly say, "These things are exceedingly difficult to credit." I happened to be at Delaware, Ohio, at the very time when these hazing difficulties were being settled up, and perhaps you will allow me a word on the subject.

The sensational statements telegraphed all through the States about the affair were in the main gross exaggerations, and wholly misleading. The report so widely circulated that the young ladies of the University had engaged in the hazing proved upon investigation to be wholly false. The examination into the case by the Faculty was was thorough, impartial, and to the point. This was the testimony given me by the students themselves, many of whom I met personally, and whom I had the pleasure of addressing, though, of course, on another subject. Instead of a state of confusion prevailing at the University, as was represented, everything went on in the usual order of work, and the decisions of the Faculty were received by the students in a spirit which indicated their general approval with what the Faculty had done. The young man Gerhart refused, when given the chance, to retract the false statements with which he had rushed into print, and the Faculty could do no less than dismiss from the Institution a man who, when the lie was squarely laid upon him, would do nothing to help remove the disgrace he had brought upon the Institution, and upon himself as well. The citizens of the place, including the editors of the chief papers and presidents of banks, the president of the public schools, and several others, made the following statement, which contains in brief their opinion of the case:—

"We, the undersigned, residents of Delaware, are personally acquainted with the members of the Faculty, and familiar with the general conduct of the students. We think the investigation given the unfortunate hazing affair was careful and thorough, and that the statement made by the Faculty contains the facts in the case. The general management of the University has been admirable."

The writer has no more direct interest in that University than in many others, but he believes in the defence of the truth. If further vindication of the Faculty were needed, it can be had in abundance.

Yours very truly,

D. S. SPENCER.

July 27th, 1893

EXCHANGES.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE.

We hereby give Our Sanction to the present Ordinance relating to the regulation of capital, security, stocks, commissions, reserve-funds, and methods of transacting business in Exchanges, as well as the amount of brokers' licence fees, and order it to be promulgated.

[His Imperial Majesty's Sign Manual.]

[Privy Seal.]

[Countersigned.] Count GOTO SHOJIRO,
Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce.

Dated the 21st day of the 7th month of the 26th year of *Meiji*.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE No. 74.

Art. I.—The capital of an Exchange projected on a joint-stock basis shall not be less than 300,000 *yen*.

The Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce may order an increase of capital, whenever he deems such a measure necessary in the interest of the Exchange.

Art. II.—The capital of an Exchange projected on a partnership basis shall be raised by contributions from the members thereof. In the case of dissolution, any funds or other property remaining at the time shall be equally divided among the members, after the discharge of all obligations.

Art. III.—Whenever a warehouse is established by an Exchange, the capital for such warehouse shall be additional to the capital specified in Arts. I. and II.

Art. IV.—The security required of an Exchange with a joint-stock organization shall be one third of its capital, exclusive of the warehouse capital.

This security shall be deposited with the respective local Government to the full amount, before the commencement of business. It shall consist either of certificates of deposit issued by the Bureau of Deposit in the Department of State for Finance, or national or local loan bonds. In cases where national or local loan bonds are deposited as security, their value shall be fixed by the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce.

When an increase of security is rendered necessary by the augmentation of capital, the additional security must be deposited within a period that shall be fixed by the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce.

Art. V.—The stocks constituting the capital of an Exchange shall not be sold or otherwise transferred until not less than one half their face value shall have been paid up.

Art. VI.—In an Exchange with a partnership organization, commissions shall not be levied for the purpose of dividing the profits arising therefrom among the members.

Art. VII.—The commissions to be collected at an Exchange from parties transacting business through its agency, shall be levied at rates not exceeding an eight-thousandth part of the value of the transaction, according to the organization of the particular Exchange, the article, the mode of business, and the conditions attaching thereto.

Whenever the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce deems it necessary, he may order the alteration of the rates of commission within the limits mentioned in the preceding clause.

Art. VIII.—In an Exchange with a partnership organization, a sum of money corresponding to one twentieth of the total receipts shall be set aside per year as a reserve fund. When the amount of the reserve equals one-fourth of the capital of the Exchange, the reserve fund need not be further increased; or the amount set aside may be decreased, with the approval of the Minister of State for Agriculture.

Art. IX.—Whenever payments are made from the reserve fund, the approval of the Minister of state for Agriculture and Commerce must first be obtained.

Art. X.—In every Exchange special facilities shall be given during certain hours each day for direct business, extended transactions, or contracts running for a fixed period. The hours during

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which these special facilities are granted and the cases in which they may be temporarily closed, may be provided for in the constitution of each Exchange.

Art. XI.—Contracts in an Exchange can only be entered into for actual commodities through the exhibition of their samples or denominators.

Art. XII.—The contract shall be concluded by the date fixed therein, which shall be, in the case of a direct transaction, within five days, and in the case of an extended transaction, within a hundred and fifty days from the day on which the contract was agreed upon. In the case of a transaction for a fixed period, the contract shall be concluded by the date fixed at each Exchange, and within three months.

Art. XIII.—The following methods of business shall be allowed in fixed period transactions:—

1. By definite units.
2. By auction.
3. In the case of price, the conclusion of contract by standards, and actual transfer of commodities according to the grades previously fixed in each Exchange.
4. The mutual cancelling of entries in the books of the Exchange of all resales and repurchases made within the period of contract.
5. The demanding of security from either party or parties to a transaction.

Even in cases of direct transactions and extended transactions, the Exchange may, with the approval of the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, demand security from parties entering into the contract.

Art. XIV.—When a contract is made in an Exchange, the names of the parties, the quantity and value of the commodity or commodities forming the object of transaction, shall be entered in the books of the Exchange.

Art. XV.—The transfer of the commodity or commodities forming the object of a contract and its or their value shall be effected in the presence of officers of the Exchange.

Art. XVI.—The broker's licence fee in an Exchange shall be ten *yen*.

THE GRAND HOTEL, LIMITED.

The eighth half-yearly ordinary general meeting of the shareholders of the Grand Hotel, Limited, was held in the old dining hall of the hotel on Monday afternoon. Mr. J. F. Lowder occupied the chair, and there were present Dr. C. H. H. Hall, Messrs Mann, James Walter, R. Howie, W. B. Walter, J. Witkowski, M. Rasaell, E. A. Sargent, E. V. Thorn, J. Gama, J. Tomioe, (secretary), and Louis Eppinger (manager).

The CHAIRMAN congratulated the shareholders upon having such a substantial dividend to divide this half-year, and then said that he thought, if his memory served him rightly, that the return made to original shareholders now amounted to 48 or 50 per cent. If the dividend paid for the half year ending June, 1891, was 7 per cent., then the return to original shareholders was 50 per cent, but if it was 6 then it was 48 per cent. Altogether, he thought it was a most satisfactory showing. The report spoke for itself, and he would therefore, without any further remarks, submit the accounts and director's report to the meeting. Perhaps some of the company would then move that they be adopted.

The net profit for the half-year, including balance brought forward from the 31st December, 1892, and after providing for general expenses Directors' and Auditor's fees interest depreciation, and after writing off bad and doubtful and debts, amounts to. $ 25,000 which it is proposed to apply as follows:—

In parment of a dividend of 6 per cent. for the half-year	$ 15,000
Reduction of debt	$ 5,000
Balance to be carried to new account	$ 5,000
	$ 25,000

A question having been raised last year as to the propriety of placing the sum of $5,000, which was paid in reduction of debt, to the debit of profit and loss account, the Directors take this opportunity of explaining that although the item appears this year in the same place, it is only put there for the purpose of drawing special attention to the fact that the debt is again reduced by $5,000. But, as was the case last year, that sum will be entered in the books at written off for depreciation as soon as this accounts has been passed

The Directors again have to report that the reputation and prosperity of the Hotel have been fully maintained, owing to the willing and efficient service of all the employés of the Company. The manager has been presented with a gratuity of $500 in lieu of an increase of salary.

The amount written off for bad and doubtful debts is larger than usual; but it includes several sums which have been standing over for a great length of time.

Mr Walter and Dr Hall retire from the Board by rotation, but offer themselves for re-election.

Mr. Keil retires from the office of Auditor, and the Directors have much pleasure in recommending his re-election to that office for the current year.

According to Article 86 of the Articles of Association the amount of the Directors' fees for the current year will have to be decided upon at this Meeting.

It is proposed that the dividend shall be payable on the 25th July, when the warrants will be issued.

J. F. LOWDER,
J. RICKETT, } Directors.

Yokohama, 14th July, 1893

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITES ON JUNE 30TH, 1893.

ASSETS.

Chartered Bank of I. A. & C.		$83,134.58
Cash in hand		455 27
Fire Insurance Policies		1,009.25
Ground		60,000.00
Buildings		149,000.00
Furniture		56,759.22
Electric Light Plant		12,000.00
Steam Launch		2,000.00
Wines in stock		8,510.45
Provisions in stock		5,930.32
Bills receivable		7,340.42
		$393,939 48

LIABILITIES.

Stock, 2,500 Shares at $100	$250,000.00
Mortgage	40,000.00
Bills payable	8,359.48
	$298,359.48
Balance, Profit	25,000.00
	$323,359.48

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT—JUNE 30TH, 1893.

Dr.

To General Expenses			$28,187.42
To Fire Insurance			1,169 51
To Interest			7,997 32
To Directors' and Auditor's Fees			900 00
To Bad and Doubtful Debts written off			1,256.24
To Bonus to Manager			500.00
To Balance, Gross Profit		$27,538.09	
Less written off for			
Depreciation of Buildings	$780.85		
Depreciation of Furniture	928.88		
Depreciation of Electric Light Plant	756.22		
Depreciation of Steam Launch	63.14		
Total	$2,538.09		
Balance available for Division			
Dividend 6%...	$15,000.00		
Payment on account of Mortgage	5,000.00		
Carried forward to new a/c.	5,000.00	$25,000.00	$27,538.09	$27,538.09
				$50,648.48

Cr.

By Balance, brought forward from Dec. 31st, 1892	$ 5,214 63
By Working Account	43,554.30
By Rent Account	2,196.00
By Share Transfer Fees	23.00
By Sale of old material	310.55
	50,648.48
July 1st, 1893.	
By Balance	$ 5,000.00

E. & O. E.

Yokohama, June 30th, 1893.

J. F. LOWDER,
J. RICKETT, } Directors.

I have examined the foregoing accounts and compared with the vouchers of the Company, and certify them to be correct.

Yokohama, July 10th, 1893. O. KEIL, Auditor.

Mr. HOWIE moved the adoption of the report and accounts

Mr. W. B. WALTER seconded, and in doing so wished to ask one question. There was one paragraph in the accounts that was not quite clear. He referred to the sentence wherein the directors called "special attention to the fact that the debt is again reduced by $5,000, but, as was the case last year, that sum will be entered in the books as written off for depreciation as soon as this account has been passed." It seemed to him that the $5,000 should not be utilized for depreciation, but used to reduce the liability of the mortgage account. If this were done the mortgage would be reduced to $35,000.

The CHAIRMAN—That is so. I have had a long consultation with our auditor, Mr. Kiel, upon this very subject. It arose from a question that was sent up to us from Hongkong after the last accounts had been presented. The $5,000 is used to reduce the liabilities, but unless it is placed in the way we have placed it, our accounts, while showing that the debt had been reduced to $35,000, would also show the assets to be larger than the liabilities. They had no mortgage account opened, and therefore they used this $5,000 half-yearly to reduce the liabilities by placing it to the credit of one or other of the items in the accounts. He had spoken to one or two accountants, in fact, he might say two or three accountants, and they all agree that the explanation which appeared in the report is quite proper, although some critics complained of the manner of the explanation, yet all were agreed that the accounts and explanation were correct, even if the latter was not artistic. He was sure that shareholders were perfectly certain that their directors had no desire to mislead them in any way in regard to the accounts. He might say that last year, after the accounts were passed, the question arose as to what they should do with the $5,000, and it was decided to place it to the credit of the electric-light plant. The electric-light plant stood at $17,000 then, they accordingly reduced it to $12,000. So it would be this year, the money would have to be placed somewhere, either to the electric-light plant, building, furniture, etc.

The report and accounts were then adopted.

The CHAIRMAN said that he would take the opportunity of speaking to the auditor, Mr. Kiel, again, in reference to Mr. Walter's suggestion as to the $5,000. The directors wished to present comprehensible accounts to the shareholders. The present accounts were correct, but he hoped that next year they would be able to present accounts that were both comprehensible and correct. The next business was the election of two directors. Mr. James Walter and Dr. Hall retired by rotation, but offered themselves for election

On the motion of Mr. E. V. THORN seconded by Mr. HOWIE the retiring directors were re-elected.

The CHAIRMAN on behalf of the Board of Directors proposed the re-election of the auditor, Mr. Keil

This was carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN—The next business is to determine the amount of the directors' fees for the next year. This is in accordance with Article 80 of the Articles of Association.

Mr. HOWIE enquired the amount paid last year.

The CHAIRMAN—The amount last year was fixed at $300, previously it had been $250. The Articles of Association say that they shall not exceed $500.

Mr. HOWIE proposed that the director's fees be the same as last year.

Mr. WITKOWSKI seconded.—Carried.

Mr. HOWIE proposed a vote of thanks to the directors and manager, and in doing so said that the very satisfactory report presented that day was the outcome of able direction and good management. The Grand Hotel, limited, was never in a sounder or healthier condition than now, and this was owing in an eminent degree to their directors. —Carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN acknowledged the compliment on behalf of himself and his co directors. Mr. Eppinger, he added, never failed them or their guests, and if that gentlemen were not present in the room he could say more than he ventured to say now under the circumstances.—(Hear, hear.) He felt sure that it gave additional satisfaction to the directors to find the report which they presented to shareholders gave such satisfaction, for if there had been a hole in them, the gentleman who had just proposed a vote of thanks, would have been the first to pick it out.—(Laughter.) Therefore the accounts must be very satisfactory, for even he was satisfied.—(Hear, hear.)

The meeting then dispersed.

PRESENTATION OF A GOLD MEDAL TO MR. YANO JIRO.

A very large and distinguished assembly, numbering probably a thousand, assembled in the chief saloon of the Imperial Hotel on the 25th instant, at 6 p.m., to pay a tribute of public respect to Mr. Yano Jiro, on the occasion of his retirement from the office of Director of the Commercial College. Among those present were Their Excellencies Count Saigo and Viscount Hijikata, Mr. Edwin Dun, United State Representative, several Vice Ministers of State, the President of the House of Representatives, the Chairman of the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce and, a number of other notables, the great hall being filled to overflowing. The proceedings opened with the reading of the following address:—

TO OUR EX-DIRECTOR, MR. YANO JIRO.

You have, from the commencement of commercial education in Japan, energetically applied yourself to the task of its management, and many have been the difficulties that lie in your way. By surmounting them, you have, at last, succeeded in establishing the Higher Commercial School on a firm basis, and in developing this branch of knowledge in Japan. Eighteen years have passed away since you have been engaged in this work, and more than 3,000 students have benefited by your parental instruction. They are all engaged in practical business and are earnestly resolved not to disobey your kind counsels. At present the development of commercial education is in a very flourishing condition, and, convinced of its importance, people have begun to start commercial schools in many places of the Empire. This satisfactory state of affairs cannot but be considered the fruit of your earnest efforts in extending this knowledge and of your having furnished a very good example to the public, and a main reason why the distinguished gentlemen either in the Government or engaged in practical business have all joined to meet this evening to do justice to your merits, lies there. We who have been under your kind instruction as students, naturally feel this sentiment all the more strongly. It is not on this point alone, however, that we are led to

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admire and respect you. Your kindness in the education of young men has been such that you never grew weary in this business; and at the same time, you have made it your duty so to help the progress of any one who had once come under your care as to undergo earnestly the task of superintendence and to insure that he would not fail to reach his aim. Such having been the case, the relations between the Director and students were as intimate as if they had been that of parent and sons, and this good feeling only deepened as time went on. We are confident that such a relation between master and students is only very rarely seen at present, and it will be indelibly inscribed on the hearts of us all. Now that you have retired from service as Director of the Higher Commercial College, loaded with honour, the sentiment of gratitude to you is deep and fervent. We, after having consulted the members of our alumni and obtained the approval of distinguished gentlemen, both native and foreign, decided to hold this meeting, in order to testify, however slightly, our earnest desire of expressing our gratitude for your past meritorious services, extending over so many years. At the same time we present you with a gold medal, and humbly ask you to accept this as a memento of us in time to come. We are conscious of the triviality of the present, but what is wanting in substance is fully supplied, we believe, by our deep earnestness; and we hope that our idea will be kindly appreciated.

Mr. Oye Taku's name stood next on the programme to address the meeting, but as he was unable to attend through illness, Mr SHIBUSAWA EIICHI was the first speaker. He said:—To do justice to the meritorious services which Mr. Yano has discharged in the cause of the commercial education of Japan and to thank him for the same, he intended to add a few words at that occasion. It is needless to say, the speaker went on, how Mr. Yano applied himself to the task with untiring perseverance and earnestness for the period of 18 years. He wished to show Mr. Yano's merit not by mere talk but by actual facts and proofs. The service of Mr. Yano, said Mr. Shibusawa, is inseparably connected with the history of the Higher Commercial School. It might also be said that there was no commercial education in Japan prior to the Restoration. Indeed, there were only two books relating to trade, of which the *Shobaiorai* was one. The contempt in which trade was held formerly was the cause of the despicable state of commercial education till less than a score of years ago. In fact, merchants themselves thought that education was injurious to success in business. It was only about the 7th year of *Meiji* that the embryo Higher Commercial School was first started by a certain society chiefly composed of merchant interested in the affair, and under the auspices of the late Viscount Mori. Pecuniary and other considerations, however, compelled those who supported the institution to make overtures to the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce to have the school managed by it. It was at that time that Mr. Yano was made a director of the school. From then till about the 15th year of *Meiji*, the school was maintained out of the revenue of the Tokyo municipality, a connection which, however, did not last very long, for the Tokyo Council declared in that year that it was impossible to continue the support—the outlay was only 10,000 *yen*, Mr. Shibusawa remembered. It was a very critical situation. Mr. Yano went to consult the speaker as to the steps which should be taken for the school. The result of their conference was a decision to apply to the City Office, which issued a circular to all the leading merchants of Tokyo asking them to subscribe any sum of money for the further maintenance of the school. They became so much interested in the cause of commercial education that a fund of more than 30,000 *yen* was raised in that way. This, the speaker believed, was happily not required, and is now made a portion of the permanent fund of the school. Mr. Yano's earnest exertions for the welfare of the school were at last successful, and in the 16th year, it became attached to the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, and in the next year to that of Education as it is now to-day. If the speaker confined himself to matters relating directly to the school alone, it would be to leave untouched another half of Mr. Yano's merits. It was not that Mr. Yano's services deserved such a commendation because he had been instrumental in leading the school successfully out of the most crucial period of its existence, but because he was, at the same time, so kind and earnest in arranging the future of the graduates so as to ensure their success in life. Some criticized this action of Mr. Yano's rather unkindly, but he could not understand, Mr. Shibusawa said, on what ground this was improper. Was the connection between the Director of a school and its students to be severed as soon as the latter graduated? This is one of the prevailing evils of the Japanese education at present and requires to be remedied. But Mr. Shibusawa did not care to discuss such a point. The plain fact remains, that the graduates of the school are now occupying very influential positions in business circles in Japan, and that they are deeply indebted to Mr. Yano is undeniably testified by the undertaking of that evening. There is a current maxim to the effect that praise which one enjoys does not come accidentally but is grounded on one's past services, and so, the speaker concluded, such high esteem as that in which Mr. Yano is held at present, is due to his untiring services in the cause of Japanese commercial education, for a period of more than 17 years.

Mr. HOSHI TŌRU, President of the House of Representatives, then spoke as follows:—As one of the many confidential friends of Mr. Yano's, Mr. Hoshi wanted to make a short speech, but as the circumstances relating to his commercial career had been already touched upon by Mr. Shibusawa, and also as his line of occupation did not lie in that direction, Mr. Hoshi proposed to confine his remarks to the character of Mr. Yano as it appeared to him. He met with Mr. Yano, the speaker proceeded, for the first time at Yokohama, in the earlier part of the *Meiji* era. He felt convinced that Mr. Yano was a man of very independent views, bold in carrying out his opinion, and regardless of what others might say of him. He was rather anxious for his success when he heard that he had been appointed Director of the Commercial School. But he was mistaken, and on reconsideration of this point he came to the conclusion that the success which accompanied Mr. Yano's career was perfectly natural. It is a common saying that earnestness can accomplish anything, and this was most instructively proved in Mr. Yano's case. He urged upon the graduates of the school the prime importance of this quality. He concluded his speech by remarking that success in life depends not on learning, not on ability, but on earnestness; on the spirit of boldly carrying out one's views when one is once convinced that they are right.

Mr. Hoshi was followed by Captain BRINKLEY, who said:—Excellencies, Ladies, and Gentlemen—I must apologise for having accepted your Committee's invitation to address a few words to you on this pleasant occasion. There really is no reason why you should be troubled by any expression of my views, but nevertheless, speaking personally, I thank the Committee very much for giving me this opportunity to add my voice to the chorus of approval elicited by Mr. Yano's career. An occasion of this kind seems to me highly interesting, and its special interest consists in the testimony it offers to the fact of Japan's rapidly growing familiarity with Western civilization. You are aware, gentlemen, that the history of your country during the past two decades is very variously viewed by foreign observers. Some have only enthusiastic admiration for the courage and versatility you have shown in rejecting the old and adopting the new. Some qualify their approval by saying that, although you have certainly accomplished much, what you have still to accomplish is incomparably more. And some pronounce the harsh verdict that up to the present you have given evidence only of imitative ability and that you have no talent to be original. I call this last a harsh verdict, because I cannot for a moment believe that any foreigner is yet in a position to draw from Japan's first steps along the path of Occidental civilization a hard and fast inference as to the direction in which her feet will ultimately tend. We do not expect a student of a foreign tongue to employ it successfully for purposes of authorship until he has mastered its grammar and syntax. Neither can we reasonably expect that your nation will add fresh pages to the history of Western civilization before you have had time fully to familiarize yourselves with the volumes already written by Western nations. It seems to me that we should be underrating Occidental civilization as much as we should be exceeding any reasonable estimate of Japan's capacity did we expect that, after a brief apprenticeship of only twenty years, she should be able to play the part of a master and to make substantial additions to work on which Western nations have been toiling for centuries. Besides, another fact presents itself. It is that Occidental nations, after an apprenticeship of the same length, have not made any addition to Japanese civilization. Walking recently along the street in the vicinity of this hotel, I was passed by a party of tourists in *jinrikisha*, accompanied by a guide. One of them was carrying on a conversation in a loud voice with the guide. "Your country," he said, "has changed greatly in the last twenty years, has it not?" "Yes, greatly," replied the guide. "It has become much more civilized than it used to be, has it not?" was the next question, to which the guide meekly answered "Oh yes, much more." The tourist intended to be complimentary. He had no conception of any civilization in the whole world except that of his own country. He knew nothing about the civilization that existed in Japan prior to the coming of foreigners. But we know something of that civilization. We know that it was a civilization presenting many admirable features, and that, from the point of view of the greatest happiness of the greatest number, it was a civilization possibly superior in some respects to the civilization of individuality, of egoism, of fierce competition, and of selfish plutocracy that the West offers you. The day will come, I am confident, when philosophers will compare the merits of the two systems with calmer criticism than they are disposed to bestow on the comparison at present. Meantime, the Occident has paid you the compliment of accepting as a revelat on one phase of Japan's ancient civilization, her decorative art. After Greece, no country has ever exercised upon European decorative art the same influence that Japan has exercised. Western artists have studied the principles and application of Japanese decorative art as enthusiastically and attentively as the Japanese nation has devoted itself to the pursuit of Western civilization. Yet I do not observe that Western artists have made any additions to Japanese decorative art. On the contrary, their applications of it are often as foreign to its true spirit and as unfaithful to its canons as the methods of the *soshi* are opposed to the true spirit of liberty and to the sound growth of constitutional Government. No, gentlemen, the time has not come to attempt any definite forecast as to the degree of originality that Japan may attain in her practice of Occidental civilization. But your meeting of this evening furnishes one of your best answers to those who deny your ability to rise above the level of disciples. For your purpose in coming together to-night shows that you understand commerce to be the vital principle of national independence and national power, and in showing that you show also that you have looked below the surface of Occidental civilization and have learned its most pregnant lesson. Mr. Yano was one of the very first among your countrymen to appreciate that fundamental teaching of Occidental civilization. He has devoted his life to the task of diffusing among his countrymen the light that came to himself at such an early period, and permit me to say, gentlemen, that in meeting here to night to pay a public tribute to his achievements, you offer at the same time an earnest of your country's future progress, for without the faculty of discerning and the sense of justice to duly reward what is really meritorious in the conduct of those that work for it, no nation can anticipate for itself an eminent career. Mr. Yano has indeed deserved well of Japan, and you, gentlemen, representatives of Japanese wealth, Japanese intelligence, Japanese enterprise, and Japanese culture, do honour to yourselves when you honour him.

A letter was then read from His Excellency the Italian Minister expressing his regret at being unable to attend, and his high opinion of the service to the State rendered by Mr. Yano in the cause of commercial education.

Mr. SHIMADA SABURO, who should have spoken next, was prevented from attending, and sent a document which, after stating his great regret at not being able to attend the meeting, said that anyone who writes the history of Japan must not forget to devote a chapter to the progress of commercial education since the Restoration, and that the eminent services which Mr. Yano has rendered to the cause should be a prominent feature in that chapter.

The formal proceedings terminated by the following speech from Mr. YANO, who, an ascending the rostrum, was greeted with an ovation:—Gentlemen, and graduates of the Higher Commercial College—That you the graduates of the College have organised this splendid meeting this evening for my sake, and that you, the distinguished gentlemen both native and foreign, have in such large numbers honoured the meeting with your presence despite the burning heat of the season, on account of my having retired from the post of Director of the Higher Commercial College,—this is indeed to me a very high honour, and I am deeply indebted to you for your kindness. Especially so, if it be considered that whether in speeches or written addresses directed to me, the ideas embodied were all so over-laudatory that I could not but blush at them. As it was not even slightly known, when I became for the first time manager of the Commerce Investigation Institution in the 9th year of *Meiji*, what commercial education was or what importance it bore to the welfare of the country, excited debates were likely to arise not unfrequently as to the abolition or continuation of the Institution. Therefore it was undoubtedly a work of a great difficulty to maintain and enlarge it. But, as anything which is really necessary will not fail to flourish eventu-

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ally, no matter what obstacle it may meet with, so, since the graduates of the Institution became engaged in practical business and showed how far they were competent, the public have been gradually won over to appreciate the necessity of the Institution. Subsequently, the dignity of the school and its course of instruction were little by little elevated. At the same time, it has undergone repeated changes. At first it was private in organization; then it became attached to the Tokyo Municipality, was transferred next to the control of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, and lastly to that of the Department of Education as it is now. During that long interval of time we met with many obstacles and difficulties such as Mr. Shibuzawa has related. That the foundation of the Higher Commercial College had come to be firmly established notwithstanding that state of affairs was far from being a work of mine alone. It was mainly due to the untiring assistance given by distinguished gentlemen either in or out of the Government, especially those who were active in business circles. Such being the case, while it is I who ought to thank you, I, on the contrary, am not only warmly treated this evening, but have also enjoyed your very kind words with regard to my trifling merits, if merits I have at all. Again and again, I say that I am very much indebted to you. I should like to say a few words to the gentleman of the Alumni. I am such a being as you all know, and it was entirely beyond my ability to do such a thing to educate you. Still, I am by nature an officious person; and though I think I may have laid you more or less under obligation, as nothing did succeed as I desired, I was always in great concern as to the insufficiency of my attention to you. And yet you regarded this, my humble work, highly; and now that you have given me so unexpected an honour by organizing this splendid meeting, I have no words with which to thank you. Moreover, you have given me a gold medal as a token of your regard, and I take this act as if a parent had received a present from his or her fond child. My pleasure is indeed extremely great. This medal I will cherish as a great treasure, and it will unfailingly serve in future as a memorial of your kindness. I have said that the reasons why the present institution became so prosperous were entirely due to the help of certain distinguished gentlemen, and also to your having manifested your talents as well. The institution will become far more prosperous as times go on, and I am secretly satisfied to think that the object which I have cherished for so many years may be said to have been virtually attained. The scheme of building anew the present Institution is to be realized, as I have proposed, within a year or two. For this, however, the Vice-Minister for Education, Mr. Kubota, who was at that time the Director of the Accountant's Bureau, exerted himself very much, and his share must be fully remembered. I want to say a few words more before concluding this speech, and that is to express my surprise—for it is altogether beyond my expectation—to find that the graduates of the school are occupying such elevated positions in society, although it is the primary wish and function of those who are in the position of teachers to so exert themselves that the students under their control shall become so. I am confident by your achievements thus far that you will advance more and more as the result of greater industry. I look forward with pleasure to seeing such results as quickly as possible, and I now once more offer you my sincerest thanks, however awkwardly I may express them.

After this the whole company, including the ladies, of whom there were many present, adjourned to the west wing of the hotel and partook of a sumptuous repast, the Band of the Imperial Guards playing throughout and the proceedings being enlivened by a display of magnificent fireworks. Altogether the affair was a remarkable and enthusiastic demonstration.

The extreme chivalry of the American musical critic will strike everybody. His courtliness in his dealings with actresses is not to be equalled. At a Chicago theatre where Miss Marie Tempest was to sing a few days ago a notice had to be circulated at the last moment that the well known actress would not appear. The incident annoyed the representative of the *Times* of Chicago, who put it this way. "The fact is Tempest has apparently got hold of the idea that she has the world by the slack portion of its trousers. When she feels like not singing she will not sing. . . . There is no use wasting words on this subject. The conviction is slowly but surely forcing itself on a patient and long-suffering people that Miss Marie Tempest should either sing or get off the stage." After a polite intimation of this kind "Tempest" will doubtless take care to have no more indisposition, at any rate in the City of Pork. There will be more tempests if she does.

SOME HIGHWAYS AND BYEWAYS IN CENTRAL JAPAN.

By W. Weston, M.A., F.R.G.S., English Alpine Club.

(CONCLUDED FROM JULY 22ND).

THE MISAKA-TOGE.

With a view to crossing the chain of mountains dividing the basins of the rivers Kiso and Tenriu, and by doing so to gain the spot from which the start is usually made for the descent of the far-famed rapids of the latter, we decided to attempt the Misaka-toge, a pass, however, which must not be confused with a better known one of same name between Kofu and the base of Fuji-San.

The only information we were able to gain was such as was given by our map and the innkeeper; the contribution of the latter naturally a good deal discounted before acceptance.

As the pass lies some distance to the N. of Ena San, it was necessary to pass through Ochiai and make a *détour* to the N.E., and it must be confessed that, considering our uncertainty as to the actual length and character of the journey before us, our start—at 10 a.m. May 12th—was an unconscionably late one. Again, however, we were favoured by a magnificent day, and our party with a couple of pack horses in tow bade good bye to Nakatsugawa with every anticipation of another pleasant expedition.

On leaving Ochiai, from which village, by the way, it is possible in the summer time to make the ascent of Ena-San by a more precipitous, but shorter, route than that direct from Nakatsugawa itself, we turn off from the Nakasendo at a pretty spot where a picturesque bridge crosses a mountain torrent issuing from the narrow wooded valley up which our path leads. This torrent, the Nuno-kawa, appears to take its rise on the N.W. flank of Ena-San, ultimately emptying itself into the Kisogawa a short distance to the west of Ochiai. For one reason or another, though we certainly have no particular wish to hurry, our progress is not rapid near Yabunezawa, a little hamlet upon 2½ *ri* from Nakatsugawa, where the valley somes out, and we cross the wide stony bed of the river, just now containing but little water, though after the melting of the winter-snows, or after heavy rains, the stream must be one of large proportions. Immediately on getting to the other side—the left bank—a steep climb takes us to a sort of headland jutting out into the river, and Kirigahara, a collection of scattered farmhouses a little further on, a grand view of Oi take is obtained to the N.W. The undulating stretches of moorland in which Kirigahara stands are succeeded by a forest of *kuno-ki*, maples, firs, etc., and the ascent through this, with its cool shade, in a stillness unbroken save by the rushing of the mountain torrent whose course we almost track to its fountain-head, is delightful in the extreme. At length, in about 5½ hours from Nakatsugawa, the summit of the pass (4,975 feet) is reached, and looking eastwards affords a striking view of the more southern portion of the snow-clad peaks of the Kushu range, which shut in the end of the narrow valley down which the track descends.

Below the top of the *toge* a rude hut, tenanted by a hale, hospitable, old rustic, tempts us to stop for refreshment and rest. Judging by the extraordinary aspect of this gorge, it would appear to suffer a good deal from landslips and avalanches, the destructive effects of which are painfully evident on either hand. As the path descends, the valley gradually opens out, ever and anon affording a glimpse of the great range far beyond.

Above the tiny village of Sonohara stands a shrine dedicated, we were told, to "Sumiyoshi Kami," and guarded on either side by a majestic cryptomeria, one of which we measured and found to be no less than twenty-six feet in girth at a distance of five feet from the ground. Close by stands a fine chestnut tree, and lower down we came across peach, cherry, and pear trees all in blossom. From Sonohara to Komamba, a walk of some 6 or 7 miles, the scenery reminds one much of the best parts of the Asi-to-toge, though, taken as a whole, exceeding that famous pass in variety and beauty. Shortly after passing Sonohara, the Kurokawa comes into the Achigawa on its left bank, whilst on the right the Hondanigawa hurries down from the slopes of Ena San, whose dark massive form rears itself imposingly against the clear, opalescent sky of the softly waning day. Komamba was reached about 8 o'clock, there being just enough light, as we passed the great new white bridge which brings the Ina Kaido over the Achigawa, to gain a dim prospect of the great Kosiu mountains towards which we had been approaching all the day.

Having been confidently assured that we should here be able to get *jinrikisha*, or *basha*, too, if we wanted it, our first business was to pay off our pack-horse conductor and the small boy who accompanied him, and to engage a vehicle to take us on to Tokimata, our resting place for the night on the banks of the Tenriugawa. But in spite of all enquiries and a most diligent search, none were to be found, and the only means of transport procurable was a *ni-guruma*, a two-wheeled coolie's cart. After an hour and a half's delay, however, the baggage was finally got on the top of this, and on the top of the baggage, since the injured knee compelled this as the only resource, I stretched myself, and the caravan was once again in motion. As might have been expected, it seemed that it was just at this time that the local authorities had caused the roads to be put in order, the result being that all the spots which needed such attention were in a most delightful state of disorder, the "mending" simply meaning turning out cartloads of pebbles and stones varying from the size of a pea to that of a football. Still the *kuruma* coolies worked with a will, and as they received substantial help at the worst places from my stalwart companions we managed to make continuous, even if somewhat unsteady, progress. At any rate by 11.15 p.m. we found ourselves at Nakamura, a distance of nearly 5 miles, where another halt was made and a further search for *jinrikisha* commenced. Whether it was owing to the eloquent address of the ex-President of the Cambridge Union, seated in a commanding situation on the top of a small hillock of road-mending boulders, or the judicious management of the dignified Director of many institutions, who though entitled to sit on numerous Boards at home had on this occasion to be content with another roadside heap of stones, it is sufficient to say that after the village had been thoroughly roused we found ourselves in possession of three *jinrikisha*, in which a couple of hours jolting over what appeared to be a most precipitous mountain track brought us to the hospitable Umenoya at Tokimata. Had it not been our particular wish to reach that river side port in time to enable us to make the journey down the rapids on Saturday, we should have put up at Komamba, from which the road that passes through Nakamura goes straight on to Iida, a distance of 8 miles. As it was, though, we turned off from near Nakamura by a so-called "short cut" nominally 1½ *ri*, but taking another 1½ hour for its accomplishment. In spite of the unearthly hour of our arrival, 1.15 a.m., we were received with the kindest of welcomes at our inn, and greater attention could not have been paid to us had we been long-looked-for guests arriving at the most opportune of moments.

DOWN THE TENRIUGAWA RAPIDS.

Probably that is the most ideal arrangement of country travel which combines a variety in the modes of progression to a sufficient degree to prevent anyone kind being ever wearisome, for

neque semper
Arcum tendit Apollo—

and the most enthusiastic of mountaineers will always be glad to vary his climbs and cross-country tramps with a day on some water-way which combines practical utility with the æsthetic delights of a fresh form of scenic beauty other than that from which he had hitherto been deriving his pleasure. In this way does a holiday ramble over a comparatively small area become but a lesser edition of the more extended wanderings "per mare et terras," whose extent indeed may be world-wide, yet without being superior either in variety or enjoyment.

On two occasions the present writer has had the good fortune to make the expedition down the Tenriugawa, once in the middle of August, and once again in the middle of May, yet if the experience were a dozen times repeated, it could not lose its charm; indeed, each fresh repetition would but discover fresh beauties in this swift passage through one of the grandest of the picture galleries of Nature. To give anything like an adequate description of the loveliness and novelty of the journey is entirely beyond one's own particular powers. The prose, the practical information regarding it, is to be found, of course, in "Murray;" for the poetry-descriptive writing worthy of its theme the traveller is recommended to read in Mr. Percival Nowell's "Nolo, an unexploded corner of Japan" the chapters devoted to this subject. Those who have "done" the rapids of the Kodzugawa, near Kyoto, will have but a slight idea of the extent and magnificence of those of the Tenriu, the latter being on a so much grander scale in every way, and even the Fujikawa itself seems almost tame by comparison. For the first half, about 6 hours of the 90 miles journey, the long lithe craft speeds swiftly on its way down a constant succession of races and rapids, its build being such that the bottom bends without breaking when bumping and scraping over the boulders and rocks that offer a sturdy but vain resistance to its course, whilst its behaviour as it dips and plunges through the surging waves is almost that of a living thing.

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Each time we approach a rapid or a river-bend the bow oarsman slowly and solemnly strikes the gunwale of the boat with his great oar, partly, he says, to wake up his companions to extra watchfulness and partly to warn the crews of other craft who may be coming up the river from the opposite direction. On this occasion I was told it was also intended as a warning to any woodmen who might be engaged in felling timber or shooting it down the "slides" we occasionally noticed on the precipitous sides of the narrow chasm. Whether it be for such reasons as these, or whether there is really some superstitious belief that the proceeding will bring good luck, the effect is certainly most curious, not to say uncanny, as the hollow reverberations weirdly echo through the stately cañon, and even the boatmen themselves seem less inclined to chatter, as if subdued beyond their wont by the solemn strangeness of their surroundings. Soon the current's speed increases; one headlong plunge into a seething cauldron of boiling waters; one short sharp struggle to be free from the angry waves that dash over the gunwale as if determined to swamp the boat that will neither collapse nor capsize; and then comes calm and rest, as we find ourselves gliding along a current fast flowing, indeed, but with hardly a ripple on the bosom of the stream.

During these exciting moments one's attention is naturally too much occupied with what is below us to allow the thoughts to dwell on the majestic cliffs that wall in the river with their verdure-clad heights. And yet what a wonderful sight it is that is constantly opening out before us at every turn, trees and shrubs and creepers in all the fresh sweetness of their spring attire. What a bewildering study of botanical beauty it must be for the man to whom each fresh plant has its own story to tell and its own particular loveliness to charm!

As Mr. Lowell has it, in graceful lines that vividly recall the scene:—

> The trees far up, sharp-etched against the blue,
> Let but the river's strip of sky light through
> To trees below, that on each jutting ledge
> Scant foothold found to overlook the edge,—
> As still as statues on their niches there,
> Where no breeze stirred the ever-shadowed air,—
> Spell-bound spectators, crowded tier on tier
> From where the lowest, bending to be near
> The shock of spray, with leaves a-tremble stood
> In shuddering gaze above the swirling flood—
> The whole deep chasm, some vast natural nave
> That to the thought a touch of grandeur gave,
> And touch of grace.—

It is when passing through such scenes as this, too, that one most feels the disadvantage at which a traveller is placed who knows practically nothing of geology, and "the operation of the great laws of change which are the conditions of all material existence, however apparently enduring." The hills, which, as compared with living beings, seem "everlasting," are in truth as perishing as they; its veins of flowing fountain weary the mountain heart, as the crimson pulse does ours—"the natural force of the iron crag is abated in its appointed time, like the strength of the sinews in human old age; and it is but the apse of the longer years of decay, which, in the sight of its Creator, distinguishes the mountain range from the moth and the worm." Another passage like the foregoing, from Raskin's "Modern Painters" (Vol. IV.) irresistibly comes up before one's mind as the dark stream bears us on through the heart of the great mountain barrier towards the shores of the Pacific that lie beyond:—"When did the great spirit of the river first knock at these adamantine gates? When did the porter open to it, and cast his keys away for ever, lapped in whirling sand? I am not satisfied—no one should be satisfied with that vague answer, "The river cut its way." Not so. The river *found* its way. I do not see that rivers in their own strength can do much in cutting their way; they are nearly as apt to choke their channels up as to carve them out. Only give a river some little sudden power in a valley, and see how it will use it. Cut itself a bed? Not so, by any means but fill up its bed; and look for another in a wild, dissatisfied, inconsistent manner,—any way rather than the old one will better please it; and even if it is banked up and forced to keep to the old one, it will not deepen, but do all it can to raise it, and leap out of it. And although, wherever water has a steep fall it will swiftly cut itself a bed deep into the rock or ground, it will not, when the rock is hard, cut a wider channel than it actually needs; so that if the existing river beds, through ranges of mountains, had in reality been cut by the streams, they would be found, wherever the rocks are hard, only in the form of narrow and profound ravines . . . Although in many cases it appears that those larger valleys have been excavated at earlier periods by more powerful streams, or by the existing stream in a more powerful condition, still the great fact remains always equally plain, and equally admirable, that, whatever the nature and duration of the agencies employed, the earth was so shaped at first as to direct the current of its rivers in the manner most healthy and convenient for man. The valley of the Rhone may have been in great part excavated, in early times by torrents a thousand times larger than the Rhone; but it could not have been excavated at all, unless the mountains had been thrown at first into two chains, by which the torrents were set to work in a given direction."

After six or seven hours of passage through this great chasm rent in the mountain mass, the cliffs on either hand begin insensibly to slope more gently from the river's brink, and on the shelving shores the signs of human habitations grow more numerous. Here and there a boat is being laboriously pulled or poled up against the strong swift current, and as we near the sea some are making a less toilsome progress by the aid of the sail that is spread to catch the favouring breeze. The sun has set and twilight softly but swiftly falls, with a curiously subduing influence on the spirit. It is exactly twelve hours from the start when our boat hauls up at the landing place by the side of the great bridge which at Nakanomachi spans, centipede like, the river's widening current. An hour's *jinrikisha* ride along the old Tokaido, over one of its smoothest stretches, and Hamamatsu is reached; a couple of hour's rest in a convenient *chaya*, and then away to Suzukawa, where a quiet Sunday's rest was spent in view of the loveliest contours of Fuji, enhanced by ever-changing beauties of those cloud effects which are amongst the most æsthetic pleasures that nature in her best moods can bestow.

OVER FUJIYAMA IN MAY.

Comparatively few foreign travellers seem to think of choosing Murayama as their starting point for the ascent of Fujisan, although it has many points of excellence that, in the writer's opinion, make it the most preferable. Probably the main reason is that it is so much more remote from the Yokohama side, and time is lost in getting at it from that direction. A ride of 7 miles by *kuruma* or tram takes one to Oimya and there the main road is left for a path which turns off towards the actual base of the mountain, bringing us in 1½ hours to the little village of Murayama whose whereabouts are clearly visible from afar, marked out by a dark grove of stately cryptomeria whose cool recesses give shade to a picturesque old temple which stands sentry at the Omoteguchi, the "front entrance," as the natives designate it, of the "peerless peak." Having already twice sheltered under the hospitable roof of the great old fashioned pilgrims' inn, whose fortunes are now presided over by Mistress Fujimasa, the widow of the late Fuji Soshiro, formerly the hereditary guardian of this particular route, it was with genuine pleasure that I once more entered the big gates of the compound and was greeted with the kindliest of welcomes.

Some time was spent in rearranging our baggage and obtaining the services of coolies, but at 3.15 p.m. we were on the way and a couple of hours walk over moor and, prairie, and through forest-glades brought us to Umagayeshi, a fair sized hut at an altitude of 4,390 feet above the sea, or 2,730 above Murayama. As the last hour or so had been spent in the clouds we were comfortably damp, and every breeze that waved the tree tops shook down showers of moisture, though as yet no actual rain had begun to fall. At Umagayeshi we sent back the baggage horse with its fellow who had brought me thus far in order to save the injured knee, and transferred to the backs of the coolies and my two sturdy companions the wraps, food, etc., we had brought sufficient for a stay of several days, if necessary, on the mountain, and at 5.45 began to move upwards in the direction of the "No. 1, Station" where we proposed to spend the night.

The path now gets somewhat steeper, and in half an hour lands us at the spot where in olden days existed the Nionindo hut, so called because in former times women were debarred from climbing further up the sacred cone. The few shattered remains of the former structure, scattered over the open space where once it stood, seemed fitly emblematic of the exploded ideas as to unfitness on the part of the "weaker sex" for so invigorating a recreation as that of mountain climbing. Still another half hour's climb brings us to the door of the Omomi hut, and as it is now growing dusk and everything is in a state of extreme moisture, we decide to bivouac here for the night, particularly as the coolies assure us that water is not to be had higher up, though they know of a certain spot near here where a supply can be got.

As the hut has not been tenanted for some eight months past, and is not likely to be so for a couple of months hence, it was hardly likely that the winter's storms would have left the interior in a very delightful state. And on lifting the section of one side of the building which does duty for a door, it was at once seen that our quarters were anything but palatial. The hut is about twenty feet long by fifteen wide, and has a wooden floor raised some eighteen inches above the level of the ground, with a hollow space a few feet square at the right hand end to do duty as a fire place. No chimney is there to allow the smoke of the blazing wood to escape, and as the roof is really the best built part of the whole structure, with few holes to let in the wet, the smoke has to find its way out through the chinks and cracks at the sides, and these being inconveniently few one's eyes are so excruciatingly punished that relief can only be got by lying down with one's face near the floor. This again is in a very dilapidated state and it is only by the aid of stray boards, a water proof ground-sheet, rugs, &c., that we can make it sound enough to walk, sit, or sleep upon. Whilst B. and I are unpacking the baggage and superintending the important operation of making a fire, O'R. and a coolie dive down a steep gully close by the hut in quest of water. In due time they arrive with a small supply and the intelligence that there is no spring, but simply a little to be got in one or two tiny stagnant pools. However, we are determined to make the best of the situation, and after a substantial meal, we proceed to settle ourselves for the night. A long log of wood with sundry articles of spare clothing, air cushions, etc., forms a common pillow. A fire at the feet, fed ever and anon throughout the night by the constantly chattering coolies—who, by the way, never seemed the least interested in the expedition and exhibited a miserable lack of confidence and enthusiasm right through, helped to make things more comfortable, and with the softest bundle one could spare to serve as a cushion for the hip-bone, which has to bear really the most of the weight when lying down, we were not so badly off after all; at any rate, it might have been a good deal worse.

When morning broke on Tuesday, May 16th, it must be owned that our prospects were dismal in the extreme. The barometer, the rain, the spirits of our coolies were all falling with painful steadiness, and a wind of increasing violence sprang up which every now and then shook down the rain drops, resting on the leaves above the hut, in heavy showers. To perform one's toilet was a matter of extreme difficulty, though the water supply, in the form of a continuous shower bath, was so plentiful that one had but to lay one's sponge for a few second's outside the hut to have it perfectly soaked.

As the day wore on it became quite plain that at least another night would have to spent on the mountain before the ascent could be attempted, so in order to provide against contingencies, one of the coolies was down to Murayama for a fresh supply of eggs, etc., whilst B. and O'R., taking another with them, went up to the hut at No. 1 Station to inspect it with a view to removing the baggage and the spending the night there in preference to our quarters at Omomi. Ultimately, however, we decided to remain where we were, the heavy downpour making it inadvisable to risk getting all our things wet through, as they certainly would have been, during the passage from the lower to the upper hut.

Towards evening the wind began to drop and the rain gradually ceased, and our hopes for the morrow correspondingly rose, mindful of the reward a patient waiting had brought us a week before in the case of our Ena-san expedition. Having now got more used to our quarters we succeeded in getting a better night's rest, but we were called late, as usual, on Wednesday morning, in spite of careful instructions that we were to be waked at earliest dawn. It was 5 o'clock when the repetition of a hoarse "ohayo" aroused us from slumber, but the keenest disappointment of all was the discovery that the insane carelessness of the coolies had prompted them, by way of drying our boots, to put them almost in the burning embers themselves, with the result that each suffered in a greater or less degree. O'R. was especially unfortunate, his footgear being so roasted that while in the first instance it was absolutely impossible to get the boots on, that operation in its accomplishment resulted in the upper leather cracking to an alarming extent and ultimately caused it to part company with the sole beyond all possibility of healing. The memory of the struggles with those refractory boots will not readily pass away, and it was only by dint of resorting to the most desperate expedients that upward progress was rendered possible. Something *had* to be done to keep the sundered parts together, and string, travelling cap, waraji, and many other appliances had been brought into use before the day was over; indeed only the pluckiest perseverance, in spite of the intense discomfort experienced in climbing up and down the rough lava ridges, and snow slopes in bad condition, enabled our burly companion to complete the expedition with success.

In spite, however, of drawbacks such as these,

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the climb proved a delightful experience. A perfect morning greeted us, as at 7 o'clock we left the hut and a coolie within to act as caretaker of our remaining belongings, and applied ourselves to the remaining 6,700 feet of ascent that lay between us and the highest point of Fuji-san. The freshness of the morning air, so pure and invigorating after the previous heavy rains, and the quiet solitude of the forest shade proved most inspiriting and with our physical progress our spirits rose. A few minutes after leaving the Omomi hut the first snow was met with, whilst at a spot called Yokowatari-no-sawa we came across the track of an avalanche which, in the spring of 1889, had swept down a narrow valley with such terrific force as to lay low the stalwart trees in its path as though they had been but rotten twigs. In a little over 40 minutes from the start we arrived at Ichigome—the No. 1 station—7,260 feet, where we found a large hut in fair condition, with plenty of water—melted snow—of delicious coolness filling one or two large tubs close by.

The next portion of the climb was probably the most tedious of all, a good deal of soft snow lying among the trees on the upper edge of the forest before the 3rd station is reached, the pressure here being insufficient to make it hard and compact enough for walking over with comfort. Soon, however, our track leaves the forest proper and winds up amongst the stunted larches and straggling alders. Here and there traces of the regular path are to be seen, but we have practically to choose our own line of ascent, and sometimes are on the gradually steepening slopes of snow while at others we are able to take to the rough ribs of lava rock which here and there crop up above the snowy covering of the cone. At the 3rd station we were obliged to send back a second of three coolies, in order that he might be enable to spare his extra *waraji* for the third man, who protested that it would be impossible for him to reach the summit with the small supply he had brought for himself. Under ordinary circumstances a man would have brought four or five pairs with him, had he started with the intention of getting to the top, but neither of these worthies had brought more than one extra pair, as they maintained, from the start, that it would not be possible to complete the ascent owing to the amount of snow, etc., and therefore made no preparations to that end. Indeed, they only agreed to come as far up as they could, and when finally the last of the trio was convinced of the practicability of the climb, it was evidently a feeling of disgust that was uppermost in his mind as he realized that his promise had been rash in that it had given him so much more to do than he ever expected.

No difficulties of any kind whatever were met with on our upward climb, and the interest of our surroundings was too great to tempt us to hurry, but by about 1.15 we had reached a spot overlooking the edge of the crater, and thence turning sharply to the left we climbed the crest of the slope of snow which runs down westwards, from Kengamine, and at 1.45 found ourselves on the highest point of that peak, the true summit of Fuji, and therefore the most elevated position in the Land of the Rising Sun. The view is too well known to most of one's readers to need a detailed description, and under ordinary circumstances it is perhaps its variety and vastness that strike one most. As Fuji's topmost height is nearly 12,400ft. above sea level it has no companion summit within about 2,000ft. of that altitude, the next loftiest being Yarigatake and some others peaks lying on the borders of Hida and Shinano. These, however, are far away, and there is nothing with which to institute a comparison. Fuji is so immense, relatively to its surroundings, that all else is dwarfed and the view from the summit is like some great relief map with varying tints and shades on lake and forest, river, sea, and plain. At our feet the great crater presents an extraordinary sight. Excepting in places where the inner walls are too steep to allow it to lodge, ice or snow spread a dazzling winding sheet over almost the entire summit of the cone, and here and there huge icicles hang blue against the deep red rocks of the inner edges of the great opening. And to turn from the deathly whiteness of the snow at our feet, and to gaze far and wide over the vast expanse of country in all the tender freshness of young spring life, on the one hand, and then out over the restless sea on the other, was a wonderful experience indeed. Man and his devices are remote enough not to disturb one's best thoughts, and it is good to be for a while in the pure clear atmosphere of a region where

Beyond earth's voices there is peace.

For all is quiet and calm, in marked contrast to one's experience just a year ago, when the driving wind came roaring in deafening gusts across the summit, driving the shot-like pellets of frozen snow with painful precision in one's face, and making it almost impossible to rest for a moment on the crater's edge. Then, it was the grandeur, almost the savageness, of nature that formed the chief feature of the scene, but now it is the peacefulness and gentle beauty that attract, and lead one's thoughts to Him Whose power and wisdom created and sustain it all:—

These are Thy glorious works, Parent of good,
Almighty. Thine this universal frame
Thus wondrous fair—thyself how wondrous then!
Unspeakable! Who sitt'st above these heavens,
To us invisible, or dimly seen
In these thy lowest works—yet these declare
Thy goodness beyond thought, and power divine.
(Milton, "Paradise Lost," Book V.)

The hours of daylight still remaining were too few to allow us to linger long on the top, and shortly after 2 o'clock we had to turn away to address ourselves to the descent. Had the snow been in good condition for glissading the three or four thousand feet to be passed before getting on to the ashes lower down the mountain would have been the work of but a few minutes. But its softness retarded progress and required more exertion, and the coolie and our native servant seemed to be getting the steam taken out of them before we had gone far down. As there was really no need to return by the Murayama route, and we, moreover, wished to cross over the Otomegoge the next day to Miyanoshita, we decided, on leaving the summit, to descend to Gotemba, there being no difficulty whatever in tracing the general direction thither, the clearness of the air affording a panoramic view distinct in almost every detail. As, however, the coolie had foolishly neglected to provide himself with a reasonable supply of food at starting, confidently calculating on a speedy termination to our climb, and a consequently quick return to the Omome hut, we sent him off, with our servant—who had really shown more pluck than either of the professional trio—to mind the shoulder of the mountain to rejoin the rest. They two accordingly left us, after going down with us a couple of thousand feet on the Gotemba side, and started on their way together to the hut in question, whilst we continued the descent alone. But for the delay caused by the troublesome state of my knee, this would have been a comparatively easy and pleasant task, at any rate, after the lower limit of the snow was past, none of us were at all done up, and no other unusual difficulties were met with, but the strain on the knee when going down made it a trying walk. However, my stalwart companions were equal to the emergency, and took to giving me a pick-a-back ride whenever required as if it was the most delightful amusement imaginable, and never so agreeable as when it necessitated plunging at every step well over the ankles in the yielding ashes of the lower slopes.

With perseverance and patience, however, all went well, and a pleasant tramp through the upper limits of the forest, brought us in due time to the hospitable tea House at Nakabata, where much needed refreshment was speedily called for and despatched. Previously to this, when passing the hut at Tarobe, where last year I spent a night on the upwarded way, our hopes of obtaining food had been roused by the discovery that the place was tenanted by an individual whose general appearance seemed to betoken that he had come there to stay, and was consequently provided with all the necessaries of life in such a lonely spot. But no, he said he lived on nothing but water, and beyond this he had nothing to give or sell. That he was telling the truth, was too absurd a supposition, however charitable, to entertain, especially as cooking utensils at hand told a very different tale, but still there was no help for it, and we had to move on and leave our crusty anchorite to himself and his reflections

At Nakabata I was able to get a pack horse to ride the short distance remaining before Gotemba, a welcome relief from stumbling over the uneven rutty road that leads thither. The preparations for one's ride were of a somewhat novel character, and to an onlooker should have proved distinctly entertaining. Saddle or bridle there was not, but whilst a *futon* did duty for the former, a bit of straw rope round the animal's head and held by a small boy, who also carried a *chochin* to light the way, served for the latter. At first my charger seemed wholly indisposed to receive me on his bony back, pirouetting and plunging about in an alarming manner. Accordingly, by way of checking this irregular behaviour our worthy host sidled up and seized one of the creature's forelegs, bending the knee and holding it firmly in his grasp so as to prevent an undue freedom of motion. Bucephalus, however, mistook the meaning of this polite attention (which, by the way, was offered in exactly the same way as one assists a lady to mount) and appeared to take it as an invitation to "get up" somewhere, the result being still more violent curvetting, causing the bystanders to scatter and retreat to a respectful distance. Ultimately we managed to reduce him to submission and temporary inaction by fastening his forelegs together, and tying a cloth over his head, a proceeding which allowed B. who by this time had gained considerable experience as a groom, his get-up, too, being singularly appropriate to that office, to bend down, take me on his back and then with a mighty lift shoot me up and across the futon in such a way as enabled me there and then to scramble into position astride the steed, and so at last to make a start We eventually reached the inn (Yoshijima's) adjoining Gotemba station at 10 p.m., but I regret to say that our reminiscences of our stay there are not such as to induce us to revisit it. During the short time we were there, nearly the whole of it, excepting the four or five hours we were "on *futon*" was spent in endeavouring to explain the English rendering of the regulations printed in our passports, much to our own annoyance, and doubtless equally to the confusion of the authorities who detained us an hour over night, and also from 5 o'clock until 10.30, the next morning in the vain endeavour to persuade us that their view of the situation, and not ours, was the correct one. Ultimately, however, we managed to come to an agreement which resulted in mutual satisfaction though ours was a good deal tempered by the thought of the many hours wasted in its attainment.

At 4.40 a.m. our native servant, who had left us on the mountain some 13 hours before, arrived with our baggage which he had collected at the Omomi hut and at Murayama, having descended to the latter place and then made his way via Suzukawa round the base of Fuji to Gotemba, a good piece of work for a man unaccustomed to so long and tiring an expedition as this must have proved. It was during our one's day sojourn at the Gotemba Station inn that met with the most unpleasant experiences of the whole of our trip, in the objectionable behaviour of the domestics of the house. It is a curious, but most regrettable fact, that, in many of the native inns in Japan, the manners and modesty of the servants appear to vary inversely with the frequency of their intercourse with a certain class of travellers of foreign nationality. That they, the domestics, would be all that they might be, otherwise, is not to be expected, but it is quite certain that a good deal of their vulgarity and impertinence—the more marked by reason of contrast with the usual native politeness and modesty—which so often strike one when leaving the bye-ways for beaten tracks, is the result of contact with, and a reflection of the manners of, too many of their foreign guests.

For more reasons than one it would be well, indeed it is only fair and honourable, that every foreign traveller when he enters a native country ought should remember that he has, in his intercourse with those who serve him there, to consider other things besides his own pleasure. He owes a duty to the people he is dealing with, and therefore cannot afford to spoil what is naturally attractive in their native simplicity and ingenuousness, simply for the sake of gratifying a passing whim, or because he thinks that to respond to their politeness in a fitting form is beneath his dignity or not worth the trouble. Besides this, he owes a duty to the foreign guest who follows in his wake, for if *he* behaves like a boor himself, the natives will naturally conclude, that he *is* a boor, and that his successor is the same and may therefore be treated as such, or at any rate that good manners and politeness will be thrown away upon him and his class

And finally, though he may not have enough self-respect, nor consideration either for his present hosts or for future guests who will follow him, to behave with that spirit of unselfish chivalry towards a woman and kindliness towards a fellow man which alone makes a true *gentleman*, at least he may remember that he is for the moment the representative of a great nation, from whom the people about him are gaining their ideas of what that nation's manners and customs are like. And the result will probably be that so far from his nationality gaining respect and true prestige through his conduct, the opposite will be the case, and the civilisation he is supposed to represent will simply come in for the dislike and disgust of people whom he affects to regard as all barbarians, but who, at any rate, can set him a example of good manners towards strangers which he would do well to copy.

For, after all, as good old William of Wykeham's words of wisdom, well worn, but not yet out of date, have it, it is not the dollars, but

"Manners maketh man."

A note on the expenses of the foregoing journey may possibly be of use to any travellers contemplating a similar trip.

From Gifu to Gotemba the time taken was 11 days, during which our *total* expenses, *i.e.* those

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travellers and a native servant, amounted to $120. This sum includes such items as the following:—

Four Kurumas from Gifu to Ota	$ 6.00
Basha from Ota to Kumado	$ 3.00
Five Kurumas from Kumado to Nakatsugawa	$ 7.50
Boat down the Tenriugawa	$12.00
Railway fares Hamamatsu to Sudzukawa	$ 3.40
Two horses Omiya to Umagayeshi	$ 2.00
Three coolies on Fuji, parts of 3 days	$ 6.00
Provisions bought in Kobe	$ 2.56

The expenses of the journey would of course be less in proportion as one discards *jinrikisha*, etc., but as our time on this occasion was limited, we used them a good deal more than we should otherwise have done.

LETTER FROM LONDON.

(From our own Correspondent.)

London, June 17th.

Preparations for the Royal Wedding are progressing. Nearly everybody in the kingdom seems to be contributing in one way or another to presents for the Prince and Princess. Although Mr. Gladstone has refused to officially proclaim a general holiday for the day of the marriage, the occasion will be almost universally observed as a public holiday. The ten bridesmaids are to be all Royal Princesses. Such is the gist of the paragraphs which day by day are dealt out by the London press, to which the event is a great boon, as for some time past and doubtless for some time to come incidents *apropos* the Wedding afford at least a column of "copy" daily.

More charming weather than we have had this week—the week of the Ascot Races—we have perhaps never been favoured with in our island of changeable climates. The consequence has been that everybody either of a sporting turn of mind or not who enjoys a day's outing on a pleasant heath surrounded by pretty women and sometimes prettier costumes, has been attracted to the Races. Additional interest also has been given to this year's meeting owing the fact that for the first time for some years the Prince of Wales arrived on the course in Royal state. The Royal Procession was led by Lord Riddesdale, the Master of the Buckhounds, followed by the Royal Huntsman, the two whips, and the Queen's head Gamekeeper and Verdurer; then came six carriages containing the Royal Party, including amongst others the Prince and Princess of Wales, the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh, the Duke of York and Princess May. A somewhat small field ran for the Gold Cup, which was carried off in excellent form by Marcion, so much so, that there are many who appraise him as the best three-year old of the season not even barring Isinglass, the winner of the Derby. The racing throughout the week was good, the weather, which always has a great effect upon Britishers, was beautiful, the arrangements were excellent, and everything seemed to combine to make the present meeting one of the most successful that has ever been held on the classic Heath.

Paris has invariably been the pioneer in regard to novel shows—it was responsible for the first Baby Show and was one of the few places where a Beauty Show was successfully held, to say nothing of springing upon the world the idea of the modern Tower of Babel, and now a show of the oldest people is announced to take place. The doctors directing the periodical *Science Médicale* are the originators of the scheme, which is stated to be in the interests of science, and it is affirmed that many valuable data were furnished the medical profession of great scientific value by the last Baby Show held. The question of longevity is a subject fraught with the greatest interest, and if the Committee of scientists gather sufficient information to enable them to devise a scheme for the general prolongation of life they will be doing a lasting service to mankind—or at least that portion which enjoys a mundane existence. Prizes will be given to the oldest competitor, to the healthiest and strongest, and to the one who shall give proof of the greatest mental lucidity and intelligence, despite age. No restriction will be made as to the nationality of the competitors provided that they shall have attained the age of ninety, and, what at first seems a new experiment, the jurors will be selected from the candidates. The venerable Dr. de Boissy, who was born in 1793 and has been practising medicine at Havre for the past seventy years, is likely to be the leading member of the Prize decreeing Committee. An old man of 123 years will probably be one of the exhibits, and as there are stated to be over eighty genuine centenarians in France alone there will doubtless be no lack of competition. The show is to be held from July 15 to July 25 next in the Palais des Arts Libéraux, or the Pavilion of the City of Paris, in the Champs Elysées.

What at one time was considered the Utopian idea of sitting in one's own drawing room and listening to performances at the theatre or the opera, or the services of the Church, is now being practically brought before the public. The Electrophone Company illustrated the powers of the wonderful invention they are working at a service given a day or two since, which proved a great success. They are about to open branches in Piccadilly and other parts of London and their object is to introduce the Electrophone into private houses, where it can be used in junction with the telephone. The instrument has already been working with the most successful results for the last two years in Paris. We always are a little behind the times in London.

A sadly romantic and tragic story was unfolded the other day before the Coroner holding an inquiry into the deaths of Mr. Hermann Stoer and a young German lady reputed to be his wife. The deceased young man had for some weeks past been living in lodgings in the old Cathedral city of Canterbury, whither his wife had come over from Germany to join him. According to their landlady they led a quiet retiring life, in the day time wandering together through the beautiful Kentish woods which surround the city, picking wild flowers, and in the evening the girl wife, who was an accomplished musician, would play the piano sometimes as a solo and sometimes as an accompaniment to her husband's songs. The couple were undoubtedly very greatly attached to each other and appeared thoroughly happy in a quiet way. And yet there was something wanting. The young man, it would appear, might be classed as one of the "minor poets;" he had written poems but they brought no financial success; he had had his plays returned by managers unopened, and apparently growing tired of existence he resolved to end his life and his wife agreed to share the same fate. A letter written by the deceased man to a friend pathetically sums up how matters stood. This remarkable communication reads:—"I am dead. I shot myself on the 9th June here near Canterbury, in a wood on the west side of the town. I had been four weeks in this place with my wife, who came on purpose from Germany to die with me. I leave proofs enough behind me to testify that I am no murderer—letters in German which will be found on my body, and her family will also be obliged to acknowledge the truth. We lived under the shadow of death happily together from the 12th May, the day before my birthday until the 9th June, the day before her birth day, the time that fate allowed. We lived joyfully and peacefully for we dwelt in the same bosom of nature and separated from the stupidity, cupidity, and madness of mankind. Our pleasures were woods, birds, fields, wild flowers. The hawthorn blossom and the blue bell were with us at first, then honey suckle and the wild rose. Music and song were our occupation, with merry and earnest conversations in our little lodging. We were a harmony together, a tender and sublime accord." All this seems exceedingly good reason for living, not dying, but although in the young man's madness there was method, it was, however, none the less madness. In evidence it transpired that the deceased man's father had been detained in a Lunatic Asylum for 14 years, and the Jury brought in a verdict of suicide while of unsound mind regarding the man, and that the woman died from a bullet wound in the head inflicted by her husband. Thus ended the career of another unappreciated poet.

Yet another of Ibsen's plays has been inflicted upon the London theatre-going public; this time Mr. Beerbohm Tree is the introducer, and judging from the reception the pieces obtained it is likely to be less repulsive to audiences than the majority of the Scandinavian dramatist's productions have proved to be. "An Enemy of the People" although, as usual with Ibsen's plays, pessimistic and loosely put together, nevertheless contains one or two practical essays of a high ethical character. That Truth and Honesty do not always bring an enhancement of this world's goods to their followers is shown by this story. In a little Norwegian water-place Dr. Thomas Stockman, is the medical officer of the baths, which draw to the place the bulk of its visitors and consequent prosperity. Everything is going well with the doctor, until one day he makes the discovery that the springs which feed the baths are fouled by swamp water, and so far from being a health resort, the town breeds disease amongst those who visit it for the cure. Immediately the doctor communicates his discovery to the leading men of the town, and not for a moment does it occur to this frank and conscientious man to conceal the damaging fact. His brother, the burgomaster, and a friend who is the editor of the local newspaper, think otherwise, however, and endeavour to persuade the doctor that the proper course is to keep back the truth from the Public, or at least veneer it thick enough to lose its awkward aspect. Dr. Stockmann thus finds that he has to fight the battle of truth and honour alone and has the further mortification of seeing his brother taking the side of fraud against him. The succeeding stages of the play discover no new principles, but are devoted to showing the increasing bitterness against the conscientious doctor and a turbulent public meeting of the people completes his downfall. The action of the play then abruptly comes to an end and the fate of the doctor is left more or less uncertain. Mr. Tree thoroughly adapted himself to the part of Dr. Thomas Stockmann and represented the character with a becoming dignity. Mrs. Theodore Wright and Miss Lily Hanbury acted the Doctor's wife and daughter, and Mr. Kemble was the Burgomaster, Peter Stockmann. In Mr. Tree's hands this latest of Ibsen's dramas is likely to have a longer run than its predecessors, which, by the way, is not predicting much.

The Australian Cricket Team at present in England is not having a particularly successful time of it. A match was concluded yesterday against the South of England team in which the Australians suffered defeat for the fifth time during the season. This makes their record four victories, five reverses, and three drawn games. In the match yesterday the Colonials fell all to pieces and were beaten by the Englishmen with ten wickets to spare.

During the match between Middlesex and Notts played at Lord's last week, A. E. Stoddart made two scores which average among the highest that have been made in recent years. In the first innings he made 195, not out, and in the second his score ran up to 124 before he was caught out. Only two other cricketers during the last half century can boast of making two "centuries" in an important match, W. G. Grace, who has thrice performed the feat, and George Brown.

LETTER FROM BALTIMORE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Baltimore, June 27th.

A most remarkable experiment in politics is about to be tried in South Carolina, one of the South Atlantic states. The State government on the 1st of July will take entire and exclusive charge of the sale of liquor within its borders, in accordance with an Act of the local legislature passed last winter. The measure is both sumptuary and financial. The prohibitionists there are few in number but active and aggressive, and many of them endorse this step because a check will be put on the consumption of alcoholic stimulants. The governor, while not a radical temperance man, is enthusiastically making preparations because he believes enormous profits will result. It is well known that bar keepers realize an extravagant percentage in their trade. The state has made for itself a monopoly of the business, and is modestly content to retail at fifty per cent. advance over the wholesale price.

This venture is altogether new in this country, but in a more modified way it has been in successful operation in Sweden for some time. Some of the regulations here are so stringent that all kinds of underhanded methods are certain to be resorted to with consequent serious loss of revenue. Nothing but the pure stuff is to be sold, and all of it must be tested by an official chemist before being offered to the public. A commission does all the buying, bottling, packing, and shipping. Whatever is needed is to be distributed in appropriate bulk to the different *dispensaries*, as these state bar rooms are called. These establishments are limited in number, no county of the 34 in the state being allowed more than one except some three or four. So in an area one-fifth as large as all Japan, and containing more than a million people, there will be considerably less than a hundred shops where a thirsty soul can get any alcoholic beverage, instead of more than a thousand as now. In many places an old toper, if law-abiding, will have to ride twenty to thirty miles to get his daily dram. After this wearisome journey he will have to sign a paper, stating his age, sex, place of habitation, name of disease requiring such medicine, and other such personal items and then get some one to identify him and guarantee for his moral character and steady habits. Finally he must pay cash down for not less than half a pint of the fluid already corked and sealed, and even then he cannot quiet his cravings until he has retired to a discreet distance, as no drinking is allowed on the premises. If he yearns for another tipple, he can under no circumstances get it until next day. He is forbidden to keep more than a small quantity in his house nor can he go beyond the boundaries of his State to

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secure any. All old time seductions as mint juleps, brandy cocktails, sherry cobblers, eye-openers, gins-lings, &c., he must compound for himself as his mistress sternly refuses to do more than supply him the fire-water unadulterated.

Every one must be heartily in sympathy with the aims of this social innovation, but there are good grounds for grave doubts as to the timeliness of it. Absolute prohibition has been tried in one or two of the States, but it is notorious that in the cities, evasions and violations of the law have been open and shameless. Consumption has indeed been reduced, but it is a question whether this good has not been more than offset by the lowering of the popular respect for law. Furthermore, equal or greater diminution in the use of whisky has been obtained by local option and that too without dulling the keen edge of the public conscience. But the greatest obstacle to the smooth working of all such schemes is the freedom of intercourse between the States. No commercial barrier can be erected at any interior point, and dealers are at liberty to sell and transport to any one in a neighbouring State. This facility of trade will to no trifling extent hamper this administrative novelty in South Carolina, though the executive there is determined to carry out the will of the enacting assembly, and will appoint a number of secret detectives to report all infractions and irregularities. The whole matter receives a great deal of attention and the outcome will be awaited with interest.

Enormous interest is shown throughout the country over one of the most sensational murder trials for many years. A young girl Lizzie Borden by name was accused of killing her father and stepmother. The case was most extraordinary because the crime was committed on a bright summer day in the heart of Fall River, a city of 80,000 inhabitants without a clue to the perpetrators. The main facts are as follows:—

On the morning of the 4th of August, 1892, after eating breakfast, Mr. Borden went down town, and returning about eleven o'clock, sat down by the window to read while his daughter Lizzie was ironing in the same room. The next thing that was known of him was that she called the servant who was resting in another part of the house to come quickly as something was the matter, and they found the old man lying on the sofa murdered. The servant girl went upstairs to call Mrs. Borden and found her lying dead under the bed. Suspicion pointed towards the daughter, as her father died intestate and she would inherit his estate valued at a quarter of a million dollars.

The prosecution claims that she killed her mother about nine o'clock, while the servant was down stairs, then changing her dress which must have been stained with blood she came downstairs and waited for her father, then killed him and changing her dress again, called the servant.

The Fall River police got up all the evidence, but when brought before the Court it was considered extremely weak. The jury acquitted her without delay, but a large part of the public still believe she was connected with the murder. The latest theory is that she hired some one to do it and then assisted him to escape.

Electricity has taken another step forward in lightening human labour. There is exhibited at the World's Fair an electrical kitchen. The oven is incased in wood and has a lining of tin and asbestos. The heating plates are arranged so that heat can be applied from either above or below, while the degree of heat is shown by a thermometer fixed to the top of the oven. The temperature can be regulated by a switch attached to one side. It is claimed that absolutely no heat radiates from this electrical oven. The heat is uniform throughout the interior. There are no cinders or ashes to be disposed of and there is no smoke or odour as there is apt to be when wood or coal is used. This oven is used for baking only. In preparing other kinds of food everything is cooked in a separate utensil having attached to it an electrical wire. The vessels have no connection with the stove. They can be placed on any article of furniture that is convenient provided that an electrical burner is within reach of the further end of their coils of wire.

Flat irons are also heated by electricity. All that is necessary is to select your iron, attach its wire to a burner, and you can iron all day without having to go to the fire even once for a freshly heated one.

A New Zealander was so pleased with the electrical kitchen that he bought an entire outfit which he will ship to his sheep-ranch down there. He can get all the power he wants from a waterfall near by. The numerous mountain streams and torrents of *Dai Nippon* may soon develop enough of the subtle fluid to do all the baking and roasting for her forty million people, and then charcoal and the cheerful fire-box will disappear.

The electric railway also grows by leaps and bound. Cities and towns are connected by such a net-work over large districts that the whole system seems scarcely more than an extension of the street lines of a city. This noiseless fluid is having a most marked effect on urban life. Dwellers are going out in the suburbs where they have more room and less rent, and can go to office, shop, or market in same time and for same fare as their neighbours in the city can. A swarm of country houses, villas, and villages is springing up around Baltimore, all having cheap and rapid transit to the heart of the municipality. The same tendency is observable in Washington, forty miles off, an arm is reaching out from each centre so that soon the invisible steed will be drawing passengers over this distance. There are already in operation between these two points two steam railroads each double tracked, and a third under an independent management will likely affect rates.

The trolley patent with the overhead wires is the only one in use to any extent. This suits the open country well enough, but in the crowded streets it is a serious obstruction and danger. Recently experiment was made with an under-ground conductor in New York, and competent observers declared it an entire success. This would remove every objection to the use of this deadly agent, and would be the ideal plan for the cities.

But the latest advance is to propel canal boats by the use of electricity. It is proposed to string a wire along the Erie canal, the largest artificial waterway in America, and develop power from streams in the State, and thus reduce expenses by one half. If this improved plan could be successfully operated, the canal would again come back as a most important factor in transportation.

The viking vessel sailed into New York a few days since, and her captain and crew were roughly handled one evening by the Brooklyn police as they were returning from some banquet given in their honour by the city of Brooklyn. As they were going to their quarters some toughs assaulted one of them, and when his companions went to his rescue, they were brutally clubbed by the police, and run into the lock up and kept all night, though an admiring countryman generously offered large bail for their appearance in court the next morning. These hardy sailors brought over for exhibition at the World's Fair a boat modeled after the sort in which their bold ancestors crossed the Atlantic and discovered America upwards of five hundred years before Columbus ever saw the Western continent. It is rather humiliating to our pride that we should meet such fine commemoration of early valour and courage with this savage treatment, but the Brooklyn and New York "cops" think both cities were made for them, and when in the proper humour some of the finest act with the summary vigour and cruelty of an African potentate towards anyone, no matter how inoffensive, who may have aroused their imperial ire. Both municipalities are under the control of a highly organised political ring, and the ordinary citizen can do nothing but tamely submit.

The new Cunarder *Campania* flew across the Atlantic from Queenstown to Sandy Hook last week, 2,864 miles, at an average rate of 21 12 knots per hour. While making the best speed, she did not make the best time, as her course was 82 miles longer than the usual one. Had she come over the record route, she would have crossed in 5 days 11 hours and 42 minutes. This time would have been over two hours less than the present record which is 5 days, 14 hours, and 24 minutes made by the American Line steamer *Paris*, last October.

The Johns Hopkins University held its annual commencement on June 13th, and conferred the degree of Doctor of Philosophy on 26 candidates, with a number of Bachelors of Arts. Among the honours, Mr. J. C. Ballagh, of Yokohama, received an Honorary Scholarship, worth two hundred dollars.

THE U.S. CONSULAR-GENERAL COURT FOR JAPAN.

Before W. D. TILLOTSON, Esq., Consul-General and Judge.—SATURDAY, July 22nd.

TSUJIMURA SADA *versus* THE EXECUTORS OF JOHN EDWARD COLLYER.

PRELIMINARY PROCEEDINGS.

Upon the Court reassembling this morning, Mr. A. Tison announced that he appeared for the defendants, Messrs Stuart Eldridge and T. M. Laffin. Mr. Uchiyama Rossetsu was present on behalf of the plaintiff, Tsujimura Sada. Mr. Jones, the newly appointed U.S. Consul General at Shanghai, occupied a seat upon the bench.

Mr. Uchiyama Rossetsu—There is one question which I should like to put to Mr. Laffin upon the accounts which I did not put at the last hearing, which, in fact, I was unaware of then. I have been looking at the item of Messrs. Eyton and Pratt's auction in the books, and I can find no mention of the butcher-boats. Where are those butcher-boats now?

Mr. Laffin, who had already been sworn—I guess if you look smartly into the book you will find them. A very nice thing was sold at the end of the auction for $25. They were the last things sold at the auction.

Mr. Uchiyama Rosetsu—How many butcher-boats were there?

Mr. Laffin—There were two butcher-boats; and they were the last things sold at Eyton and Pratt's auction.

His Honour—The auctioneers' account sales will no doubt show whether they were sold.

Mr. Tison—At any rate witness is quite clear upon the point that they were sold.

Mr. Uchiyama Rossetsu—Well, I could only find the sum total of the sale in the books. (To witness)—What became of the barge?

Mr. Laffin—I did not know whether it belonged to Collyer or to Collyer's sendees. I did not take stock of it. The one I have is one I had built for myself. I have not seen the barge you mention, but I believe the sendees have it. It may have been broken up.

Mr. Uchiyama Rossetsu—My contention, your Honour, will be that the accounts are incorrect and do not make disclosure of all the assets. The errors that I find are not clerical, but consist of items entirely left out, and I therefore hold that the accounts cannot be correct until all the assets of the estate are accounted for. First of all there is the goodwill. It was not sold, and defendants did not make any attempt to sell it. It might have been worth only one dollar, but it might, at the same time, perhaps have fetched $5,000. There is also the lease, which I now find did not run till 1895, but only for two months after Mr. Collyer's death, till September 15th, 1890. This has not been properly accounted for. These constitute the errors in the accounts. You will see that the errors do not consist of mistakes in addition or subtraction, but come from the fact I have already stated, that whole items have been omitted. I will therefore make a motion, which I shall put into writing at the close of these proceedings, that defendants be ordered to file proper and full accounts which shall include all the assets of the estate which ought to be included. Upon referring to Mr. Scidmore's valuable book on Probate, I find that the law applicable to this case is the Common Law. Therein he says that the executors of an estate are bound to take over every asset—lease, goodwill, etc., of a business. We have it in one of the defendants' own words that he took over the business without paying for the goodwill. He says he thought that one did not exist. Then why did he think the business name so valuable as to necessitate the putting up of the sign "Laffin, successor to J. Collyer"? With these few remarks I move to submit the motion that the defendants be ordered by the Court to file full and proper accounts.

Mr. Tison, in rising to reply, asked whether the motion was brought in the suit whose title had just been read to the Court, or whether these were special proceedings?

His Honour said that they were not now considering the suit at all; questions had merely been asked upon the accounts, and the motion had arisen in the probate proceedings.

Mr. Tison thought that his learned friend had chosen a curious time for going into such a matter. It was a time when folk had only just sufficient energy left to cross the road to get to the shady side of the street. From the programme which his learned brother had outlined, it would appear that they were entering upon a campaign of a most exciting character; a campaign that would be warm enough even in much cooler weather than that which they were at present experiencing. Seeing that these proceedings had been first instituted as far back as last November, he was at a loss to know the reason for hurrying them on at this heated season of the year. He did not wish to delay matters himself, for his clients had nothing to conceal and were themselves anxious to have the matter cleared up and be released from their responsibility. But counsel for the other side now came forward with a motion that more correct accounts be filed, alleging that the accounts now presented were not in a proper condition. His clients said that the accounts were in a proper condition and accordingly desired to be discharged. They must therefore proceed with evidence upon the matter. But, unfortunately, notice of the proceedings had reached him while sojourning by the cool waters of Hakone lake, where fishing excursions were the order of the day and the ordinary avocations of life, for the time being, suspended. Therefore he was, himself, not in a

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position to go on with the case that day. Passing on to the motion just submitted, counsel said that if the Court could listen to the advice he had to offer, he would suggest that the trial of the suit itself was the proper time in which to deal with the question which the motion raised. Evidence would have to be called upon it, and only at the trial could they hear it. He did not believe, in the first instance, that the lease itself was in evidence. He had not read it through, and therefore did not pretend to know all its terms, but from the statement made that morning, he learned that the lease had only two months to run from the death of the lessee. A hasty glance at the lease had disclosed also that it was not made out to the heirs, administrators, or assignes of the lessee, while the lessor farther said that the lease died at the death of the lessee. So, it could be seen at once, that if the executors of this estate had had the chance to offer the lease for sale they would not have been selling a lease of two months, but a law suit. He thought few people would prefer to buy a lease which entailed a law suit. Then as to the goodwill. He did not think that good authorities went so far as his learned brother had done that morning and on a previous occasion in regard to what a goodwill was, or that a goodwill must of necessity be placed as an asset in the business accounts. But on this point he would like time to consult authorities. He, himself, could not see how the goodwill of a business like this could be disposed of. Another thing which his learned brother had talked of that morning, was that the Common Law applied to this case. But this was a very exceptional case indeed, that of a legatee suing the executors of an estate for payment of a legacy of $4,000 before the debts of the estate, which amounted to some $15,000 had been paid.

His Honour remarked that the motion brought forward that morning prayed for the rendering of proper accounts.

Mr. Tison—Yes, he wants relief.

His Honour—I can compel the executors to render full and proper accounts, and they may be ordered to put in the goodwill and lease, but they can put any value upon them they please, in fact, can say they are worthless. Further than ordering a correct account to be rendered, I cannot go.

Mr. Uchiyama Rossetsu—Yes, these are only preliminary proceedings.

His Honour (to Mr. Uchiyama Rossetsu)—The executors can claim that the items you mentioned possess no value, and still the accounts will be correct.

Mr. Uchiyama Rossetsu—But I propose to call witnesses to prove that they are of considerable value.

His Honour—That we understand you intend to do.

Mr. Tison—It seems to me that my learned brother seeks to make a short cut by means of this motion to the first claim which he makes in the petition. There are three prayers, I believe, in the petition. It has not been read yet; but the first prayer in the petition asks that proper accounts be put in. The second prayer asks that Tsujimura Sada be paid her $4,000, while the 3rd—

His Honour—I would like to say here, in reference to this motion, that it is clear to my mind that a goodwill may be set down as an asset in an estate, but is not always. Then there is the question of its value—it may be worth something, but it may not be worth anything. This motion, therefore, has little value.

Mr. Tison, after a reference to the lease, which was made out for a monthly rental of $60, said that as it could only possibly have run for a couple of months after Collyer's death it would have involved the estate in a further claim of $120. Instead of that, Mr. Laffin had to obtain a new lease for himself at a higher rental. But it was useless to think of winding up the estate while the $500 in America remained an uncertainty. He would suggest that defendants defer the application for their discharge until that matter was settled one way or another. Fortunately, one of the executors was about proceeding to America shortly, and this matter would receive his personal attention while there. Altogether, he thought it was premature of the legatee to come to that Court and demand payment of her legacy until the estate was cleared up, and all the debts paid.

His Honour asked Mr. Uchiyama Rossetsu if he was prepared to go on with the case.

Mr. Uchiyama Rossetsu—No, sir. I have to call witnesses, and I am quite unprepared to do that this morning.

Mr. Tison understood that the debts of the estate amounted to some $15,000?

Mr. Uchiyama Rossetsu—But the business was never sold. Laffin is carrying it on now as "successor to J. Collyer," and is therefore responsible.

Mr. Tison—Yes, if he was carrying it on as Collyer & Co., but as it is he cannot be.

His Honour thought that it would do no harm to defer the case until a cooler season of the year.

Mr. Uchiyama Rossetsu—I quite agree to that.

His Honour—I am desirous of taking a short vacation soon, and Mr. Tison is now on vacation, or at least is supposed to be, so I think it will be as well to postpone the case to a later date.

Mr. Uchiyama Rossetsu—I quite agree to it.

Mr. Tison—If my learned friend pursues the course which, with great candour and kindness he has sketched for us this morning, I think I must say it will be a case of cut and come again. According to his argument, Mr. Laffin has only been manager of his business all along and is therefore personally responsible for the profits of the business. I would like to know whether he intends to sustain that line of argument?

Mr. Uchiyama Rossetsu—When the case comes on that will be the line I shall take.

Mr. Laffin—Then who am I working for now?

Mr. Uchiyama Rossetsu—That lays within the power of the Court to say.

After a few further remarks from Mr. Tison,

His Honour said that the Court simply passed the case on till some future time.

The Court then adjourned *sine die*.

H.B.M.'S SUPREME COURT, SHANGHAI.

[IN BANKRUPTCY.]

ON APPEAL FROM H.M.S. COURT FOR JAPAN AT KANAGAWA.

IN RE DAVID SHEARD BREARLEY. *Ex parte* THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION, a Creditor, Respondent. JAMES RAMSAY PARSONS, Appellant.

In this case, which was an appeal from an order of H.B.M.'s Court for Japan, made on 25th January in connection with the bankruptcy of David Sheard Brearley of Yokohama, judgment was delivered on July 21st. The case, which has already been reported, raised, it will be remembered, an important question concerning the necessity for registering a deed of assignment of mortgage relating to certain property in Yokohama. Mr. James Ramsay Parsons, agent at Yokohama of the Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China, was the appellant, and the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, one of the creditors opposed the appeal.

Mr. W. A. C. Platt (Messrs. Johnson, Stokes, and Master) appeared for the appellant, and Mr. Chas. Dowdall for the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.

In delivering judgment, the Chief Justice said:—

In this case F. Cornes, by indenture dated the 14th of April, 1886, leased to D. S. Brearley, for a term of ten years, a certain lot of land, viz., one half of Lot No. 3 in Yokohama. D. S. Brearley agreed to purchase for a sum named a shed then on the ground, and also to erect at his own cost buildings upon the land. F. Cornes agreed to take over and pay for such building in cash at the termination of the lease, upon a valuation, and the deed set out the means of arriving at the valuation. Brearley, in 1891, assigned the lease and the benefit of this latter covenant (which was specifically mentioned in the assignment) to the appellant, to secure a debt. In 1892 Brearley became bankrupt, and, at the instance of the respondents, the Court for Japan made an order declaring that the debt secured by the indenture of 1891 had no priority over simple contract debts, and ordering the property and rights comprised in the indenture to be sold, and that the appellant should deliver to the Receiver appointed by the Court all deeds and instruments relating to the property. The property was sold. The lease fetched $200, and the benefit of the covenant by Cornes to pay for the buildings erected by Brearley fetched $3,331.50. James Ramsay Parsons appealed from the order of the Court for Japan. The appeal was heard on the 11th instant by me and Mr. Jamieson, the Assistant Judge. The first point raised by the appellants was that section 22 of the Order in Council, 1881, did not apply to leases. No authority was cited to us for this proposition, and we think on principle that it cannot be maintained. All property in land held by foreigners, whether in China and Japan, is in terms a lease, and in some ports a lease for a term of years in the only form in which it can be held. We think the terms of the Order in Council must be interpreted in the light of the actual state of facts. To hold that it applies only to the fee-simple in land, would be to deprive it of all force, for we believe that no land in China or Japan is held on such a tenure. To hold that it applies only to leases in perpetuity would be to deprive it of application to a great amount of property which in ordinary parlance is properly described as land and houses, and to draw a distinction where in our opinion no distinction ought to exist. We therefore take the terms of the Orders in Council in the plain and ordinary signification and construe the expression "lands and houses" to mean any estate or interest in land houses. The question then arises—Is the assignment made by Brearley to the appellants a mortgage of land and houses and nothing more? We are of opinion that it is a mortgage of land and houses, and should have been registered under section 22 of the Order in Council of 1881. But it was argued that it was something more. The appellants say that, granting that it was a mortgage of land and houses, it was as also an assignment of a chose in action, viz., Brearley's right to recover from the landlord, at the termination of the lease, the value of the buildings erected by him. I do not understand that the respondents deny this, but they say that when the lease was assigned there was nothing more for Brearley to pledge. The assignment of the lease assigned the benefit of the covenant by the lessor to pay for the buildings at a valuation, in other words the covenant ran with the land. Mr. Dowdall cited the case of Mansell and Norton (L.R. 22, C.D. 769), in support of this view. There it was held that a landlord was bound to pay the outgoing tenant for standing crops, etc., and that such a liability ran with the land. It is to be noticed that in that case the liability related to property which belonged to the lessee and which the lessee had a right to take away with him at the end of his lease. Here the liability of the landlord arises from an undertaking on his part to pay for that which belongs by law to him and not to the lessee. The buildings erected by the lessee would in the ordinary course of things come to the lessor, and, moreover, it was expressly stipulated in the indenture of lease that on the determination of the lease the lessee should quietly and peaceably surrender and deliver up to the lessor both the land and the premises to be erected thereon. We think therefore that it was the clear intention of the parties that the premises so soon as erected should be the property of the landlord, the lessee simply having the right to recover from him at the end of the lease a certain sum of money to be ascertained in a particular way. Brearley therefore had no ownership in the houses which he could assign to the Bank. All that he had was the lease, namely the right to occupy the land and houses till the expiry of the term, and a right of personal action—against the lessor. We think this clearly distinguishes the present case from that of Mansel and Norton cited by Mr. Dowdall, where the property to be paid for was the property of the lessee. The case of Grey *v.* Cuthberston (4 Doug. 351) seems to us more in point. There the landlord agreed to pay at a valuation for all the trees planted by the lessee, that is to say, for things which apart from his contract he would not be bound to pay for at all. That was held to be a personal covenant not running with the land. So in this case we think an assignment of the lease without more did not carry with it the benefit of the agreement. It would have been quite competent for Brearley to have assigned the lease by itself on any terms he chose as between himself and his assignee, retaining in his own hands the right to recover the value of the premises whenever the lease might come to an end. This covenant, then, is in our opinion an independent one, only collateral to the lease; it was assigned by way of pledge to the appellants. The question then arises—ought this assignment to have been registered as a mortgage of land or houses? We are clearly of opinion that it was not a mortgage of land or houses. It was a mortgage of a personal right to receive from the lessor a sum of money. This is not and cannot be construed to be a mortgage of land or houses, inasmuch as the assignor had no property in the houses which he could assign. We are therefore of opinion that the assignment by Brearley to the appellants, dated 2nd September 1891, was an assignment by way of mortgage of two things:—

1.—The lease of the Lot No. 3, together with the buildings upon it.

2.—The right of Brearley to recover from the lessor, at the expiry of the lease, a sum of money to be arrived at by valuation in a way set out in the lease. We think that the first of these ought to have been registered as a mortgage of land or houses, and, as it was not, the proceeds of the first portion, viz., the lease, ought to go to the assignee in Bankruptcy, the Official Receiver. We think that the assignment of the second, not being a mortgage of lands or houses, need not have been registered, and the proceeds should go to the appellant.

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As to the costs, both sides having partially succeeded, and partially failed, we think that each party should pay their own both here and in the Court below.—*Shanghai Mercury*

PELAGIC SEALING OFF THE COAST OF JAPAN.

Having had an opportunity of obtaining trustworthy information as to the working of the sealing fleet which has been engaged this summer in pelagic hunting off the coast of Japan, it occurred to me that, in view of the exaggerated statements that have appeared in the vernacular journals, an account of the general working, which included the distances off shore at which the operations of the schooners have been conducted, would be worth publication.

Every winter, for many years, a fleet of small schooners anchored off the French Hatoba, in Yokohama, but disappeared in the summer to make their regular appearance there again the following winter. Year after year they came; some never returned, but others took their places. For ten years this continued, then their numbers began to decrease, until finally only two or three poor specimens remained of a once numerous fleet. Those were the years of sea-otter hunting, and these vessels were the famous *Racco fune*. Fur seal hunting is the natural outcome of sea-otter hunting. Sea-otters are now almost exterminated through the killing of the young with its mother; and the same fate will also before many years befall the fur seals, partly through the same reason, and this notwithstanding all regulations and laws which are promulgated for their protection. A hundred or more vessels are this year employed in hunting them to death, and already at this time—July—over 100,000 seals are estimated to have been killed, without counting those destroyed within a month or two of their birth. A large percentage of the seals sink when killed, even with the best hunters, and a poor shot will often lose five or six out of every ten; this has especially been noticed in respect of the inshore seals, which are the smallest and youngest of the travelling host. The cow seals take the middle place in the line, and the bulls the outside, and are frequently as much as a hundred miles from the inside seals. Of course there are exceptions, and they sometimes get mixed, but this has generally been observed as the rule. The head-hunter of the American schooner *Sophie Sutherland*, who, of a catch of 1,566 skins, brought 422 on board, is said to have lost only 23 seals, and the second hunter with a record of 386 lost only a few more than the head man; the other four hunters in the schooner were less fortunate and lost a large number. This schooner struck the first seals a little to the North of the latitude of Yokohama, but 300 miles off shore, about the middle of March, and she then followed them, keeping mostly on the outside of their line of travel up as far as Shikotan Island, where she gave up the pursuit. Sometimes the schooner remained for a week drifting with the current, and among seals; at other times losing them for days before getting on their trail again. On several occasions nothing could be done for days, although seals were constantly in sight, through heavy gales and monster seas. It happened often that they were in company with other vessels, all having their boats out, and all eager to secure skins, and Captain Sutherland says, with a complacent smile, that his boats were seldom second best. When the boats leave the schooners in the morning they generally take one direction, and if the schooners have a breeze and it is clear weather there is no difficulty in keeping behind them in sight and picking them up at dark, but if it should set in foggy and the boats, perhaps in chase after a seal, should not return at once, then they are missed and it is often days before some boats get back to their vessel. Instances have occurred this summer when boats were never seen again, and of others that reached the shore after having suffered great hardships.

The seals have no regular plan of travel, like birds or other migratory animals. Sometimes thousands of them are together, but they are generally scattered over a wide expanse of ocean, but all heading to the Northward. The hunting that is done within 20 miles of the coast of Japan is hardly worth mentioning. Hundreds of seals have no doubt been killed in sight of land, but those skins are not worth one half of those taken farther out. The skins from the *Sophie Sutherland* are expected to fetch over 20 dollars each in gold this year, as they are a very superior lot, having been shot at an average of 150 miles off shore. Very few of the schooners from the other side have hunted inside of 50 miles off the coast of Japan, so that pelagic sealing off this coast cannot truthfully be called poaching or stealing of Japanese or Russian seals. It is doubtless true that the greatest number of these seals haul up on Robben and Copper Islands, but tens of thousands of the young seals—the non-breeders—do not haul up at all for a year or two, but remain in the water the year through. Where the seals go in winter time is still a moot question.

It is undoubtedly aggravating to the Japanese to see the foreign schooners come over here, and with such unconcern capture such valuable cargo without any benefit accruing to this country; but, enterprising as the Japanese are, they have let this business slip through their fingers, and as all the hunting is done in a perfectly legitimate way, they cannot stop it. The best they can do is to go and do likewise, and make hay while the sun shines. At least 40,000 sealskins will be carried away this year, which, at 15 dollars per skin, will be 600,000 dollars in gold. If Japanese sailors had been permitted to ship in the sealing schooners, many of these vessels would have wintered here, and probably half of the $600,000 would have been left in the country, but as it is, it all goes to Victoria and San Francisco, and next year the same will be repeated. J. C. W.

SHANGHAI MERCHANTS ON THE SILVER QUESTION.

China Association, Shanghai,
14th July, 1893

Sir,—The Committee of the Shanghai Branch of the China Association, having perused a letter dated July 3rd, 1893, addressed to His Excellency the Viceroy, signed by Messrs. David Sassoon Sons & Co., and by other Firms and Banks in Hongkong, desire to express their concurrence in, and accord their support to, the principles embodied in the views expressed by the signatories as to the effect of the close of the Indian Mints upon trade between India and China.

On the 10th of February last the Shanghai Branch addressed the China Association in London in anticipation of the possible adoption by India of a gold standard and the close of the Mints to further rupee coinage: copies of this letter were presented by the Association in London to Her Majesty's Treasury; and on the 6th May the Lords Commissioners stated they would cause the letters of the Association and of the Shanghai Branch to be communicated to the Committee on Indian Currency under the presidency of Lord Herschell.

I am now instructed by the Committee of the Shanghai Branch of the China Association to forward to you copies of the letter addressed to the Committee in London, dated February 10th, and of the letter addressed by the Association in London to Her Majesty's Treasury, dated April 6th, 1893; from which you may observe that the anticipations set out in the letter of February 10th have been fully realised by the course of events following upon the close of the Mints in India.

Claiming, as the China Association does, to be the advocate, and, so far as it is competent, the protector, of British mercantile interests in the Far East, it is the duty of the Association to invite, with respect, the attention of the Government of India to the disastrous consequences, already manifest, arising from the close of the Mints and to record its protest against action which must be attended by results of the gravest character to the export trade of the Indian Empire; and particularly to British merchants resident in silver-using countries engaged in that trade. In conclusion, it is not unreasonable to declare that the trade between India and the farther East has been created, raised to its present level, and endowed with rich promise for the future by British enterprise and capital, aided by the stability of silver which formed the standard medium of exchange until the close of the Mint dissolved the tie uniting the commerce of India with the growing markets of China and other silver-using nations.

In view of the importance of the subject to the mercantile interest, I purpose forwarding copies of this communication and its enclosures by the mail of one week later to the Chambers of Commerce, the Millowners' Associations, and the Press of India.

I have the honour to be, Sir, Your most obedient servant,

John Macgregor, Chairman.

James Fairbairn Finlay, Esq., Secretary, Finance & Commerce.

To His Excellency, The Viceroy of India.

The China Association in Shanghai,
February 10th, 1893

Sir,—A general meeting of the members of the China Association in Shanghai was held on the 23rd of January; and among other subjects for consideration was the probable effect upon foreign trade in the Far East of the adoption by India of a gold standard, and the close of the Indian Mints to further rupee coinage. In the result, the newly-elected Committee was deputed to frame a resolution to be forwarded to you, with a short statement of the principal grounds upon which the resolution is based. The Committee, realising the urgency of the matter, have given to it the consideration the limited time at their disposal permitted; and have agreed upon the following resolution:—

"That the Local Committee of the China Association in Shanghai request the China Association in London to watch all proposed legislation in connection with gold and silver, especially measures exclusively relating to India for the establishment of a gold standard there, and the close of the Mints; action which, in the opinion of the Local Committee, must be highly prejudicial to commerce in the Far East."

In support of this resolution the Local Committee beg to lay before the Association the reasons on which they rely.

I.—China, Japan, and generally all countries east of British India, are silver monometallic; silver retaining its value as a standard for all commodities except those imported from gold monometallic nations.

II.—With the opening of China to foreign commerce British subjects acquired interests which appeal for protection to the Imperial Government equally with the interests of their fellow subjects resident in the Indian Empire. The settlement of British subjects in Treaty Ports and Crown Colonies has necessitated large expenditure in land and buildings, and the establishment of indispensable adjuncts of trade in the form of Banks, Insurance, Shipping, Dock, Wharf, Warehouse, Land, Building, and Industrial Companies of various kinds, employing a vast amount of capital; all of which is imperilled by the threatened demonetization of silver in India, which will virtually be the outcome of exclusive currency legislation for that Empire; legislation which must inevitably injure that portion of British enterprise and commerce, founded and fostered under the treaties of trade and commerce made by Her Britannic Majesty's Government with the nations of the Far East, which is dependent upon silver as currency.

III.—Whatever may be the eventual result, it is certain that trade, which has taken years to build up must be seriously disturbed without compensating advantages: whereas if the ratio of the currencies in use in India be established by general international consent, instead of being confined to India, trade between China and India will not be disturbed; the quantity of silver will be always the same, while exchange will be governed by the usual conditions.

IV.—The appreciation of gold in Great Britain has tended surely and steadily to divert the supply of certain cotton manufactures for Chinese consumption from Great Britain to British India; the variations in exchange between the latter country and China, both silver using countries, being confined within a known range.

V.—The preceding paragraphs point more especially to the injury which the isolated action referred to will entail upon British interests in China: other results, affecting identical interests in India and China, must follow.

VI.—An illustration of the growth of Chinese consumption of an article which now forms an important and valuable export from British India, the manufacture of which has stimulated the production of cotton, and led to the establishment of industries there in which considerable capital has been invested, is afforded by cotton yarn. This trade has developed within the last ten years on a silver basis, the currency common to producer and consumer alike; and if this common currency be disturbed this important trade will, for reasons shown in paragraph X. be lost to India, probably without benefit to Great Britain.

VII.—The statistics following are taken from the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs Returns, the separation of Indian and English imported yarn not being shown prior to 1889.

Total Imports, 1882 to 1888:—

	Piculs.	Value.
1882	184,939	Taels 4,505,000
1883	228,005	5,242,000
1884	261,457	5,584,000
1885	387,820	7,871,000
1886	384,582	7,868,000
1887	592,687	12,547,000
1888	683,468	13,427,000
From Great Britain.		
1889	50,144	1,077,000
1890	88,349	1,797,000
1891	73,058	1,507,000

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From India.		
1889	628,413	11,884,000
1890	993,145	17,507,000
1891	1,138,083	19,397,000

These statistics show that the import of Indian yarn alone in 1891 exceeded the total import of all cotton yarn in 1882 by 515 per cent. in quantity and 331 per cent. in value.

The value of the 67,000 tons weight of yarn imported from India into China in 1891, at the low rate of exchange of 220 rupees per 100 dollars, is 653 lakhs of rupees; and there are indications of further increase year by year.

Japan is also a large consumer of Indian made yarn

VIII.—Although the consequence of closing the Indian Mints and establishment of a gold standard may be to raise in India the sterling equivalent of a rupee to 1s. 6d., 1s. 9d., or 1s. 10½d., the purchasing power of the rupee within the Indian territory will not be increased: as a symbol of native value its quality will be unchanged.

IX.—While the rupee will remain as a coin in India with the same purchasing power as before, beyond India it will have an artificial value ranging from 20 to 50 per cent. to be made good in exchange. The effect will be the same as if an export duty of 20 to 50 per cent. were levied on yarn, to be borne by the producer.

Example.—The Indian spinner can now sell 10,000 dollars worth of yarn for 22,000 rupees; and the Chinese consumer is prepared to pay 10,000 dollars, plus charges, because he cannot manufacture for himself on equal terms. If the exchange value of the rupee be artificially raised to 1s. 6d. and the spinner still receives 22,000 rupees, as before, the Chinese consumer must provide 12,000 dollars, *plus* charges, to meet the fall in exchange between China and India. This difference of 20 per cent. enables him to supply his own wants by home manufacture; and if the Indian producer cannot compensate for the difference in exchange in the price of his yarn he must forego the sale to China

X.—China is already a large producer of cotton, the cultivation of which can be considerably extended should the demand increase. A gold standard in India will most probably operate to close the China market to Indian made yarn by stimulating production of the raw material and the establishment of manufactories in China for the supply of domestic requirements.

XI.—The creation of a gold standard for the silver rupee currency is equivalent to the establishment by the Imperial Government of a bimetallic ratio within the boundaries of the Indian Empire; while beyond, consequent upon the unwillingness of the Imperial Government to accept international bimetallism, the rupee is merely silver bullion. This seems to be an admission by the Imperial Government, but confined to India only, of the bimetallic principal.

XII.—It is to be noted that the Indian producer asks and receives no more for his yarn than 22,000 silver rupees,—that is, 7,562½ ounces of silver; and that can be made the cost to consumer equally by international extension of the bimetallic principle involved in creating a gold standard for a nation having its currency in silver.

XIII.—From the foregoing paragraphs it has, the Local Committee believe, been made abundantly clear that the trade between India and China will be greatly disturbed in the event of a gold standard being adopted in India, solely on account of the relative effect such a radical change in the currency would have on exchange between the two places. It is equally certain that all other places further east than India would suffer in like manner in any exchange transactions between such places and India: while the effect generally on the value of silver and on the exchange between China and countries with a gold standard in event of silver being practically demonetized in India, is too apparent to require any further remark in this letter: whilst under existing circumstances the advantages, if any, would probably be entirely to the Chinese as against Europeans or European capital invested in China.

XIV.—Generally, the Local Committee believe that any exclusive action in relation to Indian finance such as that supposed to be in contemplation, must affect most injuriously the trade which has been built up in China, more especially in connection with Great Britain. Already the disturbance which has resulted from want of combined action, and as a consequence of spasmodic speculation, in connection with the precious metals, has seriously discredited China trade. The tendency of late has been to withdraw funds from the Far East, on account of the depreciation in the relative value of the local currency. Business is consequently hampered; and the ever-widening difference between the cost of production of fabrics such as, for instance, those manufactured in Lancashire and Yorkshire, and the price required in silver, to meet that cost, threatens to make such trade impossible.

XV.—The effect of a marked further depreciation in the value of silver, such as must inevitably follow upon Imperial legislation favourable to India alone, will be seriously detrimental to the export trade to the Far East in cotton and woollen fabrics, among other merchandise; and it deserves earnest consideration: for the reasons here given therefore, the Local Committee request the China Association to take such action as may seem to them expedient and prudent for the protection of British mercantile interests in the Far East, which at present are greatly imperilled.

We are, Sir, your obedient servants,

(Signed) John Macgregor, Chairman.
R. M. Campbell,
Charles Dowdall,
G. J. Dudgeon,
J. W. Harding,
E. B. Skottowe,
W. H. Talbot, Hon Secretary.
Forming the Committee of the China Association in Shanghai.

R. S. Gundry, Esquire, Honorary Secretary, China Association, London.

China Association, 31, Lombard Street, London, E.C., 6th April 1893

Sir,—In pursuance of my letter of the 9th February, I have now the honour to submit, for the consideration of Her Majesty's Government, a letter from the Shanghai branch of this Association giving reasons for believing that the proposed close of the Indian Mints would have a calamitous effect on the interests of British commerce, not only in China but throughout Eastern Asia. For although the magnitude of the China trade gives it natural prominence, Japan, Hongkong, the Straits Settlements, and every centre of British trade in the silver-using countries of Asia are equally concerned.

The question presents itself under two aspects.

1st—Trade between Eastern Asia and India.

2nd—Trade between Eastern Asia and England and the rest of the Empire.

The Shanghai Committee invite special attention to the rapid growth in the import of Indian yarn, which has reached a total of 67,000 tons, valued at nearly Tls. 20,000,000, while the import of yarn from England remains nearly stationary at about 4,000 tons. Considerations of staple and suitability have doubtless had their effect in producing these results; but the steady level of exchange between two silver using countries has unquestionably been an important factor.

To close the Mints of India to silver, or to establish a gold currency, would be to abolish the advantage which she now possess, and to place her manufactures at the same disadvantage of a varying exchange by which the Manchester manufacturer is already handicapped. One of two results would probably follow: Either China—which is a large grower of cotton, and possesses ample area suited to its extended cultivation—would be encouraged to erect machinery and spin her own yarn, or she would transfer her custom to Japan which is rapidly developing a great manufacturing industry.

The reflection can hardly fail to suggest itself that the opium trade would be affected by similar considerations, with the probable effect of stimulating production in China and Persia and hastening improvement in the manufacture of Chinese opium, to meet the luxurious demand for superior quality which the better-prepared Indian drug at present supplies.

Neither must the consideration be lost sight of that the trade between India and China is remarkably one-sided. The exports of yarn and opium alone, from India to China, exceed Tls. 50,000,000. Exact statistics of the return exports from China to India are difficult to obtain, because they are as a rule exported first to Hongkong and merge in the general figures of the trade with that Colony. But it is notorious that they are trifling compared to the great value of the imports, and that they leave, consequently, a large adverse balance, which has to be adjusted, practically, by the remittance of silver, how much soever the fact may be disguised by the intricacies of banking operations.

The same consideration applies to the trade between India and Japan; Japan being also a large importer of Indian raw cotton and yarn, for which she also has to pay in silver.

We should, in fact, be setting up between India and the farther East the very barrier which is now embarrassing her financial relations with the West. Having made gold artificially scarce by demonetising silver in Europe, it is now proposed to make silver artificially scarce in India, with a view to redress the balance.

It is, however, beyond the province of this Association to dilate on objections that present themselves, from an Indian point of view, to a policy that would contract her currency at home and disturb her commercial relations abroad. Our purpose is rather to urge that the question is one which must not be looked at exclusively from an Indian standpoint; for England is vitally interested in the trade and financial systems, not only of India but of the whole East. It is not only the interests of India that are concerned; the manufacturing preeminence of Great Britain, already seriously shaken by the growing difficulties of commercial intercourse with silver-using countries, would be still more gravely prejudiced by the further disturbance of exchange that must inevitably result.

While the mills of Lancashire have been lately idle, mills in Japan have been working the fullest time, and new machinery of varied character is being rapidly set up. The cotton industry of Japan is, in fact, advancing by leaps and bounds, and the purpose is evidently entertained of competing with Manchester in the production of the finest qualities of yarn. Possessing the same advantage as India in respect of cheap labour, Japan has the advantage over Bombay of possessing cheap coal close at hand; and though she has at present to import the greater part of her raw cotton, she is at less disadvantage in this respect than England, and will obviously be favoured in her intercourse with China by every fresh variation of exchange between silver and gold-using countries.

At a moment when efforts are being made by our diplomacy to extend intercourse with China and Japan, by obtaining freer intercourse with the inhabitants and removing fiscal obstructions so as to extend the consumption of manufactures in the production of which our laboring population is so vitally interested, we should be neutralising these efforts by widening the gulf between the (gold) cost of producing our manufactures and the (silver) price for which they sell, to a point that would make our export trade to silver-using countries almost impossible.

The Committee conceive that there is not ground for any conflict of opinion as to the certainty of this result. They have, therefore, less hesitation in associating themselves with the protest of their correspondents in China because they find themselves in sympathy with the known views of the Government of India as to the remedy that would best conciliate all the various interests affected.

Experience and enquiry have convinced merchants and manufactures that the depression in our trade with the East has been brought about mainly through the appreciation of gold in Europe, and the consequent divergence in values between it and silver, that has resulted from the dislocation of the tie between the two metals; and they are persuaded that a cure is to be found in the remonetisation, rather than in a further demonetisation, of silver.

It is held as a settled conviction, by the great majority of those concerned in the Eastern trade, that the re-opening of the mints of the world to the coinage of both metals at a settled ratio would at once obviate the financial difficulties of India and remove commercial disabilities which threaten to assume disastrous proportions if the opposite policy is pushed to a further extreme. But if it is held to be impossible to entertain, at present, the recognition internationally, of both metals as money on a fixed basis of relative value, the Committee is convinced that a policy of non-interference would be less harmful than further partial and local legislation. Rather than such a policy, the Association would prefer a scrupulous non-interference with the natural laws of supply and demand. The operation of those laws would, in time, produce something like finality in the relative value of the precious metals; whereas local legislation would not only be non-conclusive, but would interfere seriously with the internal prosperity of India (which has been stimulated by an increasing and abundant currency) and would be deplorable in its effect on the manufacturing industry of Great Britain which is largely dependent for an outlet on the Greater East, outside of India, with which an immense commerce has been built up under more favourable currency conditions.

The creation of that commerce has, as our Shanghai correspondents point out, involved the employment of a vast capital, in Banks, Docks, Industrial Companies, and all the various adjuncts of trade—capital which has been already seriously depreciated by the late currency disturbances in Europe, and which is still more gravely menaced by the further demonetisation of silver that would be the virtual outcome of exclusive currency legislation for the Indian Empire.

I have the honour to be, Sir, your obedient servant, (Signed) R. S. Gundry, Hon. Sec., China Association..

To the Secretary to the Treasury, Treasury Chambers, Whitehall.

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THE FOREIGN TRADE OF KOREA.

The following is the report drawn up on the Foreign Trade of Korea for the year 1892, by Mr. F. A. Morgan, Chief Commissioner at Sŏul, and dated Feb. 21, 1893:—

1. GENERAL.—Dependent as Korea at present is on two rather uncertain conditions—first, a good harvest of her own, and secondly, a poor harvest in Japan, where she finds the only market as yet for her grain and pulse—great fluctuations in her trade are not only not surprising, but should be certainly expected. It will sometimes happen, too, that with either condition fulfilled the other is not, for suppose this country has a bountiful harvest and still Japan has little or no deficiency, then Korean trade benefits but slightly; and suppose, again, that Japanese crops fail, and Korea, likewise, has little more than is required for the needs of her own people, then this country is unable to take advantage of her opportunity. In discussing, therefore, Korean trade it is necessary, in justice, to examine the figures over a series of years; and, seeing that the country was opened to Foreign trade in 1883, the elapse of ten years arrived at the close of 1892 would seem a most fitting opportunity for a summary review of the business done between Korean and Foreign countries, as far, at least, as the cognizance of the Korean Customs goes. With this object I have prepared the following table, showing what is called the "balance of trade;" and as the exportations of Gold, in its rough, unrefined state, may fairly be treated as a product of the country exported abroad to meet the demand for Foreign Imports, I have introduced it into my table and added it to the other Exports for each year. I have omitted entirely the figures for 1883, because they are insignificant, of uncertain accuracy, and represent the trade of only a portion of that year:—

Year.	Goods.	Exports Gold.	Total.	Imports. Goods.	Balance of Trade, Against.
1884	$425,623	$322,022	$747,645	$999,720	$252 085
1885	388,083	241,594	629,677	1,671,562	1,141,945
1886	504,225	2,130,488	2,634,713	2,474,285	159,473
1887	804,996	1,588,269	2,393,265	2,815,441	622,176
1888	867,058	2,373,965	3,241,023	3,046,443	805,420
1889	1,233,842	963,091	2,196,933	3,337,815	1,161,883
1890	3,550,478	749,699	4,300,177	4,727,859	427,682
1891	3,366,344	689,098	4,055,422	5,256,488	1,201,046
1892	2,443,739	852,751	3,296,490	4,598,485	1,301,995
			$22,204,274	$28,967,958	$7,763,684
			$50,172,232		

It will be seen from the above figures that the value of the total trade done, outwards and inwards, has amounted to over $50,000,000, divided roughly into $21,000,000 for Exports and $29,000,000 for Imports, leaving a balance against Korea of about $8,000,000, or 16 per cent.—a result that indicates a sufficiently healthy condition of trade.

I am treating, of course, of such figures only as come within the knowledge of the Foreign Customs. There remains the value of the very considerable frontier trade, an uncertain amount, arising from illicit traffic at Pingyang and other points on the coast, as well as from the smuggling of Red Ginseng outwards, and probably of Opium inwards, through channels over which the Customs is unable as yet to exercise efficient control.

Taking all these facts into consideration—seeing that the total net value of the trade of Korea for 1892 is only $580,000 (say 5½ per cent.) behind the figures of the record year (1891); noting, too, that the principal port (Jenchuan) maintains, within something under 5 per cent., the value of its whole trade as compared with 1891; and taking into consideration the admittedly trying season for the crops—it can, I consider, be safely allowed that there is nothing in the records of 1892 to justify misgivings as to the future.

I would also draw attention to what is said, both in the Fusan and Yuensan Reports, as the great source of wealth to Korea of her fisheries.

2. REVENUE.—The returns from the three ports show a falling off in receipts of Duty of $110,646 as compared with 1891, and of $76,187 as compared with 1890; and the most serious deficiency is found to be at Fusan, amounting to no less than $60,000 as compared with 1891. At Jenchuan the falling off was about $42,000; and at Yuensan about $8,000; at Jenchuan, though, it is worth nothing that the 1892 receipts of Revenue, though below those of 1891, are still ahead of those for 1890 by some $5,000.

3. FOREIGN TRADE.—(*a.*) *Imports.*—In Cotton Piece Goods there has been a very serious decline in importation under almost every heading except Lenos, which show some advance; and I would draw special attention to the important article Grey Shirtings and to the remarks about it in the Fusan and Yuensan Reports. Woollens enter into our trade to such an unimportant extent as hardly to call for comment; but yet we find that such an item as Blankets, which one would think an acceptable article in Korea, in spite of the hot *k'ang*, has fallen from 5,616 pairs to 2,283 pairs. In Metals there has been an increase in the value of importations to the extent of nearly $220,000, but it is almost entirely accounted for under the headings of such Metals as are required for the manufacture of coins in the new mint at Chemulpo; and I may add here that such Metals, being imported free of Duty, do not assist in swelling the Revenue, whereby a want of proportion between values and Duties is set up. Among the Miscellaneous Imports from abroad shown in the table of net Imports there are twenty items showing a decrease, among which the most noticeable are Bags (for packing), Clothing, Cotton, Dyes, Matches, Needles, Pepper, Porcelain, Silk Piece Goods, Timber, Woodware, and Unenumerated Sundries; only ten items show an increase, from which I select for mention Coal and Coke, Machinery, Kerosene Oil, and Salt; while the other five items (Telegraph Materials being omitted) maintain a level with the importations of the previous year. Kerosene Oil (American) seems to grow in favour, and there is an advance over the 1891 figures of nearly 192,000 gallons, or about 35½ per cent.

(*b*) *Exports.*—The net value of Korean products sent abroad (exclusive of Gold) has decreased to the serious extent of $922,600 as compared with 1891, and no less than $1,106,700 as compared with 1890. Of the thirty-one items given in the table, fourteen show an increase, while three remain about level. The most important increase are in Bêche de Mer, White Ginseng (210 piculs, against 108 piculs), Hides, Paper, Raw Silk, and Skins (32,045 pieces, against 17,568 pieces, or nearly double). But these minor encouragements are completely overshadowed by the serious falling off in such very important staples as Barley, Beans, Millet, Rice, Rye, and Wheat. The most important of these is Rice, which shows a decrease of 440,400 piculs, representing a value of $821,800, which, roughly speaking, means a drop of one-half in a single year. The decline in Barley exportations is also very large—from 78,000 piculs to 13,000 piculs—but the money value involved ($85,000) is not so serious. Beans have come down from 597,000 piculs to 541,000 piculs, or about 9½ per cent., and Wheat has fallen from 31,000 piculs to 20,000 piculs, or about 33 per cent.; while Millet has almost, and Rye has entirely, disappeared from the list. To the total shrinkage of the Export trade the three ports contributed in the following proportions: Fusan, 54·6 per cent.; Jenchuan, 39·5 per cent.; and Yuensan, 5·9 per cent.; but it is only just to the port that has proved the greatest defaulter to mention that there have been other than natural causes at work to reduce her exportations—causes connected with apprehensions of insufficient supplies of food for the people.

(*c.*) Our *Re exports* and (*d.*) *Coast Trade* are of scarcely any interest, except as regards the transport of Government Rice into Jenchuan and the exportations of Fish, chiefly from Yuensan, which are dealt with in the Reports of those two ports.

4. SHIPPING.—The number of steamers entered at the three ports has been sixty six more than in 1891, representing an increased tonnage of 34,713; while the number of sailing craft has slightly diminished. In the competition of flags the Japanese wins easily, with 299,000 steamer tonnage and over 26,000 tons for sailing craft; Russia comes next (but a long way behind), with 26,000 tons (steamers); then China, with 15,000 tons; and Korea, with nearly 9,000 tons; while the conspicuous absence of the British flag from these waters is emphasised by an entry in our returns (Fusan) of three British steamers, aggregating 426 tons.

5. GOLD.—From 1887 to 1891 (inclusive) exportations of Gold have steadily decreased; but in 1892 they rose above those for 1890 and 1891, bearing testimony to theory that the output of Gold varies in inverse ratio to the quantity of the crops. In 1890 and 1891 the harvest was unusually good and Gold exportations were exceptionally small; there was a partial failure of the crops in the year under review, and Gold is exported in increasing quantities.

6. MISCELLANEOUS.—In conclusion, I have only to record my opinion that although the trade of the year has not been as prosperous as one could desire, there are yet no reasons for imagining that a more than temporary depression in the trade of Korea is likely. There was too sudden an impetus in the two previous years, and some recoil was only natural.—*London and China Express.*

ECZEMA.—Book on "Skin Trouble," sent free for One Stamp by Messrs. NORTH & REA, Limited Yokohama.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the CHESS EDITOR.)

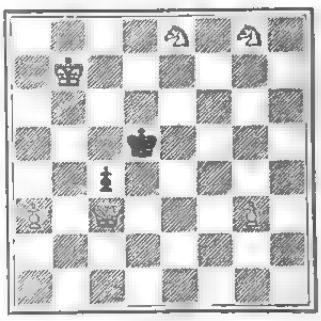
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 79.

WHITE.	BLACK
1—K to Q Kt 2	1—B to Q Kt sq.
2—P to Q R 7	2—B x P
3—R to Q R sq.	3—B to Q Kt sq.
4—R to Q R 8	4—B to Q R 2
5—R to R R 8, mate.	

Correct answers from Omega, W.H.S., Digamma, J.D., O.B., Ed. B., and J.W.E.

PROBLEM No. 81.
BY MRS. W. J. BAIRD.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in two moves.

A match of seven games up was entered upon in London, 17th May, by Bird and Jasnogrodsky. After ten days play the score stood 4 all with two draws. By mutual consent the match was then called "off," the combatants to meet again at a more convenient season.

The match between Lasker and Showalter at Kokomo, Indiana, U.S.A., resulted in the former winning by 6 games to 2. Neither master was at his best, and it is said that Showalter was labouring under an attack of *la grippe*. We give one of the games in which the American player managed to secure a victory.

FRENCH DEFENCE.
(NOTES BY JAMES MASON).

WHITE. Showalter.	BLACK. Herr Lasker.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 3
2—P to Q 4	2—P to Q 4
3—Kt to Q B 3	3—Kt to K B 3
4—B to K Kt 5	4—B to K 2
5—B takes Kt	5—B takes B
6—P to K 5	6—B to K 2
7—Q to Kt 4	

An old style of attack, troublesome to the second player for a time, but of no great permanent force.

	7—P to K Kt 3

..... This of course is quite uncalled for, and turns out unfortunately. Black can Castle here and hold his own, with chances of getting the best of it on the Queen's wing, either in the middle game or ending.

8—P to K R 4!	8—P to K R 4
9—Q to B 4	9—P to Q B 4
10—P takes P	10—B takes P
11—Kt to B 3	11—P to Q R 3

..... Almost necessary to guard Kt 4. Black's position is already rather poor in defensive resource, and any prospect of counter attack is not encouraging.

12—Castles Q R	12—Q to B 2
13—P to K Kt 4	13—P takes P

..... 13 ..... Kt to B 3 looks more natural. If then 14—P takes P, R takes P and White is no stronger than actually happens, while Black's Knight is in play:

14—Q takes P	14—R to R 4
15—Q to Kt 3	15—Kt to Q 2

..... The beginning of a combination in a counter attack of great ingenuity. Yet through 15 ..... Kt to B 3, there was just a chance of getting away on the Queen's side in time to escape the threatened danger.

16—Q R to K sq.	16—B to Kt 5
17—Kt to K Kt 5	

This, so long held in reserve, is very forcible. Black can hardly do better than give up the exchange at move 19, as were the Rook to then retire, the advance of the K R P would be destructive.

	17—B takes Kt
18—P takes B	18—Kt to B 4
19—B to K 2	19—R takes Kt!
20—P takes R	20—Kt to K 5
21—Q to K 3	21—Q takes B P

..... To force the Queens off the field, as ..... Q takes K P, would also be good from another point of view.

22—Q takes Q	22—Kt takes Q
23—R to R 8 ch.	23—K to K 2
24—B to Q 3	

24—K to Kt 2 relying upon the exchange against the Pawn, would be safer.

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fine sizes, while full sizes rather "hang fire" at quotations.

Re-reels.—There has been rather a smart advance in *Joshu* sorts, several parcels *Tortoise*, *Five Girl* and equal quality being done at $770. In *Bushu* sorts sales have been made at from $700 to $730, according to quality.

Kakeda.—Nothing further has been done and there is no stock of any importance as yet.

In other descriptions, no business this week.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK).

Hanks—No 1	—
Hanks—No 1 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2½ (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No 2½ (Joshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2½ to 3	—
Hanks—No. 3	$555 to 560
Hanks—No. 3½	540 to 545
Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers	—
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	—
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	940 to 950
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den	840 to 850
Filatures—No 1½, 10/14 deniers	900 to 910
Filatures—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 den	810 to 820
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	850 to 860
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	—
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—(Oshu) Best No. 1	—
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	Nom.
Re-reels—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	760 to 770
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	700 to 720
Re-reels—No. 2½, 14/18 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Kakedas—Extra	—
Kakedas—No. 1	—
Kakedas—No 1½	—
Kakedas—No 2	—
Kakedas—No 2½	—
Kakedas—No. 3	—
Kakedas—No. 3½	—
Kakedas—No. 4	—
Oshu Sendai—No 2½	—
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	—
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	—
Sodei—No. 2½	—

Export Raw Silk Tables to 28th July, 1893.

	Season 1893 1894.	1892-93	1891 92.
	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.
Europe	494	1,124	686
America	252	1,347	2,031
Total { Bales	746	2,469	2,717
Total { Piculs	758	2,531	2,807
Settlements and Direct Export from 1st July	Piculs. 1,250	Piculs 2,950	Piculs. 3,050
Stock, 28th July	3,150	2,750	3,400
Available supplies to date	4,400	5,700	6,450

WASTE SILK.

Purchases have been small, resulting in 128 piculs, all *Noshi*. In addition to this, direct shipments have been 60 piculs of *Boseki-Wata*.

There are enquiries for good quality, *Noshi* and *Kibiso*, which does not at present exist. Supplies are now coming in freely every day, but the best qualities will not be on the market for some weeks to come.

The only shipment during the week has been per *Ancona*, 23rd instant, which took 40 bales *Boseki wata* for France on Japanese account. The present export figures are 115 piculs against 1,082 piculs last year and 115 piculs to the same date in 1891.

Pierced Cocoons.—The stock is now over 700 piculs, but so far no business has been done and we cannot give reliable quotations.

Noshi.—A few piculs *Tomioka Filature* done at $162½, while ordinary *Joshu* has been done at last week's quotations, with a small parcel fair quality at $83.

Kibiso.—No business. Good sorts are wanted, but arrivals to date are not of the best grade.

Sundries—The only purchase has been on native account of 60 piculs *Boseki-Wata*, which was shipped to Europe by the last English mail.

QUOTATIONS —(NEW WASTE).

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	$160 to 165
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	150 to 155
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	—
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	—
Noshi-ito—Bushu, Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	80 to 85
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	70 to 75
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	—
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	125 to 130
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Good to Fair	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Middling to Common	—
Kibiso—Hachoji, Good	—
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	—
Kibiso—Nari, Good to Common	—
Mawata—Good to Best	—

Export Table Waste Silk to 28th July, 1893.

	Season 1893-94.	1892-93.	1891-92
	Piculs	Piculs.	Piculs
Waste Silk	155	1,082	115
Pierced Cocoons	—	—	—
	155	1,082	115
Settlements and Direct Export from 1st July	Piculs 350	Piculs. 500	Piculs 60
Stock, 28th July	5,050	5 000	3,840
Available supplies to date	5,400	5.500	3 900

Exchange has declined slightly on the week but is still much above the parity of Silver:—London, 4m/s. Credits, 2/6⅛; Documents, 2/6⅜; 6m/s. Credits, 2/6⅝; New York, 30d/s. U.S. $61⅛; 4m/s. U.S. $62¼; Paris, or Lyons, 4m/s. fcs. 3.21; 6m/s. fcs. 3.23.

Estimated Silk Stock, 28th July, 1893:—

Raw.	Piculs	Waste.	Piculs.
Hanks	66	Cocoons	712
Filatures	2,271	Noshi-ito	1,792
Re-reels	676	Kibiso	1,976
Kakeda	214	Mawata	112
Oshu	12	Sundries	458
Taysaam Kinds	11		
Total piculs	3,150	Total piculs	5,050

TEA.

Business in this market has fallen off considerably during the past week, and at closing a comparatively small trade is doing. Prices show a declining tendency owing to the accumulated stock and the nearness of the third crop.

	per picul.
Common	$14 to 15
Good Common	16 to 17
Medium	18 to 19
Good Medium	20 to 21
Fine	22 to 23
Finest	24 to 26
Choice	27 to 28
Choicest	31 to 33

EXCHANGE.

Exchange has not fluctuated to any great extent, but rates are a point lower on the week.

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	2/5⅛
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	2/6
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	2/6⅛
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	2/6⅛
On Paris—Bank sight	3 10
On Paris—Private 4 months' sight	3 21
On Hongkong—Bank sight	⅛% prem.
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	⅛% dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	73
On America—Bank Bills on demand	60⅛
On America—Private 30 days' sight	61⅛
On America—Private 4 months' sight	62⅛
On India—Bank sight	Nominal 190
Silver	32⅛

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Visitors to Kowaki-dani who bring a rod with them will be shown the haunts of the speckled Trout, a nice stream of several miles in length being within easy walking distance of the Hotel; Hakone Lake is also well stocked with a variety of fish, including salmon, and the Fishing is FREE; while Entomologists will find rare and valuable specimens in the surrounding hills, and the Flora of the district is extremely interesting to the Botanist.

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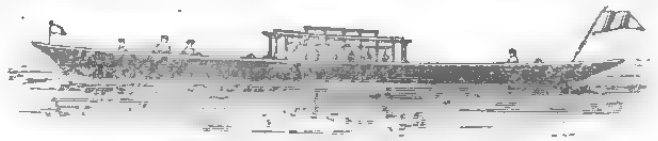

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The Japan Weekly Mail:

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 6.] REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O. AS A NEWSPAPER. YOKOHAMA, AUGUST 5TH, 1893. 明治三年五十二治明 日十三 [Vol.. XX.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS. ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, AUG. 5TH, 1893.

BIRTH.

On the 3rd August, at 139, Bluff, the wife of FRED. OWEN EUSTACE of a Daughter.

MARRIAGE

On the 3rd June, at St. Michael's Church Stonebridge, WILLIAM COMPTON, only son of William G. Bayne, of Yokohama, to ROSE, widow of the late Robert Wm. Maling, Solicitor, of Craven Park, Willesden, England

DEATH

By Telegram —W. A. DATTAN, of London, in his 52nd year.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

MR. ENDO YOICHI has been appointed Mayor of Sendai.

MR. WATANABE, Minister for Finance, is at present staying at Sakawa near Oiso.

VISCOUNTESS ENOMOTO, died, after a lingering illness, in Tokyo on Wednesday

HIS IMPERIAL HIGHNESS the Archduke Ferdinand arrived at Nagasaki on Wednesday.

THE first issue of the *Hokkoku Shimbun* will be published at Kanazawa to morrow, Sunday.

THE Naniwa Cotton Spinning Company has declared a dividend for the year of 5 per cent.

THE Government has granted a charter to the promoters of the Tochigi Chamber of Commerce

SOME Tokyo gamblers indulged in a free fight on Saturday last and fifteen had finally to be arrested.

A BIG fire, involving the loss of $400,000 has occurred in the foreign Concession, Kobe, during the week

THREE deaths from lightning have been reported during the week. The victims all belonged to the farming class

MR HIRANUMA SENZO has applied to the Authorities for permission to reduce the capital of his bank at Yokohama to one-half of the present sum, *yen* 2,000,000. It is said that the death of his only daughter has so up-set Mr. Hiranuma that he has determined to proceed abroad for a time.

FIFTEEN houses were burnt by fire at Irifune, Sekitan District, Shiribeshi Province, Hokkaido, on the 11th ultimo.

H.I.H. PRINCE KOMATSU YORIHITO left by the *Empress of Japan* on Friday, on an extended tour in America and Europe.

THE Kansai Railway Company declare a dividend of 4 3 *yen* per cent. for the half-year, carrying forward 4,507.177 *yen*.

COUNTESS YAMAGATA, who has been confined to her residence through illness for some time, has experienced a relapse.

THE Tokyo Velvet Manufacturing Company distributed *yen* 3,500 among shareholders as a dividend for the half-year.

AT the semi-annual general meeting of Messrs. Langfeldt and Co., a dividend of 4 per cent. for the half-year was declared.

SURGEON KATO KAZUMA, of the *Chokai Kan*, has been dismissed, his post being given to Surgeon Takenouchi Chokuyo.

THE trial of Marinus Willett, on a charge of shooting a *betto*, is fixed in the U.S. Court for Monday, the 14th inst. at 9 o'clock.

THE reported resignation of Judges of the Tokyo Supreme and Appeal Court at the advice of the City Judge, is denied by the News Agency.

COUNT INOUYE, Minister for Home Affairs, is traveling in Hokkaido. He was, last week, entertained at a banquet by Hakodate residents.

SATURDAY'S sailing race for the A. Division was won by Mr. T. M. Laffin's *Mary*. The prize was the Ronin Cup presented by Professor West.

THE *Shizuoka Nippo* was released from suspension on the 1st inst., but transgressed the law again the following day. Suspension of course resulted

THE body of a Japanese girl, about sixteen years of age, was found dead in a pond near the Atarashibashi, Shiba, Tokyo, on the morning of the 28th ult.

H.M.S. *Leander*, on her way to Hongkong from this port, had an accident to her piston, and had to bear up for Nagasaki, where the damage is being repaired.

THE net profits of the Osaka Brewery Co. during the first half of the present year amounted to *yen* 7,070. A dividend was declared at the rate of 6 per cent per annum

AT the inquest on the body of Mr. Horsley, killed at Kobe on board an "Empress" steamer while tallying cargo, the jury returned a verdict equivalent to accidental death.

THE Archduke Ferdinand of Austria-Hungary, arrived at Nagasaki on Wednesday. He will travel in Japan for a month, and leaves for America by a Canadian Pacific steamer.

IT is reported that the Japanese Minister to Italy and Mrs. Nakajima left Naples for home on the 17th ult. The severe illness of Mrs Nakajima is given as the main reason for their return.

MR. ISHIWARA HATSUTARO, an Inspector of the Yokohama Police Station, who was on duty during the night when a prisoner was accidentally strangled, has been fined an amount equal to one month's salary, while Mr. Ichiishi, Chief of the Station, is fined a tenth part of a month's salary. The latter officer has been removed to the Ashigara-Shimo Police Station.

BY the *Empress of Japan* on Friday, Dr. Stuart Eldridge left for a well-earned trip home to the United States. He is accompanied by Mrs. Eldridge and their two daughters.

MESSRS. JARDINE MATHESON and Co., have obtained the contract for the supply of the iron pipes to be used in the Osaka Water-works. Their estimate was little over *yen* 46.78 per *ton*.

THE National Unionist campaign in the neighbourhood of Nagoya is meeting with ill success. Several meetings became so rowdy that the police had to disperse them, at the same time arresting several *Jiyu-to soshi*.

THE great anxiety entertained by farmers in consequence of the scarcity of rain, has been dispelled in Mayebashi, Nagasaki, and Kanazawa, through a fall of heavy rain there on the 1st inst. The crops have revived.

THE tea sales of July show a big falling of in the amount of leaf changing hands between foreigners and Japanese. Last month the sales to.alled 4,569,600 *kin*, a decrease of 835,400 *kin* against June, and 4,665,700 *kin* against May.

THE following is the population of some of the leading towns in Kanagawa Prefecture :—Yokosuka, 17,095; Uraga, 12,781; Totsuka, 3,402; Misaki, 8,837; Kanagawa, 16,341; Kawasaki, 4,804; Oiso, 6,946; Odawara, 14,481; and Hodogaya, 4,753.

MR. ITO YUKICHI, adopted son and heir of Count Ito, the Premier, met with a nasty accident at Shimonoseki last week, while engaged in making arrangements for the Archduke Ferdinand's reception. Count Ito is at present in Shimonoseki, in attendance upon the sufferer.

IN the Import trade business continues generally light, though there is a marked tendency towards improvement and inquiries have been of a nature that indicates an inclination to renew business on a more liberal scale. Yarns have been taken in small quantities, apparently to fill immediate wants, and among Piece-goods, Grey Shirtings and T.-Cloths were the articles most in request. There has been a fair enquiry for Velvets and some other Fancy Cottons, and Woollens have moved to some extent at better figures, especially Blankets. The Metal market continues dull, a demand for Nails having subsided as quickly as it rose, and prices may generally be considered nominal. The Kerosene trade has not revived, and prices, in the absence of business, are entirely nominal. We have to record the arrival of 100,000 cases of Russian Oil. After a long spell of great activity in the Sugar trade, all brands and qualities have ceased to command sales, and parcels of every description are now on offer at various reductions on recent rates. There has been no large deals yet in Silk, and orders from abroad are scarce, while the stock on this market is daily increasing, and if buyers go into the market next week they will find a fairly good assortment which from this time forward will be daily on the increase. Prices for the parcels taken have been irregular, and the principal feature at the close is weakness of holders. There has been very little done in Waste Silk, and arrivals coming freely there will soon be a good supply. As predicted, the fall all round has taken place in Tea, and the market at the close from a variety of causes is not strong. Exchange has been fairly steady.

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THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The political world is gradually regaining its activity. As yet it is impossible to make any forecast of the relative positions of the various parties in the coming session of the Diet. The *Nippon*, however, essays an analysis of the present situation. The field, it says, is now occupied by the Progressionist Party on one side and the Cabinet on the other, while the intermediate space between these two hostile camps is taken up by the Radicals, the National Unionists, and the Neutrals. The course which the three latter groups will take remains to be seen. But looking a little below the surface of things, the *Nippon* observes that the situation is not so simple as indicated above. The politicians of Kyushu are gradually drifting more and more towards the Progressionist Party. As to the Government, while the Civil section is more or less friendly to the Radicals, the Military section is in sympathy with the National Unionists. What positions these parties will ultimately occupy in the political world, our contemporary is at a loss to conjecture. But indications are not wanting, it thinks, that there will be a complete change in party attitudes towards the Government.

* * *

Certain papers assiduously circulate disquieting rumours concerning the actions of the Military statesmen and the National Unionists. For example, it is alleged that Count Yamagata and a few other statesmen in the Government are seriously opposed to the contemplatad reforms in the Administration; and that Count Matsukata, Viscount Kabayama, Viscount Takashima, and others are about to begin an active agitation against the Cabinet in concert with the National Unionists. Many people believe that the disseminators of these rumours have an ulterior object in view, namely, to scare the Progressionists and the Radicals into a renewal of their former combination against the dangerous aspirations of the Militant statesmen. This much seems certain, that the National Unionists, after momentary paralysis owing to the loss of some of their best leaders, are again beginning to show signs of activity. As to a serious dissension in the Cabinet—an event believed by some people to be almost inevitable—there is as yet nothing to justify such a supposition.

* * *

Concerning the National Unionists, the *Kokkai* is glad to see them regaining something of their former energy. It cannot approve the general policy pursued by them, but believes that the growth of their party will be of some use as a check on the Radicals, who threaten to acquire a preponderating influence in politics. The Radicals are increasing in power so fast, that did a general election take place in the present state of things, they would probably succeed in obtaining a working majority in the new Diet. At this stage of Japan's progress, the *Kokkai* is of opinion that the overwhelming ascendency of one particular party is extremely undesirable, as it would lead to the corruption of its members. Our contemporary professes to see already some indications of the apprehended evil in the conduct of the Radicals. Under these circumstances, the expansion of the National Unionist Party is to be welcomed as a wholesome antidote to the threatened malady

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There being rumours that a large number of the Radicals disapprove of hostility to the Progressionists, the *Jiyu Shimbun* thinks it necessary to refute the report. One contemporary most emphatically declares that an attitude of hostility towards the Progressionists is approved by the whole Radical Party. The Radicals, it states, have decided to sever their friendly connection with the Progressionists for good reasons and after careful consideration. They have found it impossible to cooperate with the Progressionists because the latter are more devoted to their private interests than to the good of the country. In support of this charge, the Radical organ refers to the conduct of the Progressionists in connection with the Address on Naval Reforms introduced into the Diet during last session by the Radical Party. The Address insisted above all things upon the necessity of separating the Naval Administration from the Naval command, and this was exactly what the Progressionists nominally desired, for such a reform would pave the way for the introduction of Party Government by making it possible for a civilian to accept the portfolio of the Navy. But the Progressionists opposed the Address, because it proceeded from the Radical Party, on the ground that the Legislature ought not to undertake the preparation of schemes of reform in any branch of the Administration. In other words, they opposed its passage, because they thought that, should the reforms recommended in the document be carried out, the honour of inception would belong exclusively to the Radical Party.

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The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, alluding to the hot contests between different parties in Kanagawa, Toyama, and Kagoshima, calls upon the leaders of those parties to recognise the importance of inducing their followers to desist hereafter from such disgraceful excesses. The Opposition politicians lose no opportunity of censuring officials when the latter interfere in elections, but they forget that they are laying themselves open to similar blame when they employ violence and money to secure votes; for in both cases the result is to restrain individual liberty of voting. Party politicians are earnestly recommended to deport themselves in a way becoming a nation proverbially noted for politeness and sobriety.

* * *

The Soma case continues to attract attention, though in a less degree than formerly. The Judges of preliminary examination do not think it necessary to place the accused parties under arrest, but many of the Tokyo papers strongly urge them to do so at once. The charge of murder by poison may turn out baseless, but the case having been deemed worth prosecution, the court is bound, say these papers, to proceed in the usual manner and to take the accused into custody. Such a course seems advisable if only to satisfy the public that every precaution has been taken to obviate concealment of evidence.

* * *

The *Jiji Shimpo's* article on this subject is worth quoting as an expression of disinterested opinion. Our contemporary cannot believe that there is any truth either in the charge of murder by poison or in the allegations of wholesale corruption. But it seems at the same time inclined to think that there is something at the bottom of the affair; in other words, that the accused did not behave towards their late master as they ought to have done. There are facts which go to show that they treated the unfortunate nobleman at least with negligence if not in a criminal manner. It is doubtful whether his so-called insanity was not the result of the harsh method employed towards him. A medical witness whose integrity is above question alleges that the Viscount's wife suffered from a deformity of a serious character. Condemned to live with such a woman, and naturally of an irritable temper, the Viscount may well have developed some symptoms of insanity. The object of Nishikori is perhaps to bring out these facts in court, the astounding charge of murder by poison being possibly merely a device to draw public attention to the affair. Nishikori's conduct may be as that of the man who finding a thief in his room, cried out "murder" to secure assistance with all possible expedition.

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The course adopted by the Minister of Justice for effecting reforms in the Judiciary by hinting the desirability of resignation to such Judges as it appears desirable to remove from the service has provoked the opposition of a section of the Tokyo barristers. Among the leading papers of the capital, the *Mainichi Shimbun* alone takes the side of these agitators. It confesses its desire to see incapable Judges displaced by abler ones, but such changes should be effected with prejudice to the rights guaranteed to the Judiciary by the Constitution, where it is provided that "no Judge shall be deprived of his position unless by way of criminal sentence or disciplinary punishment." Moreover, of all branches of the Administration, the Judiciary, in the Progressionists organ opinion, stands least in need of reform Our contemporary can not forget the impartiality shown by judicial officers at the time of the last general election when officials of every other Department did not hesitate to interfere with the elections in the most unwarrantable manner. The law officials were able to maintain their independence, principally because they felt the security of their position. The *Mainichi* advises the Cabinet to effect the desired reforms in the Judiciary by means of some new and special enactment.

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The Franco-Siamese complication has received a large share of journalistic attention. Metropolitan papers were from the outset disinclined to think that the complication would eventuate in war. They express much sympathy with and pity for Siam, which they consider destined one of these days to fall a prey to one or other of her strong neighbours. France says the *Kokkai*, has chosen a wise opportunity to carry out her long cherished design upon Siam's territory, because the conduct of State affairs in England happens to be in the hands of a Party inclined to shun foreign troubles. Still England can not afford to look on with folded arms; she must interfere at the last moment, and in her active interference lies the sole hope for Siam. Our contemporary marvels at the indifference shown by the Chinese Government in a juncture like the present when the Middle Kingdom has vital interests at stake. Japan is not directly concerned in the question of Siam's integrity, but is unquestionably interested in maintaining the balance of power in these waters, and her statesmen are advised to keep vigilant watch over the course of things in Siam, and to seek to persuade the Chinese Government to take some united action in the sense of preventing the further expansion of French territory in Asia. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* also calls upon Japan's statesmen and military authorities not to view the situation in Siam with indifference. The rest of the papers write in a similar strain.

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The *Jiji Shimpo* devotes several articles to a discussion of the question of foreign exchange. According to our contemporary, there seems to be a school of economists in Japan who advocate the adoption of the gold standard. These scholars are said to maintain that the rise in the price of articles exported from this country is only apparent, the real result being depreciation; that the effect of increased exports will be the accumulation of silver in the empire; and that the prosperity produced by the depreciation of silver is only temporary and is to be followed by a reaction, as in the case of the over issue of inconvertible paper money. The *Jiji* refutes these points in detail. It admits that the rise of silver prices for exports will not be exactly proportionate to the appreciation of gold, but observes that the difference is more than counterbalanced by increase in the volume of exports. With regard to the dreaded flow of silver into Japan as a result of sudden increased exports, our contemporary recognizes that for two or three years there may be more or less abnormal disturbance of the equilibrium between imports and exports, but contends that such a state of things must soon be remedied, as exports and imports have a natural tendency to balance each other. Even supposing that the equilibrium continues to be disturbed for a considerable number of years, it does not necessarily follow, contends the *Jiji*, that the excess of exports over imports will involve an inflow of silver. As soon as the Japanese people begin to feel no more want for silver, that metal will naturally cease to come to the country Moreover, the amount of money representing the excess of exports over imports may be deposited in foreign banks or invested in foreign

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stocks or land. As to the fear that the prosperity caused by the depreciation of silver will be followed by a disastrous reaction, the *Jiji* maintains that the case is entirely different from the abnormal prosperity produced by an inflated *fiat* currency. In the latter case, the rise of prices only affects domestic trade, whereas the appreciation in the present instance holds good for articles to be sent abroad. The two cases are thus entirely different, and the *Jiji* thinks that there is no cause to fear any disastrous consequences from an apparent rise of silver prices brought about by appreciation of gold. Thus finally, our contemporary finds it difficult to see any reason why gold should be adopted as a standard. The maintenance of the silver standard is in every respect advantageous for Japan. It will help the development of her foreign trade and the growth of her industries.

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The metropolitan papers enthusiastically welcome the arrival of the Austrian Archduke, and urge their countrymen to show as much respect to His Imperial Highness as possible.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

A NEW TRIANGULAR ALLIANCE.

We find in the *Kokumin-no-Tomo* of a recent date an interesting article under the above heading. The Tokyo periodical thinks that there is a strong probability of the formation of an alliance between the Government, the Radicals, and the National Unionists. The Ito Cabinet, remarks our contemporary, found itself in no enviable position in the last session of the Diet. In front it had to contend against the united attack of the Opposition, while in the rear it had to keep a vigilant watch over the menacing attitude of the Military party. The sagacious Minister President was not long in discovering a means of delivering himself from this dilemma. He conceived the bold plan of holding by one hand a section of the Opposition and by the other the National Unionists. In carrying out this plan he did not hesitate to disregard entirely the hearty disapproval of Count Yamagata and a few others and the not less strong opposition of his own subordinates, such as Mr. Ito Miyoji. The discontents in the Government complained that the Cabinet had surrendered to the Opposition, while the extreme section of the latter murmured at its submission to those in power. The truth is, in the *Kokumin's* opinion, that the Government and the Opposition approached each other halfway, so that the extreme ends of both now almost touch each other. In other words, the Radical party and the Civil section of the Cabinet, including Count Ito, Count Goto, and Mr. Mutsu, have approached so closely that they are about to embrace each other. The go-betweens in this political marriage are stated to have been Count Goto and Mr. Mutsu. As to the former, our contemporary does not think it necessary to make any lengthy allusion, as his position in Japanese politics as well as his character is well known to the public. But in regard to Mr. Mutsu, the *Kokumin* claims that it would be instructive to analyze his character as well as the peculiar position which he occupies in the political world. As a political tactician, he is stated to be an invaluable counsellor to Count Ito. Whether or not he has succeeded in attaining the confidence of the Minister President of State, is more than the Tokyo magazine can tell. But it is certain that Count Ito considers Mr. Mutsu an indispensable assistant in a juncture like the present, and that Mr. Mutsu is aware that such is his Chief's opinion about himself. The *Kokumin* does not think that the Minister of Foreign Affairs is so audacious an intriguer as the public imagines. He, like his chief, is afraid of the military party's assuming ascendency in the councils of State, and in order to avoid such an undesirable contingency he has put forth all his strength to hasten a combination between the enlightened section of the Government and the Radical party. This, too, is the reason why his opinions are so often adopted by the Minister President of State. He is peculiarly well qualified to be a middleman between the Cabinet and the Radical party. For he possesses more friends in that party than in the Government; and his friendship with Count Ito is not more intimate than his relationship with Count Itagaki. He was asked by Count Itagaki to succeed him as leader of the Patriotic party, out of which the present Radical party has grown. There are doubtless many Radicals who are not well disposed to Mr. Mutsu, but he has wisely kept himself on good terms with the leading members of the party. While the Cabinet has thus been approaching the Radicals, it has not omitted to take steps to prevent the National Unionists from drifting away into the hostile camp. In attaining this object, Count Ito and his fellow-thinkers had great difficulties to contend against. In the first place, there was Count Yamagata standing in their way. In point of sagacity and business aptitude, he is incomparably behind Count Ito, though his personality as a first-rate soldier and a conscientious statesman is so high that he still exercises vast influence in the Government. But fortunately for the present Cabinet, Count Yamagata's influence is rather negative than positive. Next to him, Count Inouye must have caused them no small amount of anxiety. The Minister of Home Affairs is represented to be in personal relations nearer to Count Ito but in political opinions nearer to Count Yamagata. In this respect, Count Inouye has made, we are told, a decidedly retrogressive movement. To make the difficulty still greater, he happens to be the most powerful man in the Cabinet next to the Minister President. But in spite of the possible opposition of these statesmen and others of similar tendency of mind, Count Ito and his friends have succeeded in depriving the National Unionist party of its most active elements, thereby rendering it quite incapable of taking any prominent part in the Diet except in close alliance with some powerful party. The leading members of the party who have been extracted from it, such, for instance, as Count Saigo, Mr. Sone, Mr. Sakabe, and so forth, have probably been converted to the political creed of Count Ito and others. The Cabinet is thus gradually drawing to its side the Radicals on the one hand and the National Unionists on the other. The formation of this triple alliance will be the signal for a combined attack from the extreme sections of the Opposition and the Military party,—an attack by which the Ministry evidently counts on easily repulsing by means of the united strength of the Radicals and the National Unionists. The final formation of this triple alliance will be witnessed in the coming session of the Diet.

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Such is the gist of the *Kokumin's* article. As to the possibility of an alliance between the Radicals and the National Unionists, there are some persons who strongly doubt it. No doubt some of the ultra-conservatives from Kyushu may not like to co-operate with the *Jiyu-to* under any circumstances, but nothing is more easy to conceive than that the majority of the National Unionists will find no difficulty in working in harmony with the Radicals under a certain condition of things. To mention a concrete illustration of our point, there is now some talk of a combination between the Radicals of Niigata and a local party which has hitherto followed the leadership of the National Unionists. In short, there are indications that the *Kokumin's* forecast will probably turn out true, although we are not sure that the unexpected will not take place to upset all political calculations.

THE "AMIGO" SUNK IN HONGKONG HARBOUR.

Last night, says the *China Mail* of the 20th ult., about half-past seven o'clock the Dutch steamer *Bantam* (Capt. Van der Bergh) ran into the German steamer *Amigo* (Capt. Bendixen) in the Harbour, and in consequence of the damages she sustained the *Amigo* now lies at the bottom of the Harbour. The *Amigo*, which arrived on Sunday from Saigon with a cargo of rice, was lying at anchor in the middle of the Harbour about opposite the Harbour Office. The *Bantam* arrived last night from Bangkok, entering the Harbour by the west entrance, and was proceeding to her buoy when she was drifted down upon the *Amigo*. Seeing a collision was imminent, Capt. van der Bergh ordered the engines to be reversed, but the order came too late, and the *Bantam* struck the *Amigo* amidships, cutting a deep hole in her hull at the engine-room. At the time of the collision a number of cargo and coal boats were lying alongside the German steamer. The bows of the *Bantam* crashed through two of these boats, one of which was loaded with coal, and the people were precipitated into the water. The accident was observed by some launches and sampans, whose occupants proceeded to the rescue of the people struggling in the water, and it is believed that only a few children have been drowned. Two launches took the *Amigo* in tow, when the seriousness of the damage to her hull was realised, and attempted to beach her on Yaumati spit, but the strong ebb tide rendered their efforts unavailing, and in about an hour from the time of the collision the *Amigo* sank by the stern near the Pacific Mail steamer *City of Peking*. She remained in this position all night, gradually settled down and by ten o'clock this morning she had sunk completely. The masts and funnel are visible, but there is about twelve feet of water above the decks. Only the ship's papers were saved. The crew were too busily engaged to save any of their effects, and only a portion of the cargo of rice was discharged. Had more prompt action been taken, such as calling in the aid of the Dock Company's tug *Pilot Fish* and the P. and O. Company's tug *Dragon*, it is very probable that the steamer might have been safely beached. As it is, it will cost a considerable sum to raise her from her present position, and the loss that is likely to fall upon the underwriters, unless any of the parties are found to be in fault, will be very great. The *Amigo* was built at Hamburg in 1884, and is registered 812 tons net. She is owned in Apenrade, and her agents in Hongkong are Messrs. Wieler and Co. The *Bantam* is 1,521 tons net register, is owned in Amsterdam, and her Agents are Messrs. Lautsand Wegener. The owners of the *Amigo* have been informed of the accident, and it is likely orders will be received to proceed with the raising of the steamer. It is a singular thing that through the misuse of a code word the *Amigo* was erroneously reported from Saigon last Saturday as having been run down and sunk.

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An action has been instituted in the Colonial Court of Admiralty, Hongkong, on behalf of Michael Jebsen and others, owners of the sunken steamer *Amigo*, against the steamer *Bantam*. The amount sued for is $160,000. Mr. V. H. Deacon is acting on behalf of Messrs. Wieler & Co., agents for the *Amigo*, and Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master have been instructed on behalf of the owners of the *Bantam*. Mr. H. J. Holmes, acting on behalf of the masters and crews of the two cargo boats sunk at the same time as the *Amigo*, also sues the representatives of the *Bantam* for a sum of $8,000 as compensation for damages.

THE SUNG-PU OUTRAGE AND MR. CARL BOCK.

The most unpopular man in China to-day is probably Mr. Carl Bock, Consul-General for Sweden and Norway. This official person went up the Yangtze a short time ago in connection with the butchery of Messrs. Wickholm and Johanssen, the Swedish missionaries; his intention (as expressed to a correspondent) being to proceed to Sung-pu and have the case tried in his presence, insist that four missionaries shall live at Sung-pu instead of two, and exact an indemnity. "I may not be able to wait for the executions," said Mr. Bock, "but I will appoint a representative to see them properly carried through." Soon Mr. Bock came back. He had not been to Sung-pu. He had not had the case tried in his presence. There had been no executions, and there was no guarantee that there were to be any. He had exacted no indemnity. And so far from four missionaries

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being stationed at Sung-pu, he had not even dared to go there himself. In fact he seems to have made a most frightful mess of the whole business. First he talked for an hour or more to the Tao-t'ai, but without avail; so he made an appointment with the Viceroy. Chang, however, sent down word that he would have no missionary interpreter, none, in fact, but his own; and his own interpreter, we may explain, is the notoriously anti-foreign and anti-missionary Kû Hûng-ming, *alias* Hong Beng Kaw, the author of *Defensio Populi*. Mr. Bock pocketed this affront, and went to the Yâmen with a light heart. Let him now tell us himself how he carried out his threats of vengeance and made the Viceroy jump:—"Yes, gentlemen, I am quite satisfied that the missionaries were entirely in fault. They have only themselves to thank for being killed, and I am writing to tell my Government so. Here is a copy of the Consul's letter of the date of June the 6th, advising them not to go, and they went. Of course, they thought they knew better than the Consul, and you see what came of it. No, of course, I am not going to Sung-pu. The Viceroy says he cannot protect me, and my reason tells me that I am not called upon to throw away my life. Oh, yes; the murderers will be punished right enough, the Viceroy will see to that. He has a red button mandarin there doing it now. And the Ma-chêng district magistrate? No, he won't be dealt with; the Viceroy almost jumped out of his chair when I suggested it. It seems he did everything in his power to protect the missionaries. The mission re-established? Of course not, the country is in far too disturbed a state to admit of that, but the Viceroy has promised to see to it later on. Indemnity? No, the Viceroy would not allow the word to be used in connection with this câse, as he considers the missionaries to blame; he is willing of his own accord to give a sum of "charity money," however, and I do not see what more I can do in the matter. It will have to be concluded by correspondence, of course, and that I can manage as well from Shanghai." So exit Consul-General Bock. There was an indignation meeting held at Shanghai immediately afterwards, perhaps the most numerous and enthusiastic on record, in which Mr. R. M. Campbell, Mr. H R. Hearne, the Rev. W. Muirhead, and a few more gentlemen took part. The name of Consul Bock was received with a torrent of hoots and hisses when mentioned in a singularly able speech by Mr. Campbell, who concluded by moving the following resolution:—That this meeting records its sense of horror and detestation of the barbarous murder of Messrs Wickholm and Johanssen at Sung-pu, with the attendant circumstances, and of the gravity of the occurrence as a menace to foreigners generally in China; and calls upon Foreign Representatives to take measures to ensure the guilty parties being punished, as well as to take steps to prevent the recurrence of a similar outrage.—(Loud and prolonged cheering.) A subsequent resolution was moved by Mr. R. W. Little to this effect:—That the Chairman be and is hereby instructed to send a copy of the foregoing resolution with the proceedings of this meeting, to the Foreign Ministers at Peking. "As far as we know at present, remarked Mr. Little, "there are two people who object to this going on to Peking, the Swedish Consul-General and the Viceroy at Wuchang;" at which there was much laughter. Neither being present at the meeting, the motion was carried unanimously. Consul Bock has been entirely scalped by Chang Chih-tung, who, says the Consul, was so "polite and nice." His politeness and niceness form the subject of some very spirited writing in the Shanghai papers.

THE EXTENSION OF THE YOKOHAMA WATER-WORKS.

We take the following from the *Mainichi Shimbun*:—The Yokohama Assembly held a meeting at its hall on the evening of the 26th instant with reference to the extension of the Water-works and the application to be made, both to the Minister of Home Affairs and the Minister of the Treasury, that a subsidy should be granted towards the amount required in carrying out the extension. There were 23 members in attendance and they unanimously approved the bill. They next conferred together about the repair of gas-pipes at the estimate of 45,000 *yen*. This was also approved, and five gentlemen were elected, four from the City Assembly and one from the City Council, as a temporary Committee for superintending the repairing of the gas-pipes. They are to receive a monthly allowance of 5 *yen*. The following is said to be a draft of the petition which the Assembly has decided to forward to the Government in connection with the Water-works extension scheme:—"The scheme of the Yokohama Water-works was at first to afford a supply of water for the support of 70,000 to 100,000 inhabitants. It was on this plan that the works were undertaken by the Government from which the City had obtained the transference of the Works in March of the 23rd year of *Meiji*. Since then the annual increase of population has been beyond expectation, so that for the last two or three years the supply of water has been found insufficient for the demand, during the summer. In fact, it has now become necessary to cut off the supply for eight hours every night. It is a thing of necessity therefore to extend the works and to afford a sufficient supply of water. We have deliberated the possibilities of the future increase of Yokohama's population and we now petition that, in consideration of the Government' instruction at the time of the transference of the Works, and also in accordance with the provisions of the Water-works regulations lately issued, the extension scheme should be approved. We intend to undertake the task by raising a city loan of 700,000 *yen*, the sum required for the purpose, but there is one great hindrance, *i.e.*, while in the case of the 1,104,712.555 *yen* expended for the present Water-works, there are special provisions for paying it back, the income arising out of the Water-works subsequent to the realization of the extension scheme being of a mixed character, connected both with the old and new expenditures, the methods of separating the proceeds and of paying back the expenditures will not only be difficult, but the accounts must be kept separate, so that it would be impossible to arrange the accountant's part of the business. In view of the above facts, we request that the capital should be made uniform in accordance with the following:—

1. Whereas the sum of 1,104,712.555 *yen* expended for the present water-works is to be repaid by annual instalments till the 52nd year of *Meiji*, we intend at this juncture to pay it back at once

2. The sum of 700,000 *yen* needed for the extension of the works shall be newly expended this year for the purpose of extending the works.

3. Of the sum of 1,804,712.555 *yen* made up by combining 1,100,000 odd *yen* for repayment and 700,000 *yen* to be used for the new outlay, 1,800,000 *yen* shall be met by raising a city loan (*i.e.*, issuing city loan bonds, bearing interest of 5 per cent. per annum to the force value of 1,800,000 *yen*), while the odd sum of 4,712 *yen* in round figures shall be covered by the ready money in hand.

4. The city loan of 1,800,000 *yen* shall be left untouched for two years calculated from the year of raising, but the principle shall be repaid in annual instalments in 28 years, calculated from the 3rd year of the raising of the loan.

Should the affair be arranged as above specified, the Water-works will become an absolute city concern, and great convenience will ensue. But when the burden which the inhabitants will bear is considered, it will be found that as the status of the people's means stands at present, they will not be able to fulfil the obligation of paying back the principal and interest of this enormous loan. The proceeds of the water supply are barely capable of repaying the current expenditure of the Works as well as a certain portion of the sum which is to be repaid by annual instalments. In connection with this question of Water-works it must be remembered that this city, differing from others, being a place where people from almost every part of the world flock together, was frequently liable, in case of an outbreak of contagious disease, to act as the centre of propagation to the interior, because of the impurity of water. Since the completion of the present Works, such a danger has been greatly reduced, and this may probably be due to the improvement of drinking water. If, however, the supply of water is insufficient, as is the case at present, the danger is not only likely to re-appear, but the original idea on which the Government started to construct the Works in this city, in advance of others, may be unfulfilled. Moreover, as there are already examples of granting subsidies in the Water-works of Tokyo, Osaka, Nagasaki, &c., the following consideration ought to be extended to the city loan of 1,800,000 *yen*: that is, to have for 10 years as subsidy the sum of 90,000 *yen* annually; or 5 per cent. interest on the sum of 1,800,000 *yen*.

THE INTRICACIES OF CHINESE FISCAL METHODS

Here is an example of the kind of calculations to be made by anyone desiring to deal with Chinese tax-offices—we take it from Mr. Consul Fraser's Kiungchow trade report for 1892:—"Collection by these Chinese tax offices has a number of curious technicalities connected with it. For instance, rebates allowed when duly claimed; extra fees for wastage, porterage, and various attendant expenses, such as stationery; variety of scales for weighing silver, the taxes being paid on the tael, or weight, system. As an example take sugar from Cheng-mai, Lin-kao, or Tam-chow. If white sugar, the native merchant is directed to pay as Lo-ti, or Prefectural Tax, on white sugar, 7·4·7 taels per 100 bales; on brown sugar, 5·1 taels per 100 bales, as "inside Lo-ti"; and 870 copper cash for every 100 bales as "outer Lo-ti." But the taels are reckoned in a peculiar fashion; for every 2·3 taels he must pay 2·4·1·5 taels. Or, again, he may have to pay 6 8·0·4 taels on 100 bales of goods but must be careful to count the Mexican dollars in which he pays at seventy-hundredths of a tael each."

MR. OTORI'S ADVICE TO YOUNG JAPAN.

Japanese scientists, trained at the Government schools, are increasing in numbers every year. Before long the supply of specialists will exceed the demand for their services, and then fresh fields must be sought for them to exploit. Railways, telegraphs, mining, and others enterprises are beginning to be started in China, and Mr. Otori, Japanese Representative to China and Korea, advises his countrymen to go there and take a part in the opening up of that vast empire. By so doing, they will not only turn their talents and knowledge to the best advantage for themselves but also help to bring about a better feeling and more intimate relations between the two countries.

THE ARCHDUKE OF AUSTRIA.

His Imperial Highness the Archduke of Austria and his suite, some 12 or 13 persons in all, reached Nagasaki on the 31st July. The weather was very wet and the Archduke did not land. On August 2nd they were escorted on board a war-vessel of the Japanese Imperial Navy, and proceeded to the port of Misumi, from which they will at once start for Kumamoto by railway and will stay a night there. That the Prince has resolved to go first of all to Kumamoto after his arrival at Nagasaki, is not on account of the fame enjoyed by the Kumamoto corps nor the celebrity of the battle ground, but chiefly for the purpose of calling on His Imperial Highness Prince Kitashirakawa, commander of the corps, with whom the Austrian Prince has maintained an uninterrupted and special friendship since Prince Kitashirakawa returned from his studies abroad, some years ago. The Archduke and Prince Kitashirakawa will be glad beyond measure to talk over old days and to cement their already firm friendship. The Prince, it is believed, will at least accompany the Archduke to the port of Moji, a terminus of the Kyushu railway, where the Archduke and his party will arrive on the evening of the 3rd instant. From Bakan they will proceeded to Itsukushima, on board the Japanese man-of-war, where they will stay the night and the whole of the next day. The little pic-

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turesque island of Itsukushima being one of the three noted scenes in Japan, we believe the Imperial party will be satisfied with the visit Leaving the Island on the morning of the 6th instant, they will next proceed to the port of Mihara, from which, by the Sanyo railway, they will reach Okayama and stay a night there at the celebrated Korakuyen, widely known as one of the finest parks in Japan. Leaving Okayama the Archduke will stay an hour or so at the bathing place of Himeji, and after taking refreshment at the Suwayama Hotel in Kobe, will arrive at Kyoto by 6 o'clock that evening. The Imperial Palace in Kyoto is appointed for his residence while staying in that city. On the next day, *i.e.*, the 8th, the Imperial party will proceed to Osaka, where the forenoon will be devoted to visiting places of note. Taking train from the Tennoji Station after having lunched at the Osaka Military Club, they will proceed to the celebrated temple Horyu-ji, and, after staying some hours there, go on to the ancient city of Nara. The night of that day and the whole of the next day will be spent in Nara, in visiting shrines and temples either of historic or artistic renown. By the evening of the 10th inst., they will be back in Kyoto, where they will spend the 11th, 12th, and 13th. The next day they will make a short excursion to the neighbouring districts of Omi, and will visit Karasaki, Miidera, &c., returning thence to Kyoto By a morning train they will leave Kyoto on the 15th instant and will halt a while at Gifu, where the cormorant fishing will be shown them, after which they will proceed to Nagoya and stay the night there. Starting from Nagoya the next morning and staying one night at Shizuoka, they will arrive at Miyanoshita the next day, and will stay at the Fujiya Hotel the 18th, 19th, and 20th. Leaving Miyanoshita on the 21st instant, they will reach Kozu by jinrikisha, whence by express train they proceed to Yokosuka, from whence they are to visit Kamakura and Enoshima, staying the night at the latter place. They arrive in Tokyo the morning of the 22nd instant, and for the succeeding four days will stay there. Nikko is the next place to go to, and they are to start for that summer resort in the morning of the 27th instant The Nikko Hotel is appointed as their lodging house. They stay at Nikko for the three succeeding days. Next they will proceed to Ikao, but without staying will go on to Karuizawa, where they take refreshments and will then be back in Tokyo by the evening of the Sept. 2nd. The 3rd and 4th of Sept. will be spent in Tokyo, which they will leave on the 5th and start for home on board a mail steamer.

MR HOSHI AND THE SOMA AFFAIR.

Some surprise has been caused by the news that Mr Hoshi Toru had consented to serve as counsel to the Soma family in the suit of false accusation brought against the latter by Mr. Nishikori, because his party's organ happens to be enthusiastically attached to the other side. According to the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, Mr. Hoshi is stated to have declared that he consented to act as counsel for the Soma family because he was earnestly solicited by Mr. Aizawa Netken, a Radical M.P., who was formerly a retainer of the Soma clan. The Tokyo News Agency now informs us that a writer on its staff has waited upon Mr Hoshi to ascertain the motives with which he has undertaken the prosecution of the case. The Radical leader is reported to have replied that, the case involving, as it does, the reputation of not only a large number of individuals occupying high positions in society but of the credit of the Judiciary and other branches of the Administration, he thought it of vital importance to unravel the mystery and to ascertain once for all the truth about the affair These were the motives which induced him to consent to become counsel to the Soma family. With reference to the *Fiji Shimpo*, it is, he said, open to the charge of being slightly partial to Nishikori, but its primary object is to ascertain the truth about the affair, and in this respect the Radical organ's object, he stated, entirely coincided with his own. Mr. Hoshi is further reported to have told his interviewer that he had asked the Judge entrusted with this affair to make as thorough investigations as possible, and that the latter had assured him that such were exactly his intentions.

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It is stated that the Tokyo Local Court has intimated to Mr. Hoshi that the case for false accusation will be proceeded with only when the suit for murder by poison shall have fallen to the ground. It is also reported in the papers that Viscount Soma and others have been ordered to appear in the Court on the 1st inst.

THE NATIONAL UNIONISTS AT NAGOYA.

Mr. Yasuba Yasukazu's political campaign in the Prefecture of Aichi has been commenced under circumstances by no means encouraging. Reaching Nagoya on the morning of the 26th ultimo, he attended a lecture meeting on the evening of the same day, accompanied by Messrs. Ooka Ikuzo, Imai Isoichiro, Wada Hikojiro, and so forth. The meeting was held in the Shimonori Theatre. The audience numbered about 1,700, and everything seemed at first to promise a satisfactory meeting. But as soon as the first orator ascended the platform this delusion was rudely dispelled by the tumultuous cries of defiance with which he was greeted. Not a word of his speech was caught by the audience, so great was the confusion. The next speaker, Mr. Imai Isoichiro, fared no better, the tumult increasing as he went on. Some of the *soshi* are said to have attempted to get on to the platform, in order to drag him down. The next orator was Mr. Wada Hikojiro. As he was about to ascend the platform, the police officers, seeing the disturbance increasing every minute, requested him to wait a moment. But there being no prospect of the tumult subsiding, and fearing some serious complications, the police sergeants ordered the dissolution of the meeting. Mr. Ooka is reported to have strongly protested against the decisive step taken by the police officials, but the order having been once issued, it could not be revoked, and so the first meeting of the National Unionists ended in a farce. The obstructive elements in the audience are said by the National Unionist organs to have consisted mostly of *soshi* and roughs hired by the Radical party. Another lecture meeting was to be held on the 28th ultimo, but nothing is as yet known about it. It had been expected, as we noticed a few days ago, that Mr. Yasuba having served for several years as Governor of Aichi, his campaign would be an encouraging one. But the unenviable notoriety he obtained at Fukuoka at the time of the last general election seems to be still following in his track.

POLITICAL TOPICS

The *Nippon* publishes a rumour that Count Ito, Minister President of State, intends to resign before the opening of the fourth session of the Diet. The reforms which he promised the Diet will be carried out in September, and then the Premier will retire from the political field for some time. We (*Japan Mail*) merely refer to this rumour for what it is worth. We may, however, add that, if this report is really circulated in the capital, it must be confined to a limited circle of persons not well acquainted with political matters.

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While, on the one hand, the Radicals are sparing nothing to attack the Progressionists, some of the latter, on the other, seem to cling with admirable tenacity to the hope of restoring amity and friendship between the two parties now quarrelling with each other. A certain distinguished member of the Progressionist party is said to have remarked to a newspaper man that, in his opinion, the hostility of the Radical party to the *Kaishin-to* owed its existence to a small section of the former led by some ambitious persons. Many of the Radicals themselves are, he said, at heart discontented with the war which this section is waging against the *Kaishin-to*. The Progressionist politician, in question, seems to believe that a reconciliation between the two parties will be possible in the course of the coming session of the Diet, when some important questions at issue between the Government and the Opposition come up for discussion. The question is, in what shape these matters are to be presented to the Diet. In other words, it is as yet unknown what attitude the Cabinet will assume with respect to some of the vital questions that have hitherto formed the basis of the Opposition platform. Many people believe that the situation with regard to these questions will be essentially changed, and that the Progressionists, more than any other group of politicians, will be called upon to readjust their plan of warfare along their whole line.

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Mr. Kataoka Kenkichi, a prominent Radical and the Director of the party's branch office at Osaka, is reported to have made the following remarks:—"The Cabinet seems to be busily engaged in the task of reforming the Administration, and by effecting large reductions in the public expenses hope to come to an amicable understanding with the Opposition. There are among the Opposition politicians not a few who do not hesitate to declare their satisfaction with any Cabinet that agrees to carry out their political programme. It may, therefore, be thought that, if only the Cabinet adopts the programme of the Opposition, there will be no fear of a collision with the Diet. But it will not be so practically; for the politicians of the Opposition, being generally very poor, are impatient to to get some lucrative positions; and until they attain this object, they will not consent to give any support to the Ministry, however much their political opinions may happen to be adopted by those in power. The time has not yet come for the formation of a coalition Cabinet. For the present the best policy for the Government will be to open its doors to the rank and file of the Opposition by revising the Civil Service Examinations." It is not known whether Mr. Kataoka intends this as a piece of serious advice to the Government or as a warning to the Opposition. Possibly the latter.

MISPRINTS.

The term "misprint" is correct enough, being non-committal; but against its supposed synonym "printer's error" we enter an emphatic protest. There can be no such thing in any published matter that has once been revised in proof. A mistake there is a proof-reader's error; indeed, "printer's error" is doubly wrong, seeing that a printer, the man who actually prints, is the press-man, not the compositor, and press-men can scarcely be held responsible for the oversights of either compositors or proof-readers. These remarks are suggested to us by a most amusing little article in the *Nation*, of New York, dealing with the question of misprints in American papers from a French point of view. It is scarcely credible that anybody can really be as gullible and as devoid of all sense of humour as the M Delines referred to. Our contemporary writes:—The common saying that one has to go abroad to hear the best of the home news is admirably exemplified in a recent number of the *Annales Politiques et Littéraires*. M. Michel Delmes devotes a column to the setting forth of an astonishing feature of American journalism. French newspapers, he says, do not mind misprints very much. A *coquille* that does not absolutely tear the earth up and threaten to bring the roof down on the compositors' heads, is left for the reader to correct. At the very worst, the correction would be limited to a simple erratum. Far different is it in America. There editor, proof-reader, and compositors attack each other in the columns of their paper when a misprint occurs. "This is what happens constantly in America," M. Delines says, "and the numerous Parisians who are going to Chicago will have occasion to find it out, as I have just done" And then he goes on to relate the appalling case that he refers to. An American editor apologises for a misprint, laying the blame on his proof-reader, and adding the remark that if that careless person would occupy himself a little less with the pretty girls who work in the press-room, and flirt with the proofs a little

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more, such blunders would not happen. To this paragraph the proof-reader appends a note to explain that his eyesight is not very good, and that he needs new spectacles, wh ch he has been meaning to buy out of the ten dollars and a quarter which the ed tor has owed him since last December. Besides, the best reader in the world would be of no use in an office where the compositors throw every day more type at each other's heads than they set. Then the compositors take their innings, assailing the reader of proof with many unkind and discourteous remarks, of which the least offensive is t iat the oldest setter has never seen him sober. All this, M. Michel Delines informs us, is only the plain unvarnished truth about American newspaper ways. It is a s mple, unexaggerated record of the events which he has just found "dans un récent numéro de *l'Arizona Kicker*," and which he swallows whole without one gasp of incredulity.

A RUMOUR.

THE *Jiyu* writes:—In view of the recent sudden depreciation of silver currency by which the Japanese economic world has been and still is affected in no small degree, the Japanese authorities directly concerned in financial affairs are said to have brought on the carpet the idea of making their currency monometallic in base. Of course it is too early to antic pate at present how this conference may end, but it is said that even in case this measure is realized, the present silver coins will be left in circulation as at present, and that the policy of recoining gold currency on the market value of silver currency will be followed, for should the worth of the white coins be lowered or should they be recoined considerable disturbance would be created in the economic conditions of Japan. Very minute investigations, it is believed, are in the course of prosecution at the Financial Department. Mr. Tajiri, Vice-Minister of the Department, and Mr. Soyeda, Chief of the Bureau of Audit in the same Department, are known to be monometallists. As these gentlemen are among the most influential thinkers in Japan on such questions, their opinions must have added great weight to the followers of monometallism. Mr. Watanabe, Minister of State for Finance, is also believed to be inclined in that direction.

A PROJECT FOR STARTING A NEW COMPANY FOR THE DIRECT EXPORT OF SILK.

WE learn from the vernacular press that Mr Arai Ryoichiro, Vice-President of the Doshin Kaisha, who has been chiefly living in America as manager of the New York branch of the firm, has been relieved of the office at his own request. Mr. Arai has been connected with the firm for upwards of 10 years, and it is rumoured that his resignation is due to very complicated circumstances not quite satisfactory to Mr. Arai. His resignation, however, rather seems to be conducive toward developing the direct export of silk from Japan, if the following information, which we have chiefly taken from the *Nippon*, be authentic. There are many native silk merchants at Yokohama, notably Messrs. Mogi, Hara, Morimura, Shibuzawa, Wakao, who are engaged in the silk trade on an extensive scale, but thus far their policy has been rather to derive profits from native silk dealers by advancing money on silk, and very timorous attempts at getting profit out of the pockets of the foreign merchants in Yokohama. Stimulated by the cries of those who consider that such a method of business should not be pursued longer if the true interests of the nation are to be developed, and also more or less emboldened by having succeeded in amassing tolerably large sums of money, these native silk merchants at Yokohama began secretly to revolve in their minds the scheme of sending silk abroad direct. They were, however, deterred from this, in consequence of their inexperience in the matter, and also from the want of a trustworthy man who could be depended upon to conduct the business for them. The resignation of Mr. Arai is therefore said to be regarded by them with great joy, for in him they have discovered the very man they want to act as their agent. These merchants have consulted together on the scheme of starting a company to export silk direct, and the result of their conferences is said to be very hopeful in that direction. Should it prove a reality, and the direct export of silk come to be conducted by the Doshin Kwaisha, the only one of the kind at present, and the would-be sister-company, a far greater profit will be realized from the silk trade of Japan than has hitherto been the case.

INCREASE OF INSURANCE COMPANIES IN JAPAN.

THE sudden increase of insurance companies in this country is causing great anxiety in financial circles. By the end of last year, there were four life, two fire, and nine marine insurance companies. But according to the *Keizai Zasshi*, nine insurance companies have been started since January last, six of them being in Tokyo and three in the Provinces. Writing on this subject, our weekly contemporary observes that under ordinary circumstances it would be pleased to see an increase in companies of this kind. But in the present instance, it cannot help viewing with no small anxiety the sudden increase of insurance companies, for a keen competition must inevitably arise among these newly started enterprises. Nothing could be more undesirable than such competition, for it means the lowering of premiums to a more or less dangerous point. Under such circumstances, the *Keizai* urges the importance of a speedy enforcement of the Chapter on Insurance in the Commercial Code. It is there provided as follows:—"An insurance company is bound by means of annual accumulations, to form a reserve fund out of the premiums paid to it and from other receipts; and such reserve fund must at all times amount to at least twice the average amount of the insured sums annually falling due. This reserve fund must be safely invested and the documents of title thereto deposited with the Court, whilst the revenue therefrom is to accrue to the company." Among the newly started companies, the Tokyo periodical seems to believe that there are some which do not take the necessary steps for the creation of the reserve fund mentioned in the article just quoted.

NEWS FROM KOREA.

ACCORDING to the *Mainichi Shimbun's* Sōul correspondent, writing under date of July 25th, more than a hundred police constables recently arrived at the Chinese Legation from Tientsin. Yuen, the Chinese Resident, is reported to have presented to the Korean Government 300 rifles, uniforms to clothe 300 soldiers, and 6 guns, which had been send by the Viceroy Li.

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The same authority informs us that the Russian Minister is trying to induce Korea to construct a telegraph line from Sōul to some point on the Russian frontier. Russia is said to have offered to advance, free of interest, whatever sum may be necessary for the purpose.

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A comet is said to be visible to the north-west of Sōul at about two o'clock a.m., and the superstitious Koreans are reported to be very much excited, believing that the phenomenon is an omen of the downfall of the present royal dynasty.

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THE Japanese Squadron, composed of the *Matsushima*, the *Chishima*, and the *Takachiho*, arrived at Nimsen on the 19th ultimo. Vice-Admiral Ito and other officers entered Sōul on the 23rd. The King had announced his intention of receiving the Japanese officers in audience at noon the same day, but their arrival in the capital having been delayed by the sinking of the boat that carried them up the river Han, the audience had to be postponed. A ball which the Japanese *Chargé d'Affaires*, Mr. Sugimura, had announced for the same evening, had also to be deferred until the 25th.

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As to the *Togaku-to* malcontents, the *Chosen Shimpo* (Nimsen) of the 22nd ultimo states that they are now reduced to quiescence by an old-fashioned difficulty, want of funds. According to a certain distinguished Korean informant of our Nimsen contemporary, the *Togaku-to* are said not to be disorderly agitators, as some people believe, the majority of them being farmers and merchants, who have substantial interests at stake and know what they are about. They are now quiet, because, according to this Korean, they are for the moment engaged taking care of their farms or shops. But the forecast is that they will renew their agitation so soon as the harvest is over.

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The same paper expresses disappointment at the news that Mr. Oishi has been relieved of his official functions and that Mr. Otori has been appointed his successor. The Japanese residents, says our contemporary, console themselves with the hope that this may perhaps be a merely temporary measure pending Mr. Oishi's return to Sōul as Japan's Minister Plenipotentiary.

RAILWAY ENTERPRISES.

ONE of the clearest proofs of the remarkable inactivity of the money market recently is afforded by the almost incessant applications for the construction of private railways. The following is said to be the list of private railway enterprises, applications for which were approved at the Railway Commissioners' meeting lately held in the Department of Communications. The Southern Yamato railway, Kojima railway, Awa-Kazusa railway, Nara-Sakurai-railway; application for the alteration of lines of the Osaka railway company, Naniwa railway, and the extension of the Iyo railway. Besides having approved the foregoing applications, the meeting opened discussions on the appointment of an electric railway investigation committee, introduced by Mr. Ishiguro, and also the revision of regulations of the conference meetings with reference to land purchase and the revision of the system itself. This was introduced by Mr. Murano, M.P., a director of the Sanyo railway. The further discussion of these two proposals is to be made at the next meeting. The Department of Communications, it is believed, will intimate approval of the before-mentioned lines at this meeting. The private Companies already existing are as follow:—

The Nippon railway, Sanyo railway, Kiushiu railway, and Hokkaido Tanko railway. Other private railway Companies already in existence are:—The Osaka railway, Ryomo railway, Sanuki railway, Kai musashi railway, Kushiro railway, Kwansei railway, Chiku-ho industrial railway, Kawagoye railway, Aoume railway, Shimosa Musashi railway, Sanyo railway, Hoshyu railway, Settsu railway, Sano railway, Nara railway, Harima-Tanba railway, and Southern Yamato railway.

Private railway companies having temporary licences, are the Nanyo railway, Dogo railway and Ota railway. In all, there are in Japan 26 private railway companies. Of these private companies coming under the second category only less than 10 are actually carrying traffic; the rest are still in course of construction.

DR. KITAZATO'S PLANS.

WE have already mentioned in our columns that Dr. Kitazato sent in his resignation of the Presidentship of the Hospital for contagious diseases and that he had, at the same time, declined to receive the aid which both the Government and the Sanitary Association offered him. On seeing this, a certain wealthy man of Tokyo, says a vernacular paper, informed the Doctor that he would be ready at any time to furnish a sum equal to that with which the Government had promised to provide him. This highly magnanimous sentiment is shared by a wealthy merchant of Yokohama, who is said to have posted, a few days ago, a letter to the Doctor asking him whether the laboratory might be established at Yokohama, how many acres of land would be required for the laboratory and hospital and so on. On turning to the future prospects of the Doctor himself, the same journal says that it is yet unsettled whether the Doctor may go abroad or stay at home. We do not think, however, that he will leave the country to which he returned only a year or two ago, to confer benefits upon it by his scientific investigations,

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nor will the people consent to it, although, of course, we exclude the section of Shiba folks who have made themselves notorious for having clamoured against the establishment of the hospital. Should he stay at home, the hospital will be established elsewhere, although the laboratory may be located at Shiba as at present. As to the expenses needed for carrying on his work, he would not rely on many persons. In fact, like a true scientific man as he is, his habits are said to be very simple, and he says himself that an income of 100 *yen* per month will be sufficient for him.

THE NATIONAL UNIONISTS AT NAGOYA.

THUS far Mr. Yasuba's campaign in Nagoya appears to have been a complete failure. The second lecture meeting organized by his followers on the 28th ultimo ended hardly more satisfactorily that on the 26th. The meeting of the 28th was held at the Otowa theatre. Great difficulty was experienced in hiring the theatre, for the Radicals threatened its proprietor with the discontinuance of their patronage if he accommodated the National Unionists. He seems, however, to have succeeded in pacifying these jealous politicians and the lecture meeting was opened at 1 p.m. on the appointed day. Shortly before that hour, there took place in the vicinity of the theatre a fight between the *soshi* of the National Unionists and those belonging to the Radical Party, nor could order be restored until the police interfered vigorously. Mr. Wada Hikojiro was the first speaker, his subject being Foreign Policy, but the Radical *soshi* made so much noise that he left the platform without completing his speech. During his address, another scuffle took place between the *soshi* of the two parties, and several of the ringleaders were ordered to withdraw. A comic scene occurred when Mr. Ooka appeared on the stage. Finding it impossible to proceed with his speech amidst the confusion caused by the Radical *soshi*, he commenced an exchange of compliments with the leader of the obstructionists, to the keen delight of the audience. Messrs. Imai Isoichiro and Motoda Hajime also spoke, but neither was allowed to finish his address. It is stated that Mr. Motoda, having said something uncomplimentary to Count Itagaki, was unceremoniously dragged from the platform by the Radical *soshi*, and that, when this occurred, all the *soshi* belonging to the Radicals, sprang upon the stage, shouting "Long live the *Jiyuto*" and danced a species of *cancan*, amid which performance the second lecture meeting of the National Unionists came to an end.

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The National Unionist organ bitterly complains of the partiality shown by the police officers of Nagoya towards the Radical *soshi*. It also accuses the Nagoya local papers of disseminating unjustifiable falsehoods about the lecture meetings of the National Unionists. All the three papers published in that town belong to the Radical party. They left nothing undone to increase the difficulties of their opponents, even going so far as to close their columns to the advertisements of the National Unionists.

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Nagoya has hitherto been noted for the indifference of its inhabitants to political matters But the way in which the Progressionists were treated some months ago as well as the reception just given to the National Unionists, show that the proverbially pacific citizens of that town have warmly espoused the cause of the Radical Party

DISPUTES IN A BUDDHIST TEMPLE.

THE Zenkô-ji of Nagano, in the Province of Shinano, is one of the most celebrated temples in the Empire. Pilgrims from all parts of the country flock to it in all seasons of the year. Attached to this temple, there are a monastery and a nunnery, called the Daikwanjin and the Daihongwan respectively. In ancient times the nunnery, which is the older of the two, had supreme authority in the management of the temple affairs. But in the beginning of the 17th century, when the Tokugawa Government had just been established in Edo, the present Tokyo, it happened that a priest of the *Tendai* sect—the same sect to which the monastery of the Zenkôji belonged, the nunnery being of another denomination, the *Jôdo*—enjoyed the boundless confidence of the great founder of the last and greatest of the feudal dynasties in Japan. It was to this priest, Tenkai, that Iyeyasu turned for counsel in laying the foundation of his dynasty, and it is to him also that the historical Shogunate mausoleums of Nikko owe their existence. To return to the subject in hand, through Tenkai's powerful intercession, the monastery of the Zenkôji gradually increased in influence until it began before long to get the supreme control of the temple affairs into its own hands. Since then the disputes between the nunnery and the monastery have never entirely ceased. But in the early years of the present era, there seems to have been a truce between the contending parties. In 1876, the old dispute was suddenly revived by the monastery formally registering itself as controller of the temple's affairs. In 1878, the Department of Home Affairs decided that the monastery and the nunnery should exercise equal authority over the management of the business connected with the temple. But the monastery did not pay any regard to this decision and continued to exercise absolute sway. In 1889 the nunnery brought a suit against the monastery for the recovery of the right it had been deprived of by the rival institution. The Nagano Local Court having decided in favour of the plaintiff, the defendant appealed to the Tokyo Court of Appeal. The latter decided that the matter did not lie within the province of a court of law but that it should be decided by a private arbitration provided for in the new Code of Civil Procedure. The two sides then nominated Viscount Shinagawa as arbitrator. It is stated that the Viscount, who has been studying the documents connected with the disputes, will make a decision on the 31st ultimo.

MONKEYS THAT KNOW HOW TO BREW WINE AND BAKE POTS

THE late venerable Dr. Macgowan, whose name is well known in Japan, recently made a discovery which in point of startling interest is worth serious attention at the hands of the scientific world. It is nearly thirty years since the indefatigable doctor revealed to us the mysteries of mutton wine manufacture among the Mongols. He now informs us of a most astonishing race of Manchurian monkeys, who have made incredible progress in the arts of wine-brewing and pottery. It does not appear that Dr. Macgowan either saw the monkeys or tasted the liquor; but in the course of a recent journey to Yung-ping, in the neighbourhood of the Great Wall, he seems to have come across a late edition of the official history of Yung-ping, which states that a short time ago a large body of immigrating monkeys passed a certain village in crossing from one mountain to another. The boys of the village clapped their hands and shouted at the spectacle, and the monkeys, being frightened, fled, taking their young in their arms, but dropping in their flight a number of earthen vessels, some of which hold a quart. On opening these, the villagers found they contained two kinds of wine, a pink and a green, that had been made from mountain berries. It is said that the monkeys store this liquor for use in the winter when the water is all frozen. Dr. Macgowan adds that the chronicler cites an author who affirms that in Szechuan there are monkeys who manufacture wine, and he gives the following anecdote in evidence. A party of villagers who desired to try the quality of the monkey wine, placed unobserved a great feast near the monkeys' caves, and then hid themselves. On discovering the food the monkeys went to their caves and brought out their liquor, without which the feast could not be enjoyed. At that moment the villagers rushed out of their hiding-place, and the monkeys forthwith scampered off, leaving the wine, with which their human relations made themselves merry. Dr. Macgowan adds that he has met in his Chinese reading an account of monkeys in Chêkiang who pound fruit in stone mortars to make into wine, and he asks:—"Is it likely that all these statements are pure inventions?" Thus far the Tientsin Correspondent of the *N.-C. Daily News*, to whom we are indebted for these particulars. It has long been known that monkeys are fond of wine, and get tipsy when they have the chance; still, it would have been more satisfactory if Dr. Macgowan had had ocular demonstration of these remarkable statements. Meanwhile, we notice that Mr. Garner is making wonderful progress in teaching African monkeys to talk. He has returned to the coast, says our contemporary, the proud possessor of a chimpanzee that can say *Tanakoe paketa*, which is the Maori for "Good day, stranger;" of a gorilla which knows twenty words of Fijian; and of a female ourang-outang that has not only picked up *Donner und blitzen* from the Professor's German valet, "but quite fallen in love with him." The sceptical will scarcely accept these performances, which can be beaten by many an accomplished parrot, as conclusive evidence of the existence of a Simian tongue, or at least of the Professor's penetration of its mysteries. But Professor Garneris also said to have written down nearly two hundred monkey words, and he gives these specimens, spelling phonetically:—*Achru*, meaning sun, fire, warmth, etc.; *Aukcha*, meaning water, rain, cold, and, apparently, anything disagreeable; *gethka*, meaning food, the act of eating.

JAPANESE-MADE CAMERAS.

IN *Photographic Work* of June 9th, we find the following:—

The laborious carefulness of the Japanese workman has often been commented upon, and in mentioning the complex gearing constructed in Tokyo for Professor Burton for about £1 12s., the *Optician* remarks that the Japanese, if provided with machine tools, might become formidable rivals to the British workman. Those who know what it is to cut bevil, and worm-wheel gearing by hand, and who look at the illustrations to Professor Burton's paper, will be able to appreciate how severe the competition may become in the matter of fine mechanical work. Not only in photographic meta work, but also in wood-work is the Japanese workman likely to affect Europe. We have before us a Japanese chest of three small drawers, which was bought in London full of sweets for sixpence, and although probably not more than threepence could have been reckoned as the retail price of the box, the fitting of the wook-work is of such a character as to excite the admiration of the expert.

Each drawer is made very slightly and uniformly taper, both as regards width and height, from front to back; the reduction in size towards the back corresponding to about the thickness of a sheet of stout note paper. We feel sure that the workman who made these drawers could make a camera which would at least equal the best European work in quality, and at a price calculated to astonish the purchaser.

Of course the *Optician* is wrong in assuming that the Japanese have no machine tools. Nevertheless, it is true that a vast amount of work which would, as a matter of course, be done by machine tools in England, and still more in America, is accomplished by hand in Japan.

* * *

The note by the editor of *Photographic Work* on the subject of camera making in Japan, reflects what has already appeared in these columns. Before, however, the Japanese can do an export trade, one of two things must happen: either Japanese camera-makers must employ mahogany instead of *sugi*, or the Occidental prejudice in favour of mahogany, to the exclusion of any other wood, in camera making, must be modified. So far as concerns the cameras used in Japan itself, they are already supplied by home makers.

THE ORIENTAL HOTEL, KOBE.

AT recently held extraordinary general meeting of shareholders in the Oriental Hotel, Limited, Kobe, Mr. T. W Hellyer in the chair, it was decided to purchase Lot 11, Concession, with a view to erecting thereon a new and larger hotel. The Chairman submitted a statement of the Company's working during the 10 months of the present fiscal year, ending 30th June last. He remarked that the general receipts for that period amounted to $49,341.85 as against $45,292.58 for the corresponding term of the

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previous year, and the estimated profits to that date were $12,681.63 as against $7,969.54. He observed that a new launch had been purchased to replace the Company's old one, which had been condemned by their surveyor and had recently been sold; and in view of the satisfactory results of the Company's working during the period referred to he had to announce that the Directors had decided to declare an interim dividend of 5 per cent. on Ordinary Shares. Mr Ashton proposed and Mr. Enshe seconded the following resolution:—"That this meeting of Shareholders in the Oriental Hotel, Ld. recommends the purchase by the Company of Lot No. 11 Concession, Kobe, for a sum not exceeding $40,000, and that the Directors shall be authorized to borrow on behalf of the Company upon mortgage or by the issue of Debentures a sum not exceeding $40,000." The proposition was carried unanimously.

SERIOUS FIRE IN OSAKA

FIRE broke out in Osaka early on Friday morning at a lumber yard at Yokobori and blazed with great fierceness, the wood being very dry in consequence of the long-continued drought. The firemen worked hard to subdue the flames, but their efforts were baffled for some time by the strong north wind which was blowing. Eight lumber-dealers' yards were soon on fire, as well as two dwellings adjoining, and then the fire crossed over a narrow creek and set alight to houses on the other side. The fire broke out at 1.50 and was not extinguished until 4.30 a.m., by which time seven houses had been destroyed, together with eight sheds filled with lumber. It is suspected that the fire was the outcome of incendiarism, and the police are making investigations into the matter. The telephone wires were cut down before the fire reached the posts, and the police and firemen found great difficulty in moving about, as the wires spread in all directions and tripped them up—a clear proof of the danger often pointed out of overhead electric wires.—*Kobe Chronicle.*

A NEW POLITICAL PARTY.

SOME time ago we alluded to a rumour that the National Unionists, the Oriental Radicals, and some members of the House of Peers had under contemplation the formation of a new political party. This rumour was denied at the time, it being stated by way of explanation that the meetings held by the politicians in question had been for the purpose of consulting about the advisability of a concerted movement on the question of Mixed Residence. Possibly the denial was sincere, but it is at the same time very likely that a concerted movement on this question may pave the way for the final amalgamation into one party of men belonging to the three different groups above alluded to. Nothing is more natural in the world than such an event. Meanwhile, we notice a very interesting article on this subject in a recent issue of the *Kokumin-no-Tomo*. Our contemporary believes that the rumour about the formation of a new political party is well founded. It further believes that that party will prove a dangerous obstacle in the path of Japan's progress in modern civilization. The *Kokumin* examines, each in turn, the three elements out of which the new party is to spring. First as to the National Unionists, in spite of all that the Cabinet has done and is still doing for the disintegration of that Party, there remains one powerful member whom those now in power can never succeed in winning to their side. That man is Viscount Shinagawa. The Cabinet know this fact perfectly well, and are trying to isolate him from his followers. But such an object is not easy to accomplish, for the Government is not perpared to buy up all the rank and file of the party. What sort of a man is Viscount Shinagawa? He is not a very formidable person. Though brave, he has few qualifications for the leadership of men. He is deficient in judgment, and not conspicuous for patience. With all this, he is not a man to be neglected. He is of a revengeful nature, and can never join a Cabinet in which Mr. Mutsu, his sworn enemy, possesses influence. He is secretly biding his time. He and his party have just received an access of power of considerable importance in the person of Mr. Yasuba Yasukazu. The *Kokumin* has a very high opinion of the new Manager-in-Chief of the National Unionists party. Mr. Yasuba, in our contemporary's opinion, ought to have been Minister of State ten years ago. Governorship is the highest position he has attained in his long and loyal service under the *Meiji* Government; but under the Matsukata Cabinet he exercised a power in the direction of State affairs scarcely inferior to that of a Cabinet Minister. Indeed, in point of services rendered to the *Meiji* Government, he is said not to yield the palm to many of the statesmen now in power. In what direction is he going to employ his vast influence? He may, nay, will, oppose the Civil section of the Government, and certainly he will labour for the continuance of the clan Government for which he has toiled so long and so faithfully. In this respect there is sympathy between him and Viscount Shinagawa. Next, with reference to the Oriental Radicals, they are far fewer in number and inferior in strength to the National Unionists. When Viscount Takashima was in the Government they did not hesitate to vote for the Cabinet, but they have nothing to do with the present Ministry. They, too, like Viscount Shinagawa and his followers, are biding their time. As to the members of the House of Representatives who are concerned in the scheme for the formation of the new party, the *Kokumin* does not think it necessary to make any allusion to them, because they are simply auxiliaries and not the principal actors in the drama. Now, men belonging to these different political groups, but having much in common between them in points of character as well as political opinions, are about to unite together in one political party, and begin a strong campaign under the banner of anti-Mixed Residence. The Tokyo periodical thinks that the Cabinet as well as the Opposition ought to take prompt measures in anticipation of the powerful agitation which the new party will get up on this subject. As to the Cabinet, it is advised to make up its mind to incur the displeasure of the new party by relying on the support of the Opposition. With regard to the Opposition, it is reminded of a formidable enemy which is about to appear on the political stage, vowed to the continuance of clan Government and to opposition to the opening of the country for Mixed Residence. The different sections composing the Opposition camp are told that it is no time for them to waste their energies in useless squabbles among themselves

PERSONAL AND POLITICAL

THE recent meeting of Count Itagaki and Count Goto at the former's residence has attracted considerable attention in the political world. But it seems to have had no political significance at all. The meeting, it is now stated on good authority, related to the raising of funds for the *Shokumin Kyokai* (Colonization Association) Mr. Takaichi Ansai, an ex-M.P. and a follower of Count Itagaki's, is very enthusiastic about colonization and asked the young Marquis Yamanouchi to contribute a large sum of money for the purposes of the Association. The Marquis being very young, the matter has to be decided by the principal former retainers of the clan. The Radical leader and the Minister for Agriculture and Commerce are said to have consulted together about this affair.

* * *

Viscount Shinagawa, leader of the National Unionists, is reported to have spoken at a recent meeting of his party in a tone of unequivocal hostility to those in power. "At the time of its organization," he is reported to have said, "the present Cabinet seemed to pursue a policy very like that of our own. But it has since gradually changed its policy, so that we can no more give our support to it. I have hitherto held in reverence three men of my clan more than any others, namely, Counts Ito, Inouye, and Yamagata, but the interests of the country now compel me to take a direction opposed to theirs." Viscount Shinagawa then went on to advise his followers that "in attacking the Cabinet they should advance straight without looking either to the right or to the left." The correctness of this report is challenged by the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, which caused one of its writers to wait upon the National Unionist leader to ascertain the truth of the matter. But his reply, as reported by our contemporary, is rather ambiguous. He says, for instance, that he will never directly attack a Cabinet under the personal control of the Emperor. Does this mean that he will not hesitate to attack indirectly? As to his reverence for Counts Ito, Inouye, and Yamagata, that was ended, he said, before the opening of the fourth session of the Diet, so that there was no necessity for announcing the fact now.

* * *

The Korean Minister, Mr. Kin Shitetsu, will, according to the *Mainichi Shimbun*, leave for home some time in the present month of August. During his absence, Mr. Sen Kikan will act as *Chargé d'Affaires*. It is stated that, in all probability, Mr. Kin will not come back to Japan unless something extraordinary happens to require his presence here.

PARTY POLITICS

THE *Nippon* states that Mr. Kono Hironaka has declined to make a political tour in Kyushu, because he is dissatisfied with the course of policy which his colleagues, Messrs. Hoshi and Matsuda, intend to pursue there. We should not be surprised to learn that the tour has been given up altogether. That it is regarded with disapproval by a large number of members of the party, is an open secret.

* * *

The *Choya Shimbun* remarks that such of the Radicals as are opposed to the continuance of the quarrel with the Progressionists are beginning to show activity. In support of this assertion, it points to the arrival in the capital of Mr. Kobayashi Kusuo of Okayama. Mr. Kobayashi, together with Messrs. Suzuki Shoji, Nakabayashi, and Nishiyama, are known to have represented to Mr. Hoshi the unwisdom of his conduct when he commenced the crusade against the *Kaishin-to* by his famous speeches at the Kinki-kan immediately after the close of the last session of the Diet. Mr. Kobayashi is one of the oldest Radicals, but as he has no following of his own, his opposition to Mr. Hoshi is not regarded with any anxiety. What causes serious concern is Mr. Kono's attitude. But Mr. Kono is a very considerate man, and it is believed that he will think twice before taking any step calculated to bring about a serious split in his party. Meanwhile, the Party's organ, the *Jiyu Shimbun*, is waging bitter war against the Progressionists, from which it is plain that the Radical headquarters endorse the policy of Mr. Hoshi Toru.

POLITICAL TOPICS.

RUMOUR says that a certain Minister of State recently announced to the Premier his intention of resigning, but was prevailed upon by Count Ito to reconsider the resolve. The *Choya Shimbun* originally published this rumour, investing it with an air of mystery and giving no indication as to the identity of the Minister in question. A solution is now supplied by the *Kokumin Shimbun*, which thinks that, with things as they are at present in the political world, if any Minister intended to resign, it must have been the Minister of State for Justice. "At all events," observes our contemporary, "his resignation may prove the first falling leaf that announces the approach of Autumn in the political forest."

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The *Jiji Shimpo* thinks that the Government is going too far in its endeavours to adopt the programme of the Opposition. "The Cabinet," we are told, "seems so eager to accommodate itself to the wishes of the *Min-to*, that it does not hesitate to disregard the true interests of the country. Consequently large numbers of private persons are disappointed with the present Ministry, and in the ranks of officialdom itself not a few watch the course of things with disapproval. Confronted by the ill-will of a considerable section of the public, on the one hand,

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and by discontent among officials, on the other, even the Ito Cabinet, composed though it is of statesmen of the first order, will be baffled by the task of maintaining its ground. If the Cabinet succeeds in obtaining the support of the Opposition, it may be able to hold its position. But, in order to secure that support, it must be prepared to identify itself entirely with the Opposition." The *Jiji* of course thinks that the Government cannot go to any such length, and consequently seems inclined to believe that before long the present Ministry will have to go out of office.

* * *

The *Kokumin Shimbun* reports that the so-called Military Party is beginning to manifest much activity. Count Matsukata, though originally connected closely with Count Ito and the Civil Party, is now regarded as belonging to the military section of the *Sat'-Cho* statesmen. Our contemporary reports that he will shortly return to the capital from Osaka where he has been staying ever since he went out of office in August of last year. On his way to Tokyo, he will, according to rumour, call upon Count Oki at the latter's villa at Numazu. There the ex-Minister President and the ex-President of the Privy Council will hold a conference with Viscounts Takashima and Kabayama, but what they intend to consult about, we are not told. As to Count Oki, it is stated that, when he was visited by Mr. Yasuba on his way to Nagoya, he promised to join the National Unionists should a favourable opportunity present itself. The *Kokumin* also reports that Count Yamagata, who remains in Tokyo while his colleagues are in the country, is in a discontented mood. In short, our contemporary would have us believe that the Military section of the clan statesmen, uniting with the National Unionists, now sees itself in sight of an opportunity to regain the direction of State affairs. Probably the *Kokumin* unconsciously exaggerates the story in its absorbing anxiety to effect a reconciliation between the Radicals and the Progressionists. To achieve that end, it finds nothing more efficacious than to direct the attention of the two Parties to the possibility of their common enemy's early return to power.

THE EDUCATION OF JAPANESE IN SAN FRANCISCO.

We referred some time ago to the complication that arose between the Japanese in San Francisco and the educational authorities of that city, in consequence of the change proposed by the latter that Japanese students should not be admitted into San Francisco schools. Owing to the negotiations of Mr. Chinda, Japanese Consul, and other gentlemen of influence in behalf of Japanese students, the proposed change was abandoned, but it seems that the resident Japanese are secretly afraid of its revival by the San Francisco Authorities. The Japanese Association in that city have held conferences on this question and are said to have recently come to the following conclusion:—It is a matter for congratulation, for the sake of our national rights and honour, that the San Francisco Educational Authorities have abandoned the proposed step of refusing entrance to Japanese students. But the restoration of our rights obtained by strong demands can not be expected to last long, and we therefore deem it extremely important to establish, at this juncture a suitable school for the present and future benefit of Japanese students." This resolution is said to be favourably received, and as the offer of subscriptions is not small, the idea, it is hoped, will be realized.

FUNERAL OF DR MACGOWAN.

The funeral of the late Dr. D. J. Macgowan took place at the New Cemetery, says the *N.C. Daily News*, on the afternoon of July 21st, and there was a large gathering of his old friends and acquaintances, among whom were a large number of ladies, to see his body laid to rest. The service was conducted by the Rev. W. Muirhead, who made an eloquent address in the Chapel, in which he touched sympathetically on the history and character of Dr. Macgowan, especially in relation to the love he bore to missionary work, even after he had ceased formally to belong to the missionary body. The bearers of the coffin from the chapel to the grave were Messrs F. J. Barge, M.D., A. R. Burkill, W. S. Emens, E. Farago, the Rev. J. M. W. Farnham, D.D., N. J. Hannen, A. C. Hunter, R. W. Little, J. E. Reding, and the Ven. Archdeacon Thomson. The coffin was covered with wreaths and crosses of flowers, and it was with deep and genuine regret that all thus saw the last of one who was a resident in China before Shanghai was opened, and who has done so much in his half-century in China to make Chinese and foreigners better acquainted with each other.

A SONNET FROM SHANGHAI.

Archdeacon Moule, who has gained a great reputation for spirited and polished verse as Poet Laureate of Shanghai, embodies the feelings of the community with respect to the butchery of the Swedish missionaries at Sung-pu in the following mettlesome sonnet:—

FIAT JUSTITIA.

Awake! stern Justice, Mercy's kinsman near,
For wrong uncurbed, or weakly let alone,
Shakes the foundation of the radiant throne
Where Righteous Love and Loving Right appear
Bear high the sword, with charity severe!
Flash forth thy lightnings sound in thunder tone,
Great voice of God! and shake each guilty stone
Of courtly *yamên*; and with tardy fear
Arouse dull conscience in that secret den
Where lies are traced by vitriol dipped pen,
—Then shall ye wake, brave sleepers, wake and sing
For with the reign of Law and Love (blest pair),
The land you loved and died for, peaceful, fair,
Bows to the Sceptre of your Lord and King.

A. E. M.

THE HIOGO HOTEL AUCTION SALE.

The attempt to sell the Hiogo Hotel by auction yesterday, says the *Kobe Chronicle* of the 29th ult., was a failure, the property being bought in. There were many persons present in the auction room to witness the proceedings, and after much eloquence had been bestowed upon the audience a bid for $40 000 started the sale. This was followed slowly afterwards by an offer of $45,000, and by successive advances of $5,000 at a time $70,000 was at last reached on a bid from Mr. Oestmann, the property being nominally knocked down to him at this figure. Mr. Oestmann, however, was acting as the agent of the liquidators, and, so far as we could judge, the other bids were also from the same quarter, there not being apparently a single genuine offer. What will now be done it is difficult to say. It is desired to wind up the concern and pay all debts, but until the property can be sold this is impossible. A suggestion has now been made of reconstruction, but the time for this has passed, and we very much doubt whether the shareholders are now likely to attempt anything of the sort. The policy pursued has resulted, as we all along prophesied that it would, in the utter wreck of the concern.

ICHANG.

A river that rises in summer 49 feet above its winter level, is truly something like a river. That is what the Yangtze did at Ichang in 1892. Mr. C. W. Everard, in his Consular trade report, appends a diagram showing the behaviour of the river during the year. We imagined as first that it was a table indicating the fluctuations in silver.

* * *

The feature of the foreign trade of Ichang during 1892 was a marked increase in the import of Bombay yarn. The figures for cotton yarn during 1891 and 1892 were:—

	1890.		1891.	
	Quantity. Cwts.	Value. £	Quantity. Cwt.	Value. £
Cotton yarn, English	1,267	5,986.....	471	2,432
Cotton yarn, Indian	185,471.....	753,009	99,248	426,022

At Ichang, also, the Indian trade in yarns will suffer a heavy set-back owing to the demoralization of silver in India.

THE SOMA AFFAIR.

Viscount Soma Jun-in and other accused of murder by poison appeared before the Tokyo Local Court on the 1st instant and were questioned by the Judges of Preliminary Investigation. Their examination which commenced at 9 a.m. ended at 3 p.m., but it was not until 4.40 p.m. that they were allowed to go home, the delay being caused by a judicial consultation as to whether they should be placed in custody or not. The accused were told, it is said, that "they might go home for the present," and it is believed that they may be put under arrest at any moment. Viscount Soma was in foreign garb, but the others wore *haori* and *hakama*. The papers report that the accused while in the waiting room were considerably agitated with the exception of Viscount Soma who alone showed no sign of emotion.

* * *

On the 2nd inst., Shinonome Shige, mistress of the late Viscount Soma, and Mr. Okada Yasutane, the supposed writer of "the confession," were brought before Judge Okada as witnesses in the case. Shige's examination lasted from 9.30 a.m. to noon, the afternoon being devoted to the other witnesses. Nothing is as yet known as to the nature of the evidence given by these persons.

DISASTROUS FIRE AT KOBE.

The *Kobe Chronicle* of Wednesday says:—A fire which broke out last night in a building at the rear of No. 35 caused the biggest blaze and the greatest destruction of property from which the Concession has ever suffered. Apparently when discovered at half-past eleven the fire had been smouldering for some hours, for it was no sooner perceived than the whole building appeared to burst into flame as by an explosion. The foreign Fire Brigade was quickly on the spot, and several Japanese brigades followed soon after and commenced pumping water on the flames. Fortunately the heavy shower of rain which had fallen during the afternoon had filled the Division Street drain sufficiently to provide a considerable amount of water, but notwithstanding the efforts of the firemen the fire continued to make headway and soon extended to Messrs. Mouriyan, Heimann & Co.'s tea godowns. These burned like match-wood, and the fire quickly reached on the one side to the two buildings facing Division Street, used as offices, and on the other to the new hotel and restaurant recently erected by Mr. Dutronquoy and known as the "Travellers." By two o'clock the whole block seemed ablaze, and it looked as if all the buildings in that section must go. Fortunately the efforts of the firemen were successful in saving the Museum and Art Gallery, No. 35, and also Messrs. De Ath & Co.'s brick godown adjoining, which is just now filled with an exceedingly valuable collection of curios, many of which could not be replaced at any price. Messrs. Stephens & Co.'s Auction Room, though considerably scorched and damaged, escaped destruction, as did also No. 32, occupied by Messrs. Witkowski & Co., though the godown and outhouses at the back went in the general flare-up. With the exception of the building facing the "Park," Messrs. Mouriyan, Heimann & Co.'s tea godowns are totally destroyed, part of their offices are gutted, and all that remains of the "Travellers" are a few blackened up-rights and the tall chimneys. The scene this morning, with the great space of ground occupied simply by smoking and blackened ruins, is very striking. The destruction of property is very great, but as far as we can at present ascertain it is all covered by insurance.

ALCOHOL INDUSTRY IN YOKOHAMA.

We take the following notes from the *Shogyo Shimpo*:—Whether it is owing to the enforcement of a duty on the manufacture of alcohol or otherwise, certain foreign merchants of Yokohama,—L. Goldenburg, No. 247, the manager of the China Bank, No. 61, and several others,—are said to have purchased the necessary plant with the intention of starting an alcohol distillery in Yokohama. A few days later the same paper said:—The scheme of starting an alcohol distillery at No. 247, Settlement, in the name of Mr. Goldenburg, but really with capital furnished by Mr. Cole, an English merchant of No. 28, and others, has been given up

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on the ground that if the business is to be conducted in conformity with Japanese law, and subjected to the same taxation as ordinary alcohol and *saké*, it is impossible to make the enterprise a paying one. The purchased plant, therefore, is said to have been completely transferred to Mr. Mizawa, who has, on his part, decided to start the business at the same house in accordance with the plan originally devised by the foreign projectors. The *Shogyo Shimpo* suspects that these persons are engaged in the enterprise under a Japanese mask.

THE FIRE AT THE WORLD'S FAIR.

THE telegram received with so much incredulity in Japan a few days ago, in reference to a fatal fire at the World's Fair, turns out to have rested on a very solid basis of fact indeed. On the 10th instant fire broke out in the cupola of the Cold Storage building and some thirty or forty firemen at once climbed up to extinguish it. Before they could accomplish anything, the fire had eaten to a point a few feet below them. The cupola rises quite 200 feet above the ground and the firemen were quickly surrounded by the roaring flames. Maddened by the heat five or six of them sprang down on to a roof sixty feet below and were dashed to death. Then the cupola gave way and the rest of the men were precipitated upon a mass of burning timbers. Some of the band escaped by sliding down ropes, just before the cupola fell, but they were very few in number, as the ropes were quickly burned. Altogether, fifty or sixty firemen were injured and at least thirty lost their lives.

RUMOURED ENGLISH HONOURS FOR LI HUNG-CHANG.

THE London Correspondent of a Shanghai paper is responsible for the statement that Mr. Gladstone is meditating the conferment of some mark of honour upon Li Hung-chang, the Viceroy of Chihli. The idea is certainly novel; but as Englishmen and other Europeans have accepted Chinese decorations there seems no earthly reason why a distinguished Chinaman should not accept a similar compliment from the Queen. But what form would it take? A title is of course out of the question, and there would be some incongruity in enrolling a Confucianist under any of our Christian knightly orders. It will be interesting to see Mr. Gladstone's solution of the problem—if, indeed, there is any foundation for the story, which we doubt.

MR. ERNEST SATOW.

THE Queen has approved the appointment of Mr. Ernest Satow, C M G., as Her Majesty's Minister at Tangier. Mr. Satow's services in the Far East will be well known to many of our readers, says the *London China and Express*. He joined the Consular service in 1861 as student interpreter in Japan, and spent nearly twenty years in the country, which he knows intimately. Afterwards he was transferred to the Diplomatic service, and became Minister Resident and Consul-General at Bangkok, and was transferred to Monte Video as Her Majesty's representative in 1888. His new appointment leads one to wonder when Mr. Satow will receive the post which his special knowledge and fitness so eminently mark him out for.

PUBLIC QUARREL BETWEEN TWO WELL KNOWN KOBE RESIDENTS.

THE *Kobe Chronicle* of Tuesday says:—A contemporary having made a guarded reference to a scene which occurred in the Concession on Friday afternoon, it may be well to give what we believe are the actual facts. It appears that on Friday afternoon Mr. D. B. Taylor, one of the original directors of the Hiogo Hotel, Limited, was conversing in the Club with another foreign resident regarding the abortive attempt that afternoon to dispose of the Hiogo Hotel by auction. Mr. Enslie, British Consul at this port, who, it will be remembered, was one of the members of the shareholders' committee and took a very active part in the ultimate proceedings, apparently construed some of the remarks made as being aimed at himself and walking up to Mr. Taylor he made some sort of angry protest and then left the building. Mr. Taylor followed in a few minutes, and overtaking Mr. Enslie asked for an explanation of his words. This not being forthcoming he then proceeded to settle old scores by giving Mr. Enslie a "piece of his mind," as the saying is, in the course of which some very old sores were re-opened besides the special Hiogo Hotel dispute. With some little difficulty Mr. Enslie eventually got away, and next morning he made a charge in the United States Court against Mr. Taylor for criminal slander and libel. Upon this a warrant was issued for Mr. Taylor's apprehension, and he was arrested by an officer of the court, but very quickly bailed out by a friend. The case has been set down for hearing on the 9th inst., and is certain to evoke a very great amount of interest on account of the position of the parties. We understand that Mr. Enslie has retained Mr. Crosse, while Mr. Taylor will have the advantage of Mr. Tison's services.

THE HANABUSA-KOJIMA CASE.

THE Supreme Court has rejected *in toto* the decision of the Tokyo Local Court in the Kojima Hanabusa case, and has sent the case down for re-hearing. It will be remembered that the Tokyo Local Court decided in Mr. Kojima's favour, that is to say, decided in the sense that the house originally occupied by Dr. Mayet and subsequently rented by Mr. Hanabusa to Mr. Kojima, was not the real property of Mr. Hanabusa, and that, consequently, he was not competent to sue for arrears of rent. The Supreme Court utterly rejects any such reasoning. It says, in effect, that a tenant's business is to carry out the provisions of his lease, and that he cannot be permitted to live in a house without paying rent because he chooses to raise a dispute as to whether the man that let him the house or the man who collects the rent is the real owner.

FISHERMEN'S ALARM.

THE News Agency reports as follows:—The English steamer *Spondilus*, which arrived at Yokohama from Kobe on the morning of the 29th instant is a tank-vessel, and brought 5,850 tons of Russian petroleum to the latter port. Having discharged the oil into the reservoirs at Kobe, she came to Yokohama to ship goods. There are 12 oil-tanks in the ship, and though two of them had been cleaned during the voyage hither, the remaining ten were left untouched, and so were cleaned on the day of arrival, outside the breakwater. As a consequence a dirty, yellowish water composed of oil and refuse flowed out as far as Kannonzaki to the width of about a *cho*. Fishermen who saw this are said to be in great alarm, lest the fishery in the vicinity of the contaminated water should have to be given up altogether, especially if several tank vessels discharge their refuse in this manner and at the same time.

MOVEMENTS OF CABINET MINISTERS.

THE *Asahi Shimbun* says that Count Inouye, Minister for Home Affairs, arrived at Sapporo on the 31st ult. Count Saigo, Minister for the Navy, left Kobe on the 30th ult. for Onomichi, by train. Telegraphic intelligence from Shimonoseki received by the same paper states that Count Ito, accompanied by his Private Secretary, Mr. Samejima, arrived there on the 30th ult. at 9 p.m., and put up at the Daikichiro Hotel. The Premier at once proceeded to the Fujiya Hotel, where his son has been lying since the accident. Dr. Furuyama, of the Red Cross Society of Japan, and some sixteen other physicians have arrived for a consultation regarding the patient.

THE BANK OF JAPAN.

THE Nippon Ginko has decided to establish a branch office in Kyushiu, in the early part of November, with the estimated capital of 300,000 *yen*. It is not yet known where the office will be located, but as Kumamoto occupies a central position, probabilities point to that city. Mr. Kawakami Kinichiro, head-clerk of the Bank, is talked of as a candidate for the post of manager, and is believed likely to receive the nomination. The amount of money to be managed by the branch office will not be great, but as the object of establishing a branch in Kyushiu is to make it act as the money centre of that vast island and establish business relations with the local officers and bankers, a manager of Mr. Mawakami's ability is deemed essential.

EDUCATIONAL NEWS.

THE Minister of Education has just taken a step which has given much satisfaction to private instructors in the capital. There have been loud complaints in private educational circles in Tokyo against the privilege of admission without examination, which, for the past two years, has been granted by the Higher Middle Schools to graduates of the Ordinary Middle Schools certified by the Principals as having attained excellence in learning, morality, and health. This at once drew the students to the Ordinary Middle Schools in such numbers, that excellent private institutions in Tokyo which had hitherto almost monopolized the preparation of boys for the Higher Middle Schools, at once felt the effect in a most disastrous manner, both educationally and financially. The decrease of students attending these preparatory schools has indeed been so great that some of them are reported to have experienced the greatest difficulty in maintaining their existence. Moreover, the lads who left these institutions for the Ordinary Middle Schools were naturally the brighter and more ambitious portion of the students, exactly those whom every school most desires to educate. When these circumstances are considered, together with the fact that the private schools thus left out in the cold compare favourably with any of the Ordinary Middle Schools, it is no wonder that the measure taken by the Educational Department in favour of the latter should have created much discontent and even indignation in private educational circles. Have the results justified such a singular procedure? Not at all, for the graduates recommended by the principals of the Ordinary Middle Schools did not, in many cases, prove themselves capable of keeping up with students coming from one or other of the great private institutions. This circumstance, together with energetic efforts which the principals of some of the private schools concerned, with Mr. Sugiura Shigetake at their head, have been making to obtain the grant of a similar privilege for the graduates of their schools, seem to have convinced the new Minister of Education of the advisability of extending the favour to these private institutions. They are the *Nippon Chugakko*, the *Kyoritsu Gakko*, the *Kinjo Gakko*, and the *Ikubun-kan*. From July, 1894, these four schools, will be entitled to send up their graduates to the First Higher Middle School for admission without examination. Readers will note that, according to our information, it is not this privilege but equal treatment with the Ordinary Middle Schools that the private preparatory schools mentioned above desire most. They are perfectly willing to compete with the public schools on equal terms.

THE METROPOLITAN ASSEMBLY.

THE Tokyo Metropolitan Assembly, which recently held a meeting, has resolved to make some alterations in the City Improvement scheme promulgated a few years ago by an Imperial Ordinance. In this scheme it was set down that the width of the present streets should be enlarged to so many *ken*, varying according to localities. The Assembly now thinks that the prescribed enlargements are greater than is requisite in nine streets lying in Hongo, Fukagawa, Kanda, Kyobashi, and Akasaka. The Committee have estimated that of the sum of 231,700 odd *yen* required according to the original plan, 48,459 *yen* will be economized if the alterations adopted by the Assembly be approved, while some 63 *yen* will also be economized annually of the maintenance expenditure. The Special Committee have called on Count Ito, Minister President of State, Count Inouye, Minister for the Interior, Mr Yoshikawa, Minister for Justice, and Mr. Tomita, Governor of the City, and stated their

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views. They were answered everywhere that should the alterations proposed by the Assembly be really conducive to the interests of the City, their resolutions will be adopted, in spite of the prescribed arrangements fixed by Imperial Ordinance, but that, pending full investigations, it would be improper to give any more definite views.

* * *

Apropos this resolution of the Metropolitan Assembly, the questions which Mr. Kusumoto, Chairman of the Assembly, put, in the same session, to the Metropolitan Council, in connection with the Water-works of the city, may not be uninteresting. They were to the following effect :—

1. Are the water works to be completed in the 28th fiscal year as promised?
2. Should there be no possibility of completion in the 28th fiscal year, the scheme must not be abandoned. Is the contract to be renewed?
3. Should the contract be renewed, the amount of money to be applied for the redemption of the city loan and the modification of that loan should be made clear and publicly announced. What action will be taken on this point?

Having formulated these three questions, Mr. Kusumoto stated his views in a very earnest manner. The Water-works of the city are to be completed in 5 years, between the 24th and 28th fiscal years, and the redemption of the loan is to be finished by the 38th year, counting from the first half of the 29th fiscal year. It was on these promises that the City Assembly decided to raise the loan of 10,000,000 *yen*. Having obtained the sanction of the Ministers of State for the Interior and Finance, by stating clearly the periods for the completion of the Works and for the total redemption of the loan, the Assembly lately raised a loan of 5 000,000 *yen*. The Works are now in course of construction, but, although more than two fiscal years have since passed by and there remain only 2 years and 8 months of the prescribed period, no sign is visible of even a fraction of the Works being accomplished. This is indeed a very serious state of affairs. If the Works are not completed within the allotted period and are delayed a further three years, a loss of 1,369,000 *yen* will be incurred, even if the loan be confined to 7,500,000 *yen* and the 2,000,000 *yen* to be raised this year be deferred for another year. In case the works are enlarged and the sum of 10,000,000 *yen* is expended, the loss incurred will be correspondingly great. Having made plain these facts, Mr. Kusumoto told the City Council that he should present the questions in writing, and he expected the Council to answer them in the same form.

RAILWAYS IN TOKYO.

It is an inconvenience felt by everybody living in Tokyo that its railway termini, now three in number, are all far away from the centre, and, at the same time, disconnected from each other. The scheme of connecting the Uyeno and Shimbashi lines by a direct road is of long standing, but one way or another it has not yet assumed any definite form. The plan for extending the Uyeno line to the Akiwaga-hara was obstructed by the Shitaya folks some time ago, and there being some other considerations on the part of the Company, it was dropped. But the recent inactivity of the money market has resuscitated the project, and the Company is said to be intending to introduce it for deliberation at the extraordinary general meeting of its shareholders to be held at the Kosei-kan. It is the idea of the Company to construct an elevated railway between Uyeno and Shimbashi, a distance of less than three miles. The precise amount required is not yet ascertained, but it is roughly estimated that at least some 4,500,000 *yen* will be needed.

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Side by side with this intended project of the Nippon Railway Company, a similar undertaking has been decided upon by the Ko-bu Railway Company, and an application was sent into the Railway Board a day or two ago, through the medium of the Metropolitan Office. The Company is already actively engaged in the work of extending its line from Shinjuku terminus to the open ground of Iida-machi, Koji-machi Ku. The object of the new application is to lay a branch line running round the outer moat of the castle grounds. This circular line will ramify from the main line at the Yotsuya gate, whence, keeping along the moat, on the right hand, it will eventually join the main line at Iida-machi, where the terminus is to be established. At the Akasakagate, Aoi-zaka, Saiwai-bashi, Sukiya-bashi, Zenigame-bashi, Hitotsu-bashi, and Imagawa-koji, stations will be located, and trains will be run every 5 minutes. The distance of this circular railway is 5 miles and 12 chains. It is estimated that about 1,500,000 *yen* will be required.

THE NATIONAL UNIONISTS.

It is reported that Mr. Yasuba's formal affiliation with the National Unionist Party in the capacity of Chief Manager has led to a most important change in the attitude of the Party towards the present Ministry. Formerly the National Unionists were inclined to take no hostile action against the Cabinet on the question of administrative reforms, directing their attention solely to the consideration of foreign policy and to various industrial and commercial subjects. But Mr. Yasuba declines to be contented with such a lukewarm programme, and, by his advice, the members of the Party are said to have consented to devote their energies to attacking the Government on the subject of the proposed reforms. With reference to the Naval reforms, they are said to have already agreed to be dissatisfied, and rumour further depicts them as determined to pursue in the coming session of the Diet a policy which will take the public entirely by surprise.

* * *

The report that Count Oki has promised to join the National Unionists proves incorrect It is stated that, although he was solicited by Mr. Yasuba to become President of the Party, he declined the offer. Over-astute folks allege that it was not his leadership but his money, that the National Unionists wished so much to secure. Mr. Yasuba, it is reported, intends to try his powers of pursuasion once more upon the ex-President of the Privy Council.

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Viscount Shinagawa on the 1st instant was present at a lecture meeting held at Mitakamura in the Kita-Tama District of Tokyo Fu. He was accompanied by Messrs. Furusho Kamon, Ooka Ikuzo, Ogaki Hyoji, Sakai Saijiro and a few others. The meeting is said to have been well attended and orderly. After the speech making was over, a social reunion was held at which Viscount Shinagawa talked on various important current topics. The Viscount and Mr. Furusho stopped that night at the house of Mr. Yoshino Taizo, a National Unionist of the locality, and returned to Tokyo the following day.

MR BESANT IN AMERICA.

Walter Besant, the English novelist, arrived at New York on the 18th June, on the steamer *Etruria*. With him came Mr. S. S. Sprigge, another delegate from the English Society of Authors to the literary conference to be held in Chicago beginning on July 10th. Mr. Besant will spend about five weeks in the United States. He will go to New England first, and anticipates much pleasure in meeting Oliver Wendell Holmes and other literary men. It is also likely that he will spend a few days with Rudyard Kipling, at Brattleboro, Vermont. New England attracts Mr. Besant, not only because of its associations with the names of Hawthorne, Thoreau, and Emerson, all of whom he admires very much, but because he has made a study of the conditions of the last century and wishes to observe the impress they left on the civilisation of those States. He was met by Rudyard Kipling, who had gone to the pier to meet his father, Lockwood Kipling, also a passenger on the *Etruria* Young Kipling did not care to talk, but Mr. Besant wasn't averse to doing so. "The Chicago Exposition is more or less an excuse for my trip," said he. "What I really came for was New England. I wish to see Plymouth, Salem, and Concord especially. The Chicago Fair has not so much of interest for me as the literary associations of New England." "Do you intend to gather material for a new novel?" "I shall hardly have time for that, but if I stumble upon anything characteristic or out of the ordinary I shall make a note of it when I return to England. I must begin some work, and I have been planning a little to that end. My plot is still rather incoherent, but the principal scenes will probably be laid in London and the story will treat of modern English country life. It is for a syndicate company, and I shall also write for William Waldorf Astor's new *Pall Mall Magazine* My contributions to that magazine will be largely letters, something like my London letters, only these will be Westminster notes. Mr. Sprigge and I have brought over several bundles of papers for the Chicago convention. They were prepared by our ablest literary man and jurist, and bear for the most part on the copyright discussion. They include papers on 'Literature and Journalism,' 'Domestic Copyright,' 'Relation of the Author to the Publisher,' 'Future of Poetry,' 'Realism in Fiction,' and one by Sir Henry Bergne on 'An International Copyright.'"

THE NICARAGUA CANAL.

Some valuable testimony in regard to the cost of the Nicaragua Canal is supplied by Mr. C. P. Treat, of Chicago, who built the ten-mile stretch of railroad in Nicaragua which is to be used in the construction of the canal. He is reported in an interview as saying that the whole work can be easily accomplished, with skilful and honest management, for less than $100,000,000. In building his little railroad, which runs through an unhealthy looking swamp, he employed about one thousand Jamaica negroes, who worked in water from knee deep to neck deep, but only two of the lot died. Such workmen cost about half as much as labour in Chicago, and do about half as much work. The trade winds blow right along the route of the canal and carry away all malaria. Insects, he says are no more annoying than mosquitoes in New Jersey, and no trouble at all in the daytime. He thinks the whole canal could be completed in five years.

ARCH DUKE FRANZ FERDINAND OF AUSTRIA.

Telegraphic intelligence from Nagasaki under date the 2nd inst. received by the *Asahi Shimbun*, states that Vice-Admiral Ito, Commander-in-Chief of the Japanese Standing Squadron, Governor Omori, of Nagasaki, Captain Kurooka, Mr. Yamanouchi, Secretary of the Imperial Household, and Lieutenant Muraki visited the *Kaiserin Elisabeth* soon after her arrival in Nagasaki, and congratulated his Imperial Highness upon his safe arrival in Japan. The Austrian man-of-war saluted the Japanese flag with thirty-one guns and this was returned by the Japanese battleship then in Nagasaki harbour. She also fired a salute of twenty-one guns in honour of the Arch-duke. Another message from Nagasaki stated that the captains of eight Japanese war-vessels, accompanied by Vice-Admiral Ito, had audience with His Highness on the 3rd inst. at 9 a.m. on board his ship. It is stated that the distinguished guest was to leave on the 4th inst. at 6 a.m. for Kumamoto in the *Fayeyama Kan*.

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A Kobe telegram announces that the Prince is expected to arrive there on the 8th inst.

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A telegram from Hiroshima says that the Archduke of Austria will visit Miyajima in Aki Province on the 6th inst.

COUNT YAMAGATA AND ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS.

The President of the Council's audience with the Emperor on the 1st instant has suggested rumours of a more or less disquieting nature. It is stated, for instance, that Count Yamagata, being dissatisfied with the scheme of reform elaborated by the Administrave reforms Investigation Committee, laid his grounds of dis-

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appproval before His Majesty on that occasion. Those who credit this rumour are confident that, when the contemplated reforms are carried out, Count Yamagata will resign the Presidency of the Privy Council. His principal point of dissatisfaction is said to relate to some changes proposed in the Army. There may be an element of truth in the report that the Count is not altogether pleased with certain features of the proposed reforms, but we are informed on good authority that his audience with the Emperor on the 1st instant had nothing to do with that subject, his object having been simply to tender thanks for the gracious enquiries which His Majesty had condescended to make during the Countess's recent illness.

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As to the administrative reforms, it is believed that some minor questions relating to amendments of official organization are now under the consideration of the Legislative Bureau, but that these points will be settled by the time of the Minister President's return from his tour of inspection. It will, therefore, be some time in September, or early in October at the latest before the reforms can be promulgated.

DEATH OF VISCOUNTESS ENOMOTO.

VISCOUNTESS ENOMOTO expired on the 2nd inst. at 5 p.m. at the early age of 42. The deceased lady had been ailing for a long time, and since last November her illness began to cause serious anxiety. For herself it is a relief to escape from such persistent suffering, but she leaves a host of mourning friends, few ladies in Tokyo having been more universally esteemed. The sad event occurred at Viscount Enomoto's private residence No. 142, Susaki-machi, Tokyo, Honjo, Mukojima, whence the funeral will take place on the 5th instant at 7 a.m., the cortége proceeding to the temple Kichijo-ji, in Kichijo-machi, Komagome. The announcement of the funeral is supplemented by a notice that friends are requested not to send flowers, and as this is understood to be the genuine wish of Viscount Enomoto, it will doubtless be respected, though with much reluctance.

INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION IN TASMANIA.

THE people of Tasmania have resolved to organize an international exhibition. It will be opened on November 15th, 1894, and will continue open for 6 months. A charge is to be made for space at the rate of 2s. per square foot, with a minimum of £2.10s., space in the main avenues being charged extra. The following is the prospectus :—

It has been decided to hold an International Exhibition in Hobart during the Summer of 1894-95, and the Government of Tasmania has been pleased to grant their Official Patronage to the undertaking.

The proposal has been taken up by the people of Tasmania and the adjacent Colonies with such general approval that the necessary capital has been most readily subscribed.

The City of Hobart is most favourably situated. The Colony of Tasmania has a population of 150,000, and with the neighbouring Colonies the total population numbers about 4,000 000 inhabitants. Launceston and other centres are within a few hours rail. The Australian Colonies are easy of access by steam, and the tourists' route to all places of interest radiate from Hobart.

The objects of the Exhibition are :—To promote and foster Industry, Science, and Art, by inciting the inventive genius of our people to a further improvement in Arts and Manufactures, as well as to stimulate commercial enterprise by inviting all nations to exhibit their products, both in the raw and finished state. Samples of the products for which this and the other Australasian Colonies have become famous will be exhibited with a view to increase the development of their natural resources.

Similar and more varied exhibits may be expected from Great Britain, the Continent of Europe, America, India, Canada, the Cape, and other Colonies, to which the Government of Tasmania have forwarded an official invitation to grant their substantial support to the undertaking.

A Fine Art Section will form an important and attractive department of the Exhibition. For the accommodation of the Art Treasures and Historical Objects a special block of the building will be reserved, and the most ample precautions will be taken for the security of valuable property lent for the purposes of the Exhibition.

Two Sections, viz., the Women's Industrial and the Artisan Section, will be particular features. Special arrangements will be made for the management of these.

The site which has been granted by the Government for the exhibition Buildings covers about eleven acres. It is one of exceptional beauty and convenience, being that portion of the Queen's Domain adjoining the Battery and the Central Railway Station.

The buildings which it is proposed to erect will be constructed according to plans prepared by competent architects. The ornamental flower plots, shrubberies, fountains, etc., will be enclosed in the Exhibition Grounds, where musical promenades and other entertainments will be provided for the enjoyment of visitors.

The situation of the Exhibition Buildings is specially convenient of access for Exhibitors by means of lines of rail, which can be made use of day or night for the passage of railway trucks. Heavy goods can be delivered at a minimum cost and with the least possible amount of risk. In addition to this the Port of Hobart offers a cheap and ready means for the receiving and delivery of all sea-borne goods.

It is intended to afford full postal, telephonic, telegraphic, and banking facilities within the Exhibition Buildings, so that all necessary business may be conducted by Exhibitors and others without leaving the premises.

The whole arrangements are in the hands of a powerful Directorate, and everything will be done to facilitate the work of Exhibitors, and minimise their outlay.

SILVER.

A MOST interesting *exposé* of the Report of Lord Herschell's Committee is contained in the speech recently delivered by the Viceroy of India on the Currency Bill. In re-producing portions of the speech we may add an expression of suprise that the true nature of the Herschell Committee's recommendation does not yet seem to be recognized. The Committee has, in effect, frankly adopted a bimetallic platform, and has, moreover, based its measure upon precisely the considerations that bimetallists are persistently urging. To produce a stable relation between silver and gold is the prime purpose of the Committee's advice, and will be, so far as India is concerned, the inevitable result of accepting that advice. The Government is to receive all its dues in gold at 1s. 4d. to the Rupee, and will buy as much gold as people please to sell at that rate. If the Rupee be worth less than sixteen pence in the open market, then it will pay all sterling debtors of the Government to discharge their obligations at that rate. If, on the other hand, the Rupee rises above sixteen pence in the market, then it will pay holders of gold to exchange it for Rupees at that rate. Thus we have a factor tending to raise the sterling price of the Rupee to sixteen pence, and a factor tending to prevent it from going above that point. In brief, a ratio has been fixed between silver and gold, and the two metals are to circulate freely side by side in India. There is, of course, the nominal condition that the Mints are closed to the free coinage of silver. But the Mints are not closed to silver nor is silver demonetized so long as the Government pays out silver at a fixed rate for gold, and so long as the silver thus paid out remains legal tender. Lord Herschell's Committee and Her Majesty's Government have got about as close to bimetallism in India as they could get without adopting it pure and simple. Here are the extracts of which we speak :—

We are in this position, that the proposal, which we had laid before Her Majesty's Government a year ago, is now accepted not only by them but by that Committee of experts for whose verdict we have been waiting so impatiently during the last few months. When the composition of that Committee is considered, when we remember how many different schools of economic science were represented upon it, when we recollect how confidently it was predicted, even up to the last moment, that its members could not possibly agree in their conclusions, the fact that they have found it possible to sign with practical unanimity the report which will be published in to-day's *Gazette*, shows, I cannot help thinking, conclusively, how strong our case was, and gives to the recommendations of the Committee weight and force which may be described without exaggeration as overwhelming. I feel, therefore, that I should be merely wasting the time of the Council without contributing anything to the information which will shortly be accessible to the public, if I were to attempt to add to that which will be found within the limits of Lord Herschell's report. I will, therefore merely venture to call the attention of those who will read that remarkable state document to one or two of the conclusions which it has established. And here let me in the name of the Government of India, and I hope I may say, in the name of the people of this country, express our obligation to Lord Herschell and to his colleagues for the patience and thoroughness with which they investigated this intricate problem, and for the thoughtfulness with which they have taken into consideration all the different aspects of a question in which so many interests and classes are concerned.

The report of the Committee will, in the first place, I think, render it no longer possible for any one to tell us, as we have sometimes been told, that this currency question was merely a grievance of the Indian Services, or that the Government of India were interested in it only because we desired to extricate ourselves from the embarrassment occasioned by the instability of our finances. The report of the Committee has once and for all shown that far wider issues than these are involved, issues affecting not merely certain interests and certain classes of the community, but every interest and every class throughout the Indian Empire. Upon the question of the effects of fluctuations in exchange upon the commerce of India the Committee speak with no uncertain voice. They report that there seems to be a common agreement amongst those who differ in their views upon almost all other points, that trade is "seriously harassed" by these fluctuations; and after a careful examination of the argument adduced in support of this view they express their opinion that "it cannot be doubted that it would be well if commerce were free from the inconveniences of fluctuation which arise from a change in the relation between the standard of value in India and in the countries with which her commerce is transacted" And with regard to the deterrent effect of these fluctuations upon the investment of capital in India they observe "that there can be no doubt that the uncertainty as to the interest which would be received for investments, and as to the diminution which invested capital might suffer if it were desired to re-transfer it to this country, tends to check British investments in India." That is precisely the view which has been again and again urged with great ability by the Association over which our honourable colleague, Mr. Mackay, has presided, and which has done such excellent service in familiarising the country with the details of the currency question. It is the view which, as I have on more than one occasion publicly said, has always seemed to me indisputably sound; and it is satisfactory to find that this view is unreservedly accepted by Lord Herschell and his distinguished colleagues.

In another passage of the report, the Committee mention that the evidence before them points to the conclusion that during recent years the silver price of Indian produce has risen, and they add that, "if, as experience shows, wages respond more slowly to the alteration in value of the standard, this rise in the price of produce must have been prejudicial to the wage-earning classes." They sum up this part of the case in these remarkable words :—"The above facts give reasons for believing that the recent fall in silver, coupled with an open mint, has led India to import and coin more silver than she needs; and the worst of the evil it is that is a growing one. Every unnecessary ounce of silver which has been, or is being, imported into India is a loss to India so long as silver is depreciating in gold value, for it is *ex hypothesi* not needed for present use, and it can be parted with only at a sacrifice. So far as open mints attract unnecessary silver to India, they are inflicting a loss upon the people of the country and benefiting silver-producing countries at the cost of India." While these are the effects which have been produced by the fluctuations in the rate of exchange up to the present time, the Committee leaves us in no doubt that the evils which we have hitherto experienced may be as nothing compared with those still in store for us if we are content to allow matters to drift. The report dwells upon the large purchases of silver made by the Government of the United States under the Bland and Sherman Acts, and upon the fact that in spite of these purchases the price of silver has fallen to its present low level. They go on to express their opinion that even if no change were to be made in the currency arrangements of the United States, experience of the past would forbid the conclusion that the price of silver would be stationary at its present level. It would, they say, under these circum-

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stances, be imprudent to act on the assumption that no further fall is possible, or even probable. It is, however, as we are all aware, a matter of notoriety that the early repeal of the Sherman Act is possible. The Committee dwell upon the heavy further fall which would certainly follow upon the repeal of the Act. They express their opinion that such a fall would not necessarily diminish the production of silver, and that under such circumstances, it cannot be regarded as otherwise than within the reasonable bounds of possibility that the repeal of the Sherman Act might lead to a fall in the price of silver of even 6d. per ounce, or more, and that there might be no substantial reaction from the level thus reached." "It may," the Commissioners think, "be said with practical certainty that such a fall would reduce exchange to about a shilling per rupee and would involve the necessity of raising at least Rx. 26,612,000 more than would be required by the Government of India to effect, even at the rate of exchange of 1s. 3d. per rupee, the remittance of the amount drawn last year, namely, £16,530,000 sterling; while the payment of £19,370,000 sterling, which is the present estimate of the drawings for 1893-94, would at 1s. 3d. per rupee require Rx. 30,992,000, and at 1s. 0d. per rupee Rx. 38 740,000, involving an increase of Rx. 7,748,000." These are not the gloomy vaticinations of harassed and querulous Indian officials, but the deliberately expressed anticipations of such men as Mr. Leonard Courtney, so well known as the Chairman of Committees of the British House of Commons, and a recent convert to bimetallism; Sir Thomas Farrer, for many years the distinguished Secretary of the Board of Trade, and an eminent political economist and free-trader: and Sir Reginald Welby the Secretary of the Treasury, and an official of exceptional experience, who had, moreover, previously been a member of the Committee which, in 1878, issued a unanimous report against another proposal founded upon the closing of the Indian mints to the free coinage of silver. With these prospects before them, the Committee find themselves face to face with that dilemma to which reference was made in the discussion upon the Financial Statement at Calcutta in March of the present year. It is recognised that the Government of India have to choose between a change in their currency arrangements and the imposition of increased taxation, which if the figures which I have just cited are to be taken as a guide might be of the most formidable and onerous character.

My hon. financial colleague has explained to the Council the precise nature of the proposals of the Committee—proposals which we have thought it our duty to accept,—and wherein they differ from those which we had ourselves submitted to the Secretary of State. The scheme of the committee may be described as being not so much an alternative to our own as a modification of it. It is our scheme with the addition of safeguards and precautions which appear to us to be wisely conceived. The feature which both schemes have in common is the essential feature of both. Both are based on the closing of the mints to free comage, with the object of eventually introducing a gold standard into India upon terms as equitable as can be devised in the interests of all concerned, and with a minimum of disturbance to the business of the country. I may say, too, that both schemes have for their main object the prevention of a further fall in the value of coined silver, rather than the enhancement of its value greatly beyond the present level. The difference between the Government of India and the Committee may be said to lie mainly in this, that the Committee have given more prominence than we had given to this aspect of the case. The keynote, so to speak, of the report is to be found in the opinion recorded in paragraph 135, to the effect that "to close the mints for the purpose of raising the value of the rupee is open to much more serious objection than to do so for the purpose of preventing a further fall." It is, then, mainly with the latter object that the Committee advocated putting a stop to the free comage of silver. That is a view which will, I cannot help thinking, be generally accepted as a just and reasonable one. The step recommended by the Committee will not produce any violent disturbance of values. It will, to use the words of Sir Thomas Farrer and Sir R. Welby, "not materially alter the present relations between debtor and creditor; but, on the contrary, will prevent those relations being altered in future by a further fall." It has also this further advantage, that it provides an automatic means whereby it will be possible to prevent the closing of the mints leading to sudden and violent disturbance in the rate of exchange. I refer of course to the provision that any person may hereafter bring gold to the mints and obtain for it rupees at the rate of 1s. 4d. per rupee, and that gold may be tendered in payment of Government dues at the same rate, which is equal to one sovereign for Rs. 15. I need scarcely explain that the effect of this will be that, should exchange show a tendency to rise in the open market beyond the rate originally fixed, should it, for example, rise to a ratio giving, let us say, 1s. 4½d. as the equivalent of a rupee, or something less than Rs. 15 for the sovereign, it will at once become advantageous to bring gold to the mint and exchange it at the full rate of one sovereign for Rs. 15. In this manner, by a self acting process, a rise beyond the level which has been provisionally indicated will be rendered impossible, so long as that limit remains in force. These precautions will I hope, go far to allay the apprehensions of those who mistrust the idea of any attempt by the Government to increase artificially the value of the currency. Upon the other hand, the provisional ratio which the Committee have recommended and which may, should circumstances hereafter require it, be raised, is sufficiently high to afford the Government of India immediate and substantial relief from their most pressing difficulties. Had the ratio been fixed lower in the first instance, I do not see how it would have been possible for us to avoid adding to the taxation of the Empire.

I would venture to ask those who take exception to the enhancement of the gold value of the rupee from the rates prevalent lately to 1s. 4d., upon the ground that such a fluctuation involves a disturbance of the markets, whether this small fluctuation is comparable in its importance with those to which we have had to submit during the last few years, and to which, if we were to leave matters alone, we should no doubt still be exposed.

I will only add, for the benefit of those who may not have leisure to study the report, that there should be no mistake as to the following points. First, although we propose to introduce a gold standard, no attempt is to be made to get rid of the silver currency to which the people of this country have been so long accustomed. The experience of other countries, as to which the report has much to say (and there is no part of it which is better worth reading) has, the Committee tell us, shown that it has been found possible by the adoption of different systems to maintain a gold standard and a substantial parity of exchange with the gold using countries of the world without a gold circulation, without a large stock of gold currency, and even with a silver currency not legally convertible into gold. The Committee admit, with the fairness which characterises their report, that in no one of the countries of which they have cited the example, has silver been so largely and so exclusively used as in India, and there can be no doubt that, as Sir Thomas Farrer and Sir Reginald Welby have put it in their separate report, the effect of this measure will be to give us a token currency of an paralleled magnitude. The Committee sum up this part of the case by the very reasonable observation that although the cases of Scandinavia, Holland, Canada, the Dutch East Indies, and the countries of the Latin Union are not in all respects applicable as precedents to the case of India, the experience derived from the currencies of those countries is not without value, as bearing on the questions which we have to consider. In the second place, it will be observed that at present no attempt will be made to fix a legal tender price for gold. In this respect also the proposals of Lord Herschell's Committee differ from ours, for reasons which have been explained by the hon. financial member. Thirdly, it will be seen that the ratio recommended by the Committee is fixed provisionally and not permanently, and that the provisional ratio is well within the limits of recent variations. I might say more, but feel that I cannot add usefully to what has been already said, with an authority to which I cannot pretend, in the report of Committee.

I will make one other observation only. It is true that our responsibility in this matter has been, as I said at first, to some extent diminished by the fact that the measure before the Council has not only our support but that of Her Majesty's Government, and that of the members of Lord Herschell's Committee; but we do feel nevertheless very deeply the gravity of the step which we are about to take. For myself I may say that I hold very strongly that all attempts to give a fictitious value by legislation to money or commodities are, upon principle, to be deprecated. The less Government has to do with such enterprises the more we can trust to the ordinary influences of demand and supply, and to the open traffic of the markets, and the better for all concerned. But a time may come when inaction is no longer possible and when the Government would be unworthy of the name of Government if it were to stand aside and leave things to take care of themselves. We believe that such a time has come in India. We believe with Lord Herschell's Committee that a further fall in the gold value will have disastrous effects for this country if we were still to allow its mints to remain open for the receipt and comage of any quantity of the depreciated and discredited metal. We know that other countries have discarded that metal and have prospered, and we see no reason why we should be precluded from following their example. We have borne long enough with a state of things which is becoming more intolerable with every year that passes, and which in all human probability would have become more intolerable still. We feel that, holding these views, we should be culpable if we did not attempt to place the finances of India on a more stable basis. We admit the immense difficulty of the problem, and the uncertainties by which it is surrounded, and we offer this solution, not as one which is ideally perfect, but as the best which can be devised. We are hopeful that it will afford relief not to ourselves merely or to our employés but to the country as a whole. We are, however, far too well aware of the intricacy of the problem, and of the risks attending such an experiment as that which we are about to try, to take this momentous step with a light heart. In a case of this kind the most obvious economic and scientific laws do not always prevail. You may provide for all the known factors in your calculation only to find that there are others which you have overlooked or been unable to estimate. But in spite of these misgivings we earnestly hope that our proposals may be fruitful of good, that the commerce of India may be relieved from an impediment which has retarded its progress, that the Government of India may be enabled to meet its obligations without adding to the burdens of the taxpayer, and that capital will flow more freely into this country without the adventitious stimulus which we have hitherto been unable to refuse. We trust, finally, that in process of time sufficient reserves of gold may be accumulated to enable us to render our gold standard effective, and thereby to complete the great change towards which we are taking the first steps to-day. Time only can show whether all these hopes will be fulfilled or be disappointed. In the meanwhile, I earnestly trust that even those who regard this measure with the most suspicion or reluctance will give us credit for having had the courage of our opinions, and for having taken the only course which seemed to us likely to relieve this country of a burden which has, we believe, seriously affected its welfare in the past and which would, unless we had intervened, have still more seriously paralysed her energies and retarded her advance in the future.

SWATOW.

MR. W. H. WILKINSON, in his report of the trade of Swatow for 1892, referring to the fact that towels were the only article of cotton goods to show an increase in the import table, having risen from 6,150 dozens in 1890 to 9,184 dozens in 1891 and 12,576 dozens in 1892, says:—"Only in towels has there been any improvement." This, by the way, does not argue any increased attention paid to cleanliness, for the towels are, as a rule, used for clothing. The breadth of the ordinary towel being that from shoulder to shoulder, two towels sewn together will make a coat. Sleeves are dispensed with, and except for the armholes, there is absolutely no waste of material. To waste material is exceedingly distasteful to a Chinaman, and the size of his native piece-goods and the fashion of his clothes work together to avoid such waste. Our manufacturers no doubt bear this frugal tendency of Chinese fashion in mind, but they themselves are bound round by economic laws apparently no less rigid. A loom designed to turn out cloth of the narrow Chinese breadths requires as much attention as a loom that will give you cloth twice as wide. Could not the cloth be woven so as to be subsequently divisible down its centre; in other words, could not two pieces of Chinese breadth be simultaneously produced from the same loom? So far the remonstrances of importers have availed chiefly to effect the length of the piece. If a piece of 30 yards will make exactly 12 Chinese garments, it is clear that a piece a few inches less will produce only 11 similar garments, leaving a comparatively useless remnant. Importers, then, who know their customers, have urged that the piece, though it cannot be woven to a given inch, should always exceed the expected length—never fall short of it. For this reason a brand in which, owing to the cutting out of flaws, broken pieces were not uncommon

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in the bales, would speedily become unpopular On the other hand, as Chinese garments sit loosely to the figure, and can be transferred from one person to another without any noticeable misfit, would it not be possible for our manufacturers to turn out goods of the exact size needed for coats, gowns, and the amorphous pantaloons? Might not these crude garments be produced entire, and so imported into China?"

* * *

What is involved in an attempt to introduce water-works into China may be gathered from the following extract from the same report:—"The town of Swatow, which is built on reclaimed land, has no proper water supply, drinking water being brought to it by boats The Taotai (a cousin of the late Marquis Tsêng) accordingly pursuaded some of the principal native merchants to endeavour to establish a system of water-works on the foreign model. The same British engineer was consulted, and recommended that water should be conveyed to Swatow in pipes from a point some 5 miles up the Ch'ao-chow River. The scheme was approved, all details arranged—at a considerable cost—and a company formed with a capital of 150,000 dol. Unfortunately here again the villagers intervened. It was not so much that they entertained the objection, commonly imputed to their countrymen, against filtered, and therefore flavourless, water; nor, perhaps, were they really influenced by the outcry, raised by the local geomancers, against barbarian innovations, such as pumping engines and filter-beds. The real difficulty appears to have lain in the fact that the pipes would have to traverse portions of 13 parishes, and that the headmen of each parish demanded compensation on an altogether unreasonable scale."

LAW-STUDENTS COMPLAINT.

On the ground that 3 years study is insufficient for acquiring a through legal equipment, the course was some time ago, extended by one year in the College of Law. This change was at that time objected to by the students, who contended that it was unreasonable to make the lengthened course compulsory in the case of those who had entered the College on the supposition that the terms would aggregate only 3 years. Their objection, however, proved fruitless, and the matter was dropped. Only for a time, however, as now appears. The complaints, are loudly renewed, says the *Kokkai*, and there is talk of the students having decided to re-open the agitation so soon as the next term begins. The chief point in their contention is that, in consequence of the comparative brevity of the hours devoted to lecturing by Professors Tomii, Hozumi, Ume, and Hijikata, who may be considered the main pillars of the College, and in consequence of the frequency of their non-attendance, the subjects alloted to them are often not concluded at the expiration of each term. The Professors, however, pretexting undue brevity of the total period, extended it by one year, whereas a little more zeal on the part of the Professors themselves is alone needed. Another contention is that in consequence of Professors Tomii, Hozumi, and Ume being appointed members of the Codes Investigation Committee, a function which makes large demands on their attention, their hours at the College are to be reduced still more from the next term, and the vacancies thus caused are to be filled by unexperienced lecturers. The students consider this their greatest misfortune, and claim that, so long as the above Professors occupy chairs in the College of Law, they should devote themselves entirely to their college duties, and not subject the students to the inconvenience of having the courses of lectures left half-finished.

* * *

These law students are not behind the times. They seem to know their own minds and to be resolved that others shall know them also. Gradually Japan is coming under the domination of the student class. Before long we shall apparently witness the spectacle of an empire ruled by boys, the old folks humbly occupying back seats, experience being wholly discounted, and youthful impetuosity alone receiving recognition. Of course, in the particular case referred to above, there is something to be said for the lads. It may be quite true that the attendance of the Professors is irregular and that if they devoted more time to the duty of instruction, the curriculum might be compressed into the space of three years. But however that may be, Japan can claim the novelty of being the first country in history where affairs of this kind are settled directly by the students. Is it possible to imagine that such a state of things is correct and that no inconvenient results are to be expected? Will these bumptious lads be content themselves to take a back seat when their children commence student life, and to hand over to their boys the control of educational affairs? The times are certainly somewhat out of joint. Cicero defined the three highest qualities in a youth to be modesty, dutiful conduct towards parents, and affection for kindred. His standard finds little observance in the Japan of to-day

CELEBRITIES IN THE POTTERY INDUSTRY.

The *Nichi Nichi* has the following: Mr. Kato Sukesaburo, widely known for his earnest endeavours to improve the pottery industry, is said to have selected the following persons as the 10 most celebrated men in this industry, classified according to their respective merits:—

	Tokyo.	Osaka.	Kyoto.
Noted for popularity	Shimada Shobei.	Tanaka Yasubei.	Yoshioka Kichibei
Noted for experience	Kato Toyemon.	Konishi Rihei.	Takahashi Dohachi.
Noted for economy	Kato Ishimatsu.	Matsumoto Masuzo.	Taniguchi Chojiro
Noted for shrewdness	Mayeda Umesaburo.	Asai Takegoro.	Nishida Iisuke.
Noted for diligence.	Furuda Tetsusaburo.	Kato Hokokichi.	Nakarawa Kametaro.
Noted for sincerity	Obo Usuke.	Yamashita Yesuke.	Shimizu Rokubei.
Noted for ability	Kawamoto Rideo.	Yamauchi Naojiro.	Kiyokawa Yohei.
Noted for large mindedness	Takizawa Masakichi.	Yokoyama Masakichi.	Hashimoto Tasukichi.
Noted for social qualities	Koyanagi Kyuzo.	Murakami Nihei.	Kinkozan Shobei.
Noted for frugality	Saito Toyojiro.	Inada Masakichi	Yasuda Genichi.

THE ARCHDUKE OF AUSTRIA.

His Imperial Highness the Archduke Ferdinand will reside, while in Tokyo, at the Hama Detached Palace, which has been fully prepared for the reception of himself and his suite. The well known Mitsui family, hearing of the Archduke's affection for animals and birds, have applied to the authorities for permission to show to His Imperial Highness while in Kyoto the caged birds kept at their residence by hundreds. It is also reported that the Mitsui are to send to the enclosure of the Imperial Palace in Kyoto, where the Archduke sojourns, four Japanese cranes of greaty beauty. We may mention that the quodam *jinrikisha* drawer, Mukobata Jizaburo, widely known in connection with the Otsu incident, applied to be employed in the same capacity when the Archduke arrived, but this application was rejected and has elicited a good deal of derision from the vernacular press.

* * *

His Royal Highness left Nagasaki on the 4th inst. at 7 a.m. for Misumi in the *Fayeyama Kan*. Governor Matsudaira, of Kumamoto, and the Superintendent of the Prefectural Police have proceeded to Misumi to meet him. The Archduke was to arrive at Moji at 7.08 this morning (5th) by a Kyushu train, whence he will proceed to Shimonoseki by steamer. Mr Onoda, Chief Commissioner of the Police Bureau in the Home Office, and Governor Iwasaki, of Fukuoka, are waiting at the latter port to receive the Prince.

JAPANESE CAST AWAY IN FORMOSA.

In the British Consular trade report for Tainan (Formosa), 1892, Mr. Warren says:—"Towards the end of December, certain Japanese were wrecked near the South Cape. The aborigines into whose hands they fell took them to the lighthouse and handed them to the lightkeeper, who communicated with the I.M. Customs at Takow. A steam launch was sent down to bring them up and they were shipped off to the mainland. The manner in which these men were treated by the aborigines is in strong contrast to what took place in 1873, when in a similar case all the shipwrecked Loochoo Islanders who fell into the hands of the aborigines were murdered."

DISTURBANCE IN KAGOSHIMA

A telegraphic message from Kagoshima received by the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* states that serious disturbances were created by about seven or eight hundred *Minto* partisans at Konejimemura in Kimotsuki District on the 26th ult., and the residence of an anti-*Min-to* partisan was attacked. A party of six or seven police constables proceeded to the spot. They were unable to quiet the mob, lending but animation to the fight. Two constables and two rioters were severely wounded, while a great number of persons received slight injuries. Some twenty-five constables and the Public Procurator and District Magistrate have left for the district.

SAIGON.

Consul Tremlett, in his report on the trade of Saigon for 1892, gives the following figures with regard to the export of rice:—

The following table will show that the export of rice amounted to 9,085,700 piculs, equal to 540,815 tons, an increase upon the export of 1891 of 2,787 100 piculs, or 165 934 tons; the average price first cost in gunnies for "cargo" may be put at 1 dol. 88 c. per picul, equal to about 4*s* 6*d*. per cwt., which is high.—

	Quantity. Piculs.	Value. Currency. Dollars.	Value. Sterling. £
Cargo	6,950,999	9,500,000	1,330,000
White	1,684,885	4,000,000	567,000
Paddy	1,410 736	2,000,000	284,000
Total	9,085,700	25,500,000	3,201,000

A SUSPICIOUS FIND.

A few days ago while Detective Sergeant Green, of Hongkong, was making his usual search for firearms and explosives on board the Douglas steamer *Haitan*, which was to sail from Hongkong in the afternoon, he came upon a package which on being opened was found to contain over 200 pounds of dynamite and a quantity of fuses. None of the Chinese passengers would admit the ownership, and therefore no arrests were made. The dynamite, which had been placed in dangerous proximity to the boiler, was removed to the Central Station.

"HOW TO MANAGE A SHIP IN A TYPOON."

Under this title, Dr. Doberck, Director of the Hongkong Observatory, recently read a paper before the British Mercantile Marine Officer's Association. It evoked a lively discussion. The *Daily Press* learns that the paper will also be read at the Chicago Exhibition at the request of Professor Harrison, Director of the United States Weather Bureau and President of the Meteorological Section of the Exhibition.

SILK IMPORTS IN AMERICA

The following are the Imports of Raw Silk at the Ports of New York and the Pacific Coast June 1893:—

	Bales.	Lbs.	Value.
New York	302	62,519	$364 042
Pacific Coast	873	115,882	455.394
	1,175	178,401	$819.436
Import of Waste in the same period:—			
New York	63	22,000	$ 16,464

THE ELCHO SHIELD CONTEST.

A telegram dated London, July 15th says:—At the Bisley meeting of the National Rifle Association, the Elcho Challenge Shield was won by the English team, with 1,688 marks. The Irish team had 1,652 marks, the Scotch 1,649. The highest possible score is 1,800 marks.

FRANCE, ENGLAND, AND SIAM.

A telegram from Paris received in Tokyo on the 2nd inst. announces that the negotiations between the British Ambassador in Paris and the French Government have nearly reached a satisfactory conclusion.

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BISMARCK THE JEW-LOVER.

THERE is no more characteristic feature of latter-day journalism—which is nothing if not sensational—than what may be called the Political Revelation. It is almost impossible to take up a review or magazine of standing without finding in it an article, written of course by a generally anonymous "One Who Knows," purporting to embody some wonderful State secret, some new version of an important political crisis, or the so-called "truth," or "secret history," or "true inwardness," respecting the public policy of some prominent statesman, emperor, or diplomatist. One day we are regaled with the private thoughts of the CZAR; the next, we are introduced to the conscience of the POPE; a week hence we shall probably be told that the Chicago Exhibition was designed for no other purpose than to convert the world to bimetallism, or that Mr. GLADSTONE'S Home Rule Bill was really drafted in cöoperation with Lord SALISBURY for purposes too jesuitical to be imagined. There seems, indeed, no end to the theories put forward by the political *gobemouche*; and as long as the appetite for such dainties lasts, we may be sure there will be no falling off in the supply.

The last revelation of this sort is made by Mr. ARNOLD WHITE, in the *Newbery House Magazine*, and it is to the effect that the one man of European standing who is the greatest, though most secret, friend the Jews ever had, is Prince BISMARCK. It is provincial to be surprised at anything now-a-days, so we need not be surprised at this. Of course, the "One Who Knows" in the present instance is not Mr. ARNOLD WHITE; it is "a continental statesman" who wishes to preserve his *incognito* a profound secret—as continental statesmen always do, when they communicate revelations to the press. The continental statesman may possibly be Prince BISMARCK himself; but whoever it is, the story is ingenious enough. BISMARCK, it is said, desired to play the part of a second MOSES, and in order to compel the Jews to make a new Exodus he found it necessary to cause them the most horrible discomfort where they were. The historical parallel, it will be noticed, is here not quite exact. MOSES the FIRST found his Jews uncomfortable enough as it was, and had no need to make them more so. But then in the present case MOSES was Prime Minister to PHARAOH, and his policy was therefore necessarily shaped on different lines. Having united Germany, BISMARCK wished to unite the Jews; "to re-incarnate in one body," says Mr. WHITE, "the scattered remnants of the Jewish nation, so that they might form a new state, though not in the Promised Land. To the Jews themselves was to be left the choice of the land where BISMARCK could realise his idea." A nation, however, cannot be born in a day, even with BISMARCK as *accoucheur*. The Empress FREDERIC and the present EMPEROR upset his plans. But it must be admitted that the project was magnificent—magnificent, that is, in its audacity and its scope. A Conference of Expulsion was projected, to which all European Powers were expected to send their representatives, and these were the proposals to be submitted to it:—

1. In all countries represented at this Conference, the settlement of adherents to the Jewish faith is prohibited, and the several Powers represented and parties to this Statute of International Law bind themselves to expel the resident Israelite population within five years from the date of this Statute coming into force.

2. All Jews who shall have embraced the Christian faith within the period of one year previous to the meeting of this Conference are subject to the provisions laid down in Art. 1.

3. All property, both real and personal, not realised or removed by Jewish owners within the said limit of five years, shall revert to the exchequers of the countries represented at this Conference, and shall form a special fund to be devoted exclusively to charitable purposes. Nothing contained in this article shall, however, be so construed as to prevent full liberty being granted for the liquidation of their affairs and the realisation of their property by persons of the Jewish faith.

Prince BISMARCK, says Mr. ARNOLD WHITE, counted upon the prompt acceptance of these articles by all European countries except England. And really when we think of the violent Anti-Semitism which prevails in Russia, Germany, and France, it is impossible to deny that more unlikely things have happened. Mr. WHITE proceeds:—

What would have been the first result of the promulgation of the resolutions of the Conference? At first blush, the Jews would be struck with consternation, more especially the wealthy ones. Long ere the expiry of the five years' grace, they would have reconsidered their position, convoked a conference on their own account, and undertaken in their own persons the enigma propounded by the Jewish Sphinx.

Immediately the strength and the resources of the Jewish Communities were brought into focus under stress and storm, they would have awoke, for the first time since the fall of Rome, to a due sense of their irresistible power. They would have seen the dawn of the miracle of Jewish regeneration of which Isaiah prophesied and Napoleon dreamed. Owing nothing but hate to the barbarous statecraft of Europe, they would themselves have begun to lay the foundation of a National Jewish State. With the first conditions for success—distinctive race, splendid traditions, adequate wealth, forceful character, and supreme brain power—they would be richly endowed. And as soon as the logic of facts brought home to them the need for vigorous action, they would have addressed themselves to their great task. A Provisional Government would have been organised and entrusted by the people of Israel with the duty of finding a new Fatherland.

Nor would the task entrusted to the Jewish statesmen have been beyond their powers. The land once acquired, the rest would follow. The rich would bring their wealth, the poor their labour. Faculties and talents of every grade would find adequate scope. Religion and race would have welded together a people disunited only by language. All the conditions of success would have been at the disposal of the new State.

So that the arch-persecutor would have suddenly appeared in the transfiguring light of arch-deliverer—the nineteenth-century fulfiller of all those grand prophecies which have been the mainstay of the Hebrew race through centuries of anguish and oppression. Here, indeed, we have a glimpse of the wheels within wheels of modern political intrigue. PHARAOH is MOSES in disguise; the outward foe is really the GOD-appointed friend. It only wants a touch more to complete the dramatic unity. A few years ago a political novelist assured us that the CZAR was the Head Centre of the Nihilists. Surely somebody will now undertake to prove that BISMARCK is himself a Jew!

UNHAPPY HORSES.

FREQUENTLY, in our editorial and correspondence columns alike, allusion has been made to the cruelty shown towards horses in Japan. We are well aware that things used to be at least as bad in the West before the law stepped in vigorously, and, above all, before private societies were organized for the prevention of cruelty to animals. This, in truth, is a matter that must necessarily depend in great measure upon the earnestness and ability of private effort. The State may make laws, as every civilized State ought, imposing severe penalties upon perpetrators of wanton cruelty to dumb creatures, but it is entirely out of the question that the State should provide efficient machinery for the enforcement of such laws. That would entail the services of an army of officials greater than any country could reasonably be expected to support for such a purpose. Prior to the organization of societies for the prevention of cruelty to animals—societies that employ agents to watch for instances of cruelty and to prosecute their perpetrators when detected either by the agents themselves or by any member of the society—the laws of Great Britain were comparatively helpless to prevent the practice of shocking atrocities even in the streets of the metropolis itself. It has been our constant hope that this subject would be taken up by members of the Diet in Japan, and that not only laws would be enacted, but also societies would be organized to give effect to their provisions. Nothing is done, however. Things remain as they always were, and we are reluctantly obliged to confess that we see little chance of a better era being inaugurated. The necessity is an outgrowth of modern conditions in Japan. The pack-horse that transported loads for the farmer and the merchant, the bullock that drew the noble's car and the carrier's cart, were never, and are not now, subjected to ill-treatment. It is since the miserable vehicles called *hako-basha* came into vogue, and since the custom of hiring saddle-horses was imported from the West, that the unhappy animals employed for these purposes are exposed to shocking cruelty. We have often spoken of the sufferings of the *hako-basha* animals, and there is no occasion to repeat the story now. Possibly Japanese legislators may recognise ere long that the altered conditions of transport and travelling in this country call for the enactment of some new laws to obviate cruelty of a harrowing and disgraceful character. Meanwhile, we desire to make an appeal

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to foreigners in the good cause. Many of us, having no choice between travelling on foot or riding in so-called "carriages" drawn by horses in the last stage of emaciation with great bleeding sores upon their shoulders into which the collar presses with the pain of searing iron, have most reluctantly been compelled to indirectly countenance the barbarity. That was unavoidable. To have remonstrated would have been merely to provoke unintelligent surprise or even rude ridicule. To have refused to adopt such a means of conveyance would have produced no effect, seeing that the abstention of a few foreigners must have been powerless so long as Japanese custom was not withdrawn. But there are cases in which foreign interference may be exercised with telling force. At Nikko, for example, saddle horses are kept in considerable numbers for the use of tourists, and are not a little employed either for the journey to Chiusenji and beyond, or for daily trips to celebrated spots in the neighbourhood of Nikko itself. At least nine out of every ten of these horses have their withers or back or flanks in such a condition of inflamed rawness that to carry a saddle must be excruciating agony. Scarcely any one thinks of having the saddle removed to examine a hired pony. But why not do so? If every foreigner sojourning or passing through Nikko resolutely declined to hire a pony with a sore on any part touched by the saddle or girths, ponies in that suffering condition would cease to be serviceable, and their owners would be forced to have the poor animals cured before offering them for use. Here is a case where foreigners certainly have it in their power to correct a revolting abuse. We cannot, perhaps, do much to remedy the general evil, but this particular phase of it lies strictly within the control of foreigners, and if they consent, while in Japan, to hire horses which they could not employ in Europe or America without exposing themselves to a criminal prosecution, they will be taking a course little creditable to Occidental civilization and certainly repugnant to their own feelings. We trust that this suggestion will enlist the sympathies of our readers in a cause that deserves their kindly co-operation.

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE RELIGIOUS PRESS.

The religious press for the month of July presents an unusually large number of thoughtful articles dealing with the great questions of religion and ethics. There have been, it is true, several assemblages both of Christians and of Buddhists, reports of whose proceedings are found in magazines for the month. But the most of these were noticed in the last Summary, and need not detain us here. The annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, noteworthy among other things because of the presence of Bishop Foster and the Rev. Dr. Leonard, who came from America to attend it, has already been reported fully in these columns. One other Conference, worthy of more than passing notice, is that of the Christian Endeavour Societies, whose first annual meeting was held at Kobe, on the 6th and 7th days of July. Mr. Harada Tasuka was chosen President of this Conference. Delegates to the number of about one hundred and twenty-five, besides members and friends from Kobe, were in attendance. The Christian Endeavour movement in this country is of recent origin and of rapid growth. Eight months ago there were but three such societies in Japan; while, at the Kobe Conference, thirty-six such societies were reported, with a membership of over eight hundred. An interesting circumstance is that this Conference met simultaneously with the World's Convention of such societies at Montreal. The *Kuristokyo Shimbun*, reporting and commenting upon these gatherings, remarks that they show the practical unity of Christian sects. Creeds, rituals, and church politics tend to division, but the Christian Endeavour movement binds all together in brotherly love.

* * *

One of the most interesting and perhaps profitable articles appearing this month, is that entitled "Religious Ideas of Children," by Togi Densnichiro in the *Shukyo* (Unitarian). Mr. Togi, once an officer in the Department of Education, now Superintendent of the Higher Common School in Akita, attempted to ascertain the religious ideas of children by practical experiment. He chose 118 pupils, 19 of whom were girls, from his students of the third and fourth class, whose average age was thirteen years and ten months. To these he propounded the following four questions:—(1.) What is *Kami*? (2.) What is *Hotoke*? (3.) What becomes of man after death? (4.) Is there a soul? If so what kind of a thing is it? It is easy to believe his statement that these questions, especially the third and fourth, awakened much serious thought on the part of the students. He tabulates their answers as follows:—To the first question, what is *Kami*? 82 boys and 15 girls replied: "By *Kami* is meant, our Imperial Ancestors and other benefactors reverenced by us." Six boys and three girls replied: "*Kami* is a spiritual Being outside of mankind;" to which one girl, a Roman Catholic, added, that "He is the Creator of the Universe." One boy said that "*Kami* means the *gohei*;" three boys replied that there is no *Kami*, while eight failed to give satisfactory replies. To the second question 55 boys and 16 girls replied, that "all deceased persons are *Hotoke*." Eleven boys and one girl replied, that by *Hotoke* they understood, Shaka, Amida, and other virtuous sages, who have influenced the spirits of men. Seventeen boys and one girl understood *Hotoke* to mean Buddhism; 7 boys attached the word to no reality; 4 thought it meant the soul of man, and 7 could make no reply. As to the third question, 25 believed that man's soul lives after death, 81 believed that death ends all, and 12 could not answer. Twenty-four boys and three girls declared, in answer to the fourth question, their belief in the existence of a soul, 5 of them basing their belief upon personal experiences; but 48 boys and 14 girls denied the existence of any soul. Twenty-five others believed in the existence of a soul, but not in its immortality.

* * *

We have given these statements somewhat at length, because of their significance. The author of the article says that his inquiries led him to two conclusions: (1) That more than two-thirds of the children had no real conception of a future life, and (2) that an equal number regard the worship of *Kami* and *Hotoke* as only social customs, those words not standing for a being having power to bestow rewards or punishments. If these conclusions are true, he continues, the moral future of their lives is far from hopeful. It is difficult for ordinary people to live good lives if unrestrained by any thought of God or the future life. I love these children, he says; they are now just at the proper age to receive impressions. If it is the outcome of our methods of education that it leads the millions of children in our schools to hold opinions adverse to religion, I fear for the result. In the same magazine is another article which might have been written, one can imagine, as a sort of answer to Mr Sogi's questions. The author, Mr. Minami, urges Christianity as the best safeguard against crime, calamity, and the fear of death. The Japanese ideals of life, he says, are the ancient heroes who lived justly, faced danger without fear, and died smiling. Such courage may be either that of determination or that of faith. This second, he says is the true Christian ideal. A man may be brave and yet lack all the high sentiments and finer feelings which ennoble life. Christian faith which rests upon the thought of a loving God, and Christian love, which awakens the nobler feelings of the heart, lie at the root of the highest courage as well as of the fullest life. Another article in the *Shukyo*, by Mr. Saji, traces the teachings of Confucius back to their origin. He regards Confucianism, not as an original system, but as a summarizing of more ancient views.

* * *

The "Meanness of Materialism" is the title of an article in the *Fukuin Shimpo* (Presbyterian). The author, who signs the production "T. T.," (probably Mr. Tanaka Tatsu, one of the editorial writers of this magazine), has made the current number one of unusual value by this and two other articles. By the "Meanness of Materialism" he means the poverty of that view of life which has in it no place for religion. A man may be rich and noble, or he may be poor and despised; but the real value of his life depends upon the presence of high ideals. To regard wealth, rank, pleasure, as the end of life is to make man's whole being the slave of his body. Even industry, uninspired by a noble purpose, does not make life worthy. Piety and benevolence are the end of life. Let all earthly interests be baptized with religion and all things become good. Another article by the same author and in the same magazine, deals with the statistics of Buddhism in Japan. Some of the figures given seem of sufficient importance to reproduce here. Thus, the number of temples under the several sects of the Buddhists in the years 1880 and 1890 are stated as follows:—

Sect.	1880.	1890.
Shin shu	19,236	19,142
Sodo-shu	14,281	14,077
Shingon-shu	12,893	13,065
Jodo shu	8,333	8,301
Rinzai shu	6,178	6,152
Nichiren-shu	4,986	5,064
Tendai-shu	4,772	4,809
Obaku-shu	553	603
Ji-shu	522	515
Nembutsu-shu	363	357
Hossō shu (not yet organized)		48
Kegon-shu (not yet organized)		21
Totals	72,117	72,154

* * *

Commenting on these figures, the author observes, first, that they show Buddhism to be still a great power in Japan; but, secondly, upon a closer examination it appears that in ten years the number of temples was increased by only thirty-seven. This is not progress; it is standing still. Is Japanese Buddhism preparing to follow the lead of Egypt and China, vast civilizations which first stopped growing and then rapidly decayed? Seventy thousand temples seem a large number when compared with Christian churches and members. Still there is one Christian to every two temples. Let Buddhists beware; if they are careless their destiny may be sad. In still another article the same author speaks of the different ways in which Buddhism is studied. Some approach it from the philosophical, some from the historical, some from the literary and some from the practical standpoint—these last hoping from such study to gain light upon the present problems of Japan. Thus it seems, he says, that this study is prompted by curiosity, rather than by a sincere desire for the truth. As mankind is not perfect, there are many unsolved mysteries in the Bible and in life. We should study Buddhism, not from idle curiosity but from a desire to gain its light upon those mysteries. The *Hantei Zasshi* (Buddhist), referring to the study of Buddhism by Christians, also believes that such study is prompted by curiosity and bodes no good to that

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religion. The *Dento* also says that the interest in Buddhism shown in Europe and America is rather in the great problems of which it treats, than in Buddhism as a religion. The *Bukkyo Koron*, however, is inclined to think that Buddhism is making great progress in Christian lands. Thus in an article entitled "Buddhism in America," this magazine quotes from American newspapers, sentences which seem to sustain its position. For example, the *Boston Record* says that there are several Buddhist in Boston, especially among the most highly educated classes. The *New York Journal* says that it has become common for people in that city to call themselves Buddhists, hundreds having done so. The *New York Advertiser* is quoted as saying, that "It is the most interesting and curious fact of modern times, that the religion of the oldest nations is getting a firm footing in this new country." In the same article in the *Bukkyo Koron* are also quotations from five other American newspapers which it construes favourably to its position.

* * *

One of the ablest presentations of the better side of the non-Christian religions of Japan, which has appeared in the religious press of this country for a long time, is in the current number of the *Bukkyo*. It was contributed by Mr. Hirai Riokwa, in English, to the *Arena* of Boston, Mass., and from that magazine it was translated into Japanese, for the *Bukkyo*, by Noguchi Fukudo. Many foreign observers, says Mr. Hirai, err in their reports of religion as well of as other things in Japan. Foreigners find it difficult to understand, how the Japanese can be worshippers in both Buddhist and Shinto temples and at the same time admirers of the religion of Jesus. In these temples, the Japanese, he says, do not worship in the Christian sense of that word. In Shinto temples, they say, "*Harame tamai, Kiyome tamai,*" which means, "Purify my mind." In these temples are no idols and no other objects save the *gohei* and the mirror. The *gohei*, a stick bearing bits of white paper, is the emblem of truth. The mirror signifies that as we arrange our dress before the glass so should we make our minds clean and orderly before the sacred mirror. The Japanese wood *Kami*, usually translated "God," really contains no suggestion of idolatry. It comes from the verb *Kangami*, to inspect. Perhaps Shinto originated in ancestor worship; but if so, that phase has disappeared and ethical ideas have come instead. We establish Shinto temples in honour of eminent benefactors of society and bestow upon them the names of those whom we would honour, just as Christians build schools and churches as memorials of their great men. Turning next to Buddhism, our author states that while that religion came to Japan by way of China and Korea, it took on a distinctly Japanese character in this country. Our twelve sects of Buddhists, he says, differ only in externals, while they agree in fundamental ideas. In some temples are images and in some there are none; but where present they are not worshipped, in the sense in which Christians worship their God. By *Amida Butsu* is meant the infinite and eternal. *Hotoke* means (1) Truth; (2) Human consciousness of truth; (3) Whatever is or has the ability to become self-conscious. We call the historic Buddha *hotoke*; but so are all men, for all may conceive the whole truth. So are all animals *hotoke*, since they have the elements of that knowledge, and all plants and even all inanimate things, for all are ruled by the same universal law. The image of Amida, he continues, is the symbol of this infinite truth. To those who can conceive that truth without a symbol such an image may seem needless. But most human beings are unable to arrange complex ideas without symbols. Thus, the mathematician and the chemist constantly use signs to convey their ideas. Do protestant Christians claim to have no such images in their worship? I have heard a minister, says Mr. Hirai, say that when prayer is offered God comes to the worshipper, to the very street and house where he is praying. If God can thus come to a place where he was not before, and in doing so leaves the locality where he was, then is He a bring of limits, having bodily parts. To such a faith God appears as an image, an idol. In some Buddhist temples, he continues, there are no idols; but in them are written the words *Tenka Taihei, Kotei Bansai*, "Peace to this land, long life to the Emperor." Such temples are found especially among those of the Zen-shu. In some temples of the Nichiren sect are written the words *Namu myohorengekyo*, "The Scripture of the Lotus." Thus are the Japanese, he argues, not to be regarded as idolators; they are seekers after truth, and care little for distinctions between sects. They are favourable to all; and had the early Christian missionaries refrained from meddling with the affairs of the state, Christianity might now have been one of the favourite religions of Japan.

* * *

The trial and condemnation of Dr. Briggs by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America has called out various comments from the religious press of Japan. Thus the *Inochi* (Presbyterian) justifies that action, in an article entitled "The Suppression of Heresy in America." It will be good, this magazine says, both for Dr. Briggs and for the church. The whole Universe is one great Theological School in which each one may study. Let every man arrive at his own conclusions; if these are different from those of his church, let that church expel him, and let him then go to such another body as shall make him a congenial home. Another Presbyterian magazine, the *Fukuin Shimpo*, says that before the Assembly was called the fate of Dr. Briggs was settled. After the election of the Chairman it became even more evident that Dr. Briggs would be condemned. For that officer was a known opponent of the defendant, and was so bitter in his feelings that he left the chair in order to vote against him and so secure his condemnation by a larger majority. The majority of the delegates, says the *Fukuin Shimpo*, were obstinate, blindly following the lead of others while having no clear opinions of their own. We are grieved, continues this magazine, to see Dr. Briggs treated thus like a malefactor, killed, not mercifully, but, as it were, by a dull sword. The *Kuristokyo Shimbun*, writing of "The American Presbyterian Church after the General Assembly" says, in substance: Conservatism has gained a victory; Dr. Briggs has been banished; creed revision has been defeated. But on all sides rise cries of disapproval. Dr. Ecob, a leading minister in that church, declares his intention of withdrawing from it. Dr. Briggs, in an article in the *New York Evangelist*, advises his friends to remain in the church and hope for better days. The Union Theological Seminary refuses to expel Dr. Briggs from its faculty, and so places itself in open defiance of the Presbyterian body. In the *Fukuin Shimpo*, from which we have already quoted, is another article which may have been suggested by this trial for heresy. It is a defence of religious sects. Abraham, says this article, left his people to form a church separate unto God. So did Moses lead forth the Jews from Egypt. The Jews were not conformed to any of the peoples to whom they were subject, the Egyptians, the Babylonians, or the Greeks, but forever remained apart, a peculiar sect. Christianity, descending directly from the Jewish church, partakes of its spirit in this regard. It is not a pale, lifeless mass, like the moon; it is active, aggressive. Regret not the sects and parties in Christianity. Declare the differences clearly and boldly. Presbyterians, Congregationalists, and Episcopalians separate from each other and subdivide within their own bodies; yet this is all as it should be, Japanese Christians are too anxious to secure some outward harmony. The presence of sects is the best security for soundness of belief.

* * *

The *Shinri* (German Evangelical) appears each month filled with articles of so great thoughtfulness as to make it, in the opinion of many, one of the ablest publications in Japan. That it receives so few notices in the Monthly Summary is due to the fact that those articles are frequently contributed by foreigners; and our purpose is to review only the writings of Japanese. In the current number of the *Shinri*, however, is an earnest and able article on the well-worn subject of "Science and Religion," by Mr. Maruyama Michikasu. Science he says, leaves us at last to an algebraic X; but the heart of man wishes to know what that X may be. Religion alone can give us an answer to that. Laplace could not find God with his telescope. No; and the chemist cannot find the beauty of the flower in his crucible. Religion can not construct railways or machinery; but are the prayers of Jesus on the Cross, and of Monica for her son Augustine, less potent for good than are the mechanical contrivances of the world? Mr. Maruyama further points out that the contention that science and philosophy rest on secure and known premises while religion rest only on faith, is incorrect. Who ever saw an atom, or space, or energy? Yet upon these do the sciences build. Philosophy, likewise, assumes what it can not prove, man's ability to know things as they are, which is simply an act of faith in the unity of things and thought. Mathematics, the most accurate of all the sciences, proceeds, not on the method of induction, but by deduction, basing itself upon stupendous assumptions—faith in the correctness of its own axioms. In the same magazine is an article on "Commerce and Christianity," by Mr. Minami, and another, also by Mr. Minami, on the "Difficult Passages in the Gospels." A writer in the *Inochi* (Presbyterian), on "Rational and Irrational Beliefs," also has a word to say regarding the claim of science to have a foundation securer than that of religion. Even the axioms of Geometry, he argues, are contradicted by experience. Thus, science teaches that a straight line may be extended at each end infinitly. But it is not true, he says; the two ends of such a line will finally meet. There is no such thing in the universe as a straight line. The infinitely positive at last becomes the infinitely negative. If you do not understand this, he continues, study science for two or three years and you will. Meanwhile, consider the proposition that two parralel lines may be infinitely extended and never touch. This also he says, will I discuss in the next number.

* * *

Of widely different character is an article by Mr. Togawa Antaku in the *Fukuin Shimpo* on "The Religion of To-day." That religion, he says, must, first, be manly. This is a democratic age. Family, rank, symbols of honour are less prized; individual worth is more and more important. That religion must, secondly, be friendly. The democratic spirit teaches us to regard each man as a brother. That religion must, in the third place, be pious. Some regard this as an age of scepticism. No, it is an age of inquiry, of seeking for some present manifestation of God. Ancient testimony of God's presence among men is doubted. Let God appear among the men of to-day. The age of miracles is past. Let the Divine Presence appear in the lives and characters of His children. More than eloquent preaching, the times demand Christ-like living. Grant this, and the presence of God on earth will not be questioned. In much the same strain Mr. Yabe Shinsaku writes in *Shukyo* an article entitled "What is Civilization?" In the latter part of this article (which is to be continued next month), he says that we should learn a lesson from the fall of Rome, which perished, in spite of its great Civilization, because of the lack of noble men. Conquest brought wealth; wealth induced idleness, and idleness led to crime, weakness, and ruin. Similarly, a writer in *Shinko no Tomo* (Episcopal), writing on "Christianity and Japanese morals," pleads for more real religion as the one great need of his country. In all external things, and in intellectual progress, the Japan of to-day is widely different from that of thirty years ago. But because so much attention has been given to such matters, materialism has flourished and spiritual interests have suffered. Religiously, Japan is yet in the Revolution. The people, he declares, are becoming less sincere, and are wanting in fidelity. Japanese society has reached the acme of non-belief and irreligion.

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Let us beware lest there be before us some such convulsion as the French Revolution, or such a ruin as that which overtook Egypt and Greece, for those catastrophes grew out of irreligion.

* * *

In view of such ideas, the actual state of religion in Japan becomes a matter of much importance. Mr. Murata Isatomu, writing in *Kiristokyo Shimbun*, takes a very pessimistic view of the relation of professing Christians to their churches. He fears that Christians are neglecting their churches; and that, in consequence, they are becoming lax in their moral habits. Church attendance, he says, is not the end of Christianity, but it is a most important means to moral culture. Nor are temperance, sabbath observance, and other moral duties the essence of Christianity. None the less, without these that essence, which is found in righteousness, faiths and love, can hardly exist. The *Seikyo Shimpo* reports that at the meetings held at the Greek Cathedral during one week the attendance was 3,991 of which number 1,218 were women. That church seems, therefore, not to suffer from lack of attendance. Hopeful reports are also given in the *Fukuin-no-Tsukai* of the work of the Evangelical Association. The interesting work Mr. Batchelor among the Ainus is also reported, in *Shinko-no-Tomo*, as being in a flourishing condition. There are now three schools, one hospital, and thirty church members among the Ainus. Mr. Batchelor has been assisted for the last two years by Mr. Nettleship, who is located at Hakodate. Altogether, whether we judge from statistics or from the vigour and ability of the religious press, the religious bodies in Japan may be pronounced to be, on the whole, in a satisfactory condition

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

THE KATSUOJI TROUBLE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—The little breeze about which I wrote you on the 15th inst. seems now to have blown over. One missionary went down to Osaka and was advised unofficially not to agitate himself, although he had twice been given notice by his landlord to move; another missionary went down to the Ibaraki Police Station to beg for mercy, one sojourner is now back after over a week's absence, nearly 30 *yen* poorer, having found it vain to seek for coolness within the limits of a twenty days' passport from the Osaka Fu. Another is coming soon from Arima, which is said to be warmer and more worldly, to seek seclusion amidst the shades of these sacred groves. The milk-man now comes regularly, the wash man no longer fears to make his regular collections, the coolies bring up provisions from the plains below, the servants no longer tremble and stand still to hear the clanking of the policeman's sword. His white suit and winning ways have not brightened our eyes for lo! now these three days! What may happen when he comes up again we know not, but up to date there has been no violent earthquake, and the sound of Christian hymns by day and the distant throbbing of drums and the wailing chants of Buddhist priests by night, awake the slumbering echoes among the hills now as they have every summer for years past. One monastery which has every summer been the temporary domicile of foreigners for five or six years has now had every room numbered, and we hear has been regularly registered as a hotel. It is conjectured that the police were really whipping the house-owners over the foreigners' backs in an attempt to make the said owners register their houses as inns. Whether that be so or not, the policeman's statement was that where as the foreigners held only travelling passports they must "move on" and "not stay too long." If it is in the power of a local policeman to limit the exact number of days, hours, and minutes that a foreigner shall remain for his summer vacation in any one place, the sooner this fact is well known and exactly defined the better. I am sorry that I wrote so badly that you called this place Hatsuoji, it is really Katsuoji 勝尾寺, and thereby hangs a tale that I would fain unfold in a future letter.

Yours, etc., 神和
Katsuoji, July 26th, 1893

"STRICT INCOGNITO"

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I notice the following in your yesterday's issue:—

"His Imperial Highness the Archduke Franz Ferdinand von Oesterreich Este, Crown Prince of Austria-Hungary, arrived at Hongkong on the morning of the 21st inst. by the *Kaiserin Elisabeth*, which anchored about 10 o'clock near to the *Victor Emanuel*. A series of salutes was at once fired. At half past one Governor Sir William Robinson called on His Imperial Highness. The distinguished visitor, who is travelling strictly *incognito*," etc., etc.

Will you permit one of the most ignorant of your readers to enquire what is the technical and official meaning of the term *incognito*? Here we have a Prince whose every movement is officially planned and heralded, who travels in a government war-vessel, is greeted with salvoes of artillery and waited on by Governors, who distributes decorations and is entertained publicly wherever he goes, whom delegates from the Imperial Japanese Household Department have gone to Nagasaki to receive, and who is to be lodged in an Imperial Palace and received by the Japanese Emperor in the manner due to the rank of the heir to the Austrian Crown, and yet he travels—*incognito*? What then is *cognito* if this be *incognito*? Or has the word *incognito*, like those pillow-words of Japanese poetry with which Mr. Chamberlain has made us acquainted, *no meaning at all*? Is it only a series of sounds useful to fill up space in newspapers and in conversations at times when original subject-matter is scanty?

Yours, &c., IGNORAMUS.
August 1st, 1893.

LANGFELDT AND CO., LIMITED.

The fifth semi-annual meeting of Shareholders of Langfeldt and Co., Limited, was held in the rooms of the Chamber of Commerce on Monday afternoon. Mr. O Keil, presided. There were also present Messrs. J. Feicke (secretary), A. T. Watson, M. Kaufmann, E Batavus, J. F. Lowder, H. Grauert, Ed. Berger, and A. Egli.

The CHAIRMAN said that this was the fifth half-yearly meeting of Shareholders of the Company, and they were called together for the purpose of receiving the report of their Directors for the past half-year. Before calling upon some shareholder present to move the adoption of the accounts, as set before them, he would like to say a few words about their business. He might, indeed, repeat exactly the same words which he addressed to them at their last half-yearly meeting, for the reason that their business was not larger than it was could be attributed to the same cause as he told them of then, that was the exchange. The directors, as a result, could not launch out into the business they had gone in for during the first half of 1893, simply because they dared not risk losing their shareholders' profits, and possibly the shareholders' money as well. Until the conundrum of the silver question was solved, their directors dare not launch forth into further business. He asked shareholders to bear with their directors in this matter, and reminded the meeting that the Board had to bear the brunt of the anxiety the whole year through, whereas shareholders only received reports about twice a year. It was not satisfactory to him as a shareholder and a director any more than to them as shareholders that they had only four per cent. to divide as dividend. He should have liked it to have been 6, 7, or 8 per cent., but the times were against that. Their directors had endeavoured to reduce the expenses as much as possible, and they had succeeded to a certain extent, but he would again remind the shareholders that although they curtailed their business operations they could not curtail their expenses much. Still the accounts showed that the expenses for the last half year were $560 lower than the previous half, and 800 dollars lower than in the corresponding half of 1892. That was all he had to say to them that day, but in conclusion he would again remind them that they could not reduce their staff any further—they must not underman it—while they could not under-pay their employés if they expected to be properly served by them.

Mr. BERGER proposed and Mr. KAUFMANN seconded the adoption of the following report and accounts.

REPORT.

The Statement of Assets and Liabilities, and the Profit and Loss Account for the half year ended the 30th June, 1893, accompany this Report

The Net Profit for the half-year, including balance brought forward from the 31st December, 1892, and after providing for General Expenses, Auditor's fees, Interest, Depreciation and Losses, amounts to ..... $ 5,123.95

which it is proposed to apply as follows:—

In payment of a Dividend of 4 per cent for the half year	$ 4,000.00
Balance to be carried to new account ..	$ 1,123.95
	$ 5,123.95

Mr. Thos. S. Baker having left Yokohama the Directors have appointed Mr. A. Barron as Auditor.

According to Article 85 of the Articles of Association the Amount of the Directors' Fees for the half-year ended June 30th, 1893, and for the year ending June 30th, 1894, will have to be settled at this meeting.

O. KEIL, } Directors.
J. F. LOWDER, }

Yokohama, July 22nd, 1893.

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES ON JUNE 30TH, 1893

ASSETS

Stock of Merchandise, Ship Chandlery, and Coal ..	$ 109,883.89
Plant, Fixtures, and Furniture	5,300.00
Cash in hand	3,019.84
Fire Insurance Policies	584.66
Kobe Branch	15,232.16
Sundry Debtors	21,362.87
	$155,883.10

LIABILITIES.

Capital 1,000 Shares @ $100	$100,000.00
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	20,851.14
Sundry Local Creditors	8,756.54
Bill payable (to Bank	18,556.49
	$148,164.17
Balance, Profit	5,123.95
	$153,288.12

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT—JUNE 30TH, 1893.

DR.

To General Expenses		$ 7,532.59
To Rent		2,384.40
To Fire Insurance		580.00
To Interest		2,305.04
To Depreciation of Plant, Fixtures, &c.		347.00
To Bad Debtors written off		565.13
To Auditor's Fees		150.00
To Balance, available for division to be dealt with as follows:—	$5,123.95	
Dividend at the rate of 4 % for half-year	$4,000.00	
Carried forward to new Account	$1,123.95	$5,123.95
		$ 26,708.37

CR.

Jan. 1.	By Balance	$ 232.30
June 30.	By Gross Profit on trade	26,474.08
	By Share transfer fees	2.00
		$26,708.37
1893. July 1.	By Balance	1,123.95

E. & O. E

Yokohama, June 30th, 1893.

O. KEIL, } Directors.
J. F. LOWDER, }

J. FEICKE, Secretary.

I have examined the foregoing accounts and compared them with the vouchers of the Company, and certify them to be correct.

A. BARRON, Auditor.

Yokohama, July 20th, 1893.

The CHAIRMAN said the next business before the meeting was to fix the directors' fees from January, 1893, until July, 1893. They had not been quite clear upon this point, so had obtained legal advice upon the matter, and they were told that it was usual to settle the directors' fees in advance, instead of, as they had previously done, at the end of the period. It was owing to this slight mistake on their part that the present meeting was called upon settle the amount of the fees for the past half-year and also for the year that was to come

Mr. BERGER thought that such a matter, according to their rules and regulations, should be settled at the January meeting—that was the first meeting of the year. This meeting had no objection to settling the amount of the fees, but he thought that as their Rules contained no rules authorising them to settle these fees at any time, that the January meeting was the proper time for doing so.

The CHAIRMAN said that he had explained that through some mistake the fees had previously been settled after the work was done, but now they wished to rectify it, and thus this meeting was asked to settle the matter for the year to come.

Mr. BERGER said that only one meeting had been held in the first year of the Company's existence, and he understood that the first meeting in the January of the next year was looked upon as their first meeting, according to their rules. Accordingly the matter should be settled at the beginning of the year, *i.e.* in January.

The CHAIRMAN—I suppose it doesn't make much difference?

Mr. BERGER—Oh! no difference at all.

The CHAIRMAN—Well, gentlemen, it rests with you what is to be done; how much is to be given the directors for their work?

Mr. GRAUERT asked what amount the directors had been voted before.

The CHAIRMAN—So far, it has been $500.

Mr. GRAUERT—Don't you think that is too much?

The CHAIRMAN—Well, really, as I am one of the directors it is difficult to answer. (Laughter.)

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Mr. GRAUERT said, comparing the amount received by directors in other companies—the Grand Hotel directors', for instance, received $250 or $300—that $500 seemed a little bit too much. In his own opinion, considering the state of business, $500 was rather too much for their directors. But he was willing to leave the matter to be decided by other people. He could not say too much of the great services rendered by their Chairman to the company, they all knew how hard he worked for them; but he would propose that the directors receive for their services $200, with $300 for Mr. Keil. He proposed this, because he thought, seeing that they only divided $4,000 among the shareholders, that $500 was too much for the directors. His proposal was, that the directors' receive $200, while $300 should be given to Mr Keil as their managing director.

Mr KAUFMANN said he believed that the $500 was voted when good business was done, and he should, himself, be pleased to vote that that sum be paid again if the profits of the business justified. But directors' fees must be regulated according to the times. The resolution did not bind them for ever, and no doubt when business got better they would make another alteration.

The CHAIRMAN—These fees are of course regulated every year. Has any one seconded Mr. Grauert's proposition?

Mr. KAUFMANN—I will second it.

The CHAIRMAN—I think this matter should be settled in a different way. I admit that I am more or less the managing director of the company, and my co directors will admit that also, but I may not be managing director to-morrow. I say then, that the proposition should be altered by putting in directors and managing director alone and striking out my name altogether. The matter should not be personal at all. I might be sick to-morrow, and then Mr. Meyerdirks or Mr Lowder might be called upon to take up the managing directorship.

Mr. GRAUERT and Mr. KAUFMANN acquiesced.

The CHAIRMAN—Then the resolution is that the Directors' Fees from the 1st of January, 1893, to the 30th June, 1894, be fixed at $200 a year with an extra $300 for the managing director.

Mr. BERGER thought that the question of remunerating the managing director lay outside the provinces of the meeting. It was a matter to be determined by the directors themselves.

The CHAIRMAN—That was so until Mr. Langfeldt left. Then we stopped the practice of paying the managing director a salary. Mr. Langfeldt, as you are doubtless aware, was more than a director. He was on the premises from morning till night, and in fact was an employé of the company.

The resolution was then carried.

The CHAIRMAN—This concludes the business of the meeting. The dividends warrants are now ready, but if any gentlemen does not care to come for them to day, they will be sent out to-morrow.

Mr. GRAUERT, in proposing a vote of thanks to the chair, expressed the confidence which the shareholders felt in their Chairman, and their thanks for the energy which he threw into the business of his office. He hoped next year that he would be able to declare a larger dividend.

The CHAIRMAN—And so do I hope so.

The meeting then dispersed.

LETTER FROM LONDON.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT).

London, June 27th.

The loss of H.M.S *Victoria* which collided with the *Camperdown* while manœuvring off the coast of Syria, and went down with 360 men and officers, including the Commander-in-Chief, Admiral Tryon, has thrown a cloud over the whole country, and universal sympathy is felt for the widows, relatives, and friends of the gallant men who were thus prematurely cut off. The information at present to hand concerning the catastrophe is of the most meagre description, and it is consequently impossible to judge where the blame, if any, lay, but very strong opinions have been expressed by high authorities that such mishaps as this and the recent stranding of the *Howe* in Ferrol Harbour tend to show that there is something radically wrong either in our big ironclads or in their management. The Queen has shown how thoroughly she is in touch with the sorrows of her people; the State Ball which was to have been held on the night upon which the sad news was received in London was immediately postponed; Lady Tryon received a letter from Her Majesty expressing sincere sympathy in her bereavement; and the subscription list started by the Lord Mayor for the relief of the relatives who were dependent on the men who went down has been headed by the Queen with a donation of £200. Among the sympathetic telegrams which have reached the Admiralty from abroad are included messages from the German Emperor (who also telegraphed to Lady Tryon), the King of Italy, the Sultan, the French Minister of War, and the Secretary of State for the United States.

Since writing the above, further details of the catastrophe have come to hand, from which it appears that at the time of the accident the squadron was formed in to two lines, distant the one from the other about six cable lengths, each vessel maintaining a distance of two cable lengths from the next. The *Victoria* was leading the line nearest to the shore and the *Camperdown* the corresponding line, the squadron at this time being about seven miles off Tripoli. The order was given to form into single line, and while executing this manœuvre the *Camperdown* collided with the *Victoria*, striking her in the bows, with her ram, with tremendous force and crashing right into her centre. Vice-Admiral Sir George Tryon immediately turned the *Victoria's* head to the land with the object of endeavouring to run her ashore, and orders were given to bring on deck all the sick and all the prisoners, with the crew. The water, however, poured so rapidly in to the enormous breach made by the ram of the *Camperdown* that the prow of the *Victoria* soon began to settle down, and the Vice-Admiral seeing that the vessel was doomed ordered all who could to save themselves. Everyone then threw himself into the sea with the exception of Sir George Tryon who alone remained standing on the bridge, and remained there until the vessel went down, which it did about ten minutes after the collision in seventy fathoms of water, two tremendous explosions being heard as she disappeared. The loss of life is stated as follows: Vice-Admiral Sir George Tryon, 22 officers, and 337 men.

Although this account gives briefly the cause of the catastrophe it is as yet by no means clear why, in an ordinary and simple operation like that which is described, the *Camperdown* should have been unable to avoid running into the bow of the *Victoria*. The theory that the *Victoria* did not answer to her helm is one which seems to find favour with some naval authorities, and it is even hinted that this defect in her navigation was known to the late Admiral, and that on this account he never liked the vessel and indeed would shortly have changed his flag to the *Hood*. On the other hand, some instructions may have been misconstrued, but it is perhaps premature to discuss this question until we are in possession of further details. In connection with the sad affair the picture of the noble and self sacrificing Admiral, standing a solitary figure on the bridge of the great battleship as she went down in the quiet but deep waters off the Syrian coast will ever remain vivid in our minds,

"If you trust in God and yourself, you can surmount every obstacle. Do not yield to restless anxiety. One must not always be asking what may happen to one in life, but one must advance fearlessly and bravely." Such was the advice given by the Iron Warrior and Statesman, Prince Bismarck, to the boys of the Hamburg Wilhelm Gymnasium who came as a deputation to him the other day. In speaking of his love for music the Prince said, "I used to play formerly, but I was only a moderate hand at the piano, and was glad when I could throw it up, as it bored me to have to practise. Afterwards, I was extremely sorry I did give it up, for music is a faithful companion in life. I missed it at many a party, and I recommend all of you who have any talent for music to cultivate it, and take a warning from me so that you need not reproach yourselves with the mistake I have made." The ex-Chancellor is apparently more popular with the people of Germany than ever, and sanguine hopes are entertained that a reconciliation may be soon effected between him and the Emperor.

Intense excitement has been caused in Paris by the publication of documents alleged to have been stolen from the British Embassy. These papers purport to disclose an arrangement on the part of the British Government to bribe French statesmen to betray secrets of State, and what seems to have given colour to the supposition that they were authentic was the statement by the man, who declared he had stolen them, that he had been in the employ of the British Embassy. The most astonishing part of the affair is that, in spite of the documents confirming at a glance the conviction that they were both spurious and absolutely ridiculous, the French Government allowed extracts from these alleged stolen missives to be read in the Chamber of Deputies occupying over three hours. In the papers, such blunders as "Her B. M.'s Ambassy, Paris" are to be noticed. The word "thousand" is spelt over and over again with an "e" instead of an "a" and several other absurd mistakes, making it almost incredible that the imposter should have been for a moment credited. Now that the whole thing has turned out to be such a nonsensical fabrication, the French Press is very naturally severely censuring the action of the Government in pandering to such ignorant adventurers? A high authority asks, "what will be said in the foreign legations and in diplomatic circles throughout the whole world, of the indignity to which the Chamber has descended."

Mr. Henry Labouchere, the editor and proprietor of *Truth*, has had to pay £150 and costs in an action brought against him for libel by Sir William Worsley, Bart. The words complained of, which appeared in *Truth* in August of last year, stated that Sir W. Worsley, who was the patron of the living of Hovingham, had withdrawn his "august presence" and financial support from the church on account of the vicar having taken an active part in an election in the Radical interest, Sir William being a Tory. The defendant pleaded that he had published an apology and a correction to the effect that he found the fact to be that Sir William only withdrew a portion of his pecuniary support, and that he only partially withdrew his presence from the church, that was to say that he ceased to be a regular attendant at all services. After hearing the evidence of the plaintiff, a verdict was given by consent for the plaintiff with the damages mentioned.

The following little par. has been reproduced from the *New York Herald* and appears well worthy of its origin. An English gentleman was carried into the police station at New York unconscious and apparently intoxicated. The police were unable to arouse him to learn his name or any particulars about him. One of the police officers was, however, equal to the occasion. He hypnotised the unconscious gentleman, who immediately answered all the questions that were put to him. The patient told the policeman his name, birthplace, and age and relapsed into the stupor directly the officer relaxed his hypnotic power over him.

Two "strong men" know as Sampson and Hercules, lights of the London Music Hall stage, have just obtained £500 damages from Mr. George Newnes, M.P., the proprietor of *Tit Bits* for a libel concerning them appearing in that paper.

Miss Lottie Collins, who attained notoriety about a year ago by her song Tara-ra Boom-de-ay, has had to pay back some of the money she made during its run. The proprietor of the Royal Music Hall has been given £300 compensation on account of Lottie having broken her contract with him to sing at his Hall, whereby he maintained that he lost a small fortune; Lottie at the time fulfilling a more lucrative engagement in America. In Paris Lottie's pretty face and bewitching manner might have had a more beneficial effect upon the jury, but the average British jury is intensely matter-of fact and prosaic, and the damages are as heavy as they would have been against anyone else.

Some more record breaking has been achieved on the Herne Hill Track, London. W. C. Sanger, the one mile bicycle champion, made three records in one evening—having already done a flying quarter of a mile in 28 4-5 secs., he brought this down to 27 4-5 secs. He then covered a mile in 2 min. 10 1-5 secs, 2 2 5 secs under the previous best, lowering on the way the three-quarter time from 1 min 38 2 5 sec to 1 min 35 4-5 sec. All three are world's records.

LETTER FROM CHICAGO.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Chicago, July 8th.

Rev. W. E. Griffis, D.D., has accepted the call to the pastorate of the First Congregational Church of Ithaca, N.Y., and is now settled there.

Prof Edward S Morse, in the July *Atlantic Monthly*, answers the question:—"If Public Libraries, why not Public Museums?"

Miss Eliza R. Scidmore is to give four illustrated lectures on Japan and Korea this summer at Chautaugua. Her "Guide book to Alaska and the North west Coast," published in Appleton's series, is receiving very favourable criticism.

In the assembly hall of the Children's Building at the World's Fair a large number of children were entertained the other afternoon with a talk, illustrated with stereopticon, on "Japan" by Dr. Waterman, a Baptist clergyman, who visited Japan three years ago.

"Rev. J. B. Hail, of Japan," was the preacher last Sunday at the Third Cumberland Presbyterian Church in this city.

James Irving Crabbe, the lecturer on Japan, China, and Russia, is a Florida editor.

Two ladies, returning from a trip around the world, attracted considerable attention at the Welington Hotel the other day with "a cage of queer looking little dogs" [*chins?*] from Japan.

Mr. K. Sakuma, "paymaster in the Japanese navy," *en route* to England to get the *Yoshino*

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Kan, and several merchants who have exhibits at the Fair, arrived here a few days ago.

A genuine "Japanese Entertainment" was given last evening at the Hyde Park Presbyterian Church by Mr. and Mrs. Morimoto and other Japanese. It comprised picture painting, singing, playing on the *Shaku-hachi*, the *No* and sword dances, the *Cha no yu*, and a wedding. Mr. and Mrs. Morimoto will also participate next week in the Folk Love Congress Concert.

Lieutenant and Mrs. Peary and eleven others have again started for the Arctic Ocean in the hope of determining "the extent of the detached islands north of Greenland," and of reaching the North Pole.

In the Realization Race at New York City, July 1, Boundless, who won the Derby at Chicago, came in fifth only. The first place was taken by Sunbeam.

The cowboy race, performed in a manner satisfactory to the American Humane Association, was won by Joe Gillespie.

The annual boat race between Yale and Havard was gained by the former by five lengths; but the latter won the base-ball championship by defeating Yale with a score of 6 to 4.

Havard this year honoured Robert T. Lincoln and U.S. Attorney General Olney with LL.D., and D. H. Burnham, World's Fair Architect, with M.A., Chancellor W. S. Caplin, of Washington University, St. Louis, Mo., also received the degree of LL.D.

Yale also gave the degree of M.A. to Mr. Burnham, and to A. C. McClurg, of this city; and bestowed LL.D. upon U.S. Postmaster-General Bissell, and U.S. Circuit Judge Taft. Yale has received $3,000,000 the past year in bequests.

Not only Yale and Havard, but also the University of Michigan, sent out large classes. The latter institution honoured with M.A. ex-Solicitor General Aldrich and Solicitor-General Maxwell, both of whom are her own alumni.

Senator Stanford's will leaves the sum of $2,500,000 to the university at Palo Alto.

Miss Caroline Preston Davis, "excluded from the lectures" at the University of Virginia, nevertheless took successfully "the same examinations on the same day with the male students, but in a separate room," and has received "a certificate of attainment qualifying for graduation (in the School of Pure Mathematics)."

The Epworth League has been holding a convention in Cleveland, Ohio.

The Christian Endeavour Convention is now in session at Montreal. The opening prayer was by "Rev. F. B. Keene, of the Protestant Mission, Japan." A hearty welcome was extended by the Roman Catholic Mayor of Montreal. The convention went on record as opposed to Sunday opening of the Fair. Rev. Sumantrae Vishnu Karmarthe, of Bombay, yesterday morning made a speech in which he attacked Romanism, and naturally aroused the wrath of the French Catholics, so numerous in Montreal. It was at least discourteous.

The mention of Bombay reminds me that a mind reader named Seymour, in imitation of the Hindoos, is going to give a test of suspended animation in this city. He has made known the following plan:—My coffin has gone on ahead. It was made in Syracuse and is a fac simile of the one in which Gen. Grant's remains now lay. It cost $3,000. It is made in three sections, one fitting inside the other. I will be buried six feet deep in the coffin. Signals will be arranged, so that if things don't go right I can communicate with the soldiers on the outside who will guard the grave. Directly after I am buried a crop of barley will be sown over the grave. I will remain buried until the germs sprout, grow, ripen, and are harvested. Then the disinterment will take place. I will not come back to earth until Sept. 24.

A. J. Drexel, the Philadelphia banker, died of apoplexy at Carlsbad.

Justice Blatchford, of the U.S. Supreme Court, who has been sick for some little time, died yesterday at the age of 73. He was appointed by President Arthur in 1882, and as an Admiralty Judge ranked among the foremost.

President Cleveland is suffering with rheumatism in his knee and foot, and is taking a vacation at Buzzard's Bay. Alarming reports of his condition have been circulated the past few days by the newspapers, but were probably unfounded. Secretary of War Lamont has telegraphed to Secretary of State Gresham,—"There is no occasion for any uneasiness."

The President has not done much lately in the matter of doling out the spoils of office. He has appointed a few Consuls, among whom is J. Courtney Hixson, of Alabama, to Ningpo, China; and has made Scott Wike, ex M.C. from Illinois, an Assist. Secy of the Treasury, and J. F. Tillman, of Tennessee, Register of the Treasury. The office-seekers complain; the people "don't care."

The "Fourth of July" this Columbian year was especially "glorious" in many ways. The preceding day, called "Patriotic Sunday," was appropriately celebrated in Festival Hall at the World's Fair. Indians sang "America;" sailors laid a laurel wreath upon a pedestal inscribed "In Memoriam, H.M.S. *Victoria*;" Chaplain Bateman and Captain Campbell made addresses. "The Fourth" itself was a beautiful day; and excursion rates on the railroads brought crowds to the city. The streets, however, were practically deserted; but Jackson Park had a population of about 325,000. The buildings were decorated; exercises were held in several state buildings (Delaware had the dedication of the new Liberty Bell); the different nations on the Midway Plaisance had a special celebration; and in front of the Administration Building an immense audience cheered Paul Jones's flag, General Jackson's sword, and the speeches of Vice President Stevenson, Mayor Harrison, and other notables. Music of all kinds and magnificent fire works added to the enjoyment.

In the city there was an unusually large list of casualties. There were 115 fire alarms turned in; and four of them resulted each in the entire destruction of a building. Lately, in fact, there has been an epidemic of fires. Fish, Joseph and Co., in the old "Partridge" store, on State St., were burned out the other day with a loss of more than $200,000; and yesterday two World's Fair hotels were burned, when eight persons were injured, of whom four may die. The Chicago Post-office building, moreover, has been declared dangerous by the City Building Commissioner, and may go the way of Ford's Theatre in Washington.

Day before yesterday a cyclone swept over north western Iowa, and caused great devastation. The town of Pomeroy, with 900 inhabitants, was almost entirely destroyed; scores of persons were killed, and many more injured. The town of Fonda also suffered similarly.

The Duke of Veragua has returned to Spain only to find himself financially embarrassed. His property in so badly involved, that he may lose his ancestral palace, his stock farm, and his art gallery. President Palmer, of the National Commission, thinking it unfortunate that the descendant of Columbus should become bankrupt in the year of the Columbian festivities, is planning to raise a relief fund by popular subscription.

The distribution of corporation dividends July 1st; the advance payment of interest on certain forms of the public debt; and President Cleveland's call for an extra session of Congress, August 7th; all these things have caused a marked increase in confidence in money matters. The countermanding of old orders is less frequent; the purchases of goods are larger; and the general tone of business is improved a little. There seems to be no doubt that Congress will quickly repeal the Sherman Act.

Enthusiastic Britons duly celebrated the royal wedding in the Victoria Building at Jackson Park.

A model Sunday school building, in which services and exercises will be held daily, has been opened on Stony Island Avenue, in front of the Fair grounds.

The Japanese Palace (Hoodo) has been released from customs jurisdiction.

Imperial Commissioner Tejima was one of a party who recently made a visit to Niagara Falls.

The following letter with reference to the withdrawal of the Presbyterian exhibit from the Fair may be of interest:—

Liberal Arts Department, June 28, 1893.—The Rev. John P. Hale:—Your letter of July 29 was duly received. I have referred the subject thereof to the Director-General, and am advised by him that permission cannot be given by him for the removal of the exhibits of your society. The contract between the exhibitors and the Exposition is to the effect that, in accepting space assigned for any exhibit, the exhibitor agrees to conform to the rules and regulations in force at the time or which may be thereafter promulgated for the government of the Exposition. You will not be required to open your exhibit on the Sabbath, but permission cannot be given for its withdrawal.

SELIM H. PEABODY,
Chief of Liberal Arts Department.

The Spanish caravels arrived here yesterday, and met a warm reception (97° in the shade) with addresses by Senator Sherman and Secretary of the Navy Herbert.

And now comes Rev. F. G. Masters, D.D., Superintendent of the Presbyterian Chinese Mission work on the Pacific coast with head quarters at San Francisco, and destroys the *raison d'être* of the Columbian Exposition. His iconoclastic claim is this:—

About 493, or 1,000 years before Columbus discovered America, five Buddhist priests came from Chile to Mexico, being driven across the Pacific by the Japanese current. One of these priests, Hwui-shin, returned to China, and his trip to Mexico, called Fusang in his diary, is recorded in the 35th volume of the Imperial archives of the Chinese Empire. The first describes Fusang fully, and it applies remarkably close to the knowledge of Mexico given by Prescott and the historians of the Toltec and Aztec period. To corroborate this many of the customs of ancient Peruvians and Mexicans are similar to the customs of the Chinese and Japanese and there are striking phonetic resemblances in the languages. Ethnologists on the Pacific coast have also noted marked resemblance between the Chinese and the Indian tribes of British Colombia and Chinese coins hundreds of years old have recently been unearthed in British Columbia.

Dr. Masters goes to the World's Fair as the representative of the California Geographical Society. During a nine years' residence in China he made an exhaustive study of this interesting subject and has many strong arguments to support his theory.

This week has been the period of the World's Fair Congress of Music. Harmony, I suppose, pervaded, even between the different schools. Indian music was discussed theoretically in papers and practically depicted by playing and singing. "There's music in the air" to day, to-morrow comes the grand *finale*.

Advance information from our new city directory gives 540,000 names, or a population in excess of 2,100,000!!

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, July 27.

The French Minister and the French gunboats have left Bangkok, and nine war-vessels are mustering at the mouth of the Menam to enforce the blockade. Active negotiations are in progress between the Marquis of Dufferin and M. Develle in Paris.

London, July 28.

Negotiations continue between France and Siam and hopes are entertained of a peaceful settlement.

The sittings of the Court-martial in connection with the loss of H.M.S. *Victoria* have concluded, and the finding of the Court is that the collision was entirely due to the orders issued by Admiral Tryon.

London, August 1.

Siam having accepted the ultimatum and added the necessary guarantees, the French Government has telegraphed to Admiral Humann to raise the blockade forthwith.

["SPECIAL" TELEGRAM TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

Kobe, August 2.

The most extensive conflagration that has ever occurred in the foreign concession of Kobe broke out last night, the premises destroyed including Messrs. Mourilyan, Heimann's tea godown, the fire offices gutted, Dutronquoy's new hotel burned out, and a godown on Lot 32 destroyed.

A man named Horsley, while tallying cargo on board the *Empress of Japan*, was struck by the slings and knocked into the steamer's hold. When taken out and examined it was found that his skull was fractured. Death was almost immediate.

Nagasaki, August 2.

Her Majesty's ship *Leander*, whilst on the way to Bangkok from Yokohama, broke down through damage to the piston. She was under sail for four days, and reached this port last night for repairs.

7.52 p.m.

The Austrian Prince has arrived here.

Nagasaki, August 3.

Very disagreeable wet weather has set in here, greatly to the disappointment of the Prince and his party. It is reported that they will leave for Misumi to-morrow.

Her Majesty's ship *Leander* is expected to be ready to proceed in a few days.

Nagasaki, August 4.

At 6.45 a.m. to-day all the men-of-war in harbour dressed ship and fired a salute. At 7 o'clock the Archduke Franz Ferdinand and suite embarked on board the *Yoreyama Kan*, and at a quarter-past seven this vessel steamed out of harbour under a salute. The Archduke is bound to Misumi, and from thence will travel overland to Kobe. The *Kaiserin Elisabeth* leaves on Monday. Great disappointment has been caused to Japanese officials in consequence of the Archduke not landing at Nagasaki, after accepting the invitation of the Reception Committee. Every preparation had been made for a grand Japanese banquet, and the Reception Committee was kept waiting at the Hatoba for four hours.

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[SPECIALLY TELEGRAPHED TO THE "JAPAN DAILY MAIL."]
(FROM THE "N.-C. DAILY NEWS.")

London, July 22.

Sir Edward Grey, Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs, in reply to a question in the House of Commons, stated that Her Majesty's Government was unaware of the precise terms of the French ultimatum, and that Great Britain was only concerned in the territorial arrangements which might come before the Government to be decided.

The Marquis of Dufferin will return to Paris forthwith, and will have an amicable exchange of views with the French Foreign Office.

July, 26.

The President of the *Victoria-Camperdown* Court-Martial has informed Admiral Markham that his conduct may yet possibly be called in question.

France has officially notified foreign governments of the blockade at Bangkok.

The London papers in recent articles regard the reply of Siam to the French Government as dignified and adequate.

July 27.

Sir Edward Grey, in a speech in the House of Commons, said that the French blockade in Siam was doubtless an act of belligerency, but that Her Majesty's Government would continue to protect British life and property at Bangkok.

July 28.

The merchants in the City of London interested in the trade of Siam, have written to Lord Rosebery pointing out the dangers of the present situation, as the French demands threaten the integrity of Siam and the blockade of Bangkok is aimed at British trade.

July 29.

An unprecedented scene occurred in the House of Commons on the 27th, when Mr. Chamberlain, in the debate on the Premier's new financial clauses in the Home Rule Bill, compared Mr. Gladstone to Herod. The Irish members retorted that Mr. Chamberlain was Judas, and a tumult ensued, and in the scuffle which followed between Conservatives and Nationalists blows were freely exchanged.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the CHESS EDITOR.)

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No 80.

WHITE.	BLACK
1—P to K R 8 (Kt)	1—P to Q Kt 5
2—Kt to K B 7	2—K × P
3—Q to K R 4, mate	
	1—B to Q B 5 ch.
2—P × B	2—P × P
3—Q × P, mate.	

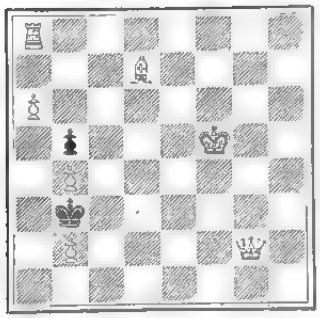
Correct answers from W.H.S., J.D., O.B., and J.W.E.

J.F.McE.—Your answer to Problem 80 does not "begin to be" a solution at all. How can White's P takes a Bishop in its rear and then Queen upon White's own Knight square?

PROBLEM No. 82.

BY MRS. W. J. BAIRD.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in three moves.

During the week, an old and highly respected member of the Yokohama Chess Club (Mr. C. H. Hinton) passed through this port, on his way to the United States; where he is taking up his residence at Princeton, New Jersey. He gave a specimen of his well-remembered skill, by playing a few games with *Omega* and O.B. to their mutual delight. We bid him "God-speed," and wish him all success in his new sphere: the Club here will not fail to "keep his memory green."

We give below a smart consultation game played some time ago in the Havana Club, which we think will interest our readers:—

EVANS GAMBIT.

WHITE. Tchigorin *et al.*	BLACK. Steinitz *et al.*
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to B 4	3—B to B 4
4—P to Q Kt 4	4—B takes P
5—P to B 3	5—B to R 4
6—Castles	6—Q to B 3
7—P to Q 4	7—K Kt to K 2
... ... Steinitz says Kt to R 3 is better.	
8—P to Q 5	8—Kt to Q sq.
9—Q to R 4	9 B to Kt 3
10—B to K Kt 5	10—Q to Q 3
11—Kt to R 3	11—P to Q B 3
12—Q R to Q sq.	12—Q to Kt sq.
... ... The Queen is forced to this out-of-the-way position. Black's state is exceedingly critical	
13—B takes Kt	13—K takes B
14—P to Q 6 ch.	14—K to B sq.
15—Q to Kt 4	
Much better than Kt takes P.	This move cripples the enemy's game completely.
	15 P to B 3
16—B to Kt 3	16—Kt to B 2
17—Kt to R 4	17—P to Kt 3
18—K to R sq.	
In order to follow with P to B 4.	
	18—B to Q sq.
19—P to K B 4	19—P takes P
20—B takes Kt	20—K takes B
21—P to K 5	
A very fine sacrifice combination, which gives the oppressed opponent his quietus	
	21—P takes P
22—R takes P ch.	22—K to Kt 2
... ...If P takes B P, 23—Q takes P wins in a few moves.	
23—Kt to B 5 ch.	23—P takes Kt
24—R takes P	24—R to Kt sq.
25—Q R to K B sq.	25—P to Kt 4
26—Q to Kt 4 ch.,	

and mates in three moves.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, Nagasaki and Kobe	per N. Y. K.	Friday, Aug. 11th
From America	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Aug. 8th *
From America	per O. & O. Co.	Saturday Aug. 19th.†
From Europe via Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd.	Wed'day, Aug. 9th
From Hongkong.	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Aug. 13th
From anada, &c	per C. P. M. Co.	Monday, Aug. 21st
From Hongkong	per C. P. M. Co.	Thursday, Aug 24th

* *Peru* left San Francisco on July 22nd. † *Oceanic* left San Francisco via Honolulu on August 1st. The English mail is on board the steamer *Iona*.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki	per N. Y. K.	Tuesday, Aug. 9th
For Europe, via Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd.	Friday, Aug. 11th
For Europe, via Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Aug. 13th
For America	per P. M. Co.	Friday, Aug 18th.
For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, Aug. 19th
For Victoria and Tacoma	per N. P. Co.	Saturday, Aug. 19th
For Hongkong	per C. P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Aug 22nd
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Saturday Aug. 26th

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS

Brodick Castle, British ship, 1,744, R. M. Furgerson, 28th July,—Nagasaki, Ballast.—Frazar & Co.

Esmeralda, British schooner, 120, Harrison, 29th July,—Guam, Copra.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Tsukuba Kan (8), Japanese corvette, Captain T. Kurooka, 29th July,—Yokosuka 29th July.

Monmouthshire, British steamer, 1,872, Cuming, 29th July,—London viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Belgic, British steamer, 2,690, Wm. H. Walker, 30th July,—San Francisco 13th July, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Nestor, British steamer, 1,263, Pottinger, 30th July,—Hongkong, Sugar.—Butterfield & Swire.

Keemun, British steamer, 1,985, Castle, 30th July, —London viâ ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Verona, British steamer, 1,878, C. H. S. Tocque, 30th July,—Hongkong 22nd, Nagasaki 26th, and Kobe 29th July, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 31st July,—Vancouver, B.C., 17th July, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Tacoma, British steamer, 1,661, J. R. Hill, 31st July,—Kobe 30th July, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Saint Hubert, British steamer, 1,962, McPherson, 1st August,—Batoum, Oil.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Archer (6), cruiser, Commander J. Rogers, 2nd August,—Shanghai.

Marion (7), U.S. corvette, Captain C. V. Gridley, 2nd May,—Kobe.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, 3rd August,—Hongkong viâ ports, 26th July, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Amagi Kan (8), Japanese corvette, Captain Nomura, 3rd August,—Yokosuka 3rd August.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, R. R. Searle, 3rd August,—Hongkong viâ ports, 27th July, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Yarra, French steamer, 2,126, de Mauberge, 4th August,—Marseilles 25th June, Hongkong 27th July, Shanghai 30th, and Kobe 3rd August, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Yokohama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,298, Swain, 4th August,—Shanghai and ports 29th July, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Plover (6), gunboat, Lieut. F. C. B. Addington, 5th August,—Hongkong.

DEPARTURES.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,695, W. G. Pearne, 29th July,—San Francisco viâ Honolulu, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Imperieuse (10), flagship, Captain J. M. McQuhae, 29th July,—Bangkok.

Leander (10), cruiser, Captain Castle, 29th July, —Bangkok.

Caroline (14), cruiser, Captain C. J. Norcock, 29th July,—Bangkok viâ ports.

Salazie, French steamer, 4,016, A. Paul, 30th July, —Shanghai viâ Kobe, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Port Albert, British steamer, 2,652, Bird, 30th July,—New York viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Priok, German steamer, 1,635, Madsen, 30th July,—Hamburg viâ ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Achilles, British steamer, 1,470, Bartlett, 31st July,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 31st July,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Tacoma, British steamer, 1,661, J. R. Hill, 31st July,—Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Belgic, British steamer, 2,695, Wm. H. Walker, 1st August,—Hongkong, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Nestor, British steamer, 1,263, Pottinger, 1st August,—Kobe, Sugar.—Butterfield & Swire.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, Conner, 1st August,—Shanghai viâ ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Keemun, British steamer, 1,985, Castle, 3rd August,—London viâ ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Spondilus, British steamer, 4,150, Hocken, 3rd August,—Havre viâ ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Lillian L. Robbins, British ship, 1,699, Robbins, 4th August,—New York viâ Kobe, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, C. W. Montserrat, 4th August,—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Amagi Kan (8), Japanese corvette, Captain Nomura, 5th August,—Yokosuka.

Verona, British steamer, 1,878, C. H. S. Tocque, 5th August,—Hongkong viâ Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Monmouthshire*, from Kobe—1 passenger in cabin.

Per British steamer *Belgic*, from San Francisco—Messrs. J. L. Mayers and R. S. Bradley in cabin.

Per British steamer *Verona*, from Hongkong viâ ports—Messrs. Brewis, Demont, Tack Loong, Morris Webster, Mr. and Mrs. Rogers, 2 children, and 2 native servants, Messrs. H. J. Neville, Yup Seng, and Croese in cabin; 4 Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, from Vancouver, B.C.—Rev. A. R. and Mrs. Alexander, Mr. and Mrs. Arbuthnot, Mr. W. L.

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Dayton, Miss Dayton, Mr. J. Edkins, Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Fall, Master Fall, Miss Fabian, Messrs. S. S. Gaikwad, Hockeridge, N. Horikoshi, S. Kabayama, J. Matsugata, Masujima, Captain Miller, Mrs. J. K. Moore, Dr. A. Nakagawa, Messrs. Ogawa, S. Okamoto, T. O. Richardson, Rosenbaum, C. Rouchen, and A. Tissandier in cabin; 6 passengers in European steerage, and 90 passengers in Asiatic steerage.

Per British steamer *Tacoma*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Messrs. J. Gittins and R. J. Kirby in cabin. For Tacoma, Wash.: Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Hayes and 2 children, and Captain Keene in cabin; 125 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. and Mrs S Komor, Mr. G. de Waundrick, Dr. Grant, Miss Stedman, Dr. Berry, Mrs. J. L. Scott, Miss Hughes, Mrs. and the Misses Coutts (2), Mr. and Mrs. Leonard, Mr Robinson, Mr P. Kirremff, Mr. Moseley, Mr. R. Lehmann, Mrs. and Miss Stephenson, Mr. Jubiot, Mrs. C. M. Perkins, Rev. M. Weston, Mrs. and Master Barroll, Rev. and Mrs. Neale, Mr. J. Elleston, and Mr. M S. Abrahams in cabin. In transit to Vancouver, B.C.: Mr. and Mrs. Ridgeway, Mr. C. A. Carlisle, Rev. A. H. Etty, Captain E. Stabb, Mr. J. C. Edmonds, Mr. Worthington, Mr Monks, Dr. Van Flyn, Mrs. Van Flyn, Miss M. J. Brown, Mr. C. Gatti, Mr. W. C. Hillier, Dr. and Mrs. Pritchard, and Mr. J. Harvie in cabin; 10 passengers in second class, and 53 Japanese and 229 passengers in Asiatic steerage.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Dr. W. E. Taylor, Mr. Nicolas Orlaff, Mr. K H. Lindholm, Mrs Mary Berg, and Mr. Carl Weigle in cabin. For San Francisco: Major A. F. A Lyle, Dr. Goubareff, Mr. Edw. Weyert, Lieut. Einseidel, and Lieut Zouraff in cabin.

Per French steamer *Yarra*, from Marseilles viâ ports:—Mr. Kanai, Miss Kisuida Yasu, Mr. Lazaro, Mr. Ichikawa, Mr. Théron, Mr. Takason, Mrs. Yungbluth and 3 children, Mr. Raw Hong Take and boy, Mr. Karakasundram, Mr. Banan Quthey, Mr. Ponnan, Miss McRechnie, Dr. E. Benfanzdes, Mr. Schroers, Mr. Y. Games, Miss Hollowell, and Mr. Paw Hing Hing in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Engineer Shimidzu, Mr. Y. Hosoya, and Mr. W H Peerch in cabin; Messrs Ed. Roggers, Lee Keng Seng, Lon Yue Teng, K Yano, and Okamoto in second class, and 45 passengers in steerage. For San Francisco: Rev. and Mrs. McKie and 3 children in cabin.

DEPARTED

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, for San Francisco viâ Honolulu:—Mr. E. J. Bates, Mrs Anna Bushneff, Miss Ida Carpenter, Mr. R. S. Carrick, Mr. Chan, Mr. Chang, Mr. Chang, Mr. Chong, Mr. and Mrs Chang, Mrs. Dr. W. L. Chapman, Hon. F L Coombs, Miss Fannie Comly, Mr and Mrs. W. Copeland, Mr Fang, Mr. Fang, Mr. Fong, Mr. and Mrs J. A. Haines, Mr. A. Helbing, Mr. Ho, Mr. and Mrs. Ho, Mr Hoo, Mr. and Mrs. Hoo, Mr. Kwang, Mr. and Mrs. Kwei, Mr. Lew, Mr. Lew, Mr. Li, Mr. Liang, Mr. A. P. Lorentzen, Mr. T. Midzushima, Mr. Moore, Mr. J. H. Fransen van de Putte, Don Antonio Rodriguez, Mr. P. Rouget, Mr Sai, Mr. Shan, Mr. Shan, Mr. Shee, Mr. and Mrs. Shu, Mr. Su, Mr. Thu, Jhr Gouvert van Tets, His Excellency Yang, Chinese Minister to the United States, Mr. Wang, Mr. Wang, Mr. Wang, Mr. Yang, Mr. Yen, Mr. Whang, Mr. Yu, Mr. Yu, and Mrs. Ying in cabin.

Per French steamer *Salazie*, for Shanghai viâ Kobe:—Messrs Sone Arasuke, Ochiai Tayosaburo, Adachi Munetchuo, Kamiyama Kijuo, Z. Maury, P. Scheffer, Daire, Onehara, Yamada, Mabille de Bronac, Langdon Bruce, Head, Wilson, Mrs. Albene and child, Messrs. Gaillard, Ben Hort, Laicaca, Healing, Cho Wo, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Power, Messrs. L. Küpelwieser, W. von Hauër, Ellmann, G. Meffre, and Lambert in cabin

Per British steamer *Belgic*, for Hongkong:—Lieut. and Mrs. P Helps and son, and Mr R. Fraser-Smith in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Messrs. Yoshida, Chen Yuen Hang, G. W. Cotton, and T. Inouye in cabin; Messrs. Ohno, T. Funamoto, N. Namsi, K Mizobuchi, S. Hirohama, Y. Oshikawa, and Master Sasaki in second class, and 82 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. Brewis, Miss Brown, Mr. and Mrs. Beck, Mr. Bates, Mr. Bostwick, Mr. R P. Borden, Miss Butler, Mr. C. A. Carlisle, Mr D. Croser, Rev. F. A. Cassidy, Lieut. Dresler, Lord Dormer, Colonel and Mrs. Dale, Dr. and Mrs. Eldridge, Misses Eldridge (2) Miss Ely, Mr. Gittins, Mr. Greenhill, Mr. C. Gatti, Mr. H. Hulbert, Mr. J Harvie, Mr. E. E. Hubbard, Mrs. Hopper, Mr. W. C. Hillier, Dr. A Hamilton, Mr. L. Hamilton, Mr. C. R. James, Mr. H. G. Johnson, Prince Komatsu and servant, Mr. Longbottom, Dr. Lentze, Mr. J W. Lee, Mr. Minter, Mr. Mosley, Mr. Masters, Mr. R. W. McAdams, Dr. Matta, Mr Nash, Mr. M. S. Nagasaki and servant, Mr. W. H. Orchard, Mr. Oku and servant, Mr. W. S. Parker, Dr. and Mrs. Pritchard, Mr. Robinson, Mr. de la Rama, Miss de la Rama, Master de la Rama, Mr. Rodriguez, Dr. and Mrs. Ridgeway, Mr. and Mrs. Sweany, Mr. Shaku and servant, Mr. G. B. Smith, Miss W. C. Showler, Mr. Schlieper, Mr. W. W. Stewart, Mr. Schoell, Mr Takata, Mr. P. E. Tripp, Dr. and Mrs. Van Fetsu, Miss Wade, and Mr. Wilson in cabin.

Per British steamer *Verona*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. C. A. Dunn, Mr Gaikwad, Surgeon J D. Hughes, Messrs. A. H. Groom, F. G. Sale, L. S Lewis, A. Tison, Tang Tson Lun and servant, W. Kerr, Mr. and Mrs. B. O. Squire, Mr. A Moncrieff, Mr. Charles Voighi, and Mr. A. Spahse in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per French steamer *Salazie*, for Shanghai viâ Kobe:—Raw Silk for France, 317 bales; Waste Silk for France, 9 bales. Treasure for Shanghai, $330,000; for Hongkong, $125,000; for Singapore, $80,000.

Per British steamer *Tacoma*, for Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C.:—

TEA.

	PACIFIC COAST.	NEW YORK	CHICAGO.	CANADA.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	216	3,772	4,074	1,761	201	10,021
Hyogo	170	—	—	493	1,574	2,237
Yokohama	1,632	—	—	1,296	280	3,208
Hongkong	202	—	—	—	—	202
Foochow	992	—	2,324	6,209	1,271	10,798
Total	3,212	3,772	6,396	9,679	3,328	26,386

SILK.

	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	5	—	5
Yokohama	5	—	5
Total	10	—	10

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, $131,000 00

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, $3,270.00.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—

TEA

	CANADA.	CHICAGO AND WEST.	NEW YORK AND EAST.	PACIFIC COAST.	TOTAL.
Hongkong	—	—	—	51	51
Amoy	159	621	4,500	—	5,280
Foochow	6,718	998	—	543	8,259
Shanghai	3,882	341	—	111	4,334
Colombo	—	—	—	138	138
Hyogo	1,274	—	—	—	1,274
Yokohama	622	619	1,418	983	3,642
Total	12,655	2,579	5,918	1,826	24,978

SILK.

	NEW YORK.	MONTREAL.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	33	—	33
Yokohama	44	—	44
Total	77	—	77

Per British steamer *Verona*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Silk, 196 bales.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS

During the week buyers have purchased Yarns in small quantities to meet immediate requirements, but otherwise the market has been without feature, and no quotations can as yet be given. In Piece Goods, Grey Shirtings have been foremost in the field, while T.-Cloths have experienced some little demand. There has been a fair amount of enquiry for Velvets and other Fancy Cottons, but holders are too high in their prices to tempt would-be buyers to operate. In Woollens, Blankets continue to show slight movement and prices are somewhat higher. In other lines no appearance of business.

COTTON PIECE GOODS

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8½lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	$2 05 to 2.50
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 38½ yds. 45 inches	2.25 to 2 95
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.50 to 1 85
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches...	1.50 to 1 90
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches ..	1 65 to 2 50
Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 32 inches	PER YARD. 0 14 to 0 18
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches ..	6.25 to 8.75
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches ..	0 62½ to 0 77½
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4lb, 24 25 yards, 30 inches	PER PIECE. 1.37½ to 1 45
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	1 55 to 1.75
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	1.95 to 2 20
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2 40 to 2.60

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel	$0.24 to 0 38
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0 29 to 0 31½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0 25 to 0.29
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0.19 to 0.25
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 32 inches	0.13 to 0 39
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches ..	0 32½ to 0 42½
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches ..	0 50 to 0.57
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches ..	0.50 to 0.65
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 4 to 5½ lb. per lb.	0 40 to 0 55

COTTON YARNS

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16 24, Ordinary	—
Nos. 16 24, Medium	—
Nos 16/24, Good to Best	—
Nos. 16 24, Reverse	—
Nos 28 32, Ordinary	—
Nos 28 32, Medium	—
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	—
Nos 38/42, Medium to Best	—
No 32s, Two-fold	—
No 42s, Two-fold	—
	PER BALE.
No 20s, Bombay .... Nom.	—
No 16s, Bombay .... Nom.	—

METALS.

There was some little demand for Nails during the week, but this has again subsided. The market presents no new feature, and owing to the entire absence of business our quotations must again be given as nominal.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ¼ inch	$3.60 to 3 70
Flat Bars, ½ inch	3 70 to 3 75
Round and square up to ½ inch	3 00 to 3 20
Iron Plates, assorted	3 00 to 3 15
Sheet Iron	3.85 to 4 00
Galvanized Iron sheets	2 00 to 7 25
Wire Nails, assorted	4 70 to 5 20
Tin Plates, per box	5 30 to 5 50
Pig Iron, No 1	1.30 to 1 32½

KEROSENE

Nothing new to report in this market, the week having been without feature. The absence of business compels us to again give our quotations as nominal. The steamer *St. Hubert* arrived on the 2nd inst. with about 100,000 cases of Russian oil.

Chester	$1.62½ to 1.65
Comet	1 65 to 1.67½
Devoe	—
Russian Anchor	1 62½ to 1 65
Russian Moon	1.60 to 1.62½

SUGAR

Demand has fallen off for Browns during the past week, and prices show a decline of 10 cents all round. Stocks stand at 45,000 piculs, of which only 4,000 are Hongkong grades. Whites are somewhat dull, but prices are well maintained.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	$4 90 to 5.00
Brown Manila	5.40 to 5.50
Brown Daitong	4.50 to 4 60
Brown Canton	4.50 to 4 85
White Java and Penang	6.60 to 6 70
White Refined	7 60 to 9 25

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last issue was of the 28th ultimo, since which date settlements on this market amount to 331 piculs, divided thus:—*Hanks*, 3 piculs; *Filatures*, 293 piculs; *Rereels*, 20 piculs; *Kakeda*, 15 piculs. In addition to these sales direct shipments have been 89 bales, making the total export business of the week 425 piculs.

Prices have again been irregular, qualities suitable for France being strong with sales at quotations, while full sizes for the United States have given way considerably, especially in *Filatures*. The general outlook is not very good and advices from consuming markets are discouraging. It looks as though we should see lower prices in the near future, unless some unexpected good news comes to hand.

Supplies are now coming in freely and the stock approaches 5,000 piculs. There is also plenty of silk in the interior ready to be sent down as soon as any move is made here. Holders are evidently getting anxious and may soon meet buyers upon a lower basis. We see no reason why values should not soon recede to those of a month ago, the intermediate advance not being warranted by the state of markets on the other side.

Exchange has kept fairly steady, although silver has advanced in London.

There have been three shipping opportunities since we last wrote, the steamer *Gaelic*, 29th ult., taking 253 bales for the New York trade; the French mail steamer *Salazie*, 30th ultimo, 317 bales for France while the steamer *Tacoma*, 31st ultimo, had 5 bales for New York. These departures make the present export figures 1,347 piculs against 3,188 piculs last year and 3,095 piculs at the same date in 1891.

Hanks.—No business of any moment. A small parcel of *Hachoji* was done at last price—$560.

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Stock is small and there seems little inclination for business on either side.

Filatures.—Considerable business has been done in these. In fine sizes, prices are fairly well maintained, *Shinshu Taiyosha* having notched $960. Other good *Mino* silks have been booked at $940, with lower grades at proportionate prices. In full sizes, market has declined; *Shinyokan*, $840; *Hakusuru*, $815; *Taiyosha*, $840. These prices were paid a week ago. Recently *Tokosha* has been done at $775, with *Shunmeisha* at $760 and it looks as though a further reduction would be practicable in the near future.

Re-reels.—Nothing has been done the last two days and quotations are more or less nominal. On the 1st instant, a further parcel of *Fine Girl* chop was taken at $770, *Bushu Yukisha* being done at $720.

No actual reduction on these prices has been made, but we imagine that business could be done on a par with the quotations for *Filatures* in the last paragraph.

Kakeda.—A few small transactions on secret terms are all that we have to chronicle. Some parcels of *Musume* chop were nominaly settled at $750, but the purchase was afterward cancelled.

In other kinds, no movement as yet.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK).

Hanks—No 1½	—
Hanks—No 2 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No 2 (Joshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2½ (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No 2½ (Joshu)	—
Hanks—No 2½ to 3	—
Hanks—No. 3	$555 to 560
Hanks—No. 3½	540 to 545
Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers	950 to 960
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	—
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	930 to 940
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den	800 to 810
Filatures—No. 1½, 10/14 deniers	890 to 900
Filatures—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 den	760 to 770
Filatures—No 2, 10/15 deniers	840 to 850
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	—
Filatures—No 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—(Oshu) Best No. 1	—
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	Nom.
Re-reels—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	720 to 730
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	680 to 690
Re-reels—No. 2½, 14/18 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Kakedas—Extra	—
Kakedas—No. 1	—
Kakedas—No. 1½	—
Kakedas—No 2	—
Kakedas—No. 2½	—
Kakedas—No. 3	—
Kakedas—No. 3½	—
Kakedas—No. 4	—
Oshu Sendai—No 2½	—
Hamatsuki—No 1, 2	—
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	—
Sodai—No. 2½	—

Export Raw Silk Tables to 4th Aug., 1893

	Season 1893-1894.	1892-93	1891-92
	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.
Europe	811	1,762	968
America	510	1,347	2,031
Total { Bales	1,321	3,109	2,999
Total { Piculs	1,347	3,188	3,095
Settlements and Direct Export from 1st July	Piculs. 1,700	Piculs. 4,150	Piculs. 3,850
Stock, 4th August	4,600	3,200	4,650
Available supplies to date	6,300	7,450	8,500

WASTE SILK

During the week purchases amount to 146 piculs, of which 57 piculs were *Noshi* and 89 piculs *Boseki Wata*. No direct shipments this week.

Supplies are coming in freely and in a short time all grades and descriptions should be well represented in our stock. Natives report that Wastes cost very dear in the interior and are unwilling to sell here unless at good prices. Probably the coming week may see some business which will help to fix quotations on a reliable basis.

There has only been one shipping opportunity, the French mail steamer *Salazie* taking 15 bales for Europe. The departure of this vessel makes our export figures to date 160 piculs, against 1,232 piculs last year, and 120 piculs in 1891.

Pierced Cocoons.—There is a fair amount of stock on the market now, but dealers want long figures, talking of $150 for good *Cocoons*, 75% yield. So far no sales have been made, the home side not responding to these figures.

Noshi.—The only transactions have been in medium *Joshu* at about $75 per picul. There are enquiries for better quality, but at present it does not exist.

Kibiso.—No transactions this week. There are a fair amount of daily arrivals, but holders do not seem to have made up their minds as to the exact price at which they will sell.

Sundries.—About 90 piculs *Boseki wata* have been taken for France at $24 per picul. Nothing doing in *Neri*, good quality not yet having arrived.

QUOTATIONS —(NEW WASTE).

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Filature Best	$160 to 165
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	150 to 155
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	—
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu Best	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu Good	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu Medium	—
Noshi-ito—Bushu, Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	90 to 95
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	80 to 85
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	70 to 75
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	—
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	125 to 130
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu Seconds	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Good to Fair	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Middling to Common	—
Kibiso—Hachoji, Good	—
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	—
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	—
Mawata—Good to Best	—

Export Table Waste Silk to 4th Aug., 1893.—

	Season 1893-94. Piculs.	1892-93. Piculs.	1891-92. Piculs.
Waste Silk	160	1,232	120
Pierced Cocoons	—	—	—
	160	1,232	120
Settlements and Direct Export from 1st July	Piculs. 500	Piculs. 600	Piculs. 60
Stock, 4th August	7,400	6,000	5,000
Available supplies to date	7,900	6,600	5,060

Exchange has kept fairly steady in spite of a rise in Silver quotations:—London, 4m/s. Credits, 2/6¼, Documents, 2/6⅜; 6m/s. Credits, 2/6⅝; New York, 30d/s. U.S $61⅜; 4m/s U.S $62⅛; Paris, or Lyons, 4m/s. fcs. 3 21; 6m/s. fcs. 3.23.

Estimated Silk Stock, 4th Aug., 1893:—

Raw.	Piculs.	Waste.	Piculs.
Hanks	75	Cocoons	1,250
Filatures	3,020	Noshi ito	2,800
Re-reels	1,135	Kibiso	2,850
Kakeda	325	Mawata	120
Oshu	25	Sundries	380
Taysaam Kinds	20		
Total piculs	4,600	Total piculs	7,400

TEA.

A fair day to-day; business has been transacted during the week but prices have fallen throughout the list. This is doubtless owing to the unfavourable news from the home markets, coupled with heavy stocks and the arrival of the third crop.

	Per picul.
Common	$13 to 14
Good Common	15 to 16
Medium	17 to 18
Good Medium	19 to 20
Fine	21 to 23
Finest	23 to 25
Choice	26 to 27
Choicest	30 to 32

EXCHANGE.

Exchange has kept fairly steady during the week, and rates close as follow:—

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	2 5½
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	2/6
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	2 6⅛
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	2 6⅛
On Paris—Bank sight	3 10
On Paris—Private 4 months' sight	3 21
On Hongkong—Bank sight	⅛% prem.
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	⅛% dis
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	73
On America—Bank Bills on demand	60½
On America—Private 30 days' sight	61⅛
On America—Private 4 months' sight	62⅛
On India—Bank sight	Nominal 190
Silver	33¼

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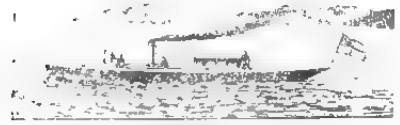

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A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, AUG. 12TH, 1893.

DEATH.

On August 6th, at Miyanoshita, Professor GEO C FOULK of Kyoto, at the age of 36 years. From acute cerebral congestion and thermic fever

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

MR. KUWAYAMA has been appointed a Councillor of Yamanashi Prefecture.

THE Yokohama Engine and Iron Works, Ltd., held its annual general meeting on Wednesday No dividend was declared.

THE house standing on lot No 241, Bluff, in the occupation of M X. Salabelle, was completely burned down on Wednesday evening.

A U.S. MARINE fell into the Creek, Yokohama, on Wednesday night, and striking his head on the wall as he fell, was killed outright.

THE swimming and diving competitions of the Yokohama Amateur Rowing Club, did not come off on Thursday, owing to lack of entries.

IT is stated that H I.M. the Emperor will confer the grand insigma of the Order of the Chrysanthemum upon H.I.H the Archduke Franz

A HEAVY fall of rain was experienced in Mino, Nagoya, Kochi, and Tsu on the 4th inst. after a drought of forty days duration. The farmers are jubilant.

Two slight fires, one on the Bluff and the other in the Settlement Yokohama, were reported on Sunday. The first was caused through the falling of a hall lamp.

THE Japanese residents of Yokohama are divided into two parties over the question of the mayoralty. One division desires to make the post merely honorary, the mayor to have a salaried assistant, while the other wishes to retain Mayor Sato in office without any reduction in salary.

THE Austro-Hungarian cruiser *Kaiserin Elisabeth* is at present in Yokohama harbour. The Archduke Franz Ferdinand is in the neighbourhood of Kyoto.

SEVERAL foreigners have been mobbed lately in the lower parts of the town, and in each instance the victims of the mob's lawlessness have been seriously injured.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL ANDO SADATOSHI, Vice-President of the Non-Commissioned Officers School, has been appointment President of the Toyama Military School.

A RECEPTION will be held by the Austro-Hungarian Minister at the Rokumeikan, on the 18th inst., the occasion being the birthday of H.I.H. the Emperor of Austro-Hungary.

A SERIOUS fight is reported to have lately taken place between the followers of Lieutenant Gunji and the fishermen at Etrup, Chishima, by which more than thirty of the latter were wounded.

ON Saturday Messrs. Owston and Rogers' *Hokiboshi*, one of the latest additions to the fleet of the Yokohama Sailing Club, won an easy race over her other competitors in the B Division.

THE total income of the Kyushu Railway Co. during the month of July last amounted to *yen* 31,364 79, showing a large increase as compared with the corresponding month of the previous year.

LIEUT FOULK, late of the U.S. Navy, and latterly a professor in the Doshisha College, Kyoto, was found dead on one of the mountain paths near Miyanoshita on Monday. He had been in delicate health for some time.

DURING the *Dove* (the Japanese reputed hot season) which is just past, there were two abnormal days, during which the temperature fell considerably below the average, and then rose very much above it.

THE criminal action for slander brought against Mr. D. B. Taylor, a U.S. citizen of Kobe, by Mr. J. J. Enslie, H.B.M.'s Consul in that port, has been dismissed with costs, the Court holding that slander was no a crime.

THE station-master at Kanagawa, who was recently sentenced to seven years' imprisonment for pilfering passenger's luggage, has had this sentence confirmed by the Tokyo Court of Appeal to which he took his case.

THE Osaka Mint struck gold and silver coins to the following amounts during last month:—Five *yen* gold pieces, *yen* 120,000.00; one-*yen* silver pieces, *yen* 98 000 00; twenty-*sen* silver pieces, *yen* 400,221.20; and ten-*sen* silver pieces, *yen* 60,000.00.

JUDGMENT was given on Wednesday on the charge of libel brought by various officials against the editor and printer of the *Jiyu Shimbun*. The latter was sentenced to three months' hard labour and fined 15 *yen*, the former to five months' hard labour and fined 20 *yen*. Both have appealed. The case arose out of the Soma affair

MUCH disappointment has been caused to various Japanese officials in Nagasaki, Kobe and elsewhere, at the sudden changes in the Archduke's programme. He failed to attend a big banquet at Nagasaki for which he had accepted an invitation, and stayed in Kobe station but a few minutes. It should be remembered, however, that the Imperial visitor is travelling *incognito*.

CAPTAIN F. J. NIENSTEAD, an American military instructor to the Korean Government, is reported to have been appointed American Consul at Nagasaki. He will shortly resign his post in Korea, and will proceeded to his new mission in September next.

A BREWERY belonging to the *Saké* Brewery Company at Nishinomiya, Menko District, Settsu Province, was struck by lightning on the 1st inst. The premises and a little over nine hundred *koku* of *saké*, valued at fifteen or sixteen thousand *yen*, were completely destroyed.

IT is stated that a Japanese gentleman, named Iwamoto Chizuna, formerly a major in the Army, who was in Siam for some years, returned to Japan last spring. He left for Siam again by the last French mail with three hundred Murata rifles for the Siamese Government

A WONDERFUL story comes from Iwamatsu, in the Fuji District of Shidzuoka Prefecture. A resident in that village, was lately reported to have died and his remains were interred on the 23rd ult. with the usual ceremonies, many of his fellow-villagers attending. About seven days after the funeral, a farmer's boy heard a human voice proceeding apparently from the earth, as he was cutting grass in the neighbourhood of the cemetery. The frightened lad at once hastened to the village, and reporting the matter to his comrades, the event became a topic of current conversation. The villagers finally informed the police, and after obtaining permission re-opened the grave. The coffin was prised open and the discovery was made that the man still lived. This tale is a little too "tall" for ordinary belief.

BUSINESS has not been particularly lively this week in any section of the Import trade, though at one time buyers evinced a slight inclination to take Double Yarns and Grey Shirtings. Turkey Reds are still firm and seem likely to rise, but Woollens and Italian Cloths, although disposed to move, are very weak. Metals have been very dull; a small enquiry for Wire Nails being quickly met, the market relapsed suddenly into its usual hot-weather somnolency. About 30 000 cases of "Comet" oil are reported to have changed hands this week, but this has not shaken quotations, which close very firm. The Sugar market has seen a further falling off in Browns, and Whites are following suit. Stocks of Tea are accumulating rapidly, news from the home markets being very unsatisfactory; this combined with the uncertainty in silver helps to keep prices down. The Raw Silk market has declined quite $30 all round, holders having to climb down considerably in the face of continued inaction. Indeed, sellers are getting very anxious, and would like to have some of their stocks moved, especially in Re-reels, which came in freely the last few days. Several native firms are reported to be wishing they had accepted the good offers made at the beginning of the month, and which they then refused with scorn. Until silver settles nothing much can be expected in this market. Waste Silk naturally takes its tone from the Raw, and although there has been big talk of business, little has really been done, the majority of negotiations falling through. The export figures up to date are as follow:—Raw, 1,725 piculs against 4,498 piculs last year, and 4,486 piculs in 1891. Waste, 400 piculs against 1,610 piculs last year; and 137 piculs in 1891. Exchange is weak and of course exceedingly low.

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THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The question as to the employment of the surplus receives increasing journalistic attention. It is believed that the question will be settled when the summer vacation is over and the different Ministers of State shall have returned to the capital from their tours of inspection or pleasure. Some alarmist papers even predict that the discussion on the subject may lead to a serious rupture in the Government. According to popular belief, Count Ito and others usually included in the so-called Civil section of clan statesmen are supposed to be more or less in favour of using the surplus for the reduction of the land tax and the reassessment of the taxable value of land. Other members of the Cabinet, on the other hand, are believed to be opposed to such a measure; but opinion among them is said to be divided, some pressing the claims of Naval augmentation, while others advocate the cause of fortification. Closely connected with this question is that of the relationship between the Government and the Radical party. Speculation is rife on this subject. Some people talk as though the alliance between the Cabinet and the Radicals were an accomplished fact. But there is as yet nothing to warrant such an inference. A great deal will depend upon the decision to which the Cabinet may come on the surplus question. Should the decision be in the direction desired by the Radicals, the latter, there is reason to believe, would not refuse to give general support to the Government. So the situation in the coming session of the Diet now turns upon this question of surplus. In the *Choya Shimbun's* opinion, the Cabinet will be unable to give full satisfaction to the Radical party; while the latter, on its part, will find it difficult to give any hearty and open support to the former. The fifth session of the Diet, it observes, will be marked by no striking incidents and will end without accomplishing any solid results. It may be remarked here that the *Choya*, which was at first friendly to the present Cabinet, is slowly turning its back upon it. It seems to be longing for the return to power of the Military party.

* * *

The *Jiyu Shimbun* continues its attack upon the Progressionist party. During the present week, the Radical organ's attack has been concentrated upon two points, namely, the conduct of the Progressionists in the last session of the Diet in connection with the Extension of the Steam Navigation Bill and the Newspaper Regulations Bill. Their conduct on these questions is condemned as having been inconsistent and treacherous, breaking as they did, their faith with the Radical party. At the present rate, the series promises to continue for some time to come.

* * *

The Progressionist papers sarcastically allude to the bellicose articles of the above-mentioned journal. The *Mainichi* promises to refute the arguments of its opponent when they are brought to a conclusion; while the *Hochi Shimbun* does not think it necessary to make "much fuss about subjects upon which the fair-minded public already entertains a definite opinion." The haughty and indifferent tone in which the *Hochi* disposes of the elaborate attack of the *Jiyu* must be extremely galling to the latter. In journalistic tournaments, the straightforward Radicals are no match for the crafty Progressionists.

* * *

The Tokyo Stock Exchange has recently been threatened with a panic. On the 8th instant, so great was the fall in the price of stocks that it was feared that transactions might be stopped by order of the Government. The *Fiji Shimpo* ascribes this phenomenon to the indiscriminate zeal with which men of small means have been speculating in railway shares. Railways are now extremely fashionable among Japanese capitalists. But the majority of those who now possess railway shares are declared to be mere speculators, who do not care a straw about to permanent interest of any of the companies. They produced fictitious prices, and having gone too far in their buying mania, they are now paying dearly for their folly.

* * *

The *Yomiuri Shimbun* observes that the speculators in stocks counted too much upon the rise likely to result from the depreciation of silver. Consequently they lately bought too fast, and thus brought about the disastrous reaction already alluded to. Perhaps the truth of the situation may be found by combining the explanations offered by the *Fiji* and the *Yomiuri*.

* * *

Concerning the critical financial situation in the United States, the Tokyo papers are generally inclined to believe that the legislative efforts of the Congress just convened for the purpose will serve but little to make any effective modification of the situation. The *Mainichi Shimbun*, for instance, thinks that "to attempt to remedy the financial disorders now prevailing in that county by the abolition of the Sherman Act, is like attempting to stop a flood of water with outstretched hands."

* * *

The *Jiji Shimpo*, writing on the same subject, describes the commanding position which the English capitalists occupy in the world of finance. It is they who prevent the universal adoption of a bimetallic system by the countries of Europe and America. Our contemporary, then proceeds to allude to the vast influence wielded by the silverites in the United States. The passing of the Sherman Act was secured by the distribution of millions of dollars among public men at Washington. The silverites form a sort of syndicate in close correspondence with their sympathisers in Europe. Consequently, our contemporary feels it difficult to foretell the results of the present extraordinary session of Congress. In conclusion, the *Jiji* draws the attention of Japanese financiers to the importance of keeping a vigilant watch over the movements that take place in the undercurrents of economic thought in the West. What determines the actions of the State in the Occident in matters of finance is not the theory of scholars but the will of certain men holding in their hands the economic life of their countries.

* * *

The sudden arrest of several of the accused in the Soma murder case has revived interest in the mystery. That persons accused of a capital crime should be put in custody is quite natural, and under ordinary circumstances, is no proof of their guilt. But the accused in the present case having been at first allowed to go at large, the public naturally infer that there must have been some development necessitating the decisive step just taken. Some people already believe that incontestible evidence of their guilt has been found. It is also rumoured that the Judges at first allowed the accused to go free and did not show any intention to put them in custody, so that they might be put off their guard. The vernacular press now admit that the Judges charged with this case have thus far conducted themselves in an exemplary manner, taking every means to obtain evidence. They are advised to leave no stone unturned to clear up the mystery to the satisfaction of the public.

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The Tokyo papers express surprise at the indifference shown by China about the movements of French aggrandizement in Siam. Nor do they think that England has shown her usual activity to look after her interests in that country. Before Siam unconditionally surrenders to French demands, it was thought by the Tokyo papers that England would come upon the scene and prevent France from obtaining so strong a foothold in the territory hitherto under Siamese sway. The *Jiyu Shimbun*, which is rather fond of theorizing, cannot let this unique opportunity pass without indulging in its favourite pastime. The immediate cause of the fall of the different independent States of Southern Asia is, no doubt, to be sought in their poverty and weakness. But the primary cause of their extinction is to be found in the despotic form of government under which the mass of the people have been oppressed that they have lost all sense of patriotism and self-respect. From this our contemporary draws a moral for the National Unionists, whose tendency is to sacrifice, to an excessive degree, individual rights to the State.

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The *Kokkai* deplores the fall of Asiatic countries one after another, and recommends Japan and China to stand by each other and interpose in any complication involving the safety of any other State in the East. Such joint action on the part of the two Empires was most desirable in the case of the recent dispute between France and Siam. To the objection that Japan has no right to interfere in such disputes, seeing that she has no interest at stake in Siam, our contemporary replies that Japan does possess a vital interest whenever the general peace of the East is in danger. The time may come when Japan and China may confront each other in arms; but when their common interests are endangered by any Western Power, the *Kokkai* exhorts them to take firm, united action.

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The *Kokkai* urges the importance of levying upon imported goods taxes to which home manufactures of the same kind are subjected. Our contemporary thinks that the treaties do not prohibit the imposition of such taxes. But the Government, it continues, seems to have interpreted the treaties as prohibiting the imposition of any form of internal tax upon imported commodities. As a consequence of this erroneous method of interpretation, Japanese manufactures, notably in the case of tobacco, are placed disadvantageously with reference to imported articles. The *Nippon* regrets that none of the members of the Diet have drawn attention to this circumstance, but that is a mistake, for the *Kokkai* is aware that in the second session Mr. Suyehiro, and others presented a question to the Government on this subject. The Minister for Foreign Affairs is said to have replied in very ambiguous language, and the Diet was ordered to dissolve the next day. Mr. Suyehiro failed to obtain a seat in the new Diet, and nobody has since brought the matter up for discussion. Our contemporary admits that, in the case of alcohol and drugs, the Government has taken the right course by subjecting them to internal taxes. Why does it not pursue the same course in the case of every other imported article wherever similar goods of home production are subjected to taxation. The *Kokkai* does not think that the Government is strong enough to take such a decisive step; so our contemporary simply brings the matter to the notice of patriotic men. It thinks that the only method of effecting the desired reform is to arouse strong public opinion on the subject.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

FUNERAL OF VISCOUNTESS ENOMOTO.

The funeral of the late Viscountess Enomoto took place on the morning of the 5th instant. Precisely at the hour announced, namely, 7 a. m., the cortège began to move from the residence of Viscount Enomoto at Mukojima. It was led by a double row of flower-bearers, numbering some sixty in all. The flowers were noble bouquets, gifts from Princes of the Blood, Cabinet Ministers and other notables, and the display of such tributes would have been incomparably greater had not the friends of the deceased been deterred by the public request of Viscount Enomoto that floral offerings should be dispensed with, a request dictated by the deceased lady's well known love of simplicity and dislike of ostentation in every form. A body of priests followed the flowers, being followed in turn by the catafalque, borne on the shoulders of twelve mutes dressed in white. Behind the catafalque walked the eldest son of the Viscountess, as chief mourner, accompanied by other close relatives, and these were followed by a carriage in

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which rode the Viscount with his two younger sons and his little daughter. It is not usual in Japan for men of position to attend the obsequies of their wives, but Viscount Enomoto obeyed the dictates of affection rather than those of etiquette, and, at the same time, offered a practical protest against a custom which is certainly one of the least lovely of Japanese social canons. The Viscount's carriage was followed by a crowd of vehicles extending for an immense distance. Among the mourners were many ladies. It was half past eight before the procession reached the temple, Kichijo-ji, where its numbers were swelled by another great assemblage of sympathisers. Only a fraction of the throng of vehicles could find their way into the temple enclosure, spacious as it is, and the remainder were obliged to wait in the neighbouring streets. The great hall of the temple, too, could scarcely accommodate the multitude of mourners, many of whom showed signs of deep grief. The service, which, according to the usages of the sect, is short, came to a close before 9 o'clock, and the assemblage slowly dispersed. In the court of the temple stalls had been erected, where ice was served out to the drawers of *jinrikisha* and other persons connected with the obsequies in an interior capacity. Conspicuous among those who attended were deputies from each of the Princes of Blood, Their Excellencies Count and Countess Goto, Count Oyama, Viscount Hijikata, Prince Tokugawa, deputies of T. E. Counts Ito, Kuroda, Yamagata, Saigo, and Inouye, as well as of Messrs. Mutsu and Watanabe, the United States Representative, Secretaries of the British, Russian, German and Austro-Hungarian Legations, the Mexican Chargé d'Affaires, the Chinese and Korean Representatives, Marquis Tokugawa, Marquis Kido, Countess Kuroda, Madame Mutsu, Viscountess Okabe, Madame Matsuda, General Kawakami, Viscounts Sugi, Kagawa, Nomura, Ogasawara, Torii, Soga and Akimoto, Mr. Hanabusa, Vice Minister of the Imperial Household, members of the Privy Council and others.

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The Viscountess, whose prenom was Tatsu, was born on June 1st in the 5th year of the *Kayei* era (1852), at Yagenbori, Nihonbashi, Edo, her father being Hayashi Dokai, a doctor-in-attendance in the Court of the Tokugawa Regents, and her mother the daughter of a doctor attached to the Feudal Lord of Sakura. When the Viscount returned home from Holland in the 3rd year of the *Keiyo* era (1867), his then name being Enomoto Kamajiro, he already held rank in the Regent's Navy, and was shortly afterwards promoted to an influential position, a few days previous to which event his marriage took place, the late Viscountess being at that time in her sixteenth year. After a brief term of years, the Tokugawa Regent restored the administrative power to the Imperial court, and thereafter ensued in succession the skirmish at Fushimi between the Imperialists and the Tokugawa party, and the invasion of Edo by the former. The Viscount, who at that time held the post of Vice-Superintendant of the Tokugawa Navy, strongly espoused the cause of his master, and declining to surrender, sailed away with several vessels of the Regency, first to Oshiu, and thence to Hakodate, where he and his followers fortified themselves against the Imperialists. The Viscountess, a lady of the strongest filial and faithful instincts, obtaining intelligence that the Imperialists were about to make prisoners of her husband's family, went into concealment with her mother-in-law and an elder sister of the Viscount, and endured innumerable hardships. Meanwhile, the Viscount's heroic resistance against the greatly superior strength of the Imperialists proved finally fruitless, and being compelled to surrender, he underwent four years' imprisonment, but was released by special amnesty in January of the 5th year of *Meiji*, (1872). Shortly afterwards he received an appointment as an official in the Colonization Department; was subsequently raised to the rank of Admiral, and then became Japanese Representative at St Petersburg, where he stayed five years. The Viscountess did not accompany her husband to Europe, but remained at home, engaged in family affairs. When the Viscount subsequently became Japanese Minister at Peking, he took the Viscountess with him, and she speedily became extremely popular in diplomatic and social circles, though her disposition was opposed to all kinds of ostentation or public display, and works of charity engrossed her chief attention. Vice-President of the Ladies Tea Society, she always served as a member of the Ladies Committee whenever any charitable undertaking was in contemplation. She bore her husband three sons and three daughters, of whom the sons are all alive and in good health, their names being Kimpachi, Harunosuke, and Naokata; but of the three daughters two died very young and the only one that remains, is still a child, a sweet little thing, well known and much beloved in Tokyo. Viscount Enomoto, like many public men, did not care to pay much attention to household affairs, and the Viscountess consequently devoted herself to them with a degree of earnestness and method that are said to have won the admiration and respect of all the domestics. She fell ill in November, and never made any really promising rally. When the news of her sickness reached the Court, the Empress sent a maid-of-honour carrying a gift of cakes and toys for the sick lady's little daughter, to inquire about her condition, and Viscount Kagawa, High Chamberlain, was also despatched with a message of condolence from Her Majesty. Again, on the 1st instant, when tidings of increasing danger were conveyed to the Court, the Empress sent a special messenger with presents. At 5 o'clock p.m. on the next day the Viscountess breathed her last, at the comparatively early age of 42. Mr. Hayashi, Vice-Minister of State for Foreign Affairs and Mr. Matsumoto, ex-Surgeon-General of the Army, are her uncles; Mr. Hayashi Kaken is her elder brother, and Baroness Akamatsu, wife of Baron Akamatsu, an admiral in the Navy, is her younger sister. Few deaths in recent years have produced a more widely-spread feeling of sorrow.

THE NIPPON RAILWAY COMPANY.

THE Nippon Railway Company held its regular and also extraordinary general meetings in the Kosei Kan on the 31st ultimo. One hundred and seven shareholders attended and the meeting was called to order by Mr. Ono, Chairman of the Company. A clerk then read reports on the details of the Company's business and the audited accounts of income and expenditure, during the first half of the year. No objection was raised by any shareholders and the documents were all passed as presented. The profit and loss accounts were as follow:—

	Yen.
Total proceeds from the Company's lines	1,332,723.115
Total subsidy on 3rd, 4th, and 5th section	344,270 337
Sum derived from the sale of unneeded stores	53 56
Brought forward from the previous account	45,706 203
Total	1,722,753.215
	Yen.
Current expenditure on the Company's lines	537,881.161
Current expenditure for the Central Office	26,676.078
Expenditures in connection with opening ceremonies	9,750.000
Rewards to officers	12,827.431
Reserves	55,075.262
Interest on the company's debts	16,733 464
Redemption of the Company's debts	34,000 000
Interest on the Company's new debts	22,275.000
To dividend for the half-year (at the rate of 10 per cent. on 19,199,437.50 *yen*)	959 971.875
Brought forward to the next account	47,562.944

The Chairman next announced the opening of an extraordinary general meeting, and introduced a proposition for increasing the capital by 10,000,000 *yen*. The bills ran as follow:—

Bill No 1.—The construction of a railway of about 60 miles from the neighbourhood of Kawaguchi, Saitama Prefecture, connecting with the Mito line, via Tsuchiura and Ishioka, Ibaraki Prefecture, at an estimated cost of 2,200,000 *yen*

Note.—Should difficulties arise in connection with the purchase of land and so forth, the construction may be abandoned.

Bill No 2.—The construction of a railway of about 130 miles starting from the neighbourhood of Mito on the Mito railway and extending to the neighbourhood of Iwanuma station on the third section of the main line, along the coast road of Rikuzen, at an estimated expense of about 5,640,000 *yen*

Note.—As above

Bill No. 3.—The construction of a branch line to the Sumida-gawa from a suitable point on either the new or the old line at an estimated expense of 450,000 *yen*.

Note. As above.

Bill No. 4.—To make the bridge at Kawaguchi carry a double line, at an estimated expense of 210,000 *yen*.

Total of estimated expenses 8,500,000 *yen*.

1,400,000 *yen* as a reserve to meet unforseen outlays

100,000 *yen* to cover the cost of starting works on the Hachinohe line

Grand total 10,000,000 *yen*.

The above 10,000,000 *yen* (200,000 shares) to be distributed among the present holders of 400,000 shares by allotting one new share to every holder of two old ones, on October 1st of the present year, the remaining shares to be allotted by competitive tender, any money obtained in consequence of the bids exceeding the face value of the shares, to be distributed to the holders of single old shares or odd shares on account of which no allottment of new shares has been made. The time for paying installments on the new shares to be announced three months in advance. The foregoing works to be constructed in about 5 years computed from the day of the issue of the charters. As to the locations of the lines and the estimated expenditures, they will be accurately determined on the completion of the final surveys, to be made after the provisional charters have been received; and the details will be reported at the general meeting of the ensuing half-year.

Bill No. 5.—This relates to some slight alterations to be made in the first article of the Company's rules.

With reference to each of the foregoing bills a few questions were put, and the bills were ultimately approved unanimously. The following additional bill was then introduced:—

Extension of the Akiwagahara line to Shimbashi. Steps for obtaining a provisional charter for the extension shall be taken first, and the plan of the line together with a statement of the estimated expediture will after due investigation, be submitted to a general meeting held for the purpose

The idea of the Company is to abandon the present Akiwaga-hara line and to reach Shimbashi by constructing an elevated railway from the Uyeno terminus, passing through Akiwagahara, running thence along Yanagiwara, thence issuing on the Kamakura river-side, and finally passing by Tokiwa-bashi. As exact surveys have not yet been made, the amount of expenses required for the works, the relative difficulties of construction, matters relating to the purchase of land and so forth, are still uncertain; but, according to the opinion of engineers, from 4 to 5 million *yen* will be required. A shareholder moved that it was better to apply for the provisional charter after exact surveys had been made, but the chairman and others opposed the motion, and it fell to the ground. Another motion was made to the effect that as the advantages accruing to the public will be great when the elevated railway shall have been constructed, Government aid had better be applied for. This motion found one supporter, but the chairman explained that though he and the principal officers of the Company had for a time entertained the same notion and deemed that it would not be improper to make the works an enterprise of the city, they had, on fuller consideration, thought it "advisable to conduct the enterprise with the Company's private resources, believing it morally impossible to obtain the consent of the Government under existing circumstances." The bill was then passed by a very large majority, and the meeting came to an end.

THE SOMA CASE.

ON Wednesday, the Judges and Public Procurators charged with the Soma murder case, proceeded to the family mansion of Viscount Soma at Atarashi-Bashi, opposite the Diet buildings, and instituted thorough investigations. The search began at 9.30 a.m., and was not finished at dusk when we sent our reporter there. Twenty police constables guarded the mansion at vari-

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ous entrances and the gardens. The Judges carried in their pockets warrants for the arrest of Viscount Soma and others, and it was stated that the warrant would be served the moment the search was concluded. Dr. Wakai, who was the chief physician to the late Viscount, was arrested at 2 30 p.m. after a thorough inspection of his house.

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It is believed that these decisive steps were taken in consequence of evidence given on the previous day by Mrs. and Miss Tanemura, keepers of the Shiba Sea Bath, to whom the mistress of the late Viscount is reported to have confided certain secrets.

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Mr. Nishikori and his counsel have applied for the excavation of the grave at Aoyama.

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The search at the Soma mansion, which, as we stated Thursday, was commenced at 9 30 a.m. on the 9th instant, was not finished until 1.30 a.m. on the following day, 17 hours in all having been required for the process. After the search was over, Ishikawa Ensho, Madame Nishida Ryu, Aota Kozo, and Endo Naokata were arrested at 2 a.m. Shiga Naomichi, a former steward of the Soma family, was apprehended early in the afternoon of the 9th instant. So out of the seven accused, only Viscount Soma and his steward Izumida Tanemasa remain at large. It is stated that the prisoners will be confined in separate apartments.

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Marquis Asano, the former feudal lord of Hiroshima and guardian of the late Viscount Soma, was Thursday examined as a witness in the case by Presiding Judge Okada. He drove to the Local Court in a carriage drawn by two horses and accompanied by five retainers. He was dressed in a serge frock-coat with a white waistcoat. It is believed that he was confronted with Mr. Nishikori, the originator of the case.

JAPANESE COINS IN KOREA.

As already stated in these columns, exchanges of notes recently took place between the Japanese Foreign Minister and the Korean Representative concerning the striking of Korean coins at the Osaka Mint, and a provisionary understanding was arrived at on the subject, though the formal contract for the undertaking will not be made until after the Korean Coinage Commissioner's return to Sōul. The public are persuaded that the work of coinage will be entrusted to the Japanese Government. But the *Keisai Zasshi* expresses grave doubt as to the seriousness of the Korean Government in its avowed endeavours to reform the national currency. Our contemporary bases this distrust on news that the Korean authorities are about to commence at the Heijo Mint the coinage of exceptionally bad iron cash. According to the *Chosen Shimpo*, quoted by the Tokyo periodical, the Japanese merchants in Korea are agitating strongly against this ruinous project. Meanwhile, about 300,000 catties of pig-iron of the worst quality are reported to have been collected at the mint for coinage purposes. The Japanese residents apprehend that should these worthless cash be uttered, the market will be immediately flooded with them, leading to an abnormal rise of prices and a deadlock in foreign trade. The Japanese Chamber of Commerce at Jinsen is stated to have unanimously resolved to refuse to receive the new cash in payment, and the Japanese Chamber of Commerce at Sōul has also considered the question, coming to the decision that the Chinese Resident be approached with a view to secure the co-ōperation of his nationals, and that the Imperial Japanese Consul at Sōul be requested to represent to the Korean authorities the pernicious consequences of the step they are about to take. Excitement in the other Japanese settlements is said to be no less intense. Seeing that the Korean Government has the intention of issuing such base cash, the *Keisai* cannot but doubt the sincerity of its professions as to reforming the national currency. But even supposing that the Sōul authorities abandon their project of casting iron cash and entrust the work of coinage to the Japanese Government, our contemporary has further objections to urge against the new system of currency, which it declares to be defective in certain vital points. The new coins are to be of four kinds, 5 *ryo* silver (=1 Jap. *yen*) 1 *ryo* silver (=20 Jap. *sen*) 2½ *sen* nickel (=5 Jap. *sen*), and 5 *bu* copper (=1 Jap. *sen*). The 5-*ryo* coins are to be used for Custom's duties, for transactions with foreigners, for the payment of internal taxes, and for all other purposes, public as well private. The one *ryo* pieces are to be used for public and private transactions of all kinds in the interior, without limit as to the amount that may be received in one payment. The limits of legal tender fixed for the auxiliary pieces are 1,000 *ryo* in the case of 2½ *sen* pieces, and 200 *ryo* in the case of 5 *bu* pieces. One other kind of still smaller pieces, on the pattern of the 1 *bu* (=2 Jap. *rin*) coin now in circulation, will also be turned out These 1 *bu* pieces are to be used within the limit of 100 *ryo*. Now the *Keisai* maintains that, the limits of legal tender being exceptionally high in the case of auxiliary coins, there will arise a difference of value between the 5 *ryo* piece and coins of lower denominations. In other words, a 5 *ryo* piece will exchange for 5 one-*ryo* coins and something more. Such a state of things would be highly inconvenient, and would, in the *Keisai's* opinion, at once lead to the complete failure of the new system. So, in any case, the Korean coinage question is fraught with matter for serious reflection. The Tokyo periodical advises the Korean Government to abandon the new coinage system, and to adopt Japanese coins for its national currency. It also suggests that the Japanese Government be asked to establish in the peninsula a branch of the Bank of Japan, which could issue convertible notes for circulation in Korea. To illustrate the advisability of this plan, the Tokyo periodical refers to the favour which the Japanese silver pieces and paper money have already found with the Koreans. There are several reasons why such should be the case. First, Japanese money is more portable than Korean; secondly, it is more convenient for purpose of concealment, a consideration having great weight with the Koreans; thirdly, while their own coins constantly change in value, the Japanese money maintains a fixed value; fourthly, the Koreans, being convinced that war will one day break out in their country, know that the safest way of preserving their savings is to convert them into Japanese money; and fifthly, they buy Japanese money as a speculation, for their own coins having always a tendency to fall in value, investment in Japanese money is generally a profitable business. The exact amount of Japanese money in Korean hands is not known, but it is believed to be considerable. Thus the wisest and the most profitable course for the Korean Government, supposing that it really desires coinage reform, would be in the *Keisai's* opinion, to adopt Japanese money for home circulation. The Korean Government could obtain a source of revenue by imposing a tax upon the Bank of Japan in return for the privilege of issuing paper money.

MR HOSHI TORU.

Just now Mr. Hoshi Toru, President of the House of Representatives, happens to be the subject of many scurrilous remarks in the columns of the metropolitan papers, especially those belonging to the Progressionist Party. The *Kaishin Shimbun*, a popular illustrated paper under the control of the Progressionists, prefers against him a serious charge of corruption in connection with the passing of the Exchange Bill in the last session of the Diet. It must be remembered that the Bill in question was drawn up in the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, after the views of representative business men, summoned for the purpose from all parts of the country, had been consulted. Prepared in this thoroughgoing manner the measure was nevertheless criticised at the time as calculated to encourage the continuance of speculative transactions, the prevention of which constituted one of the primary objects of the enactment. A section of the press, including the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, having opposed the Bill, it was feared that the Diet might throw it out, whereupon Messrs. Tamate and Isono of the Osaka Rice Exchange, according to the *Kaishin Shimbun*, freely distributed money in influential quarters. Mr. Hoshi and one or two persons are stated to have received 30,000 *yen*. The Bill, it is alleged, passed the House of Representatives, chiefly through the exertions of Mr. Hoshi, who secured for it the support of his Party. The bribe is said to have been presented to him through Mr Saito Shuichiro, Vice-Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, and Mr. Oye Taku, President of the Tokyo Stock Exchange. In corroboration of this utterly incredible story, our contemporary refers to signs of sudden opulence in Mr. Hoshi's mode of life. He has bought, we are told, a valuable house in Kojimachi, while at Takanawa he is building a beautiful villa. At Koyama on the Japan Railway Company's line, he is reported to be erecting another villa and a school for the education of the boys of the locality. The *Kaishin* asserts that, when he went abroad in 1888, he was so poor that people wondered how he raised the money necessary for the tour. Since his return he has earned some money by legal practice, but that does not amount to much, and his salary as President of the House of Representatives has been mostly spent for the purposes of the Party as well as for the private use of Count Itagaki. From these considerations, the *Kaishin* infers that his sudden acquirement of riches is at all event inexplicable. Our contemporary also reports that the discovery of facts relating to Mr. Hoshi's corruption is creating a stir in the Radical Party, several of the members insisting on a public impeachment.

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The *Yomiuri Shimbun*, which, though professing to be an independent paper, is very friendly to the Progressionists, is responsible for a statement to the effect that Mr. Hoshi's conduct in consenting to become counsel for the Soma family is severely criticised by many of his fellow-barristers. It is said that, when a suit of libel was brought against the *Jiyu Shimbun* by Viscount Kagawa, several barristers belonging to the Radical party, Mr. Hoshi among the number, invited Mr. Nishikori, the originator of the present Soma suit to a conference at which they asked him to furnish them with full particulars about the case. Mr. Nishikori, who was naturally very glad to obtain such powerful adherents, is reported to have laid aside all reserve and put his supposed friends in possession of every secret connected with the affair. After this it was unfair, to use no harsher expression, that Mr. Hoshi should place his services at the command of the other side. Many of the members of the Tokyo Bar, the *Yomiuri* states, are indignant at "the immoral" conduct, of Mr. Hoshi, and threaten to bring the matter before the Barristers' Association.

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Some papers also publish an absurd rumour that the Radical organ stirred up the question with the hope of extracting money for party purposes out of the Soma family by inducing the latter to secure the services of Mr. Hoshi at a high price. His fee is stated to be 10,000 *yen*, one-half of which, the story says, has been already paid to him. This rumour is simply grotesque.

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The one comment suggested by such writing, especially that of the *Kaishin Shimbun*, is that a section of the newspaper press in Japan is a disgrace to the country. We venture to predict that these stories will ultimately meet the fate which experience has taught the public to anticipate in the case of virtually all the libels uttered by vernacular newspapers against Japanese politicians: they will excite a little mild surprise and will then pass quietly out of practical view, no one taking the trouble to vigorously test their accuracy. The Japanese are beginning to reap the fruits of their singular supineness about the contents of the newspapers. It has been their custom to treat the grossest attacks with indifference, and the inevitable consequence of such an attitude is, first, to impair the in-

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fluence and lower the status of the newspapers, thus tending to the further prostitution of their columns, and secondly, to extend the limits of unchecked slander so that almost anything can now be written with impunity. In the whole history of Japanese journalism there has not been so much as one solitary instance of a newspaper proprietor being proceeded against civilly and sentenced to pay heavy damages for libel, although libels of the grossest and most injurious character have been repeatedly published. Could anything be more malicious or slanderous than this attack upon Mr Hoshi Toru, and is it conceivable that the *Kaishin Shimbun* would have ventured to write in such a strain had it been warned by a few precedents of heavy fines inflicted for similar exhibitions of reckless abuse. It is certainly time that some check was imposed on journalistic license in Japan, and we trust that Mr. Hoshi Toru will play the *rôle* of reformer.

THE VICEROY OF THE TWO HU.

After Li Chung-tang the most noted and perhaps noteworthy individual in China is Chang Chi-tung, Viceroy of the Two Hu. Chang is a man of really remarkable literary ability, and every one knows for how much literary ability counts in China. Moreover, he holds one of the highest positions in the empire and is altogether an official greatly *en evidence*. Another distinction he possesses is that of ruling over Hupeh and Hunan, the hot-beds of conservative feeling in China, the fields of martyrdom of Argent and Green, of Wilkholm and Johansson; the birth-place of the notorious anti-foreign publications; the home of the celebrated Chou Han. The great Chang Chi tung does not succeed in protecting the missionaries within his district; it is an open question whether he tries to succeed. At all events, he does not enjoy the good will of foreigners in general. But that he is a very big man no one can deny. What could more vividly illustrate the peculiarities of the Middle Kingdom than to find such an official publicly censured by his Sovereign and yet continuing in office? Imagine the Queen officially gazetting a recommendation to the Governor of Canada or the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland to mend his ways, and imagine the reprimanded official continuing to be Governor or Lord Lieutenant! Chang's misfortune came about in this way. No less a person than the Chief Director of the Grand Court of Revision memorialized the Court about him. The memorialist admits the Viceroy's exceptional ability; says that when he became a member of the Imperial Academy in Peking, he was "venerated by the rest of the members, who were completely dwarfed by his superior literary attainments," but accuses him of "haughty pride;" of overweening faith in his own self-sufficiency; of preference for unworthy flatterers; of extravagance; of "unmethod in inaugurating and suspending schemes" of imposing "unjust and unbearable fines;" of "laziness in granting audience to his subordinate" and of various other sins. Considering the eminent position of H.E. Chang and the favour he enjoys at Court, it might have been expected that this memorial would have been at once rejected by the Throne and it author more or less disgraced. On the contrary, it was submitted to the Viceroys at Nankin and Canton with orders that they should investigate the charges, and though they acquitted their colleague, the memorial appears in the *Official Gazette* with an intimation from the Throne that although Chang has "hitherto always maintained a reputation for energy and earnestness in his duties," he had better "take his subordinates more into his confidence in order to ensure the best methods of economy in his schemes." Chang may be a conceited man, but he certainly can not be very sensitive if he continues to govern the Two Hu under such circumstances.

SOMETHING LIKE A THUNDER-STORM.

We have thunder-storms in Japan, and at rare intervals the lightning carries death to man and beast and destruction to property, but this country, so far as we know, can show nothing comparable with the visit recently paid by the electric fluid to Chefoo. For the information of the non-geographically inclined among our readers, we may explain that Chefoo is a little sea-side settlement lying on the shore of the Gulf of Petchili, almost within hearing of the hubbub of a Chinese city as dirty and as noisy as they make those human bee-hives. It is a favourite summer-resort of foreign residents in China, since comparatively cool breezes circulate about the bluff on and around which the little settlement lies, and since a stretch of sandy beach tempts bathers. Here, then, is Chefoo's latest experience, as related by its correspondent in the *North China Daily News*:—

On the morning of Thursday, the 20th, Chefoo was visited by a thunderstorm of unusual violence, which did considerable damage to the crops, and caused the death of one native woman. The Family Hotel had a providential escape from a serious accident. It was about half-past five o'clock that the storm broke out, and the guests at the hotel were for the most part in their bedrooms, when a succession of appalling thunder claps caused consternation amongst the ladies and children, whose alarm was greatly increased when a louder crash of thunder shook the house and the lightning at the same time seemed to completely envelop the building. All this happened in a moment, and it was only by degrees that the extent of damage done was ascertained, and the marvel was then that the numerous occupants of the hotel had so luckily escaped from serious injury. The lightning appears to have struck the roof of the hotel, splintering several of the beams, and then to have spread in various directions. The room of one Shanghai lady, situated on the upper floor, was filled with sulphurous vapour to such an extent that fears were entertained that it was on fire, the wall was cracked and large lumps of plaster were stripped off and fell on the bed. The lightning passed down from the room to the one below on the ground floor, the door of which was shivered. In another room on the upper floor the lightning scorched the night-dress of a nurse who was attending to a frightened child, and passing to the room beneath, scorched the arm of another nursemaid who was just entering her bath, and thence passed into the bottle room, the window of which it smashed in yet another room on the upper floor, just as a nursemaid was closing the window, the electric current passed along her arm and down one leg, numbing the limbs for several minutes but fortunately doing no material damage. The verandah of the upper story appeared to be a sheet of flame, and as this was crowded with frightened women and children, the wonder is that no loss of life occurred. One lady who was standing on the verandah describes the shock that she felt as that of a whip being struck sharply across the soles of her feet. The electric current knocked a large hole in the wall of the bedroom occupied by a lady in the upper floor, and passed through to the next room occupied by her nurse, covering the bed with masses of plaster from the wall and it seems to have thence passed below, smashing the glass door of the dining room and the clock which hung on the passage wall. Naturally the greatest alarm prevailed for some time amongst the occupants of the hotel, but all were thankful to have escaped from a serious danger with so comparatively little damage.

JUDICIAL REFORMS AND THE TOKYO BARRISTERS.

As we noticed some time ago, the contemplated reduction of law officers is to be effected by appealing to the moral sense of those whose retirement may be deemed desirable. Recently several Judges in Tokyo received hints from their superiors that their resignation would be gladly accepted by the Government. Of course they acted upon this advice and all tendered their resignation except one, Mr. Hirose, who insists that he has done nothing to warrant the loss of his position. What further step, if any, will be taken in his case, we do not know. Meanwhile, some of the members of the Tokyo Bar, evidently those who have no business to occupy them, are trying to inaugurate a movement against this method of removing old and incapable Judges. Yet the barristers, more than any other class of people, ought to be pleased with such a reform. It would seem, however, that the younger members of the profession see in this affair a means of advertising themselves, and have therefore taken a lofty stand as guardians of a constitutional right which, they assert, is being trampled upon by the Minister of Justice. Apparently they have entirely failed to secure the cooperation of any leading members of the Bar.

* * *

Of quite another description is an agitation commended and sustained by a large number of barristers on behalf of Mr Matsuda Michio, a Judge in the Tokyo Court of Appeal, who is said to have been requested by his superiors to resign. Judge Matsuda has shown himself a thoroughly capable officer, and in the course of his official contact with the members of the Tokyo Bar, he seems to have obtained the confidence and esteem of a majority of the barristers. They have consequently made a representation to the authorities expressing their sincere regret to part with so able a Judge. The report of his having been requested to resign has, however, proved incorrect. It is now understood, on the contrary, that he will be promoted to the presidency of a Local Court. Rumour has it that the relations between Judge Matsuda and the President of the Tokyo Court of Appeal are very strained, and this, it is believed, was the cause of the false report as to the former's resignation.

THE MISSIONARY CONFERENCE AT KIU KARUIZAWA.

The following is the programme of the Missionary Conference to be held at Kiu Karuizawa, commencing the 13th inst.:—

SUNDAY, AUGUST 13TH.

11 a.m.—The Rev. Dr. Macaulay, "A Social Prayer and its Answer."
7.30 p.m.—The Rev. W. Elliot, "Christian Love."

MONDAY, AUGUST 14TH.

10 a.m.—The Rev. D. B. McKenzie and W. Noyes, "The Gouin System of Language Study."
7.30 p.m.—The Rev. H. D. Page, "The Exaltation and Glory of the Son of Man."

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 16TH.

10 a.m.—The Rev. J. C. Ambler, "The Relation of the Missionary to the Work."
7.30 p.m.—Mr. R. S. Miller, B.A., "Christian Work among Students."

FRIDAY, AUGUST 18TH.

10 a.m.—The Rev. Dr. Eby, "Some Thoughts on Applied Christianity."
The Rev. W. Swann, "The First Chapter of Genesis."

SUNDAY, AUGUST 20TH.

11 a.m.—The Rev. Elie Cranmy, "Our Inheritance."
7.30 p.m.—The Rev. C. Harrington, "Faith."

SERICULTURE IN INDIA.

When Mr. Tata, says the *Asahi Shimbun*, a wealthy merchant of Bombay who came to Japan a short time ago, visited the Ito silk factory at Muro-yama in Miye, and inspected the working of that well known establishment, his original idea of starting sericulture and the silk manufacturing industry in India, received additional encouragement. He asked the proprietor of the factory, Mr. Ito Kozayemon to procure a suitable instructor for him, and Mr. Ito consenting, applied himself to seek for a thoroughly qualified person, but as nobody of sufficiently established reputation could be found, the matter remained in abeyance. Recently the circumstance was casually mentioned to Mr. Hashimoto, a clerk of the local office, a specialist in sericulture. After having given due thought to the matter, he intimated to Mr. Ito that if all business relating to the selection and purchase of machines and general plant for the purposes of the business be entrusted to him, he and his wife would be willing to accept the proposal. Mr. Ito is said to be much pleased by this. He is now waiting the arrival of the Bombay merchant who is expected to come over shortly. Mr. Ito thinks that an acceptable contract will be easily arranged between the two parties. As Bombay and its vicinity can easily afford a sufficient supply of mulberry leaves at all seasons, it is believed that the silk worms may be fed more than four times a year.

THE USUI PASS AND COCOON TRANSPORTATION.

The *Jiji Shimpo* reports:—Since the Usui Railway was opened for traffic in April, the advantages which the people of Shinano are enjoying are immense, the profit accruing from the transportation of cocoons being especially remarkable. Shinano, as everybody is aware, is one of the most extensive silk districts in

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Japan; but as the total amount of cocoons raised in that province alone is insufficient for the manufacture of silk, the raw material is sent for from Musashi, Joshiu, and as far as Ibaraki. Till the opening of the Usui Railway the transportation of cocoons from Yokogawa to Karuizawa was entrusted to waggons. But the number of waggons was limited, while in cases of foul weather considerable risk arose of the bags being soaked by rain, thus incurring great loss. Even on the two points of speedy conveyance and of being free from the risk of damage, the advantages which the Shinano people are deriving from the Usui Railway are great. The total numbers of cocoon bags which went over the Usui Pass this year and last are said to be as follow:—1892, 20,456; 1893, 25,368, an increase of about 5,000 bags. There is another important consideration, and that is the great cheapening of freight. Formerly when the bags were conveyed by waggon the charge for one bag from Yokogawa to Karuizawa was commonly 12.5 *sen*, while at present the railway charges only 2.1 *sen*. In other words, till the opening of the Usui Railway, the silk factory people of Shinano were obliged to pay for the conveyance of their raw material over one pass about 6 times more than they pay at the present rate. The indirect benefits derived from the line will not be insignificant. For instance, the horses formerly used for drawing waggons up and down the pass having become useless, and being transferred to places where waggons are still used, cartage rates have been lowered in these districts. The factory people living away from the railway lines are therefore deriving double profits, first by the lessening of charges at the Pass itself and secondly in the conveyance of their goods from the nearest station to their factories. It is believed that one filature at Suwa, carrying on business on a large scale, will be able to economize by freight no less than 1,000 *yen*.

THE NEW PUBLIC GARDEN AT NIKKO

THE attractions at Nikko have been greatly enhanced by the addition of a new public garden, which, though not yet completed, has been carried far enough to convey a pretty clear idea of what it will ultimately be. At first sight it seems an ill-conceived outlay to devote money to the purposes of garden-making in such a place, the whole of Nikko being already one large garden. Thus, even at this far-advanced stage of the enterprise, some critics affirm that the funds thus employed would be much better spent on road repairing, since improved roads are the chief thing needed to minister to the comfort of tourists and pilgrims. But we can not agree with such a view. Great as are the beauties of Nikko, no visitor can fail to be more or less shocked by the obtrusively neglected condition of the grounds and groves surrounding the mausolea. In the days of Tokugawa supremacy, perfect preservation of all the surroundings and approaches was deemed no less important than the repair and maintenance of the buildings themselves, and unquestionably such care was an essential feature of these magnificent monuments of feudal autocracy. But since the Restoration it has been found barely possible to provide for the preservation of the mausolea without paying any attention to their environment, and the impression produced upon visitors is one of dilapidation and neglect. This will be remedied by the new public garden, for having been laid out so as to form an adjunct of the mausolea, it furnishes evidence that not the buildings alone are an object of solicitude. The designers of the garden have shown much skill in availing themselves of the natural beauties of the place. Indeed, it has only been necessary to cut avenues, build slopes, and construct a few rockeries and a lake: noble trees and entrancing peeps of mountain and dale, near and far, were already provided by nature. The garden has probably involved comparatively little outlay. No expensive stones or rare shrubs have been employed, and as labour is cheap at Nikko, not very many hundred *yen* should have sufficed for what has been done. The *Hokokwai*, or Society for the preservation of the Mausolea, has provided money. This Society has now amassed a considerable capital fund,—seventy or eighty thousand *yen*, it is said—and having so much money safely lodged in the Bank of Japan, the Committee wisely decided to do something for the restoration of the buildings' *entourage*. Everything undertaken in the interests of Nikko is welcome, and we think that the Committee have been well advised in this matter. The only considerable expense incurred is in connection with an immense stone tablet which is to be erected on an equally colossal rock. The tablet was brought all the way from Izu, and the rock to form its base is now in process of slow progress from the bed of the Nikko river to its final site in the garden. It has been a heavy undertaking to move this huge mass, and unfortunately a life was sacrificed in the early stages of the work, for the stone slipped back when it had been partially raised and crushed to death an unhappy workman standing behind it. Since then, however, by the aid of capstan, levers, rollers, and a wooden tram, it has crept slowly towards its destination, losing a large fragment *en route*, but remaining still big enough for all practical purposes. The appliances used by the workmen are in no sense modern. They are just such implements and tools as doubtless served to achieve some of the huge feats performed with rocks by mediæval Japanese, and indeed, when this stone gets to its place and becomes the bearer of the immense tablet now waiting to surmount it, we shall have before us a work not unworthy of the men who built the battlements of Osaka Castle. The inscription on the tablet has been cut at Nikko, in the most orthodox Chinese seal character, and it translates thus:—

Anybody classifying scenic beauties or magnificence of temple architecture invariably gives to Nikko the foremost place on the list. The charms of Nature are enhanced by architectural adjuncts, and noble buildings become doubly attractive when associated with loveliness of hill and forest. Rarely indeed is any place so happy as to possess the two in perfect combination. Ancient annals relate that in the *Tenpo kanan* era (767-769 A.D.) a Buddhist high Priest, Shodo Shoin, an ardent worshipper of the presiding deity of Nikko, climbed the rugged heights of the mountain and, clearing a space in the thick forest, erected a small temple. Centuries later, in the fourth year of the *Koan* era (1281 A.D.) when Kublai Khan sent an armament to Kiushu the Government caused prayers to be offered to the deity, and the invasion ended in complete failure. This happy event tended not a little to increase the nation's veneration for the sacred spot. The lands appropriated for the support of the temples covered an area of more than ten square *ri*, and the number of subsidiary temples and other edifices aggregated several hundreds. Coming to the eras of *Genki* (1570-1572 A.D.) and *Tensei* (1573-1582 A.D.), when the empire was torn by ceaseless civil wars, the lands belonging to the temples were almost entirely seized by the neighbouring barons, and the sacred buildings, plundered and despoiled, were suffered to fall into complete decay. Peace being restored to the country, however, in the *Genna* era (1615-1624 A.D.), when the Osaka rebellion was terminated, the Toshogu was erected and regarded as the abode of the nation's tutelary spirit. In all this the High Priest Tenkai Sojo played a conspicuous part. Subsequently, the mausoleum of Taiyu-in (Iyemitsu) was erected, with the result that the scope of the various edifices was greatly enlarged and the place attained a degree of splendour said to have been without precedent. It is no figure of speech to say that this place, where the most refined beauties of nature go hand-in-hand with the noblest efforts of the country's art, has come to be regarded as the grandest sight within the four seas. With the Restoration and the drastic changes that accompanied it the temples once more became a prey to the ravages of man and nature. Thereupon those who had enjoyed the boundless beneficence of the House of Iyeyasu as well as those whose occupation or pleasure was connected with the pursuit of the fine arts, unable to calmly endure this lamentable sight, applied themselves earnestly to organize measures for restoring the place to its old splendour. Their efforts were not in vain. In the twelfth year of the *Meiji* era (1879 A.D.), a solid promise of success was given by the formation of the Hoko-kwai, or Society for the Preservation of Nikko. No sooner was the intention of the Society announced than chords of sympathy began to vibrate in the hearts of benevolent persons. Offers of money and assistance were received, not from Japan alone, but also from China, Korea, Europe and America. Visitors coming from various quarters of the globe, not content merely to view the beauties of the place, frequently make offers of assistance so soon as they learnt the objects of the Society, and often rendered substantial aid towards preserving the peerless sights from decay. No really successful result could have been attained without the primary benefactions of the Imperial Court. Still had it not been for the respect inspired by the memory of Iyeyasu and the restless exertions and sincerity of the members of the Society, so happy an issue could not have been anticipated. No wonder that within little more than a decade of the organization of the Society, a promise of the completion of the work contemplated by it is already in sight. No doubt can now be entertained that the Society prospering day by day, it will be possible to preserve the sacred spot for ages to come. Recently the members of the Society conceived the idea of inscribing these facts on a stone monument and transmitting them to posterity. I have been asked to compose the inscription, and I gladly comply, being in strong sympathy with the undertaking.

Composed and written by KATSU AWA.
November, 25th year of *Meiji*.

OSAKA.

OSAKA is about to be the scene of acute competition. In former years, as the maritime carrying trade offered increasing inducements to shippers, a number of capitalists became owners of small steamers which plied in the Inland Sea, gradually entering, as was natural, into very keen competition. By and by the owners of these little vessels saw their account in combination, and a large association was formed, under the name of the Osaka Steamship Company. For a time this arrangement worked very well. But a new factor has now appeared upon the scene, the Sanyo Railway. This Company's line taps the very regions from which a great part of the steamships' custom was obtained, and though the question of goods has probably not been much affected, the railway folks have so reduced their passenger fares as to seriously interfere with the business of the steamers. Under these circumstances the shipping association has taken a peculiar step. It has resolved to open a kind of guerilla warfare with the railways, and to that end it has dissolved the partnership among its members so that each may be free to cut the throat of the railway with all possible expedition and effectiveness. Doubtless the steamer-proprietors will cut their own throats simultaneously, but that contingency does not appear to distress them greatly in view of the possibility of injuring the railway. We read in the *Choya Shimbun*—from which this information is chiefly derived—that, on the 1st instant, the Osaka Shosen-Kaisha, the Kyoyei-sha and the Kyodogumi, which three companies previously constituted the association referred to above, despatched their vessels for the Inland Sea harbours, taking passengers at rates as much as 50 or 60 per cent. below the regular charges. It is expected that ere long people will be able to travel by steamer from Osaka to Bakan or Moji for 20 or 30 *sen*, as was the case two or three years ago when the steamship companies were trying to kill each other. We are sorry for the steamers in this case. They can never hope to conquer the railway where passenger traffic is concerned, and the course they have entered upon merely means heavy and fruitless loss for themselves and the Sanyo line alike.

NEGLECT OF DUTY.

ON Saturday morning, Ernest Ogden, 3rd engineer of the British steamer *Riversdale*, was charged in H.B.M.'s Court, before James Troup, Esq., Assistant-Judge, with drunkenness and neglect of duty. Defendant pleaded guilty, but His Honour asked for information about the case. The master of the *Riversdale*, Captain Edward Peck, accordingly went into the box and stated that the case was based on a misdemeanour which occurred on the 29th July, soon after the vessel put to sea on a voyage from Yokohama to Hakodate. While on watch, defendant left the engine-room and went to his room, thus leaving no one in charge of the engines. He was found intoxicated by the Chief Engineer, who at once reported the matter to the Captain. He had previously been cautioned about getting intoxicated, and on the last occasion promised never to repeat the offence. Very little liquor was required to upset the man. He joined the ship in England in December last.

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Defendant admitted having the liquor brought on board ship for his own use and purposes His Honour pointed out that the prosecution might have brought the more serious charge against him of endangering the safety of the vessel, but the Captain expressed a wish not to press the case too heavily against the man, there being a prospect of his amending. At the same time, his Honour said the Captain was taking upon himself a great responsibility in thus lightly overlooking the offence. If the Captain had not been so leniently inclined the charge of endangering the safety of the ship would doubtless have been preferred and his would have imperilled the man's whole future career. He trusted that defendant would be successful in breaking off his bad habit entirely, and do away with using spirits or liquor altogether. Defendant promised faithfully to reform, and his Honour then fined him 6 days' pay and the costs of the Court.

PARTY NEWS.

SPEAKING of the renewed activity shown by the National Unionist Party, the *Jiyu Shimbun* thinks the movement is more apparent than real. Whatever influence the Unionists may have outside the Diet on account of their close relationship with the clan statesmen of the Military School, they are reported to be no longer what they formerly were within the Diet. Forty or fifty members who hitherto voted with them, will hereafter stand aloof, so that their numerical strength in the House of Representatives is said to be only sixteen. They project a campaign next month in the provinces of the North-east, concerning which the Radical organ assures them that the reception they met with in Nagoya is a foretaste of what awaits them in their north-eastern tour.

* * *

Mr. Sone Arasuke, Japanese Minister to France, is reported to have told somebody in Kyoto that the National Unionists will probably cō-operate with the Progressionists in the coming session of the Diet. But so long as Viscount Shinagawa remains the leader of the National Unionists, most people are inclined to doubt the possibility of such cō-operation. Moreover, it is stated in certain quarters that the section of the Radical Party following the leadership of Mr. Hoshi has formed a compact with those National Unionists who have hitherto voted with Mr. Sokabe, Governor of Gifu, that they will henceforth cō-operate in support of the Ito Cabinet. These rumours are here reproduced from the *Nippon* for what they are worth.

"THE BOOK OF THE FAIR."

THE first part of the Bancroft Company's "Book of the Fair" has been published, and from it we are in a position to gather some idea of the grand work contemplated by the compilers. It is asserted of the Chicago World's Fair that it exceeds the great International Exhibition of Paris in 1889 by as much as the latter eclipsed any of its predecessors. Yet the buildings of the wonderful display in the Champs de Mars covered 248 acres; involved an expenditure of $8,300,000; attracted an average of 137,000 visitors daily, who, to make circuit of the grounds and buildings, had to walk 15 miles; realized from ordinary receipts $9,900,000, and brought into Parisian coffers an estimated aggregate of $270,000,000. We now know that, speaking financially, the Chicago Fair can have very little hope of competing with the Parisian, but in other respects it stands easily at the head of everything of the kind, and the public may congratulate themselves that a fitting record is to be compiled of this colossal evidence of human enterprise and human industry. The volume is of folio size, profusely illustrated with whole-page, half-page and inter-text pictures, and when we say that the typography, the illustrations, the paper and the general get up are in the very best American style, there is no occasion to pronounce a further eulogy. The whole work is to consist of 1,000 pages. It will be issued in 25 parts of 40 pages each at the rate of about two parts monthly; will contain over 3,000 of the finest illustrations, and will cost only $1 per part. The text is by Hubert Howe Bancroft, an author of established fame in the branch of history, no less than eighteen works of that character having already issued from his pen. So far as we can judge from this first part, he has brought to bear upon his task very high qualities of research and compilation, and it seems likely that he will succeed in presenting a mass of information in thoroughly readable form. Those who have been fortunate enough to attend the great World's Fair and those who have been denied that privilege, will find equal pleasure and profit in this beautiful work.

THE LAND TAX AND THE TAXABLE VALUE OF LAND.

SOME papers mention that the Cabinet has decided to introduce in the next session of the Diet Bills for the reduction of the land tax and for the re assessment of the taxable value of land. But the truth of this report is challenged by several journals. The *Jiji Shimpo*, for instance, professes to disbelieve it. Our contemporary, however, mentions a conversation said to have taken place some time ago between Count Ito and a certain individual, from which it appears that the Minister President of State is inclined to favour the carrying out of these two reforms. The *Jiji* sees nothing improbable in the statement attributed to Count Ito, "for the present Cabinet seems to be bent upon complying with the wishes of the people." To the re-assessment of the taxable value of land, our contemporary is no positively opposed, but can never approve the reduction of the land tax. The latter measure, it contends, though demanded by Opposition politicians, is considered by a large section of the nation to be absolutely unnecessary and even pernicious. If, then, the Cabinet, in its eagerness to obtain the good will of the Opposition politicians, should decide to carry on such a reform, the *Jiji* thinks that it will find itself in a very awkward position and may even be confronted by the necessity of resigning. Speaking of re-assessing the taxable value of land, our contemporary thinks that a reform in that sense is very likely to be carried out, though not exactly in the shape demanded by the Opposition. Probably some kind of compromise will be effected between the Cabinet and the Opposition.

FIRE IN HACHIOJI.

DETAILS of a great conflagration at Hachioji have been received. We learn that during a gale on the afternoon of the 6th inst. an incendiary fire was started at Yokoyama, Sanchome, about ten minutes to four o'clock, and shortly afterwards the flames caught the adjacent houses. The wind in the meantime shifted to the westward, and a great many houses at Yokaichido, Honcho, and Oyokocho were quickly reduced to ashes. The wind again chopped round and the remaining portion of the buildings at Honcho were burnt. The number of houses completely destroyed was 711; 24 dwellings were partly damaged, while 28 godowns were destroyed and 34 partly ruined; 124 out-houses were entirely burnt out. A theatre, two public-houses, five telegraph posts, an official building, and a school were also destroyed. Hachioji consists of a little over five thousand houses, and nearly one-fifth of the whole town has thus been ruined. The following buildings were among those destroyed:—Hachioji Prison, Branch of the Mitsui Bank, Kotsu Ginko, Thirty-Sixth National Bank, Musashi Ginko, Silk market, Woven Goods market, five brothels and five hotels. Some 138 prisoners were confined in the Prison at the time and a half of their number have been sent up to Tokyo Prison, while the rest are kept in the District Court. One man was seriously wounded, and several others but slightly.

LAND-SLIP IN HARIMA.

A TERRIBLE accident is reported from Shingu in the province of Harima. Owing to long-continued drought the rice crop threatened to be a failure, and the farmers concluded that the only chance of saving it was to irrigate it from the river. This involved a considerable cutting, and on the 29th ultimo, some fifty men seem to have engaged in the work. Ten of them, headed by Saimyoji Taro had just commenced, at 7 a.m., to excavate at the foot of Nagao-yama, when a heavy landslip occurred, burying them completely. The noise of the catastrophe was so great that large numbers of people quickly assembled from the neighbouring village, and under the direction of the Inspector of Police and the Division Headman steps were at once taken to dig out the unfortunate men. Eight of them were found to have expired, and two, although still breathing, had sustained such severe injuries that their lives are despaired of.

THE SURPLUS

ACCORDING to the *Kokumin-no-Tomo*, the total amount of surplus available in the Treasury at the end the present fiscal year will be 11,875,166 *yen*. From next fiscal year, there will be an annual surplus of about 8,500,000 *yen*, a sum sufficient for the dual purpose of reducing the land tax and re-assessing the taxable value of land. Hence our contemporary advises the Cabinet to appropriate the surplus accruing at the end of the present fiscal year for the payment of the debt (10,000,000 *yen*) to the 15th National Bank, bearing interest at the rate of 7½ per cent. The *Kokumin* seems to conveniently forget that the Government is under a pledge not to discharge its debt to the Bank for a certain time. The indifference shown by some political organs in Japan when there is question of observing public obligations, does not speak well for the strength of their moral fibre.

THE TEMPERATURE OF THE SUMMER.

ON the 7th instant the season of great heat called by the Japanese "*Doyo*," came to an end It is an exasperating affair is the *Doyo*, for before it sets in according to the almanack, the great heat has always established itself, and after it goes out, the heat remains just as if the duration of the *Doyo* had nothing to do with the temperature However, the *Doyo* being over, it is orthodox to inquire whether the summer has been hotter or cooler than usual. Most people, under the immediate impression of glaring days and stifling nights, will be disposed to say that the weather has treated us badly, and that we have had much more than our normal allowance of heat. But, on the whole, our own idea is that the summer has been a pretty fair average specimen of Japanese summers, neither unusually hot nor unwontedly cool.

* * *

The Central Observatory has this to say about the question:—The average temperature during the *Doyo* season this year was 25.3°C, or half a degree less than the normal average. The maximum temperature was registered on the 25th of July, when the thermometer read 34.4 °C (93.92 °F), or 1.7°C higher than the normal maximum, and the minimum temperature was on the 27th of July, when the reading was 16 °C (60.5 °F), or 3.4 °C lower than the normal minimum. It thus appears that the *Doyo* of this year included an exceptionally hot and an exceptionally cool day, and, curiously enough, these two extremes occurred within an interval of forty-eight hours.

* * *

As for the rainfall, it was nearly twenty-five per cent. less than the normal amount, yet the number of days upon which rain fell—namely, six—was only one less than the average. There were five cloudy days, being one less than the average; and fourteen clear days, being three more than the average.

LIEUTENANT GUNJI AND HIS PARTY.

THE latest intelligence about the northward-bound adventurers is as follows:—The Lieutenant and his party are now living at Shana, Etrup, in a house hired from Mr. Suwara, a large fishing-ground owner in the Kuriles. Of the party, 15 are engaged as miners in a sulphur mine owned by Mr. Muto Naonaka, another 15 as fishermen in the employ of Mr. Takajiro

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of Etrup, and 5 are working as mechanics at Mr. Suhara's canning factory. The rest are said to be engaged felling trees for fuel There is talk of the party's renting a fishing-ground belonging to the common school of the place. The intention of the Lieutenant himself is to cross with 4 or 5 of his followers to Shimushiri, and there to pass the winter, making preparations for a settlement

* * *

The party brought with them from Hakodate only 50 bales of cleaned rice, so they are obliged to obtain supplies of salt, *miso* and other necessaries from Mr. Suhara. More than sixty members of their families are to arrive shortly, and the 50 bales of rice will therefore be exhausted before long. Their funds being already well nigh at an end, one of the party went over to Nemuro, for the purpose of raising subscriptions, but with no success.

* * *

The island of Shimushiri, the destination of the Lieutenant, was inhabited by aborigines until the time of the exchange of Saghalien for the Kuriles, but the place being devoid of timber and the supply of water being insufficient, there is naturally some hesitation about colonizing it. At all events, it would evidently be imprudent to bring thither the families of the would-be colonists while the latter, so far from having settled down, are still living more or less on the charity of others. Even if the families were left in Etrup, the temperature is so intensely cold there during winter, the thermometer ranging 16° or 17° below zero, that people not inured to the place suffer very much. Moreover, the cost of living is about 3 or 4 thirds higher than in Tokyo, and then communication with the main island being cut off for more than 6 months in every year, it follows that stores of food and clothing must be laid in. Under the circumstances it is not surprising that the prospects of the Lieutenant's party are viewed somewhat gloomily.

VIOLATING THE MILITARY LAWS.

A CURIOUS story comes from the south to the effect that an officer of one of the foreign steamships lying in Moji harbour, has been arrested while attempting to take a sketch of the exterior of the Moji forts. Tuesday's issue of the *Nippon* states that the ship involved is owned by Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Company, and that the officer concerned is said to have engaged a guide on the promise of giving him twenty *yen*, and by climbing an eminence at the back of the Fort, a place prohibited to the Japanese, to have thus obtained a sketch of the works. Capt. Kumamoto, in command of the Fort, is reported to have stopped the departure of the ship and to have commenced enquiries into the affair.

* * *

With reference to the above, the News Agency publishes a telegram sent from Shimonoseki at 6 p.m. on the 7th instant, to the effect that the person reported to have attempted to obtain a sketch of the Fort was the surgeon of the *Glengyle*, and that he was accompanied by two passengers from the same steamer. It is added that, having been detected in the act of entering the Kogosan Fort, they were handed over to the police, and that the Governor of Fukuoka has lodged a complaint with the British Consul in Nagasaki. But there was no sketch-taking. The sum of the offence committed seems to have been trespass, and it is more than probable that the three gentlemen were entirely innocent of any unlawful intention. They could not have had any interest in obtaining a drawing of the Fort.

THE PROJECTED STEEL AND IRON FOUNDRY.

CONCERNING Mr. Amenomiya Keijiro's projected Steel and Iron Foundry, we read in the *Jiyu* that his idea is by no means to become the owner of iron mines and to erect the Foundry in their vicinity. On the contrary, he does not propose to own any mines at all, and to several persons who, since the announcement of his project, have offered him iron mines of more or less promise for sale, he has returned the uniform answer that he will not make any such acquisitions, and that he intends to purchase the iron as offered for sale by the miners. In choosing a site for the foundry, facilities of communication will be a primary guide. The plan of the projector is to follow the example of similar foundries in England and elsewhere; that is to say, to procure iron in any market that offers it cheaply, especially, of course, in the home markets. With reference to the size of the proposed capital—twenty million *yen*—and the objections that, in the present undeveloped state of Japanese industrial enterprise, an undertaking of such magnitude is premature, Mr. Amenomiya points out that the value of the manufactured iron now imported annually into Japan is from seven to eight million *yen*, and that it will be considerably increased when the provisions of the new Railway Law are carried out. He computes that during the next ten years the nation's purchases of rails and armour-plated ships will involve payments abroad aggregating fifty million *yen* and he justly argues that a foundry large enough to meet these requirements can not possibly be started with a paltry capital of three or four million *yen*. It is said that he finds ready support among his countrymen, and considering the glut of money now seeking profitable investment, we shall not be greatly surprised if he obtains his twenty millions.

OFFICIALS V THE "JIYU SHIMBUN."

THE indiscriminate zeal with which the *Jiyu Shimbun* espoused the cause of the late Viscount Soma, has involved that paper in two law-suits brought against it almost simultaneously. One was the charge of insult of officials instituted by the Public Procurators of the Tokyo Local Court on behalf of seven out of the numerous officials whose names figured conspicuously in the violent indictments which appeared in the columns of the *Jiyu* in connection with the Soma affair. The other was an ordinary case of libel brought by Viscount Kagawa Keizo, Master of Ceremonies to Her Majesty the Empress. Viscount Kagawa caused his attorney to write to the *Jiyu Shimbun*, saying that he had decided not to take advantage of that provision of the Criminal Code (Art. 141) by which he is entitled to prosecute that paper for insult of officials, but to proceed against it by an ordinary case of libel (Art 358), so that the defendants might have the opportunity of proving their allegations. It should be borne in mind that, in cases of insult to officials, although the provisions of the Criminal Code on the subject do not explicitly prohibit, the custom of the court has been not to allow the defendant to prove the facts. But when a newspaper is sued for ordinary libel, it may be allowed—in virtue of the provisions of Art. 25 of the Newspaper Regulations—to prove the facts, if the Court thinks that the allegations in question were made in the public interest We allude to these points at some length, because they have important bearings upon what transpired in the Tokyo Local Court in the case of officials *v.* the *Jiyu Shimbun* which came up for hearing on the 7th instant. From what we have just said, it is evident that the Court does not think it advisable to hear the libel case instituted by Viscount Kagawa pending the conclusion of the Soma murder case, now in the stage of preliminary examination, because the conclusion of this latter case would render the re-examination of witnesses unnecessary Be that as it may, the Court decided to give precedence to the case of insult of officials.

* * *

The case, as stated above, was tried on the 7th instant, Judge Makino presiding, assisted by Judges Kusama and Aki. The prosecution was represented by Public Procurator Awaya. The accused, Mr. Hikino, editor, and Mr. Sogo Yasuma, publisher and printer of the *Jiyu Shimbun*, were ably defended by Messrs. Goto, Usui, Kagami, Okubo, Takahashi, and Koizumi, these barristers being all members of the Radical party. The Public Procurator opened the case by alluding to the offensive matter that appeared in the *Jiyu Shimbun* of the 19th, 20th, and 21st of July, 1893. It is not necessary to follow the Public Procurator into these details, for the expressions cited by him are but repetitions in aggravated form of the allegations contained in the famous "confession," the gist of which appeared in these columns some time ago. The tone and the very form of language used by the *Jiyu Shimbun*, justified, in the Public Procurator's opinion, the conclusion that that paper's object was to maliciously insult the officials concerned. The counsel for the accused asked for the postponement of the case till the Soma murder case now going on in the same Court should be brought to a conclusion, so that, even if the accused be guilty of the offence preferred against them, they might have the advantage of pleading palliating circumstances by means of the facts that may be established in the course of the case above mentioned. Such a step the counsel for the accused, continued, would be highly beneficial to the officials on whose behalf the case had been instituted, for they would then be able, if they were innocent, to clear themselves of the damaging imputations to the satisfaction of every fair-minded man. The Public Procurator opposed this request, saying that there being no question about facts in a case of insult of officials, like the present one, there was no necessity to wait for the conclusion of the murder case. The Presiding Judge, after a brief consultation with his associates, decided not to grant the request for postponement. Counsel then fell back on legal interpretation and pleaded with some ingenuity that cases of insult of officials also come within the scope of the libel case mentioned in Art. 25 of the Newspaper Regulations, and that consequently the Court should at least allow the calling of witnesses. They argued that, whatever may be the custom of Court, the original compilers of the Criminal Code did not probably intend to have the 141st article of that Code interpretated in the sense that facts might not be proved. In the revised Criminal Code, which has not yet come into force, it is expressly stated that facts may be proved in cases of insult of officials; and the object of revision was to clear away the obscurities of the existing code. They consequently requested the summoning of Marquis Asano and Mr. Nishikori as witnesses. This request, too, was not granted, on exactly the same grounds as the former one. Then passing on to the argument of the case, the counsel for the accused pleaded that their clients were not guilty of insult of officials, because the allegations against them were made not in the exercise of their official functions but as private individuals. After counter arguments by the Public Procurator, the Court, which sat from a little before 10 a.m., rose at about 3 p.m. Judgment was given yesterday, sentencing Sogo, publisher and printer, to major imprisonment for 3 months with a fine of 15 *yen*, and Mr. Hikino editor, to major imprisonment for 5 months with a fine of 20 *yen*. They at once appealed against the decision

LORD ARMSTRONG AND COMPANY AND A JAPANESE INVENTOR.

WE find in the *Yomiuri Shimbun* a story of more interest than the majority of the remarkable narratives appearing in the columns of that remarkable journal. The hero is Mr. Yamauchi, who, according to the *Yomiuri*, has already distinguished himself by certain clever inventions in connection with weapons of war, and the subject is the recoil of a cannon. When a big gun is fired on board ship, the recoil serves, of course, to run the carriage back and any surplus force which might otherwise prove injurious, is nullified by hydraulic buffers. It occurred to Mr. Yamauchi, however, that this surplus force might be utilized for opening the breech of the gun and removing the shell of the cartridge—we quote our Japanese contemporary but do not profess to interpret its account. He succeeded, after considerable study and trouble, in giving effect to this ingenious idea, and having communicated his success to some of his friends, the fact became known to Lord Armstrong and Company, one of whose agents questioned him about it. Mr. Yamauchi, not

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desiring to reveal his secret, replied in very general terms to the questions addressed to him. What was his surprise, however, a few months afterwards, to find on being invited to the Armstrong Works that his invention had been exactly reproduced, and that his gun-carriage was in the possession of the English firm just as though he had himself supplied drawings for its manufacture. "Truly," says the *Yomiuri*, "the sharpness of foreigners is extraordinary. Merely from a general and purposely guarded conversation, the Armstrong Company managed to give practical effect to another man's idea. Of course, as a point of morality, the Company has promised not to make the carriage publicly known for some time" It is difficult to comment on this story. We can only congratulate the *Yomiuri Shimbun*.

HARSH TREATMENT OF JAPANESE TRADERS IN BORNEO.

THE vernacular press gives currency to a highly-coloured story of the cruel treatment of certain Japanese, lately trading in a small way in Borneo. It seems that a shop opened there in February last by two natives of Tokyo for the sale of fancy wares and liquor enjoyed considerable prosperity, the goods meeting both the taste and the purses of the natives. The tale as told by the Japanese papers does not state in what part of Borneo the affair occurred, but it goes on to say that it is a place to which prisoners from Spain are sent, but who are left under no restraint and that many of them live by plunder and robbery. Then there is a bandit chief of whom the authorities stand in dread. A short time ago official money to the amount of $3,000 disappeared, and suspicion falling on the ringleader of these bandits, he was arrested On application of the inquisition he confessed to having stolen the money, which, he stated, had been left in the hands of the Japanese merchants. Enquiry, however, proved this to be false, but some one apparently had to be punished, so the Governor ordered the arrest of the two Japanese, together with their interpreter, named Ando, They were bound with ropes, taken to the Governor's office, and told they would not be released until they acknowledged their guilt. Subsequently, the robber appears to have had compassion upon them, and by a full confession himself, caused the two unfortunates to be released. They are said to be now in Tokyo, and determined to institute proceedings for damages against the Governor of the island.

MISSIONARY TESTIMONY

THE Rev. Timothy Richard has addressed to the columns of our Shanghai morning contemporary a letter describing several acts of genuine kindness and helpfulness by Chinese officials and private persons in his behalf. This testimony comes most opportunely at a moment when foreign feeling in China is running very high against the perpetrators of the recent barbarous murder of missionaries and against the official perfunctoriness that left the blood thirsty mob without due restraint. Mr Richard concludes his letter with these words:—"I could give other instances, and others could give similar ones; but this is enough to show that a large number of Chinese command our highest esteem and respect. Such men, if free to act, would at once render justice unasked, just as good Americans have done regarding the Chinese Exclusion Act. It is against those who will not hear the truth about foreigners, who do not take proper steps to protect the innocent, and who practically connive at and encourage wrong-doing, that good men of all nations protest."

QUITE A CELESTIAL IDEA.

A CHINAMAN charged at the Penang Assizes with attempting to commit suicide, says a southern contemporary, gave an ingenious explanation of the affair. He said that he was compelled to take the step he did, but that it was not his intention to kill himself He explained that he came from China on the sixth of the Chinese moon last year and worked as a *sinkek*. He afterwards fell in love with his *towkay's* daughter and asked for her hand in marriage, when his employer turned him out of his employment. He then confided his secret to a friend, who advised him to commit suicide as a means of securing the object of his affections. He accordingly bought some opium and swallowed it and when his senses returned he found himself in the hospital. He was subsequently brought up before the Magistrate and was discharged. Some days afterwards the police arrested him in Campbell-street and took him before the same Magistrate, who again acquitted him. As soon as he walked out of Court the police arrested him for the third time and afterwards took him before another Magistrate, who committed him for trial, and he had been in prison ever since. Mr. Ross, Acting Solicitor-General, said he could not disprove the man's statement that he did not intend to kill himself and offered to call no evidence. Under the circumstances the prisoner was discharged.

THE DYSENTERY EPIDEMIC.

THE epidemic of dysentery that has prevailed ever since the winter in so many parts of Japan, shows of late a tendency to increase alarmingly. Figures are published showing the number of cases in Osaka and seven other places since the beginning of the epidemic up to the 31st of July:—

	Total Number of Cases.	Deaths.
Osaka City	587	121
Ehime Prefecture	905	137
Kochi Prefecture	219	15
Wakayama Prefecture	125	19
Kumamoto Prefecture	2,157	362
Fukuoka Prefecture	728	105
Oita Prefecture	857	156
Miyazaki Prefecture	434	59
Total	6,012	974

This shows a death rate of over 16 per cent.

JAPAN, CHINA AND SILVER.

"THE average yearly import of Occidental manufactured goods into China," says the *Hochi Shimbun*, "is a hundred million dollars in gold, for which the Chinese consumer has hitherto had to pay about a hundred and thirty million *yen* in silver. But owing to the recent sharp appreciation of gold, the same quantity of goods will now cost the Chinese about a hundred and sixty million silver *yen*, which means, of course, that much higher prices have to be paid for them. Now these manufactured goods are not a necessity to the Chinese, at least not to the poorer classes, and the question is naturally arising whether it would not be a much more economical proceeding to purchase articles of the same kind manufactured and sold by a silver-using country. Here is Japan's opportunity. No doubt, if she plays her cards wisely, she can find a very much larger market for her manufactures in China than has hitherto been the case. But she must take care that her goods are suited to the tastes and requirements of the Chinese, and to ensure that, her manufacturers ought to place themselves in close communication with the Chinese consumer. Such," concludes the *Hochi*, "is the opinion expressed by a commercial expert who recently returned from China."

VISCOUNT TANI AMONG SWINDLERS.

IT seems, according to information gathered by the *Choya Shimbun*, that Viscount Tani ately fell into the hands of certain swindlers. The Viscount bought a farm of some 13 *cho* in extent in the prefecture of Tochigi for 2,500 *yen*. The farm, however, is worth less than one half that amount, in the opinion of resident farmers. A Tokyo agent, named Sasaki, had arranged with another in Tochigi to represent that by tenant-farming more than 30 *koku* of rice could be produced upon it, while in reality it is only capable of yielding 13 *koku*. When the Viscount went to inspect the land he was shown another but better farm, and unsuspicious of any roguery on the part of the agents, handed over the purchase money to the swindlers Apprehensive, however, of the discovery of their fraud, they persuaded the tenant of the land, by giving him money enough to cover the deficiency for one year, to make good the amount to the Viscount. They also bribed the original owner of the land, and induced him to make out a new contract by which he consented to part with the farm at a much greater sum than the Viscount had to pay. In this way Viscount Tani became possessed of a comparatively worthless piece of land, at a cost of 2,500 *yen*.

A ROYAL GIFT FROM BRITAIN'S FUTURE QUEEN.

A LONDON telegram, under date of July 19, announces that the Duchess of York, the bride of Prince George of Wales, has sent to the Lord Mayor the sum of £8,000 to be added to the Mansion House fund for the benefit of the families of those who lost their lives in the *Victoria* disaster. This money is the balance of the sum for a wedding gift collected by the Lords Lieutenant in the several counties.. Truly this is a royal gift, and one that will surely make Princess May dear to the hearts of all Britishers. A unique opportunity has been most uniquely served. It may be of interest to state that a message of an earlier date announced that the Lord Mayor's fund is closed to contributors. It amounts to £50,000. In his letter of thanks, the Lord Mayor says that the fund will probably relieve all the sufferers, besides being sufficient for the foundation of a trust fund to be used in case of a similar disaster in the future.

MR F. G. LENZ'S RIDE THROUGH ASIA.

MR. F. G. LENZ, the daring cyclist of Pittsburg, who has arrived in Bhamo from China, does not intend coming to Rangoon, says the *Rangoon Gazette*. His future course will lie overland *via* Aracan and Chittagong to Calcutta. The last stage of his journey to Bhamo was a very trying one, and he only reached the town by fording and swimming across various parts of the road for the last eighteen miles. One of his Chinese coolies was drowned within four miles of Bhamo. Mr. Lenz had intended proceeding to India *via* Manipur, but this he has had to abandon in consequence of the heavy rains. He will probably arrive in Mandalay tomorrow (20th July), *via* Katha and Wuntho, and will remain there for a week. The total distance travelled by Mr. Lenz from Shanghai to Bhamo was 2,921 miles, a good deal of which was through a most difficult country.

THE LATE LIEUTENANT G. C. FOULK.

THE sudden death of Lieutenant G. C. Foulk, formerly of the United States Navy, is an event of exceptional sadness. The deceased was a man of talent and most winning ways. He made friends everywhere, and being still comparatively young, might reasonably have looked forward to a long career of usefulness. Retiring from the Navy, he received the appointment of Secretary to the United States Legation in Söul, and he subsequently served for several months in the capacity of Chargé d'Affaires, performing the duties of the responsible post with judgment and ability. During his occasional trips from Korea to Japan he made the acquaintance of a Japanese lady as beautiful as she was virtuous, and after a long courtship, the attached couple were united in marriage. This appears to have been the turning point in Lieutenant Foulk's career. He decided to abandon the brilliant prospects offering in the service of his own country, a service in which he had already attained high rank at the early age of five or six and twenty. It is, of course, possible that he recognised in himself some constitutional weakness that unfitted him for the hard struggle of life in a country where only the strongest swimmers can keep their heads above the tide. But his friends have always supposed that romantic attachment to a country which had given him a wife so dearly loved, induced him to sacrifice everything for the sake of settling in Japan. At first he resided in Tokyo and contemplated a mercantile career, but ultimately his scientific tastes asserted themselves, and he accepted a professorship in the Doshisha College in Kyoto, which post he held at the times of his decease. A few days ago he passed through Yokohama *en route* for Miyanoshita.

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It was observed that his health seemed greatly impaired, but no one imagined that immediate danger threatened. We now learn, however, that while recently walking near Miyanoshita, he was overcome by the heat and died almost immediately from cerebral congestion. Although in poor health he had insisted upon carrying on his work in the Doshisha to the end of the school year. His remains were brought to Kyoto and interred in the Doshisha Burying Ground. Prof. Foulk was at the head of the Mathematical Department of the Doshisha, and was a most industrious and self-sacrificing teacher. It is indeed a sad ending to a life full of promise.

THE "KAISERIN ELIZABETH"

THE magnificent vessel of war in which the Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria has toured the East, is one of the handsomest and most powerful armoured cruizers that have ever anchored in Yokohama harbour. She is reputed to be one of the swiftest vessels of her class in the Austro-Hungarian Navy, her speed with natural draught being 17 85 knots, which is increased to 19 knots under forced draught Her hull is of steel, with a double bottom, and all her vital points are protected with an armoured deck of some 4 feet slope below water-line, the plates being 2½ inches thick. The water-tight compartments are divided into about a hundred seperate cells. As an additional means of protection, she is belted with a celluloid girding at the water-line which extends nearly the whole length. Her principal dimensions are:—Length over-all 340 ft.; extreme beam 46 ft.; load draught forward 16 ft. 6 in.; aft 19 ft. 8½ in., displacement 4,060 tons. The ram is reported to be exceptionaly strong. The *Kaiserin Elisabeth* is engined with twin screw, triple-expansion engines working three-bladed propellers with a revolving diameter of 123 ft. 3 in. and a pitch of 20 ft. 9 in, the indicated horse power is 6 400, but this is increased under forced draught to 9,800; the revolutions are respectively 105 and 120 revolutions. Her armament is very powerful, consisting of a main battery of two 9½ inch breech-loading Krupp rifles, of 35 calibre. These are worked by hydraulic pressure. These guns, which weigh 27 tons each, are placed in barbette towers, 5ft. 3in high, and protected by 3½ inches of armour plating. They train fore and aft at an angle of 260 degrees, and up to an angle of 130 degrees for a broad side. They will throw, at an elevation of 15 degrees, 6½ miles, but the maximum distance is stated as being 10½ miles, the initial velocity being 2,000 feet per second There are also sixteen 6 in. breech-loading Krupp rifles carried on sponsons. Their dimensions and capacity are:—weight 6 tons; weight of steel shell, 112 lb.; powder charge, 48 lb; initial verocity of projectile, 2 000 feet. Two B L.R.'s and 11 quick-firing guns complete the list. The torpedo equipment is equally formidable. We forgot to mention that the two big guns throw a steel shell of 474 lbs., with a powder charge of 220 5lb. As is usual with all modern cruisers the *Kaiserin Elisabeth* has a most complete electric-light installation in every part of the vessel. She is also fitted with a couple of fighting tops

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE ON THE BLUFF.

M. X. SALABELLE'S house, No 241, Bluff, was entirely destroyed by fire on Wednesday afternoon. The fire, which is supposed to have originated in some rubbish near the cook-house at the rear, broke out about twenty minutes past five o'clock, and owing to the extreme dryness of the timbers composing the framework, floors and roof, quickly spread. By a quarter to six, the whole house was wrapped in flames, the Bluff firemen being unable to do anything to stay their progress owing to the difficulty experienced in obtaining water Fortunately there was scarcely any wind. The compound in which the blazing house stood is surrounded on two sides by the main Bluff road and a fairly wide side thoroughfare running towards the descent to the rice-fields, while a fair space of ground lay between it and the next house, a large missionary school. If it had not been for these circumstances the extent of the conflagration might have been enormous, and the losses proportionate. Another hinderance to the progress of the flames was undoubtedly the thick belt of trees which screened the house from the road. It was nearly a quarter to six when a party of U.S. blue jackets from the *Lancaster* and *Marion* arrived on the scene, and they were followed by other blue-jackets from the British and Japanese war-vessels now in harbour. By this time, the police had succeeded in laying a line of hose down the hill to the Creek. The pressure exerted was of course enormous, but it only sufficed to pump the water up the Bluff as far as Mr. Beart's. Here it was run into buckets and the jovial tars then passed it on, under the direction of their officers and Supt Kipling. Previous to this, however, Supt. Kipling and his men had cut down the outhouses between No. 241 and the missionary school and so severed any communication between the two. By seven o'clock the building was entirely destroyed, with the exception of the chimneys. Curiously enough, M. Salabelle's furniture was to be sold by auction on Friday by Messrs. Eyton and Pratt. The house and grounds would also have passed from his possession a day or so ago, if a slight hitch in the transfer had not occurred. The house and property was fully insured in one of Messrs. Kingdon and Schwabe's companies; the house for $8,000 and the furniture for $2,000. Too much praise cannot be accorded the men-of-warsmen for their most efficient and timely services. The scarcity of water upon the Bluff and the difficulty of obtaining sufficient to meet more than ordinary domestic purposes from the deep wells dug in the various compounds is a very serious matter, indeed; but it is only when a conflagration like Wednesday evening's occurs that the big deficiency is brought home to all concerned. Two blue jackets, one English the other American, were slightly injured. The building was formerly used as the Secretary's house when the British Legation was situate in Yokohama.

SUMMER RESORTS

IN spite of the number of travellers being much under that anticipated by enterprising caterers, all the resorts are now tolerably crowded. Karuizawa and Nikko perhaps claim the greatest portion of the foreign residents, but Miyanoshita is full to overflowing, while Nikko, which has been somewhat overdone in the matter of hotel accommodation, has a strong contingent of the travelling public. Extensive preparations have already been begun for the reception of Prince Ferdinand, at Nikko, a visit for which the residents will feel grateful, as the roads which have lately been in a wretched state, will be put in thorough repair.

* * *

The main road from Nikko along the Daiyagawa has been much cut up owing to the construction of the tramway for the conveyance of ore from the Ashio copper mine. It is somewhat difficult to understand what distinction exists in the minds of the authorities between a tramway and a railway. The Railway Company was not allowed to bring their terminus within a distance of over a mile from the Mausolea, whereas permission is granted to build a noisy tramway directly under the branches of the giant cryptomerias that stand before the sacred precincts

THE "FORTY-SEVEN RONIN."

ALTHOUGH Mitford in his inimitable "Tales of Old Japan" has told the story of the Loyal League once for all so far as English readers are concerned, new versions of the deathless drama continue to appear at more or less lengthy intervals. The latest is a small volume published by Messrs. Kelly and Walsh, Limited, printed on crêpe paper and illustrated in the attractive style of the well-known Kobunsha series of Japanese Fairy Tales The writer is a Japanese who evidently believes brevity to be the soul of beauty as well as of wit. It is a pity he also believes in the thoroughness of his knowledge of the English tongue, for a little revision would have made the effort much more presentable. Coloured apocryphal representations of the Forty Seven, with a few words of explanation, are appended to the story.

THE MIENYANG OUTRAGE.

THE Hankow correspondent of the *N.-C. Daily News* writes:—News has arrived of the destruction by a mob of a Roman Catholic Chapel of old standing at a town called Genkiawan near to the city of Mienyang, about 100 miles to the west of Hankow. The foreign priest in charge escaped to a neighbouring town; no lives were lost, but several native houses shared in the destruction. Full particulars are not yet to hand as the affair only happened on the 25th ult. It has been put into the hands of the French Consul.

* * *

Mienyang, the scene of the latest anti-Christian riot, is in Hupeh, about half-way between Hankow and Shashi. The missionaries there are Italian Franciscans.

THE LATE ADMIRAL TRYON.

"ATLAS" in the *World* says that Sir George Tryon is the fourth British admiral who has lost his life by shipwreck or disaster unconnected with warfare since the beginning of the last century. In October 1707 Sir Cloudesley Shovel shared the fate of the crew of the *Association;* and on August 29th, 1782, Admiral Kempenfeldt was drowned by the "heeling over," of the *Royal George* The great loss of life by the sinking of the *Victoria* is ascribed to her suddenly heeling over, as in the case of the *Royal George;* but the present catastrophe is, by comparison, not nearly as appalling as the shipwreck of the *St. George*, the *Defence*, and the *Hero*, on the coast of Jütland in 1811, when Admiral Reynolds and two thousand sailors perished.

THE ROYAL WEDDING.

MR. LEWIS MORRIS, it appears, wrote the Royal Marriage Ode, and not the Poet-Laureate Ruskin. It is in Mr. Morris's well known style, and, of course, a polished specimen of laudatory poesy. The following is the third stanza:

"Myriads of hearts to day
Beat fast for Love's approach. In many a home
In dewy English Parks, 'neath secular trees,
The eyes of maids and mothers, which grew wet
For that which none forget,
Kindle with joy to see the young god come.
Myriads of humbler hearths by field or town
Are fain of it, and do rejoice with these;
Through all our greater Britain loyal souls,
'Twixt whom and us the ocean valley rolls,
Be hill or lonely plain, or sea-vexed isle,
Or where the warm waves kiss the palm-fringed strand,
Or where the sombre, listening forests stand,
Hear the glad news, and smile
And live their Past anew, and homeward turn
With hearts and souls that yearn,
Seeing again their lost youth glorified
In Bridegroom and in Bride."

A PHENOMENON.

THE Japanese equivalent of "Do men gather figs of thistles," is *uri no tsuru ni wa nasu wa naranu*, or melon plants don't bear tomatoes. The *Jiyu Shimbun*, however, declares that the proverb has been emphatically falsified by an incident in the garden of one Ando Gunjiro of Yamabaki, in Nagasaki Prefecture, where, at the present moment, any one curious enough to pay the place a visit may see a melon plant bearing a melon at either end of its stalk while in the middle grows a tomato, small in size, it is true, and defective in colour, being rather green than red, but still a veritable tomato for all that. It will be observed that the intelligence appears in the *Jiyu Shimbun*, not in the *Yomiuri*.

GRANT ON ACCOUNT OF THE YOKOHAMA WATER WORKS

WE mentioned in a recent issue that the Yokohama City Assembly, with a view of increasing the supply of water furnished by the Water Works, had made application to the Treasury to the sense that the period originally fixed for repaying the loan made by the State for the construction of the Works, should be extended, in order to facilitate the raising of additional capital for purposes of extension. The News Agency now reports that the Treasury returned

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a favourable reply on the 3rd instant, and adds that, in consequence of the Government's liberality, a special meeting of the Yokohama City Assembly is to be convened at once, so that steps may be taken for inaugurating and carrying out with all possible expedition, the work of extension. The present programme is to finish the undertaking by May of next year. Eighteen inch iron pipes are to be obtained from abroad, and water will be laid on in twenty-one places not at present supplied. The News Agency supplements this information by saying that ample precautions will be adopted against leakage *en route*. What it means by such an item of intelligence we do not perceive, unless it labours under the hallucination that leakage goes on in the present Works between the intake and the point of delivery. We have already explained that nothing of the kind occurs; that the Works have thoroughly vindicated the care and ability of their constructors; and that they have from the first delivered a full head of water at Noge, operating up to their full capacity year after year without let or hinderance.

PERSONAL ITEMS.

MR. HOSHI is a big man, and day after day the papers must talk about him. The latest news is that some of his fellow Radicals—who, by the by, are mostly barristers—have made a representation to Count Itagaki, demanding the expulsion of the President of the House of Representatives on the ground that his conduct in becoming counsel for the Soma family is contrary to all notions of fairness and professional morality. The papers giving this report state that Count Itagaki is seriously considering what step he ought to take in the affair.

* * *

Mr. Oishi, ex-Minister to Korea, who was expected to leave for America ere now, will, according to the latest report, sail at the beginning of next month by the Canadian Pacific mail. He continues to air his views on Korean subjects in the columns of the metropolitan papers; but we fail to find anything new in his remarks, being for the most part either repetitions or amplifications of what he dealt with in a speech he delivered at the Imperial Hotel on the occasion of the banquet given to him on his return from Korea.

* * *

Reports from Hokkaido state that Count Inouye is addressing himself to the task of investigation with his usual zeal and industry. The young officials in his suite are said to complain of their chief's wonderful powers of endurance and perseverance. They are kept either writing at desk or going hither and thither at a moment's notice from early morning till late in the evening. It is stated that the Minister for Home Affairs may return to the capital very soon.

* * *

Other notables now on a visit to Hokkaido are Marquis Yamanouchi, Viscount Tani, Baron Osawa, Mr. Inouye Kakugoro, M.P., Mr. Hyakuman Baiji, M.P., Mr. Tanaka Hachi, Mr. Asada of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, and a few others.

* * *

Viscount Shinagawa, accompanied by his son, is now on his way to his native place, Yamaguchi. His object is to visit the family cemetery and conduct some researches into certain doubtful points in his genealogy.

THE SHINAGAWA FORTS

MOST travellers over the Tokyo-Yokohama railway look upon the disused forts off Shinagawa simply as objects of curiosity, as relics left there because they are not easily transported elsewhere; others regard them as interesting mementoes of the eventful days that preceded the present reign. For the latter, the *Choya Shimbun* has, in its series of articles on the last days of the Tokugawa Shogunate, collected statistics regarding the construction and cost of the works. The earth used in the building of the forts was brought from Gotenyama. It was first decided in the 6th year of Kayei (1853) to expend 986,491 *ryo*, of which 763,871 *ryo* were appropriated for the construction of the forts, 158,963 *ryo* for casting cannon and ammunition, and 63,657 *ryo* for building ships to be attached to the six forts. The work was begun in the early part of February in the year following, and public placards notified that during the construction of the forts, Shinagawa would be closed to public traffic from 5 a.m. till 6 p.m., and during the night only one traveller at a time permitted to pass. The construction was urged on with all haste for about two months, when intimation was received by those in charge, to stop the work until further notice. This was due to the great conflagration in Kyoto which swept away the buildings of the Court; for the restoration of the Imperial Palace fell upon the shoulders of the Regent, whose treasury was far from being well stocked, and it was determined to take the necessary funds out of the estimates granted for the construction of the forts. About 196,635 *ryo* were taken for that purpose, reducing the original appropriation to 789,856 *ryo*. It is said that 40,000 *ryo* remained unexpended after the forts were completed.

THE NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA'S STEAMERS.

THE Minister of State for Communications has approved of the application of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha relating to the postscripts to Clauses 2 and 3 of Art. 8 of the Official Instructions. The 2nd Clause refers to the Vladivostock Line, and the 3rd Clause to the Tientsin line, the round trip to these places occupying one month. Both steamers have hitherto started simultaneously, one proceeding northwards from Fusan to Gensan and Vladivostock, the other southwards also from Fusan to Jinsen, Chefoo and Tientsin. Both steamers starting from Kobe had to proceed to Nagasaki in order to transfer mail matter brought there from Shanghai and Hongkong, destined for either Vladivostock or Tientsin. The vessels again met at Fusan on their return voyage and passed over the same course to Kobe. It appears that the Osaka Shosen Kaisha have, of late, largely monopolised the traffic by running steamers direct from Shimonoseki to Fusan instead of viâ Nagasaki, and the Tokyo Company now propose that when their vessels meet at Fusan, passengers and goods for Nagasaki shall be transferred into one ship, while the other proceeds direct to Shimonoseki. The advantages of such an arrangement will not be inconsiderable, and with the view of attaining this end, application for an alteration in the Official Instructions was made a short time ago by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha to which official sanction has just been given.

A NEW EDUCATIONAL DEPARTURE

THE Tokyo Semmon Gakko has the credit of being the first College to introduce into this country the so-called system of university extension now so popular in Europe and America. Professors Inouye Shinkuro, Ota Suketoki, Takata Sanaye Tsuchiko Kinshiro, Amano Tameyuki, and Hirata Jôye are reported to have left Tokyo on the 9th instant for the Prefectures of Shizuoka, Gifu, and Hyogo, and the Cities of Kyoto and Osaka, where they propose to give lectures on various scientific and literary subjects. For the convenience of their audience, they sent forward beforehand a printed prospectus with minute remarks on the nature and general plan of the lectures to be delivered by each of the Professors. We are further informed that the popular institution at Waseda has lately introduced various improvements in the two Departments of Law and of English.

KOREAN NEWS

IT is stated in the vernacular press that the Korean Government has under contemplation the remodelling of its Foreign Office so as to adapt it to the demands of enlightened diplomacy. As at present constituted, there is no office more unfitted for the conduct of business than the Korean Foreign Office. The Korean Government is reported to have the intention of appointing several Japanese to secretaryships in its Foreign Office. The *Jiji Shimpo* alone doubts the truth of this report, especially with regard to the appointment of Japanese. The principal reason why the Korean Foreign Office is so dilatory in the conduct of business is to be sought, in our contemporary's opinion, in the fact that the Minister of Foreign Affairs, in common with all other Ministers of State, is not allowed sufficiently wide scope for independent action. As it is, he has to consult his colleagues on the most trifling daily business. It is not in the disposition of Korean statesmen to alter a state of things in which they can draw their salaries without the risk of individual responsibility. As to the appointment of Japanese to official positions, the thing is declared to be extremely unlikely, seeing the Koreans are not well disposed towards the Japanese.

* * *

The Korean Minister of the Right is said to have tendered his resignation, but it is understood that the King will not allow him to lay aside his seal.

FOOCHOW TEA

FOOCHOW tea news, of the date of July 22nd, is as follows:—The Export to Europe is 12,446,000 lbs. against 9,343,000 lbs. at this same date last year. The calling steamers during the fortnight have been the *Oopack*, *Telemachus*, *Carmarthenshire*, and *Glenshiel*. The market has been quiet. The settlements for the fortnight are reported at 48,000 half-chests. News has been received by telegraph of sales ex S.S. *Pakling*, the first direct steamer to arrive with this season's tea. On the whole it is rather disappointing as far as Congous are concerned; prices are not particularly good for a first steamer's teas and some of the medium grades are not covering cost. Prices in this market show no change. The advance quoted a fortnight ago has been fully maintained. Common grades close very firm. Some doubt is now expressed about the second crop being in excess of last year's yield, drought having to some extent, it is said, checked production. Now rain has set in, it is thought that with the high price of common ruling, there will be an abundant third crop. The arrivals of congou to date are 520,000 against 433,000 half-chests, the settlements are 376,000 against 335,000, and the stock is 143,000 against 97,000 half-chests at the same date last year. Exchange is quoted 2/7⅜ for 4 months' sight credits; and Freight to London is 50/- per ton of 40 cubic feet.

REAR ADMIRAL A. H. MARKHAM.

Good Words for July contains an article on "British Ships of War" from the pen of Admiral Markham. The following paragraph will now be read with special interest:—Ships are also constructed in multitudinous compartments divided and sub-divided by longitudinal and transverse partitions, so that the admission of water through holes caused by the piercing of the side with shot or through injuries sustained by the explosion of a torpedo would not necessarily imperil the safety of the vessel, or even render her helpless, although it would doubtless in a greater or less degree impair her efficiency. It is I think, a recognised fact that the officers and men of the Royal Navy at the present time are no whit inferior in energy and ability, as also in skill in handling their vessels, to those who have gone before them, while it must also be admitted that they are as a class men of superior education and knowledge.

A SUGGESTION

THE extent to which the decorous and graceful Japanese dress is still worn in Tokyo, not only by "the man in the street," but by the *jeunesse dorée* of the capital, suggests to us a very obvious improvement that should be made. A young Japanese gentleman in his *hakama* and crested *haori* presents, it will be conceded, a remarkably good appearance. But the effect is to a very great extent destroyed by the addition of an English "billy-cock." Anything less artistic, anything more incongruous, it would be difficult to conceive. Why should not the Japanese dress be completed by the adoption of a Japanese hat or cap? It is not for lack of precedent,

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or for lack of design, that the ugly billy-cock surmounts the graceful robe: Japan existed for centuries before any European set foot upon its shores, and the people did not go about bare-headed all that time—the idea of headgear was at least indigenous, and not imported from abroad. It is, therefore, a pity that the young men of Tokyo have not seen fit to introduce some modification of the cap that was used before Europeans were, practically, heard of. The characteristic *coiffure* worn by students in the Art School at Uyeno might well serve as a model; it is quaint, comfortable, and becoming. Anything like an attempt to amalgamate Japanese and European fashions—or rather, to achieve an incongruous mixture of the two in the same costume—is an abomination. Even the Japanese would be shocked if one of their number were to walk abroad in *hakama* and "bell-topper"; and the billy-cock is only a shade better. There is no doubt that Beau Brummel is sadly needed in Japan.

SHE KNEW NOT THE BUOY

On her way down to Swatow last trip the *Woosung*, says the *N.-C. Daily News*, had to run for Nanquan Harbour for shelter, and while going in saw a red painted buoy, which as nobody on board knew of its existence before, was taken to be adrift. The vessel touched the ground aft and damaged her propeller, besides springing a slight leak. The buoy, it was afterwards ascertained, was moored over a shoal and had been placed there by fishermen. Captain King was able to take bearings and found that the east point of Pingfong bore N. 44° E. true, and the west point N. 2° E. true, from the buoy. The *Woosung* has since gone to Boyd's New Dock for examination and repairs.

PERMANENT DIPLOMATIC OFFICIALS.

More than once, says the *Jiyu*, has the proposal to make permanent appointments to diplomatic posts engaged the attention of the Cabinet, but up to the present most of the members considered the scheme as premature. It would now appear that the opposition has become less strong, especially in view of the fact that the change would effect a saving in the expenditure, which leads our contemporary to believe that the proposal will soon be carried out. The ostensible object of the Foreign Office in drafting the alteration, is to secure the services of trained diplomatists, as is the case in most European countries.

TOO MUCH AND TOO LITTLE.

The three following items from Shanghai papers are interesting by reason of their context:—Despatches from Ch'ingchow in Kuangtung, report the presence of immense floods brought by the freshets from the neighbouring hills inundating the major part of that department. Over ten thousand lives have been lost. . . . Advices from Foochow state that the native officials of that city are now praying for rain owing to the continued drought in that portion of Fukien. . . . Despatches from Lichuanhsien, Shensi, report great distress amongst the people of that town owing to their crops having been entirely destroyed by a hailstorm in the beginning of June.

THE NOBLES' SCHOOL.

During last session over eighty pupils graduated in the common school course of this institution. Amongst these was His Imperial Highness the Crown Prince, who will pursue the secondary course in the coming term, during which lessons in one of the European languages form a part of the curriculum, such language being left to the choice of the student. It is said that the Prince's instructors have selected German for His Imperial Highness, and that many of the other pupils will doubtless follow him in his study of that language.

WRESTLING ON THE SUMIDA RIVER.

The latest enterprise that has suggested itself to a citizen of Honjo in Tokyo is to organize a performance of wrestling on the Sumida River. There is always a breeze on the river. It is the one perpetually cool place in Tokyo, be the day never so hot. The idea of tempting the half baked citizens to attend a well beloved spot and to combine with amusement the advantage of refreshing air, is distinctly happy. The plan contemplated is to construct a matted ring on two large boats tied together, and to build boxes and a pit on a number of smaller craft anchored around. The thing may pay, but we shall be surprised if it is carried out.

PATRIOTIC PUBLIC SERVANTS.

A writer in the *Nippon* of the 7th inst. seems to suggest that for the first time since the establishment of relations with foreign powers, Yokohama is supplied with a Public Procurator, a Chief of Police, and a Director of Customs capable of carrying out a firm and patriotic policy in their respective departments. These gentlemen may consider themselves fortunate in having such a lusty supporter, but have all their predecessors been men of such feeble tissue as this ingenuous writer apparently implies?

ANOTHER STEAMSHIP LINE FOR THE FAR EAST.

A Canadian dispatch says:—President Hill of the Great Northern Railway has completed arrangements with Samuels & Co., of London, for the operation of a line of steamers between Seattle and all leading Asiatic ports. The company will, early in August, have three large steamships in the Pacific service. One will carry the largest tonnage of any merchantman in existence. What is to be known as the Great Eastern Steamship company will be organized.

ELECTION DISTURBANCE IN TOKUSHIMA.

A telegram from Tokushima announces that the political tension in the Fifth Election District of that Prefecture is exceedingly severe, and has given rise to numerous fights. About two o'clock in the afternoon of the 6th instant bombs were exploded in front of the residence of a supporter of the *Kaishin-to* candidate. No life was lost, nor have any arrest been made.

A GOODLY FEAR.

A train running between the coal mines at Tayen and Wuchang, writes a native correspondent of our Shanghai morning contemporary, ran over and killed an old man recently who was walking on the railroad track. As a proclamation had been issued by the Viceroy, Chang Chih-tung warning people against walking on the railroad track, the relations of the deceased did not venture to ask for any compensation.

COMPLIMENTARY VISITS.

Captain Graf von Goodenough, of the *Kaiserin Elisabeth*, accompanied by Hauptmann Ritter von Kreitner, Austrian Consul at Yokohama, and Captain Miller, of the *Iltis*, attended by Dr. Schmidt-Leda, German Consul at this port, visited the *Kencho* on the 10th inst. to return the visit of the Governor of Kanagawa, Mr. Nakano.

THE ARCHDUKE FRANZ

We read in the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* that the Archduke Franz has declined to attend any military manœuvres, owing to the exceptionally hot weather now prevailing. It is therefore reported that the grand review of the Tokyo troops arranged to take place in the capital in presence of the Prince will be abandoned.

THE "TELAMON."

The *Telamon* caught fire in her forehold while at Shanghai, on the night of the 2nd August. The damage was slight, amounting to a few bales of cotton. Captain Jackson and his men were assisted by the *Ravenna's* officers and Lascars, and the volunteer brigades also put in an appearance.

RAISING THE BLOCKADE AT BANGKOK

The *Official Gazette* publishes a telegram from Mr. Miyagawa, Japanese Acting-Consul General at Hongkong, which was received by the Foreign Office on the 6th inst. It states that the French Admiral telegraphed to the French Consul at that port to the effect that the blockade was raised on the 3rd inst. The British war vessels, which have arrived at Hongkong from Japan, and completed necessary preparations to proceed south, will return to the north again, as the trouble between France and Siam is peacefully settled, the latter accepting the ultimatum of France.

RUN AGAINST TIME.

A Philadelphia paper says:—"The American iron ship *Clarence S. Bement* was chartered to carry $2,000,000 worth of tea from Yokohama to Tacoma, and is expected to make the run in a month. For every hour the captain can save in this great run against time he will receive a premium. Notwithstanding the great value of the cargo, the *Bement* will receive only $10,000 for the trip."

THE STEAMER "AMIGO"

Latest Hongkong exchanges say that the operations on the sunken steamer *Amigo* were not progressing very rapidly owing to one or two slight mishaps, and at the time of writing she was in much the same position as before the Dock Company commenced work. It was expected, however, that in the course of a few days she would be raised and beached.

CAST UP BY THE SEA

The *Asahi Shimbun* says that the remains of two Japanese were cast up on the beach of Utsuryu-to, Korea, on the 29th ult. The matter was reported to the Tsushima Administrative Office by the Japanese fishermen, who have just returned from Korea. Police constables were at once despatched to enquire into the affair.

CAPT. THOREUX.

From Tonkin papers we learn that Captain Thoreux, who was taken prisoner by the Siamese or Laos, has at last been released and arrived at Prompenh, the capital of Cambodia, on the 24th ult., accompanied by the interpreter and three tirailleurs who were taken prisoners at the same time as himself.

IMPERIAL GRANT TO THE HACHIOJI SUFFERERS.

Their Imperial Majesties the Emperor and Empress have been pleased to grant 700 *yen* towards the relief of sufferers by the great fire at Hachioji. Viscount Higashizono, an Imperial Chamberlain, was despatched to the district on the 11th inst. to inquire into the cause of the disaster.

EXTENSIVE NIHILIST PLOT AT WARSAW.

A telegram received in Tokyo on the 6th inst., announces that a Russian Nihilist plot has been discovered by the police, and forty-eight students, sixty workmen, and eight women were arrested on suspicion on the 4th inst. at Warsaw.

NEW KEROSENE OIL TANKS

We read in the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* that some kerosene oil importers of Yokohama propose constructing oil tanks at Koyama, in the Tsuga District of Shimozuke Province. The promoters are said to have visited the district quite lately.

MR N. J. HANNEN.

Mr. N. J. Hannen, Consul General and Chief Justice of H.B.M.'s Court at Shanghai, and family have taken up their usual summer abode at Lake Hakone. Several Yokohama families are also staying there.

PIRATES EXECUTED.

Two executions of thirteen and twenty-eight men respectively, took place at Canton in the middle of last week. The condemned were all sea pirates who had been infesting the vicinity of Hainan island.

THE VICEROY OF INDIA

The *Englishman's* London correspondent telegraphs that the Earl of Kimberley has been offered the Viceroyalty of India in succession to the Marquis of Landowne.

LORD ROBERTS.

Lord Roberts has declined the post of Governor of Gibraltar which has been offered him by the Government.

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THE PORTUGUESE AND THE IMPERIAL ORDINANCE.

THE articles at present appearing in the *Oriente Portugues* on the subject of Portugal's jurisdiction in Japan offer, in respect of moderation of tone, an agreeable contrast to the violent and rancorous comments and letters published in the columns of the local English press on the same subject last year. But it is a pity that this disposition to be moderate is not supplemented by greater accuracy as to facts. The financial circumstances under which Portugal felt called upon to reduce to a point palpably below reasonable efficiency her judicial staff in Japan, have naturally procured for her considerable sympathy. From a practical point of view, there is no reason to suppose that her people suffer, or are in any danger of suffering, by being transferred from the jurisdiction of their own Consuls to that of Japanese Courts. But Portugal very naturally feels that her national dignity is touched by the loss of a privilege which all other Western States enjoy in Japan, and we can not be surprised that her people should spare no pains to establish a strong case for the restoration of that privilege. As for Japan, her gain in the business is scarcely worth considering. There is certainly some advantage in being able to offer to the world an object lesson illustrating her competence to discharge the judicial functions which she asserts herself prepared to exercise. But the value of the lesson is evidently not as great as it might be were larger interests involved or a more conspicuous nation concerned. Every writer, therefore, ought to be able to approach the discussion without prejudice and without a disposition to ignore or pervert facts. The *Oriente Portugues* truly asserts that whatever inviolability may be claimed for an Imperial Ordinance, a Sovereign's obligation to observe the provisions of an agreement between himself and the head of another State should not be less inviolable. That is beyond question. But the axiom is chiefly inconvenient for Portugal in the present case. For it is precisely because Portugal failed to discharge her Treaty obligation of providing an efficient substitute for the jurisdiction surrendered by Japan, that she ultimately forfeited the privilege of exercising that jurisdiction. No apparent value belongs to the contention that Portugal only removed her Consul-General from Tokyo, leaving Consular Agents at the open ports as before. Her Consulate-General in Tokyo was established explicitly because her system of Consular Agents had been proved defective, both theoretically and practically, and by removing it she reverted to a state of affairs which had evoked frequent protests from Japan, and which had constituted the topic of international negotiations resulting in the appointment of the Consul General by definite agreement with Portugal. The abolition of the Consulate-General despite Japan's emphatic objections, was an act which certainly seems to disqualify Portugal for basing any argument on the inviolability of inter-state compacts. She failed originally to discharge her Treaty obligation of providing reasonably efficient machinery for judicial purposes in Japan; after repeated Japanese protests and in the sequel of protracted negotiations, she agreed to establish a Consulate-General in order to correct, in some degree, the deficiency of her judicial arrangements; and she finally abolished the Consulate-General without offering to Japan any explanation of the act or paying any apparent attention to the remonstrances it evoked. The *Oriente Portugues* seems to complain that Japan acted precipitately, that she ought to have addressed herself to the Governor of Macao, and that Portugal's silence should not have been construed as evidence of assent. The fact is that Japan adopted every available means, by telegraph and despatch, of arousing the Lisbon Government to a sense of the meaning and consequences of its procedure; that she did address herself to the Governor of Macao; and that, having distinctly intimated the necessity by which she should find herself confronted on a certain date in the event of Portugal's failing to heed her protests, she was compelled after that date to take action, or to accept an undignified fiasco. It appears to be forgotten that Japan had a duty to perform to her own subjects in this matter. The EMPEROR is constitutionally pledged to provide for the due administration of justice within his realm, and he would be plainly disregarding the Constitution did he suffer a number of Portuguese subjects to reside and carry on trade in Japan without any reasonably efficient machinery for the preservation of peace and order among them, or for securing to Japanese subjects justice in their dealings with them.

The argument finally advanced is that Portugal has re-established her Consulate-General, and that Japan ought therefore to restore to her the forfeited privilege. We fear that such a plea is out of date. Japan has long denied the necessity for continuing Consular Jurisdiction within her territories. To rehabilitate the system on Portugal's account, especially when the act of rehabilitation would involve the rescinding of an Imperial Decree, is an idea that no Cabinet could entertain except at the cost of its own existence. If she failed originally to appreciate the consequences of her act, we do not see how she can reasonably hope to escape them. It is now a choice between her continued loss of a privilege possessing practically very little value, and Japan's consent to take a step which she holds equivalent to a confession of incompetence to exercise jurisdiction over foreigners. In our opinion there need not be the smallest doubt about the result.

THE RADICALS AND KYUSHU.

THE proposed tour of the Radical leaders in Kyushu has evoked widespread interest in political circles. It forms one of the chief topics of talk in society and of discussion in the papers and magazines of all parties and factions. The remarkable attention concentrated upon an affair seemingly trivial, may appear strange at first sight, but a little reflection shows the importance attaching to it. For the result of the campaign which Messrs. HOSHI, KONO, and MATSUDA of the Radical party are expected to undertake in September in the various Prefectures of Kyushu, will be to decide the issue between the two dominant and antagonistic tendencies now swaying the minds of party politicians. Possibly our readers may not be disinclined to bear with us for a moment while we endeavour to explain this subject, for to understand it is to understand also the mainsprings underlying party politics at the present juncture in Japan's constitutional progress.

The course of events since the close of the last session of the Diet has made it plain that there exists among the parties opposed to the Government two different views as to the manner in which the transition from Clan to Party Government is to be effected. One set of politicians, represented by the Radicals, maintain that it is both possible and desirable to accomplish the transition peacefully and smoothly in co-operation with the so-called civil section of the Clan Statesmen, such as Count ITO, Count INOUYE, Count GOTO, Mr. MUTSU and so forth; whereas another class, represented by the Progressionists, contend that the attack against the Government must be continued incessantly, neither taking nor giving quarter, till the enemy, beaten helplessly to its knees, surrenders the citadel unconditionally. Those adhering to the latter policy think, or pretend to think, that if they stand to their guns, victory is assured, nay, that it is actually within sight. Consequently they advocate a policy of opposition pure and simple. On the other hand, those who hold the moderate view, see no impropriety in giving their support to any Cabinet that endorses their political programme. These men spare no pains to denounce the policy of blind opposition that has too long retarded the economical and military development of the Empire.

It was owing to a difference of opinion on this fundamental point that a rupture occurred between the Radicals and the Progressionists,—a rupture which is likely to lead to important results in the political development of the country. We do not mean to predict that it will lead to a combination between the Radicals and the present Cabinet; the consummation of such an event depends upon so many elements difficult to gauge that the boldest political meteorologist shrinks from ha-

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zarding an announcement. But we have no hesitation in stating that the present rational attitude of the Radicals is a distinct step in the right direction, a step toward the smooth introduction of Government by party, which; for good or for evil, will have to become an accomplished fact one of these days in Japan.

How far the moderate counsel of the Radicals will prevail in the coming session of the Diet, it is as yet difficult to foretell. Much depends upon the attitude of the politicians of Kyushu who have hitherto vigorously sustained the combined opposition of the Radicals and the Progressionists to the Government. Many of them have their names enrolled in the list of the Radical Party, but it is rumoured that they have given indications of dissatisfaction with the moderate tendency prevailing at the Party's headquarters in Tokyo. The present generation of Liberal politicians in Kyushu were boys when the abortive revolts of ETO, of SAIGO, and of others took place. But they seem to have inherited a full measure of the intense hatred which their elders bore to the *Meiji* Government. To no place does this remark apply with greater truth than to the Prefecture of Kagoshima, where the so-called "Popular Party" exercises absolute sway. It was nothing more or less than opposition to the Government that induced the Liberal politicians of Kyushu to join the Radical Party, and now that the latter shows itself disposed to consider a compromise with the Government on certain conditions, it is not unnatural that men who joined it solely for the purpose of fighting should rebel at the prospect of premature peace. Rumour goes so far as to say that many of them have avowed their intention of leaving the Party, if a policy of uncompromising opposition to the Government be not adhered to. Under these circumstances the Radical leaders no doubt fear that if things be left to take their own course, they may drift to a disastrous issue defying all remedy. Hence their plan of a political campaign, in Kiushu, in obedience to the Japanese proverb that the victor is he who strikes first.

The task which the Radical leaders propose to themselves is attended with great difficulties. On the one hand, they have to bring the refractory members of the Party to their own way of thinking, on the other, they have to be on their guard against the vigorous obstruction that will doubtless be organized by desperate *soshi* belonging to the various conservative factions, especially the *Shimeikai* of Kumamoto and the *Genyosha* of Fukuoka. Many people entertain grave fears that the tour may be attended with disastrous incidents, such as were recently witnessed in the Prefecture of Kanagawa on the occasion of a by-election for the Local Assembly and others are strongly disposed to doubt the success of the bold course contemplated by the Radical leaders. But whatever may be the chances of success, we are disposed to think that the Radicals have made the wisest choice under the circumstances, for the defection of some of their followers in Kyushu being inevitable, it is desirable that the mischief should be confined by prompt action within as narrow limits as possible. Moreover, Mr MATSUDA'S personal influence being considerable in Kyushu, there are grounds to hope that his tour may have the effect of sufficiently consolidating the Party's position to obviate any inconvenient ascendency of the Progressionists and their fellow-thinkers. Such is the situation. Ere long we may look for intelligence that will enable us to estimate the results of the interesting struggle now on the eve of commencing in Kyushu.

ANTI-FOREIGN FEELING IN CHINA.

IT is difficult to arrive at a clear conception of the true attitude assumed by Chinese officials and Chinese *literati* towards foreigners. Much is written on the subject in the local foreign press of Shanghai, but no impartial reader can accept without reserve everything that he finds there. Men cannot be expected to maintain perfect *sangfroid* and to preserve an unbiassed judgment in the presence of such barbarisms as the atrocious slaughter of the unhappy Swedish missionaries in Sung-pu. Naturally there is hot indignation, and even the generally sober *North China Daily News* unconsciously reflects the lurid mood of the Western communities. Mr. CARL BOCK, the Swedish Consul-General, who allowed himself to be persuaded by the Viceroy CHANG that the murdered missionaries were in great part responsible for their own death, since they persisted in neglecting official warnings to leave the place of danger, is the object of execration such as fell to the lot of Lt.-Colonel NEALE after the Namamugi assassination. One is virtually invited by the local press to believe that Consul-General BOCK behaved with utterly fatuous credulity and that he deliberately betrayed the interests which it is his function to safeguard. That, of course, is asking us to believe too much. Neither Mr. CARL BOCK nor any other foreign official could reasonably contend that foreigners are exempt from the obligation of cöoperating with the Chinese Authorities in every possible way when there is question of their own safety. The machinery provided by governments for the protection of life and property is of limited capacity. We can not expect it to be omnipotent. Neither can we expect it to be capable of suddenly developing, at any moment, power to cope with extraordinary emergencies. An excited mob possesses potentialities that have always successfully defied the normal resources of constituted authority, and a Chinese Governor may properly claim that if by the temporary absence of a few foreigners from a given place at a given time, he will be saved from recourse to abnormal measures and from the contingent catastrophe of a collision between the military and a crowd of momentarily uncontrollable citizens, then he has an undeniable right to expect that the foreigners will temporarily absent themselves. Such a precaution is common in Europe and America, and no responsible persons will gravely maintain that reckless incurrence of risks and an undiscriminating estimate of official obligations should mark the conduct of foreigners in China. These things are, of course, well understood in Shanghai, and yet we find no apparent allowance made for them in the criticisms of Mr. CARL BOCK'S conduct. The reason is evident: foreigners in China have learned to believe that there is no real disposition on the part of the Chinese Authorities to protect them, or to secure them in the enjoyment of treaty privileges, and, such being their belief, they naturally insist that at no point on the foreign side should there be the smallest semblance of yielding. Once, they say, once let a foreigner, be he missionary or merchant, consent, in deference to Chinese official representations of peril, to leave a place where he is by treaty entitled to remain, and his complacency will be taken adroit advantage of to exclude him gradually from every district whither the Chinese are unwilling that he should go. There exists, in short, complete distrust of Chinese good faith, and so long as that is the case there can be no helpful cöoperation. Whether it is a thoroughly well founded distrust, or whether it has its origin partly in the anti-Oriental suspiciousness to which the Occidental mind is ever prone, we experience great difficulty in offering an opinion. Scarcely a week passes without some fresh evidence that foreigners have warrant for their doubts of Chinese official sincerity. For instance, in Shanghai papers just to hand we read that the Viceroy of Nanking has declared his inability to protect foreigners taking up their summer residence on a hill within ten miles of the north gate of the city, and warned them that they would remain there at their own peril, at the same time significantly reminding them of the recent fate of the Sung-pu Swedish missionaries. In this Nanking affair there was no prospect of mob violence nor any threat from anybody. On the contrary, the Chinese in the vicinity of the hill seemed thoroughly friendly. Of course the Viceroy may have known better; may have possessed information necessitating such a precaution. But the leading Shanghai journal does not even hint at such a contingency. It very roundly and emphatically traces the mainspring of anti-foreign agitation to Chinese officials, and declares, in so many words, that the two Viceroys, CHANG CHIH-TUNG and LIU KUN-YI, formed "a design two years ago

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to gradually drive all missionaries out of the Yangtse Valley"; that this design was "put into operation in 1891 by means of a series of riots; and that the Sung-pu outrage itself was "part of a scheme hatched among high officials." These are singularly daring allegations, yet they are at least paralleled by the statements of the Hankow correspondent of the same journal in a letter describing the procedings now organized by Chinese officials in connection with the murder of the Swedish missionaries. This correspondent alleges, and the *North China Daily News* gives entire credence to his statement, that the commission of inquiry and retribution sent to Sung-pu by the Viceroy CHANG is not engaged in any attempt to detect or punish the murderers of the Swedish missionaries, but is actively endeavouring "to make existence intolerable to all those who were well-affected towards the foreigners, and who assisted them in any way." So singular and suggestive is this accusation that we quote the words of the correspondent:—

The Investigating Officials occupy the Tung Yoh Miao (Temple of Horrors) at the South Gate, which for the time being doubly deserves its name pandemonium. As chief director, Li Taotai is there with his colleague Tsêng the Chihsien; also the Hsiangchow Shaotai, the Maching district magistrate, and a large following of minor officials with a force of about three hundred soldiers and runners. As a guest they have the ex military mandarin, Li Kia chung, who issued the placards threatening the missionaries with death on the fatal 18th of the fifth moon, and put his name to them, and whom all our Sungpu friends denounce as ring leader. He receives the same attention, and is supplied with the same food as the other officials, and is not treated as a prisoner in any way save that a sergeant has been made responsible not to lose sight of him. Here also they have five or six prisoners in chains whom they regard as important; and in another temple, the Tsai Shin Miao, from twenty to thirty more who are not regarded as important, but who can be at liberty as soon as certain formalities—chiefly of a pecuniary nature—are attended to by them.

The soldiers and runners are scattered through the whole region for fifteen miles round Sungpu seizing people. Any one may denounce any person and have him immediately seized, while many have been seized without being denounced at all. They are at once hauled off to the Temple of Horrors—unless they contrive to agree with their adversary quickly whilst they are in the way with him—and put to the question by Li Taotai and company. All Li's admirably methods of extracting the truth from the *KoLao Hui's* are brought into play, and if nothing serious is discovered they are transferred to the Tsai Shin Miao, and make their way back to liberty again as fast as their friends can be persuaded to pay up. The consequence is that throughout the whole district a perfect reign of terror prevails. The people will hardly speak of these things among themselves even in whispers, and to strangers not at all. When a stranger asks any question about the riot they run away. The very inns in the neighbourhood of Sungpu refuse to admit strangers for the night, and if a foreigner were to appear they would avoid his as if he had the plague. All this zeal may at first sight seem highly commendable, as teaching the people how careful they ought to be in their treatment of foreigners, but one little item makes all the difference: *The people being sought for so diligently are not the murderers, but all who have ever had any friendly dealing with the foreigner.* It seems utterly incredible, but it is true nevertheless. The case of Hokiapu, where the missionaries lived, affords a good illustration. This place is a small suburb of Sungpu, from the main street of which it is distant about 500 yards, across a deep watercourse generally dry. As its name indicates (shop of the Ho family) it was chiefly inhabited by people of the name of Ho, about 1,000 in number. The main road passed through it; it contained about 60 shops and inns, and was a busy, bustling place. I have passed the night there several times, and always found the people friendly and well disposed. Now, notwithstanding the fact that the Maching magistrate in his despatch admitted that the murderers came from a distance—were country people not townspeople—the first thing Li Taotai and company did was to seize a large number of the Ho family, all friends and neighbours of the missionaries, and to deal with them in such a way that the remaining inhabitants of Hokiapu took right and all ran away. That little suburb is now entirely deserted save for a guard of soldiers which is changed three times a day, and remains there to catch any friendly Hos who may venture back.

One of the prisoners in the Temple of Horrors is the coolie I mentioned in my last as having sent us word that they had caught and beaten him. At the time of the riot he was on this way from Hankow to Sungpu with the mail, and on its arrival there returned at once to Hankow with the news. He thus became one of the party which proposed to go and bring back the bodies. As that scheme fell through he returned to his home of his own accord and was immediately seized. He was tortured and beaten, and now has had an iron rod passed through his collar bone and rivetted to a chain, a delicate attention which it may have been observed Li Taotai is in the habit of paying to the *Kolao Hui*. The other prisoners in the Temple of Horrors have been similarly treated, but who they are our messenger could not with certainty discover, their names being variously reported, and it being far from safe to be too eager in asking questions. One is supposed to be the proprietor of the cash shop where the missionaries used to change money, and others, the relatives of certain men who are being hunted for high and low. One of these is their landlord. He has totally disappeared, no one knows where. Another was the middleman who aided them in renting the house, a tobacco merchant and substantial citizen of Sungpu now utterly ruined. He and some others are in the Hankow concession. Nothing whatever could be heard as to any of the men denounced by the missionaries as the aggressors having been dealt with, save Li Kia-chung, and he evidently has nothing to fear.

The explanation of all this is simple enough. As an official in the Viceroy's *yamên* put it: "This is to be the last time when natives will assist foreigners in the Hupeh province." The story of Hokiapu will be told far and wide, and the Chinese people are quick enough to draw their own conclusion.

It would be plainly unwarrantable on our part to suggest any definite doubt of these extraordinary details. But that they are very difficult to believe, every person not directly interested must admit. What is certain, however, is that an exceedingly dangerous state of feeling is rapidly growing up between the foreign residents and the Chinese, and that events may at any moment pass beyond the range of ordinary diplomatic control. It is fortunate that British interests are entrusted, at such a juncture, to an official of Mr. O'CONOR'S ability and tact. But we confess to very grave misgivings whether even Mr. O'CONOR will be able to satisfy his nationals in their present mood without precipitating something very like a rupture with China.

AMERICA AND SILVER.

REUTER'S telegram of Monday morning contains some interesting information. It sets out by telling us that the reserve of gold in the United States Treasury now aggregates a hundred million dollars. To many persons that may seem an imposing figure, but the fact is that it is less than the sum regarded as the proper amount for the Treasury to hold. Two months ago considerable alarm was caused in the States by a rapid outward movement of gold, 4½ million dollars flowing away in the one period of seven days at the close of May, and 6¼ millions in the ensuing week, until, at the beginning of June, the reserve had fallen to ninety-five millions of dollars; a figure smaller than anything recorded since the Resumption Act had gone into force. Between January 1st and June 3rd more than 25 millions of gold had left the Treasury, its holding at the opening of the year having been 121¼ millions. The minimum regarded as a safe reserve it 105 millions, so that Reuter's telegram of this morning shows a state of affairs not by any means satisfactory. At the same time, it is scarcely a state of affairs sufficiently striking to be worth a special telegram, and we confess inability to understand Reuter's motive in sending the news. The other part of the message, however, is highly interesting. The Chicago Congress on Finance has been in session for more than two months and has had a vast amount of valuable information and many expressions of expert opinion submitted to it. We are now told that it recommends, as the only effective remedy for the silver trouble, the opening of the American mints to silver and gold equally, the ratio between the two metals to be 16 to 1. How is such a recommendation to be understood? When America adopted the double standard in 1792, the ratio chosen was 15 to 1, as being the nearest possible approach to the rate then ruling in the market. But gold began to appreciate just about that epoch, and as an inevitable consequence it disappeared from circulation in the States, being replaced by silver. After the lapse of several years, it was considered necessary—in 1834—to change the ratio to 16 to 1, and that being somewhat above the market price of the yellow metal, gold displaced silver, and it is recorded that during a period of some forty years scarcely a silver dollar was seen in circulation. Of course the present system in America is not bimetallism. Anything short of unlimited coinage and unlimited legal tender of silver is discrimination in favour of gold, and if consistency were demanded of American silver men, they would have to throw open the mints of the country to the white metal. Many people contend that America ought to take that step, and that she is quite competent, single-handed, to restore silver to its place. They deduce this conclusion as to her competence from the experience of France, which country did for several years stand in the unique position of keeping her mints freely open to silver, and did not find herself subjected to any special inconvenience in consequence. But whatever the measure of America's strength may be,—the idea of her declaring free coinage of silver at such a ratio as 16 to 1, a ratio radically different from that ruling in the market, almost takes one's breath away. She has her own history to consult. Her experiences between 1792 and 1834

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and between 1834 and 1873 should be conclusive as to the results inevitably consequent on such a procedure. However, it is perhaps fruitless to concern ourselves about the exact details of any scheme at present elaborated in the interest of silver. The really significant point is that such schemes are advanced by such a Congress, and that the announcement is supplemented by intelligence of a bimetallic meeting in the Mansion House with Mr. A. J. BALFOUR among the prominent bimetallists. A dozen years ago, people who advocated the remonetization of silver were regarded as "faddists" and treated by gold folks as poor silly persons not worth serious consideration. What has been called the dominance of the gold standard was then virtually supreme, and its disciples, strong in numbers, were too lofty to discuss. But the mood of the world is very different now-a-days. No one now thinks the silver question beneath notice. Eminent statesmen figure as bimetallists and congresses of exports pronounce in favour of the double standard. The change is surely significant.

HONGKONG AND SILVER.

WE learn from Hongkong papers that depreciation of stocks continues in the colony. Last year the fall was disastrous, but at the beginning of the present year an idea prevailed in business circles that bottom had been touched, and investors once more began to bestir themselves The improvement proved illusory, however Depreciation re-asserted itself, so that—we quote from the Hongkong *Daily Press*—there has been since January last a decline of not less than ten per cent. on the total paid-up capital of all the stocks dealt in on the local market. Comparing the high rate of interest paid on these stocks with the very small rate procurable from English investments, it is plain that British money would flow into Hongkong in large quantities, and that immediate relief from the present stagnation would thus be afforded, if only the exchange difficulty could be got over. But no British capitalist will convert his gold into a metal fluctuating as silver fluctuates. A gain of two or three per cent. annual interest is not to be considered in the same breath with a possible and even probable loss of ten, fifteen or twenty per cent. of capital. Hence, like every silver-using community that has dealings with gold countries, the Hongkong folks yearn for a stable par of exchange, and among the plans put forward to attain that end, one is that bimetallism should be locally established. In other words, it is suggested that a Hongkong silver dollar should be coined, having the minimum sterling value of 2*s.* 6*d.*, and that this dollar should be the currency unit of the Colony. The programme follows, in a measure, that just adopted in India, but differs in one respect. For whereas the Indian scheme provides two factors—one appreciative, the other depreciative—to keep the Rupee at a fixed sterling price of sixteen pence, the Hongkong plan considers only the minimum price of the dollar. For the rest, the plan certainly merits examination. It would undoubtedly facilitate investments of gold in the Colony, because, if a British capitalist could be sure that the eight dollars into which he converts his sovereign would always be worth at least that in gold, he would have no hesitation in sending his sovereigns to Hongkong. But for purposes of trade with China, Japan or even Europe and America, nothing would be effected except the introduction of a new arbitrary unit in terms of which prices could be expressed for purposes of convenience of accounts Besides, is there any strong probability that the Government of the Colony could be persuaded to guarantee a minimum sterling value for these dollars? The propounders of the scheme call it the adoption of a local gold standard, but they must perceive that it is nothing more than the remonetization of silver by a piecemeal process. Bimetallists urge that an international agreement should be made as to the sterling price of an ounce of silver, and that the coinage of the white metal should be freely resumed on that basis. The British Government has adopted bimetallism within limits, in India. It has not, indeed, made any precise declaration in terms as to the sterling value of an ounce of silver, but it has taken steps to ensure that the quantity of silver in the Rupee shall have a permanent sterling value—which is exactly the same thing differently stated. Neither has it boldly thrown open the Mints to the coinage of silver at the new rate. On the contrary, it has ostensibly closed the Mints to the general public, but in reality it keeps them open since it undertakes that any quantity of gold offered at the Mint shall be purchased with silver Rupees at 16 pence. In fact, it has taken upon itself the function of importing silver into India, and it promises to provide silver coins to an unlimited extent in exchange for gold. With very slight modifications, that is bimetallism just as the advocates of the double standard interpret bimetallism. And that is also what certain people in Hongkong propose. They want to arbitrarily fix the sterling price of their dollars, and they want to have the Government guarantee that price. Evidently if such a plan were adopted everywhere, we should have an officially fixed ratio between the two metals, and silver would be universally remonetized. There are many ways of whipping the Devil round the bush, but the point he returns to is always the same. Perhaps, in view of the difficulty of international action, each of the suffering units may be induced to act on its own account, and since all are governed by the same conditions as to a ratio of value, and all, whether overtly or covertly, are working for the remonetization of silver, we may reach the bourne without much more suffering. In the meanwhile, students of finance will not fail to observe that whatever variety of device be resorted to, or whatever elaboration of detail be employed, one unchanging factor constitutes the heart of every project: an official value is to be fixed for silver in terms of gold.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

THE ASCENT OF NANTAI-ZAN

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR, At this season of the year, when so many foreigners are in the interior of Japan, a brief sketch of the ascent of "Nantai Zan" may be of interest to your readers.

On August 5th a party of five, (including 2 ladies) left Yumoto (Tochigi-Ken) at 7 a.m., for the ascent. Until 9.45 a.m., our path was practically easy to travel. We wended our way through a forest which, some years back, had suffered at man's hands in the shape of a 'forest fire;' the trees showing their charred look to this day, took away much of that beauty which is to be seen where trees of various kinds are clustered close to one another. Behind us, 2 miles or so, was Senjo ga-hara (moor of the battle-field), and in the great stillness and silence of that forest, with but the song of the "Uguisu," and an occasional twitter of the "Komadori," one could look back in the direction of the field of battle and say, "there the sword of the Samurai did its work" (in 1389).

The actual ascent commenced at 9.45, and we reached the summit at 12.55. The ascent for one hour and a half from the summit was very steep, with no stones, but the bare soil and roots of trees to tread upon. The summit (8,150 feet above sea-level) commands, in fine weather, a glorious view of Yumoto town and lake on the one side, and Chiusenji on the other; also of the peaks of Komanago, O-manago, Nisho-zan, and Taro-zan. Unfortunately, we were enveloped in clouds on the Chiusenji Lake side of the mountain, so a perfect all round view could not be seen.

Having finished tiffin, the descent commenced at 1.50 p.m., and after a long, monotonous trudge, like going down very steep stairs, we reached Chiusenji at 4.30 p.m. Our mountain guide (Mr. Kane) informed me, that but three foreign ladies had climbed "Nan-tai-zan" before the two that accompanied us on this occasion; but upon this point there is room for doubt. "Nan-tai zan" has no stopping-places at all, the opposite to "Fujiyama" which, I believe, has 9 or 10 The former is one continuous hard climb; and a most tedious descent; no sliding down lava and scoriæ, but a constant bumping. Picture to yourself going down steep stairs for 2 hours and 40 minutes, with roots of trees lying along the surface of the earth ready to trip you up. Such is the descent of "Nan tai zan" (the highest peak of the Nikko-zan range,) to the Chiusenji side. In conclusion, may I say that, it would not be at all advisable for anybody to ascend from the Chiusenji side.

With apologies for so long a letter, I beg to remain, Sir, your obedient servant,

EX-MILITZ.

Nikko, August 7th, 1893.

THE DIMINISHING BIRTH-RATE IN THE UNITED STATES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In *The Forum* for June, Dr. John S. Billings, an eminent American physician and statistician, has collected a mass of figures and information on the above subject. It being an interesting lesson for students of sociology and politics, I will give a synopsis of Dr. Billings's article, and will add to it and make such comments as I may choose.

He begins by saying that we have nowhere in the U.S. an accurate and complete registration of births, and the only way in which we can obtain an approximate estimate for the whole country, or for a State, is, at each decennial census, to take the number of children under one year of age

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found living at the date of the census, and add to this the number of children who died during the census year and were born during the same year.

By this method he finds that the birth rate per thousand of population in the United States was 30.95 in 1880, and 26 68 in 1890, showing a decrease of a little over four per thousand.

But, says he, we cannot directly compare the birth-rate of the United States as deduced from the census data with those of other countries, because our birth rate thus obtained is less than the true figures. In 1880, he computed from comparisons of such data as were available, that the true birth rate for that year was about 36 per 1000, or about fifteen per cent. greater than that shown by the census data. And on the same basis he concludes that the annual birth-rate for 1890 ought to be put at 30 7 per 1000.

Now in order to get a comprehensive idea of our subject, let us compare the birth-rates thus obtained with those of some other countries. In the United States, the proportions per 1,000 for 1880 and 1890 were respectively 36 0 and 30.7; England and Wales, 34.2 and 30 2; Scotland, 33 6 and 30.3; Ireland, 24 7 and 22.3; France, 24.5 and 21 8; Belgium, 31.1 and 28 7; German Empire, 37 6 and 35.7; Austria, 38 0 and 36.7; Switzerland, 29 6 and 26.6; Denmark, 31.8 and 30 6; Norway, 30.7 and 30.0; Netherlands, 35.5 and 32 9.

It will be seen that there has been a steady decline in the birth rates of all these nations during the past ten years, and that Austria stands at the top with the highest birth-rate, followed closely by Germany, while Ireland and France are at the bottom with lowest rate.

The following interesting figures, taken from the London *Times* of May 12th, 1893, come in as quite opportune just here, being the very latest facts from the Registrar-General's returns:—

In the United Kingdom 189,755 births and 118,382 deaths were registered in the three months ending March 31st last. The natural increase of population was, therefore, 101,373. The registered number of persons married in the quarter ending December 31st, 1892, was 156,608.

The birth-rate in the United Kingdom in the first quarter of this year was 30·3 and the death-rate 19·9 per 1,000. The marriage-rate in the fourth quarter of 1892 was 16·3 per 1,000.

In England and Wales during the fourth quarter of 1892 the marriages of 132,870 persons were registered, giving an annual rate of 17·8 per 1,000 of the estimated population, which is 0·3 per 1,000 above mean rate in the ten preceding fourth quarters.

The births registered in the first quarter of 1893 numbered 191,280, being in the proportion of 31·5 annually per 1,000 living. This exceeds the rate in the first quarters of 1889 and 1892, which were 31·4 and 30·0 respectively, but with these exceptions it is the lowest rate in the corresponding period of any year since 1848; compared with the average in the ten next preceding first quarters, it shows a deficiency of 1·1 per 1,000.

Now with this broadened view of the subject let us return to the United States.

Taking the country by sections, we find in the New England and Middle States an average birth-rate of 25 57 in 1880, and 23.42 in 1890 per 1,000 of population. In the Western States, 30.34 and 26.47; in the Southern States, 36 12 and 29 72; in the Pacific States, 24 49, and 20.69. Observe here that the greatest diminution in birth-rate is in those States where the coloured population is greatest. To show this more clearly, the author introduces a special table of figures, from which we find that the birth-rate of whites in twelve Southern States was 36 08 in 1890 and 29 90 in 1890; while that of the coloured population at the same time was 38.50 and 30.22, showing a loss of 8.28 per 1,000, or nearly double that of the nation as a whole. This is probably due to the fact that the Negro is fast learning and adopting the ways of civilization!

The birth-rate has diminished in all the States and Territories except in Arizona, Colorado, Montana, and New Mexico, where the increase is from 4 to 5 per 1,000, due probably to the increase in the proportion of women of child-bearing ages.

After finishing his tables of figures, Dr. Billings sums up his thoughts in these suggestive remarks:—Does this diminution of birth rate indicate a progressive diminution in fertility, in the power of either or both sexes to produce children? There is no good reason for thinking so. It is true that it has been suggested that alcohol, tobacco, and syphilis are producing a deterioration of races which is in part responsible for the change, but of this there is no evidence. So far as we have data with regard to the use of intoxicating liquors, the fertility seems to be greatest in those countries and among those classes where they are most freely used.

He thinks that the progressive and alarming increase of migration from the rural districts to the cities, the increase of wealth and luxury, the so-called "emancipation of women," all have an influence in lessening the birth-rate, by diminishing the proportion of marriages at comparatively early ages, and by favouring an increase in divorce and prostitution; but it is probable that the most important factor in the change is the deliberate and voluntary avoidance or prevention of child-bearing on the part of a steadily increasing number of married people, who not only prefer to have but few children but who know how to obtain their wish. The reasons for this are numerous, but three only are mentioned.

The first is the diffusion of information with regard to the subject of generation by means of popular and school treatises on physiology and hygiene, which diffusion began thirty or forty years ago. Girls of twenty years of age at the present day know much more about anatomy and physiology than did their grand mothers at the same age, and the married women are much better informed as to the means by which the number of children may be limited than were those of thirty years ago.

The second cause has been the growth of the opinion that the abstaining from having children on the part of a married couple is not only not in itself sinful or contrary to the usual forms of religious creeds, but that it may even be under certain circumstances commendable.

The third cause is the great increase in the use of those things which were formerly considered as luxuries, but which now have become almost necessities. The greater cost in maintaining social position in the lower and middle classes, lead to the desire to have fewer children in order that each may be better provided for, or in some cases, from a purely selfish motive of a desire to avoid care and trouble and of having more to spend on social pleasures.

In the struggle for what is deemed a desirable mode of existence at the present day, marriage is being held less desirable and its bonds less sacred than they were forty years ago. Young women are gradually being imbued with the idea that marriage and motherhood are not to be their chief objects in life, that they should aim at being independent of actual or possible husbands, that they should earn their own livings, that housekeeping is a sort of domestic slavery, and that it is best to remain unmarried until some one offers who has the means of gratifying their educated tastes. They desire to take a more active part in the affairs of the community, to have wider interests, and to live broader lives than their mothers and grandmothers have done.

The author does not think that this lessening of the birth-rate is in itself an evil, but considered as one of the signs of forces which are at work to modify the existing conditions of society, and some of which appear to be of evil tendency, this diminution of birth rate merits careful consideration by statisticians, sociologists, politicians, and all who are interested in the physical and moral well-being of the nation.

Very truly,
WILL PATTILLO.

June 30th, 1893.

A CHURCH DISPUTE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—The Rev. Kotaro Hikaru was ordained a minister last night at the Daimachi Church, one of the Nippon Kirisuto Kyokai, and the Rev. Yasutaro Ishihara conducted the procedure as chairman of the committee appointed by the First Presbytery of Tokyo. At the laying on of hands upon the candidate Mr. Ishihara invited, according to custom, the ministers attending to come forward. I then went forth to the place where the candidate kneeled. The Rev. Mr. Ibuka, one of the ministers joined with them, remarked: "Who is this man?" The Chairman said "He is Mr. Kato, recently re-admitted as a minister to the Presbytery of Chizei (Kushu), I understand." "I am not," immediately responded Mr. Ibuka, "publicly informed of this man as a minister." I then declared: "I do not pretend to make troubles in the procedure of the ceremony, but there is no means of making known my case to every minister publicly except by the press." The Chairman asked me, with his humble manner, not to join to laying my hand on the candidate. I thus thought that there was no need to confuse the service for my own sake and consequently sat down in a pew. And I left the chapel after a prayer had passed.

The above mentioned affair is evidently a violation of my privilege as a minister in this church. Is there any rule that information must be given of such matters as my re-admittance to the Church to a Bishop in the constitution and canons of the Church of Christ in Japan? Are there such precedents?

My case was officially forwarded to the clerks of the other four Presbyteries by the clerk of the Presbytery of which I am a member, with a copy of the minute of transactions. A man who insists that he is a minister, especially in that body, was doubtless invited to the service from the point of statement made by the Chairman. Can Mr. Ibuka imagine that there should be any fraud of this sort? Has this reverend gentleman a certificate of his own ordination? No, I do not think he has one. Neither have I. It depends on the minute of Presbytery only. And am I at liberty to say to Mr. Ibuka that I cannot recognize him as a minister, because he has no certificate and I was not publicly informed of his position. He was an Arminian, yet he entered the United Church having previously held marked Calvinism. He went to the Union Seminary of New York to study the Higher Criticism, as he told me in a certain place on the day Mr. Large was killed. He certainly attended for a short time in the Lecture Room of Professor Briggs, but he gave it up at his own *convenience*. He is, no doubt, a very wise man, and surely his friendly relations with the Rev. Mr. Uyemura are not continued the same as before despite the atmosphere of the Conference of the missionaries cooperating with the said Church held at Kobe in May last. However, my case differs from his, as I confessed my blunder in holding radical views of theology. And I confessed, moreover, the actual condition of my thought at any rate. If he accuses me that I am not sound, beg to enquire to what extent he is profound.

Has he properly "authority" to refuse me, because he simply ignores, though I am sure that he does not really ignore it, my reacceptance to the Church according to the rule? Can you swear, Mr. Ibuka, that you have never heard of my matter through the clerk, Rev. Mr. Wada, to whom the official reference was made? Do you hold the episcopacy? And do you substantially claim the authority of a Bishop notwithstanding you are not consecrated? The Church of Christ in Japan is, first of all, a Presbyterian body in which there is no higher kind of bishop than the bishop of a congregation.

What is meant by "Oyake oshirase," or public information? If it is the idea of an official report, Mr. Ibuka improperly claims the authority of the Bishop of the Church; because there is no need of such an official report particularly to him as the head. He is in a church holding the equality of all Ministers, yet he privately exercises, it is said, the Lordship among them. Without public knowledge or acquaintance can he honestly insist that he does not know me to have become a member of the orthodox church again. Why news was spread out among the Ministers all over the Empire? Was he still abroad lately? Was he dreaming? Is he not a regular reader of the Christian weeklies, one issued by the Kumiai people and another by his supporters? Can he still be sure of my case that he is not jealous and prejudicial to me? Am I a fraud? Or is he? This sad event is not related to myself alone. Mr. Ibuka took nearly the same position against the Rev. Mr. Ogumi, now president of the Synod of the said Church, in the previous time more than once in favour with Dr. Amerman. I am therefore not less astonished at his habitual doing like this, than I regret intensely that his treatments certainly caused the partial spirit in the Church.

What his are followers propagating practically in the fields? They are, as a rule, moving from place to place with the reason of unpopularity among the people and we know of them what pious lives they lived.

Consider, if he does not think my entrée to the Church is correct, if I am informed that I am not welcomed by him and his supporters, he can argue the matters in a proper place if he prefers, but is it an honourable course to say before a congregation "I don't know of this fellow publicly." How should I interpret his statement? This partial and ridiculous effort is a great disadvantage for an ecclesiastical body.

As a matter of fact, Mr. Hikaru, the candidate, was one of my devoted friends. I instructed him, at first, in Christianity which he never knew before. I examined of him to be baptized some six years ago after a considerable labour to lead him to Christ, and the Rev. J. J. Alexander Christianized him at my residence in Kokura, where I endeavoured for the propagation of the Kingdom of God. I also had the pleasure to recommend him to the Theological Seminary where Mr. Ibuka was then a tutor.

If there were not these circumstances, I would not probably have attended the meeting held last night, in the fact I greatly rejoiced in Mr. Hikaru, but Mr. Ibuka knowing this real condition excluded my privilege as stated above. Although we have had little confidence in this man, Kajinosuke, yet he is the president of the Meiji Gakuin. In our country, these professors are esteemed very little. They are mostly translators of works by the Westerners. Mr. Ibuka is not a highly, well trained teacher comparatively to those in our Imperial University. Mr. Ibuka is not an author of a book. He is merely a translator and convenient assistant to Drs. Imbrie, Amerman, and Knox. We pity that he missed them continually.

"The student is not above the teacher," so we learned in the Gospel. It is surely unfortunate to

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educate the young men by the bigoted standard. We, not only myself, but many others unite in saying:—"Mr. Ibuka, begone! if you treat men who do not kneel down before you in the said manner." In this respect, the late Dr. Nishima was far superior to him. Mr. Ibuka can never leave the church, because his ascent was supported by the fund of the Missions since 1871, yet he "manifested a laudable desire to be completely independent from all foreign missionary connection." At a dangerous moment, he flatters to the foreigners. That is all. The institution he directs abundantly decreased in students and the Churches he oversees lost a considerable number of converts. I stand on a quite antagonizing position against his character, policy, personality. We do not praise too smart fellows for ministry. At all events, may I venture to question: Is Mr. Ibuka a Christian? Is he conscious?

Our only hope is in the Christian work for this land in the future. We need beware of yeast. What success attended the proposal made by Mr. Ibuka in the movement passed? The system of the "Evangelistic Committee" has practically broken down. From every point, I am discouraged about him and his effort.

On the occasion of his disgraceful conduct last night, I beg to call the impartial attention of missionaries from abroad, to whom we are indebted, doubtless, for the propagation of Christianity in this land far more than to so-called "prominents" in the Church.

Yours, &c., SATORI KATO.

Shinagawa, July 31st, 1893.

THE YOKOHAMA ENGINE AND IRON WORKS, LIMITED.

The adjourned meeting of the above company, postponed from Tuesday on account of there being an insufficient number of members present to form a quorum, took place in the Chamber of Commerce rooms on Wednesday, Mr. J. F. Lowder in the chair. There were also present Messrs. C. B. Bernard, J. T. Boag, J. Rickett, J. Dodds, A. Egli, N. F. Smith and Geo. Charlesworth, Secretary.

The CHAIRMAN, in opening the meeting, remarked that although there were only four shareholders present (the others coming in during the Chairman's remarks) it was past 4 o'clock, and he would proceed with the business of the meeting—the passing of the report and accounts, the election of two Directors for the current year, and the re-appointment of the Auditors. They had before them the accounts showing the result of the sale of the Kobe property. He was sorry it had not turned out more satisfactorily, but they had done their best. Before the auction they had tried to dispose of the property by private sale but had been unsuccessful, due to the competition among the Japanese, and they had been obliged to put it up to auction. They had, however, done all they could as the articles were catalogued both in Japanese and English and the sale was fully advertised. On the date of the sale a large number of Japanese turned up, but there were only one or two real bidders, the others present coming not to bid but to combine against the sale and it consequently had to be stopped. In a day or two afterwards, two men representating the Japanese came, and a compromise being effected the property was sold. The Japanese subsequently made a sale on their own account and realized a profit on the transaction. This seemed to be the usual practice or result of sales in cases where Japanese were interested. They would see that the loss on this branch was $29,734, the net proceeds being $12,200. It had been determined by their Directors that it would be wiser to sell the Kobe branch and meet the loss than to go on with a millstone around their neck. It must be borne in mind, however, that they had not sold the piece of land belonging to them; they were not forced to sell it but would endeavour to sell at a fair price. They were not in a position to force the sale. There was also a steam launch, worth between $1,700 or $2,000, for sale. If asked how this loss was brought about he had only to refer them to the accounts, which showed a gross earning of $46,075 against $63,876 for the year ending May, 1892, showing a difference in the gross earnings for one year of $17,801. On the other side of the account, wages and working expenses totalled $33,255, while in the preceding year it reached $60,256, a difference of $27,000, this being the saving effected during 1893 as compared with 1892. He might state that they had reduced the expenses of the establishment and wages as low as possible, while at the same time keeping up an efficient staff to carry on the work. They could not reduce it further; they must keep it efficient to do whatever work have might to be done. There was the final alternative of closing up altogether, but it was not yet time, in his opinion, for them to have recourse to such a drastic measure. Times were bad with them as with others. He was present in the same room a few days before when he heard the announcement of a 4 per cent. dividend and the Chairman express his regret that he could do no better for the shareholders. If he (the Chairman) had been able to announce the same, he would not have so expressed himself, but been glad. Still they must hope for better times. The Directors had done their best for themselves and the shareholders, and would continue to do so in the circumstances under which they were placed. The Chairman was reminded by some figures he had just seen, that it was only for the last eighteen months or two years that they had made such a bad showing, as up to November, 1891, 40 per cent of the capital had been paid up in dividends. Since then, however, there had been no dividend at all, but they must look forward to the day when they would again be able to pay 10 per cent, 12 per cent, or above. There was one redeeming feature; they had reduced their debt to their bankers by $24,635. He hoped one of those present would propose the adoption of the report and accounts.

Mr. BOAG wished to know the proportion of the account between Yokohama and Kobe. How much belonged to each branch separately, or was the investment in Kobe entirely swept away.

The CHAIRMAN said he hadn't the figures before him, but if Mr. Boag would call at the office he could place them before him. The stock and property as per Inventories consisted of a steam launch and the land only.

Mr. BOAG understood it was the same here.

The CHAIRMAN answered in the affirmative.

Mr. BERNARD said he would like to know the proportion for Yokohama. It might be it was not all for Yokohama.

The CHAIRMAN replied that there were no earnings at all in Kobe; it was all loss. The earnings were only in Yokohama.

Mr. DODDS then explained the position of affairs to Mr. Boag. The Kobe branch had been closed nine months.

Mr. Boag asked whether there was any falling off at all in Yokohama?

The Chairman—A very considerable falling off. The Kobe land and buildings were valued at $32,855 and the buildings had been sold for $5,000, leaving a balance of $27,885 about the value of the land itself, at which price it stood in 1889 and stood at the same price now. That was what it cost them, but its value was more than that.

Mr. BOAG asked whether the land was in the foreign settlement?

The CHAIRMAN said no, entirely outside. There was, however, a fine water frontage.

Mr. BOAG pointed out that there was an item of $600, for directors and auditors' fees and again in the profit and loss account, there was an amount of $1,200 for Directors and Auditors fees. He could not understand how this could be.

The Chairman remarked that the $600 was owing for the half year, the $1,200 was for the whole year.

After some desultory conversation Mr. Boag proposed and Mr. Smith seconded the adoption of the accounts, which was unanimously agreed to.

REPORT.

Annexed hereto is a Statement of Accounts for the year ended the 31st day of May, 1893. All the property of the Company at Kobe, with the exception of the lot of land and a steam launch, has been sold. The net proceeds amounted $12,200.00; and the result of the sale was a loss of $29,734.14.

This loss has been partially met by appropriating the balance at credit of the Reserve Fund, and the profits made at Yokohama during the year, thus reducing the deficit to the sum of $18,956.73, as shewn in the Profit and Loss Account.

Your Directors are still negotiating for the sale of the lot of land at Kobe, and if these negotiations are successful, it is hoped that the debt will be converted into a credit balance.

It is to be observed that the Company's overdraft with the New Oriental Bank Corporation has been reduced from $77,809 on the 31st May, 1892, to $53,174.00 on the 31st May, 1893.

The gross earnings of the Company have undergone a serious diminution during the past year, owing doubtless in a great measure to increased competition, but a comparison of the expenditure for Wages and Working Expenses for the two years, shews a very considerable reduction under this heading for the year ended in 1893.

Directors.—In accordance with the Articles of Association, Messrs. Dodds and Rickett retire from the Board, but offer themselves for re-election.

Auditors.—Messrs. Keil and Fraser retire, but are eligible for re election.

F. LOWDER, DODDS, } Directors.

Yokohama, July 29th, 1893.

THE YOKOHAMA ENGINE AND IRON WORKS, LIMITED.

BALANCE SHEET—MAY 31ST, 1893.

DR.

To Capital 2,300 Shares @ $100	$230,000.00
To New Oriental Bank Corporation, Limited	53,174.75
To Wages for May, paid in June	2,092.65
To Directors' and Auditors' fees	600.00
	$284,867.40

CR.

By Cash in hand	$ 57.75
By Property, Yokohama and Kobe	52,289.40
By Working Plant	52,554.96
By Stock as per Inventories, Yokohama and Kobe	51,659.99
By Bills Receivable, Yokohama and Kobe	4,301.05
By Insurance, Unexpired Policies	540.42
By Profit and Loss, Balance	18,956.73
By Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China	4,707.10
	$284,867.40

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT—MAY 31ST, 1893.

DR.

To Bad and disputed debts written off	$ 397.75
To Wages and Working Expenses	35,255.50
To Depreciation, Plant, Tools, &c.	2,119.67
To Depreciation, Buildings	900.00
To Fire Insurance	1,015.80
To Rent	720.00
To Interest	5,296.93
To Directors' and Auditors' fees	2,300.00
To Kobe Branch	29,734.14
	$ 75,259.79

CR.

By Transfer Fees	$ 2.00
By Gross Earnings, year ended May 31st, 1893	46,075.07
By Transferred from Reserve Fund	10,185.99
By Balance Carried down	18,956.73
	$ 75,259.79
June 1st, 1893.	
To Balance Brought down	18,956.73

E. & O. E.

G. CHARLESWORTH, Secretary.

We have examined the foregoing accounts, and compared them with the books and vouchers of the Company and find them to be correct.

D. FRASER, O. KEIL, } Auditors.

Yokohama, July 19th, 1893.

On the proposition of Mr. SMITH, seconded by Mr. BOAG, Messrs. Rickett and Dodds were re-elected Directors, and the Chairman's proposition that the Auditors be re-elected was also carried, after which the meeting separated.

LETTER FROM KARUIZAWA.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

Karuizawa is the Andermatt—the "On the-Meadows"—of Japan. Situated on a high green tableland, a moor-like plateau surrounded by grassy hills, behind which the towering bulk of Asama-yama rears itself, on one side, and jagged peaks, the slopes of which are richly clothed with thick and shady groves, break the sky line on the others, the Swiss appearance of this charming spot cannot fail to strike the visitor very strongly. The grassy heights in the immediate neighbourhood of the village resemble the lower Alps. The tiny match box villas of the foreign residents, many of which have gable ended roofs, look for all the world like chalets. The little native street contains a few strong, heavily built wooden houses of a rich brown colour, the overhanging eaves and projecting upper storeys of which recall almost exactly similar structures in the mountain villages of Switzerland—a resemblance heightened very curiously by the flat stones which are laid upon nearly all the house roofs in order to prevent the dispersal of the wooden tiles when the wind plays havoc down the passes. And, lastly, there is edelweiss upon the hills! So that Karuizawa can boast resemblances to Switzerland both in particulars and generals; for nothing could be much more suggestive of Europe's hilly playground than the marvellous beauty of the views from some of the *Aussichtspünkts* here, such for instance as Sunset Hill, at the top of the Usui Pass, whence the eye roams delightedly over a vast panorama of sun flecked, village dotted plain, athwart which the gigantic shadow of the volcano, smoke and all, lies brooding—the broken and distorted pinnacles of Myogi to the left—the crumbling ruins of Cathedral Rock in front—a magnificent ravine below—and a beautiful distance everywhere. To prefer Karuizawa to Nikko may be—is, probably—the mark of a Philistine. I mean, of course, to base one's preference on æsthetic grounds. Yet even here Karuizawa can hold its own, for it is not handicapped as Nikko is. The air, for instance, is cool and dry and bracing; that of Nikko most emphatically is not—indeed it is one of the moistiest, hottest, and most enervating places that ever achieved fame as a resort from the heats of summer. In Karuizawa it is not a labour to drag one leg after another; the heat is a dry heat and the nights are cool, flies abound, it is true, and there are a few mosquitoes, which, however, can easily be kept at a distance; and the soil is powdered pumice stone. One is able to enjoy the beauties of Nature here, therefore, with a freedom from drawbacks which visitors to more relaxing places cannot boast, say what they will; and it

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would at least be interesting to know which special view in Nikko, with the solitary exception perhaps of Urami, can justly be assigned a higher place in point of natural beauty than some of the finest here. I mention Urami in order to emphasise the fact that Karuizawa can boast no waterfalls. That is admitted at once. But I contend that the drawback is amply counterbalanced by attractions of a different sort.

The open plain on which the two villages of Karuizawa stand was apparently once a lake, and it is more than possible that it is from this rather marshy ground that our mosquitoes come. It is, however, being rapidly drained, and when this process is complete there is good ground for hoping that the annoyance will disappear. Even now the mosquitoes are not nearly so venomous as they are elsewhere. The flies are considerably worse, and there it is the habits of the people that are to fault. Heaps of straw, animal and vegetable refuse, manure and other matter in the wrong place lie about the yards and enclosures from week to week, and of course breed flies in abundance. If only Karuizawa were big and rich enough to support a Sanitary Inspection Bureau that would dragoon the natives into something like orderly and systematic methods, a great improvement would result in this and other respects. At present they seem poor, shiftless, and devoid of enterprise, otherwise they would probably have started an hotel here two or three years ago. Indifferent and extremely smelly tea-houses do not attract foreign tourists, who are apt to be sickened by odours which the Japanese either do not perceive at all, or else actually enjoy—for there can be no other alternative. But it is impossible to believe that now the railway through the Usui Pass is in working order an hotel in good foreign style will not be started here some time next year.

Life here is pleasant, and by no means uneventful. Those who love touring excursions can indulge in them to their hearts' content; those who prefer loafing rambles may loaf and ramble as they list without being at all despised. Dress, too, is a matter less of æsthetics than of ease, less of fashion than of fancy; I have not seen a single costume of Worth's since my arrival—not even among the missionaries. And we breakfast, lunch, and dine, we walk and read and sleep, to vocal music. First one side of the street breaks into psalmody; then the other side strikes up; anon a burst of praise is wafted into our windows from a converted billiard-saloon a little distance off, until every corner echoes with the strains of "Federal Street," or 'Nehemiah,' or 'Putrefaction New.' It was Keats, you know, who wrote those very pregnant lines—

> "Heard melodies are sweet; but those unheard
> Are sweeter."

I wonder whether he would have been tempted to revise the statements if he had lived to stay at Karuizawa during the summer of 1893?

LETTER FROM LONDON.

(From our own Correspondent.)

London, July 7th.

The Royal Wedding day has come and gone and the success of the event could not have been more complete. During the most charming weather we have had ever since early spring there has never been a more perfect day, and the natural result was that the almost millions of spectators, who lined the streets, [to the roofs of the houses] along which the Royal procession passed; being in thoroughly good humour, were doubly enthusiastic. Never since the Jubilee Day has the whole of London been so thoroughly *en fête* and no other event but that could be compared with the present. But as you will have full particulars from other sources I will not fill up more of my column on the subject.

Further despatches relative to the loss of the *Victoria* contain the sad but unmistakeable intelligence that this terrible disaster was the result of an almost incomprehensible blunder. Admiral Markham states that at the time of the fatal command the vessels were six cables apart, and when the *Victoria* signalled that the "gridiron" evolution should be performed, thinking some mistake had been made, as there was apparently too short a distance to admit of this being done with safety, he signalled back: "Am I to understand it is your wish for the columns to turn as indicated by signal now flying." However, whilst he was flying these flags the further signal came from the flagship, "What are you waiting for." The Admiral then goes on to say that it occurred to him that the Admiral wished him to turn sixteen points, as indicated by the flagship signal, and that it was his intention to bring the *Victoria* round in a larger circle round the Second Division. He therefore obeyed the signals, but seeing, however, that the *Victoria* kept her curve, Admiral Markham turned his starboard screw full speed astern to diminish his own circle. It was too late and it was plainly discerned that a collision was inevitable. Both ships reversed their engines, but there was not time to avert the catastrophe, and the *Camperdown* crushed into the *Victoria* with such terrific force that within thirteen minutes she was carrying half her crew to the bottom of the sea. This official report, supported by the evidence of the officers on both vessels, makes the reason of the disaster only too sadly plain. There was no breakdown of steerage gear; no refusal of either ship to answer to her helm; no failure of the machinery; no misunderstanding of the command given. Deplorable as it is to arrive at such a conclusion, there is unfortunately no doubt that Sir George Tryon, than whom there was not a more experienced, a more gallant, or a more popular man in the Navy, was alone responsible for the terrible blunder,—his first and last—which resulted in such fatal consequences.

Animated games of Chess have been quite a stock feature in the programmes of large Bazaars for some time past, but the distinction of first arranging for a rubber at whist with living card kings and queens, aces and knaves, has fallen to the broad-minded Vicar of Ealing, who included such an event in the list of side shows at an International Bazaar held last week in aid of the Church funds. The kings and knaves of the game were naturally represented by gentlemen, but all the other items of the pack were played by young ladies, who were habited in accordance with the quaint designs which were taken from the very earliest days of woodcutting as practised in Italy. It may be imagined the game presented the most picturesque appearance and was in every way a great success.

A curious instance of a pack of cards being turned to a distinctly devout purpose is on record. An incumbent of an Irish parish noticed one morning that among his normally scanty congregation was a young soldier, who, sitting in a remote pew, was shuffling a pack of cards and from time to time drawing a card therefrom. This apparently irreverent conduct on the part of the youthful grenadier was reported to his commanding officer, but the young man had a full explanation. He pleaded that he had been brought up by pious parents, but that the few pence he received as pay per day were insufficient for him to purchase a Prayer book, instead of which he used a pack of cards, every card having some special significance, corresponding to various scriptural incidents. Thus, according to his showing, the six of Spades reminded him of the Creation, and the seven of the Sabbath: the ten of clubs stood for the ten commandments, the four of diamonds represented the four evangelists; and the queen of hearts personified the Queen of Sheba. The record concludes that this explanation was accepted and the soldier got off scot free.

The Midland Railway Company, which has always been the pioneer in improvements, has just started to run a new afternoon express to Glasgow, to which both first and third class saloon dining cars will be attached. This will be a great improvement on the old system of allowing twenty minutes to obtain dinner at a station, when the soup is supplied in a boiling state and the potatoes make the inside of one's mouth unpleasantly warm, not to mention the pudding which is seldom arrived at before the time is up—the whole combining to make one feel thoroughly uncomfortable, out of temper, and a subsequent attack of indigestion being inevitable. Under the new system, of course, you can take as long as you like over the meal, and one has the additional satisfaction of knowing that one is covering the ground all the time. The other railway companies will doubtless follow suit before long.

Another newspaper libel case. This time the *Hawk*, a society journal, has had to pay £2,000 damages to Lieutenants Marker and Fielding of the Coldstream Guards for having reported in the columns of that paper an account of a fracas which took place between the Editor, Mr. Chandor, and the plaintiffs during a performance of the Boxing Kangaroo at the Westminster Aquarium. The irate quill driver wrote to the military men offering to settle the matter abroad, but the regulations forbidding this good old custom of ending quarrels, they preferred to have it out in a more prosaic fashion at a court of law, and the result ought to bring satisfactory consolation.

At the sale of Mr. Abington's stud the other day, Meddler, the son of St. Gatien and Busybody, fetched the highest price of any horse ever sold by auction in England, viz., 14,500 gs. Mr. Edward Weatherby had a commission to buy him for America, with a limit it is understood of 20,000 gs. Mrs. Langtry's agent went up to 13,000 gs. and then relinquished the contest.

"Off with his head; so much for Buckingham," although not the words of Shakespeare, are thoroughly familiar to theatre goers who have seen the acting edition of "Richard III," as the succinct expression of the king upon receiving the news of his cousin's capture after rebellion. Rulers nowadays, if they should wish to thus quickly despatch their unruly subjects, are generally hedged in by formalities of constitution which effectually prevent effect being given to such desires. The Sultan of Turkey, however, still holds virtually an absolute power over his subjects and having lately become suspicious of a conspiracy against his life, he has quietly summoned several of the suspected persons, among them being two captains of the fire brigade, to the Ministry of War and shipped them off to a distant province of the empire. It is, indeed, understood that Said Pasha, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, has himself been in danger, having been on several occasions summoned to the Palace and closely questioned. The telegram further states the Sultan is in a most nervous state, and the officials of the Palace live in constant fear of being falsely accused by their own servants, many of whom are in the pay of the secret police. If these reports be true, and there is no reason for supposing them otherwise, it would seem that political affairs in Turkey are at the present time not much in advance of what they were in this country some few hundreds of years ago, a suspected person nowadays in most countries gets some sort of a trial, however much this may vary in its procedure.

LETTERS FROM CHICAGO.

(From our own Correspondent)

Chicago, July 17th.

The two Armenian professors who were sentenced to be executed for complicity in riots, have been pardoned by the Sultan on condition that they leave Turkish territory. The Sultan also gave each a free passage and £15.

And now the friends of American missionaries in Siam are becoming concerned about their welfare during the hostilities between the French and the Siamese. A representative of the Presbyterian Board, telegraphing to Secretary Gresham about provision for the safety of the missionaries and their families, received the following reply:—

Department of State, Washington, D. C., July 14th, 1893.—John Gillespie, No. 53 Fifth avenue, New York. I am informed by the Secretary of the Navy that there is not at present on the Asiatic station any vessel capable of entering Siamese waters. The missionaries should communicate with the Legation at Bangkok for the usual diplomatic protection.

W. Q. Gresham

In Siam there are about twenty missionaries, mostly Presbyterians, who will at least be hindered in their work.

The Nawar of Rampur, with his suite and special cook, has arrived in this city, and is "doing the Fair."

The *Daily News* of this city the other day contained the following joke with reference to the curving roofs of the Hōōden on the Wooded Island:—

M. Peastraw (accosting stranger)—"Say, mister, ain't it tew bad tew put green timber inter nice show buildin's? See how them roofs have warped?"

The Christian Endeavour Convention at Montreal was brought into considerable trouble by the ill-timed remarks of Rev. Mr. Karmarker, a Hindoo, concerning Roman Catholicism. The French Canadians of that city were naturally incensed; and a mob of them not only stoned some Endeavourers, but also disturbed the meetings and tried to pull down one of the tents. The police of the city, however, afforded good protection; and the respectable element of the citizens condemned the mob. The Endeavour Convention also put on record their having no intention to decry any one's religious belief.

The Baptist Young Peoples' Union has just closed an important and enthusiastic convention at Indianapolis. Rev. F. S. Dobbins, once of Tokyo, led the "open parliament" on the topic, "The Conquest Meeting:" and one of the leading addresses of the entire session was by ex-Indian Commissioner T. J. Morgan on "The Perils of the Republic from a Christian Standpoint."

The unfortunate spectacle of a judge of the U.S. Circuit Court under indictment by a grand jury has just been furnished. Judge Jenkins, of Milwaukee, was one of the directors of the Plankinton Bank which failed in that city. Recently the grand jury have indicted all the officials of that bank for mismanagement. No one believes Judge Jenkins to have been cognizant of any dishonest management, though he may be technically responsible.

Judge Jenkins, by the way, last week decided that Wanamaker and Brown, in their suit to restrain the Exposition from being opened on Sunday, had "no standing in a court of equity."

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But this great and much discussed question has settled itself in a very practical way. The tremendous "public demand" which the Directors presupposed, has not materialized; the exhibitors have in large numbers claimed the benefits of the day of rest, and have closed or covered their exhibits on Sunday; and the Sunday visitors have objected to paying 50 cents for a 25 cent show. Especially noticeable has been the fact, that the working classes have failed to improve the golden opportunity of an open Sunday, and have continued to frequent the parks instead of going to the Fair. The Directors, in view of these patent facts, have had the good sense to see and acknowledge their mistake, and have voted by an overwhelming majority to rescind the Sunday opening resolutions, and to keep the Fair closed on Sunday during the remainder of the time.

The past week was one of catastrophes. On Sunday afternoon, the 9th inst., a storm of wind and rain came up very suddenly, and caused no little destruction of life and property. The mammoth captive balloon on the Midway Plaisance was completely wrecked; and some of the Fair buildings were damaged more or less. Small craft on the lake were overturned; and several lives were lost

The next day came a horrible holocaust on the Fair grounds. About one o'clock a fire broke out High up in the tower of the cold-storage building. The firemen responded promptly, and ascended the tower with hose to fight the fire, when flames burst out below them on all sides. A very few quickly slid down hose or life-lines to the roof, and escaped with only slight injuries. But before the others could improve the opportunity, these means of escape were burnt away. It was 80 or 100 ft. down to the roof of the main building: but there was a slim chance for life, and any death was better than roasting in a fiery furnace. With hasty farewells they leaped out into the air, and fell on the hard roof. The bodies of some (two or three yet alive) were rescued by firemen on the roof, and carried to the hospital. But just as the last man jumped, the lofty tower fell, crashed through the roof, and buried many a body in its blazing ruins. This dreadful sight was witnessed by an immense crowd of people who were powerless to help. After a hard struggle of hours the fire was got under control.

The loss of property, great as it was, is nothing compared with the awful loss of life. The number of dead has already reached eighteen (of whom eight were unidentified), and may be increased from the wounded yet in the hospital. Most of the victims were firemen, but there also perished employés of the cold storage company and even visitors. The whole will perhaps never be known, not even when the work of clearing away the ruins is completed. The papers have been full of sadly interesting incidents and heroic deeds. The sympathy of the people has been expressed, not merely in words and tears, but also in generous subscriptions. A fund for the sufferers is being raised, and is already almost up to $100,000. All the gate receipts of yesterday, "Heroes' Day" (and probably the last open Sunday), amounting to $25,000, were set aside for the relief fund.

Where rests the blame for this terrible holocaust has not yet been determined; and little use is there now in trying to place it. The catastrophe itself is a sufficient and awful lesson. The Exposition authorities, always careful, will now exercise still greater caution and watchfulness. Already they have ordered the roof gardens to be closed, and are planning more numerous and ready means of exit from buildings. *Go yojin! Go-yojin!* says Ikkyu.

In the midst of all the sorrow came the Viking ship in command of Captain Magnus Anderson. It received a magnificent reception and a cordial welcome. Mayor Harrison tendered the freedom of the city; Prof. Putnam, Chief of the Ethnological Exhibit, and ex-Senator Palmer, of the National Commission, gave welcome in behalf of the Exposition. The Norse ship makes one more feature of the Exposition.

Auditor Ackerman's report of the Exposition finances for May and June makes a good showing. Up to June 30 the expenses had been $20,610,160, "a sum equalling almost three times the cost of the Paris Exposition;" while the gross receipts had been almost $22,000,000: but there were outstanding liabilities of $1,211,019. The daily expenses are now about $15,000: the daily gate receipts are about $50,000; but the daily income from the concessions is not given. It is evident, however, that the Exposition is doing well, but not as well as expected or hoped by stock holders.

In the inter-collegiate base-ball tournament in this city, Yale came on first with Virginia second, Amherst third and Illinois fourth.

The new directory of New York City shows 400,000 names, or a population of 1,600,000; 500,000 less than Chicago!

The silver convention in Denver recently was marked by a determination to fight "even to blood" for silver. It adopted a lengthy platform asking for a "calm and candid consideration" before giving "approval to the destruction of silver as money." The platform is an appeal "to the people of the United States." The champions of silver intend to make a fierce fight at the next session (special) of Congress. Bland, of Missouri, will be their leader, and the young Bryan, of Nebraska, his lieutenant. Their prospects are not good at present; but it is rash to attempt to make a forecast of the result, which will be affected by the later conditions.

(From a Correspondent).

Chicago, July 10th.

For the last week the heat here has been truly tropical, and the poor attendants at the Fair have suffered terribly from the crowded and dusty gangways and the unceasing hot and tired crowds! More especially has this been the case in the Woman's Building, which is smaller than the others and much more patronized by the multitudes. As a rule, these crowds are quiet and orderly, but of late, since economy has become rampant with the Fair Directory, the guards have been greatly diminished, and many acts of vandalism have occurred, especially in the Woman's Building. Exhibits have been molested, some damaged to a considerable extent, by persons who do not hesitate to chip pieces off chairs and tables, or take small and valuable exhibits away with them as *souvenirs*. H.R.H. the Princess of Wales' beautiful carved oak and embossed leather chair, all her own work, which was on view on a roped-off platform in the British Section, was maliciously broken one evening and ruined, it is supposed by *souvenir* hunters, who have taken the pieces they smashed away with them. This outrage was promptly reported to the Exposition authorities, as also to Sir Henry J. Wood, Royal British Commission, by Mrs. Cope, in whose special charge the chair is, and who has also laid a claim against the authorities for £100, the value of the chair. All the British community here and the better class of Americans, are very indignant and hopes are expressed everywhere that the Directors will make full reparation in this matter. Meanwhile, that part of the British Section which is not under glass has been roped-off, so as to prevent the public doing more damage to the unprotected exhibits. The case containing specimens of needlework by the Princesses Mary and May of Teck, in the British Section Woman's Building, was gaily decked in bunting and a photograph of Princess May covered with flowers on July 6th, in honour of the Royal wedding, and many a loyal heart here sent up prayers for a blessing on the young couple far away. There was a reception also at Victoria House, Royal British Commission Head-quarters, where their health was drunk in tea or iced champagne, and congratulatory telegrams were sent off by the Commissioner and staff.

The Spanish Pavilion in the Woman's Building stands near the South Entrance and is a truly beautiful structure of cream and gold, representing an old Spanish convent with the royal insignia of Spain over it. The exhibits consisting of woman's work only, of all degrees and stations, from the simple needlework of the poorer classes to the magnificent art work of cloistered nuns or ladies of noble birth. Each article is so placed that the colours are perfectly blended, and the whole forms a harmonious and perfect picture.

Germany, with her art schools, her schools of design, her magnificent laces, her homespun linens and all the things beautiful and more especially "practical" for which her daughters are noted, is in the East of the vestibule, while in the West is "La Belle France"

France, more especially Paris, brings to woman's mind "Paris gowns," and it would seem unnecessary to state that this important feature has not been neglected, a great case of beautifully dressed dolls occupying a very conspicuous position and showing the dress of French womankind for centuries back down to the present day. All the marvellous creations of French looms are to be seen here, and to women who have never been abroad are revealed the mysteries of French gown-making and the beauties of French art work.

Around the Section, in numerous cases, are arranged marvellously fine laces and embroidery work. On view is one piece of Point d'Alencon which is considered to be one of the finest ever exhibited. The North end of the space is made to represent an afternoon tea reception in a Parisian salon. The background is a large design of Bonnaise tapestry. It was made last year, and is pronounced by experts to be equal to the ancient manufacture. In the fore-ground are four figures, three are ladies dressed in the latest fashion, and the fourth is the figure of a child to represent Jeanne Hugo, grand daughter of Victor Hugo. The furniture in the room is all made by women. There are lamp-shades and rugs of all kinds, and embroidery is shown on sofa cushions, chair-backs and piano-covers. Four panels, eight feet long and two wide, in black and white thread on silk, are hung on the wall. They have allegorical figures representing the work of women

A figure representing Napoleon Bonaparte's second wife, Marie Louise of Austria, as she appeared in her bridal robes in 1810, attracts much attention. At either side of the entrance are hand embroidered *portieres*, made for President Carnot by the girls of the Legion of Honour School. In gold thread embroidery a wonderful piece is shown. It represents the shield, helmet and arms of an old time knight, worked out in relief in gold thread alone; it took four girls a year to complete it. On brackets around the room are placed pieces of sculpture, wood carving and brass-work, all done by women, and although France has had more space allowed it than most other foreign countries, England excepted, every foot of it is occupied.

MR. CLEMENT SCOTT ON HIS TRAVELS.

Mr. Clement Scott has arrived in England, and, as the latest globe-trotter of renown, has of course been interviewed. We reproduce "T.H.L.'s" racy interview with the distinguished theatrical critic as published by *The Sketch*:—

"Three or four days after the return of Mr and Mrs. Clement Scott to England I called upon him. As everyone knows through the charmingly graphic letters which he has lately contributed to the *Daily Telegraph*, he has been round the world, and has brought back with him, if not the "spoils of the East," yet many beautiful and interesting souvenirs of his travels, especially some lovely embroideries and inlaid and carved plaques. But these are in case and crate, and still unpacked; his impressions, however, were at liberty, and were, as he said, entirely at my service.

"Please tell me, Mr. Scott, now that you have been round the world, did you find it flatter than you expected—were you disillusioned?" I asked, as I seated myself in his luxurious chambers, which are filled with a choice collection of the "pickings-up" of many years.

"No, I can't say that. I had a very pleasant trip, but I am heartily glad to get back again. And I find all English colonists, however comfortable their quarters may be, entertain the same love of home. I can assure you that when I was in Chicago I used to 'tip' the guard of the saloon carriage exhibited by the L. and N.W. Railway Company to let me sit in it while I read an English newspaper—the *Daily Telegraph* naturally—and fancied myself speeding along, say somewhere between Crewe and Euston Town that is the luxury of travelling, not stuffy and hot like the American cars. Even the Canadian Pacific car, which stood side by side with it only moderately compares with the English carriage."

"Well, and what did you think of the Chicago Exhibition?" "Architecturally as a building it is superb. My great regret is that it will all be pulled down, even the solid English structure designed by Colonel Edis which cost £14,000, in order to convert the ground into a people's park."

"And what have you to say to the World's Fair as an Exhibition?" Alas, it is a miserable affair, an utter failure, and principally owing to mismanagement, and so cramped with restrictions. It was a long time before permission was given to the public to smoke in the grounds, and it was only just before I left that Sunday opening was decided in the affirmative. Villiers was actually arrested for using a Kodak. I wish they had arrested me, I wanted so much to see the inside of a patrol wagon. I tried to get up a little difficulty on purpose with the officials, declaring that I had been molested, but I couldn't 'bring it off!' Perhaps they had an idea who I was, so they were not to be 'had.'"

"But what about the exhibits themselves?"

"Well, many of the foreign countries, especially Germany, have arranged theirs in departments with beautiful facades, with iron gates, etc., but the English exhibits are scattered about on stalls promiscuously, like at the Crystal Palace or Earl's Court. However, the English picture galleries are very fine, and the general horticultural department is most praiseworthy. For me, the most enjoyable part of the exhibition was the Midway Plaisance, where the shows are chiefly collected."

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"You think the fair will financially be a great failure?"

"Unquestionably, a very heavy loss will fall on the guarantors, but it is not only these who will suffer; private enterprise will be sadly injured. All around you see half built hotels, mere carcases, which it will not pay to finish, while the hotels which are open are only half filled."

"Let me see: I think after visiting Egypt in the spring last year, you stayed in Ceylon?"

"Yes, and I thoroughly enjoyed myself. The Ceylon tea plantations are most charming; indeed up country life left nothing to be desired."

"And then you went on to India, with its glorious magnificence.

"That's all very well, but I like a comfortable hotel *tant même*, and that you certainly can't get even in Calcutta and Bombay. Indian hotels are really beneath contempt. Just fancy being asked to dine with the Viceroy, and having to dress by the light of two tallow dip candles stuck into whiskey bottles! I can assure you a special correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph* has higher ambitions in the way of comfort." This incident was so comical that, naturally, we both laughed over it. Presently Mr. Scott added, "The opportunity presented of employing British capital in the building of good hotels in India deserve, in my opinion, serious consideration. You don't find this glaring want in Hongkong, Singapore, and other English Settlements; then why in India?"

"Well, now, speaking of Hongkong reminds me to ask you how you liked China?"

"Immensely. China has, in my opinion, never received sufficient praise, while Japan seems to me lamentably overrated. As for its art, it is a complete sham. Granted that the people are marvellously imitative, but they are not true artists, they are not a bit creative. Then, travellers rave about the flowers of Japan; I have never seen anything that comes up to our English may, laburnum, and other flowering shrubs."

"Of course, you went, with your critical tastes, to the theatres?"

"Yes, I did, and was immensely pleased. They have an intense dramatic instinct—of course, very realistic, but still I found their plays most interesting. A little long, perhaps, say from nine to seven, but then you live in the Theatre so to speak, during the day of performance. I was greatly delighted with one of their actors who dances during the interludes, besides taking part in the acting of the drama. Yes, Danjuro is a great man, equal in eminence, for instance, to Irving here."

"I think when I next meet Henry Irving I shall suggest his imitating Mr. Danjuro during the interludes. It would make a big draw. Wouldn't Toole enjoy it?

But tell me what did you think of Honolulu?"

"It is a delightful climate, and I quite enjoyed my stay. By-the-bye, I think it's a pity our ladies over here don't imitate their English sisters there in riding, male fashion, with divided skirts. No one thinks it odd there, and the girls look very charming in their pretty habits."

"Now, beyond your *Daily Telegraph* articles, did you use your pen, Mr. Scott?"

"Certainly. I wrote several dramatic critiques in America, and twice I wrote four leaders for as many Sunday papers; besides, I am preparing a book for the press, which I shall call 'Unjapanned Japan.'"

"What an excellent title! I shall look forward to it with much interest."

Before I left, Mr. Scott showed me a curious water pipe, but he has not quite got into the way of using it, so no apprehension need be felt at present that he will bring it out at the Garrick Club. He seems to have had some tender passages with a Chinese lady—at any rate he knows her age, namely thirty-five—and she has given him a pair of diminutive shoes, two inches long, while he described to me the assiduous endeavours made by some Japanese girls to teach him the use of "chop sticks." Having brought these with him, there is a possibility of his using them at the next Theatrical Fund dinner.

"Mother, is the Lord an Irishman!" "Why, Johnny, aren't you ashamed to make so light of the Lord's name?" "I ain't making light of His name, but I know there's lots of Irishman what has O'Neill, O'Brien, and I see here in this prayer-book the Lord is purty near every time called 'O Lord.'" When his mother got the strap and went for Johnny he began right away thinking that the Lord was plain United States.

INQUEST ON A U.S. MARINE.

An Enquiry was held in the United States Consulate General on Thursday afternoon by the U.S. Vice Consul General, John McLean, Esq., into the circumstances attending the death of Edward A. Morris, a marine of the U.S. *Marion*, who was found dead on the Creek-side on Wednesday night, about eleven o'clock. Messrs. Theodore Morris and F. H. Olmsted sat as Associates.

Mr. Scidmore appeared on behalf of the People of the United States. After describing the circumstances under which the deceased was found, he read the following certificate:—

"This is certify that we have held a post-mortem examination on the body of a marine from the U.S. *Marion*, said to have been drowned in the Creek, sometime during the night previous.

"We find the corpse that of a well nourished man of about 35 to 40 years of age; medium height; complexion fair; eyes blue, hair dark brown. Body has been in the water. Examination discloses three small scalp wounds, on left side of the head, the temporal eminence, produced probably by falling on the face of an inclining wall or other hard substance. No fracture of the skull.

"Lungs contained some water and blood. Larger air passages filled with frothy blood; stained fluid. Heart empty and contracted.

"Conclusion—We find that death resulted from asphyxia, by drowning.

(Signed.) "FRANKLIN ROGERS,
Surgeon, U.S.N.
"KENKICHI ROKKAKU."

Continuing, he said that the death appeared to have been a violent one, and the enquiry was held to find out whether the circumstances surrounding it were of a criminal nature or not, and to determine whether or not further proceedings would be necessary.

Dr. Yamamoto Koji, was the first witness. He deposed to being called to the Creek-side near Maida bashi on the Honmura road side, about eleven o'clock on Wednesday night. He saw a body lying on the stone wall of the Creek, and at once felt the pulse. It was motionless, having stopped; there was also a large wound on the head. He did not see the body fall into the water. From its appearance it did not seem as if the body had been in the water long. He thought at first that it was a case of death by drowning but finding several wounds upon the head altered his opinion. Continuing witness said:—I applied restoratives but they had no effect; I also tried artificial respiration, with a similar result. I then considered the man to be dead. About three ounces of water came from the mouth when the stomach was pressed. A policeman and three other Japanese were on the spot when I arrived. I did not see any jewel cry upon the deceased. I was told that the men who were standing near the policemen were those who took the man out of the water. I did not hear who saw him fall into the water. The body was taken to the police-office, as I could not continue my examination amid the crowd that quickly gathered. Witness then gave a description of the body, complexion, hair, etc; and also of the three wounds on the head, which varied from an inch to three inches in length. There were bruises on the hands.

Mr. Scidmore—Was there anything in the appearance of the wounds to indicate how they were caused, whether from a fall upon stones or rocks, or inflicted by instruments?

Witness—They were produced by a fall against a hard substance or upon rocks. I did not find anything that indicated that he had been engaged in a struggle.

Ensign W. B. Franklin, of the U.S.N. sworn, said—I am an officer of the U.S.S. *Marion*. I saw deceased a few days ago. He had been absent from the ship for some time without leave. He was some 40 hours over liberty-leave and a reward had been offered for his arrest. The news of the man's death reached the ship about a quarter past two that morning. The description in the doctor's certificate exactly tallies with the man's appearance, as I knew him. The man had been on a spree.

Inspector Kawada, of the Settlement Police, stated—About eleven o'clock last evening, deceased was brought into the station by several Japanese. He was lying upon a stretcher. I sent at once for Dr. Rokkaku and Dr. Munro. They appeared about ten minutes past eleven. They stated that the man had been dead for some time. I reported the matter to the U.S.S. *Marion*, as I found on his coast the deceased's name, E. A. Morris. The doctor on board the *Marion* at once came ashore and attended. The doctor on the *Marion* recognised the deceased. The Japanese who brought the deceased to the station are now in Court. The policeman also made a report. I do not know of anyone who saw him fall into the water. One of the police jumped into the water, along with other Japanese and tried to rescue the deceased. They tried to get him into a boat. They also sent for a doctor.

Ito Kokichi, police-constable, deposed to being on duty at the police box at Motomachi, Ichiome, on Wednesday night. His attention was attracted by a Japanese, who said, "a foreigner has fallen into the Creek, please come at once." When I arrived at the place I took off my clothes and got down. The man was then in a boat, the three Japanese now in Court, having pulled him out of the water. The man was dead, but I worked his arms and some water came from the mouth. I sent for a doctor at once, and the body being taken up on to the top of the Creek wall, the doctor examined it, and worked the arms; but it was no good, and he finally said the man was quite dead. I got down to the Creek by the steps, then swam to the boat. There is a drinking saloon near by, towards the Yatobashi. The saloon is about 120 feet from where the body was found. The body was about 180 feet from the Maidi-bashi. Witness had not seen deceased before that evening. There had been no disturbance in the neighbourhood that day, so far as he knew.

To the Court—There is no railing or protection of any kind near the Creek on the Honmura side, the houses are about one *ken* away from the Creek wall.

To the Associates—The man who called him said that he saw a drunken foreigner fall into the Creek. He was sure that the man said a drunken foreigner.

Yamamoto Sakisaburo, employed in Motomachi, deposed to seeing a drunken sailor lying asleep on top of the Creek wall about 3 *ken* from his shop. Witness, noticing that the man was in a very dangerous position, tried to awaken him, but did not succeed in his attempt. He dared not touch him for fear of the man falling over. Seeing that he could not waken the man, witness went down to the Creek and washed the eel baskets he was carrying. As witness returned from fulfilling this task he saw the foreigner fall off the wall. Deceased was sleeping on a stone-wall raised about two feet above the roadway. It was about one foot eight inches wide on top, and sloped directly to the water. The man faced the road. Witness had never seen the man before. When the deceased fell, witness called to another Japanese and at once plunged into the water to the rescue. Together they pulled the body into a boat. This took about five minutes. They turned it on its face and water came from the mouth. The body was floating when witness got up to it. Deceased struck his head as he fell. Witness saw the deceased's head strike the stone wall. The body was then taken up on to the road and the doctor came.

Cross-examined by Mr. Scidmore.—As the deceased fell he turned right over.

Tanaka Kanekichi, who assisted the last witness to recover the body, corroborated the former's evidence. He said that this was the second case of a person having fallen into the Creek this year. It was the custom of himself and his friend when such accidents happened, to go to the rescue at once. The deceased was in the water when his friend called for help. Everything had been very quiet in the neighbourhood of the Creek that evening.

Watanabe Tsunejiro, a *sendo*, deposed to going to the assistance of the last two witnesses with his boat.

Mr. Scidmore remarked that there was no evidence of identification, but the description of the body agreed with that of deceased, and his name was found on the clothes.

The Vice Consul said two marines identified the body while they were viewing it that morning.

After a brief consultation a verdict of "Accidentally drowned" was returned.

The Vice Consul—I feel it proper to express the approval of myself and Associates of the humane and intelligent action of the Japanese who assisted in recovering the body of deceased and in making every effort to resuscitate him.

ECZEMA.—Book on "Skin Trouble," sent free for One Stamp by Messrs. NORTH & REA, Limited Yokohama.

A liking for the gentle art seldom leads to anything serious. Just for throwing a line, however, in a Somersetshire trout stream the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs has been fined nine shillings. It was not stated whether Sir Edward Grey caught anything. Perhaps he did. The trout is far from being a democratic fish, and the honour of being hooked by a popular statesman must have been nearly irresistible. But the Dulverton magistrates could not look the matter over. The explanation that Sir Edward did not know a license was required was no good.

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IN THE UNITED STATES CONSULAR COURT FOR HIOGO AND OSAKA.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 9TH, 1893

Before E. J. SMITHERS, Esq., Judge and Reverends VAN HORNE and W. E. TOWSON, Associates.

A SLANDER CASE

The trial of Mr. D. B. Taylor upon the criminal charge given below came on in the above-named Court this morning. Mr. Alexander Tyson appeared for the accused, Mr. C. N. Crosse for the complainant.

His Honour having received a reply in the affirmative to an equiry addressed to Counsel as to whether they were ready to proceed,

Mr. C. N. Crosse said he appeared on behalf of Mr. Enslie and he had to ask to be allowed to appear on behalf of the People of the United States

His Honour said the Associates had been drawn; four had been drawn and of the four the first drawn were Mr. Van Horne and Mr. Towson Had Counsel any objection to the gentlemen named?

Mr. Tyson said he might have an objection to raise to the general list, to the array of assessors, but he took it that could be made later on.

The Associates were then duly sworn.

His Honour thereupon intimated to the alternates, Messrs. J. G. Walsh and C. P. Hall that the first two having been accepted they were at liberty to withdraw unless of course they desired to remain of their own accord.

Mr. C. N. Crosse:—If your Honour and Gentlemen Assessors please, this is a complaint brought by J. J. Enslie,—a British subject

His Honour:—The defendant has not yet pleaded.

The Clerk of the Court then read the following complaint:—

IN THE UNITED STATES CONSULAR COURT, OSAKA AND HIOGO, JAPAN.

James Joseph Enslie, a British subject and Her Britannic Majesty's Consul for Hiogo and Osaka, in the Empire of Japan, on oath complains that on the 28th day of July, one thousand eight hundred and ninety-three, at divers places in Kobe, Daniel Barton Taylor, a citizen of the United States, and within the jurisdiction of this Court at Osaka and Hiogo aforesaid unlawfully, falsely and maliciously did utter certain slanderous, injurious, and insulting words to the complainant and amongst other words the words following:—"you villain, you d——d loafer, you d——dson of a bitch, you d——Dutchman, you burn them down do you—you burnt the Consulate down, you blackguard, get out you hound" whereby the public peace was endangered and the complainant went and still goes in bodily fear.

(Sgd.) J. J. ENSLIE

Hiogo, 29th July, 1893.

His Honour asked what was the plea of the defendant.

Mr. Tyson:—Before pleading, if it please your Honour and Gentlemen Assessors, I wish to make a motion with reference to the complaint which has just been read. I will preface this motion—a demurrer—by a remark that I think it will not be considered out of order. The motion reads as follows:—

IN THE UNITED STATES CONSULAR COURT OSAKA AND HIOGO, JAPAN.

Hiogo, August 9th, 1893.

THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AGAINST DANIEL BARTON TAYLOR

The said Daniel Barton Taylor in his own proper person cometh into Court here and having heard the complaint herein read saith that the said complaint and the matters therein contained in manner and form as the same are above stated and in said complaint set forth are not sufficient in law and the same are no offence against the law and that he the said Daniel Barton Taylor is not bound by the law of the land to answer the same and this he is ready to verify.

Wherefore for want of a sufficient complaint in this behalf the said Daniel Barton Taylor prays judgment thereon and moves that by this honourable Court he may now be dismissed and discharged from the said premises in said complaint specified, that all bonds, undertakings and securities of every sort herein be cancelled and annulled and that the complainant be ordered to pay the whole costs of these proceedings.

I'll say just a word with reference to that with permission of the Court.

His Honour:—Before proceeding further, Mr. Tyson, you will allow me to say that although this is raised as a motion it is really a demurrer.

Mr. Crosse:—I understand, you Honour, that this is a demurrer

His Honour:—Yes, it is a demurrer.

Mr. Tyson:—The point I would raise, if the Court will allow, is that my client has been arrested and put under bonds for something which is no more a criminal offence than if he had been accused of altering the text of the Alcoran or of cutting the beard of the great Chan. Of course it is a most serious point if one who is assumed and presumed to know the law—a Gamaliel in fact—proceeds in a way which is not in accordance with either the law governing this Court, his own country, or even the law of Japan. It is not even law in old Rome. I shall go at length into this point. Meanwhile, I may say that the furnance has been heated several times over, and some of us have been drawn from cooler places than this in connection with this charge. Well, gentlemen, this furnace was heated last year too, it was in July then, it is in August now. The chief stoker doesn't seem to care—he does not seem to care though some may be reduced to cinders. Last year the Court was kept busy two weeks. This morning I hope to deliver you all by this motion. I would like to be able by these proceedings to save our great guardian—law. With regard to the complaint, we have denied the allegations. I would like to show, however, how these things began. They were began in a mistake of fact, and were carried on in a mistake in law. It might be said that some would do well to wait to master law, especially in the case of one placed, as has been said, over the subjects of the foremost Treaty Power in the East. I hope that he who told my client he would teach my client, may have something to learn himself. I may say, I made a special journey to Tokyo to ascertain what the books had to say on the subject now before us. It is an elementary fact in our learned books of law, thumbed by all, that slander is no crime. I take up the American book on slander. I shall go into English books and American books and shall show you that there is no authority for the view taken by the complainant; and shall show you why it is astounding that these proceedings have been gone into and persisted in. But there is such a thing as prosecuting for false imprisonment and arrest both in Her Britannic Majesty's Court for Japan and this Court. (Counsel here quoted Townsend on Slander and Libel p. 66, sec. 8 and 9, also note 3 as follows:—"Slander is a private wrong or tort, cognizable by the common law, the remedy for which is a civil action formerly known as an "action on the case for words," and now as an action or the action of or for slander. Libel is both a public wrong or crime and a private wrong or tort, cognizable by the common law. The remedy for the public wrong is by indictment of criminal information. The remedy for the private wrong is a civil action, now known as an action or the action of or for libel. * * * Slander is not like libel, an indictable offence. Nor is a single precedent of any criminal proceeding for unwritten imputations upon the characters of individuals to be found, except in case of high treason, * * * and it must have been as constituting an offence against the Government, than an injury to the individual, and being therefore seditious, that words reflecting on a magistrate in the immediate execution of his office were for the first time in the reign of Queen Anne held to be indictable." That is the first authority, which as your Honour knows is the best authority in America. The best authority in England is the good old one of Starkie, written before any one in this room was born. I will now read from Folkard's Starkie from Wood's edition. We thus have in one book both the English and American law on slander. "In all cases of mere personal calumny, the distinction between a written and an oral charge is made the material boundary between guilt and innocence. Whatever tends to lower and degrade a man's moral character in society, or to expose him to contempt and ridicule, is criminal, if it be published in writing, although the very same matter, if spoken only, would have constituted no offence. * * * It is upon these plain and simple grounds that the law of England is founded, which whilst it prohibits the publication and punishes the publisher of written slander, takes no cognizance of mere oral calumny, and whilst it restrains by penal means all deliberate attempts to destroy character and reputation by written defamation, leaves mankind at full liberty to communicate on the subject of character and reputation, without fear or apprehension of penal visitation.": That is the law on the point. There is no one who should have known better what the law is in this case than the gentleman whom Great Britain puts over her subjects in this place. You see how strong the case is put—*without fear or apprehension.* I pass to Kent's Commentaries, the only man who is put alongside of Blackstone. I read from page 16: "Libel is an offence as well as a wrong, but slander is a civil wrong only." It goes on to say later that libel is a crime. I have here a late English work and every lawyer who seeks to keep abreast of the time has a copy of it. (Citation read.) Her Britannic Majesty's Consul for this port is a private individual in this Court. Nothing is plainer than that. For the sake of my client I am very thankful he is. I have here another work. No one who knows anything about English legal literature need be told the position Sir Frederick Pollock, the learned editor of the Law Courts Review, enjoys both in America and in England. He says:—"The Roman law took a just distinction between slander spoken and written; and the same distinction prevails in our law, which considers the slander of a private person by words in no other light than a civil injury, for which a pecuniary compensation may be obtained." The date of that work is 1890. I have here a Digest of Criminal Law by Stephens. Sir James Fitzjames Stephens was one of the judges of the Queen's Bench Division. This gives a review of the criminal law of England You may search it from page to page and there is not a word on the subject of slander there. There is much about Libel there. You may look through the index, anywhere you please, and you will not find anything about slander. I draw largely, of course, from the fact that a book enjoying the reputation a work by Stephens possesses make no mention of slander under criminal law. I have gone through the Statutes, for as you know many laws are made by United States Statutes, so that there is what is known as statutory crime as well as crimes under common law, but slander is not down in the Statutes. I now produce Wharton on Criminal Law. I read from sec. 2541, vol. II. bearing upon libellous, and obscene songs. Thus:—"No indictment, however, will lie for words not reduced to writing, unless they be seditious, blasphemous, grossly immoral, uttered to a magistrate in the execution of his office, or uttered as a challenge to fight a duel, or with an intention to provoke the other party to send a challenge. The only reported exception to this rule is that of a case before the King's Bench, in 1760, where sentence was passed on an indictment charging two defendants with publicly singing in the street libellous and obscene songs, reflecting on the prosecutor's son and daughter, with intention to discredit him with his children, and destroy his domestic peace." There is absolutely no case in the United States which goes so far as the old case in England, and with reference to blasphemous and obscene offences, etc., it must be remembered they are all substantive offences, Christianity being a part of the law, sedition being a provocation to civil war, and obscene and indecent prints being an offence against public order. A challenge to fight a duel is an offence under criminal law. Stephen puts blasphemy and obscenity under criminal law, not slander. But it is not necessary for me to dwell on this point. I may say I have searched the most ample law library in Japan to find ground for my learned friend's argument and have failed to find any. I have brought this American edition of the work referred to because annotated as it is by the Honourable George Sharswood, Chief Justice of the State of Pennsylvania, it may be relied upon to take in the case completely. I read from page 670 to show that no indictment will lie on mere words not reduced to writing. Another argument from silence may be found in Greenleaf on Evidence, which is in this Court I believe, sadly unfurnished though it is with legal works I am sorry to say. This has nothing to say on slander though it has much upon libel. These books speak with one voice. Now the only thing I can find is in this little book by Mr. Scidmore on the United States Court in Japan (passage quoted). I have to remark upon that, that even Homer is said to have sometimes nodded. This book is in this respect unsatisfactory. It was written by Mr. Scidmore just as you or I might write it. It is in error on this point. I will say that we may find some help as to how this error crept in, on the opposite page, where you find the offence of buying dead victual, regrating, dealt with. I am not obliged to show that regrating is no longer a crime. That is an old and obsolete thing. This Mr. Scidmore's reference, is absolutely all that I have been able to find that looks toward a justification of these proceedings. I may say that I submit this demurrer with absolute confidence. If I say here in heat or anger that the complainant burnt his Consulate down every morning before breakfast, and was seen picking his teeth over the ruins, he could not bring me into Court. I could charge him with the committal of every crime in the Decalogue, I could say he was a disgrace to the position he fills, but he could not bring me into this Court. If he does not know it, it is time he did. We learn by experience. These books I have read are open to all. They could have been read by the complaintant in this matter one or two weeks ago. But no, the business of the learned complainant demanded haste. Some things are begun in haste to be repented of at leisure. I therefore move that the accused be dis-

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charged and that all these bonds and securities be discharged, and that the complainant pay the cost of these proceedings. That is all.

Mr. Crosse:—Your Honour and gentleman assessors—My learned friend has gone at considerable length into the legal bearing of the offences known as slander and libel and in support of his argument has cited a number of well-known authorities. I shall, I hope, show that the crime of slander bears a very different construction to that which he has puts upon it. I shall begin by inviting your attention to Vol. III, section 10, page 205 of the fifth edition of Chief Justice Russell's work:—"Words spoken, however scurrilous, even though spoken personally to an individual, are not subject of indictment, unless they directly tend to a breach of the peace, as if they convey a challenge to fight." But it should be observed that it is important to note the bearing of the clause as if the words convey a challenge to fight. I shall submit that the very gross and obscene language used by the defendant were such that had the complainant not been occupying the position of a Consul here this conduct must have led to a breach of the peace. I put it to your Honour, to you gentlemen, that if a man comes up and calls you a d——d son of a b—h, whether you would not then and there leave your mark on the man's face. My next authority is Archbold.

Mr. Tison:—What edition?

Mr. Crosse:—The 19th edition, 1878, page 911. Here is a form of indictment for a form of slander, where one did say, "you are a scoundrel and a liar, and I shall take care to let the world know that you are so,' in the attempt to instigate, excite, and provoke another to a duel." Well, I say that if these words are a form of slander, the words uttered by the accused are. What are they here? A scoundrel and a liar, etc.—a mere bagatelle to what we have to consider. We have words involving felony and such words as "d——d son of a b—h," "get out you scoundrel"—I say such words are infinitely worse and sufficient to provoke any reasonable man to send a challenge to fight—if any reasonable man would do so. I now pass on to Harris (Principles of Criminal Law) who says:—"It may be stated generally on the subject of indictable slander that no words spoken, however scurrilous, even though spoken personally to an individual, are the subject of indictment unless they directly tend to a breach of the peace, for example, by inciting to a challenge." The book speaks of indictable slander. I therefore assume that slander is an indictable offence. The same authority adds:—We must here except words seditious, blasphemous, grossly immoral, or uttered by a magistrate while in the execution of his duty. How say you—"d -d son of a b—h"—how strikes it you? I say such words are grossly, disgracefully immoral. Such words reflect on a man's mother; and they are grossly immoral. Mark you they were uttered by one man to another. Odgers on Libel and Slander—I quote from the American edition published in Philadelphia in 1887—says "there is a further important distinction between slander and libel, every libel is a crime; a slander on a private individual is not. It is only when the words uttered are blasphemous, seditious or obscene that the State is concerned to interfere and punish the speaker." Again mark the word obscene. I contend that on the ordinary acceptation of the meaning of the word obscene, the words "d——d son of a b—h" (an epithet I am sorry to use) are obscene, and grossly obscene. Such words are not tolerated in any place. I say these words were obscene and grossly obscene, immoral and grossly immoral. I say that in view of this, this action will lie. I pass on to the next authority—an authority which as my learned friend knows is a well recognised book. I refer to Bishop on American Criminal Law a work which I may in fact claim to be one of world-wide celebrity. "To say that in no circumstances will the criminal law bridle the tongue, is to give to this member too great freedom to be tolerated in a civilized country. Suppose, for instance, a man should make it his business to go through a principal street in a large city, telling infamous false tales of every one whose names he could get,—becoming a common bearer of this kind of scandal,—it would be a reproach to the law not to curb the nuisance. * * * And in various cases, the broader general doctrine, that verbal slander especially against magistrates, corporations, and the like, is under some circumstances indictable, appears pretty plainly to be recognised." No doubt on the other side it will be contended that so far as the accused was concerned the complainant was a private person. That I say will not hold. If I go to the State of New York and go up to a Judge, knowing him as such, and insult him I bring myself within the law. *Mens conscia, Mens rea.* I pass on to section 539 where it is said that a threatened danger is the same as an actual danger. I pause here for a moment to say that the complainant has sworn that he is in bodily fear and goes in fear. After quoting other sections from Bishop on Criminal Law, Counsel went on to say:—How can it for an instant be urged that this is not a matter tending to a breach of the peace? I put it to any reasonable man if what we have heard would not be enough to cause him to put his mark on the man guilty of using such language towards him. The argument is to me unanswerable. Besides the obscene words, consider the words as to felony, uttered without one scintilla of reason, without one single point of support, accusing the complainant of burning down a Consulate. I say such words must be regarded as sufficient to incite any man to offensive action. There are words I should like to say here to show that slander does come in with the reach of the law—verbal slander.

Mr. Tison—Where is that?

Mr. Crosse—In the same work—Bishop—Vol. II. sec. 945. "Verbal slander:—Whether indictable. The general question, whether mere words uttered, but not written, are indictable, seems not clear on the authorities. As one of principle, it embarrasses us less; because, since verbal slander is actionable, there appears to be no reason why, in cases in which it operates to the detriment of the public, in distinction from a mere individual, according to the principles of public detriment it should not be punished." Again, I am prepared to show that this behaviour was to public detriment, and I shall if we get so far, produce evidence. I say that when one is insulted and slandered in the way this person was when in the occupation of a post of chief of a large number of his nationals, such slander is to the public detriment. I put it to your Honour: suppose a British subject or a German subject came up and treated you in this way, would you not feel yourself lowered in the esteem, in the eyes of your countrymen? If so, you being lowered in the eyes of your nationals, the action would be detrimental to public peace. Again I say, it matters not as to the nationality of the person using the words. If they tend to bring you to ridicule and contempt, then clearly the indictment will lie. As to the meaning of the word obscene, I am unfortunately without particulars, but if we have a dictionary near I haven't one at hand unfortunately—I think we shall find that such words as "d——d" son of a b—h, bloody, &c., are obscene. I submit your Honour the words used by the accused come within the scope of the Criminal law." I get to another point and say this, that if there is not to be some such proceedings, held *in terrorem* over individuals, that a man who may not have 10 cents in his pocket may go up and down the streets and call his fellows d—d son of a b—, defaming them. What use a civil case pray? We can't get blood out of a stone. We must have some other resource besides that which civil law offers. With these remarks I leave the case in your hands.

Mr. Tison:—As to the stress laid on the word obscene, I may say I did not object to the constitution of this Court though there are two gentlemen of known religious views sitting as assessors. But the books speak of obscenity; and I quote Stephens where his allusions to the offence follows upon changes on sodomy, charges on defiling girls under age; etc. Why, profane swearing is what my learned friend has in mind. I am very sorry for it, but there are things that are worse—if you or I without warrant of law may be taken up. I could quote more. Then as to Bishop. What has been advanced all went the way I said as to sedition or blasphemy. It says there, I think, that calling a man a thief is not slander. What worse could you have than that? His argument carries him too far. Bishop has a great deal to say as to what might be—it isn't so, but it might well be so. That is a suggestion to the law-maker not a guide as to how law is that really exists. I have another and later edition which I think has much more. We have heard of words to incite one to challenge to fight a duel. But I will tell you what there is in this complaint. There is one charge of slander, another of assault. The conclusion of this is like that used in case of assault, and I had expected to see my friend use this argument. I had ready for him an authority. Now as to slanderous words used against an official person. He says if he goes to New York and insults a judge it would be an indictable offence. Of course it would. But let him go there and get a French judge or other judge and slander him and then let the question be asked if that judge is an official. It comes back just to where I said, that various forms of words may be slanderous, but do the words charged against the accused amount to anything blasphemous or seditious? No. For wish you as you may as to the nice words you would like to have used to you, as to the obscene words before us bear in mind the American authority is clear that such offences are not criminal. I say in all honour, simplicity, and candour, and with all the desire possible to deal fairly with this Court, I have been astounded not to find any authority bringing slander within the criminal law. That which has been read has been read with the intention to bring it within the law. I will submit the case in which a man called another a thief and that was not actionable. It has been said that nothing that is great, rich or valuable but in certain manifestations may be disorderly, so that we hold some of our richest privileges with this drawback. You know that when England was in line with views that threatened the very existence of the Government, Erskine said that if we prune and clip and narrow and repress liberty of speech because sometimes it is abused, we thereby narrow and destroy our choicest blessing. I assume for purposes of argument that what was said is true. We shall come to that in the civil case. I submit that if there ever was a demurrer that should be granted it is this. I say more. For it is in the interests of the British community that a British judge should properly apprehend and know what is the law on such a point. I say they have a larger interest than the American community have or my client can have. For we do not live to ourselves. We have heard of these slanderous words. What was suggested to your Honour is an incredible supposition. They come as the fruit of that which has gone before.

His Honour:—It is now a quarter past 11 o'clock. Of course the Court will have to take time to consider the case. I think it unwise to say 2 or 3 o'clock, therefore the Court will notify you this afternoon or to-morrow morning when the Court is ready to give its decision on this point.

Mr. Crosse—I would only ask your Honour that it be not at an hour when we are not likely to be on hand.

His Honour intimated that it would not be after 5 o'clock certainly.—*Kobe Herald.*

THURSDAY, AUGUST 10TH.

JUDGMENT ON THE DEMURRER.

The following judgment, writes our Kobe correspondent, was this morning delivered by Mr. C. J. Smithers, U.S. Consul and Judge, on the demurrer filed by Mr. Tison in this case.

"I have attentively listened to the Arguments of Counsel in the demurrer filed in this case, and have along with the Associates carefully examined the authorities cited by them. The general rule of law undoubtedly is, that spoken words are not indictable, unless they be seditious, blasphemous, grossly immoral, uttered to a magistrate in the execution of his office or uttered as a challenge to fight a duel or with the intention to provoke the other party to send a challenge. The exceptions to the rule that spoken words are not indictable, are undoubtedly made in the interest of the general public and not of the individual. The law on this point is clearly stated. Bishop's Criminal Law, Vol. ii., Sec. 947, in one of the authorities cited, says:—"It is a crime to speak vicious and immoral words provided they be uttered before a large assembly so as to affect the mass of society, for else there is no detriment to the general public." In another authority, Odgers Libel and Slander, Page 358, Chap 471; the same principle is laid down "under some circumstances some spoken words must be indictable." It is claimed by the Counsel for the complainant that a part of the words set out in the complaint as used by the defendant to the complainant are indictable, inasmuch as they are immoral and tend to provoke a challenge to fight a duel. I am not of this opinion, for while I hold that the words referred to are scurrilous and profane, they do not come within the legal meaning of the words, "grossly immoral" or "obscene." But admitting that the Court is in error in this opinion, is there anything in the complaint to show that the circumstances under which the words were uttered make him indictable? It is clear from the statement of the law already made that if there were only one or two persons present the words would not be indictable, and with reference to the words as used, "tending to provoke a challenge to fight a duel," I am of the opinion that in themselves they are not so calculated. This demurrer therefore must be sustained with costs. In this opinion the Associates concur."

Mr. Tison said Gentlemen of the Court I express my thanks on my client's behalf and for myself.

Mr. Crosse—I would ask one question of your Honour. Is that decision final or is there an appeal?

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His Honour—Yes, there is an appeal and if the case should go on it will go before the Minister.

Mr. Tison—I submit it is an elementry principle that if a man is acquitted once—

Mr. Crosse—There is no acquittal

His Honour—If the case should go on and the Associates should differ from the Court then there would be an appeal.

Mr. Crosse—But I understand that this case cannot go on now if you hold the offence is not indictable. I ask the Court simply whether on a point of law there is any appeal,

Mr. Tison—If my learned brother will allow me to finish what I was going to say—

Mr. Crosse—Excuse me, I asked his Honour the simple question if I have the right of appeal, and I shall be pleased to take his reply.

Mr. Tison—My reference was to quite another matter.

His Honour—Usually a decision of the kind is final; and I am inclined to the opinion, on reflection, that there is no appeal,

Mr. Crosse—Will your Honour decide it?

His Honour—Yes.

Mr. Crosse That I have no appeal?

His Honour—Yes.

Mr. Tison—May I thank the Court and the Assessors for the decision. If I were representing the learned complainant to your Honour and Assessors I should thank you for showing the error in which he has fallen, from which another man would have taken pains to extricate himself long before. To refer to what I said yesterday I may say I am glad the Court and Assessors have declined to assist in heating the furnace which has been made ready here.

Mr. Crosse—Now as to civil proceedings?

Mr. Tison—This Court is not constituted to try civil proceedings.

His Honour—I trust, Gentlemen, you will have some consideration for the Court, seeing the weather we are experiencing. It is customary for the British Court, I may say, to take a vacation, and I think we may well postpone the civil case for a little time.

Mr. Crosse—We are in your Honour's hands.

Mr. Tison—I have already intimated to the Court that I may wish to put in an amendment. I intimated at the time that I wanted to make some amendment. Possibly if I file an amendment I should like to put things more at large.

Mr. Crosse said that matter was in his learned friend's hands.

Mr. Tison—I thank my brother.

His Honour—Would you like the Court to set a date?

Mr. Crosse—I am entirely in your Honour's hands.

His Honour stated that the civil case then would not come on before the second Monday in September.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.

Solution of Problem No. 81.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—Kt to K Kt 7	1—K to K 5
2—Kt to K B 6, mate	
	if 1—K to Q 3
2—Q to Q 4, mate	
	if 1—K to Q B 4
2—Q to K 5, mate.	

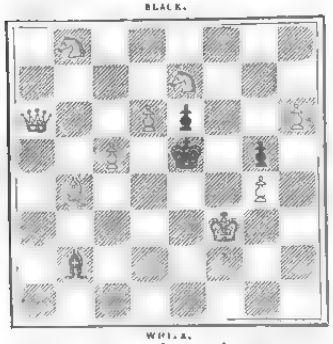
Correct answers from W.H.S., O.B, J.W.E., Digamma, J.D., and J.F.M.

T. L. Robins.—Best thanks for your communication. We hope to have the pleasure of hearing from you frequently.

Problem No. 83.

By G. K. Ansell.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in two moves.

A good friend and correspondent in England sends us the following amusing bit of by-play in connection with the column just started in the London *Times*:—

"A new chess column has commenced in the *London Times Weekly Edition*, under the editorial care of Mr. Tinsley. Problem No. 1 was composed expressly for the column by Mrs. W. J. Baird. Mr. I. M Brown (manager of the *British Chess Magazine*) wrote to Mr. Tinsley saying that he 'was very sorry to find that the first chestnut was cooked by Kt to K R 8.' Mr. Tinsley wrote back 'Dear Sir ... . Awful! dreadful! frightful!!! For Heaven's sake don't say anything about it.' Mr. Brown immediately replied that the 'secret was safe with him,' etc., etc. Mr Tinsley (with an evident desire to be perfectly frank and sincere) wrote again stating that he 'thought it best to make a clean breast of it,' adding 'I hope you will also put it in the *British Chess Magazine* as it will sell the magazine—and its publishing editor!!' There was no reply to that letter! Needless to say Mrs. Baird's problem was a beauty; and, as usual, quite sound. Here it is in the Forsyth notation.

8/1pS1p3/4Q3/2k3p1/2p3Rb/1P4p1/1s1PK1B1/1S2B3/

White plays and mates in two moves.

Hensing."

The last mail brings news of a projected Tournament in New York to be held during the month of September, presumably at the Manhattan Club The prizes will aggregate U.S. $4,000 besides a Gold medal from President Cleveland. Surely this will tempt the worthy Lasker to enter the lists! England proposes to send over Blackburne, Gunsberg, Lee, and Mason. We should see some good play in this contest and we look eagerly for further details.

We well remember the excitement which "Mephisto the automaton Chess player" caused in London some years ago. Herewith a brilliant performance *ex machina* against the noted English player Tinsley:—

Two Knights' Defence

WHITE. Mephisto.	BLACK. Tinsley.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to B 4	3—Kt to B 3
4—Kt to Kt 5	4—P to Q 4
5—P takes P	5—Kt takes P
6—Kt takes B P	6—K takes Kt
7—Q to B 3 ch.	7—K to K 3
8—Kt to B 3	8—Q Kt to Kt 5
9—Q to K 4	9—P to Q Kt 4
10—B to Kt 3	10—B to Kt 2
11—P to Q 4	11—B to Q 3

..... Q to Q 3 was better. eg. 12—Q to Q 3; 13—Kt takes P, Q to Kt 3; 13—Q takes P ch., K to Q 2; 14—Q to B 5 ch., K to Q sq; 15—B to Kt 5 ch., Kt to K B 3, etc, even game.

12—P takes P	12—B to B 4
13—Q to K Kt 4 ch.	

Prettily played, disdaining the prosaic procedure, P to Q R 3 which wins a piece.

	13—K to B 2

.... If 13—K takes P; 14—B to K Kt 5, Q to K B sq; 15—Castles Q R, P to Q B 3; 16—K R to K sq. ch., K to Q 3, 17—B to K B 4 wins.

14—B to Kt 5	14—Q to K sq.
15—Castles (Q R)	15—Q to K 3
16—Q to B 3 ch.	16—K to K sq

..... Weak; K to Kt 3 was better.

17—Kt takes Kt	17—Kt takes Kt
18—R takes Kt	

Grand play! Black cannot take the Rook on account of B takes B threatening B to B 6 ch.

	18—Q to K Kt 3
19—P to K 6	19—R to K B sq.
20—Q to B 7 ch.	

Another beautiful masterly stroke.

	20—R takes Q
21—P takes R ch.	21—K to B sq.
22—R takes B	22—P to K R 3
23—B to Q 2	23—Q takes Kt P
24—R to K sq.	24—Q takes B P
25—R takes B P	25—Q takes R ch.

Forced, on account of the impending mate with the Q B at Q Kt 4.

26—B takes Q	26—P to Kt 3
27—B to Kt 4 ch.	27—K to Kt 2
28—P Queens dis. ch. and double check-mate (!)	

"Mary, I saw that policeman speak to you. That's the third policeman I've seen speaking to you this morning. I can't allow that."—No ma'am. But the policemen always do admire baby so; they can't 'elp stopping and askin' about 'im. They all say they never see such a fine child."

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[Reuter "Special" to "Japan Mail."]

London, August 4.

The Washington Treasury gold reserve exceeds 100,000,000 dollars. The report of the Committee on silver at the Convention at Chicago says the only remedy is to open the American Mints to gold and silver on the same terms and at the ratio of sixteen silver to one gold.

A large meeting of bimetallic notables has been held at the Mansion House, at which Mr. Arthur J. Balfour advocated the double standard.

London, August 8.

Bland, the leader of the silverites, announced in the Houses of Congress the introduction of a bill to repeal the Purchase of Silver Bill and substitute free coinage in the ratio of sixteen silver to one gold.

London, August 8.

The Chicago Convention has adopted a resolution denouncing the demonetization of silver and protesting against the repeal of the Sherman Act.

London, August 9.

Congress has met. President Cleveland's message dwells at great length upon the disastrous results of the Sherman Act, namely the accumulation of useless silver and the depletion of the gold reserve, a depreciated currency resulting, which has brought about a financial crisis in the commercial world involving all classes. The message concludes by earnestly advising Congress to repeal the Sherman Act and to take action proving its resolve to fulfil its national obligations in respect to money, as recognised by all civilized countries.

London, August 10.

A caucus of democratic senators, held yesterday, came to the conclusion that there were indications that the silver-men will be able to prevent the repeal of the Sherman Act unless a substitute bill on silver is introduced by a Democrat. The House, it is believed, is agreed to oppose the repeal of the Sherman Bill unless it is replaced by a Bill authorising free coinage.

["Special" Telegram to "Japan Mail."]

Kobe, August, 9th, 2.30 p.m.

Before Mr. Taylor was tried to-day in the United States Consulate, before Mr. E. J. Smithers, Consul and Judge, sitting with Assessors, Mr. A. Tison, who appeared for the defence, entered a demurrer, urging that slander was not a criminal offence. He charged the plaintiff, Mr. Enslie, with not knowing the law. Mr. C. N. Crosse, on behalf of the prosecution, replied, and judgment was reserved.

Kobe, August 10, 11.30 a.m.

The charge against Mr. D. B. Taylor, in the U.S. Consulate, has been dismissed on the demurrer filed by Mr. Tison which urged that slander does not constitute a criminal offence.

[Specially telegraphed to the "Japan Daily Mail."]
(From the "N.-C. Daily News.")

London, August 1.

Notwithstanding that Siam has accepted the French ultimatum entirely, a French force has occupied the island of Kohsichang. It has expelled the residents and the Siamese Customs' Officials.

London, August 2.

As a guarantee of the ultimatum, France demands temporary possession of the port of Chentaboon.

The *Times* is silent, but other papers comment reservedly on the Siamese surrender. They declare that it cannot override British rights.

Two hundred and fifty thousand miners have gone out on strike in the Midland counties. The movement is extending.

London, August 3.

The Marquis of Dufferin and M. Develle have signed a protocol creating a neutral zone on the upper Meikong between new French

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territory, Burmah, and China. Negotiations regarding limits are proceeding.

London, August 4.

The cession on the left bank of the Meikong includes a portion of Luang Prabang lying on the left bank

A debate has taken place in the House of Commons regarding the Siam trouble. Sir Richard Temple, the Hon. G. N. Curzon, and Mr. A. J Balfour attacked the French aggression.

Sir Edward Grey, Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, deplored the remarks made by these gentlemen at the present delicate juncture when the creation of a buffer-state had been agreed to in principle, and when British interests were perfectly protected.

Sir Wm. Harcourt said that he was confident that a friendly settlement between France and England would be arrived at.

Hangkow, July 20.

The Catholic Mission near Mingang has been destroyed during a riot.

(From the "Singapore Free Press.")

Penang, July 24.

The *Graaf von Bylandt* reports that the steamship *Rajah Kongsi Atjeh* is ashore at Simpang Olim. The Achinese passengers attacked and killed the Captain, Mate and 22 others.

The *Rajah Kongsi Atjeh* is a local steamer plying between Penang and the North Coast of Sumatra. She left Penang for Edie, Simpang Olim, Telok Semawe, and Olehleh, her usual run. Simpang Olim is a few miles to the south of the N.E. point of Sumatra. The assumption is that she embarked a number of Achinese passengers at Edie, in Acheen, who subsequently rose and overpowered the unfortunate officers and crew of the vessel.

The *Graaf von Bylandt's* run was from Olehleh to Penang, and her course would take her within a short distance of Simpang Olim.

On inquiry of the Consul-General for the Netherlands, Mr. Lavino, we learn that during the day he received information to the effect that an outbreak had occurred amongst the Achinese passengers on board the *Rajah Kongsi Atjeh*, a Dutch boat trading between Penang and Acheen, who attacked and killed the Captain, the mate and 22 others and wounded 15, plundered the vessel, and then ran the steamer ashore near Teluk Samawe. The vessel is now under the protection of the Dutch gunboat *Madura*, which is rendering every assistance. It is expected that the steamer will probably be floated off next springtide.

The name of the unfortunate officers who have just met with such a tragic death are Capt. J. Wood, and Mr. Alexander. The former is well known in Singapore; he married Mrs. Gibbs, the sister of Mrs. Phillips, of the Sailors' Home, and leaves one boy, now in Singapore, and two step-children, who are thus left orphans, their mother being also dead.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IN DUE

From Shanghai, Nagasaki and Kobe	per N. Y. K	Friday Aug. 18th
From America	per O. & O. Co.	Saturday Aug. 19th *
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Aug. 13th †
From Canada, &c.	per C. P. M. Co.	Monday, Aug. 21st ‡
From Hongkong.	per P. M. Co.	Wed'day, Aug. 16th §
From Europe viâ Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Friday, Aug. 18th ‖
From Hongkong.	per C. P. M. Co.	Thursday, Aug 24th.
From America	per P. M. Co.	Sunday, Aug. 27th

* *Oceanic* left San Francisco viâ Honolulu on August 1st. † *Ancona* left Nagasaki on August 8th ‡ *Empress of India* left Vancouver on August 8th. § *China* left Hongkong on August 9th. ‖ *Natal* (with French mail) left Hongkong on August 10th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Europe, viâ Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Aug. 13th.
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki	per N. Y. K	Tuesday, Aug. 16th.
For America	per P. M. Co	Friday, Aug 18th
For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, Aug. 19th.
For Victoria and Tacoma	per N. P. Co.	Saturday, Aug. 19th.
For Hongkong	per C. P. M. Co.	Tuesday Aug. 22nd.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. M. Co.	Friday, Aug. 25th
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Saturday, Aug. 26th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Bengloe, British steamer, 1,183, Sarchet, 5th August,—Hongkong viâ Kobe, Sugar and General.—Cornes & Co.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,219, Wilson, 5th August,—Shimonoseki, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Ekstrand, 5th August,—Kobe 4th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Alacrity (4), despatch-boat, Captain Adair, 6th August,—Hakodate

Clan Buchanan, British ship, 2,072, G. R. Harris, 6th August,—New York 9th April, Oil.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 6th August,—Moji, Coal.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Kumamoto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,240, Olsen, 6th August,—Sakata 3rd August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Irene, German steamer, 1,630, R. Schuder, 6th August,—Hamburg viâ ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Mercury (13), cruiser, Captain W. Fawkes, 6th August,—Hakodate.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, M. Fukui, 6th August,—Yokkaichi 5th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Iltis (4), German gunboat, Captain Muller, 7th August,—Shanghai viâ Kobe.

Sessiu Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,011, Hayashi, 7th August,—Kobe 6th August, General.—Nada Kogio Kabushiki Kaisha.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. M. Young, 7th August,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, T. Sakai, 7th August,—Kobe 6th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Telamon, British steamer, 1,555, Jackson, 8th August,—Liverpool viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Victoria, British steamer, 1,991, J. Panton, 8th August,—Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B C., 22nd July, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Sakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,369, J. Giese, 8th August,—Hamanaka 5th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 704, Tamura, 8th August,—Hachinohe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Peru, American steamer, 2,540, Daniel Friele, 8th August,—San Francisco 22nd July, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Kaiserin Elisabeth (20), Austrian cruiser, Captain Graf von Goodenough, 8th August,—Nagasaki

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, Y. Arai, 9th August,—Yokkaichi 8th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nürnberg, German steamer, 2,007, B. Blanke; 9th August,—Hongkong 4th August, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Firebrand (4), gunboat, Lieut.-Commander G. Tufnell, 9th August,—Hakodate.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 895, J. Barstow, 9th August,—Cebu and Manila 2nd August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, M. Fukui, 9th August,—Yokkaichi 8th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 684, M. Matsumoto, 10th August,—Kobe 9th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, R. Tipple, 10th August,—Otaru viâ ports 6th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, Nirei, 10th August,—Kobe 9th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Riversdale, British steamer, 1,311, Peck, 11th August,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,358, Haswell, 11th August,—Shanghai and ports 4th August, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, R. R. Searle, 5th August,—San Francisco viâ Honolulu, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Harima Maru, Japanese steamer, 436, Kawamuro, 5th August,—Bonin Islands, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Riversdale, British steamer, 1,311, Peck, 5th August,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 684, M. Matsumoto, 5th August,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,219, Wilson, 6th August,—Shimonoseki, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Monmouthshire, British steamer, 1,872, Cuming, 6th August,—London viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Ekstrand, 6th August,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, Nirei, 6th August,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 934, Y. Arai, 6th August,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sessiu Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,011, Hayashi, 7th August,—Shinagawa, General.—Nada Kogio Kabushiki Kaisha.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, M. Fukui, 7th August,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kumamoto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,240, Olsen, 8th August,—Sakata, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yokohama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,298, Swain, 8th August,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Bengloe, British steamer, 1,183, Sarchett, 9th August,—London viâ ports, General.—Cornes & Co.

Archer (6), cruiser, Commander J. Rogers, 9th August,—Hakodate.

Sakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,369, J. Giese, 9th August,—Niigata and Sakata, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, T. Sakai, 9th August,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. M. Young, 9th August,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, Y. Arai, 9th August,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Peru, American steamer, 2,540, Daniel Friele, 10th August,—Hongkong, Mails and General.—P. M S.S. Co.

Telamon, British steamer, 1,555, Jackson, 10th August,—London viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Victoria, British steamer, 1,991, J. Panton, 10th August,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 10th August,—Moji, Ballast.—Mitsu Bishi Sha

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, M. Fukui, 10th August,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nürnberg, German steamer, 2,007, B. Blanke, 11th August,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Tam O'Shanter, American barkentine, 562, Wm. Patterson, 11th August,—San Francisco viâ Hakodate, Ballast.—Mourilyan, Heimann & Co.

Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 684, M. Matsumoto, 11th August,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, Barstow, 11th August,—Manila viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per German steamer *Irene*, from Hamburg viâ ports:—Dr. Birk, Mrs. Birk, 2 children, and European servant, Mr. Kretzschmar, and Mrs. Kretzschmar, 3 children, and native servants in cabin. For Kobe: Mr. Balte and Mrs. Rahte in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, from Hakodate viâ ports:—1 passenger in second class, and 52 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Sendai Maru*, from Kobe:—Messrs. R. Fukushima, T. Akaba, and M. Kuwabara in cabin; 20 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Victoria*, from Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C.:—Captain Surgeon and Mrs. Beveridge, Mr. P. A. Nicolle, Mr. P. Leconte, Mrs. J. Carroll and 4 children, and Mrs. Pang Yim and infant in cabin.

Per American steamer *Peru*, from San Francisco:—General and Mrs. Boukhovsky, Colonel and Mrs. Severiakoff, Mr. M. Shaindoskoy, Dr. Pokrovsky, Mr. A. Koulomzine, Mrs. Bergier, Mr. Luis Pardo, Mr. Rout. A. Venning, Mr. Gibelius, Captain and Mrs. De Winter, Captain Bursgen, Mr. Haack, Mr. Motf, Mr. Stanger, Colonel Baron Von Korff, Rev. H. G. Appenzeller, and Mrs. Appenzeller and 4 children in cabin; in transit: 89 Chinese in steerage.

Per German steamer *Nürnberg*, from Hongkong:—Mr. Carl Dietrich, Mr. and Mrs. N. Rosenthal and child, Mrs. Pastor Gottschack,

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Don Pablo du Conti Toris, Mr. Fritz Gerike, Dr. Ohot, Messrs. Otto Plouski, Bobslow Swarsk, Waledeman Galdike, Wilh Orueke, Chr. Spanganberg, T. Yumoto, B. Imaidzumi, N. G. Treadwag, F. Casa i, and Conrad Meyer in cabin; 28 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Miss Phillips, Mr. Bunkell, Mrs. Woodward, Mr. and Mrs. Mountie and child, Mr and Mrs. J. H. Osborne, Mr. Munks, Mr. and Mrs. Liddell, Mr. and Mrs. Tsing J. Osien, Mr and Mrs. A. H. Groom, Mr. H. Helm, Mr. L. J Healing, Mr. R. Inglis, Mr. Ichijio, Mr. and Mrs B. O. Squire, Mr. M. Baggaly, and Mrs. Iwanaga and 3 children in cabin; Mr. and Mrs. Rossatal and family, Mr. Lewis, Mr. and Mrs Sawada, Mr. Fujimura, Mr. Murase, and Mr. Miyabe in second class. For San Francisco: Mr John McGiven in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, for San Francisco *viâ* Honolulu:—Mr Guulermo Brockmann, Lieut Campbell Coffin, R.E., Mr. L. Butts, Mrs. A. M. Drennan and maid, Mrs. Duval and daughter, Lieut. Einsiedel, I.R.E., Dr. Goubareff, Mr. Geo. D. Hart, Misses Hogg (2), Mr. T. A. Hardcastle, Major Lyle, Rev. and Mrs. W. J. McKie and 3 children, Mr. C. Von der Osten, Mr. and Mrs. Ostuff, Mr. A. Roggers, Mr. A. Stockmann, Mr. Edward Weyert, and Lieutenant Zouroff, I.R.N., in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Mrs. and Master Stugiff, Miss E. Peace, Mr. and Mrs. P. Küneff, Master and Mrs. Takahashi, Miss Bell, Mrs. Boyle, Dr. and Mrs. Birk and 2 children, Messrs. P. Von Tanner, T. M. McKay, T. Sporri, and Wong Fun Ying in cabin; Miss Kurita, Mrs. Ah Yaw, Mr. and Mrs. Isomura, Mr. Yap Shing, Mr. Yu Sor Lun, M. Nagura, Dr. Birk's servant, and Mr. A. Kuki in second class, and 70 passengers in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, for San Francisco *viâ* Honolulu:—

	SAN FRANCISCO.	TEA NEW YORK.	CHICAGO.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL
Shanghai	—	—	304	—	304
Nagasaki	—	—	—	298	298
Hyogo	—	618	1,767	1,053	3,438
Yokohama	6,090	1,153	2,453	552	10,048
Hongkong	53	—	—	150	203
Amoy	1,223	4,683	949	714	7,569
Foochow	68	—	—	—	68
Total	7,434	6,454	5,273	2,767	21,928

	SAN FRANCISCO.	SILK NEW YORK.	HARTFORD.	TOTAL
Shanghai	—	25	—	25
Hongkong	—	85	—	85
Yokohama	4	56	—	60
Total	4	166	—	170

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, $11,000.00.

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Omi Maru*, Captain J W. Ekstrand, reports:—Left Kobe the 4th August at noon; had light variable winds and fine weather; passed Oshima the same day at 8.45 p.m., same weather to port; at 9.45 a.m. on the 5th passed a four-masted ship this side of Omai-saki. Arrived at Yokohama the 5th August at 5 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Kumamoto Maru*, Captain C. Olsen, reports:—Left Sakata the 3rd August at 11 p.m.; had fine weather with light variable winds; on the 4th fine, pleasant weather; rounded Shinya-saki at 6.55 p.m.; on the 5th high head sea and heavy fog; at 8 p.m. clearing; on the 6th at 8 a.m. rounded Inuboye; at 3.15 p.m. passed Noshima Light, fine weather and light variable winds to arrival at Yokohama the 6th August at 7.40 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, Captain Young, reports:—Left Hakodate the 5th August at noon; had light airs and fine weather to Shiriya-saki; thence thick fog to Oginohama, arriving the 6th at noon and left the same day at 2.30 p.m.; had fine weather to port. Arrived at Yokohama the 7th August at 3 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Sendai Maru*, Captain T. Sakai, reports:—Left Kobe the 6th August at noon; had light southerly airs and smooth sea. Arrived at Yokohama the 7th August at 5.40 p.m.

The British steamer *Victoria*, Captain Panton, reports:—Left Tacoma, Wash., the 22nd July at 4 a.m. and Victoria, B.C., the 23rd at 3.30 p.m.; experienced fresh S.W. to W. gales and heavy head sea to the Meridian, which was crossed in 50° North lat. on the 31st; from Meridian to 168° East long. thick foggy weather; thence to port light S.S.W. winds and fine weather. Arrived at Yokohama the 8th August at 0.30 p.m. Time of passage, 15 days 3½ hours.

The Japanese steamer *Sakata Maru*, Captain J. Giese, reports:—Left Hamanaka the 5th August at 6.30 a.m.; had moderate southerly winds and foggy weather, which continued till after passing Kinkasan; thence weather clearing and getting fine with light southerly winds to port. Arrived at Yokohama the 8th August at 0.30 p.m.

The American steamer *Peru*, Captain Friele, reports:—Left San Francisco the 22nd July at 4.17 p.m.; had south and south-west strong to moderate breezes and light airs. Arrived at Yokohama the 8th August at 4.16 p.m.

The German steamer *Nürnberg*, Captain B. Blanke, reports:—Left Hongkong the 4th August at 5.18 a.m.; until Lushoten Island light southerly winds; thence to port light variable winds and fine weather. Arrived at Yokohama the 9th August at 9.20 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, Captain Barstow, reports:—Left Cebu the 2nd August and arrived at Yokohama the 9th August at 3 p.m.; had fine, clear weather, light winds, and smooth sea the whole passage; met a large ship steering southward off Rock Island at 8.30 this day.

The Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, Captain Tipple, reports:—Left Otaru the 6th August at noon; had light S.W. winds and overcast, squally weather. Arrived at Hakodate the 7th at 6.38 a.m. and left the 8th at noon; had light variable winds and hazy weather down to Koube-saki; thence to Kinkasan dense fog. Arrived at Oginohama the 9th at 10.37 a.m. and left the same day; had light S.W. winds and fine weather; passed Inuboye-saki the 10th at 6.26 a.m. Arrived at Yokohama the same day at 4.28 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, Captain Haswell, reports:—Left Shanghai the 4th August at 3 p.m. and arrived at Nagasaki the 6th at 6 a.m. Left the 7th at 5 p.m. and arrived at Kobe the 9th at 7 a.m. Left again the following day at noon and reached Yokohama the 11th August at 5 p.m.; experienced moderate southerly winds and fine, clear weather to Nagasaki; thence light variable winds and fine weather through Inland Sea to Kobe, moderate south and south-east winds were met along the coast with fine, clear weather to arrival.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

There has been a little promise of business in some branches of the Import trade during the past week, buyers evincing an inclination to purchase at present quotations. In Yarns, doubles have enjoyed a fair demand, while singles move but slowly. In Piece Goods, Grey Shirtings have experienced some slight enquiry and Turkey Reds are fairly active, although holders are firm and prices on the rise. In Woollens, Italian Cloths indicate a tendency to move, but other lines remain quiet.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8½ lb., 38½ yds. 39 inches	$2 05 to 2 50
Grey Shirtings—9lb., 38½ yds. 45 inches	2 25 to 2 95
T. Cloth—7lb., 24 yards, 32 inches	1 50 to 1 85
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches	1 50 to 1 90
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	1 65 to 2 50
	PER YARD.
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 32 inches	0 14 to 0 18
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	6.25 to 8.75
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42 inches	0 62½ to 0 77½
	PER PIECE.
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4lb., 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1 37½ to 1 45
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb., 24/25 yards, 32 inches	1 55 to 1.75
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb., 24/25 yards, 32 inches	1.95 to 2.20
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5lb., 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2 40 to 2.60

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel	$0.24 to 0 38
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches heat	0 29 to 0 31½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0 25 to 0.29
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0.19 to 0.25
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.13 to 0 19
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0 32½ to 0 49½
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0 50 to 0 57
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0 30 to 0 65
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 4 to 3½ lb., per lb.	0 40 to 0 53

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	—
Nos. 16 24, Medium	—
Nos 16 24, Good to Best	—
Nos 16 24, Reverse	—
Nos 28 32, Ordinary	—
Nos. 28 32, Medium	—
Nos 28 32, Good to Best	—
Nos 36 42, Medium to Best	—
No 32s, Two fold	—
No. 42s, Two-fold	—

	PER PICUL.
No 20s, Bombay	Nom. —
No 16s, Bombay	Nom —

METALS.

This market has experienced another dull week. Iron Plates showed some indication of moving and there was a slight enquiry for Wire Nails of short length, but these have again relapsed and the situation is unchanged. Our quotations must therefore again be given as nominal.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ½ inch	$3.60 to 3 70
Flat Bars, 1 inch	3 70 to 3 75
Round and square up to 1 inch	3 00 to 3 20
Iron Plates, assorted	3 00 to 3 15
Sheet Iron	3 85 to 4.00
Galvanized Iron sheets	7.00 to 7 25
Wire Nails, assorted	4 70 to 4 70
Tin Plates, per box	5 30 to 5 50
Pig Iron, No. 1	1.30 to 1 32½

KEROSENE.

About 30,000 cases of Comet are reported to have changed hands during the week at about 1 67-69. The British ship *Clan Buchanan* arrived on the 7th with about 80,000 cases of Chester from New York. This has had no effect upon the market, holders remaining very firm.

Chester	$1 62½ to 1.65
Comet	1 65 to 1.67½
Devoe	—
Russian Anchor	1 62½ to 1 65
Russian Moon	1.60 to 1 62½

SUGAR.

A further falling off in demand for Browns has been experienced during the past week, and a small business has been transacted. Whites also continue dull but holders remain firm.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	$4 90 to 5.00
Brown Manila	5.40 to 5.50
Brown Daitong	4 50 to 4 60
Brown Canton	4.50 to 4 85
White, Java and Penang	6.60 to 6.70
White Refined	7 60 to 9 25

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last was dated the 4th instant. Since then settlements on this market amount to 756 piculs, divided thus: *Filatures*, 591 piculs; *Re-reels*, 87 piculs; *Kakeda*, 78 piculs. In addition to these purchases, direct shipments have been 69 bales, making the total export business of the week equal to 825 piculs.

The market has declined and quotations are about $30 lower all round. Stock is increasing day by day and sellers are getting a little anxious and would like to be moving; at the same time, they do not feel inclined to reduce prices yet further if they can help it and are hoping that the American Congress, now in session, may do something which will hammer exchange and that they will benefit by this in getting higher dollar prices for their silk. Time will prove whether they are right or wrong.

Arrivals come in freely and most provinces are represented in the market now, although *Oshu Filatures* of good quality are scare and wanted. *Kakedas* are in considerable supply and have changed hands rather freely at quotations.

Exchange has been fairly steady in spite of the continual rise in silver reported from London and New York.

There have been four shipping opportunities since we last wrote. The *Empress of Japan*, 4th instant, took 44 bales for the United States; the *Varona*, 5th instant, 196 bales for Europe; the *City of Peking*, 5th instant, 56 bales for New York and 4 sample packages for San Francisco; and the German mail, *Nuernberg*, which left port this morning, had 72 bales for Europe. These departures make the present export figures 1,725 piculs against 4,498 piculs last year and 4,486 piculs at the same date in 1891.

Hanks.—Nothing done. A few small arrivals have come to hand, but quotations are nominal.

Filatures.—These have been freely bought at declining rates until prices stand at about $30 less than than they did a week ago. In fine sizes, *Sumitomo* has been done at $920, with good *Mino* and *Usen* sorts at $900; lower grades at proportionate prices. In full sizes, considerable business has been done at $770 and under for well-known *Shinshu* chops. Buyers now offer a further reduction, which for the moment sellers will not accept.

Rereels.—These have just about lost the ten per cent. rise which they experienced last month and prices are down to the opening rates paid at the end of June. So far as we can see, the rise was entirely fictitious and without reason. Market is dull at present quotations and sellers are feeling a little nervous, wishing they had accepted the good offers which were made them at the beginning of the month but which they then refused with scorn.

Kakeda.—There has been considerable business, chiefly for Europe, high grades being strong at

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quotations. Medium grades, however, seem to run very full and irregular in size and do not look so desirable as the better qualities

In other sorts, no business.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK)

Hanks—No 1	—
Hanks—No 2 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2½ (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No 2½ (Joshu)	—
Hanks—No 2½ to 3	—
Hanks—No 3	Nom.
Hanks—No. 3½	Nom.
Filatures—Extra to 12 demers	$920 to 930
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	—
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	900 to 910
Filatures—No 1, 13/15, 14/16 den	770 to 780
Filatures—No. 1½ 10/14 deniers	850 to 870
Filatures—No. 1½, 13,16, 14 17 den	740 to 750
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	810 to 820
Filatures—No. 2, 14 18 deniers	—
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—(Oshu) Best No 1	—
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	Nom.
Re-reels—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	700 to 710
Re reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	650 to 660
Re-reels—No. 2½, 14/18 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Kakedas—Extra	800 to 810
Kakedas—No. 1	770 to 780
Kakedas—No 1½	740 to 750
Kakedas—No. 2	710 to 720
Kakedas—No 2½	680 to 690
Kakedas—No. 3	650 to 660
Kakedas—No 3½	—
Kakedas—No. 4	—
Oshu Sendai—No 1½	—
Hamatsuto—No. 1, 2	—
Hamatsuto—No. 3, 4	—
Sodai—No 2½	—

Export Raw Silk Tables to 11th Aug., 1893.

Season	1893-1894	1892-93	1891-92
	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.
Europe	1,079	1,935	1,098
America	614	2,424	3,239
Total { Bales	1,693	4.359	4.337
Total { Piculs	1,725	4.498	4,486
Settlements and Direct Export from 1st July	Piculs. 1,500	Piculs. 5,800	Piculs. 5,650
Stock, 11th August	5,700	3,700	4,800
Available supplies to date	8,200	9,500	10.450

WASTE SILK

Settlements for the week are only 83 piculs; *Noshi*, 22 piculs; *Mawata*, 58 piculs; *Boseki-wata*, 3 piculs.

There has been a great talk of business, but it has so far come to nothing, holders being very strong in their ideas and refusing the reasonable offers which buyers make them. Supplies are now coming in freely; stock is up to 9,000 piculs, but prime qualities are scarce and dealers maintain that they cost very dear up country.

There has only been one shipping opportunity since we last wrote, the *Nuernberg*, which left port this morning, taking 82 bales various Wastes for Europe. This departure makes the present export figures 400 piculs against 1,610 piculs last year and 137 piculs at the same date in 1891.

Pierced Cocoons.—Stock has increased to 1650 piculs but no business has been done. Holders ask too much and buyers hold off until they get more reasonable in their demands.

Noshi.—The only business actually done has been a few piculs *Oshu*, bought in the interior on private terms. Nothing done in *Joshu*; although offers have been made for some good quality, yet buyers and sellers are unable to come to terms.

Kibiso.—No business at all this week, although there is a fair amount of stock, mostly medium and inferior grades.

Mawata.—The business done has been in old fibre, prices paid ranging from $175 to $220, according to quality.

Sundries. Nothing done beyond a fragment of *Boseki-wata* at $24.

QUOTATIONS —(NEW WASTE).

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	$160 to 165
Noshi ito—Filature, Good	150 to 155
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	—
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	150 to 160
Noshi ito—Shinshu, Best	—
Noshi ito—Shinshu, Good	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	—
Noshi-ito—Bushu, Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	90 to 95
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	80 to 85
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	70 to 75
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	—
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	125 to 130
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Good to Fair	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Middling to Common	—
Kibiso—Hachoji, Good	—
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	—
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	—
Mawata—Good to Best	—

Export Table Waste Silk to 11th Aug., 1893.

	Season 1893-94	1892-93.	1891-92
	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs
Waste Silk	400	1,610	137
Pierced Cocoons	—	—	—
	400	1,610	137
Settlements and Direct Export from 1st July	Piculs. 600	Piculs. 800	Piculs. 400
Stock, 11th August	9,000	7,800	6,100
Available supplies to date	9,600	8,600	6,500

Exchange has risen a little, but has not kept pace with the rise in Silver quotations. We quote:—LONDON, 4m/s. Credits, 2/6⅛, Documents, 2/6⅜; NEW YORK, 30d/s. U.S. $61⅜; 4m/s. U.S $62¾; PARIS, or LYONS, 4m/s. frs. 3.22.

Estimated Silk Stock, 11th Aug., 1893

Raw	Piculs.	Waste	Piculs.
Hanks	110	Cocoons	1,650
Filatures	3,460	Noshi-ito	3,450
Re-reels	1,510	Kibiso	3,450
Kakeda	470	Mawata	70
Oshu	25	Sundries	380
Tavsaam Kinds	25		
Total piculs	5,700	Total piculs	9,000

TEA

The unsettled condition of Silver and unsatisfactory news from the home markets has caused a falling off in demand during the past week Consequently stocks are accumulating and prices look weak.

Common	$13 to 14
Good Common	15 to 16
Medium	17 to 18
Good Medium	19 to 20
Fine	21 to 23
Finest	23 to 25
Choice	26 to 27
Choicest	30 to 32

EXCHANGE.

Exchange has not risen in proportion with silver, and closes somewhat firm at undermentioned rates

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	2/5⅞
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	2/6¼
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	2/6⅛
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	2/6⅜
On Paris—Bank sight	3 11
On Paris—Private 4 months' sight	3 22
On Hongkong—Bank sight	⅛ % prem.
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	⅛ % dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	73
On America—Bank Bills on demand	60⅛
On America—Private 30 days' sight	61⅛
On America—Private 4 months' sight	62⅛
On India—Bank sight	Nominal 191
Silver	34⅛

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Visitors to Kowaki-dani who bring a rod with them will be shown the haunts of the speckled Trout, a nice stream of several miles in length being within easy walking distance of the Hotel; Hakone Lake is also well stocked with a variety of fish, including salmon, and the Fishing is FREE; while Entomologists will find rare and valuable specimens in the surrounding hills, and the Flora of the district is extremely interesting to the Botanist.

Apartments may be secured by Letter or Telegram, and Special arrangements made for the conveyance of Visitors and Baggage from the Tramway Terminus at Yumoto, by addressing

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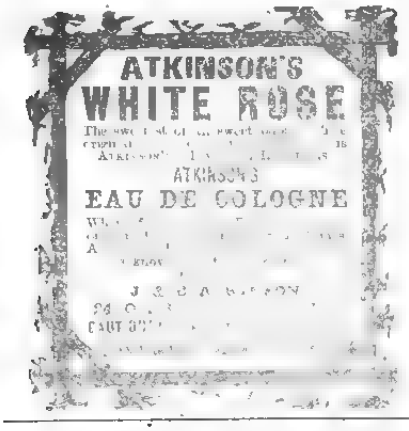

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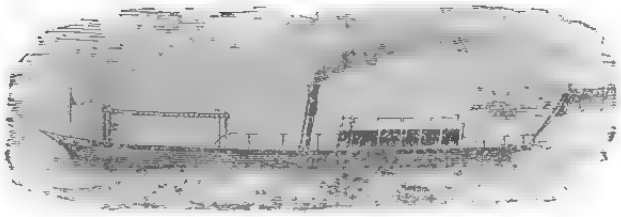

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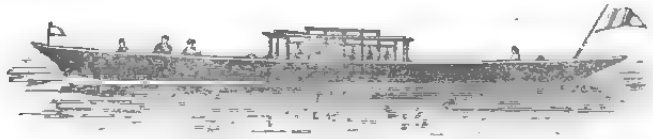

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A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE FOURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, AUG. 19TH, 1893.

BIRTH.

August 18th at No. 23 Bluff, Yokohama, the wife of OSCAR BALK of a daughter.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

A FATAL accident occurred on the tramway at Nikko on the 9th inst.

COUNT GOTO, Minister for Agriculture and Commerce, visited Kamakura on the 12th inst.

THE *Kokkai* has again invited suspension by publishing some very violent writings on Korean subjects.

THE Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria had audience with H M the Emperor and Empress on Thursday.

THE *Chuzai Nippo*, of Nagasaki, was suspended on the 14th inst. having published an article violating the public peace.

ON the 28th July, for the first time in the history of Hongkong, the English sovereign was worth there eight dollars and five cents.

FLAMES broke out in a house at Nanjo, Fukui Prefecture, on the 10th inst., destroying twenty houses, six godowns, and eleven sheds.

MUCH rain has fallen in Yokohama and the neighbourhood during the last few days, and the weather still continues unsettled

MR SHIBATA REIICHI, Superintendent of the Shinto sect, left Yokohama to-day to attend the International Religions Congress at Chicago.

A VIOLENT whirlwind visited Yoshiwaracho, Fuji District, Shizuoka Prefecture, on the 14th inst. A house erected near the Suzukawa Railway Station was blown down.

DURING a serious thunderstorm on the 7th inst., a car attached to a train, about to leave Naokata for Orio in the Onga District of Fukuoka Prefecture, was struck by lightning. The carriage, which was shattered, was fortunately unoccupied, and no lives were lost.

MR. T. M. LAFFIN'S *Mary Jane*, won the sailing race in the "A" Division match on Saturday. The average speed of the winning yatch was 3.5 knots per hour.

MR. TSUBAKI SHINICHIRO, manager of the Nobles' School for Ladies, has received the additional appointment of Councillor of the Educational Department.

IT is announced that H.I H. the Prince Imperial, now staying at Numazu, will visit Hakone Detached Palace on the 20th inst. He will remain there for about a week.

A SMALL fire broke out in a bed room of the Central Hotel and Restaurant on Sunday. The damage was confined to the bed-clothes and the ceiling of the room below.

TYPHOID fever and dysentery are making great inroads this summer in several of the Central prefectures. In Yokohama, the assistant-mayor is laid low with dysentery.

GOVERNOR TOMITA of Tokyo, who has been inspecting Hachioji, proceeded to the Imperial Household Department on the 12th inst., and presented a report of his visit to the Emperor.

RABIES having broken out on the Bluff, the police are busy in killing all suspected dogs, and also dogs who come under the term of vagrants, *i.e.* possessing neither collar, tag, or chain.

ON Saturday, the *Alacrity's* cricket team won a hollow victory—having 99 runs to spare on the first innings—over the combined teams of H.M.S. *Plover* and *Firebrand*. The scores were 166, and 67 and 75 respectively.

MR. HARA RYOZABURO, M.P. for Gifu Prefecture, has neglected his electors to such a degree that they have asked him to resign. He has not visited them once since his election. Japanese electors are apparently as choleric over absentee M.P.'ism as the Irish are over absentee landlords.

MR. MARINUS WILLETT has been acquitted by the U. S. Court of the charge "of assault and battery with intent to kill," brought against him by the police. A charge of attempted murder has since been laid against the *hetto* Suzuki Hikosuke in the Japanese Local Court.

THE *Takachiho Kan* has been made flag-ship of the Japanese Standing Squadron. Vice-Admiral Ito, Commander-in-Chief of the Squadron, hauled down his pennant from his former flag-ship, *Matsushima Kan*, and hoisted it on the *Takachiho* on the 13th inst.

THE publication of a medical journal, called the *Ikai Jiho*, of Tokyo, has been suspended by the authorities. The paper recently printed an article attacking the authorities for not ordering a *post-mortem* examination of the remains of the late Viscount Soma Seiin.

THE election of a manager of the Nobles' Club has resulted in the return of Mr. Shijo Takahira. MR. OTORI, Japanese Minister to China and Korea, will leave for his mission early next month. He is expected to proceed to Korea first, and after settling important business there, to go on to Peking.

AN epidemic of suicide has apparently prevailed in Yokohama these last ten days. A Chinaman and his mistress led off by taking overdoses of opium. Then a man and his wife drowned themselves in the bay; after that a man drowned himself in a pond; later a woman was found drowned in another piece of unenclosed water.

A BIG fight over the water privileges appertaining to the Nii districts of Ehime Prefecture, took place on the 3rd inst. One man was killed, ten seriously injured,—two of whom are not expected to live,—while nearly all the two thousand persons who took part in the affray came out of it bearing some substantial marks of the fighting.

ON Wednesday there were thirteen men-of-war in harbour, seven of which were British, two American, two Japanese, one German, and one Austrian. The same day H.M. ships *Leander* and *Mercury* left for Hokodate, while on Friday the rest of the British Squadron, with the exception of the *Alacrity*, weighed anchored, intending to proceed to Hakodate also.

AT a meeting held in Kobe to consider the resignation of the Chaplain, the Rev. W. Weston, the Chairman, Mr. Lucas, is reported to have said: "One can hardly speak of the piety of this place as so abundant as to satisfy the clergy. Piety in Kobe can hardly be spoken of as an indigenous plant, but rather as one of those rare exotics that need careful, whole-hearted attention from a very hard-working and unselfish minister."

MR. HOSHI TORU, President of the House of Representatives, was attacked by *soshi* at Kisarazu, Chiba Prefecture, on the morning of the 10th inst. As he was leaving the Tamaya Hotel in a *jinrikisha* for Minatocho, a *soshi* threw a *hibachi* and a flower-pot at him from the upper story of the hotel. The missiles did not reach Mr. Hoshi, and he drove off at once. The *soshi* was arrested by the police. The cause of the attack is attributed to the refusal by Mr. Hoshi of some request made by the youth.

THE business outlook for Imports as the week closes is anything but promising. Silver is absolutely rotten in connection with Exchange, and trade is practically paralyzed. Occasionally a slight demand arises, but holders, until they can make sure of their position, have to charge prohibitive prices, and thus nothing results. Yarns have had no enquiry, and Fancy Piece Goods and Woolens remain featureless. A small business has been done in Pig Iron, but metal houses, through fear of Exchange, have also put up prices all round. Kerosene is only changing hands in small quantities at a time, and prices are rising. The demand for Brown Sugar shows a further falling, off and some grades have gone down 5 cents per picul; Whites follow suit. But it is in Tea that the depression is most apparent, the U.S. trade having dwindled to the smallest proportions; whether it will recover this season, remains to be seen, but prospects are not alluring. The third crop, now on the market, is of poor quality, owing to the late drought. Considerable purchases of Silk have been made for Europe, the *Yarra* alone taking 710 bales As in Tea, so in Silk, the U.S. demand is languishing. Indeed, two big houses, we hear, have stopped shipping, preferring to "bide a wee," until the horizon is cleared somewhat of the miasmic fogs raised by the Silverites and anti-Silverites. Under these circumstances it is not surprising that values are tending downward. Dealers also are not strong in Waste, for which enquires are all for lower prices. Export up to date is, Raw 2,442 piculs, against 5,270 piculs last year and 6,796 piculs in 1891; Waste 650 piculs against 1,750 piculs last year, and 277 piculs in 1891.

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THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

Growing intimacy between the Progressionists and the National Unionists is the prevailing topic of discussion in political circles. Some papers state that there is already a tacit understanding between the two parties for concerted movement in the coming session of the Diet But that seems to be a little premature; there is nothing to justify such an allegation. It, however, appears certain that the two parties no longer regard each other with that implacable hatred which has hitherto characterized their attitude. We may even go so far as to state that they are equally desirous of coming to an understanding. This supposition is amply borne out by the cautious manner in which their respective organs write on the subject, as may be seen from the following paragraphs.

* * *

The *Chu-o Shimbun*, the acknowledged organ of the National Unionist party, while on the one hand, denying the existence of any secret compact between its party and the *Kaishin-to*, does not, on the other, hesitate to state that the National Unionists will not refuse to act in concert with the Progressionists, if the latter are able to see their way to support the policy pursued by the former. Our contemporary then proceeds to allude in a sneering tone to the unpopularity of the Radical party, and observes that the rumours of an alliance between the Progressionists and the National Unionists must be regarded as a sign that the people no longer repose its confidence in the Radical party.

* * *

The *Choya Shimbun*, which, though not a recognised organ of the National Unionists, is peculiarly friendly to them, states that, although the Progressionists and the National Unionists have hitherto stood at the opposite poles of party politics, there is no reason why they should not come nearer each other. The question is, in the *Choya's* opinion, how close the *rapprochement* will be. In one essential respect, that of opposition to the present Government, they have motives in common. But on several other practical points, they hold views more or less antagonistic to each other. Such is certainly the case—continues our contemporary—on the questions of the land tax, the re-assessment of the taxable value of land, Naval reform, the transfer of prison expenses to the charge of the Treasury, the establishment of a steel foundry, etc. Will the two parties then be unable to work in concert? The answer need not necessarily be in the affirmative. "For, if an alliance is to be formed between the two parties, it will be, not on any of the existing questions, but on questions which are to be brought up for discussion in the future. What those questions may be, we are not in a position to say. The current of affairs in the political world is daily tending in the direction of a coalition between the Progressionists and National Unionists. Who knows the questions that may arise just before the opening of the next session of the Diet,—questions which may unite these two parties in an effective alliance? This point is the key to the political situation in the immediate future.' To what question our contemporary alludes, we are at a loss to comprehend. On the Korean question they may unite in clamouring for a strong policy, but it is not easy to conceive on what other question they may possibly come to a common understanding, unless it be that of pulling down the present Ministry and installing themselves in office.

* * *

The *Mainichi Shimbun*, a Progressionist organ, strongly denies the imputation that an alliance has been formed between the Progressionist and the National Unionist parties. It has not forgotten how much its party suffered from the reckless persecution instituted by Viscount Shinagawa, the National Unionist leader, while he was in office. But the Progressionist party, it goes on to observe, is magnanimous enough to bury the past in oblivion and join hands even with its bitter enemies of former days, "if only they renounce their doubtful connection with the Clan Government and take their stand on the side of the Popular party." Our contemporary even goes so far as to declare that its party is desirous of the friendship of the National Unionists. But, if the latter be unwilling to insist on the complete abolition of Clan Government the Progressionist organ fears that alliance with them will be impossible. At all events, the two parties, in its opinion, will be able to work together on certain particular points.

* * *

Events are certainly tending in favour of the Progressionist party. That party, after long years of persecution and unpopularity, is beginning to regain popular favour. The Progressionists know very well that the tide is turning in their favour, and they know equally well how to behave under the circumstances. Their organs, while, on the one hand, persisting in an attitude of uncompromising hostility to the Government, maintain airs of magnanimity and self-sacrifice in their relations with other parties. While the Radical organ vehemently attacks the inconsistency and treachery of the Progressionists as allies, the organs of the latter mildly reply, that their party is as willing as ever to co-operate with the Radicals, if the latter will pursue their old policy, and that the absurd tirades which the *Jiyu Shimbun* is indulging in against their party are discountenanced by the sober section of the Radical party.

* * *

With regard to the results of the labours of the Administrative Reforms Investigation Committee, it is a noteworthy fact that the National Unionist organs and papers friendly to that party are most conspicuous for their enthusiasm in criticising the reforms said to be recommended by the Committee. The details of those reforms are not yet known, but these papers, especially the *Choya Shimbun*, spare no pains to say ugly things about them. Our contemporary believes that the Radicals may not feel inclined to disapprove of these reforms, but that the National Unionists, the Progressionists, and the Independents will be positively dissatisfied with them. The *Choya* specially disapproves of the changes which the Committee is reported to have made in the much disputed definition of the "already fixed expenditures" mentioned in the 67th Article of the Constitution. According to our contemporary, the Committee is said to have considerably narrowed the limits of the items included in that category. Such a step on the part of the Government is, in the opinion of the *Choya*, extremely impolitic, and pernicious, for it is nothing but an act of surrender to the absurd claims put forth by the extremists in the Diet for the right of the Legislature to encroach upon the sphere properly belonging to the Executive. The Ministry is consequently accused of sacrificing the interests of the country to its political convenience.

* * *

The *Jiji Shimpo* is indefatigable in opposing the reduction of the land tax, a measure to which the Cabinet is believed to be favourably disposed. The cry for the reduction of the land tax, which originally arose from farmers who could not trace their temporary distress to its proper cause, has been augmented by demagogues who saw in it an opportunity to ingratiate themselves with the class which constitutes the great majority of the nation. The land tax, our contemporary states, has been reduced to less than one-half of what it was under the Tokugawa Government. The farmers thus have no cause to complain of the land tax What they have good reason to complain of is that the excessive increase of officials in the local administration with its complex system has necessitated the imposition of heavy local rates and taxes. It is, consequently, a mistake to apply the remedy through the land tax instead of reforming the evils just alluded to. Nothing, the *Jiji* says, could be more impolitic than to cut off an important source of revenue, now that the necessity for large public expenditure is daily increasing.

* * *

The *Jiji Shimpo* reports that the authorities of the Finance Department are making investigations concerning the advisability of adopting a gold standard, and our contemporary seems to think that they are rather in favour of such a step. It, consequently, takes much pains to expose the absurdity of the idea. Supposing that a gold standard is adopted by Japan, her manufacturing industries, which are just beginning to flourish, would, in the *Jiji's* opinion, at once decline. The adoption of a gold standard in India is regarded by our contemporary as a selfish measure forced on the country by the official classes. What has been the consequence of the measure? The *Jiji* learns that it has proved a great blow to manufactures, because the price of raw material and the wages of labour have not been lowered in proportion to the rise of the value of currency. Such a step would be attended with fatal consequences in a country like Japan where the industries are still in their infancy. Our contemporary promises ere long to discuss the subject exhaustively, but declares its opinion that Japan should never adopt a gold standard.

* * *

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, though evidently not one of those who have been scared by the recent depreciation of silver into the advocacy of a gold standard, is still aware of the evil consequences that would follow a constant fall in value of the white metal. Our contemporary makes an implied allusion to the *Jiji Shimpo*, and seems to laugh at the excessive warmth with which that journal is advocating the cause of silver. The *Nichi Nichi* appears to build some hope on the probable action of the United States Congress in which the silverites seem to exercise considerable influence.

* * *

The reforms in the Imperial University recently described in these columns, have been upon the whole favourably received by the metropolitan papers. So far as those reforms go, they are generally well-spoken-of, but the papers appear to think that they have not gone far enough. The *Kokkai*, for instance, hopes that the Imperial University may be placed completely beyond the control of the Legislature, and that the Professors may be remunerated from the wages attaching to each chair, without drawing a salary from their official status.

* * *

The *Kokkai* strongly criticises the conduct of the authorities in suspending newspapers during to take exception to the foreign policy of the Government With regard to internal administration, the Government, says our contemporary, has come to allow a wide margin of free discussion to the press. But unnecessarily rigid censorship is still exercised in matters relating to foreign policy. When newspaper comments happen to give offence to a foreign Sovereign or a friendly nation, the Government may be justified in interfering. But from the recent cases of suspension our contemporary is led to believe that the authorities resort to the exercise of that extraordinary power whenever the foreign policy of the Government is unfavourably criticised by the press. The Government may think that to allow freedom of the press in noticing its foreign policy would be to weaken its hands in dealing with foreign Powers The *Kokkai* thinks otherwise, for, in its opinion, a mistake once made by the Government in its foreign policy is not so easily corrected as mistakes in internal administration. Public discussion is, consequently, of absolute importance on the foreign policy of the Government. The freedom of public discussion in matters of foreign policy now happens to be restrained, because, in the *Kokkai's* opinion, the portfolio of foreign affairs is in the hands of "a nervous statesman.' Success in foreign policy, it says, cannot be expected from a statesman who is afraid of the criticism of newspaper writers.

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EDITORIAL NOTES.

REFORMS IN THE IMPERIAL UNIVERSITY.

THE long talked-of reforms in the Imperial University have just been made public. The translation of the amended Ordinances will be published soon, but we may here allude to the principal features of the changes effected by them. The general object kept in view seems to have been to minimise as much as possible the expenses required for the administration of the University's affairs and give more to the teaching members of the faculty. We notice that the number of Secretaries, formerly four, has been reduced to one; Assistant Professors, fifty to thirty-five; Clerks, seventy-three to fifty-two; and Assistants, one hundred and ten to eighty; while the Dormitory Wardens, to which special officials have hitherto been appointed, are to be incorporated with some of the Assistant Professorships. The number of Professors remains unchanged. Another noteworthy feature of the reforms is the introduction of a new system in the payment of Professors. Hitherto their salaries were regulated by a schedule similar in principle to that applied to ordinary administrative officials, a system which resulted in great inequalities. Those of undoubted ability and doing excellent service, but of inferior official rank, had to be satisfied with nominal salaries; while others, who, by reason of long service or of exceptional circumstances, held superior status, were allowed to draw large salaries, without regard to either the quality or quantity of their work. This state of things caused constant complaint on the part of the younger members of the faculty. Their grievance has been remedied by the introduction of the system of payment for Chairs. The Professors and the Assistant Professors are to receive in the first place their official salaries, which vary in amount according to their official rank, and then in addition, they are entitled to special remunerations for each of the Chairs they occupy, the amount of such remuneration being determined in accordance with the nature and amount of labour required by each Chair. In this way, even a newly appointed Professor of low official status may receive considerable remuneration, if he is appointed to some of the more important Chairs. Yet another feature is the creation of Honorary Professorships to be bestowed upon persons who have done valuable service in the Imperial University or in the cause of Science. This will prove a powerful stimulant for independent scientific investigation. In other respects, the organization of the different Colleges constituting the University has been greatly simplified. The new Minister of Education as well as the new President of the Imperial University are to be heartily congratulated on the success of their reforms in the highest seat of learning in the Empire.

A SUMMER SCHOOL FOR GIRLS.

THE Christian female schools of Tokyo and Yokohama have combined to open a special summer school for girls for a week in the beginning of September at the Ferris Seminary, No. 178 Bluff. They have selected this rather late portion of the season, in order not to interfere with the operations of other summer schools now being held. The promoters also intend to take advantage of the occasion to hold a conference of persons either actually engaged in female education or taking interest in it. The school is to be opened on the afternoon of the 31st of the present month, but exercises begin on the morning following. In the morning there will be addresses on moral or religious subjects, while the evening hours are to be devoted to lectures upon educational, scientific, literary and artistic topics. Besides these regular exercises, there will be occasional addresses, conferences, *conversasione*, and field amusements. The moral and religious addresses will be undertaken by Messrs. Honda Yoichi, Uyemura Masahisa, Ibuka Kajinosuke, Harada Suke, and Ogata Sennosuke, Mrs. True, Miss Deyo, Miss Spencer, Mrs. Large, Mrs. Meier, etc. The lecturers on secular subjects will be Miss Tsuda Ume (Condition of Female Students in American Universities), Mr. Booth (Home), Mrs. Sakurai Chika (Methods of Female Education), Miss Ogino Gin (Past and Future of Female Medical Practitioners in Japan), Mr Hoshino Shinnosuke (Female Education and the Japanese Martial Exercises), and Mr. Ando Taro (Japanese Women Abroad). Besides these ladies and gentlemen, several other educationalists have consented to speak about their respective specialities in education. Among them may be mentioned Professor Nakagawa Kenjiro of the Higher Female Normal School, Professor Konishi Shimpachi of the Tokyo School for the Deaf and Dumb, and Professor Kamitsu Senzaburo of the Tokyo Academy of Music. The daily expenses of the students comprise the following extremely moderate items:—10 *sen* for general expense, 5 *sen* for lectures, and 10 *sen* for board.

TOKYO TRAMWAY COMPANY.

THIS company would appear of late to have been deliberating on the necessity of converting their present system into one propelled by electricity. The directors are actuated to such a change by the inconvenience and annoyance caused by the employment of horses, the rapid adoption of electric railways abroad, and their obligations to the citizens of Tokyo to provide them with the best means of transit for the privilege of occupying the most important thoroughfares of the city. The opinion of a first-class expert in electrical matters is that the cars and rails at present in use may be adapted for electric trams, and that the only materials required for the proposed change would be wires, motors, and other apparatus for the cars. The *Hochi*, by whom these details are given, goes on to say,—but whether this, also, is the expert's dictum, we know not,—that a grave difficulty in connection with the scheme in question is a possible objection on the part of the Telephone authorities to a single wire system as being likely to interfere seriously with telephonic communication. Double wires would obviate the trouble, but that is out of the question owing to the cost involved. The *Hochi* adds, that the Company, therefore, think that the best way out of the difficulty, when the time comes, will be to double the telephone wires at the Company's expense.

* * *

We (*Japan Mail*) cannot believe this last statement, with its lack of comprehension of either the practical or financial aspects of the proposal so airily formulated, can have emanated from an electrician. If a change should ever be made in the telephonic system of the capital, it must, of necessity, take the form of underground lines and not double wires overhead.

MR. ARAI ON JAPAN SILK.

WE referred in a late issue to the project of certain Yokohama merchants to export silk direct to America, and to their intention of engaging the services of Mr. Arai Ryoichi, late of the Doshin Kaisha, for that purpose. Mr Arai lived in America, as Manager of the Branch Office of the firm there, for about ten years, so that his opinion on the silk trade between Japan and America, based as it is upon long experience, must be of interest. The *Chugai Shogyo Shimpo* furnishes a report of an interview between him and one of its staff. Asked as to the relative merits of Japanese and Italian silk, Mr. Arai replied that the latter has been held in the highest esteem, whilst as material for textile fabrics it has been regarded most favourably. At the same time, certain Japanese silks are no whit inferior to the Italian. The silk from the factory of Mr. Ito Kozaemon, in Ise, may, indeed, be said to have but few detractors in Europe; but as all Japan silk is not of that superior quality, it must, with regret, be admitted that, taken altogether, the Italian ranks higher than the native. Complaints of inferiority and carelessness are often heard, especially against the Shinshu filatures and Joshu hanks. In fact, so strong was the feeling against them, that he heard certain American weavers say that should the defects not be remedied this year, they may be obliged to obtain their supplies from another quarter. Mr. Arai went so far as to add that in spite of the unpopularity of Japan silk, he saw no hope of improvement, unless the Japanese manufacturers were aroused to action by having their products rejected altogether. Referring to Chinese silk, Mr. Arai acknowledged its good quality, but the mode of manufacture being still crude, it cannot bear comparison with the Japanese article—a point of great advantage to this country. The silk from the three factories at Shanghai and from that at Canton is not surpassed in quality by that from Italy and France, although generally speaking, Chinese silk does not even come up to Japan hanks of five or six years ago. Consequently, Chinese silk imported into America is mostly used for sewing purposes, and the very little that is used for weaving is simply for cheap goods. Mr. Arai believes it an easy matter to remedy the existing defects in the Japan product, if manufacturers will only realise the necessity for improvement. His opinion of the Californian silk industry and the artificial French silk is very unfavourable. Regarding the export of silk, he thinks direct communication between the American weavers and the Japanese manufacturers instead of the goods passing through the hands of foreign merchants, will be the means of remedying existing deficiencies.

JAPAN SOCIETY.

THE second annual dinner of the Japan Society, eaten in the Whitehall Rooms of the Hôtel Metropole on the 27th of June, was evidently a very pleasant and sparkling affair. A great assemblage partook of viands which were doubtless everything that viands ought to be, and the after-dinner speeches were flavoured with a certain measure of humour and a very large spice of compliment. Sometimes one is disposed to think that the English are growing much more flowery than they used to be. It is true that men with sound digestions and refined social instincts are not supposed to be critical or acrimonious after a generous repast and mellow liquers. But yet such a string of pretty things as the speakers at the Japan Society's dinner put together may not be accounted for on any common-place principles. Let us put together a few of the compliments uttered, and see how they look in company:—"The Japanese have many excellent qualities. They are kindly, courteous, law-abiding, and possessed with a high sense of personal honour which makes sordidness unknown. This is associated, moreover, with an ardent, patriotic spirit, and nowhere are good manners and artistic culture so widespread, reaching even to the lowest. * * * The Japanese have so many good qualities that we can never see their faults. * * * I am quite certain that what we all desire is to see Japanese art maintain its character and religiously preserve itself from the contamination of Western ideas. * * * I have never been in Japan, but I know what it must be to live in a country where every dress is a cloak to some beautiful moving composition of colour; where the instinct of what is beautiful not only delights to express itself in lovely things but forbids and banishes from art all that is ungainly and unsightly. The President of the Royal Academy has said that the sense of the decorative distribution and subtle loveliness of form and colour is absolutely universal in the Japanese nation, and shows itself not only in every ordinary appliance of domestic life, but flows over into each little toy that might beguile an idle moment. * * * My friend on the right has just returned from a visit to the Exhibition at Chicago, and he tells me that the exhibit of the Japanese nation excites universal admiration and envy, and far transcends anything that has come from this country and Europe * * * I have had the advantage of seeing much of the Japanese in their own country, and in this country, and when I meet Japanese I always expect to find certain characteristics. There is a breadth of liberality and opinion that is very remarkable, a grateful and lasting appreciation of the services of their friends, and a perfectly

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cheerful readiness to fight their very hardest enemies."

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All that is pretty strong and pretty large-mouthed in its way. It is not quoted from one speech. It is made up of extracts from the speeches of Sir Trevor Lawrence, Professor Roberts-Austin, C.B., and Professor W. Anderson. Yet there are folks who pretend that the English are blunt and plain-spoken even to the verge of churlishness. Evidently such critics labour under a radical delusion.

* * *

What does Sir Trevor Lawrence mean when he expresses the hope that "Japanese art will religiously preserve itself from the contamination of Western ideas?" We do not think that Japanese art is likely to suffer contamination from such a source. Neither do we think that Japanese art can afford to ignore Western ideas. There is virtually no field for this country's decorative art unless it can adapt itself, in some degree at any rate, to Western ideas, and as for contamination, perhaps Sir Trevor Lawrence will tell us frankly whether he thinks the Japanese art has not an immense lesson to learn from Western art. We do not say that Japanese art has nothing to impart in return. It has indeed much to give, and the Occident is practically sensible of the fact. But to say that an infusion of Occidental ideas would "contaminate" Japanese art, is to make an incomprehensible, and, we venture to think, a very extravagant assertion. Japanese pictorial art is to the pictorial art of Europe what a clever but fragmentary sketch is to a finished picture. We venture to affirm that there is no real Japanese pictorial art in the Occidental sense of the term. There are a few pretty trivialities, a few graceful studies, and a great number of decorative conceptions. But art, high art, the art that knows and employs all the resources of scientific culture, of technical training, of poetic conception, of balanced composition and of comprehensive execution—how much of that exists in Japan? Contamination, forsooth! Even for after-dinner purposes Sir Trevor Lawrence's speech seems too hyperbolical.

* * *

Certainly the Japan Society is a remarkable success. It has now 450 members, enrolled within the short space of eighteen months. Since its inception there have been nine meetings, and at these nine meetings there has been an average attendance of 330 members and visitors. This last figure is really remarkable. Professor Roberts-Austin, referring to it, said:—"I ask you, what London scientific Society could show such an average attendance as that?" What society, indeed? Why the Japan Society, in so far as concerns attendance at its meetings, could put our good old Asiatic Society into its waistcoat pocket without endangering the contours of its costume.

LUNACY AND ABSENCE OF HAIR ON THE BODY.

MR. SAKAMOTO, a medical practitioner attached to the Osaka Horikawa Prison, says the *Yomiuri*, has discovered a curious fact, namely, that the bodies of prisoners whose mental capacities are deficient, show a remarkable absence of hair. The result of examinations made by him in the case of 19 prisoners of both sexes judged to be mentally unsound, was as follows:—

Hair partially absent on body 8 men and 2 women,	10
Hair totally absent on body 1 man and 2 women,	3
Hair present in the usual places ..... 6 men,	6
Total.....	19

Dr. Sakamoto next referred to the records of the Osaka Lunatic Asylum, and obtained from them the following facts in connection with 46 patients who had entered the Asylum between November last to April of this year:—

Hair partially absent on body 15 men and 11 women,	26
Hair totally absent on body ..... 1 woman,	1
Hair present in the normal places 15 men and 5 women,	20
Total.....	47

He then proceeded to examine 2,894 male prisoners and 380 female prisoners in the Prison under his care, and obtained this result:—

Hair partially absent on body 284 men and 91 women,	375
Hair totally absent on body 2 men and 16 women,	18
Hair present in the normal places 2,608 men and 273 women,	2,881
Total.....	3,274

The percentage of hairless persons was 40 for women and 10 for men, from which the doctor infers that women are generally less developed than men in this respect. He is entirely at a loss to account for the curious relation between hair-growth and mental deficiency, and is said to be engaged in investigating the matter.

SCHOOL INSPECTORS.

IT has long been rumoured that the Department of Education intends to abolish the office of School Inspectors. A few days ago the Directors of Provincial Normal Schools were notified by the Department, through an Imperial Ordinance, that hereafter they must inspect the common schools in their respective prefectures This means that the Department has decided to entrust, in ordinary cases, the work of common school inspection to its own Director, and that the most important portion of the business hitherto undertaken by the School Inspectors will be discharged by the Normal School Director. This step meets the approval of our contemporary, the *Kokkai*. Only the penny-wise politicians of the local assembly, it says, may conceive a grudge against the reform, for one result will be an increase for local school expenditure in the form of travelling expenses. The Normal School Directors will derive the greatest benefit from the change; and they already enjoy the easiest task, for they are simply required to superintend some 200 students at most, and do not teach as the ordinary Middle School Directors are required to do. An opinion has frequently been ventilated in educational circles, either that the Normal School Director should be called upon to act at the same time as teacher, or that the office should be abolished altogether, and a common head appointed over Normal and Middle Schools. But now that the duty of inspecting the common schools falls upon him, the office can no longer be called a sinecure. As an indication of the coming abolition of School Inspectors, we may mention the removal of Mr. Tsubaki Shinichiro, probably the ablest of the body, to the Managership of the Female Nobles' School.

COUNT ITO AND COUNT OKUMA.

A CERTAIN statesman in power, says the *Nippon*, recently met another statesman who is out of office. The latter is reported to have remarked:—"How lifeless is the political world just now! It is just like Ito's character. The secret of his statemanship is to do nothing. He cannot create a new political situation, but he endeavours to apply his do-nothing policy under every condition of things. When, therefore, the political world stagnates, it affords him the highest gratification. And such is accidentally the case at the present moment." The statesman in power did not fail to carry the report of this conversation to Count Ito. The Minister President on hearing it is said to have grown indignant and to have vented his feelings in this strain:—"You need not tell me who made these remarks about me. It must have been Okuma; nobody else could have said such things. But his observations are superficial; he doesn't know me. I will tell you what the situation is. The country is now suffering from the evils of political parties, which are becoming almost unbearable. Without ability as I am, but having the honour to preside over the Cabinet and being charged with the grave responsibility of directing the affairs of State, I am seriously considering, day and night, the methods of rescuing the country from the curse by which it is harassed. Would it be right under such circumstances to rely upon a party for the cure of a malady caused by parties? That is the point I am now turning over in my mind most carefully. I do not think it at all a difficult task to form a great political party for use as a shield against the attack of the Opposition. But to do so would be simply to add fuel to the fire, or like throwing stones into the river to check its flow. The only result of such a procedure would be to intensify the evil which we desire to remedy. In short, my surroundings as well as my past history now compel me to remain strictly inactive in matters of party politics. As the result of careful meditation on the subject, I have come to appreciate the absolute necessity of observing strict neutrality amidst the intense friction of the different political parties. I believe that the Government's interference would make the confusion only worse confounded. Is it not then advisable that I should, as a statesman in power, adhere to the do-nothing policy? I am well aware of what I might accomplish without much difficulty, if only I cared nothing about the evil results of party contentions. However agreeable such a course might be for purposes of personal ambition, I must think of the great injury it would inflict on the country. I stick to a policy of inaction, in order, on the one hand, to make the present parties perceive how trivial is their *raison d'etre*, and, on the other, to prevent the rise of new. But there is one thing I must not omit to tell you; and it is this, that my so-called policy of inaction is really a policy of action. Whenever any of the existing parties, be it the Progressionist, the Radical, or the National Unionist, reforms itself and acquires the attributes of a true political party, then I shall not hesitate to extend a cordial welcome to it. The existing parties are entirely swayed by their feelings, and their actions are dictated by sentiments of revenge, resentment, and so forth. You may now understand why I am now pursuing a policy of inaction."

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A certain person, hearing these remarks of Count Ito, is said to have waited upon the Count at Waseda on the 9th instant. In reply to his visitor's question, the Progressionist leader is reported to have stated that it was he who made the original observations about Count Ito, and on being told what Count Ito had said in reply, he only smiled in an indifferent manner.

OFFICIAL RESIDENCES.

THE present system of providing official residences for the principal members of the Government, about which so many unfavourable comments have appeared in the press, will, according to the *Jiji Shimpo*, be discontinued before long. As a result of the late conference of the committee for arranging executive affairs in the Cabinet, it was decided to abolish all the official residences of the Cabinet Ministers with the exception of those for the Premier and the Minister for Foreign Affairs. Count Ito himself, however, is said to have proposed that the Premier's residence should also be abolished, and that the Foreign Minister only, should be provided with one. A Minister, therefore, who has no suitable house of his own, will be required hereafter to pay a reasonable rent for an official residence, as well as defray the expenses connected therewith. Whether in consequence of this decision or not, Count Goto and Mr. Watanabe are said to have removed to their own private houses.

THE HŌ-Ō-DEN AT THE WORLD'S FAIR.

MR. OKAKURA the art-critic, aided by Mr Ogawa the artist-photographer, has conferred a favour on the public of both sides of the Pacific by his "Illustrated Description of the Hō-ō-den, or Phœnix Hall, at the World's Columbian Exposition." The book is quite a small one,—that is always a mercy in these busy latter days,—it is a beautiful one, and it is such an instructive one that every real student of Japanese life and Japanese art must wish to keep a copy at his side. We learn from it all about the furnishing of Japanese rooms, the ordering of Japanese dinners, the evolution of present modes of living from a simpler ancient model, when, for instance, sliding doors not having yet been invent-

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ed, Japanese rooms were shut in by means of vertical shutters, let down at night but raised in the day-time by bronze hooks to admit the light, and when, instead of mats all over every room, as is the present usage, there was but one mat in the middle, raised on a polished wooden parquet, whereon sat My Lord the mediæval *daimyo* writing love poems to his *inamorata* or employing his time in some other manner equally useful and ornamental. We are instructed in the anatomy of the phœnix, which has the head of a cock, the beak of a sparrow, a neck like a moving snake, feathers like dragon scales, the wings of a unicorn, and the tail of a fish. We are let into the secret of the *tokonoma* or alcove, which most of us had probably believed to be a recess intended for the hanging of painted scrolls to ornament a drawing room, but which is, it seems, or was originally, a dais used for placing offerings to the gods, above which were suspended a picture of Buddha and an incense-burner. In fact Mr. Okakura gives us a chapter in the evolution of Japanese architecture and social life, while Mr. Ogawa's photogravures accompanying the text will be a joy even to those who care nothing either for evolution or for antiquity.

RECLAMATION OF LAKE NOJIRI.

For some time past statements have appeared in the vernacular papers of a dispute between the people of the Province of Echigo and Count Goto, Minister for Agriculture and Commerce, relative to the attempt of the latter to reclaim Lake Nojiri, a picturesque piece of water situated in the northern part of Shinano, and not far from the boundary which divides the two provinces mentioned. The matter has now become an inter-provincial question. It would appear that the rice-fields of that portion of Echigo on the borders of Shinano, to the extent of some 5,000 *cho*, depend upon the lake for their water supply, which, in the event of the lake being reclaimed, would be cut off and the fields become parched. Hence the complaint of the owners. Mr. Otsu, Councillor of the Niigata Prefecture, proceeded to Nagano where a conference with the Governor on the subject was opened. The Councillor demanded that the sluices constructed without the consent of the local and district offices should be stopped, and the *status quo* restored; to which the Governor replied that permission had been given to reclaim the lake on the construction of a reservoir elsewhere, and that the building of the sluices had received the assent of the Prefectural authorities and the projectors of the scheme. No decision was arrived at, and it is probable that the affair may become a grave one, unless the projectors themselves, who represent Count Goto, rescue the two parties from the disagreeable complication, by either giving up the scheme, or discovering some device calculated to attain their object without injuring the interests of the Echigo folks.

* * *

Apart from the utility of this project, of which we (*Japan Mail*) know nothing, it would otherwise be a matter for much regret to see one of the most beautiful spots on the Karuizawa-Naoetsu railway route replaced by a dreary expanse of paddy fields. Lake Nojiri, if we mistake not, forms the subject of the familiar drop-scene of the Yokohama Public Hall.

UNHAPPY HORSES.

We lately ventured to make an appeal on behalf of the unfortunate animals whose sad fate it is to fall into the hands of *hako-basha* drivers. A new form of cruelty,—if cruelty can be applied to anything that serves to shorten the existence of these poor brutes—has been discovered in the form of a stimulant, known of course, as *kusuri*, by which the animals are supposed to be rendered capable of running all day long. A case that recently came under our notice was that of two horses, dragging a springless *basha* with six occupants and their baggage, for a distance of about 28 miles, over a road deep in ruts and sand, and with a rest of but one hour during the long, broiling journey. Protest only evoked *kusuri*, or an indifferent smile. But if the law renders it a matter of difficulty to obtain the simplest drug without the written authority of a physician surely it can step in to prevent refinement of cruelty such as we have just described.

THEATRICAL CRITICISM AND WHAT IT ENTAILS.

A THEATRICAL critic of a New Zealand paper had a "warm time of it" with the members of an opera troupe the other day. He had overstepped the reasonable bounds of theatrical criticism, indulging in a tirade against the immorality of theatre-going and opera performances generally, with a particular reference to the habits of the "ladies of the ballet," which would have done credit to a paper edited by the Rev. Mr. Stiggins. The troupe accordingly paid him a visit, and the interview, as told by an eye-witness, is put into humourous rhyme by a Melbourne paper as follows:—

"I was woke up of a suddint,
While a-dozin' in the chair,
By the weepin' of the wimmin
An' the swearin' of the boys,
An' I know'd—as one familiar
With the ways of burlesque shows—
That the troupe was up to mischief;
They were in their wuckin' clothes.

"To the hoffis of the *Wuckman*
We was marched in solimn state,
For we'd swore to kill a kritick,
An' we adn't time to wait.
'E was writin' of 'is slawnders
With a pen wot's dipped in gall,
On that 'appy Monday morning
When we paid our little call.

"Bust a coryphee she stouched 'im,
An' 'e started in alarm,
For 'e felt she'd got no waddin'
In the mussel of 'er arm.
When they danced upon 'is weskit
'E was satisfied to rights,
There was somethin' else than sawdust
Bulgin' hout them crimsing tights.

"No! There wasn't no sham fightin',
Nor no loafin' in the ring;
But I never know'd them compo's
'Ad such 'andy things to fling
For they wery nearly splinter'd
One o' Teddy Lonnen's jaws,
With a leader as was written
To up'old the tiler's caws.

"Then the ong 'un—Mr. 'Aslem—
Wos hup-ended pretty quick,
With a dimple on the forrid
From a 'eavy shootin' stick.
'Twas a barticle on wages
Wot knocked Constine dge all askew,
For they delt t hout in 'andfuls—
It was ledded matter, too.

"In the end we won the battle,
We was fightin' for the right,
And with supers wot stormed Rouen
In a burlesque every night.
'Twas some strickchers on our morals
Wot begun the little mess,
And led up to an up'eaval
Of a seckshun of the press.

"You may chill the haspirations
Of the bart at an' the clown,
An' may 'int there a'n't no music
In a song like 'Round the Town.'
You may say our skies is skewbald
An' our dats is hout of jint,
But you mustn't tech our morals
Them's a werry leader pint."

THE SURPLUS QUESTION.

ATTENTION in political circles is now more and more directed to the question as to the employment of the surplus lying in the Treasury which will be increased by the sweeping retrenchments that the Cabinet is shortly to effect. The farming classes and their mouth-pieces—the party politicians—are taking active steps to induce the Cabinet and the Diet to turn the surplus towards the carrying out of the two fiscal reforms which they have been clamouring for so loudly for the past ten years, namely, the reduction of the land tax and the re-assessment of the taxable value of land. Those in favour of the latter recently held a grand demonstration conference at Osaka. From the proceedings at this meeting, it is apparent that they are now confident of their success in the coming session of the Diet.

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The Radical organ has the following note on this subject:—"It is reported that, in fulfilment of the promise made in the fourth session of the Diet, the Government is resolved to meet the wishes of the Opposition by effecting retrenchment to a figure exceeding eight million *yen*. But the Cabinet does not seem to have come to any decision on the question as to the employment of the money thus saved out of the public purse. It is believed that Count Yamagata, President of the Privy Council, in common with the statesmen of the Military Section, is desirous of having the money used for the construction of forts. The adoption of this idea by the Cabinet, would never appease the Opposition. It is true that one party is in favour of completing the defence of the country, but augmenting the Navy is more important still. Under the present circumstances, however, we fear that the surplus cannot be appropriated for these purposes, urgent as they no doubt are. The reduction of the land tax and the re-assessment of the taxable value of land, may be truly said to represent the wishes of the whole nation. Consequently, everything must yield to these two reforms; nothing is more pressing than that these questions should be at once disposed of to the satisfaction of the people. If the Cabinet refuses to consider this and allows itself to be misled by the wishes of the Military section, it is not difficult to imagine the fatal collision that will take place in the coming session between the Government and the Opposition. Let us see what decision the ministry will take on this subject."

HARVEST PROSPECTS.

FEARS are expressed in certain quarters about this year's harvest owing to the comparative scarcity of rain. But, according to the vernacular press, there is, so far, no grounds for apprehension. Taking the whole country, the conditions may be said to be normal. Kyushu and the central portion of the main island should be a little above the average in yield, while there is no reason why the harvest in the north should be otherwise than satisfactory. There has been, it is true, a certain drought this year, and in such districts as Mikawa and others where the farm supply depends on the rain-fall, more or less injurious results may ensue. The principal crops affected are rice, beans, and cotton. Of these, rice will suffer least, and then as water-reservoirs are generally provided in cotton cultivation, the natural water supply is not so much relied upon. On beans, however, the effect may be somewhat disastrous.

* * *

That is one aspect of the question. There is another and less optimistic version which, according to the *Hochi*, runs as follows:—There is a cycle of calamities as well as of seasons. Minor misfortunes usually occur once in twelve years, while the period for graver events, is sixty-one years. Now, says this pessimistic observer, the present year corresponds to the sixty-first year counting from the great famine of the 5th year of *Tempo*, and the twelfth year from the less serious one of the 14th year of *Meiji*. Supposing these data to be trustworthy, no one, therefore, knows what calamity may be in store for the country this year. The *Hochi* also does not agree with the sanguine view of the harvest prospects given above. It says that in the cereal growing districts of the Tokaido and Kyushu the drought has had a disastrous influence on roots, beans, millet, etc., while the rice fields are so dried up that it will be difficult to reap sixty per cent of the usual crop. Should the drought continue for three weeks longer, the price of rice will probably rise to 10 *yen* per *koku*.

BIG PROJECTS.

IN a recent issue we noted the project of Mr. Amenomiya and others to start a big Steel and Iron Foundry, but we ought to add that the same idea is shared by several other influential personages in both official and mercantile circles. Count Matsukata is one of the most conspicuous of those who have encouraged projects of this sort, and he is said to have followed up his advice to capitalists by assurances that the Government would come to their assistance in the form of supplementary profits. Count Goto is also reported to hold similar views on the subject, and further, that the Cabinet have decided to guarantee profits up to a certain point. This rumour, remarks the *Hochi*, has created quite a sensation among the monied class, who are at present much embarrassed to find means of investment. In official circles and among the members of the two Houses, we find enterprising men entertaining the idea of starting foundries, while, on the other hand, there are Messrs.

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Yasuda, Shibusawa, &c., who intend to erect a foundry with a capital of two or three million, and Mr. Amenomiya and his followers whose project far eclipses the others. Messrs. Shibusawa and Yasuda are said to have approached Mr. Amenomiya with a proposal to unite their schemes, but without success, owing to a divergence of opinion on the question of amount of capital. Not to be behind the times, Messrs. Okura, Takeuchi, Watanabe, Komuro, and others held a meeting on the 6th instant, the last of a series of preliminary meetings, at which it was resolved to start an iron foundry with a capital of five million *yen*, and to apply for a grant of 5 per cent. per annum as supplementary profits. The *Hochi* appends its own opinion, that, in view of several failures which have befallen the Government in matters of the kind, it will not be easy to get the consent of the Diet to the present scheme.

OSAKA STEAMSHIP COMPANY

THE profit and loss account of the Osaka Steamship Company for the first half of the current year is stated to be as follows:—Quantity of goods transported, 2,826,212 packages, on which the freight was *yen* 230,429,626. Number of passengers carried 444,787, their fares aggregating *yen* 200,919,038 Miscellaneous earnings *yen* 502,708:—

	Yen
Net profit for the half-year.....	176,384,534
Brought forward from the last account	4,484 639
Total available for distribution...	180,869.173
Set apart for insurance of vessels	15,000.000
Reserve for repairs, &c.	45.518 106
Reserve to cover wear and tear of ships	30,000.000
Appropriation on account of preliminary expenses.....	7,000,000
Rewards to officers	7,800.000
Dividend (at the rate of 8 per cent per annum)	54,900 000
Carried forward to next account..	20,565.067

According to the foregoing statement, the income of the Company for the first-half of the year was greater by about 37,600 *yen* than the income for the previous half-year. That such a satisfactory result was obtained is due, first, to the reduction in the price of coal this season; secondly, to a striking increase in the quantity of goods transported; thirdly, to the elimination of needless business and the improvement of the ships; fourthly, to the fine crops in Kiushu last year.

SUSPENSION OF THE "HOCHI SHIMBUN."

THE *Hochi Shimbun* has been placed under the ban of suspension, because its issue of the 12th instant was deemed prejudicial to the public peace. The offensive matter was no doubt contained in the leading article on the Korean Question, a continuation from the issue of the previous day. The Progressionist organ violently attacks the Korean policy of the Government. Our contemporary alleges that, while China is foolishly dreaming that Korea is safe under her protection, the peninsular Kingdom is gradually slipping into the hands of Russia. "To put Korea," remarks the *Hochi*, "in China's hands, is like entrusting a jewel to a fool; and Japan may at any time take it back from her." But when it once falls into the hands of Russia, the situation becomes entirely changed. Already the *Hochi* thinks that Russia has acquired a strong hold upon Korea. Such has been the fatal consequence of leaving Korea under the doubtful protection of China. And who is responsible for it? The blame is laid by the Progressionist organ upon the clan statesmen, "whose excessive fear of Russian prowess" and "whose weak and vacillating policy in Korea" have combined to induce the prudent statesmen of England to fall back upon China as the only alternative for providing against Russian aggression in Korea. Our contemporary then proceeds to advance the superior claims of Japan as the protector of Korea. In the event of war with Russia, China will have to devote her whole strength to the defence of her north-western borders and she will have no force left to guard the peninsular Kingdom. Japan, on the other hand, is declared to be capable of pouring efficient troops into Korea at a moment's notice. China will no doubt suspect Japan's motive in taking charge of Korea. "But," says the *Hochi*, "Japan has no desire to annex the country, her intention being simply to maintain its independence as a bulwark against Russian agression. Even if Japan possesses motives of aggrandizement, it will do China no good to retain protection over Korea, for not only Korea, but the vast plains to the west of it will be at the mercy of the Japanese invaders." Our contemporary's idea is that Japan should constitute herself as Korea's protector instead of impotent China. The tone of the article is certainly calculated to give offence to more than one Power friendly to Japan.

* * *

As though by way of corollary to the above article, our contemporary publishes in the same issue a note embodying Count Okuma's ideas on the reform of finance in Korea. The Progressionist leader thinks that the best method of restoring order in Korean finance, is for Japan to advance to that country a sum of 1,000,000 *yen* at 5 or 6 per cent. per annum, and thereby redeem all the debts due to foreign Governments and merchants. The Korean Government is now paying an annual interest of more than 10 per cent on its foreign debts, and by converting them into a Japanese loan, as above indicated, a sum of at least 50,000 *yen* will be saved. The Japanese loan is to be made, according to the Count of Waseda, on the security of the customs duties. Some people would prefer land or mines, but the Progressionist leader thinks that the customs duties should, by all means, be preferred. For by bringing the customs under Japanese control, it will be possible to effect a great economy in the service by replacing the "high salaried and inefficient" European and Chinese employés by the cheap and intelligent Japanese. He seems to think that in this way it will not be difficult to effect an economy of 250,000 *yen*. By borrowing money from Japan in the manner described above, the Korean Government will be able to gain at least 300,000 *yen* annually. The money thus saved is, according to Count Okuma's plan, to be placed at the disposal of the Japanese Government, to be available for useful undertakings in Korea, such, for instance, as the construction of railways, the improvement of roads, the extension of telegraphs, etc. Place the money in the hands of the Korean officials, and it will be found, he says, that it only goes to fill their private coffers. The money is to be taken charge of by a branch of the Yokohama Specie Bank to be opened in Korea. The note is not finished; it may be continued when the ban of suspension is removed.

RUSSIAN CONVICTS.

MANY people are perplexed to account for the repeated attempts made by Russian convicts to escape from Saghalieh, seeing that, so far as the public knows, they are never successful. Of course it does not follow that because, from time to time, cases come under public notice of convicts who try to escape and are recaptured, therefore all such attempts are failures. Those that succeed—if there be any such—do not attract attention, and there is no telling how large a fraction they may constitute of the whole. But even granting the correctness of the impression that the convicts fail in their efforts to get away, there is still a reason why such efforts should be continued. The penal settlement in Saghalien is a big affair. Exactly how many convicts there are we do not know, but there cannot be less than five thousand, and in all probability there are nearly twice that number. Now the jailers cannot possibly make themselves so thoroughly acquainted with all these prisoners as to be able to identify any one of them at any moment. Many methods are resorted to for the purpose of facilitating identification, but there must always remains a chance that a recaptured fugitive may not be recognised when brought back to the island. In that event, what happens? One might suppose at first sight that the man would be released. If not identifiable as a convict, there should be no reason to detain him in prison. But no. It does not suffice that identification should be impossible. The man must also fully account for his presence in the place he was apprehended, and must, in fact, prove that he is not a convict. Failing such proof, and failing also identification, the rule is that he is regarded as under sentence of penal servitude for five years. Obviously, therefore, if a man under sentence for life, manages to effect his escape temporarily, and is not identified on recapture, he gets off with five years. Such is the explanation we have heard given. Whether it be correct or not we do not know, but it is at any rate an explanation

MR. E. M. SATOW.

A LONDON evening paper writes:—Mr. Ernest Satow, our new Minister at Tangier, is a man of fifty, and half of his life has been spent in the diplomatic service. He is a bachelor, though he has the gift of charming every one by his brilliant conversation and his perfect manner. Perhaps he owes his linguistic abilities to an infusion of Russian blood, for he comes of an old Courland family. As long ago as 1868 he had mastered Japanese well enough to become secretary of the Legation at Tokyo, and for twenty years he resided there and in Siam. No Englishman has a more thorough knowledge of the language, manners, and feelings of the subjects of the Mikado, nor is there any greater authority on matters of Japanese art. Yet the inexplicable exigencies of Foreign Office routine seem to have compelled him to throw aside all this valuable and special experience in order to enter upon new official spheres first in Uruguay and now in Morocco.

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The *N.-C. Daily News* is under the impression that Mr. Satow would not be a *persona grata* at the Court in Tokyo, but we are inclined to think our contemporary errs in this surmise.

NEW COMPANIES AND NEW LOANS.

IN the rush to offer new fields for the investment of unemployed capital, the projectors of the big Steel and Iron Foundries are not having it all their own way. Numerous other schemes are afloat. Besides the increase of insurance companies, to which we have already referred, there is the contest between the Nippon Railway Company, the Kobu Railway Company, and the Ryomo Railway Company for the construction of the elevated railway to connect Shimbashi with Uyeno; the contention between Mr. Shibusawa and his followers and Mr. Amenomori's party over the establishment of an Exchange in Tokyo, the rivalry between the Osaka Marine Insurance Company and the Tokyo Company, both new projects, and so on. The raising of new loans is also a very conspicuous feature of the times. The Nippon Railway Company have decided to raise a new loan of 10,000,000 *yen*, the Tokyo Electric Company 1,000,000 *yen*, the Kyushu Railway Company, 1,500,000 *yen*, and the Kobu Railway Company, 3,000,000 *yen*. These loans and the amount required for establishing the new companies spoken of, reach an enormous figure The situation is one which may well give economists cause for reflection, and make ordinary folks anxious about the reaction that will inevitably follow sooner or later. Luckily, so far, they are only projects.

THE SAKAYE RUG.

THE Japanese are congratulating themselves at finding that such new staples of export, as silk handkerchiefs, *habutaye* and mats already show a very striking development, and seem to have still brighter prospects before them. The list has now to be augmented by the well known cotton rugs of Sakaye. In this business of exporting cotton rugs to America, the most active part is taken by Messrs. Mason & Co. of New York, and another firm Before the Japanese manufacture came into vogue, the Americans bought Turkish or European carpets only, but the great cheapness of the Sakaye product gave it a marked advantage, and its circle of purchasers has increased rapidly. We read in the

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vernacular press that the rugs sent to America are all made after the pattern of Turkey carpets, but that appears scarcely credible. The estimated production of the rugs in Sakaye this year is put at about 400,000 *yen*, of which some nine tenths will go abroad. The beginnings of the industry in Sakaye do not date from any distant period. It was the father of Mr. Fujimoto, now the most important manufacturer of this class of goods, that inaugurated the industry, in the early part of the *Tempo* era (about 60 years ago). At the outset the demand for the rugs was confined to a narrow circle of novelty-lovers, but the first industrial exhibition, opened in the 10th year of *Meiji* (1877), gave great impetus to the development of the industry, and at one time, even though the demand was almost entirely domestic, a very extensive market existed. Lately, however, the perpetual retrenchments to which officialdom is subjected, have narrowed the market, for the chief purchasers of the rugs used to be officials. At present, the total amount sold in Tokyo is said to be below 30,000 *yen* a year. The opening of a new market in America, however, has proved the salvation of the manufacturers, who now number over 200 and are said to be far busier than they were at the time when the domestic demand was at its height. With the view of ascertaining the state of the American market, Mr. Fujimoto went to the United States a short time ago, and he is said to have acquired much valuable information. Moreover, it is expected that the present duty of 25 per cent. will be lowered to 5 per cent. when the Democrats effect their promised tariff reforms, and of course in that case the export trade will be materially encouraged.

THE MODERN BUDDHIST'S CREED.

MODERN Buddhists are inclined towards Atheism. They neither assert or deny a future life, saying they will not speak definitely of that which they cannot clearly see nor understand. The words of an educated Siamese Prince may enable us to understand something of their convictions: "When you go and travel in the desert, you must always take a bottle of water with you. If you find water in the desert all very well; if you find none, you have your bottle of water. So it is with our creed. We should do our best. If there is no future, we have in this case, in the life, the conviction of having done no harm, and if there is a future, the good we have done will follow us in the next life. There is no creed which we attack or condemn. I can believe in Christ—I even confess that I am a great admirer of Christ. I am a great admirer of the moral principles which He inculcated. Love your enemies. Sacrifice your life for truth. Be gentle and tender. Avoid everything that may lead to vice. Reverence old age. Provide food and shelter for the poor and aged. Despise no man's religion. Persecute no man."—E. S. Carrington, in August *Californian*.

DROUGHT.

THE recent drought, fortunately broken by Tuesday's rainfall, produced numerous incidents, most of which had a humorous aspect. Some, however, were much more serious. That such incidents should happen, under the circumstances, is but natural in a country where the cultivation of her staple crop virtually depends upon the water supply. The Japanese farmer commonly invokes the aid of Shinto deities when he prays for rain, the prayers for this special purpose, being many, and varying with the localities concerned, Tado-zan in Ise having the widest reputation. This year, prayer was in vain, and the ingenuity of the farmers was taxed to its utmost to attain their end. One contrivance of the farmers of Yamato was fully up to the scientific standard of the times. They applied to the Kencho for permission to send explosives heavenward, and the authorities, doubtless thinking the plan highly commendable, forwarded the application to the Home Office. In a certain district in the province of Shimano, litigation between the villagers and the priest was threatened in connection with the prayer for rain. The villagers had promised to give the priest a certain sum should his prayers prove efficacious. A few drops fell a day or two after, but though the money was demanded, the villagers maintained that the spirit of the contract remained unfulfilled. Another priest in Kai is of quite a different stamp. His prayers proving fruitless, he took the matter so keenly to heart, and grieved so terribly over the decay of Buddhism—for, in this case, the aid of Buddha was invoked—that he made up his mind to commit suicide, a rash act that was happily frustrated. The disputes amongst villagers about their water supply is so common as to have become proverbial, but the one which is reported to have occurred a few days ago in Ehime, is fortunately of such a character as to be rarely seen now-a-days.

RESOLUTIONS OF THE MEETING OF THE OSAKA COTTON SPINNERS

THE deliberations of the Osaka Cotton Spinners, referred to in our Tuesday's issue, have just concluded. No decision could be arrived at as to the number of ships to be employed for the transport of cotton from Bombay to Japan; but the resolutions adopted on other points are as follows:—

Art. 1. The contract with the Nippon Yusen Kaisha shall be entered into in the names of the three members of the Standing Committee.

Art. 2. The term of the contract shall be for one year.

Art. 3. The freight of the cotton purchased in Bombay shall be fixed at 17 rupees per ton, of which, however, the Nippon Yusen Kaisha shall make a special reduction of 4 rupees.

Art. 4. Bombay cotton shall not be purchased from non-members of the Union Cotton Merchants; but should such a purchase be made, the buyer shall pay to the Union 50 *sen* per bale of 300 lbs.

Art. 5. The Union Merchants should not sell cotton to non-members, but should such a sale be made, the seller shall pay to the Union 50 *sen* per bale of 300 lbs.

Art. 6. Should the freight be reduced to less than 17 rupees, owing to competition, the Cotton Merchants of the Union shall still receive 17 rupees from the manufacturers.

Art. 7. The balance accruing out of the reduced rate of freight shall be kept as reserve, and its disposal decided on by a conference of the members of the Union.

Art. 8. Should foreign vessels raise the freight above the rate of 17 rupees per ton, the difference shall be defrayed out of the reserve.

Art. 9. Should no reserve be available for the purpose, the Union Cotton Merchants shall raise the sum required, which shall be refunded them at the end of every half-year, by charges imposed on cotton-buyers, in proportion to the amount of their purchases.

Art. 10. Interest shall be added to the advance made, according to the terms of the foregoing Article, as shall also be done when the balance is kept as reserve.

Art. 11. Any surplus derived from the reserve after the difference in rate of freight has been paid, shall be returned at the end of every half year to the purchasers of cotton, in proportion to the amount of their purchases.

Art. 12. Should an application to join the Union be received from any merchant of good standing, irrespective of nationality, he shall be admitted, upon consent of the Standing Committee.

Art. 13. Should a member of the Union be detected in violation of these articles, making purchases from non-members of the Union, he shall be liable to a fine of 2 50 *yen* per bale of 300 lbs.

MR. HOSHI TORU AND THE BARRISTERS' ASSOCIATION.

THE Standing Committee of the Tokyo Barristers' Association held a meeting on the 12th instant, with Mr. Kitada Masatada in the chair, to consider Mr. Hoshi's conduct in reference to the Soma case. Mr. Kiuchi Dennosuke, the originator of the motion for the convention of the meeting, explained that Mr. Hoshi's conduct in agreeing to serve as counsel to the Soma family in the case of false accusation, after attending to a conference of the counsel and others connected with the opposite side, was in violation of the 14th Article of the Barristers' Law, and argued that, in pursuance of the provisions of that law, the Barristers' Association should take steps to bring the matter before the Public Procurators of the Tokyo Local Court, asking them to institute a disciplinary court. After some discussion, it was agreed to appoint a special committee to ascertain the facts more accurately by interviewing Mr. Hoshi and others concerned. The voting resulted in the election of Messrs. Maruyama Meisei, Kitada Masatada, Imoto Tsuneji, Kiuchi Dennosuke, and Kojima Tadasato. These gentlemen called on Mr. Hoshi at his law office at Hachikan-cho, Shimbashi, on the 13th instant. The result of their conversation with him was to learn that Mr. Hoshi did not attend the conference of the *Jiyu Shimbun's* barristers, but that, the conference having been held in the office of the Radical party's organ, he happened to be in the room only for a few minutes. The committee also waited upon the other persons who were present besides Mr. Hoshi. What course of action the committee will recommend to the Barristers' Association is not yet known.

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The Consulting Committee of the Tokyo Barristers' Association assembled on the 15th inst. to receive the report of the Committee appointed to investigate matters connected with the actions of Mr. Hoshi in the Soma affair. After an active debate it was resolved to lay the case before the Public Procurator in accordance with the 26th Article of the Regulations of the Association.

TELEGRAPHIC BLUNDERS.

A GOOD story is told by our Shanghai morning contemporary of two English clergymen recently travelling in the East who telegraphed to the British Consul at a town they were approaching, not far from the Armenian frontier, in Persia—"Two English clergymen will reach you on Wednesday." On arriving on the day named they found the Consul was out, and no preparations had been made to receive them. On his return the Consul explained that the message he received ran—"Two worthless persons will reach you on Wednesday." So he knew something was going to happen, and perhaps thought it advisable to be out of the way. However, he duly made up by his hospitality, as British Consuls in those parts are always ready to do, for any apparent coldness in the reception of the travellers.

THE PROGRESSIONISTS AND THE NATIONAL UNIONISTS.

RUMOURS are now extensively circulated in political circles concerning the growth of friendly relationship between the Progressionists and the National Unionists. Some time ago Mr. Sone, now Japanese Minister to France, was reported, as we then noticed, to have predicted at Kyoto the alliance of the two parties in the coming session of the Diet. This report was at first received in Tokyo in a very indifferent manner. But of late the supposed alliance between the *Kaishin-to* and the *Kokumin Kyokai* has become a very popular topic of discussion in the columns of the metropolitan papers. The Radical organ has no manner of doubt that such an alliance has already been formed, and significantly alludes to the frequent meetings between the members of the two parties. The *Yomiuri Shimbun* publishes what purports to be a conversation which recently took place between Count Okuma and a writer on its staff. From this report, it appears that the Progressionist leader is neither opposed to nor in favour of an alliance with the Nationalists. He is said to have remarked that his party might cōoperate with any party that might happen to hold similar views with it on certain particular questions. But it is reported, at the same time, that Mr. Shimada, one of the most trusted lieutenants of Count Okuma, recently made some statements at Toyama, from which people infer the existence of very friendly feelings between Progressionists and the National Unionists. It is also a fact that the two parties cōoperate heartily in certain localities, notably in the three Tama Districts of Tokyo and in the Prefecture of Fukushima. For the rest, it is as yet premature to believe that any definite understanding has been formed between them.

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In this connection, it is interesting to hear what the *Chu-o Shimbun*, the National Unionist organ, has to say upon the subject. Our contemporary, after mentioning the rumours quoted above, goes on to observe that the National Unionist party has formed no agreement with the Progressionist party. But it states that, if the Progressionists pursue a policy not inconsistent with the programme of the National

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Unionists, the latter will not hesitate to cōoperate with them in the coming session of the Diet, and that for such cōoperation it is not necessary to enter into a secret alliance. The *Chu-o* then proceeds to remark that the rumours now circulated concerning the alliance between the two parties may be taken as a sign of the growing unpopularity of the Radical party. The sober portion of the public, it states, has been disgusted with the utter corruption of the leading members of that party, and now longs to see its evil influence counteracted by the combined attack of the National Unionists and the Progressionists. This is certainly a significant article.

* * *

With regard to the rumours circulated in the Tokyo papers about the growing intimacy between the Progressionists and the National Unionists, the organs of the former party do not directly deny the reports, while those of the latter seem to be rather delighted with the idea. The Radical organ, the *Jiyu Shimbun*, having gone a little too far in talking about the friendly relations of the two parties, has called forth an angry retort from one of the Progressionist organs, the *Mainichi Shimbun*. This paper strongly denies the allegation that there exists a secret agreement between the *Kaishin-to* and the *Kokumin Kyokai*. It proceeds in this strain :—"Our party is impartial, and does not, like our contemporary, consider that those who differ from it in opinion are necessarily in the wrong. Our party, therefore, will not be unwilling to cō-operate even with the National Unionists, if it finds their opinions worthy of its approval. So, too, with the Radicals, if they continue to pursue the same policy as heretofore, our party will be ready to continue the alliance with them. But if they surrender to the clan Government and change their policy, the Progressionist party will not be slow to attack them vigorously and humble them completely. Let us put a few questions to the *Jiyu Shimbun*. Has not Count Itagaki held conferences with Count Goto at the Hisagoya tea house? What is the relationship between the Radical leaders and Messrs. Oye Taku and Takenouchi Tsuma, formerly the leaders of the official party and the political agents of Count Goto? Our contemporary ought also to be aware that some Radicals, who have discarded the friendship of the Progressionists, are now very intimate with those officials whom they have hitherto regarded as their enemies. Our contemporary ought to make itself sure of its own purity before it sets itself to denounce impurity in others."

A PLEASANT DELUSION.

An example of how superstitions are generated and how they subsequently feed on themselves is furnished in Mr. A. J. Little's very interesting account of his trip to Mount Omi. During his brief stay on the mountain this incident occurred :—"Shortly before sunset the weather cleared and we were told the "Glory of Buddha"—the grand phenomenon of the sacred mountain—would be visible. We hurried up to the top of the cliff and looked over. Below was a sea of cloud; at our backs the sun, now shortly about to sink in the west, was brightly shining. Sure enough, there was a circular halo reposing on the cloud surface, its bottom just cut off by the shadow of the mountain's edge, so that the rainbow (for such it apparently is, having all its colours) shorn of a portion of its circumference, appeared of a horse-shoe shape and in its centre was the shadow of the observer's head. The fortunate pilgrims who had made the ascent today were in ecstacies at their good fortune and awe struck at the divine manifestation; they knelt down and prayed in silence,—a word spoken being supposed to drive away the manifestation. They fail to perceive that the Buddha is their own shadow, although we proved the fact by waving our arms, when the shadow responded, each spectator, as with the rainbow proper, being the centre of his own halo. It was a striking spectacle, more from the fervour of the worshippers than from the phenomenon itself. Even the flippant young priest who dispensed pardons at forty *cash* apiece in the upper pavilion of the Chin Ting, was, for the first time we had so seen him, awed into a reverent demeanour. As the sun sank and the shadow of the mountain prolonged itself athwart the white table cloth spread out at our feet, the phenomenon subsided and the crowd melted away silently to their various lodging in the surrounding temples; we ourselves well satisfied that our ten days' expectancy had been rewarded by the sight of this, the crowning glory of the famous mountain.

FUTURE OF NATIVE SHIRTINGS.

The spinning industry in Japan, says the *Choya*, has so far improved that English Yarns will soon be displaced by the native article. With respect to Shirtings, however, the industry is not yet in a state to be independent of English imports. The Shirtings Manufactory has already set up 50 looms and is turning out about 100 *tan* of T. cloth per day. The inferior sort is sold at about *yen* 1.40 per *tan*, and is easily disposed of, being rather cheaper than the imported goods, but as the superior sorts differ little in price—*yen* 1.70 per *tan*—from the English goods, the latter is preferred. Taking advantage of the late depreciation of silver and the consequent rise in price of English Shirtings, the Company is reported to have temporarily suspended the manufacture of the superior kinds of T. Cloth and to have turned its attention to broad Shirtings of inferior quality. But as the amount turned out is only about 30 *tan* per day, the Company, under a resolution passed at an Extraordinary General Meeting, has arranged to add 150 looms, bringing its number up to 200. The new plant will be put into operation in November, when it is hoped it will be in a better position to provide for the demand.

THE CHUO SHIMBUN.

The *Chuo Shimbun* has a paragraph which reads very like a deliberate attempt to incite to violence. Referring to the delay that has taken place in the projected tour of Messrs. Hoshi, Kono and Matsuda to Kiushu, it says :—"People are beginning to look out for the possibility of some incident such as that which happened in former years to Mr Kono at Tawarazaka in Kumamoto, but the Radicals themselves are desperate. They profess to believe that neither the *Kokumin-to* of Kumamoto, nor the *Genyo-sha* of Fukuoka, nor the dreaded *soshi* are really such formidable affairs as the world supposes; they declare that the Radicals have nothing to fear from such *soshi*, and they point to the small numerical strength of the *Kokumin-ha* of Kagoshima as proof of their assertion. But deeds are better than discussion. Let them go to Kiushu and try." The *Chuo Shimbun* seems to have a very mistaken idea of its responsibility when it writes in such a strain.

ELECTRIC COMPANIES.

The Tokyo Electric Company held its general meeting a few days ago, at the Clearing Hall, Sakamotocho, Mr. Fujimoto Bunsaku in the chair. Thirty-six shareholders attended. The report of the Company's business during the first half-year and a statement of the process to be adopted in paying back the expenditures incurred in starting the business, were read, after which the discussion on the audited accounts, as introduced by the managers, was opened. The accounts were unanimously approved as given below. The Company was in debt, according to the report of the 23rd year of *Meiji*, to the amount of 130,000 *yen*, which, however, was subsequently reduced to about 110,000 *yen*. But now, in consequence of the depreciation of silver, the plant and appurtenances which were originally purchased at 70 or 80 dollars represent a much larger amount in silver, while, at the same time, if the reduced cost of electric poles and their furniture at various branch offices be taken into account, the balance stands in favour of the Company even after paying back the debt of 110,000 *yen*. As to the dividend, if the loss which the Company sustained in consequence of the late Kanda fire be defrayed out of the sum available for the purpose of dividend, the rate of the latter has to be reduced to 6.7 per cent. per annum; but if the loss be not covered in that way, the rate stands as high as 8 per cent. The shareholders, however, decided unanimously that they were quite satisfied with a dividend of 6.7 per cent. provided the losses were covered, and with that the meeting closed.

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

	Yen.
To al income for the half-year	86 955 625
Current outlay	42 774 250
Balance	44.181.375
Brought forward from the previous account	235.398
Total of the above two items	44.416.773
Sum collected to meet the loss sustained by the Kanda fire	6.796 591
Balance	37 629.182
To reserves	9.405 000
To rewards	3.762.000
To dividend at 6 7 per cent.	24.050 007
Carried forward to the next account	403 175

The Company lately decided to amalgamate the three electric generating offices stationed at Kanda, Asakusa, and Minami Kaebacho, and, in place of them, to establish a big generating office at the rice store-houses in Asakusa. For this purpose the Company intends to increase the present capital of 800,000 *yen* to 1,000,000 or even to 1,200,000 *yen*.

THE SOMA CASE.

The Judges of Preliminary Examination charged with the Soma murder case show an extraordinary amount of industry, not resting even on Sundays. On the 12th instant they examined Viscount Hojo Ujiyasu, Dr. Goto Shimpei, Director of the Sanitary Bureau, and Police Inspector Naito, as witnesses in the case. On the 13th instant, the prisoners Nakai Tsunejiro, Endo Yoshikata, Shiga Naokata, and Aota Gozo were examined. Yesterday, Dr. Hasegawa Tai, M.P., Dr. Kumagawa Mumo, Mr. Saga Kunimasa, and Mrs. Tanemura Taka were called to the Local Court as witnesses.

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The report as to the arrest of Mr. Shiga Naomichi, a former steward of Soma, on the day on which the search of the Soma mansion took place, was incorrect. He has official rank of the 6th grade, and some process had to be gone through before he could be arrested. According to another version, it is stated that, after having been put under arrest, he was set free on the discovery of the above fact. Be that as it may, he was formally arrested on Sunday last, and is now in custody in the Kajibashi Prison. Thus Viscount Soma is the only person accused in connection with the murder, who has not been arrested.

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The comments of the press are mostly unfavourable to the accused, opinion prevails in the capital that the case is not likely to lead to any definite result.

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Dr. Nakai Tsunejiro, one of the prisoners in the Soma case, has been removed to a separate cell for solitary confinement. Yesterday Aota Kozo and Ishikawa Esho were examined by Judge Okada.

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The Tokyo News Agency reports that on the 14th instant, about 9 p.m., the cries of a female were heard within the Soma mansion at Atarashibashi, which attracted a large and wondering crowd outside. People surmise that the cries came from Shinonome Shige, mistress of the late Viscount Soma. But the News Agency says nothing further on the subject.

* * *

On Wednesday Dr. Iwasa Jun, Mr. Nakata Tachiro, and Mme. Oda Ito were examined as witnesses in the Soma case. Mr. Nakata was once an attendant at the Sugamo Lunatic Asylum, where the late Viscount Soma was confined, and it was chiefly through his assistance that Mr. Nishikori was able to rescue his master from that place. Mr. Nakata was a police constable before he became a nurse, and it is asserted by some people that he acted secretly under instructions from the late Viscount Mishima, who was at that time Chief of the Metropolitan Police. Whatever may be

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the truth of this rumour, it seems certain that Mr. Nakata had some ulterior object in resigning the position of a police constable in order to become a nurse in a lunatic asylum. He has of late been lecturing in the capital on the Soma affair, giving testimony from his personal experience to the sanity of the noble patient he had under his care.

* * *

The *Jiyu Shimbun* states that when it began to stir up this question, it received from a certain person an offer of 10,000 *yen* to discontinue the exposure. Our contemporary, of course, rejected the bribe. If this statement is true—and there is reason to believe in its truth—it is very singular that the Radical organ did not divulge it before. It is, indeed, evident that the assertion had been previously made, because it was disclosed by one of the speakers at a public lecture on the Soma case recently held in Tokyo.

COUNT OKUMA ON TREATY REVISION.

THE latest bulletin (*Tôhô*) of the Progressionist party contains an interesting article embodying Count Okuma's ideas on the question of Treaty Revision. The Revision of Treaties, he declares, cannot be delayed any longer. This question must be disposed of at the earliest opportunity, if it is desired to promote the glory and interests of the Empire. So long as it remains unsettled, the dignity as well as the most vital interests of the country are injured. The Progressionist leader calls upon every patriot to give urgent attention to this question. Alluding to the Address to the Throne which the House of Representatives voted on this question in the fourth session of the Diet, Count Okuma does not hesitate to denounce the plan sketched out in the document as being extremely incomplete; but he still thinks that the voting of the Address was a proper step, as the question is one of the most vital importance to the State. The Government, he thinks, ought to have taken prompt action in the matter, but he regrets to find that such has not been the case. Some people say that diplomacy requires secrecy, but the Count believes that it is useless to adhere to the policy of secrecy alone, for on a question of such paramount importance it is necessary for the Government to secure the support of the people at large. It is now five years, he goes on to observe, since he held the portfolio of Foreign Affairs. The only reasonable course now open to Japan is, in his opinion, to demand the revision of the treaties on the basis of absolute equality. He strongly denounces as narrow-minded and unpractical the opinion of those persons who advocate the desirability of prohibiting mixed residence in Hokkaido, Okinawa, and other smaller islands. If there be any danger of the hatching of treason by foreigners within Japanese territory, it would be very easy to stop the thing at once by the exercise of the legitimate sovereign authority of the country. There is nothing to fear from the residence of foreigners in any part of the country. Japan's desire being to revise the treaties on the basis of equality, it would befit her to take a manly course and avoid building small castles of exclusiveness. The laws are now in such a state that foreigners need no longer have any fear of submitting to the jurisdiction of Japanese courts. He is led to believe that the foreign residents, if they knew their own interests, would desire to have the treaties revised and extra-territoriality abolished, so that they might obtain the privilege of freely residing and trading in the interior of the country. Some persons believe that the Foreign Powers concerned would demand the opening of new ports for foreign trade in return for the abolition of Consular Jurisdiction. Count Okuma fails to see any reason why the opening of new ports should be resisted. With regard to the tariff question, he remarks that it must be considered most carefully as it is a political as well as an economical question. There seem to be persons who advocate the imposition of prohibitive duties upon imports on the recovery of tariff autonomy. The Progressionist leader spares no pains to expose the absurdity of such a course, for it is not foreigners but the Japanese consumers who pay the import duties. Moreover, such conduct on Japan's part would inevitably lead to retaliation by the Foreign Powers concerned. The United States of America is able to maintain its protective tariff without any fear of retaliation by European Powers, because the American imports into those countries happen to be the necessaries of life. Thus internal economy as well as diplomatic considerations demonstrate the absurdity of a protective tariff. He then proceeds to observe that in European countries the tariff is regulated by conventions terminable after a certain number of years. A similar course should be adopted by Japan, for in that way it would be possible to avoid the imposition of excessive taxes on Japanese goods in foreign countries. The tariff question presents so many aspects, that it is impossible, he states, to exhaust it in a single article. In conclusion, he alludes to "the abnormal fact that there are in Japan foreigners of more than ten different nationalities not subject to the jurisdiction of Japanese courts of law," and declares that "the nation does not permit the delay of a single day" for the revision of such iniquitous treaties.

FLOODS IN CHINA.

DISASTROUS floods are reported from the Upper Yangtze. At King-chow, below Ichang, a small tributary of the big river has risen so high that it has burst its banks and carried ruin far and wide over the country. Two breaches in its embankments occurred on the 14th ulto., one in the west bank at a place called Yang Kia-tan, and the other in the east bank at Wang Kin-kew. The country for miles beyond the first-mentioned breach was flooded to a depth of seven feet while that lying on the east side being lower, was covered to a still greater depth. To add to the misery of the floods the waters of the newly formed lakes were for many days lashed into angry sea by the strong winds, and hundreds of boats, large and small, were wrecked. Houses were demolished by the hundred and whole villages were carried away by the rising waters, the miserable inhabitants huddling together on the tops of the dykes, where they were exposed to the fierce rays of the sun on the one hand, and threatened by the ever-mounting waters on the other, for days together. In this way they suffered intense misery. The inhabitants of one large village near the eastern breach were drowned, only some fifteen souls escaping. The local officials are said to have done what they could to alleviate the sufferings of the unfortunate people, and life-boats and other craft were hastened from many sides to the scene of devastation. In this way over 300 people were rescued on the 17th and 18th ulto. Dead bodies of men, women and children with those of cattle, buffaloes and other domestic animals, floated about on every side, and the boats of a local charitable institution picked up no less than 100 bodies a day. Many of them were tied together in groups of two three, four, and five, whole families seeking in this way to ensure their safety, but perishing miserably together. Mothers, with children clasped with the strength of death in their arms, were frequently found amongst the dead, and in one case, in a large box or trunk, five bodies large and small were found stiff in death. Hundreds of coffins were washed away from their ancestral resting places and floated about amongst the wreckage. It is said that the flood is even more disastrous than that which occurred 24 years ago, in the 9th year of Tung-chih.

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The following Imperial decree, dated August 4th, has been published with reference to the floods in Chihli:—Reports on the floods caused in the neighbourhood of Peking by the late excessive rains, which caused the death of many people and the destruction of a great deal of property, have been sent in by the Mayor of Shun Teen-poo to the second president of the Board concerned, who now memorialises the Throne to the effect that the floods were most severe in the eastern and western portions of the province. The Shun-teen, Poo-te and Wu-ching creeks overflowed their banks and the water rushing all over the surrounding country, destroyed a great number of lives and a vast quantity of crops. The Mayor sent deputies to give relief to the sufferers and memorialised his Majesty for supplies of rice to boil into congee for sufferers. His Majesty now expresses his sympathy with the unfortunate people and orders that 10,000 *shih* of rice be sent immediately to the afflicted districts, and that six officers be deputed, to superintend its distribution. The Board of Revenue are to remit Tls. 1,000 to cover the expense of erecting sheds for the storage of the grain and the Authorities of the Province are to report at once on the condition of the other districts which have not been mentioned.

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A few days later two futher decrees were published. One decree says that on the 6th inst. Viceroy Li Hung-chang reported a breach in the bank of the Young-ting river and advised that several officials of the River Conservancy Board, whom he named should be degraded on account of negligence. The breach was due to the heavy rains which fell towards the end of July, but had proper supervision been exercised by the officials, and had the embankments been made higher and stronger the catastrophe need not have happened. Chow Yung-tee, first-class assistant Magistrate of Pa-cho, should be deprived of his rank but should be retained in office to assist in repairing the damage. (Here follows a list of the other officials whom the Viceroy suggests should be degraded). The Viceroy also submits himself to his Majesty for punishment should he be held blameworthy on account of the floods. His Majesty decrees that the officials named be punished in the way recommended by the Viceroy, and that the Board concerned determine a penalty for Li Hung-chang himself. The Viceroy is to use the utmost energy in getting the embankments repaired and in relieving the people who suffered by the floods.

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In another decree His Majesty says that since the summer of this year the north of China has experienced two periods of very heavy rain, which caused excessive floods and very great suffering in Chihli province. Many people, who were rendered homeless, have since been obliged to wander about from place in order to procure the bare necessities of life. His Majesty orders that 14,400 *shih* of rice be taken out of the government granaries, and 100,000 *shih* from the Kiangsu tribute rice; 50,000 *shih* of which is to be conveyed to the distressed districts by way of the Grand Canal and the other 50,000 together with certain sums of money is to be shipped to Tientsin and placed in the hands of Li Hung-chang for distribution.

SAD FATALITIES.

THE *Courrier d'Haiphong* reports a sad accident which occurred at Khone on the 27th ult. Lieut. de Puysegur left the island of Taphum for the left bank of the river to reconnoitre. He embarked in a native boat with fourteen Europeans, and unfortunately the craft capsized. The lieutenant, a non-commissioned officer, and eight soldiers were drowned. . . . A telegram was received at the Colonial Secretary's office, Singapore, on the 31st ult., from the Resident of Selangor at Kuala Lumpor, stating that collision had occurred on the railway, resulting in twelve natives being injured, inclusive of one Chinaman killed. Mr. G. Bellamy had his collar bone broken, and Mrs. Wishart sustained a serious concussion. . . On the 17th ult., writes a Wuhu native correspondent of the *N.-C. Daily News*, the compound wall of the Roman Catholic Church at Ningkuofu, Anhui, suddenly gave way, having been sapped by the recent heavy rains there, and killed a passer-by beneath the ruins. About 70 feet of wall fell over and there is some excitement amongst the people through the accident.

MR. F. T. PIGGOTT'S NEW WORK.

MR. PIGGOTT has apparently left the congenial field of Japanese art for the moment and returned to his own speciality, in which he is already famous. His book just published is entitled

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"Service out of the Jurisdiction" which, as the *Saturday Review* says, is a subject so complicated that it may well be doubted whether it would be possible to write what a student would find an "easy" treatise thereupon. Possible or not, it adds, that end has not been achieved by Mr. Piggott, whose book is learned, careful, elaborate—and difficult. But Mr. Piggott, the *Saturday* should remember, does not write for students who need easy expositions or preliminary instruction. His subject, too, is one that lies beyond the range of the every-day student—happily for the every-day student—and falls within the purview only of afflicted individuals whose hard duty it has been to struggle with the Gordian knot of extraterritorial complications. Mr. Piggott is a man of extraordinary industry. He is at present—and has been for quite a long time—engaged on the Behring Sea Arbitration, and from what we can learn, his duties in Paris are of the most onerous and time-absorbing character. Yet he manages to give us a book on such a recondite subject as the above; the second book of the kind, too, published by him, together with a number of less serious efforts in the field of art and music during the eighteen months that have elapsed since he left Japan. Bravo Mr. Piggott!

MILITARY SCHEMES.

THE Department of War issued in 1887, under Imperial Ordinance, a proclamation for troops to be stationed on each of the five islands of Tsushima, Okinawa, Ogasawara, Sado, and Oki. Detachments were, therefore, writes the *Kokkai*, first despatched to Tsushima, and later to Okinawa, but owing to the funds being required for other military purposes, the other islands have been left unguarded. Navigation in the Sea of Japan has increased considerably of late, and the harbour of Saigo in Oki, which is deep and well-sheltered, has been frequently visited by foreign war-vessels, causing much concern to the inhabitants of the island. Drastic reductions in the executive are resolved upon by the Department in order that important military works may be set on foot, and in pursuance of this policy, forts are to be constructed on points in the Strait separating Oki from Iyo, and in Naruto. It has also been resolved to station troops on Oki. The Department, some time ago, ordered the 5th Army Corps (Hiroshima) to prepare for carrying out this work, and Mr. Noda, Chief of the Finance Bureau was ordered to make investigations *in loco*. The schemes are to be laid before the coming session of the Diet, and on its approval, to be taken in hand next year.

HONGKONG IN THE EARLY DAYS.

THE *Shanghai Mercury* gives the following interesting summary of an instalment of Dr. Eitel's "History of Hongkong" which appears in the last number of the *China Review*:—The story of mismanagement and general misrule reads like a romance. The late editor of the defunct *Friend of China*, when writing an article of more than usual virulence, had a habit of commencing with the formula "When we were in Hongkong Jail," which looked startling till we enquire into a peculiar circumstances of the early life of the Colony, when, after Aytoun's ideal of Pershon's army of

> Five-and-twenty fighting men,
> And six-and thirty pipers,

the peace of the settlement was looked after by forty-four magistrates and *twenty-three* policemen. The sea around the island, we are told, was infested by pirates, whose head-quarters and stores of supplies were believed to be under the direction of a Chinese resident of Hongkong, enjoying official patronage. Over the island highway robbers and burglars had it all their own way. Government House was entered by robbers; three large mercantile houses—Dent's, Jardine's, and Gillespie's—were plundered in one night; no European ventured abroad without a revolver, and a loaded pistol was to be found under every pillow. The scum of the criminal classes fled to Hongkong as an Alsatia, and the discipline of the Jail, then the healthiest spot in the place, was looked upon by these offscourings as an unmitigated boon. Orders were given that no boat in the harbour should leave its moorings after nine at night, and, on shore, that Chinese should carry lanterns after dark; but as usual in such cases these precautions only made affairs worse. Incendiarism, robberies, murders, and piratical exploits by sea and land were the order of the day, while between officials and merchants feelings of mutual distrust and suspicion were rampant. In addition to this, the island was swept with typhoon or ravaged by fire; and to close all, twice did a virulent epidemic of the worst type of fever break out, the second time fatal to no less than twenty-four per cent. of the garrison and ten per cent. of the civil residents. The colonists were dissatisfied about the tenure of their properties, the arrangements made by one Governor having been reversed, under home orders, by his successor. Justice could hardly be said to be administered, and civil cases, for want of a court of justice, were left to the arbitration of unskilled magistrates. The Governor isolated himself to such an extent that he never was in touch with any section of the community, whilst he and the officials next to him, thinking that the community were but opium dealers and smugglers, intent only on robbing the Government, turned a deaf ear to all remonstrance. No wonder that charges of corruption and mis-management were rife among the colonists, and that Hongkong in the early forties was little better than a pandemonium, and that in the words of the then popular London street song, to "go to Hongkong" was but a faint alternative to a descent to the lower regions. Such, according to Dr. Eitel, was the condition in 1843 of this latest appanage of the British Crown.

IRON FOUNDRIES.

THE establishment of an iron foundry on a large scale, says the *Hochi Shimbun*, has occupied the attention of the Government since the days of the Matsukata Cabinet. Though it was originally intended that the enterprise should be under State control, it would seem that doubts are now entertained as to the wisdom of such a policy, and that opinion to-day is in favour of placing it in private hands, protecting and developing it by means of subsidy or the supplementing of profits The risk of failure in the present clamorous state of public opinion, is one no Cabinet would willingly face. The *Hochi* considers that this idea of subsidising a private company may indirectly relieve the Government of responsibility, but other serious difficulties in the way of success still remain.

TO LOVERS OF BLOOD AND THUNDER.

A CORRESPONDENT furnishes us with the following account of the new performances at the Harukiza Theatre in Tokyo:—"To the lovers of blood and thunder and to those who though come to years of discretion, still long for penny yellow-backs and the boards of the Canterbury, we cannot recommend too highly the plays now on at the Harukiza in Hongo. For pure ghastliness and bloodshed, nowhere in all the wide world could anything be found to equal them save perhaps at the Court of Abomey. The first piece is a dramatization of the chief episodes in the series of murders which took place near Kongo San in Kawachi only two or three months past, when two farmers, Kumataro and Yagoro, butchered in cold blood twelve persons. It is the old story told again, the evil which was from the beginning—a woman,—and on the stage is reproduced, with realism almost too faithful and minute in detail, the gruesome story. Children with heads lopped off, men and women shot or cut to pieces, over whose dying agonies the murderers gloat as they twist their swords about in the entrails of their victims, and last but not least, the fate of the faithless woman, whose body is mutilated and the skin of whose face is ripped off, even while she is yet alive. These are some of the pleasurable sights offered to the audience. Then follows the flight of the villains into the fastnesses of Kongo San, and here in the middle of this grim tragedy, the author of the play has thought well—in accordance with the eternal fitness of things, we presume—to introduce a ludicrous episode, where the murderers come to a mountaineer's hut and possessing themselves by force of the good man's dinner, devour it before the audience. Devour is a word scarcely strong enough to describe the way in which the huge saucepan of rice is disposed of. The play finishes up with the murder of Yagoro by Kumataro and the subsequent suicide of the latter. The second play does not reek so strongly with gore, but compensation is offered in the way of ghosts. Ghosts of women, ghosts of murderous priests, graveyard and graves, lambent corpse-lights and corpses—things that are pleasant in the sight of the gods—to say nothing of ghostly plunges into deep black pools and watery resurrections of damnéd souls. The whole finishes up with a grand ballet lit up by Bengal lights and deluged by fountains, and the curtain falls, leaving in our mind's eye a confused blur of blood and fire and red and blue and green and gold, from out the chaos of which there comes one pleasant memory, and that is the glorious harmony of colour in the silver and grey of the robe which the veteran actor Udanji wears when he appears towards the end, rising from the water as the ghost of O Kumi.

WANTED, A BRITISH DOLLAR.

MR. W. E. MAXWELL, the Colonial Secretary of the Straits Settlements, arrived at Singapore from home by the M. M. steamer *Natal* at precisely 1.30 p.m. on the 2nd inst., and at 2.30 p.m. he presided at a meeting of the Currency Commission. The *Straits Times* says:—"To-day, the Straits Currency Commission met again, and presumably Mr. Maxwell conveyed some hint of the view and desires with which the Secretary of State approaches the subject of Straits currency. It must again be said that the question of making the Colony independent of the Mexican and Japanese mints is apart from the much more vexed question of an attempt to fix a ratio of exchange. The latter matter is, no doubt, a question of grave concern not merely to the mercantile and investing public, but also to the Colonial Treasury, forced to meet heavy military charges framed in sterling; yet withal this may be a time when, so far, it were wise to hasten slowly. People wish to know what America will do and whether India will succeed in what it desires to do. But the need for a British dollar is a simpler need, and one that can be easily gratified."

THE GRAND-DUKE OF AUSTRIA.

HIS Imperial Highness the Grand-Duke of Austria arrived at Shimbashi by special train at 9.15 on Thursday morning. At the platform the Prince was welcomed by H.I.H. Prince Arisugawa, Viscount Hijikata, Minister of the Household, Mr. Mutsu Munemitsu, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Marquis Nabeshima, Grand Master of Ceremonies, Mr. Hanabusa Yoshikata, Vice-Minister of the Household, Mr. Sonoda Yasukata, Chief of the Metropolitan Police, Mr. Tomita Tetsunosuke, Governor of Tokyo, and other distinguished personages. The Grand-Duke was conducted by Prince Arisugawa and Viscount Hijikata to the steps in front of the station, where a carriage sent from the Household Department was in waiting for His Imperial Highness and Prince Arisugawa. The Imperial carriage was followed by several others containing the members of the suite and Japanese officials. The procession was preceded by a few Police Inspectors on horseback, while the escort consisted of two companies of Imperial Body Guards. As the Austrian Crown Prince entered the carriage the band struck up the Japanese National Anthem. The road from the station to the Detached Palace of Shiba, where the Prince stays for three days, was lined on the left along the whole distance by a regiment of infantry from the First Military Corps. A dense crowd of citizens welcomed the Imperial guest. The crowd was especially dense in the yard in front of the station, where people began to collect from early morning.

* * *

At noon His Imperial Highness attended by his suite, paid a visit to the Emperor at the

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Palace. He was attended in the same carriage by Mr. Yamanouchi, Master of Ceremonies. The escort consisted of two companies of cavalry. At the front entrance, he was met by His Majesty the Emperor, who led his visitor to the Phœnix Chamber. There they conversed together for some time, after which the Prince was introduced to Her Majesty the Empress. At 1 p.m. His Highness dined with their Majesties, there being also present at the table the Prince's suite and the Austrian Minister, as well as Their Highnesses Princes Arisugawa and Kanin, Mr. Mutsu, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Viscount Hijikata, Minister of the Household, Mr. Hanabusa, Vice-Minister of the Household, Marquis Nabeshima, Grand Master of Ceremonies, and Mr. Sannomiya, Junior Grand Master of Ceremonies. The Grand Duke left the Palace at 2.30 p.m. The Emperor returned the visit of the Grand Duke at the Detached Palace of Shiba at 4 p.m. The Grand Duke was presented with the First Order of the Rising Sun (Grand Cordon), while the members of his suite were decorated with Orders of the Sacred Treasure. During the stay of the Grand Duke of Austria, the Detached Palace of Shiba will be guarded by sixteen palace constables under the direction of two sergeants.

* * *

The Archduke Franz, on his way from Miyanoshita to Tokyo, passed through Yokohama at 8.30 a.m. Thursday. He was received at the station by Governor Nakano, Secretary Mitsuhashi, the Austrian Consul, Police Inspectors Ninomiya and Kusunoki and others. He returned to Yokohama by the 5.55 p.m. train from Shimbashi and drove at once to the Grand Hotel in a *jinrikisha*, afterward embarking on board the *Kaiserin Elisabeth*, where he passed the night.

* * *

The Japanese papers are vying with each other in their efforts to offer an extremely warm welcome to His Imperial Highness the Grand Duke of Austria. The *Iichi Nichi Shimbun*, one of the leading journals, writes in the following strain:—"Our country has been honoured with visits by several members of the reigning families in Europe, but this is the second time that we have the honour of welcoming as a national guest a European Prince who comes amongst us as a representative of his house, the only other case being that of H.I.H. the Grand Duke Nicholas of Russia. Our Government and the people ought, therefore, to leave nothing undone to please His Imperial Highness Prince Franz Ferdinand, who will, in the natural order of things one day sit on the throne of Austria-Hungary. . . . The friendly sentiments of one Power are best appreciated by another Power, when these sentiments are personally recognized by the persons holding the highest positions. And in no other way can these sentiments be better appreciated by princely visitors than when they come in their public capacity and as national guests. . . . It is perhaps necessary to utter these truisms, because, as the result of long centuries of seclusion, a portion of the nation may still be indifferent to foreign affairs. Russia is one of the largest Powers in Europe, while Austria is one of the oldest States. Both have within their dominion people of kindred races to the Japanese, and in that respect, there is a sort of affinity between these countries and our own Empire. It is a noteworthy fact that these two Powers have both sent their future Sovereigns to honour us with public visits. In the case of the Russian Crown Prince, it is still a matter for deep-felt regret on the part of the whole nation that his sojourn here had to be unexpectedly shortened by a most deplorable accident. We are very happy that the present tour of the Austrian Crown Prince, has been exceptionally auspicious. We desire that his stay in our country may be prolonged. We trust that the people will spare nothing to manifest their genuine respect and esteem for the distinguished guest now amongst them."

* * *

Of the various arrangements made for the reception of Prince Franz Ferdinand at the Hama Detached Palace, where His Highness was accommodated during his stay in Tokyo, that relating to the floral decoration of the Palace is worthy of notice. The work was entrusted to Mr. Tanaka Gosho, a native of Sanuki, a man of 75 years of age, and well-known as one of the most celebrated artists of the Mishō School. When the Czarewitch visited Japan, the same work was placed in Mr. Tanaka's hands, but in consequence of the sad incident at Otsu, never carried out. The old man is said to have been gratified beyond measure at this opportunity of displaying his skill in the art.

* * *

The Grand Duke of Austria and a distinguished company were entertained by His Excellency the Austrian Minister at dinner yesterday evening in the Rokumei-kwan. After dinner a reception, numerously attended by members of the Diplomatic Corps, Japanese officials and the leading foreign residents, was held. Owing to the stormy character of the weather, the illumination of the grounds and buildings, for which elaborate preparations had been made, could not be carried out. A special train conveyed the guests home to Yokohama shortly after midnight.

* * *

A Grand Review of the troops composing the Tokyo Garrison was held Saturday, on the Aoyama Parade Ground, in the presence of Archduke Franz and suite. H.M. the Emperor was present, attended by a numerous and brilliant staff. The function passed off most successfully.

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The Archduke remained on board the *Kaiserin Elisabeth* during the morning of the 18th inst., and held an informal reception, many distinguished guests proceeding on board the cruiser to offer their congratulations upon his arrival. They also took occasion to felicitate the distinguished guest upon the anniversary of the birthday of the Austrian Emperor. Governor Nakano, Secretary Mitsuhashi, and Chief-Constable Yoshida of Kanagawa *Ken*, accompanied by Marquis Nembrini de Gonzaga, presented the Prince with a handsome album containing views of the loveliest scenery and places of renown in Kanagawa Prefecture. Other presents from Governor Nakano to the Archduke were a pair of rare pheasants, and a number of the famous Hakone salamanders. Among his other Orders, His Highness is said to have worn the Grand Insignia of the Order of the Chrysanthemum, which was conferred upon him by the Emperor on the 17th inst. The Prince left for Tokyo by the 5.30 p.m. train.

* * *

The *Jiji Shimpo* says that while staying in Miyanoshita, the Archduke Franz was tatooed upon his right arm by three Japanese tatooers. The design was a dragon, and the work is said to have been splendidly done.

INDUSTRIAL BANK AND LAND SECURITY BANK BILLS.

The *Hochi Shimbun* rejoices to be in a position to give the public the benefit of the opinions of Mr Kawajima Jun M.P. on the advantages of these bills, which he is so anxious to have presented to the next session of the Diet. He prefers German to French methods of banking, which latter were favoured by Mr. Kato San, Chief of the Banks Bureau, when that gentleman was charged, as long ago as the 14th year of *Meiji*, to make investigations into the subject. Should these bills pass and the banks be established, Mr. Kawajima considers iron foundries and all such enterprises can then be successfully taken in hand, whether with or without the direct support of the Government.

HEAVY GALE.

A very severe gale raged over East-Central Japan for the greater part of Thursday night and Friday, and Yokohama and Tokyo felt its full effects. It was accompanied by occasional deluges of rain, which swept down the streets of the cities with pitiless severity; but these died away toward nine o'clock yesterday evening, though the wind continued very strong and squally till nearly sunrise. No damage is yet reported either in Tokyo or Yokohama, and the shipping appears to have escaped lightly, although the report we print in another column tell a tale of boisterous elements all along the coast.

* * *

Latest intelligence received from the interior state that a violent storm was experienced in Nara, Nagoya, Gifu, Kofu, Kobe, and Tsu during the night of the 17th-18th inst. In some of these localities serious damage was done to buildings, crops, and trees. The Kiso and other streams in Tsu have overflowed.

* * *

Telegraphic communication between Tokyo and various parts of the country is broken, through the lines having been levelled. Communication between Nagasaki and Yokohama is similarly interrupted for the present.

BIG FIRE AT NIIGATA.

A telegram published in the *Official Gazette* says that about forty minutes past midnight on the 13th inst. a destructive fire broke out in a house at Hachibancho, Nishiyokobori-dori, Niigata. The flames continued to rage until four o'clock, by which time three hundred and ninety-six houses were completely destroyed and seven partly damaged. One man was killed, while two others were more or less seriously injured. The Meiji Fire Assurance Co. have lost over six thousand six hundred *yen*, by this conflagration.

SUICIDES AND FATAL ACCIDENTS.

The body of a Japanese man was found in a pond at Yamadacho, Yokohama, on the 9th inst. The man is known to have been an employé of Asakura, a block-cutter, at Okinacho. A woman, named Takase Man (49), residing at Yamadacho, committed suicide on the 13th inst. by drowning herself in the same pond. A coolie was also drowned while swimming in the Negishi creek on the evening of the 14th inst.

APPROACHING MARRIAGE OF BISHOP BICKERSTETH.

We understand that a marriage has been arranged and will take place next month between the Right Rev. Edward Bickersteth, D.D., Bishop of the Church of England in Japan, and Miss Marion Forsyth, of South Kensington. The Bishop and his bride are expected to arrive in Japan towards the end of November.

FATAL ACCIDENT AT NIKKO.

A fatal accident occurred on the 9th inst. on the tramway between Nikko and the Ashio Copper mines. Two waggons laden with ore were being guided down the inclined plane near Nikko by the aid of the brakes, but the speed becoming greatly accelerated owing to the weight of the men and ore, the brakes proved useless, and the waggons rushed down, striking against the posts at the end of the tramway, and were shattered to pieces. One man was killed on the spot, six received serious injuries from which one died as soon as he was conveyed to the hospital. The disaster was caused by the inexperience of the conductors.

JAPANESE SALES OF ARMS TO SIAM.

The statement recently published by the vernacular press and reproduced in these columns, to the effect that a Japanese of Osaka had procured a quantity of small arms and sold them to the Siamese, appears to be absolutely groundless. Official inquiries on the subject, addressed to the Governor of Osaka, elicited a reply that no basis whatever existed for the story.

SUPPOSED SUICIDE ON THE RAILWAY.

The body of a man was discovered on the Sanyo line near Himeji on Friday last, and as his *geta* and umbrella were found lying by the side of the railway it is presumed that he committed suicide. The number of suicides on the local railway lines is increasing; scarcely a week passes but one or two are reported.

DOUBLE SUICIDE IN YOKOHAMA.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun* says that a Chinese, named Ka Hosen (27), and a Japanese woman (22), Suye by name, committed suicide by taking over doses of opium on the 12th inst. at No. 125, Foreign Settlement. The Chinaman was employed in the firm of Tai Tuck Tong, the woman being the daughter of a *monban*.

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THE ANTI-MIXED RESIDENCE MOVEMENT.

IMMEDIATELY after the close of the last session of the Diet, the opponents of Mixed Residence showed signs of great activity. They made so much hubbub, indeed, that some people began to predict that the agitation started by them would assume dangerous dimensions. But there being no appearance of a resumption of the negotiation for the revision of the treaties, the movement lost vitality, and for the past few months little has been heard about it. It has not, however, died out; the embers continue smouldering and ready to burst into flame, of whatever dimensions, at any moment. We ourselves are convinced that the destructive force of the conflagration will not in any case be considerable, but our business for the moment is to record existing indications. Already, then, we notice signs of gradual revival of the agitation's vitality. The association formed by the promoters was originally called *Naichi Zakkyo Kókyú Kai* (Association for Investigating the Question of Mixed Residence in the Interior), but its name has just been changed into *Nippon Kyokai* (Japanese Union) and some important alterations have been made in its regulations. The objects of the newly named Union, as stated in the revised regulations, are to secure revision of the treaties on the footing of true equality; to oppose the opening of the country for mixed residence for the present; to make preparations for the granting of mixed residence in the future, and so forth. Mr KUNITOMO SHIGEAKIRA, a member of the Association, recently started on a lecture tour in the Provinces of the North East, where he is reported to have met with a warm welcome. He is said to have received valuable assistance in the Prefecture of Fukushima from General YAMAKAWA, an Aizu man, who is at present living at Shirakawa. Rumour alleges that the leading agitators will hold a grand meeting in Tokyo in the middle of September, and that Mr. OI KENTARO, having recovered from his recent indisposition, will shortly leave for the Prefectures of Nagano and Yamanashi, where he intends to lecture on his favorite phantasy. Mr. OI is a shrewd man. We have observed his career with much interest. A more perfect opportunist it would be difficult to find. In the days when fashion favoured physical force, he was a leader of *Soshi*. Wherever he moved, a band of those rough-and-ready patriots accompanied him, and in his frail hands—for he is a man of puny proportions and most fragile build—he invariably carried his credentials to popular esteem, a portly baton enclosing a sword-blade. But when respectability began to shake off this parasitical growth of shallow-brained youths, when the *soshi* fell to the rank of hirelings prepared to do any man's bidding for any purpose in consideration of *sen* and *rin*, Mr. OI devised new titles to public consideration. It was then that the Radical Party's deficient caloric commenced to chill his fiery patriotism. Besides, the Radicals were not mentally equipped to appreciate his worth. He could not find a constituency to return him to Parliament, and the members of Parliament betrayed a most improper want of docility in the matter of submitting to the dictation of their associates out of Parliament. Mr. OI found himself thrust out of the arena, where, for the rest, there was not half enough dust and disturbance for a man of his calibre. Therefore he broke away, built a stump for himself, and occupied it in company with a tiny knot of equally discontented agitators. But it was necessary to find some ammunition for the new campaign, and here Mr. OI showed his talent as an opportunist. The nation was swayed by a strong reactionary spirit of revolt against tame acceptance of foreign superiority. The people were bent upon proving themselves as good as any Occidentals, and, of course, hand-in-hand with this sentiment of self-assertion there went a desire to hold the foreigner at arm's length, to place the country's relations with him on a colder and more distant footing. Mr. OI saw his opportunity in this reaction. It is true that he had hitherto been a Radical of the Radicals. It is true that the text of his political sermons had been the wholesale introduction of western institutions—government by party, universal franchise, freedom of the press, liberty of the subject, and so forth. It is true that to adopt the popular cry meant to adopt conservatism pure and simple. But what matter? Mr. OI wanted a following, not a creed. He understood fully that in every country there is a conservative element opposed to change, an element ready to believe that to be self-contained is to invite no risks, and that too much intimacy with foreigners is a dangerous business. To that element he has appea ed with a certain measure of success. After all, if in America there are folks who legislate mercilessly against the ingress of Chinese, if in Australia there are people who impose uncivilized restrictions upon the coming of foreigners, and if in Yokohama and Kobe there are men who prefer to keep Japan in her present position of semi-isolation, what wonder that there should be Japanese who object to letting foreigners settle wherever they please in the empire. But America and Australia have no treaties to revise. The indulgence of their unenlightened conservatism does not involve continued national humiliation. It does involve that, however, in Japan's case. Mr. OI KENTARO, with delightful inconsequence and splendidly illogical audacity, talks of revising the treaties on a basis of absolute equality so as to exclude foreigners from the interior. It is like asking a man to pay rent for a house that he is not to be allowed to occupy. Mr. OI'S programme, were it adopted by the nation, would mean Japan's relapse into the position assigned to her fifty years ago by the Occident, and as for the notion that any foreign Power would consent to surrender the privileges its nationals already possess without obtaining for them any equivalent, it is simply laughable. Japan has had no greater enemy than Mr. OI KENTARO since the *Meiji* era opened. He would make his country a by-word among nations; would fix upon his people the stigma of being too distrustful of themselves to associate on equal terms with the civilized peoples of Europe and America, and would defer *ad infinitum* the international recognition for which Japan has worked so stoutly and patiently during twenty-five years. He is a new genus of patriot.

JAPANESE CHURCHES.

IN writing the other day on the subject of "Christian Teaching in Japan" we passed over one rather important point, a brief reference to which may not be wholly out of place. It must be admitted by all who have devoted any consideration to the matter that, whatever else a missionary may be, he is, after all, no more than a pioneer. It is his work to introduce Christianity to the Japanese, make converts, found churches, and give them a fair start; and for some time afterward his aid and superintendence are no doubt indispensable. But every missionary, we take it, looks forward to the time when the churches he has founded shall be strong enough to run alone. It is not desirable that, as Christianity progresses, it should depend upon the assistance and advice of foreigners; rather, indeed, should it be the aim of the foreign teacher to give no more support to the churches he has helped to found than is absolutely necessary, and to encourage the idea of independence in his converts rather than seek to keep them under his own personal dictation. In China, we are informed, the missionaries keep this well in view; they are, however, somewhat hampered by the diffidence of the converts themselves, it being difficult, sometimes, to convince a Chinese pastor that he has as good a right, say, to administer the sacrament of baptism as the missionary from London or New York. The introducers of a religion are, not unnaturally, regarded as possessed of a higher authority than those who are only converts, and their administration, therefore, carries more weight; and though it is clear that from the ecclesiastical standpoint the view is a mistaken one, it is, perhaps, inseparable from what we all hope is only a transition state of affairs. Among the Japanese this diffidence is much less strongly felt. Indeed, there are many signs of a desire,

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healthy and natural enough, on the part of the churches to be perfectly free from all control from outside, and to work out their own salvation in their own way. To that it must come sooner or later; and no one is likely to welcome the inevitable change more cordially than intelligent missionaries themselves. But there also exists, side by side with this longing after autonomy, a very marked distaste for the prospect of having to relinquish that pecuniary support from sympathisers with missionary effort abroad which hitherto the native churches have, either directly or indirectly, enjoyed. Here, then, is the difficulty; for it is clear that no body of men could consistently contribute to the support of institutions in the management of which they had no voice. Either the native churches must purchase their independence at the price of such pecuniary aid as comes to them from foreign sources, or they must continue under missionary control until they become strong enough to be self-supporting. And how are they to become self-supporting? Humanly speaking there is but one reply; by the active diffusion of Christian doctrine among the people, particularly among the moneyed and educated classes. We are aware, of course, that many worthy persons seem to think that "the poor" have a preferential right to the blessings of Gospel truth, and that to import monetary considerations into such a matter as the spread of Christianity implies something dishonouring to the ALMIGHTY. A very little reflection upon the enormous incomes of some of our big missionary societies would show them the fallacy of this view, as without those incomes they themselves, probably, would not be in Japan to-day. It is, in fact, simply a transfer that is necessary; instead of money from abroad, the money must be found in Japan, among the converts themselves. And no one, now-a-days, will be disposed to underestimate the great assistance to propagandism which comes from the support of educated men. In China that is a thing impossible of achievement; the Chinese nature, the Chinese education, the Chinese code of ethics, all form an impenetrable barrier to the candid examination of any foreign religion whatsoever. Not so here. Nothing is more encouraging than the activity of mind characteristic of the Japanese, even when that activity is devoted to attacking Christianity in the interests of some rival creed. Anything is better than indifference. And why should not Christianity be attacked? Why should not the educated and sincere Buddhist criticise, and analyse, and even condemn? There is nothing in all that that can hurt the truth; much is probably founded on misconceptions, and there is nothing more potent to remove misconceptions than open and candid argument. That is why we consider the disputations carried on in our Buddhist and Christian contemporaries so healthy and encouraging a sign; and no missionary who is worth his salt will ever deprecate or shrink from them. How glad their brethren in the valley of the Yangtzu would be for such evidences of interest in Christianity, even were it couched in a critical and hostile vein! Alas, they have to put up with interest very differently expressed; filthy and revolting libels such as the fabrications of CHOU HAN, burning houses, rifled property, and brains battered out upon the public street. The missionary to Japan lives, in fact, in clover; and when we remember the amount of magnificent and noble work done by his *confrères* over the water—take their hospital work alone, which is a monument of Christian philanthropy—in the teeth of such petrifying ingratitude and savagery as we have lately been hearing of, it is not unreasonable to look for very great results from the favourable conditions under which he lives and labours.

THE HOKKAIDO.

IT has generally been conceded by those in positions to know, that the vast sums originally granted to the Kaitakushi for the development of the Hokkaido and its industries, brought no adequate return, or even apparent prospect of much better things to come. And yet admitting that the expenditure was out of all proportion to the results obtained, it may be still a question difficult to answer, whether any other methods then practicable would have succeeded in establishing a colony—for such the Hokkaido really is—on a basis solid enough to render retrogression, at least, scarcely probable. Progress has been steady, if slow, and that is principally due to the poverty of the settlers. Another obstacle to the rapid development of the island, is the general ignorance of the masses as to its immense resources. In the popular mind, Yezo remains a place buried under snow and ice for the greater part of the year, a fact in itself sufficient to deter the average Japanese, loving, as he does, the open air and sunshine, from taking any special interest in its welfare. But the times have changed. Emigration is a new, even a welcome cry. Money is abundant with but limited outlets for its employment. The banks have been obliged to lower their rates of interest upon deposits to such a point that investors are bestirring themselves to find other and more lucrative fields wherein their means may be utilised. It is, therefore, not surprising that renewed attention should be directed to the Hokkaido, and that two thoroughly practical men like Count INOUYE and Viscount TANI should proceed there to investigate matters on the spot. The inhabitants themselves display no lack of enterprise, but they are still much hampered by the inadequacy of the means of transport for the produce of the island, and especially in regard to marine products from which their greatest revenue is derived. It is true that Hakodate has been brought by rail and steam to within 35 hours, and Sapporo to within about 50 hours of Tokyo, the nearest market of any magnitude. But longer time is necessary for the conveyance of goods, and longer time means the destruction of perishable merchandise. Much, too, has been accomplished by the extension of the railway system to the coal centres at Poronai, Sorachi, and Yubari, the output from which, together with that from the smaller mines, amounted in 1891 to the respectable figure of 191,499 tons. This great source of revenue, however, fails in its object when huge heaps of the valuable mineral are allowed to lie for an indefinite period on the shore at Mororan and Otaru awaiting either a market or means of transportation.

No other part of Japan has undergone such a thorough survey as that of the northern island, and it has been carefully computed that the land available for cultivation along the courses of the big rivers and the coast, is capable of supporting no less than ten million souls,—a moderate calculation in the opinion of some experts. Be that as it may, various schemes are now on foot for providing better means of communication, which is the first and chief desideratum. The Fifteenth National Bank has tendered proposals to make advances for the construction of a railway from Hakodate to Otaru. Such a line would, in all probability, by striking across to Mori, attract to itself all the traffic of that fertile portion of the peninsula, as well as a portion from the rising sea-ports of Esashi, Suttsu, and the harbourless villages on the thriving North West Coast. Not the least important of the minor schemes, and one that will come into operation on the 1st of October next, is the daily running of steamers from Aomori to the southern railway terminus at Mororan, thus effecting not only a certain economy, in time, but avoiding transhipment at Hakodate, hitherto incumbent on travellers whether bound for Otaru or Mororan. Three years ago Professor MILNE forced his way through the primeval forest from a point on the North East Coast to the upper waters of the Ishikari-gawa on the West. This feat will be a feat no longer, for a road over the same route was completed some twelve months since, by which the bone-breaking *basha* is expected to transport the traveller through "Darkest Yezo" in about four days from the northern railway terminus in the district of Kamikawa straight to the port of Abashiri on the N.E Coast.

With improved means of communication, the next desirable step is to abolish the wretched dwellings that do duty as houses, for buildings of a more durable nature and better adapted to withstand the rigours of a northern winter. Here, again, doubtless, the poverty of the settlers, together with a certain disinclination

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to abandon old habits, is responsible for the deplorably unsuitable condition of their houses. Nevertheless, improvement in that respect, if there is to be genuine progress at all, is an urgent necessity. It will be interesting to learn what impressions have been derived by the Minister for Home Affairs as the result of his extended tour in the far north. Should they be favourable, hopes may be entertained of the passing of the large grant required by Mr. KITAGAKI, Chief of the Hokkaido-cho, for the development of the resources of the island, and of a livelier interest being taken in a part of the Empire, which, despite natural drawbacks, affords a promising field for the employment of capital and industrial labour.

BUDDHISM IN JAPAN.

A WRITER in the *Kokumin-no-Tomo* reviews in a recent issue of that periodical the past history of Buddhism in Japan. Buddhism was first brought to this country in the middle of the 6th century, in the reign of the Emperor KIMMEI. In those days the authority of the Imperial Court did not extend over the whole of the country, and the inhabitants were not yet united by nationalistic sentiment. The feeling of loyalty to the Sovereign had not developed much strength, neither was there any national religion like the *Shinto* of later days. Still, the progress of the new creed was at first so slow and unpromising, that after a century of propagandism, it could only boast of 48 temples, 816 priests and 569 nuns,—a progress by no means superior to that achieved by Christianity during the last twenty years, at a time when the people are swayed by a strong nationalistic sentiment, when deeply rooted ideas prevail concerning loyalty, and when there is a great rival religion jealously watching every step of the foreign creed's advance. The reason for the tardiness of Buddhism's early progress is found by our author in the novelty of its doctrines to the Japanese. Though there was little of what is now understood as nationalistic sentiment, and though no national religion had to be fought against, Buddhism had to contend with the anti-foreign prejudices of the people, who insisted that, having deities of their own to worship, it would be sacrilegious to bow before the gods of foreign barbarians. The real progress of Buddhism in Japan dates from the time when the great priest GYÔKI, and the equally great statesman TACHIBANA MOROYE, originated the famous doctrine of the incarnation of BUDDHA in the national gods of Japan. A hybrid religion was thus formed by a combination of Buddhist dogmas with the mythological traditions of the Japanese. It therefore appears that Buddhism was not only powerless to conquer the original superstitions of the people, but that it was even compelled to accommodate itself to those superstitions, with the result that Buddhist temples increased side by side with shrines for the worship of the mythological deities of the country. Has the introduction of Buddhism been beneficial or otherwise? The writer acknowledges that Buddhism brought in its train civilization from the continent of Asia, and that it has been instrumental in subduing the warlike and savage spirit of the Japanese. But he maintains that the evil it has done far outweighs the few benefits it has conferred upon the country. Foremost among his charges against it is that during several hundreds of years it constituted a perpetual danger to the peace of the country. A few centuries after its introduction, it began to lose its spiritual character, and the different temples were gradually transformed into hot-beds of intrigue and political agitation. The priestly warriors of Eizan were a terror to successive EMPERORS, one of whom observed on a certain occasion that the three things in his Empire which defied his imperial control were the waters of the Kamogawa, the dice of *sugoroku*, and the priests of the mountain. Not alone were the Buddhist priests ambitious of acquiring military power: they were equally conspicuous for love of money. Each temple and monastry had an endowment of land, and the priests knew very well how to increase their domains by advancing money to needy farmers at usurious interest on the security of land. Another sin laid to the charge of Buddhism is that its pessimistic doctrines injured the healthy and natural growth of the nation's character, making the vast majority of the people abnormally submissive and timid. Altogether, the writer's opinion about the part played by Buddhism in the advancement of Japanese civilization is extremely unfavourable. With regard to the present condition of the creed, he asserts that it has fallen to the lowest depths of corruption. But he evidently writes under the influence of prejudice. His indictment is certainly supported in great part by historical facts, but it would not be difficult to show that there exists a credit side also to the Buddhist account, and that, without the imported creed and the constant efforts of its teachers in the cause of literature, industry and art, Japan must have been very different from what she was when Western peoples re-discovered her thirty years ago.

THE BIRTH OF JAPANESE MOBS.

THE tendency which the Japanese display at present to unite against foreigners in the streets in the open ports is a suggestive fact. It is not at all characteristic of the people of this country, in their normal condition, to form mobs for aggressive purposes. Running through all the life of the nation we find the principle that every man should be left to manage his own business in his own way, the reasonable presumption being that he knows more about it than other people do. To refrain from interference in anything that has no direct concern for oneself is the obvious result of such a philosophy, and our readers have doubtless observed, as we ourselves have frequently done, that the disposition of a Japanese crowd is invariably neutral: its units are willing to observe what is going forward, but to take an active part in it is the last thing that occurs to them. They are the very antipodes of the Irish in this respect. In the Emerald Isle the mere sight of two men squabbling, suffices to inspire the bystanders with a burning desire to be "in it," the merits of the dispute having no manner of interest for them. But in Japan, if men meddle at all in such matters, their disposition is pacific. Time after time one sees half-a-dozen men separating combatants, or trying to calm hot disputants, but which of us has ever seen Japanese onlookers take sides and engage in a mêlee? There is not on record—or, rather, there was not until quite recently on record—a single instance of a Japanese crowd collecting for the purpose of attacking a foreigner or resenting an insult to some individual Japanese. The Chinese mob is a common factor in modern history, and its deeds are often so brutal and ferocious that we are accustomed to infer a strain of exceeding cruelty in the Chinese character. But the fact is, as has been abundantly shown by experience, that the performances of a mob reflect the mood of its very worst elements, and that when individual responsibility becomes merged in the united movements of a mass, things are wrought such as their perpetrators, acting separately, would shrink from in horror. Chinese mobs, we take it, are much as mobs are everywhere, but it is distinctly characteristic of the Chinaman that he is prone to act gregariously and almost always ready collectively to follow evil guidance where foreign lives and foreign property may be assailed. Nothing of the kind has hitherto been observed in Japan. The deeds of blood that disfigure the days of our early intercourse with this country were never undertaken by a body of persons under the impulse of sudden passion or preconceived aversion. They were usually cruel and even cowardly deeds, in the sense that any man who takes advantage of another's defenceless or unprepared condition to do him grievous hurt, is cruel and cowardly. But undoubtedly they were prompted by a patriotic spirit. That was understood at the time, and is placed still farther beyond question by the fact that since foreign intercourse ceased to seem a national peril in the eyes of the educated classes, waylayings and assassinations have ceased altogether. So far as the lower orders were concerned, there never was the smallest display of hostility to foreigners. On the contrary it was the

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continual comment of critics condemning the fierce seclusiveness of the *Samurai*, that the people at large were eminently friendly to foreigners, received them with smiling faces, treated them with unvarying courtesy and hospitality, and regarded their advent as the precursor of good fortune. There is no difficulty in historically explaining this difference between the bulk of the nation and the military classes, but we need not pause to make the analysis here. Our point is that partly because of the people's amicable disposition and partly because of their traditional philosophy, which limits every man to his own special affairs, there used never to be any tendency to mob the foreigner in a hostile sense, nor ever any readiness to form impromptu combinations for the purpose of espousing the cause of individual Japanese against the alien. But it is unfortunately plain that this pleasant state of affairs is undergoing a change. During the past few months we have had several instances of Japanese mobs in the open ports attacking foreigners with considerable fierceness and betraying an unmistakable disposition to do serious mischief. The first indications of this new state of affairs made themselves apparent in Kobe, we think, and evoked a great deal of acrimonious criticism. Now we are confronted by a similar tendency in Yokohama. It appears to be only necessary that a foreigner should get into an altercation with a Japanese: a mob speedily collects and takes part against the alien. Presumably the units of the crowd, whose imperfect knowledge of the affair is necessarily derived from their own nationals, believe the foreigner to be in the wrong and count themselves patriots when they act upon that belief. But the interesting and suggestive feature of the matter is that these units belong to a class which never before showed any hostility to foreigners, and were never before disposed to take each other's part against the foreigner. Hence the change can not be called a revival of anti-foreign prejudice. On the contrary, it must be described as the birth of a self-assertive, truculent spirit among men hitherto perfectly friendly and docile. What is the explanation? Why should intercourse with foreigners tend to develop such a disposition? The subject is difficult to touch journalistically with sufficient tenderness, but it supplies large material for reflection.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

VANDALISM ON THE TOKAIDO.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—The beautiful Tokaido avenue, which foreign interference saved from destruction several years ago, is now again menaced, numbers of ancient trees,—some over two centuries old, which crowned the height between Hakone and Mishima, and served as a halting-place for the *daimyos'* processions,—having recently been sold by the Kunaisho for a paltry sum, and hewn down by their purchasers. The Japanese perhaps no longer care for such things. Temples, castles, beautiful scenery (so the *Fiji Shimpo* told us the other day) are now indifferent to them. They prefer brick chimneys. But they surely cannot be indifferent to the money which foreign tourists bring in to the country; and if they let their temples and castles fall to ruin, and hew down their monumental trees, and thus destroy all those charms which foreigners come here to see, they will be pecuniary losers; for foreigners will come to Japan no longer. It seems incredible that the Kunaisho, of all public departments, should lend itself to such acts of Vandalism; but so I am assured is the case, and the grand old trees are hewn down.

Yours faithfully, Z.

August 11th, 1893.

"THE ASCENT OF NANTAI-ZAN."

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—In your issue of Aug. 9th, "Ex-Militz" gives a graphic description of his hazardous trip up Nantai-zan. The description of the pathway, the charred remains of a destructive conflagration, the charming warbles of the *Uguisu*, the whispering chirps of the *Komadori*, and last but not least, the "look-back" on the field of a once gory battle, where "the sword of the *Samurai* did its (ghastly) work," impresses us with the notion that there are strong latent poetical powers behind the pen of "Ex-Militz" The hand that shouldered sabre, should have written songs of victory for his comrades.

The description of the view from the dizzy heights of that sacred mountain are not overdrawn—yea, they fail to do justice to so romantic a place as the crest of Nantai.

Moreover, we say Bravo! to the ladies who ventured to climb, and *succeeded* in ascending so steep a mountain at Nantai. They deserve gold medals as pedestrians.

However, the point we want to make is this. We know of two "tender-footed" pedestrians, unused to surveying the slopes of real estate in Japan step by step, but who did in the recent past leave Nikko at 7.30 a.m. "took in" the sights on the way to Chusenji, stopped for tiffin, after which they ascended Nantai from the Chusenji side, took a view of the surrounding country, even as far as Fuji-yama and across the plains almost to the calm Pacific, descended the same steep and "bumping" pathway, changed *waraji*, and walked back to Nikko, where they arrived at 8.20 p.m., with no refreshments but cold water and a substantial tiffin, and all this with only a few tired muscles, two small blisters, and slight bruise on one toe, which came in too close contact with a stone on the descent.

Of course these two embryotic pedestrians were not ladies.

Yours, etc., PROSPECTIV-MILITZ.

Nikko, August 11th, 1893.

JAPAN IN 1907.

A POLITICAL NOVEL.

I.

Mr. Suyehiro Shigeyasu, editor of the *Kokkai*, is the author of several political novels, the most popular of which, *Setchu Bai*, went through ten editions in the space of a few years. The latest production from his prolific pen is one whose title forms the heading of the present sketch. Its Japanese name is *Seiji Shosetsu: Meiji Shiju Nen no Nippon*. It is composed of two small volumes, the first having been published in May, and the second in July last. As a literary work, we are constrained to say that it possesses no particularly striking points of excellence, though it is written in the lucid and vivacious style peculiar to its distinguished author. But as a repository of the political views entertained by one of the most experienced journalists and best known politicians of the present day, it has an interest which certainly entitles it to the careful study of every student of contemporary Japanese history. To foreign readers it presents certain points of interest, because much of the story turns upon the foreign policy of Japan, especially with reference to a possible collision between Russia on the one side, and England and China on the other. For the sake of convenience, we propose to give a brief outline of the story, and then proceed to notice the author's opinions on some of the more important questions dealt with in the book.

The tale opens with a ball given by the Premier of a newly organized Conservative Cabinet, in the Toyo (Oriental) Hotel, a magnificent three-storied building erected on the spot now occupied by the temporary structures for the Imperial Diet, the Houses having been removed a few years before into permanent edifices built at Nagatacho. The ball is introduced ostensibly to supply the reader, by means of conversation in the drawing-room and at the supper-tables, with some glimpses of the condition in which the author imagines the country will be in the year 1907. We gather from this chapter that seven or eight changes of Ministry took place during the ten years preceding; that about three years before then the Progressive party—apparently a combination made up of the different parties which, in 1892-1893, were occasionally spoken of collectively under the name of *Min-to*—formed a Cabinet for the first time; but that dissension soon arising in its ranks, it had to give way to a coalition Cabinet, which in turn has just been pulled down by the Conservative party. The country generally is in a very unsatisfactory state. Nothing has been effected in the way of Treaty Revision; the Navy has been increased by only 10,000 tons in fifteen years; finance is in a state of serious embarrassment; the various parties are wasting their energies in the useless struggle for political supremacy; in short, the country is wholly unprepared to take any conspicuous part in the drama of war which is to be soon enacted in this part of the globe. People already allude to a serious complication about Korea between Russia on the one side, and England and China on the other.

Shortly after this time, there returns to Tokyo a young man named Tamano Seisho, who has been studying and travelling in Europe for several years. He is the hero of the story. He belongs to the *shizoku* class of the better sort; he is now about thirty years of age, of striking personal appearance, and highly endowed with intellectual gifts. In politics he is rigidly independent.

He returned home by the great Siberian Railway which had just been opened for general traffic. At a certain place in Siberia, he came across a patriotic, but poor, Japanese girl, from whom he learned a secret of the first importance concerning an intrigue which Russia was about to set in motion in Japan. He supplied her with money, advising her to follow up as far as possible the clue she had so fortunately got hold of.

Soon after his return, in compliance with the repeated solicitations of some professional politicians, our hero competes at a by-election for the House of Representatives. He goes down to the election district, only to find bribery openly practised, violence freely used, and fraud shamelessly resorted to. Thoroughly disgusted with these disgraceful scenes, he turns his back upon the election and leaves for the capital. But before taking the train at Shirakawa—for the election district seems to lie not far off—Tamano wanders about the beautiful park, and incidentally makes the acquaintance of a very remarkable man—a sort of hermit, who lives in its vicinity. This man had been a distinguished politician, but, forsaking politics for business, sailed to Vladivostock with his wife and a little girl. The ship met with a storm and foundered, and he lost everything he had in the world, including his wife and child. From his description of his lost child, Tamano concludes that it must be the same mysterious girl whom he met in Siberia on his way home from Europe.

Her name is Kiyo, and she is now about 17 or 18 years of age. All that she knows about her own history is that she is a daughter of a Japanese *shizoku*; that when a mere child she was picked up at sea by a Russian merchant, by whom she was taken charge of and finally adopted. Her adopted parents, however, died some years before, and she had again to shift for herself. She obtained a place as waitress at a hotel at a certain point on the Siberian railway, where she accidentally heard a rumour that, a collision with China and England being feared in Korea, the diplomats of St. Petersburg were about to send a Japanese woman of doubtful reputation to Tokyo as a Russian spy. It was at this time that she met Tamano and confided her secret to him. Conforming to his advice, she remained in Siberia, endeavouring to find out more about the affair. The spy having passed through the place on her way to Japan, Kiyo followed her to Vladivostock, where she contrived to enter her service as maid.

The spy is a young woman of insinuating address, about twenty-two or twenty three years of age. Her name is Ibaraki Yukiko. She rents a splendid house at Surugadai, in the neighbourhood of the Russian Cathedral. She introduces herself into society as an adopted daughter of a certain rich Russian nobleman. She is, of course, on friendly terms with the Russian Minister and Russian residents in Tokyo, and that secures her access to the best society. Her Japanese is

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noticed to be anything but elegant, but that is excused on the ground that she has lived so long abroad.

She makes the acquaintance of Shibuya Hachizo, leader of a band of the most implacable politicians of Radical opinions, cultivates his friendship, and finally falls in love with him. About this time it is noticed that Shibuya, hitherto a poor man, begins to spend large sums of money on his party organ, on elections, and in various other ways for the promotion of the interests of his party. The consequence is that his party, hitherto an insignificant factor in practical politics, has in a short space of time increased so much in power and influence, that it is now a formidable enemy of the Conservative Cabinet.

Tamano, our hero, also accidentally makes the acquaintance of Ibaraki Yukiko, and one day pays a visit to her at her house in Surugadai. In the course of conversation with her, he finds that she is painfully embarrassed whenever he questions her about her experience in Russia. On getting home, he is surprised to discover in a pocket of his overcoat a note addressed to him in female handwriting. His surprise is greater when, on opening the envelope, he finds that it is from no less a person than his Siberian acquaintance, the beautiful Kiyo, who had not written him as she had promised, and about whose safety he had, of late, been not a little uneasy. The contents of the letter confirm the suspicions which have been awakened in his mind regarding the personality of the new star in society. But the secret is as yet unknown to anybody else, and the two confederates continue to carry on their dark schemes in close concert with the Russian authorities, little suspecting that their conduct is vigilantly watched by one near them.

About this time, the war, which has been threatening for some time, at last breaks out simultaneously at several points along the long line of contact, between Russia on one side and England and China on the other, in Afghanistan, in Manchuria, and in Korean waters. Japan's alliance is enthusiastically sought after by both sides. Russia even tries to intimidate Japan into alliance with her by sending a strong fleet to the Bay of Tokyo. But her vessels are soon followed by those of her enemies, and they depart without attaining their end. Japanese public opinion is divided, some favouring alliance with Russia, others advocating cōoperation with England and China, and still others insisting upon a policy of strict neutrality. The Cabinet decides in favour of the second, and despatches men-of-war to Korean waters to cōoperate with the allied English-Chinese fleet. At first Japan cuts a poor figure in the operations of the allied forces, and the Naval Department sends out the largest vessel, which has been undergoing repairs at Yokosuka, under command of Rear-Admiral Yamaguchi, an intimate friend of Tamano. On his way to Gensan, where the allied fleet is operating against the Russian war-ships, he encounters a formidable battleship belonging to the latter. After desperate fighting, he succeeds in sinking the Russian vessel, but not before he is seriously wounded. He then joins the allied fleet which is now master of the port of Gensan, the Russian vessels having retired upon Vladivostock. His heroic achievements at once raise Japan's prestige in the estimation of the allied fleet.

We ought now to attend a little to two persons, whom we have been compelled for want of space to completely ignore thus far. They are Matsumoto Motokichi, son of the Minister President of State, and Miss Tamono Teru-ko, younger sister of our hero. They are deeply in love. Their marriage had been at one time approved by the Viscount and by the young lady's guardian; but the Viscount, taking offence at Tamano's declining the offer of his daughter's hand, wreaked his vengeance by withdrawing his consent to his son's union with Teruko. The unfortunate young people, however, remain unchanged and unchangeable to each other. On the breaking out of war, Matsumoto is appointed by the Red Cross Society of Japan to proceed to Korea in charge of the medical party sent there. He is soon followed by Miss Teru ko, who volunteers her services as a nurse, hoping by her devotion, to soften in some measure the offended pride of her lover's father.

Meanwhile, the traitors Shibuya Hachizo and Ibariki Yukiko have not been idle. Shibuya's design to compel the Cabinet to declare for Russia by means of intimidation has failed, because, in spite of his earnest representations, the Russian authorities at Vladivostock were not prompt enough in sending the desired fleet to Japan. He is plotting to overturn the Ministry and get himself in power. An opportunity for carrying out his scheme is soon presented by the convention of an extraordinary session of the Diet to vote appropriations for the war. The proposed distribution of Russian money and the energetic movement against the opening of the country for mixed residence have helped to increase the influence of Shibuya's party to such a degree, that he is now able to count on a majority in the House of Representatives. Before the Order of the Day is proceeded with, he introduces a motion for a vote of want of confidence in the Cabinet, in a speech in which he bitterly attacks the latter's foreign policy. The motion is carried by a large majority amidst a scene of indescribable confusion. The Peers also pass a vote of censure upon the Ministry. Simultaneously with the passage of these measures in both Houses of the Diet, alarming news is received in Tokyo, announcing a serious defeat of England and China on land as well as a threatened dissolution of the alliance, on account of a difference of opinion between the Japanese Naval commanders and those of the other fleets. Under these circumstances, popular sentiment, at first favourable to the Cabinet, revolts against it, and the Ministers resign in a body. Shibuya forms a Cabinet with the well-meaning but incapable Count Tanikawa as Minister President, reserving for himself the portfolio of Home Affairs. He places one of his confidential lieutenants at the head of the Metropolitan police, and puts in prison about forty distinguished men, likely to prove troublesome, on a false charge of secret treason. He completely reverses the foreign policy of the country, and orders the Japanese war-vessels in Korean waters to sail home immediately, thereby incurring the indignation of England and China. He then enters into a secret convention with Russia for the cession of Chishima (Kurile Islands) in return for the troops and vessels which Russia agrees to lend to Japan to repel the combined attack of her late allies.

Our heroine, Kiyo, who has been watching the development of the plot, now perceives that the supreme moment has arrived. Taking advantage one evening of the absence of her master and mistress,—for they had married some time before—who have gone to a ball at the Russian Legation, she extracts from a portfolio on Shibuya's desk a copy of the secret convention with Russia; posts it addressed to Tamano Seisho; and passing the night at an obscure inn in the vicinity of Nihonbashi, surrenders herself to the police next morning. She confesses what she has done, but positively refuses to reveal the name of the person to whom she sent the document. Fearing that her late artful employer may demand the delivery of her person, she falsely states that she has committed another grave offence which she will never reveal unless to a properly appointed judge in an open court of law.

Tamano, on receiving the document, at once repaired to the residence of his bosom friend Rear-Admiral Yamaguchi, who has just returned from Korea. A straightforward, loyal and patriotic man, Yamaguchi gnashes his teeth in indignation at the thought that there should be men among his countrymen base enough to sell their country for the sake of personal ambition and interest. The two patriots, knowing the character of the man they have to deal with, see the importance of taking some decisive step before giving him time to consider the situation. They accordingly wait upon Count Sugimura, who is now out of office, but who deservedly enjoys the boundless confidence of the Emperor, and request him to represent the state of affairs to His Majesty. The Count instantly obtains an interview with His Majesty; the Privy Councillors are called to the Imperial presence, and the Emperor issues an order to the Cabinet commanding its instant resignation *en masse*. Shibuya, who has just received news of his maid Kiyo's surrender to the police, is thunderstruck at the unexpected command of the Sovereign. Seeing that everything is over, he and his spouse at once disappear from Tokyo. The last heard of them was that they were somewhere in Siberia.

Count Sugimura is appointed Minister President of State, Rear-Admiral Yamaguchi receiving the portfolio of the Navy. Ministerial posts are also given to several distinguished party leaders. Tamano is offered an important position in the Government, but declines to accept office for the present. The new Cabinet finds itself in apparently insurmountable difficulties. It is, on the one hand, hard pressed by China and England, which want satisfaction for the faithless conduct of Japan; while, on the other, it is harassed by Russia, who demands the execution of the secret compact concluded with the preceding Cabinet. Tamano, whose opinion is requested by the Premier, advises the latter to send an Ambassador to the Congress, which is being held at Peking by the Delegates of Russia, England, and China, to consider questions relating to the settlement of frontiers and so forth. Tamano is solicited to undertake this responsible mission. He goes to Peking; succeeds by his eloquence, tact, and firmness in inducing the three Powers to desist from urging their respective demands upon Japan; and secures for his country an ample share of interest in the Korean peninsula. His return to Tokyo was a triumphal entry, being welcomed by men of all parties and classes.

Tamano again retires into private life, having married Kiyo shortly before his departure for China. As to Matsumoto Motokichi and Tamano Teru ko, they returned to Tokyo, after undergoing various hardships, and marry, Viscount Matsumoto having at last given his consent to their union. Kiyo's father, the recluse of Shirakawa, comes to Tokyo to be present at her marriage, but soon returns to his cottage, preferring to lead the simple and innocent life of a village teacher.

THE AUSTRIAN ARCHDUKE AT MIYANOSHITA.

(From a Correspondent).

Great, for several days before, had been the preparations at the Fujiya Hotel, Miyanoshita, for the reception of His Imperial Highness, Archduke Franz of Austria. There was cleaning, scouring, polishing, painting, clipping, watering, and last of all the emigration to other quarters of all such guests as happened to be occupying the apartments engaged for the Imperial party, namely, the entire upper storey of the handsome new building in European style, which now forms the main portion of the hotel. At last, the great day, the 15th inst., arrived, and towards evening the Archduke arrived also, attend by a suite of nine gentlemen, besides numerous servants both Japanese and foreign. Of the latter, an Indian in gorgeous costume attracted most attention, not a few persons mistaking him also for a prince until it was noticed that he carried parcels about and dined with the servants! Ten covers were laid at 8 p.m. in the large dining-room of the the hotel, and the Imperial party retired to rest at an early hour. The clouds that had been gathering slowly throughout the afternoon fell in heavy rain during the night, leaving a deliciously cool atmosphere, but heavy roads. Whether for this latter reason, or that H.I.H. preferred rest to continuous sightseeing, a projected whole day's excursion to Hakone was abandoned, and the whole of the 16th was spent in comparative quiet, the morning being devoted to extensive purchases of that inlaid woodwork for which Miyanoshita and the Hakone district generally are famous. After partaking of luncheon, the Imperial party were photographed in Japanese costume.

The Archduke and suite quitted Miyanoshita for Tokyo at 5 a.m. yesterday, leaving behind them among the simple country folk a pleasing recollection of kindliness and unostentatious dignity.

THE LITERATURE CONGRESS AT CHICAGO.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Chicago, July 17th.

No World's Fair Congress has brought together, or probably will bring together, so many distinguished persons from all quarters of the globe as the Congress of Literature, unless possibly the Congress of Religion. Certainly, no congress can summon such an intellectual assemblage.

The Congress of Literature began its sessions Monday, July 10, and continued them, in particular departments, for seven days. The Congress was subdivided into the departments of authors, philology, history, folk-lore and librarians; and some of these were again sub-divided. The famous authors drew large audiences; but folk-lore proved the most generally popular.

The first day was devoted to the routine work of organizing each department; and the first evening was given to a general reception, social and literary, in the latter of which Charles Dudley Warner, Richard Watson Gilder, Dr. Max O. Richter (of Berlin), Kate Field and Walter Besant had prominent parts.

On Tuesday morning the real work of the Congress began. The philological section plunged into ancient languages, and got out of them only occasionally into modern languages like the German, Italian, English, etc. The librarians, representing many nations, were occupied with the discussion of practical topics. The historians roamed over the field of European and American, but did not get into that of Asiatic history. The authors discussed copyright and other practical matters as well as purely literary topics.

The Folk-Lore Congress offered an elaborate and interesting programme, in which every folk-lore society in the world was represented, and all parts of the globe were pictured. Among the subjects

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treated, besides different phases of folk-lore in general, were folk-lore legends, traditions, mythology, rites, ceremonies, etc. of various Indian tribes of America, of the Cliff-dwellers, of the Afro Americans, of East Africans, of the Finns, of Bulgarians, of Japanese, Koreans and Hawaiians, of the Liberians, of the Australian natives, of the Venezuelans, of the natives of British Guiana, of the Argentine Gauchos, of Russians, Roumanians, Scandinavians and Latavians, of the Arabs, of the Germans and Pomeranians, of the Scots, of the "modern Greeks, of the Slavs, of the northern Trolls," etc, etc.; also "the symbolism of the vase," "fatality of places to persons," and many others.

The leading features of this varied programme were the Introductory Address by Lieut. F. S Bassett, once on the Japan station; the Address of Welcome, by Prof. W. I. Knapp, LL.D., President Chicago Folk Lore Society; "The Rise of Empiricism," by Prof. O. T. Mason, of Washington, D.C; Mrs. French-Sheldon's illustrated talk on the East-Africans, Mrs. Palmer Henderson on "The Cliff Dwellers;" illustrated talks, by Dr. W. Matthews on "Navajo Rites;" "The Sign Language of the Plain Indians" by Lieut. Scott and four Indian chiefs; "Bulgarian Wedding Ceremonies," illustrated; papers on Japan and Korea; "The Musical Instruments of British Guiana," illustrated; Prof. Maspero's "Certain Modern Egyptian Superstitions coming from Antiquity;" papers on German beliefs and customs; and "Navajo Songs and Prayers," as recorded by the Edison Phonograph, by Dr. Matthews.

The Congress also had the privilege, through the courtesy of "Buffalo Bill," of attending his Wild West Show, and seeing a performance of the primitive customs, dances, sports, etc. of Indians and Oriental wild tribes. By similar courtesies, the members visited the ethnological exhibit at the German Village, and the Cliff Dwellers' Structure; and were entertained at a reception given by Mrs. M. French-Sheldon in the Woman's Building.

Thursday morning, July 13th, was pre-eminently an Oriental session, as will be seen from the following items of the programme:—

"Japanese Folk-Lore"	Rev. W. E. Griffis, D.D.
Remarks	Prof. E. W. Clement.
"Man, the Prometheus of Hawaii"	Dr. N. B. Emerson.
"Korean Folk-Lore"	Prof. H. B. Hulbert.
"Chinese Folk-Lore"	J. H. Stewart Lockart.

(This last paper did not come to hand.)

An outline of the paper by Dr. Griffis and of the remarks following will be found in another letter. Professor Hulbert gave only selections from his paper on "Korean Folk-Lore." He touched on the dual origin of that people; and related typical stories showing different phases of Korean folk-lore. These, published three years ago in the *Japan Mail*, were "The Origin of Tangun," "The Origin of Tamna," "The Prophetic Eggs," "The Loyal Crow;" "The Tortoise and the Rabbit," "The Boor's Disguise," "The Wonderful Peas," and "Raising the Siege of Pyeng Yang." Professor Hulbert, by the way, expects to return to Korea in the fall.

The writer on "The Northern Trolls" (or pigmies) suggested a relation between them, the Laplanders, the Esquimaux and the Ainos. I did not hear "Notes on Cinderella," but am informed that among 345 Cinderellas, one Japanese version was identified.

The most interesting session of the whole Congress was the Concert of Folk Songs and National Music, given Friday evening, July 14th, to large audiences in two halls. The programme included vocal and instrument music of the following countries: Germany; Bohemia; Italy; Norway; Poland; Ecuador; Ceylon; India (by Pundit Gobindprshad, of Delhi); Japan (*No* dance by Mr. and Mrs. Mor moto, of Tokyo); Turkey; Aboriginal America; Canada; Russia; Great Britain (Irish, English, Welsh and Scotch); and the United States (Creole, Negro and Patriotic Songs). The programme though lasting three hours, was very enjoyable; it consisted, in its vocal part, of solos, quartettes and choruses, and in its instrumental part of solos and trios.

The Japanese performers did finely; Mrs. Morimoto represented Yuya, wife of Munemori.

THE FOLK-LORE OF JAPAN.

By Wm. Elliott Griffis.

This paper was read before the World's Fair Congress of Literature, in the Folk-lore Section:—

In the old days of Japan's seclusion, when the country was the Thorn Rose Castle of the Pacific Ocean, and herself as the Sleeping Princess, the wealth of Japanese folk lore was scarcely dreamed of. The Europeans, both clerical and commercial, who resided or traded in Japan during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, have left in their writings little or no traces of this part of Japan's intellectual wealth. One may search the voluminous literature of the Jesuit and other missionaries, or the writings of travellers or traders in the various languages of Europe, and not find the heap worth the winnowing, if he be a seeker after folk-lore. Even the latest investigators, Kaempfer, Von Siebold and others, do not seem to have given much attention to this branch of inquiry, apparently, in their minds, so far apart from serious investigation. When, however, this country was thrown open to foreign trade and residence by the genius of Commodore Matthew Perry and Townsend Harris, the seekers after the fruits of the Japanese popular imagination were richly rewarded.

The writer's first interest in Japan was excited by several pretty or amusing tales, like those of "The Monkey and the Crab," and "The Kyoto and Osaka Frogs," told him by his classmate in college, now the Hon. R. C. Pruyn, of Albany, N.Y., who had been with his father, Hon. Robert H. Pruyn, the American Minister in Yedo from 1861 to 1865. When, further, that genuine classic, Mitford's "Tales of old Japan," was published, the whole English speaking world was able to enjoy at least a few of the typical specimens of Japanese folk-lore. Now there is at the disposal of the student the "Japanese Fairy Tale Series," published by the Kokubunsha in Tokyo, numbering about two dozen booklets, and embodying excellent translations made from the originals by Professor Basil Hall Chamberlain, Mrs. T. H. James, Rev. E. R. Miller, etc. There was also published at Yokohama in 1874 a brochure entitled "Oden Time Tales for Little People;" and at Schenectady, N.Y., in 1880, with illustrations by Ozawa of Tokyo, a small duodecimo containing thirty-five stories from the wonder-lore of Japan entitled "Japanese Fairy World," by the writer of this paper. Most of the copies of this last publication, by the way, disposed of for cash, were sold in England; but the large majority of the copies printed were distributed gratuitously among the libraries throughout the United States.

Yet apart from these well known popular stories, which afford material for the study of the student, and which in Japan are usually published in the form of tiny booklets, very rough, cheap, and intended almost entirely for little children, there are thousands, possibly tens of thousands more, as yet uncommitted to script or print, found recorded in the local histories and gazetteers, or still floating on the lips of the people. The Japanese, living in an archipelago by themselves hundreds of years, and on a soil which in itself is constantly active, owing to the interior forces of the earth, have been busy with imagination and fancy. The earthquake and the volcano are constantly ready to excite even the solid earth to undulation, explosion, or the manifestation of the phenomena that strike terror or pleasure to the senses. Surrounded on every hand by waters that are marvellously rich in many striking forms of animal life, and dwelling on a landscape that is beautiful, rugged and changeable, at times even to fascination, they have in the forces and phenomena of nature abundant potency of reaction upon their imagination.

Further, they are a mixed people, whose congeners have come from the North, the South and the East. The Malay and Negrito blood from the sub-tropical South; the old Dravidian or Aryan elements, driven up north eastwardly through Asia, and entering Japan through Saghalien; the Highlanders of North Asia coming down through Korea and landing in Southern Japan, with a considerable amount of Chinese and later Korean elements blended, make up a remarkable ethnic composite. These various people, bringing old hereditary traditions; the Tartar-Korean stock having the Shamanism and beast idealizing and worship, together with all the *repertoire* of ideas and imaginings of Chinese Asia; the Southern element carrying over to the islands a wonderful mass of mythology that has close connection with the sea and the waters under the earth; the Buddhists conveying fresh elements of myth and story from both the cold and the warm parts of the mainland,—have all had their share in making Japan's folk-lore.

Furthermore, the early prehistoric and indigenous tales recited through centuries to admiring listeners, and forming an integral part of the Kojiki, or national Bible of the Japanese, have been mightily reacted upon by Buddhism. Professor Basil H. Chamberlain well says, that Buddhism has shaped and coloured the folk-lore of Japan.

Of that great mass of fairy and folk tales found in the Kojiki, the chief literary basis of the Shinto religion, three distinct strata or cycles may be distinguished. One group of stories illustrates events or ideals from the extreme South, the Riu Kiu islands and Kushiu, another from Idzumo and the South-west, and the third from Yamato or central Japan. Evidently also, as has been proved by Professor Kumii, of the Historical Society in the Imperial University in Tokyo, the early religion of the aboriginal inhabitants whom the conquerors from the mainland of Asia found on the soil when they made conquest of the country and set up their tribe-chief as Mikado, was something quite different from the "Kami-no-Michi," or Shintō religion. This Shintō *cultus*, in which the Mikado is reckoned the descendant of the heavenly gods and their vicar on the earth, and therefore the one to whom all allegiance and obedience are due, is really a composite of two religions, made by overlaying the ancient aboriginal cult by a usurpation of both politics and dogmatics. In a word, the conquerors from the mainland of Asia captured the indigenous religion, which was probably the simple worship of Heaven with liturgy and bloodless sacrifices, and made it the engine of their political power, giving it a head and front in the person of the ancient Emperor, the Mikado. The superior weapons, abilities, and higher culture of the conquerors, together with their knowledge and resources of agriculture, could of themselves probably have made reasonably rapid conquest of the aboriginal tribes of fishermen and hunters; but they chose to secure quicker victory by what they believed to be superior dogmas. . . . . And yet this Buddhistic jungle-growth of fancy and imagination must not be confounded with that national treasury of folk-lore which belongs to the nation at large.

In entering upon the enchanted fairy-land of Japan, we do not meet with the same kind of creatures that inhabit the worlds of Teutonic or European imagination. The gentle fairies which we meet with on English soil are not here; nor, on the other hand, do the imps and demons in the Japanese world seem to have as much power as those under the shadow of the Scandinavian precipices or in the twilight of German forests. There are mighty dragons, there are imps and demons, to be sure, but the *one* that lurks everywhere in Japan is rather a sly, mischievous fellow than one armed with supernatural powers.

Of course, the Japanese, Buddhist and Indian elements, added to those which are indigenous, give us a range of forces which is as wonderful as anything in the West. There are transformations and metampsychoses of almost every imaginable sort. The elemental forces of nature are often at the command of the creatures or personages; time and space are annihilated; the potent words and drugs and invisible coats and earth-compassing wings are all here, and yet it can not be said that beauty is the predominating idea. Mystery is everywhere present, and it may be said in general, that most of the ideas illustrated in mid-Asiatic and Occidental lore are set forth, but always in a way to suit the Japanese mind.

When we come to inquire in the light of, and with the analytical spectroscope, so to speak, of history, we are able to see, that the folk-lore is often a distorted shadow of real history, while also it is true that the events of pre-historic times are brought before us by means of the folk-tales handed down to us from ages older than writing in Japan. For example, the question of the existence of cannibalism in early Japan, which has been settled by science through Professor Edward S. Morse's brilliant discovery of the kitchen middens or shell mounds at Omori, is conclusively proved also from the folk tale of the Shutendoji. . . . The stories of Goremasa, the brave archer, who shot the nightbeast, that disturbed the Mikado's sleep, and Watanabe, who cut off the *Oni's* arm, belong to a cycle which illustrates the old Imperial life in Kyoto. These are but examples of a score of folk lore tales, or cycles of such stories, which, in their general features and especially in their details, throw much light on the history of Dai Nippon. Indeed, what passes for history with the Japanese at the present time, and is supposed to be the story of facts before the fifth century [A.D.], is probably hardly much better than what could be pieced together from folk-lore itself. The field of early Japanese history invites the investigator and literary constructor. The true history of both the nation and the state cannot be restored, even in its main features, except after a thorough sifting and comparison of the legends in the Kojiki, the poems in the *Manyōshiu*, the liturgies of the Shintō religion, and all that mass of early fragmentary literature which thus far has been considered beyond the notice of the serious historian. Time and space would fail to tell the details of the set of symbols and the catalogue of forces and personages which take part in the world of Japanese folk-lore. Of the mythology of the Japanese, the writer has already treated in one chapter of his work entitled "The Mikado's Empire." The

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papers of the Asiatic Society also afford the student great aid in enjoying and interpreting the wonders of the Japanese imagination Our paper is meant to be merely suggestive, and, therefore, we conclude our hasty survey by calling attention to the fact that this branch of folk-lore finds its richest illustration in Japanese decorative art. Told first without a thought of ink or pen, and handed down from lip to ear, and from mouth to mouth, during many generations, these stories were first committed to manuscript, and in some cases to print. At first the literary artist reproduced and elaborated the myths, setting them as jewels of the national literature. In Japan, where the skins of sheep or goats were never used as material for the author's page, the tattooer pricked in gay colours the nation's folk lore on the human cuticle. To this day the backs of the *bettō* contain the best illustrations of the favourite stories of the Japanese people. Yet they are also embodied in lacquer, ivory, crystal, carved wood, silk and paper. The artists have added, modified, and freshly and wittily interpreted in details. Usually loyal to the main outlines of the story, they allow their lambent wit to play over the surface, and here and there add bits of fancy, of colour, of light, of mirth, which make Japanese art so rich in suggestion

As the Centennial Exposition at Philadelphia in 1876 delighted so many thousand of visitors by showing, as it were, the photographs of the Japanese fancy and imagination in their art products, so it is possible that the World's Columbian Exposition in this city will surpass the former encyclopedia of fancy and yield rich delight. Besides enjoying the sight of the Japanese works of art and use, admiring the technical perfection, and learning something of their processes, the visitor to the Exposition will wish to have insight into their art ideas, symbolism, mythology and history. Almost every article of Japanese production, from the colossal vase and urn to the fan and the opening water-flower, is full of allusion and suggestion to one who leads the thought in its symbol. Bronzes, porcelain, ivory, crystal, embroidery, bristle with poetic or mythic allusion. The artist of Japan pours upon his work a prodigality of symbolism, which to the average Occidental mind is dumb or enigmatic. With some knowledge of the groundwork of their mythology, history and the aspects of nature, much of their art and symbolism may be understood. Like all the sets of symbols peculiar to particular nations or civilizations, the art-radicals or basic ideas are few, yet these are expressed in numberless forms and combinations. To that phase of the illustrations and interpretation of the folk-lore of Japan, as well as to its increasing literature, we invite all those who enjoy the study of the Japanese mind as it blossomed out in days long distant from ours. In general, it may be said, that the forms which folk lore take are the witnesses of processes of thought which are outlined and which have emerged into higher and nobler methods of illustration and reasoning; but in the progress of the race these steps in advancement are not to be ignored. Apart from the utility and value of folk-lore study is the enjoyment which comes to the student; and to that enjoyment, as especially furnished in this World's Columbian Exposition, we invite you all.

Our Chicago correspondent writes:—The remarks suggested by the above paper were upon the topic "Graeco-Roman and Japanese Mythology and Folk-Lore," and merely gave in outline a dozen or so striking examples of similarities or even identities. Ovid and the Kojiki have similar accounts of the Creation; the story of Susano and Sonmi suggests that of Philemon and Baucis; one story of Izanagi and Izanami recalls Orpheus and Eurydice; Raiko is the Japanese Theseus; etc.

IN THE U.S. CONSULAR-GENERAL COURT.

Before W. D. TILLOTSON, Esq., Consul-General and Judge sitting with Messrs. T. L. BROWER and A. WESTON, Associates.

MONDAY, 14th August, 1893.

THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES V. MARINUS WILLETT.

ASSAULT AND BATTERY WITH INTENT TO MURDER.

This case, on the complaint of Suzuki Hikosuke, came up for hearing this morning, both parties to the case being present in Court.

On His Honour taking the Bench, he asked whether the defendant was ready for trial, to which Mr. Lowder replied in the affirmative, adding that he appeared on behalf of the defendant.

His Honour intimated that one of the witnesses in the case, Yamaguchi, was sick and unable to attend, but he knew little or nothing about the case.

His Honour then introduced Mr. Ichinose Yozaburo, Chief Procurator of the Yokohama Saibansho, who was present to watch the case and to assist in the prosecution to some extent.

There were also present in Court, Inspectors Miura and Harada.

His Honour said that in order to save time he would proceed to draw two assessors and two alternates.

The Associates were first drawn, these being Messrs. T. B. Brower and T. P. Tyler, the alternates being Messrs. A. M. Forbes and A. Weston.

The Court adjourned while summons were issued for the associates.

On the Court resuming Mr Brower was sworn, and in the absence of Mr. Tyler, Capt. Weston was called. Both being accepted were sworn in.

The charge was read. Briefly, it was to the effect that defendant did, on the 26th of July last, feloniously, wilfully, and with malice aforethought, assault and wound Suzuki Hikosuke, with intent to murder.

The charge was laid at the instance of Harada Shinobu, an Inspector of police.

In answer to the usual formula, the accused pleaded not guilty.

Mr. Lowder then moved that the examination of the witnesses in the case be taken separately.

His Honour intimated that witnesses in the case be excluded, except the one giving testimony.

The Chief Procurator asked whether it was necessary for the Inspectors of Police who swore out the information to leave the Court room?

His Honour replied that only those who actually saw the affair were excluded. The inspectors were not present at the time, and he therefore thought it unnecessary

Mr. Lowder applied that all should be excluded except the doctor.

His Honour asked the Procurator whether he thought it necessary to call the police. They had three eye-witnesses to the affair.

The Procurator replied that so far as he was concerned, he had nothing particular to ask them. But he thought it as well, if the Japanese witnesses were excluded, the same should be done in the case of the foreigners.

His Honour informed him that such a step was not necessary, as they were called for the prosecution.

The foreign witnesses were, however, also asked to retire.

At this stage of the proceedings Mr. Tyler arrived, but was informed he was not required, the panel being filled.

Suzuki Hikosuke, the complainant was the first witness called, and was sworn on a form of oath provided by the Court.

Mr. Lowder asked if the oath was binding on the witness without his seal being attached.

Mr. Miura was, at this stage, sworn as Interpreter.

The *bettō* produced his seal and stamped the document.

Mr. Lowder presumed the oath was one sanctioned by the Court.

His Honour—Yes.

Turning to defendant His Honour said—I suppose defendant will admit he is an American citizen, so as to avoid the trouble of proving it?

Defendant—Yes.

Witness then proceeded with his evidence. He said—I am living at No. 243, Aza Takanawa, Kitagata; am a *bettō* and was employed at No. 37, the stables known as Cobb and Co. I am acquainted with Marinus Willett. Have not seen him often,—only twice. I saw him on the 26th day of July last. I saw him twice on that day. I was feeding the cows when Willett came up and said I was not giving them enough. I said it was not my business and was leaving the place when he struck me on the neck twice with his umbrella. This was about 9 o'clock in the morning. Nothing occurred except what I have said. Defendant struck me twice. On the second occasion three foreigners were standing in front of the bar ey-room—the defendant, Mr. Budge and the milkman (Mr. Winstanley). I took out three bags of barley and one of beans. I took one to the mixing trough and went back for the second when the defendant, without any provocation, kicked me on the buttocks. He said I had touched him, so he kicked me. I learned this afterwards. I did not know that I had touched him twice—or jostled him.

His Honour—Witness has said in his evidence before the Japanese authorities that he did touch defendant, did he not?

Witness—I know I touched him once, but not the second time.

His Honour—If you stated to the authorities that you did touch him twice, then the statement is not true?—I did not touch defendant the second time. I know I touched him once.

Mr. Lowder pointed out that witness in his statement said he first touched accused in the shoulder and then on the leg.

This was repeated to witness, his statement on this point being read out to him in Japanese.

Witness said that statement was correct.

Pressed, he said he remembered touching accused only once, the statement was incorrect.

His Honour—There was no reason why you should touch him twice, there was plenty of room was there not?—The bags were in the yard, and the foreigners were standing in front of them.

His Honour—There was room to go round without touching any one, was there not?—The place was very narrow and in lifting them I must have touched them.

His Honour—You said the bags were in the barn?—No, they were outside.

His Honour—Then you have made another mistake?—I took one out of the granary, and in doing so touched the defendant.

His Honour—Then the foreigners were not standing near the bags when you lifted them up?—They were just outside the godown near the door.

If they were outside you could not have touched them?—It was the second time.

Witness—As I felt humiliated and sore at being kicked, I went into the feeding-place and picked up an axe that was lying there. I advanced to within half a *ken* of the defendant when he put his hand in his pocket and drew his revolver. I was kicked in the buttocks by defendant. He pointed the revolver at me and fired immediately.

His Honour—What did defendant say before he fired the shot?—Nothing. I rushed at him with the axe and he fired.

His Honour—Did defendant make any motion to run away when you came up with the axe?—At first he did not move, but he did so the second time, and I did likewise. He moved towards the gate.

His Honour—Were you moving towards the defendant?—The defendant ran towards the gate

His Honour—Were you following the defendant?—I moved towards the defendant after the second shot, when I was caught by the neck and fell to the ground.

His Honour—Did the first shot take effect?—The shots were fired in quick succession, but I think the first missed me, but am not sure which one struck me. The statement I made that the first shot did not take effect was true

His Honour—What did you take the axe for?—I was so humiliated that I took the axe and faced the defendant.

His Honour—What for?—I had no special reason for it.

His Honour—What did you take it up for?—To retaliate, as I had been beaten.

His Honour—When did you change your mind not to strike the defendant. Was if after the second shot was fired?—I desisted after I had been shot twice.

His Honour—But still after that you continued to pursue the defendant. This is borne out by your statement?—The statement I made to the procurator is true.

His Honour—Then you still pursued the defendant after the three shots, and was only stopped by being caught by the neck by the master of the dairy. You shook him off and tried to follow but did not know which way he went?—Yes.

His Honour—Then your statement that you ceased to pursue the defendant after the second shot is not true?—The statement to the procurator is correct.

His Honour—If one is true the other cannot be true?—Yes. The statement made to the procurator is correct.

His Honour—You said, did you not, that you were trying to follow but that the foreigner fired the shots while retreating and you could not reach him?—Yes, it is true. What I said to the prosecutor is correct.

Mr. Lowder pointed out that in a previous part of the evidence to the procurator, witness had said: "I was angry because I was kicked on the buttocks and intended to take revenge; for that purpose I took up an axe and proceeded to a distance of about half a *ken*."

His Honour—Where were you injured?—(The places were pointed out by complainant.)

Mr. Ichinose desired to ask no questions except to ascertain whether, when witness said he saw the accused twice, he meant on that day or on a previous day.

Witness—I never saw him previous to that day.

Mr. Ichinose—Where did you find the axe?—At the place where the barley is boiled.

The axe was then produced and recognised by the witness as the one used that day.

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Mr. Ichimose—When you faced the defendant, was the axe only uplifted or were you moving it about?

Witness—I only had the axe uplifted, I was not brandishing it. Correcting himself, he said:—I had the axe in my hand hanging down, and I was some distance from him when the first shot was fired. I did not have the axe raised as if to strike him. I never struck or attempted to strike defendant.

In cross-examination, Mr. Lowder asked the Interpreter to give the English meaning of the words *ūtō to kakata*.

The Interpreter said it meant tried or attempted to strike.

Mr. Lowder said he wanted to emphasize the fact that the procurator had asked the witness what he meant by *ūtō to kakata*,—and whether he held the axe up or brandished it.

To Witness—Did you make use of that expression?—I never made use of such an expression, I had no cause to say so.

Mr. Lowder—When the Procurator just asked you the question beginning with *ūtō to kakata*, why did you answer the question as if you understood it?—I never tried to strike defendant.

Mr. Lowder—Which statement do you want the Court to believe, the statement to the authorities or the evidence you have just given?—What I stated to the police authorities.

Mr. Lowder—Is this the statement you made to the police authorities, and which you swear to be correct?—Yes.

Mr. Lowder—And if there is any answer to the Court or to the public procurator this morning contrary to the statement, then it is incorrect?—Yes, I don't think there is any difference between the two, but if any, then the statement is correct.

Mr. Lowder asked that the statement be filed. It was more likely to be correct.

Mr. Lowder to Witness—Do you in any way connect in your mind the two incidents that occurred that morning, or do you entirely disconnect the two in your mind?—I entirely disconnect the two, what happened in the afternoon had nothing to do with the morning.

Mr. Lowder then read the questions and answers put the witness by the chief procurator on the 26th July, in order to permit the assessors to understand the drift of the cross-examination.

The statement described a meeting between witness and the defendant in the morning, detailing the latter's complaint as to the insufficiency of the cattle's food, witness's reply that he did not know the proper amount to give cattle; and finally the defendant's pushing him twice with his umbrella on the shoulder and causing him pain. It then described the actions of witness immediately prior to the shooting. He had been asleep, and coming down after the auction was finished, he found in front of a godown the defendant and Messrs. Budge and Winstanley. Seven or eight *bettos* being also present, clearing up after the auction. Witness took a bag of wheat from the godown and took it to the feeding place, 15 or 16 *ken* distant. "In doing so I accidentelly touched the shoulder of the master of Tsukiji. At that time the said master was silent. When I was taking out another bag I again accidentally touched the leg of said master, when he got angry, and said: "Why did I touch him thus twice and then ask his pardon. But he said what was the matter that I not only once but twice touched him and kicked me at the buttock. I felt very much offended but as I was carrying a bag of wheat I could do nothing, and although I felt pain I carried it to the feeding place and put it down. I then took up a hand axe that was there and proceeded towards the place where the master of Tsukiji and others were standing to about half a *ken* distance when I saw the master of Tsukiji take a pistol out of pocket and shot at me, but, however, fortunately missed aim. As I was retarding one or two steps he fired another shot which struck at my knee. He successively fired another shot that struck my shank. As soon as the master of Tsukiji fired the third shot he ran away, and I pursued him; when the master of the dairy prevented my doing so by taking hold of me by my neck. I shook him off and tried to follow, but could not find out which way he escaped."

For what purpose did you take up the axe and proceed towards the foreigner?—I was in sorrow, as I was kicked on the buttock and therefore proceeded towards the foreigner. But I was on the contrary wounded by the pistol of the other party.

If you had proceeded from a distance off, some 15 *ken* with an axe, then you took the axe up earlier than the foreigner took the pistol out?—Yes, I took the axe up earlier.

If so, what did you take the axe up for?—I was in anger, because I was kicked at the buttock and was thinking to take revenge. For that purpose I took up the axe and proceeded to a distance of only about half a *ken*. Then the master of Tsukiji took out a pistol from a pocket and fired at me, but missed me, but when I tried to strike him another shot was fired which hit my knee and the third shot fired struck my shank.

What length of time was there between 3 shots were fired?—I think it was about one or two minutes.

Why did you not strike him?—I was trying to strike him and the foreigner in retreating fired the shots.

Mr. Lowder then asked the witness whether the rough plan of the stables shown him was correct?

Witness, after a careful examination, said it was correct.

Mr. Lowder handed the plan in.

Mr. Lowder—If you did not connect what took place in the morning with what occurred in the afternoon, why did you mention it to the Procurator?—I only stated the facts as they occurred. In my mind both were entirely different, but I think the matter must have been in the mind of the defendant. He must have had it in mind.

Was it because of this you made the statement? If not, why?—I did not place both incidents together.

If so why did you mention the matter to the police?—I only stated the facts as they occurred.

What had the incident of the afternoon to do with what had occurred in the morning. Did it have anything to do with what took place in the morning?—Witness returned the same answer.

Was the revenge you felt in your heart the result of what occurred in the morning, or the occurrence of the afternoon, or was it the result of both?—I felt aggrieved at being struck in the morning as well as in the afternoon. It was because of both injuries being present in my mind.

The incident in the morning, you stated just now, took place a little after nine, and to the police you said it was a little before twelve. Which is correct?—It occurred a little before twelve.

Why did you say nine then?—I make a mistake.

Did you not tell Kanzaki and Kishimoto that it occurred at 9 o'clock?—No

Then if they said it occurred at that time, they are mistaken?—Yes.

You told these two men of the occurrence of the morning?—I did not tell them. They were inside the stable, but they saw me through a door.

Was that at 12 or 9 o'clock?—I cannot say, but when I was struck it was 12 o'clock.

Pressed, witness said he was struck at 9 o'clock and that it was about 12 o'clock when he came out. The statement to the police was the correct one.

Mr. Lowder—He tells the police he was struck at 12, now he says it was 9 o'clock, and caps it by saying the statement he made the police was correct.

His Honour remarked that on reassembling it would be as well to examine Dr. Rokkaku and be finished with his evidence.

Dr. Rokkaku was then asked whether witness could bear the strain of appearing in Court in the afternoon, and he replied in the affirmative.

The Court then adjourned till 2 p.m.

On resuming,

Dr. Rokkaku, deposed on oath—I am a physician and a surgeon. I recognise the witness, Suzuki Hikosuke. I was called to attend him on July 26th. I found two gunshot wounds on the man. It was a little after 5 o'clock when I was called to see him at the Police Station. The man was suffering from a flesh wound above the knee and another below. Both were bleeding. I did not extract any bullets. I should suppose that the wounds were made by a pistol like that now shown me by the Bench. The wounds are now healing and there is no danger of serious consequences.

Suzuki Hikosuke's cross-examination was then continued—Defendant (he said) struck me on the shoulder. He did not touch me with his umbrella to attract my attention. I made no complaint to anybody.

Did you remonstrate with the defendant?—I said "I cannot understand," and then went away.

Didn't understand what?—Defendant asked me to give the cows some food.

What did he strike you for?—I think it was on account of my not giving enough food to the cows.

After that, did you give more food to the cows?—I did not, but some others did.

To whom would you have complained, had you wished to make a complaint, after being struck by defendant?—I had no desire to make a complaint, but if I had wished I could have complained to his Consul.

You might have complained to Mr. Budge?—Yes, I might.

Did you feel very angry at being struck by the umbrella?—I felt very angry, but did not offer any resistance.

Then the feeling of anger that you had in the morning still remained in your heart in the afternoon?—No, sir.

Did it revive in the afternoon?—Yes, after being kicked the anger revived.

How far from the barn were Mr. Budge, Mr. Winstanley, and defendant standing?—About 9 feet.

Mr. Winstanley stood in the middle, defendant on his right and Budge on the left, did they not?—No, defendant was in the middle, Mr. Winstanley on the right and Mr. Budge near the stable.

They were all facing the stable?—Yes.

I think you are wrong in stating that defendant was in the middle.—Defendant was in the middle.

How far was Mr. Winstanley from the wall?—About 9 feet or a little more,

Was it not 10 to 15 feet?—About 3 *ken*, or about 18 feet, perhaps,

In carrying the bag of barley from the barn to the stable, you passed between the wall and Mr. Winstanley?—I passed at the back of Mr. Winstanley.

And then between him and the wall?—Yes.

Then how did you manage to push against defendant?—There was a coal-box between the barn and the place where the foreigners stood, so the space was very narrow.

How much space did the coal box take up out of the 3 *ken* or 18 feet?—The box is less than one *ken*.

Then there was plenty of room between the coal-box and the place where Mr. Winstanley stood to allow of you to pass without touching defendant, was there not?—There was plenty of room, but the bag was heavy and I staggered, and in so doing touched him.

Whom did you touch?—I did not know who it was then, but when he kicked I knew it was defendant.

Then did you try to pass between defendant and Mr. Winstanley?—The defendant was standing a little away from the other foreigners and in passing I touched him.

You did touch him?—Yes.

And you say that you touched him accidentally?—Yes.

Did you say, when you found that you had touched him on the shoulder "I beg your pardon"?—I did not say anything.

If it was accidental, why did you not beg his pardon?—I did not strike him very hard, and defendant did not say anything, so I did not think it worth while to say anything

Did not common politeness demand that you should beg his pardon?—Yes, I should have done so, but I was in a hurry.

If it had been a Japanese, instead of a foreigner, would you not have begged his pardon almost without thinking?—It is quite proper to ask pardon of anybody, but I was in a hurry and only touched him lightly.

Defendant says that you jostled him roughly and with a purpose?—I deny that; I touched him as I went by in a hurry

How came you to do that a second time accidentally?—The second time, I was also carrying a heavy load and I staggered.

The defendant says that this second time you jostled him not accidentally, but purposely?—I deny that I jostled him. I stood in a position of servant while he stood in the position of a guest, so there should be no such thing.

Very well then seeing he positions you both held, and which you acknowledge, did you beg his pardon?—I did not, as I was in a hurry.

It was then that he kicked you on the buttock?—Yes

Did he not ask you what you meant, and say, "This is the second time you have jostled me, and you did it intentionally?"—That was after he kicked me.

I suggest that it was before he kicked you?—It was immediately after he had kicked me.

Immediately after that, you went into the harness-room?—No, I did not go immediately.

I suggest that you went into the harness room to look for something?—No, I did not.

Well, first of all you put down the sack?—I took the bag to the feeding-place.

Before you did that, I suggest that you first went to the harness-room, then to the carriage house, and then to the feeding-place?—I did not enter either the harness-room on carriage-house. I went a roundabout way to the feeding-house.

You went past the doors of those places?—Yes.

Where did you find the axe?—I found the axe in the place where barley is boiled.

Is that the place marked *Kamaba* on Exhibit B.?—I found it in front of the door of the *Kamaba*.

Did you know it was there, or did you go and look for it?—I found it there.

Did you expect to find it there?—No, sir.

Did you form the intention to use that axe when you saw it there, or before you saw it?—I made

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up my mind to use the axe when I saw it, and not before.

Then immediately you saw the axe, you put down the bag of wheat?—Yes.

Then I understand that it was the sight of the axe that put into your head and heart the feeling of revenge?—Yes.

You picked up the axe and ran towards the defendant did you not?—No, I went quietly.

Did you intend to attack him in front or from behind?—From the side.

And you approached him with the axe uplifted with both hands, did you not?—As I was lifting up the axe defendant produced his revolver. Correcting himself witness said he had the axe hanging down. As he lifted up the axe defendant pointed the pistol at him.

As you were thinking of lifting up the axe, did you say "*Sa kamawan kamawan*?—Yes, I said so after I received the shot.

Mr. Lowder then read a portion of Hichimoto's evidence, in which he said witness had cried out *Sa kamawan, kamawan* before the foreigner produced his pistol?—I do not know about that, but I am sure I only cried out after the first shot.

Then either you or Kichimoto is wrong?—I called out after the shot.

You just stated you did not attack defendant in front or behind, but on the side, did you intend to hit him on the head?—No, the defendant was facing the stables and I approached in order to hit his legs.

Did you intend to break his legs?—I intended to (*harao*) knock his legs from under him.

At that time you did not know he carried a pistol, did you?—No.

As you approached him with an axe, the defendant retreated behind Mr. Winstanley and Mr. Budge to the left, did he not?—No, the defendant only went towards the gate.

And you followed him, did you not?—

His Honour said witness had already answered this question in the affirmative.

Before the first shot was fired did not defendant call out to you in English "Stop, stop"?—I did not hear it.

He might have said it without your hearing him then?—I did not hear.

Before you approached defendant with an axe did you not strip off your clothing?—I usually work stripped.

It is said that you took off your clothing before you approached the defendant with your axe, is that not so?—I only had a shirt on, but no *kimono*. I did not take it off.

Did you take any garment off at all?—I did not take anything off.

After the defendant fired the first shot you still pursued him with the axe shouting *Kawawan, Kawawan* did you not?—It was only after the shot hit me that I followed the defendant towards the gate.

What did you intend to do to him?—To (*harao*) knock his legs from under him. To strike him with the axe.

Now the defendant says Mr. Winstanley caught you by the neck before he fired a shot. Were you not chasing him with an axe?—It was after I was shot that Mr. Winstanley seized me.

Were you not disabled by the shots and unable to pursue defendant?—Yes.

If you were unable to pursue defendant, why should Mr. Winstanley seize you?—It was after I was hit once that Mr. Winstanley seized me by the neck.

Was Mr. Winstanley so close that the shot could have struck either you or him?—The last answer was repeated

Witness was given a diagram and asked to point out where he stood at the time the respective shots were fired,

Witness marked the places with the figures one, two and three.

Mr. Lowder—Now, where was the defendant standing when you were at figure one, two and three. Mark them four, five and six respectively. —This was done by witness.

I should like to know when you were standing at fig. 1 and defendant at fig. 4 when the first shot was fired, what distance seperated you?—About one *ken* and a half.

Now, how far had the defendant moved from where he was standing in order to arrive at fig, 4?—The distance was about two *ken*.

In moving from where he stood at fig. 4, the defendant was retiring from you, was he not?—Yes, he was retiring from me.

He was also retiring from you when he moved to fig. 5 and 6, was he not?—Yes, he was retiring towards the gate from me.

If he had wished to kill you, as you say he did, could he not have done so?—Yes.

Then why do you accuse him of having tried to kill you, of having shot at you with intent to kill you?—I only brought the charge in my perplexity at having received the wounds.

Do you now say the defendant had no intention of killing you when he fired at you?—I do not now think he had any intention of killing me.

Do you know a person by the name of Harada Shinobu?—Where does he live?

Mr Harada Shinobu is a policeman, do you know him?

His Honour said the charge was laid by the police.

Mr. Lowder was desirous of knowing whether complainant had instructed anyone to lay such a charge.

Did you instruct any one to bring such a charge—viz., that defendant shot at you with intent to kill you?—No, I instructed no one.

Did you not say before, or while you were in the hospital, that you were thankful defendant had not killed you when he could have done so, and that he would have been justified in so doing, from the nature of the attack made upon him by you?—I never spoke to any one to that effect.

This last question was explained by Mr. Ichinose before witness could understand it

Richard McCance, deputy marshal of the U.S. Consulate, sworn said:—I know this revolver. It was delivered to me on the 26th July by the defendant. He delivered himself up to me, saying he had shot a Japanese.

Cross-examined—I do not remember whether he said he did it in self-defence. He said he had shot to save himself, otherwise he would have been killed.

His Honour—You also took possession of this axe?—Yes, your Honour.

James Winstanley, sworn, said—I am a dairyman, residing at Negishi I am acquainted with the defendant as well as the complainant. There was some trouble between the two on the 26th July. I saw this *betto* come up and pass to get at a bag of bran. In returning with the bran he pushed against Mr. Willett. From the observation Mr. Willett made to me—of course I could not say he actually pushed him: he passed him—I understood so. Mr. Willett turned round and complained of this man's treatment. He came up again for more bran, and he had no sooner passed Mr. Willett again, than Mr. Willett turned round and kicked him, saying "that's the second time he has insulted me," or words to that effect. The man dropped his bran and commenced talking to Mr. Willett, asking him in Japanese—as far as I could understand—what he had done. With that the *betto* went into the stable and returned with an axe. He came up to my side to attack Willett. I tried to stop him, but he having no clothes on I could not do so. He then followed Mr. Willett and then the shooting commenced. The shooting went on until the man fell on his knees, and Mr. Willett ran out of the yard.

To the Court—I don't remember whether Mr. Willett said anything. He retreated when the man came up with the axe, and kept on retreating. I did not hear the *betto* call out *kamawan, kamawan*, I think he called out *nani suru*, but am not sure.

Cross-examined—I did not catch hold of the *betto* after the shot was fired. The man held the axe uplifted—ready to strike the defendant. I cannot say how close he was to Mr. Willet—about 10 or 15 feet when the first shot was fired. I was in a line with the firing and it was a question whether I was to get it or the cattle. Before defendant fired I considered he was in jeopardy of his life I don't think the Japanese was close enough to strike Mr. Willett, but had he been close enough I have no doubt he would have struck him.

His Honour—Do you think Mr. Willett would have been safe in running from the *betto*?—I don't think the man would have followed him in a state of nudity. He did not exactly run after Willett. I cannot say he could out run the Japanese.

Mr. Lowder—Had you been in Mr. Willett's position would you have used a firearm in self-defence?—I should have used a revolver without the slightest hesitation.

James Budge, sworn, said—I am manager of Cobb and Co. I am acquainted with the defendant as well as the *betto*, who is an employé of mine. I saw some trouble between the two on the 26th of July. Mr. Willett said the *betto* had bumped up against him. I went towards the man to speak to him about it, when Mr. Willett said "don't say anything to him about it now, perhaps it was an accident. Leave him—I'll see whether he does it again." Shortly after the *betto* came down to get another bag and I heard Mr. Willett say "I ought not to have done that, I'm sorry to have done that." I asked what it was. He said the *betto* had rubbed against him again and he had kicked him. Shortly after that the *betto* came down the yard with an axe. He advanced towards us and ran to where Mr. Willett was standing with the axe in his hand, when Mr. Willett fired, striking the ground. He fired again and struck him—two shots I think. He then went off just as the *betto* stopped He spoke to the *betto* in Japanese as he approached. The man was about 9 feet distant from Mr. Willett. He had retreated from the *betto*. He ran around us with the *betto* after him. There was no doubt that he was in danger of his life. I don't know whether he could have run. Under the same circumstances a man having a revolver would have done likewise.

Cross examined—Mr. Willett called out to the Japanese and I also called out. The *betto* called out "come a ong," like a challenge, as he advanced with the axe up lifted in both hands. He advanced in a threatening manner. I am not quite certain what words he used, but he didn't want me to say anything, in order to avoid trouble. Had I been in Mr. Willett's position I have no doubt I would have drawn a revolver, had I carried one.

Mr. Lowder—Since the *betto* has been in hospital have you heard him express gratitude that he had not been killed by defendant?—I heard so, but do not know who told me so. I think the man in the office, but don't remember his name.

To Mr. Ichinose:—What time elapsed between the time Mr. Willett kicked the man and the time he approached with the axe?—About one minute or a minute and a half, as near as I could judge.

What was the distance between the foreigners and the place where the axe was picked up?—About 40 yards.

Would it not have taken more than one minute and a half?—I can't say, it might have been five minutes.

Mr. Ichinose wished to put the same question to Mr. Winstanley.

What were they conversing about during the interval?—About the cattle.

Did not the three foreigners see the man Suzuki come towards them with the axe from the boiler?—I only saw him when he was half way down the yard, not before.

Since when has the complainant been in your employ?—About two months, this time. But he has been off and on for two years and a half. He is a good workman and generally very quiet, having had no trouble with anyone.

For what is the axe used?—For chopping wood.

Mr. Winstanley was recalled to answer Mr. Ichinose as to the time that elapsed between the *betto* passing him and his coming towards them with the axe?—I should say there was no time at all. He was kicked by Mr. Willett, expostulated a little and then rushed up with an axe, I don't think it was more than two minutes. He rushed in for some implement and finding the axe rushed out again.

R. McCance, recalled, in answer to His Honour, said:—The revolver had five chambers, of which three were empty. If closed it would be in the same condition as when he first got it.

Mr. Lowder—The defendant gave it to you willingly when you asked for it did he not? Yes.

Mr. Lowder, to Mr. Budge.—Do you know whether Kansaki and Hashimoto were present when the shooting took place?—The No. 2 *betto* was present and saw the affair. I don't know his name, but know him as Jokichi.

The Court then adjourned till 9 a.m. to-morrow.

Tuesday, 15th August, 1893.

The case came on for hearing this morning, on adjournment from yesterday. Mr. Ichinose and the two Inspectors were again present.

On resuming, the first witness called was

Kishimoto Toichiro, 37, residing at No. 37, Water Street, a driver. Cautioned, he said—The place where I live is Cobb and Co. I know the defendant, as I saw him at the sale. This was on the 26th of last month, July. I am acquainted with Suzuki Hikosuke; he is employed in the same place as myself. I was witness to some trouble between Suzuki and the defendant on the morning of the 26th July. It was about 9 o'clock; I am not quite sure as to the time. Suzuki was feeding the cattle when Mr. Willett said they were not having enough, and ordered him to give them more. Suzuki replied that what he was giving was by order of his employer and he could not go against it, when Mr. Willett hit him twice with his umbrella. He was hit on the shoulder,—he was struck with it, not shoved. I don't know whether he was hit hard or otherwise, as I was not close enough and was working at the time. I can not say whether it was a severe blow or not. I was just carrying a feeding-bucket at the time, and the assault took place while I was passing. I looked sideways over my shoulder and saw the striking. The defendant was behind me when he struck Suzuki. I was going towards the feed-mixing trough, away from where Suzuki and defendant were standing. I did not particularly hear what they were saying in the morning.

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His Honour—Then what did you hear the talk to which you have just testified?—I overheard the conversation as I was lifting the feeding bucket and turned round as I passed and saw [illegible] striking.

His Honour—Why did you say just now you heard no talking in the morning?—I thought some other conversation was meant, other than the defendant complaining about the insufficiency of the food. This was almost immediately before the striking, and at that time I was about 4 or 5 *ken* away from the parties. At the time of the conversation we were at the mixing trough, and I had not then a feed-bucket on my shoulder, but took it up afterwards.

His Honour—You have heard from Suzuki about the conversation have you not?—No, I overheard the conversation at the time.

His Honour—Suzuki told you about the striking did he not?—No. He did not tell me.

His Honour—You did not hear Suzuki say anything after he was struck did you?—No. I went about my business. Suzuki did not tell me that he said anything to the foreigner, nor did I hear him complain about the treatment he had received.

His Honour—Then if you made a statement to the police that Suzuki complained after the foreigner had left, then your statement is not true?—It is true.

His Honour—Then which is correct, the statement or your present evidence?—I never said so; I have no remembrance of having said so.

His Honour—If you did so state, was that statement true?—I have no recollection of having said anything to that effect to the police.

His Honour—If you did say so was the statement true?—I do not recollect—

His Honour informed witness that at his examination before the police he had stated that Suzuki had complained about the treatment he had received, after the foreigners had left the compound.

Witness—I heard Suzuki complaining, but what he said I could not understand as I heard it imperfectly. He was mumbling something. The statement made to the police is true.

His Honour—If you saw a foreigner striking Suzuki, do you not think he had a right to complain?—I did not have much time to talk to Suzuki, as I had 60 horses and 24 cattle to attend to.

His Honour warned the witness to be careful in his answers. Was it not a fact that he learned about the conversation and striking between Willett and Suzuki from Suzuki himself?

Witness—No, I did not.

His Honour—Did you see the trouble in the afternoon between Suzuki and the defendant?—I only saw a part of it. That is—

Did you see any of it at all?—Yes. I did see the trouble in the afternoon between the defendant and Suzuki.

His Honour said that in order to economise time he purposed having the witness' evidence before the police read out to him, and get him to swear to its correctness.

The evidence was then read to witness by Mr. Miura, and the former acknowledged it to be correct.

The translation of the evidence was then read by His Honour, which was as follows:—

A.—Thus ended the forenoon. There was an auction of cattle at 4 p.m. to-day and after it was finished, and little before 5 p.m. "Budge" the manager of No. 37, Weshtan (? Winstanley) of Negishi Dairy and the foreigner who came from Tokyo, these three were talking to each other in front of the wheat godown, when Hikosuke went to the wheat godown to bring out the wheat. Then in some way Hikosuke collided with the foreigner from Tokyo and the latter dropped a spring spectacle to the ground, and picking it up he seemed to be in an angry mood and kicked Hikosuke on the hip, when the latter was on the point of carrying away the wheat bag. Then Hikosuke without carrying the bag asked the foreigner why did he kick him with boots. The foreigner was soliloquizing. Hikosuke carried the bag to the pot-place, and taking hold of a hand axe that was in the "kamaba" proceeded towards the foreigner.

Q.—Did Hikosuke confronting the foreigner by saying anything?

A.—He was confronting saying "*Sa kamawan kamawan*" (now I don't care, don't care). Then the foreigner from Tokio immediately took a pistol out of a pocket and fired a shot at Hikosuke, which did not strike him. Then he fired 2 shots more in succession, altogether 3 shots. The last 2 struck the left leg of Hikosuke and the foreigner was escaping towards the front gate. I at once approached Hikosuke and attended him. In the meanwhile policemen came and we put Hikosuke in a jinrikisha and took him to the station.

Q.—At the time when the foreigner from Tokio was firing, were the foreigner of Negishi Dairy and Budge, manager of No. 37, witnessing it?

A.—Yes, they were witnessing.

Q.—Did not these foreigners stop these men?

A.—A Dairyman of Negishi took hold of Hikosuke's neck, but the latter was too strong and could not be stopped.

Q.—Then Hikosuke was shot, is that it?

A.—At that time the foreigner from Tokyo, retreating a step or two and took out the pistol.

Q.—Did Hikosuke fall down after being shot?

A.—For a time he was standing but after a while he fell on hands.

Q.—Where were you witnessing that?

A.—I was looking at it when I was giving hay to cattle.

Q.—Did the foreigner of Tokyo come to No. 37 frequently?

A.—I do not know very well but think he did, everybody knew him.

Mr. Ichinose had no questions to ask.

Cross examined by Mr. Lowder:—How often do you feed cattle?—Twice a day, at noon we give them hay.

Are they fed oftener by other *hetto* or are they only fed twice a day?—Only twice, with green grass at noon. In the morning and evening with bran.

At what time were they fed on the morning of the 26th?—I am not certain as I was very busy, but think about 9 o'clock or thereabouts.

At the time Hikosuke was struck with the umbrella were the cattle getting grass or hay?—We were about giving them bran at the time.

That was the time you heard the conversation and saw Suzuki struck?—Yes.

That was not at 12 o'clock when the cattle were getting hay?—No, it was not.

Is nine o'clock in the morning the usual time cattle were fed with bran?—Yes.

Did you feed the cattle with hay at 12 o'clock that day?—No, I was attending to the horses.

At what time?—About half past 11.

And after 11.30 that day you did not go near the cattle?—Yes.

You say you saw Suzuki at 9 o'clock, at what time did you again see him that day?—At tiffin time.

What time was that?—A little after twelve.

Where did you take tiffin?—I took mine upstairs in my own room, while Suzuki had his with the rest below.

Then three hours had elapsed between the time Suzuki was struck and your meeting him at tiffin?—Yes. Three hours had elapsed.

Mr. Lowder wished it impressed on the witness that the questions he had just asked were very important. Was he quite sure he had not made a mistake in the time of the day. If so, he had time to correct himself.

Witness replied he was quite correct as to the time.

Are you sure the time you stated was the time the conversation took place and the assault?—Yes, I am quite sure.

Now, if Suzuki says he was struck at 12 o'clock then he has made a mistake?—I don't know about that. But I saw the assault at 9 o'clock. Don't know whether he was struck at 12 o'clock or not as I was too busy. I saw Suzuki struck in the morning when the cattle were being fed with bran.

You say that Suzuki was complaining about being struck by a foreigner—*gusu gusu* as you say—at what time was that?—It was a little before tiffin time that I heard him.

And where did the conversation take place, upstairs or below?—In the stables when we met. He was mumbling something to himself.

This closed the case for the prosecution, Mr. Ichinose having no questions to ask.

Mr. Lowder then addressed the Court as follows:

Your Honour and Gentlemen Assessors—You have now heard all the evidence that can be adduced on the part of the prosecution in support of the very serious charge which has been laid against my client on behalf of the public by the Public Procurator of this *Ken*. The indictment charges my client, as you will recollect, with firing a pistol at the witness Suzuki with intent to murder him, and it will be for you to say, after having heard the evidence which has been adduced in support of that charge, whether or not the charge has been proved to your satisfaction. If you are satisfied, as I can well conceive you may be from the evidence which has been brought before you, that the defence which also has been very plain to you, has been made out, then it will not be necessary for me to call any evidence for the defence. If, however, you intimate to me, either by silence or otherwise, that the defence has not been made out, then it will be my duty to occupy your time for some considerable time more, as I shall place the defendant himself in the witness stand in order to testify to what has taken place. I have adverted to the defence, and you will understand that the answer to this charge is that my client is not guilty, and moreover that what he did do, was not intentionally of any set purpose, other than to defend himself from the murderous assault which was committed upon him by the complainant with the weapon which you have seen exhibited in this Court. So far as I am concerned, I think that the defence has been made out in full in the course of examination. If you are not of that opinion, and do not tell me that you are of that opinion, then I shall put the defendant in the witness stand.

His Honour—Probably it would be better to bring the matter before the Court in a formal motion.

Mr. Lowder—I would then make a motion to dismiss the prosecution on the grounds that I have stated.

Mr. Ichinose intimated through the Interpreter that he would like to put some questions to the defendant.

His Honour—That cannot be done unless the defendant voluntarily goes on the witness stand. You will understand that the motion before the Court says that the prisoner—the defendant—was justified in doing what he did, that is, that he shot at the man in self defence. If that motion succeeds, Mr. Willett will not go into the witness box. At this stage of the proceedings it would be inadmissable to put any questions to the defendant. By our law, unless such a witness goes into the box voluntarily, he cannot be forced into it.

The Court adjourned for five minutes.

Upon re-assembling,

His Honour gave the following judgment—The principal point of this matter is the question whether or not the defendant, when he was threatened by the witness Suzuki, used reasonable means and endeavours to escape before resorting to violence himself, and there can be no question, and there is no question in the mind of the Court, that Suzuki attempted to make an assault upon the defendant, and a very serious one too—one that would probably have seriously injured if not killed him. It is also clear from the testimony of the witnesses, not only of the two foreign ones, Mr. Budge and Mr. Winstanley, but also by the statements of the last Japanese witness called, who says that it was only after the attempt of Mr. Winstanley to stop Suzuki that the defendant drew his pistol and used it against the man Suzuki. It seems quite clear that defendant did attempt to get away, and used every means in his power to escape without using his pistol, and therefore, we will have to hold that what he did was done in self defence, and was just fiable. In view of the act that Suzuki attempted to make a murderous assault upon the defendant, I feel it my duty to request the Chief Public Procurator to take the necessary steps to bring the man to trial on that charge. The defendant therefore stands discharged. The Associates both concur in this decision.

Mr. Ichinose, the Chief Public Procurator, was duly informed by the Interpreter of His Honour's judgment, also that a formal charge would be made by the American Consul to the Japanese Authorities.

His Honour remarked that of course the conduct of Mr. Willett in kicking the *hetto* was inexcusable, and he was no doubt in the wrong there.

Mr. Lowder observed that Mr. Willett had expressed his regret at his action at the moment, and no doubt had he had time for reflection he would never have taken the course he did.

The Court then rose.

The *Boyeki Shimbun* says that a charge was brought in the Public Procurator's Bureau of the Yokohama Local Court on the 15th inst. by the U.S. Consul General against the *hetto* Suzuki Hikosuke. The trial will take place as soon as the *hetto's* wounds are cured.

THE DESTINIES OF THE FAR EAST.

In the course of a recent journey I visited the majority of the countries composing that part of the Asian Continent which, for want of a better common title, is known as the Far East. It includes both the best-known and the least-known of Oriental nations: Japan and China, in the former category; Korea, Tonkin, Annam, and Siam, in the latter. These countries have each their special features of climate, scenery, architecture, religion and life, differentiating them from each, and still more from the rest of the world. To the traveller these idiosyncrasies cannot fail to appeal; or can he be indifferent to the atmosphere of romance in which those fanciful regions, when once he has left them, appear ever afterwards to float. To such æsthetic impressions I would profess no invulnerability; but for the moment I may be permitted to set them on one side, and to discuss the problems, perhaps less superficially interesting, but incom-

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parably more important, and vastly more abstruse, which are suggested by the national character, resources, and organization of those countries as affected by their intercourse with foreign or Western Powers. What is the part which they are now playing, or are capable of playing, on the international stage? What is the political future that may, without foolhardiness of prediction, be anticipated for the peoples and lands of the Far East?

It is a portion of the world which, by reason of its physical remoteness, lay for long outside the helter-skelter track of Western progress, but which, having been drawn by the invention and subsequent improvements in steam navigation into the vortex, is yearly losing more and more both of its exclusiveness and its mystery, and in parts is even exhibiting a schoolboy emulousness to rival the contagious civilizations of Europe. Those parts which lie upon the sea-board and are most easily accessible have been naturally the first to succumb. Their subjugation has been the work of the 19th century. The inland regions, lying far away from the wake of steamers or the trodden paths of travel, have held out longer, and are still in parts enveloped in an isolation that defies the reformer's and yields but slowly to the explorer's advance. Their conquest is reserved for the century that will shortly open. I entertain no doubt that one hundred years hence the bulk of the Far East will be as well-known to Europe as are now the interiors of Palestine and Egypt, and better known than are Asia Minor and Turkestan.

Of the countries which I have mentioned, two, Japan and China, are independent and powerful Empires, whose orbit in the firmament of nations is fixed, and whose national existence, in spite of the fact that their political boundaries are liable to modification, is not likely to be seriously impaired. The remainder, one and all, belong to a class of States of whose future fixity is the last attribute to be predicated, and before whom an anxious course of vicissitudes opens. They are kingdoms in a state, if of independence, still, of fearful and nervous apprehension; if of subjection, then in various stages of vassaldom, absorption, or decline. Korea and Siam belong to the former class, Annam and Cambogia to the latter. It is a remarkable fact, as indicating the more than solar part which has been played by China in this enormous system, that at everyone of those countries has at one time or another acknowledged her sovereignty, and exhibits ineradicable traces of her influence. Had Burma been included in my survey (I have omitted it as now forming a constituent portion of the British Empire) the remark would still have held true. The weakness of these fragments, as one by one they have been detached in times of infirmity or rebellion from the Chinese connection, has been taken advantage of by European Powers, on the quest either for commercial outlets or for mere vulgar aggrandizement, and has brought upon the scene the figures of Great Britain, Russia, and France. Nay: even China herself, incapable of military advance and innocent of forcible annexation, is wreaking a sweet revenge for the suzerainty which she has lost, by a stealthy reconquest of industry and trade, filching, by means of her indefatigable colonists, from the kingdoms that have defied or shaken off her control the proceeds of their natural riches and their commerce. What may be the probable fortunes of this complex and interesting battlefield let me now endeavour to indicate.

The superficial features of Japanese character and politics are known to all. Her nimble-witted and light-hearted people, the romantic environment of her past, and the astonishing rapidity with which she is assimilating all that the West has to teach her, have been praised with an indiscriminate prodigality that has already begun to pall, and has not been without its bad effects upon herself. I conceive that no worse service could have been rendered to Japan than the publication of the last work in English which has been dedicated to her charms by a well known English writer and poet. These overloaded encomiums not merely cloy the palate: they foster a growing vanity against which the Japanese require to be upon their guard, which may, unless abated, both provoke and deserve the chastisement of some smart rebuff. Japan is sure enough of a distinguished and even brilliant future, without being told that she has exhausted the sum of all human excellencies in the present. Moreover, a time of internal fermentation lies before her in the attempt to graft a purely democratic product on to a stem from which the feudal sap has not been entirely extracted, and to reconcile the widest aspirations of constitutional liberty with the relics of a theocratic *régime*. This struggle will require the fullest measure of sense and self-control, and may, perhaps, not be tided over without crisis and suffering. From such a trial the patriotism of her people and the liberal sentiments of her statesmen are capable of bringing her forth, if not unscarred, at least with vitality unexhausted; and that in the course of the next quarter of a century she will take her place on a level of absolute equality with the great Powers of the West may be accepted as certain. The Revision of the Treaties, which can be shown to depend upon herself, will free her from all artificial trammels, and while ratifying will also test her right to international autonomy.

Japan has been blamed for squandering too much money upon armaments, military and naval, and for neglecting the requirements of industrial and commercial expansion. It is true that her resources are capable of indefinite development, and that a prudent finance will greatly increase both the numbers and the happiness of her people. But the critics to whom I allude lose sight of the part which Japan aspires to play in the Far East, and to which her present policy of expenditure and organization is strictly subordinated. That part is determined by her geographical situation. Placed at a maritime coign of vantage upon the flank of Asia, exercising a powerful influence over the adjoining continent, but not necessarily involved in its responsibilities, she has no higher ambition than to be the Britain of the Far East. By means of an army strong enough to defend our shores, and to render invasion unlikely, and still more of a navy sufficiently powerful to sweep the seas, she sees that England has attained her unique and commanding position in the West. By similar methods she hopes to arrive at a similar result in the East. Like the English, her people are stubborn fighters and born sailors. If she can but intimidate any would-be enemy from attempting a landing upon her shores, and can fly an unchallenged flag over the surrounding waters, she will fulfil her *rôle* in the politics of the future.

And how important a one this may be those who consider her position both to the Pacific Ocean and to the neighbouring mainland of Asia, in the light that is cast upon it by the ambition of rival Powers, will easily be able to judge. The opening of the Canadian Pacific Railway and Trans-Pacific route on the Eastern side, the prospective completion of the Nicaragua Canal farther to the South, the maritime ambitions of Russia, already dissatisfied with her base at Vladivostock and thirsting for a Pacific commerce and a Pacific armament, the emulous zeal with which four great Powers, England, America, France, and Germany, are snapping up the isles and islets of Oceania, the connection (certain to increase as time advances) between Japan and the British Colonies of the Australasian group, in the course of the coming century develop a Pacific Question, the existence of which is now hardly suspected, and the outlines of which can at present be only dimly foreseen. In the solution of such a question Japan, by virtue of her situation, is capable of playing a dominant part. Nations may then compete for the alliance of her fleet, as they now do for that of England; and the peace of Asia may hang upon the thread of her decision. That Japan should be free to play this part, and should develop the requisite moral force and strength (in both of which she is at present lacking), it is necessary that she should hold herself aloof from foreign entanglement, and, above all, that she should not come into collision with her old and hereditary antagonist, China. Whatever might be the issues of such a struggle, whether, as some aver, the superior equipment of the smaller Power would prevail against the administrative rottenness of the greater, or whether, as more think, the mighty millions of the Yellow Race would roll back the small island population into the sea, it is profoundly to be deplored in the interests of humanity, that no such conflict should ever occur. That the true policy for Japan, ignoring tradition and history and burying national antipathies, is an alliance with China, which shall array their joint forces against the sole menace which either has seriously to fear—the advance of the Muscovite from the North,—is to me self evident, and is, I believe, appreciated by her own statesmen. Such an alliance can only come slowly, perhaps even tacitly; but it is necessary, in order to preserve the balance of power in the Far East, and to prepare the way by which Japan may attain that high place which she yearns to fill among the great nations of the world.

To the existence of such a compact, Korea, upon which both parties look with an interested and jealous eye, is somewhat in the nature of an obstacle. That that petty kingdom cannot expect for long to retain any real independence, descriptions which I have elsewhere given will have shown. A palace intrigue, the death of a king or a queen, some unforeseen accident might at any moment result in an *émeute* or imbroglio, which would invite outside interference, and could only end in a diminution or abrogation of the national claims to autonomy. The friends of Korea do wrongly, in my opinion, in encouraging the latter pretensions. A country that is too weak to stand alone gains nothing by an affected indifference to external support. If Korea is not to collapse when the push comes, she must lean upon a stronger power; and every consideration of policy points towards maintaining China in the position of protector which she already practically fills. After all, Japan would sooner see Korea a recognized vassal of the Middle Kingdom than she would see her under the heel of Russia, or gaze upon St. Andrew's cross fluttering in the harbour of Fusan.

The future of China is a problem the very inverse of that involved in the future of Japan. The one is a country intoxicated with the modern spirit, and requiring above all things the stamina to understand the shock of too sudden an upheaval of ancient ideas and plunge into the unknown. The other is a country stupefied with the pride of the past, and standing in need of the very impulse to which its neighbour too incontinently yields. Japan is eager to bury the past; China worships its embalmed and still life like corpse. Japan wants to be reformed out of all likeness to herself. China declines to be reformed at all. Writers have frequently depicted in their own country and capital the characteristics of this unlovely but admirable people. But I am not sure that they are not even more wonderful when seen outside their native land. At Hongkong, Hanoi, Cholen, Singapore, Penang, Bangkok, as also at Rangoon and Mandalay, on the one side, and at Batavia and Manila, on the other, they have established great communities, living contentedly under alien laws, and drawing into their fingers the strings of a multiform and lucrative commerce. Not merely do they absorb and frequently monopolize the retail trades, but they farm the State monopolies; they run big steamships and own immense mills; they float companies with large capital; they own and work productive mines. Under British protection 200,000 of them live serenely in the city of Hongkong, and 180,000 on the island of Singapore. Throughout the Malay States they far outnumber the Malays. Freed from the exactions and inquisition of their own Government, they develop on foreign soil, and for the edification of foreign commerce, the very qualities which if applied to the regeneration of their own country would make her once again the mistress of the world.

It is sometimes questioned whether this ever-increasing flood of Chinese emigration may not constitute an ultimate danger to the countries which it overruns, and whether the invasion of the hordes of Jenghiz Khan is not capable of a milder 20th century reproduction. Such fears are, I think, groundless. For, on the one hand, the Chinese are by nature tractable, orderly, and content to be governed. They fully appreciate the benefits of a just and organized administration. In a petition which was being signed while I was in Singapore, praying for a continuation of the term of office of the retiring Governor, Sir Cecil Smith, the Chinese population of the colony mention, among other grounds of his popularity and of their gratitude, his suppression a few years ago of the Chinese Secret Societies which were as much a curse to themselves as they were a danger to others. On the other hand, the Chinese population in the above-mentioned places is of a two-fold character. Either it is composed of a floating element who come down from China to make money for themselves, because there is a better opening and higher wages than at home, but who contemplate as speedy a return as possible to their native country, or it consists of a sedentary population, who never mean to go back at all, because they prefer the city of their adoption, and who have married the women of the country. Ugly as is the Chinaman to the European eye, he possesses the gift, unique in the world, of making himself acceptable as a husband to the women of half-a-score of different races. He weds, with equal readiness and satisfaction to both parties, the Korean, the Annamite, the Cambogian, the Siamese. (With the Malays, who are Mohammedans, it is, of course, different.) This connubial facility is an element on the side of order and good conduct, for it establishes him, not merely as a wanderer, but, as a contented citizen in the land of Moab.

But if this prodigious force were only employed by China within her own borders, instead of being expatriated for the service of others; if its exemplary sobriety, its miraculous energy, and its genius for accumulation, were devoted to the exploitation of her own magnificent resources; if simultaneously China, without resigning one whit of her haughty Conservatism, were to profit by the skill and invention of the foreigner in order to provide herself with a genuine army and a real navy, and to construct railways connecting her principal centres and running to her frontiers—then, indeed, a spectacle might still be revived before which the Empire of Jenghiz Khan would

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pale, and Asia might once again lie in the hollow of the hand of Peking. But no such evolution is in the least degree likely. Steeped in a pride too stupendous to admit of argument, the victim of a system of government too corrupt to admit of reform, where she yields she yields in the wrong place, where she exerts her strength she misapplies it. Unaware that her sole real danger lies upon her land frontiers she spends millions in fortifying her coasts. Because England and France once landed their troops at Canton and Tientsin, she appears to think that no European enemy can ever attack her except in ships. Meanwhile, in sight of the prey, the toils are being spread; and, from the Pamirs and Turkestan and the Trans-Amur, will flow into Sungaria, Kashgaria, Mongolia, and Manchuria, the tide that will overwhelm her outlying provinces, and may possibly not be arrested till it has attained the capital itself. The extinction of China is impossible and absurd. A population of 350,000,000 human souls cannot be extirpated or bodily transferred. But the territorial detrition and diminution of China are certain; and it is from the North that the vengeance will come.

A very different question is that suggested by the contemplation of the States upon which in the latter half of the present century alone France has laid her hands. It is surprising that she should have made so bad a start with a problem the features of which present so little inherent difficulty. In the entire area of her dominions she has to deal only with two peoples, the Annamites and the Cambogians. Of these the latter are numerically feeble and politically moribund; whilst there is not a people in the East more remarkable for their homogeneity of character, physical type, and customs, nor one more submissive and governable than the Annamites. When we contrast them with the mosaic of races and creeds that constitute even a single Presidency in the Indian Empire, the extremity of the difference becomes apparent. Much of the French bungling has been due to the capricious vicissitudes of Parliamentary warfare, to which the so called colonies of France are mercilessly sacrificed; much to the random oscillation from civil to military rule and *vice versâ*; much to her intemperate passion for centralization and the forcible introduction of her own laws and tariff; much to the absence of the colonizing and commercial spirit that is the credential of the conquering or emigrant Briton. But I attribute it still more to a fundamental error in judgment, concerning the object with which the Indo-Chinese peninsula was originally attacked, and is still held. There cannot be a doubt that France was led thither with the two fold idea of acquiring the trade of South West China, and of injuring Great Britain. This can be demonstrated beyond possibility of denial by the letters and despatches of a long series of French governors, agents, and pioneers, from the days of the Bishop de Behaine to those of Dupuis and Garnier, and from them to the present time. But, if two things appear to me to be certain, they are that France will not thereby gain the coveted intercourse with Yunnan, and that she will not jeopardize or even compete with the position of England in the Far East. What she may do, and, for her own sake, it is to be hoped will do, is to give to the rich and fertile countries which she has seized both the advantage of good government and the material development for which they are craving. In this way she may yet create for herself an Asiatic Empire which, though inconsiderable as compared with India, may yet be flourishing, and may bring wealth to her exchequer as well as laurels for her brow. The complete absorption of Tonkin, the retention of Annam as a protected State, possessing the forms of independent sovereignty alone, and the final swallowing up of Cambogia, will be the probable incidents of such an evolution. Its progress will be facilitated if the French Parliament gives to the Indo-Chinese Empire the blessing of continuity of administration; if the French Government sends there a higher staff of officials than some who in times past have held the reins; if the French capitalists will embark a little of their money over the seas; and if the French colonists and residents on the spot will abandon a Jingoism that is pardonable in a music hall but ridiculous at the Council-board of nations

Of Siam, the last among the kingdoms to which I have referred, it may be said that the future lies in her own hands. The clamorous earth-hunger of her neighbours on the East, of which the telegrams of the past few weeks alone bring additional confirmation, is a warning to her to set her house in order, so as to anticipate the evil day. There are many who think that of such a resuscitation she is both morally and physically incapable, and who already discuss the division of the spoil. In an exercise so hypothetical I have no desire to take part; but it must be obvious that any encroachment by France upon Siamese territory on the East can only strengthen the ties that draw Siam towards India on the West, and that the ascendency of France upon the Mekong involves a corresponding increase of British influence upon the Menam. Such a predominance need not on our part take the form of annexation, which is as little popular at Calcutta as it is in high repute at Saigon.

Perhaps the most gratifying reflection suggested by these observations is the part that must inevitably be played, in the future which I have sketched, by this country. The inhabitants of a small island on the face of the northern seas, we exercise by the valour of our ancestors and the intrepid spirit of our merchants a controlling suffrage in the destinies of the Far East. That influence may, fortunately, be employed in the undivided interests of Peace. Friendly relations between ourselves and Japan will give to her that naval security which she so much needs, and to us the continued command of the ocean routes. A similar attitude towards China will strengthen her in a resistance, for which there is yet time, against the only enemy whom she has real cause to fear, and will facilitate our own commercial access to her territories by land. There need be no ground of dispute between England and France in the Far East, where their interest do not clash, so long as both respect the liberties of intervening States. Whatever the future may bring forth, to this country it cannot fail to be a matter of capital importance, seeing that the Empire of Great Britain, though a European, a Canadian, and an Australian, is before all else an Asiatic, dominion. There in the heart of the old Asian continent she sits upon the throne that has always ruled the East. Her sceptre is outstretched over land and sea. "God-like she grasps the triple forks, and king-like wears the crown."

But not only are we politically concerned in the evolution of these complex problems by reason of our Imperial situation in Hindustan: our own fellow citizens are personal actors in the drama which I have described, and the reflex action which it exercises upon them is a subject of study not less interesting than the part which they play, or are capable of playing, themselves. Englishmen and English influence have been taken to the Far East by one of three purposes: commerce, the diffusion of the faith of Christ, or the responsibilities of Empire. In the first category we are the heirs of the Portuguese and the Dutch, of whom the former servive only at the dilapidated port of Macao, while the latter, in their island possessions, lie outside of the track which I have been examining. From the former, too, we inherited the self imposed duty of carrying the Cross which has sent our missionaries into all lands, and which, if it inspires the enthusiasm of Exeter Hall, is a source of not inferior anxiety to Downing Street. In the domain of Empire the conquest of India has carried us forward on a tide of inevitable advance that leaves us knocking at the inland door of China and overlapping the Northern frontier of Siam. The wars at the end of the last century and in the first half of this, which were part of that Expansion of England which has been so ably portrayed by a contemporary historian, gave us Singapore, which, lying on the ocean highway from West to East, is the greatest coaling station of the Orient, and Hongkong, which is the second port of the British Empire. It has not been without war that we have won even a mercantile entry into those countries at whose Treaty Ports our flag is now in the ascendant, and which have benefited by our intercourse with them not less than we ourselves.

The commercial position of Great Britain in the Far East stands unassailed and unassailable. Of the trade of Japan, more than one half of the imports, and more than one quarter of the exports, are in British hands. Out of 570 foreign firms engaged in business in Japan, 120 are English. There are 1,380 English residents in the country, as compared with 720 Americans, 430 Germans, and 320 French: nearly as many as those of the three rival nations combined. Three-fourths of the entire foreign trade of China falls to the share of the British Empire. The trade with the United Kingdom, including that passing through Hongkong, exceeds £15,000,000 in the year. In the Treaty Ports of China 65 per cent. of the total tonnage is British; 17 720 British vessels, with a burden of 17,440,000 tons, entered them in 1891; Germany was next on the list, with 2,520 vessels and 1,900,000 tons. At Saigon, the centre of French influence, British trade, in spite of prohibitive tariffs, leaves the French far in arrear. At Bangkok there is the same English predominance. In the commercial competition Germany comes second, and never loses ground. The real rivalry, however, is rather between Europeans of whatever nationality and the Chinese, whose unrivalled business capacities now seek the widest fields, and, backed up by immense capital and untiring energy, daily steal more ground from beneath the feet of the West. The English merchants complain in some places that their interests are insufficiently cared for and pushed by their consuls or diplomatic representatives; and I have heard of cases in which systematic dilatoriness or contemptuous indifference in high places has seemed to justify some measure of exasperation; although the reply of the impugned authorities is not without truth—viz., that they are sent out not to act as touts in behalf of this or that particular enterprise, but to secure fair-play to all; and that the prestige acquired with the native functionaries by an attitude of vigilant impartiality in their country's interest is forfeited upon suspicion of acting even as patriotic partisans. The complaint seems, in China at any rate, to have been partly prompted by the success that attended the early efforts of a recent German Minister at Peking, in securing contracts for his countrymen, and by alarm at the projected operations of some large financial syndicates who swooped down a few years ago upon Tientsin. These have now retired *re propè infectâ*; and I do not myself think that over the whole field of action the charge of neglect of British interests is one that has any serious foundation.

At the same time, it is evident that business competition is much keener now than it ever was before. Large fortunes are made with difficulty; Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. remain almost alone among the great houses whose establishments and operations a generation ago were the talk of the East. Wealth is more evenly distributed, and is dislocated by slighter shocks. It may be for this reason that speculation is more indulged in than of yore, and that the share-and-stock market of Hongkong has so many tales of woe to tell. Everywhere the traveller finds the British merchants banded together in a powerful confederacy, possessing strong views, and a very outspoken articulation in the local English press, regarding matters from a somewhat narrow but very intelligible and a forcibly-argued standpoint, and occupied in slowly accumulating the wherewithal which shall enable them some day to return home. The struggles and the interests of those men, who bear the heat and burden of the day in foreign lands, and whose gain, if they are their own, are also their country's, deserve a warmer sympathy than they commonly receive.

As regards the Christian missions, they are no monopoly either of the Protestant Church or of the English people. In Japan, in Korea, in China, in Tonkin, in Annam, in Siam, Roman Catholic missionaries, French or Spanish, but chiefly the former, have been long established, have drawn around themselves native communities amongst whom they reside, and have acquired a numerical hold unquestionably greater than that of their Protestant successors. Among these the English, after the China Wars and the Treaties, took the lead. But an even greater activity is now being displayed by the Americans, who are flooding the Far East with their emissaries, male and female, and are pouring thousands of pounds' worth of human labour into China and Japan. The English missionaries appear on the whole to be more carefully selected and to be one to a superior type. The good done by these men, in the secular aspect of their work, in the slow but sure spread of education, in the diffusion of ungrudging charity, and in the example of pure lives, cannot be gainsaid. On the other hand, it is impossible to ignore the fact that their mission is a source of political unrest and frequently of international trouble; that it is subversive of the national institutions of the country in which they reside, because, while inculcating the Christian virtue of self-respect, it tends to destroy that respect for others which is the foundation of civil society; that the number of converts is woefully disproportionate to the outlay in money, brain-power, and life; and that, from whatever cause, the missionaries as a class are rarely popular with their own countrymen. Indeed, one of the most striking phenomena of English-speaking society in the countries to which I have referred is the absolute severance of its two main component items, the missionaries and the merchants, neither of whom think or speak over favourably of the other, and who are rarely seen at each other's table. The missionary is offended at what he regards as the mere selfish quest of lucre; the merchant sneers at work which is apt to parade a very sanctimonious expression, and sometimes results in nothing at all. I have come to the conclusion that it is futile either to apportion the blame between the two parties or to hope that any argument can effect a reconciliation. There are, of course, many cases where no such divergence exists, and where a harmony of interest and intercourse prevails; but I have not found them sufficiently numerous to invalidate the general proposition. What may be the future of mission-

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ary effort it is impossible to predict; but it would be a service of international value could some means be derived, not of arresting or diverting, but of controlling its operations, which are at present as random as the winds of heaven simultaneously let loose from the Æolus-bag of all the Churches in Christendom.

Everywhere that I have been I have found English life retaining its essential characteristics. The Englishman expatriates himself without a sigh in the pursuit of livelihood, adventure, health, or duty. He is too robust to be homesick, too busy to repine. But he keeps up a constant and unbroken communication with home, and is familiar with all that is passing there. For Parliament, perhaps, he cares little, because with the bulk of the votes he has no concern; but for the national Flag he cares a great deal. Loyalty is his passion; and the toast of "The Queen" is drunk with as boisterous a fervour in far Cathay as at a Unionist banquet in St. James' Hall. Mr. Gladstone would not have been complimented had he been informed of the result of a voluntary poll that was taken among the readers of the principal newspapers, at the time of the late General Election in Yokohama, Hongkong, and Singapore. In business matters the merchant works on, looks forward, and saves for his decennial holiday; but he means to spend his declining years nowhere else than on his native soil. In the meantime he sustains a perpetual and innocent illusion by an importation of all the adjuncts, and a repetition of most of the habits, of home-life. Magnificent clubhouses afford a meeting-ground for tiffin in the middle of the day, for billiards and smoking when the day's work is over. Some of these institutions, as at Shanghai, Hongkong, and Singapore, are as well furnished with English newspapers and periodicals as any of the palaces of Pall Mall. In his passion for games, which keeps him healthiest of all the foreign settlers in the East, while the German grows fat, and the Frenchman withers, the Englishman plays lawn-tennis under a tropical sun; he has laid out golf links at Hongkong and Chefoo, cricket matches are as frequent and excite as keen an interest as the doings of a county team at home; nay: I have even heard of football and hockey at Singapore, within seventy miles of the equator. A racecourse must be constructed outside every town where there is a sufficient settlement; the annual race-meeting, in which the owner frequently buys or breeds, trains, and rides his own ponies, is one of the events of the year, and the winner of the Hongkong or Shanghai "Derby" enjoys a more than ephemeral renown. On festive occasions dances reunite the sexes; and, where it is not too hot, riding is a favourite recreation. Excellent and well informed newspapers are owned and edited by Englishmen; and among them *The Japan Daily Mail*, the well-known organ of Captain Brinkley, as well as several others, would be a credit to the Press of any European country. Their telegraphic information is scanty and bad; but that is the fault of the telegraphic agency upon whom they one and all depend, and whose shortcomings are a byword throughout the East. If these papers frequently attack the local representatives of British government, it must be remembered that they are mainly dependent for support on the non-official and mercantile community, and that shifts are sometimes needed to keep up the circulation. The domestic environments of life are not less reminiscent of the old country. The exterior of the house conforms to climatic needs, and spreads itself out in airy verandahs; but the furniture is not seldom imported direct from home. The national love for neatness and decorum appears in the private grounds, the *bunds*, and public gardens of the cities where the English are in the ascendant; and were every other mark of British influence erased to-morrow it would always remain a marvel how from a scorching rock had been evolved the Elysian graces of Hongkong.

Everywhere, too, I have found the Englishman enjoying that reputation for integrity and superiority to chicanery, corruption, or intrigue, which have given him his commanding position in the world. The officials are of a higher type than those by whom other Powers are represented, and are frequently drawn from services specially organised and recruited. Nothing, indeed, is more striking in travel than the character and personality of the men who are sustaining in positions of varied trust the interests of Great Britain in far lands. The larger atmosphere of life and the sense of responsibility seem to free them from the pettinesses of a home existence that is too apt to be consumed in party conflict, and to suggest broader views of men and things. The same high tone exists through the various strata of society and employment, and the clerk behind the counter of the English bank will be no less a gentleman both in birth and in education than the Governor in his palace or the Minister in his Legation. I do not think that the same can be said of the Germans, or of the French, or of the Dutch. Commerce has not yet become popular among the upper classes of German society. In France promotion is too frequently the reward of political fidelity, of journalistic service, or of successful Chauvinism, to admit of a continuous evolution of useful public servants. How many of the blunders made by that people in Tonkin have been due to the character of the men who in times past have been appointed to positions of importance without the faintest knowledge of the country or qualifications for the post, it would be hard to conjecture. Similarly, though our rivals and antagonists invariably ascribe our political success and our widespread Empire to a more than ordinary duplicity, I have not found that this impression is anywhere shared by the Eastern Powers with whom, by virtue of our commanding commercial position and the multiplicity of our interests, we are brought into frequent, and sometimes contentious, contact. On the contrary, it appears that English Governments compose their disputes, settle their boundaries and conclude their treaties, with a greater facility than other Powers, and that English consuls are looked up to as the leading men by every section of the community in which they reside, and are frequently appealed to by others as arbiters in matters lying outside their official ken. Though, too, we are credited by France with being the most aggressive of peoples, this accusation does not seem to tally with the voluntary evacuation of Port Hamilton, in deference to the susceptibilities of China and Korea, nor with our conduct in disposing of the vast heritage that came into our hands upon the annexation of Upper Burma, whilst it comes with ill grace from a people whose attitude and pretensions are open to the gravest suspicions upon the Mekong. Similarly, though it has frequently appeared in print, particularly in America, that Great Britain alone stands in the way of Treaty Revision in Japan, the facts which I have elsewhere displayed will have shown the baselessness of the charge which none know better than the Japanese statesmen themselves.

There are certain points in connection with our diplomatic representation in the Far East to which it may not be out of place to call attention. The Foreign Office has sometimes appeared to regard certain of these posts as of only secondary importance, and as refuges for failures elsewhere, or at least for persons possessing no peculiar qualifications. To my mind, there are few more important appointments than those to the Courts of Japan and of China, and, in a somewhat less degree, of Siam; and yet it has in times past occurred that gentlemen have been appointed to these posts who have no personal acquaintance with the East or knowledge of the problem with which they may require to deal. The reception recently accorded to Mr O'Conor, on his nomination to the British Legation at Peking, sufficiently indicates the rejoicing of the British community in the Far East at the appointment of a man who really knows both the country to which he is accredited and the business which he will have to transact. There appears to be still an immense opening in the Far East for a diplomatic career. We maintain at Tokyo, at Peking, and at Bangkok, a number of so-called Student Interpreters, who, after passing a preliminary examination at home, go out to the East, undergo a steady course of instruction in the language of the country in which they will pass so much of their lives, and thence are drafted into the Consular Service. From their ranks have sprung such men as the late Sir Harry Parkes, whose name is as familiar a household word in Japan and in China as is that of his still-surviving namesake in Australia; Mr. Satow, the present British Minister at Morocco; and others whose names will occur to the memory. There is just as great scope for the production of such men, and even greater need for their services now, than in bygone days. The Far East demands a knowledge that can only be acquired after years, and a statesmanship that must have been in part nurtured in a local atmosphere. The great position attained by the late Sir William White at Constantinople, starting from a similar origin, may be emulated in countries where also there is an Eastern Question not much less important than the control of the Bosphorus or the ownership of St. Sophia. I would fain hope that among the rising generation may be found some who will be worthy heirs of these great traditions.

In another respect the Foreign Office appears to me to have neglected an elementary part of diplomatic education, and an indispensable adjunct to the smooth working of the diplomatic machine. One would surely expect to find in the British Legation in every foreign country, most of all in the East, a compact, well-chosen, and serviceable library of the best books relating to the country in question, and the political problems which it is likely to suggest. Such libraries were in part collected many years ago. I found the fragments of such a one at Peking, just as I remember rooting out from a dusty closet the *debris* of another at Teheran. At Meshed I could not discover a single publication on the Afghan Frontier Question. Similarly, at Bangkok there was not one volume relating to the frontier between Burma, Siam, and China, though a small but excellent literature exists upon the subject, and might at any moment be required for official reference. My impression is that at Tokyo there is a similar absence. What is wanted in each case is, not a library of general reference, but, a collection of authoritative works, within a limited range, to which recourse can be had at any moment. As soon as the nucleus of such a collection had been formed, a few pounds a year would amply suffice for the necessary increment, which should be carefully selected and sent out from home. The India Office has sometimes extended such a patronage to useful publications, purchasing a certain number of copies, and distributing them among the localities concerned; but I have never heard of the Foreign Office exercising a similar wise generosity. At Peking, moreover, I have often thought, it would be well were the diplomatic staff of Great Britain to include an Indian officer or *attaché*, so many are the purely Indian questions that come up for discussion with the Tsung-li Yamen, upon which there is no one on the spot to throw the necessary light.

Great as is the position which I have depicted as being enjoyed by Great Britain in the Far East, I believe that it will be greater still. The improvement of existing and the creation of new means of communication is rapidly developing a solidarity between the East and the West which our grandparents would have deemed impossible. Fusion and not disintegration will be the key note of the progress of the coming century. There remain now but few countries to which access has not already been gained; though there are several whose political stability is precarious, or whose political boundaries are not determined. As soon, however, as fixity can be predicated of these departments—much more, if of both,—commercial exploitation will begin. For this object British energy, British capital, and British experience, will be required. The Power which has been longest in the field, which enjoys the best geographical position for the distribution of its commerce, or the dissemination of its influence, and which can command the largest resources, must infallibly triumph in any such competition. Our position in India gives us the certain command of the main land-routes and railroads that will lay open the Far East in the not-distant future. Our position upon the ocean already assures to us the control of the maritime highway. Furthermore, the country which has scattered millions in propping up the rotten Republics of the New World may very well repay its age long debt to the Old by a similar, even if a tardy, service. Above all will this task be facilitated by the increasing diffusion of the English tongue. Already spoken in every store from Yokohama to Rangoon, already taught in the schools of Japan and of Siam, already used by Chinamen themselves as a means of communication between subjects from different provinces of their mighty Empire, it is destined with absolute certainty to be the language of the Far East. Its sound will go out into all lands, and its words unto the ends of the world. That this splendid future is no idle dream of fancy, but is capable of realization at no indefinite period, none who have travelled widely in Eastern Asia will doubt. Moral failure alone can shatter the prospect.

"We sailed wherever ship could sail,
We found many a mighty State;
Pray God our greatness may not fail
Through craven fears of being great!"

—GEORGE N. CURZON in the *National Review*.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, August 14.

Serious riots between Mahommedans and Hindoos have taken place in Bombay. So threatening did they become, that all the troops and volunteers were called out, and eventually reinforcements had to be obtained from Poonah. Business was, of course, suspended. The troops charged and fired upon the rioters before the latter would disperse.

London, August 17.

Cholera is increasing gravely in Austrian Galacia.

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Intense heat prevails in Great Britain and the Continent.

An Imperial ukase closes the Russian Mints to silver and forbids the importing of foreign silver coin, with the exception of Chinese.

["SPECIAL" TELEGRAM TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

Kobe, August 19, 8.50 a.m.

The British ship *Orpheus* has gone ashore in a typhoon at Tsubaki-mura, Tokushima *Ken*. The crew are safe.

[SPECIALLY TELEGRAPHED TO THE "JAPAN DAILY MAIL."] (FROM THE "N.-C. DAILY NEWS.")

London, August 8.

The coal strike is severely hampering the manufacturing districts. Furnaces and other works are preparing to close.

Lord Rosebery has gone on a visit to Germany.

The Cabinet meets on Tuesday to consider public business.

The Radicals are urging the closure of the debate upon Supply if it is unduly prolonged. They insist upon the necessity of passing the Parish Councils' Bill, and the Employers' Liability Bill.

Five Russian men-of-war, destined to form the nucleus of a Russian Mediterranean Squadron, are expected at Toulon on the 20th inst.

London, August 9.

The Siamese are arranging for the prompt evacuation of the left bank of the Meikong. They are also facilitating the French occupation of Chaustaboon.

The debate on the report of the Home Rule Bill begins on the 12th inst.

President Cleveland's supporters on the silver question have postponed action, pending the discussion by the caucuses, hoping that this will facilitate an agreement.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the CHESS EDITOR.)

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 82

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—R to Q 8	1—K to Q B 5
2—Q to Q 5 ch.	2—K × Q
3—B × P dis. mate	
	if 2—K × P
3—Q × P, mate	
	if 1—K to Q R 7
2—B to K 6 ch.	2—K to R or B 8
2—R to K sq, mate	
	if 1—K × P or to R 5
2—Q to Q 5	
3—Q × P mate.	

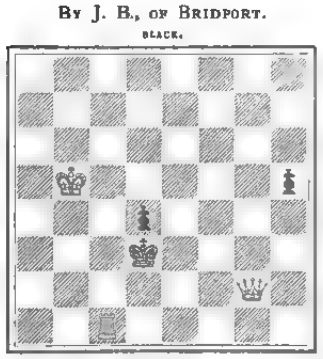
Correct solutions received from W.H.S., J.D., O.B., and J.W.E.

J.W.E. has also solved Mrs. Baird's pretty two-mover given under the Forsyth Notation in the same issue. This problem, however, is not included in the competition.

PROBLEM No. 84.

BY J. B., OF BRIDPORT.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in three moves.

In noticing the recent additions to the London press which provide specially for its Chess readers, we omitted to include *Sketch*, the new illustrated weekly, in the list. All these new outlets for the display of Chess talent seem to meet with appreciation and to show an ever-increasing interest in the pursuit of our royal game.

Apropos Chess publications, we hear that our own will not much longer have the honour of being the only one in the Far East. The new-comer will, no doubt, be welcomed in Chess circles here, limited as they unfortunately are.

The Yokohama Chess Club reopens on 1st October but we hear that some of the more active members are already bestirring themselves with a view to making the ensuing winter lively in the local microcosm. A strong player in Nagasaki has forwarded a challenge for two correspondence games, which will probably be played by telegraph, and should lead to lively battle. Play will probably commence hereon about the first week in September, and we shall hope to give accounts of the games as they proceed, with the score from time to time. The Secretary of the Club would also be glad to hear from Tokyo and Kobe friends with a view to matches, tourneys, correspondence games or any other kind of contest under the ægis of Caissa. We recommend all aspiring combatants to come early into the field, for

A fight's the kind of thing we love to look upon,

as saith Gilbert in one of his charming rhymes.

No details to hand yet as to the projected New York tournament next month; the incoming mail should bring us news.

We give below a smart little game in which Black takes grand advantage of White's little errors:—

TWO KNIGHTS' DEFENCE.

NOTES BY MR. STEINITZ.

WHITE. Blanchard.	BLACK. Polock.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to B 4	3—Kt to B 3
4—Kt to B 3	4—Kt takes P
5—B takes P ch.	

At various stages of this opening it has been proved that similar tactics are disadvantageous; for the adversary obtains, ultimately, two B'shops with a strong centre.

	5—K takes B
6—Kt takes Kt	6—P to Q 4
7—Kt (K 4) to Kt 5 ch.	7—K to Kt sq.
8—P to Q 4	8—P to K R 3
9—Kt to R 3	9—B to K Kt 5
10—P takes P	10—K. takes P
11—Kt (R 3) to Kt sq.	11—B to Q B 4
12—B to B 4	12—Kt to Kt 3
13—B to Kt 3	13—K to R 2
14—Q to Q 3	14—R to K sq. ch.
15—K to B sq.	15—R to K 5

..... Insidious, as threatening B to K B 4 in some cases, and also preventing Kt to K 5.

16—R to K sq.	16—Q to K 2
17—Q takes P	

* Black's coveted opportunity.

	17—R takes R ch.
18—Kt takes R	18—R to Q sq.
19—Q to B 4	19—Q takes Kt ch

..... A charming termination.

20—K takes Q	20—R mates

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, Nagasaki and Kobe.....	per H. Y. K.	Friday Aug. 25th.
From America ..	per O. & O. Co	Saturday Aug. 19th *
From Canada, &c	per C. P. M. Co	Monday, Aug. 21st †
From Europe via Hongkong . ..	per M. M. Co	Friday, Aug. 18th ‡
From America	per P. M. Co	Sunday, Aug. 27th §
From Hongkong.	per C. P. M. Co.	Thursday, Aug 24th
From Hongkong	per O. & O. Co.	Thursday, Aug 24th ¶
From Hongkong.	per P. & O. Co	Sunday, Aug. 27th.
From Europe via Hongkong... ..	per N. D. Lloyd	Wed'day, Sept. 6th.

* *Oceanic* left San Francisco via Honolulu on August 1st. † *Empress of India* left Vancouver on August 8th. ‡ *Natal* left Kobe on August 19th. § *City of Rio de Janeiro* left San Francisco on August 10th. ‖ *Empress of China* left Hongkong on August 16th. ¶ *Belgic* left Hongkong on August 17th. The English mail is on board the steamer *Memnon*.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Hongkong...	per P. & O. Co	Sunday, Aug. 20th.
For Victoria and Tacoma	per N. P. Co.	Sunday, Aug. 20th
For Hongkong ..	per C. P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Aug. 22nd.
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki ...	per N. Y. K.	Tuesday, Aug. 22nd.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. M. Co.	Friday, Aug. 25th
For America.....	per O. & O. Co.	Saturday, Aug. 26th.
For Europe, via Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Aug. 27th.
For Europe, via Hongkong.....	per N. D. Lloyd.	Friday, Sept. 8th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Ancona, British steamer, 1,880, W. D. Mudie, 12th August,—Hongkong 5th, Nagasaki 8th, and Kobe 11th August, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Pender, 13th August,—Otaru viâ ports 9th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. M. Young, 13th August,—Kobe 12th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sessiu Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,011, Hayashi, 14th August,—Kobe 15th August, General.—Nada Kogio Kabushiki Kaisha.

St. John, American ship, 1,820, O. H. Fales, 14th August,—San Francisco 11th June, Ballast.—Smith, Baker & Co.

Amagi Kan (8), Japanese corvette, Captain Nomura, 14th August,—Shinagawa 14th August.

Hokushiu Maru, Japanese steamer, 735, S. Oka, 14th August,—Otaru, Coal and General.—S. Oka.

Leander (10), cruiser, Captain Castle, 14th August, —Nagasaki.

Oread, British bark, 774, Wm. Robertson, 15th August,—Calcutta, Rice.—Captain.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 15th August,—Moji, Coal.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Impericuse (10), flagship, Captain J. M. McQuhae, 15th August,—Hongkong.

Severn (12), cruiser, Captain R. F. Henderson, 15th August,—Hongkong.

Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 684, M. Matsumoto, 15th August,—Kobe 14th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 704, Tamura, 15th August,—Hachinohe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Modoc, American barkentine, 430, Bosch, 16th August,—Shanghai 3rd August, Ballast.—De Souza & Co

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Ekstrand, 16th August,—Otaru viâ ports 12th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Strathleven, British steamer, 1,588, Cormack, 16th August,—Hongkong viâ ports, Sugar and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,219, Wilson, 17th August,—Shimonoseki 14th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,034, Walter, 17th August,—Kobe 15th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

China, British steamer, 2,600, Wm. B. Seabury, 17th August,—Hongkong viâ ports 9th August, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Mike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,053, Thompson, 17th August,—Otaru viâ Yokkaichi 11th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, Conner, 17th August,—Shanghai and ports 12th August, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Walden Abbey, British ship, 1,754, Williams, 17th August,—New York 2nd April, Oil.—R. Isaacs and Bro.

Sorachi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,108, Renny, 18th August,—Otaru viâ Osaka 16th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Bankoku Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,475, Okuma, 12th August,—Otaru, Ballast.—S. Asano & Co.

Irene, German steamer, 1,630, R. Schuder, 12th August,—Hamburg viâ ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Riversdale, British steamer, 1,311, Peck, 12th August,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, J. Nirei, 12th August,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Pathan, British steamer, 1,763, Wright, 13th August,—New York viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Yarra, French steamer, 2,126, de Maubeuge, 13th August,—Shanghai viâ Kobe, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Pender, 14th August,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sessiu Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,011, Hayashi, 14th August,—Shinagawa, General.—Nada Kogio Kabushiki Kaisha.

Alert (4), U.S. corvette, Lieut.-Commander Book, 15th August,—San Francisco.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,358, Haswell, 15th August,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. M. Young, 15th August,—Otaru viâ ports, General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

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Leander (10), cruiser, Captain Castle, 16th August.—Hakodate.
Mercury (13), cruiser, Captain W. Fawkes, 16th August.—Hakodate.
Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 704, Tamura, 16th August,—Hachinohe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Hokushiu Maru, Japanese steamer, 735, S. Oka, 16th August,—Otaru, Ballast.—S. Oka
Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 684, M Matsumoto, 17th August,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Severn (12), cruiser, Captain R. F. Henderson, 18th August.—Hakodate.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Captain Bowles, Captain Blyth, Major G. Baugh, Mr. H. C. Ridges, and Miss O Dai San in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, from Otaru viâ ports:—Miss Dr. R. R. Benn, Mr. Fanaka, Mr. and Mrs. Osaki, and Mr. Fukumoto in cabin; 1 passenger in second class, and 34 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, from Kobe:—Miss M. E. Stanley, Rev. T. Banfill, Rev. M. McMas, Captain N. Trenut, Mr. N. G Robinson, Mr. P. Lannay, Mr. F. Gillard, Mr. Shimizu, Mrs. H. Boughing, Mr. J. B. Reuters, and Mr. Tamano in cabin; 3 passengers in second class, and 50 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru*, from Kobe:—Miss Agnes Morgan, Miss May Morgan, Rev. H. J. Foss, Mr. William Johns, and Mr. C. G. Kreidner in cabin; 23 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *China*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. J. J. Quinn, Mrs. Tabor, Mr. Clarke, Mr. A. H. Marsh, Mr. McDonogh, Dr. McDonogh, Mr. McCulloh, Mr. McKay, Mr Akimayma, Mr. A A. Thomas, Miss Mailes, Mr. F. G. Sales, and Mr. and Mrs. G. Zubotkin in cabin. For San Francisco: Mrs. J. J. Quinn, Miss M. de Guerin, and Mr. Clarke in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Mr and Mrs Blankerburg, Miss Meyers, Dr. and Mrs. Perkins and daughter, Mr. Geo. B. Perkins, Miss G. Grobbrugge, Miss Holland, Messrs. M. Yoshida, F. Wurin, Matsuura, Watanabe, C. Cabe du, and Rev. T. A. Hearn and child in cabin; Mr. Yoshida in second class, and 36 passengers in steerage. For San Francisco: Dr. Stenebel and Miss Gould in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per French steamer *Yarra*, for Shanghai viâ Kobe:—Mr. F. J. Hall, Mr. Guis and boy, Mr. and Mrs. Joyeux, Mr. Somerset A. G. Calthorpe, Mr. Grage, Mr. Djetlan, Mr. Otokatsu Mitake, Mr. Kojiro Sato, Mr. Takeshi Kitagawa, Mr. Ginzo Yanagisawa, Mr. Sam. D. Weinberg, Madame Romane, Mr. Bagallay, and Mr. H. Ch. Ridges in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Fitz Creagh, Rev. Mr., and Mrs. Neale, Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Eyton-Jones, Captain Burdis, Rev. Wm. H. Correll, Messrs. F. M. Gratton, R. Markwick, H. G. Marshall, G. Wenndick, and H. Teffler in cabin; Mrs. Kanashima, Messrs. To Yu Ting, Y Matsuishi, and T. Abe in second class, and 61 passengers in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per French steamer *Yarra*, for Shanghai viâ Kobe:—Raw Silk for France, 710 bales; Waste Silk for France, 78 bales. Treasure for Shanghai, $205,500; for Hongkong, $50,000; total, $255,500.

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, Captain Pender, reports:—Left Otaru the 9th August at noon; had moderate S.W. winds and fine, clear weather throughout the passage to Hakodate, where arrived the 10th at 7 a.m. and left the 11th at noon; had gentle S.S.E. winds with hazy weather to 2 a.m. on the 12th, when abreast of Yamada weather set in with dense fog lasting until arrival at Oginohama the same day at 10.35 a.m. and left at 2.23 p.m.; had fresh to moderate southerly winds with clear weather to Inuboye-saki, which was passed at 5.10 a.m. on the 13th; thence to port fresh N.E. winds with cloudy weather. Arrived at Yokohama the same day at 3 p.m.; off Sagami passed a foreign ship bound for Yokohama.

The Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, Captain Young, reports:—Left Kobe the 12th August at noon; had E.N.E. airs and fine weather to Oshima, thence to Rock Island fresh E.N.E. winds and rain at time; thence light easterly airs and fine weather to port; at 3.34 passed an iron English bark under jury-rig, with loss of 3 topmasts and jibboom, off Vries Island; light east wind. Arrived at Yokohama the 13th August at 6.45 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Omi Maru*, Captain J. W. Ekstrand, reports:—Left Otaru the 12th August; had from light to moderate winds and fine weather. Arrived at Hakodate the 13th at 7 a.m. and left the 14th at noon; had from light to moderate variable winds and times foggy weather. Arrived at Oginohama the 15th at 10 30 a.m. and left the same day at 2.40 p.m.; had light variable winds and fine weather to 2 a.m. on the 16th; had moderate southerly winds, increasing S.E. swell and misty rain; at 6 a.m. wind shifted to the east and N.E., strong gale and heavy rain; at 10 a.m. moderate gale and heavy rain, barometer 29 44; at noon fresh N.N.W. breeze, fine and cloudy weather. Arrived at Yokohama the 16th August at 4 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Fushiki Maru*, Captain Wilson, reports:—Left Yokohama the 7th August at 5 a.m. and arrived at Kutchinotsu the 10th at 9 a.m. Left the 11th at 6 a.m. and arrived at Misumi the same day at 7.30 a.m. Left Misumi the 13th at 2 p.m. and when off Kutchinotsu, passed North Pacific steamer *Victoria*, bound in, arrived at Shimonoseki the 14th at 9 40 a.m. Left the same day at 6.30 p.m. and arriving at Yokohama the 17th August at 6 a.m; experienced fine weather throughout the passage, with exception of heavy N. to N.W. squalls with heavy rain, thunder and lightning at Misumi from noon on the 12th to passing Nagasaki at 6 p.m. on the 13th, when weather cleared up continuing fine to arrival at Yokohama. After passing Oshima, experienced heavy confused swell from southward and eastward with light S.E. winds, fine blue sky.

The British steamer *China*, Captain Seabury, reports.—Left Kobe the 16th August; had fresh S.E. to S.W. winds in Kii Channel off Oshima, and for 75 miles east had tremendous heavy S.W. swell. Time from Kobe, 22 hours 44 minutes.

The Japanese steamer *Mitke Maru*, Captain W. Thompson, reports:—Left Otaru the 11th August at 4 26 p.m.; passed Shiriya-saki the 12th at 3.22 p.m.; had light to moderate south-westerly winds, hazy weather, with smooth sea to Kinkasan, which was passed at noon on the 13th; experienced light southerly and easterly winds with high easterly swell to Rock Island, which was passed the 14th at 6 p.m.; thence light variable winds to port. Arrived at Yokkaichi the 15th at 6 a.m. and left the 16th at 6 06 p.m.; experienced fresh southerly winds and high southerly swell to Rock Island, which was passed the 17th at 6.45 a.m.; thence gentle winds from south and cloudy weather to port. Arrived at Yokohama the same day at 1 30 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, Captain Conner, reports:—Left Shanghai the 12th August at 11 a.m. and arrived at Nagasaki the 14th at 4 a.m.; experienced light to moderate winds from S.E. to N.E. with fine weather. Left Nagasaki the same day at 5 p.m. and arriving at Shimonoseki the 15th at 6 p.m. Left again the same day at 1.30 p.m. and arriving at Kobe the 16th at 9 a.m.; experienced light variable N.E. to E.S.E. winds with fine weather throughout the passage. Left Kobe the same day at 7 p.m.; experienced strong S.E. winds with rain squalls and heavy southerly swell to Rock Island; thence to port moderate S.E. winds with overcast weather and rain. Arriving at company's buoy Yokohama the 17th August at 10 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Sorachi Maru*, Captain Renny, reports:—Left Osaka the 16th August at 8 a.m.; had fine, clear weather; passed Oshima at 10 p.m., very heavy southerly swell; thence to Rock Island fresh winds and squally and heavy southerly swell; thence to port fresh breeze and cloudy weather. Arrived at Yokohama the 18th August at 5 a.m.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The unstable condition of Exchange continues to prevent any real activity in the Import Trade. Occasionally a slight demand arises, but holders until they can make sure of their position ask prohibitive prices for their goods. Yarns both double and single have again relapsed and elicit no enquiry. Grey Shirtings and T.-Cloths show some indication of moving, but in other lines of Piece Goods there is nothing doing. Fancies and Woollens remain without feature.

COTTON PIECE GOODS

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8¼ lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	$2 05 to 2 50
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 38½ yds. 45 inches	2 30 to 3 00
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1 50 to 1 85
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches	1 50 to 1 90
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.65 to 2.50
Cotton—Italian and Sattaens Black, 32 inches	PER YARD. 0 14 to 0 18
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	6.25 to 8.75
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 12 3 inches	0 62½ to 0 77½
Turkey Reds—2 0 to 2.4 lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	PER PIECE. 1 40 to 1 47½
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	1 57½ to 1.77½
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.00 to 2.27½
Turkey Reds—4 8 to 5lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2 47½ to 2.67½

WOOLLENS

	PER YARD.
Flannel	$0.30 to 0.45
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0 30 to 0 35
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0 25 to 0.29
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0.19 to 0.25
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0 13 to 0 19
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0 35 to 0 50
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0 60 to 0 65
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0 40 to 0 70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 4 to 5½ lb. per lb.	0 40 to 0 53

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos 16/24, Ordinary	—
Nos. 16/24, Medium	—
Nos 16/24, Good to Best	—
Nos 16/24, Reverse	—
Nos 28/32, Ordinary	—
Nos 28 32, Medium	—
Nos 28 32, Good to Best	—
Nos 38/42, Medium to Best	—
No. 32s, Two fold	—
No. 42s, Two-fold	—
	PER BALE.
No 20s, Bombay Nom.	—
No 16s, Bombay Nom.	—

METALS

A slight demand for Pig Iron is the only tendency to move that has been apparent in this market. Holders evidently look for continued trouble with regard to Exchange and have put up prices accordingly.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ¼ inch	$3 60 to 3.70
Flat Bars, ½ inch	3 70 to 3 75
Round and square up to ½ inch	3.15 to 3 25
Iron Plates, assorted	3 00 to 3.15
Sheet Iron	3.90 to 4 10
Galvanized Iron sheets	7.00 to 7 25
Wire Nails, assorted	5.00 to 5 45
Tin Plates, per box	5.70 to 6 00
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.40 to 1.42½

KEROSENE.

A few small transactions have been done during the week, but only to supply immediate requirements. Prices show a slight rise throughout the list, and holders are very firm. No fresh arrivals to report.

	PER PICUL.
Chester	$1.67½ to 1.72½
Comet	1.65 to 1.67½
Devoe	—
Russian Anchor	1.67½ to 1 70
Russian Moon	1.65 to 1.67½

SUGAR.

Demand for Browns has continued to fall off, and at closing only a small business is being done. Prices show a declining tendency, and some grades are quoted 5 cents down. Whites also are slack and prices weak, owing to the small demand.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	$4 85 to 4 90
Brown Manila	5.40 to 5.50
Brown Dartoog	4.50 to 4 55
Brown Canton	4.50 to 4.70
White Java and Penang	6.60 to 6.70
White Refined	7 55 to 9 20

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last issue was of the 11th instant, since which date settlements on this market amount to 828 piculs, divided thus:—*Filatures* 635 piculs; *Re-reels*, 91 piculs *Kakeda*, 102 piculs. In addition to these purchases direct shipments have been 85 bales, making the total export business of the week equal to 900 piculs.

The market has further declined for *Filatures*, while *Rereels* and *Kakeda* remain fairly steady at last quotations. Arrivals are on a free scale, and the stock is now 7,000 piculs. Sellers are a little nervous and feel inclined to meet buyers, although they will not as yet make any further serious reduction upon present quotations.

Telegrams from the United States are still of depressing tone; and trade for that destination languishes. On the other hand, considerable purchases are made for Europe as the market declines.

Exchange has turned downward, following the quotations for silver received from London, and this helps to steady our market here.

There has only been one shipping opportunity since we last wrote, the French mail steamer *Yarra*, on the 13th instant, taking 710 bales for Europe. The outgoing American and English mails should have a fair amount of cargo. The present export figures are 2,442 piculs against

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5,270 piculs last year, and 6,796 piculs at the same date in 1891.

Hanks.—Nothing done. Supplies are small and quotations quite nominal.

Filatures—These have again weakened. In fine sizes, *Utsunomiya* has been done at $900, with good *Mino* and *Hida* sorts at $870; *Koshu*, $850 and $830, with common and inferior at lower prices. In full sizes $780 has been paid for *Shinshu* called "best," while good quality *Choshinsha* has been done at $750, with ordinary *Suwa* silks at $735. Buyers are in the field at a further reduction on these prices, but at the moment sellers will not listen to them.

Rereels.—A moderate business has been done at quotations, *Fire Girl* chop and *Tortoise* being sent into godown at $700; *Bushu* sorts have been done at $650.

Kakeda.—Considerable transactions, and prices for high grades fairly well maintained, while medium and common are lower. Buyers complain of inferior quality and irregular size, especially in the medium grades; 1 *Horsehead*, $715; 2 *Musume*, $670; 3 *Musume*, $630.

In other sorts, nothing done.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK).

Hanks—No 1	—
Hanks—No 2 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	—
Hanks—No 2½ (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No 2½ (Joshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2½ to 3	—
Hanks—No. 3	Nom.
Hanks—No 3½	Nom.
Filatures—Extra 10 to 12 deniers	$900 to 910
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	—
Filatures—No 1, 10/13 deniers	870 to 880
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den	760 to 770
Filatures—No. 1½, 10/14 deniers	830 to 840
Filatures—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 den	730 to 740
Filatures—No. 2, 10/13 deniers	800 to 810
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	—
Filatures—No 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—(Oshu) Best No 1	—
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	Nom.
Re-reels—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	700 to 710
Re-reels—No 2, 14/18 deniers	650 to 660
Re-reels—No. 2½, 14/18 deniers	—
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Kakedas—Extra	800 to 810
Kakedas—No 1	770 to 780
Kakedas—No. 1½	740 to 750
Kakedas—No 2	710 to 720
Kakedas—No 2½	680 to 690
Kakedas—No. 3	650 to 660
Kakedas—No. 3½	—
Kakedas—No. 4	—
Oshu Sendai—No 2½	—
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	—
Hamatsuri—No. 3, 4	—
Sodai—No. 2½	—

Export Raw Silk Tables to 18th Aug., 1893.

	Season 1893-1894.	1892-93	1891 92.
	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.
Europe	1,789	2,752	2,083
America	614	2,424	4,493
Total { Bales	2,403	3,176	6,576
Total { Piculs	2,442	5,270	6,796
Settlements and Direct Export from 1st July	3,400	7,130	6,850
Stock, 18th August	7,000	4,650	6,100
Available supplies to date	10,400	11,800	12,950

WASTE SILK.

Settlements for the week are 255 piculs, consisting of *Noshi*, 146 piculs; *Kibiso*, 109 piculs. There seem to be many enquiries in the market at less than quotations, but dealers are very strong for the moment and will not listen to reasonable offers. There have been no direct shipments this week.

The French mail steamer *Yarra* took 75 bales *Noshi* for Europe and the present export figures are 650 piculs, against 1,750 piculs last year and 277 piculs at the same date in 1891.

Pierced Cocoons.—The stock has increased to 2,200 piculs, but no sales have been made, consumers being able to supply their wants from Italy at much lower prices than the Japanese require.

Noshi.—Some business done in medium *Joshu* at prices ranging from $78 to $83 and in *Oshu* seconds, at $145. Prime quality is scarce and strongly held.

Kibiso.—The only sale has been about 100 piculs *Re-reel*, prices ranging from $55 to $65. *Filatures* are coming to hand pretty freely, but business is checked by the high pretensions of producers.

In other sorts no business.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW WASTE).

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	$160 to 165
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	150 to 155
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	—
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	150 to 160
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	—
Noshi-ito—Bushu, Good to Best	90 to 95
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	90 to 95
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	80 to 85
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	70 to 75
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	—
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	125 to 130
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Good to Fair	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Middling to Common	—
Kibiso—Hachioji, Good	—
Kibiso—Hachioji, Medium to Low	—
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	—
Mawata—Good to Best	—

Export Table Waste Silk to 18th Aug., 1893.—

	Season 1893 94 Piculs	1892-93. Piculs.	1891-92. Piculs.
Waste Silk	650	1,750	277
Pierced Cocoons	—	—	—
	650	1,750	277
Settlements and Direct Export from 1st July	Piculs. 850	Piculs. 1,100	Piculs. 700
Stock, 18th August	10,700	10,100	8,300
Available supplies to date	11,550	11,200	9,000

Exchange has declined to the following rates in sympathy with lower prices for Silver on the home side:—London, 4m/s. Credits, 2/6¾, Documents, 2/6¼; New York, 30d/s. U.S. $60⅜; 4m/s. U.S. $61⅛; Paris, or Lyons, 4m/s. fcs. 3.17; 6m/s. fcs. 3.19.

Estimated Silk Stock, 18th Aug., 1893 —

Raw.	Piculs.	Waste.	Piculs.
Hanks	140	Cocoons	2,168
Filatures	4,150	Noshi-ito	4,233
Re-reels	2,050	Kibiso	3,830
Kakeda	620	Mawata	74
Oshu	20	Sundries	396
Taysaam Kinds	20		
Total piculs	7,000	Total piculs	10,700

TEA.

A continued falling off in demand has been very apparent and the small business done was principally in the lower grades. The third crop is now on the market, but owing to the late drought the leaf is of poor quality.

	per picul.
Common	$13 to 14
Good Common	15 to 16
Medium	17 to 18
Good Medium	19 to 20
Fine	21 to 22
Finest	23 to 25
Choice	26 to 27
Choicest	30 to 32

EXCHANGE.

Exchange is as unstable as water these latter days. A further fall has to be reported, with every likelihood of silver going lower.

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	2/5⅞
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	2/6⅛
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	2/6⅛
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	2/6⅜
On Paris—Bank sight	3 07
On Paris—Private 4 months' sight	3 17
On Hongkong—Bank sight	⅛ % prem
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	⅛ % dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	71⅛
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	72
On America—Bank Bills on demand	59⅛
On America—Private 30 days' sight	60⅛
On America—Private 4 months' sight	61⅛
On India—Bank sight	195
Silver	33⅛

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Visitors to Kowaki-dani who bring a rod with them will be shown the haunts of the speckled Trout, a nice stream of several miles in length being within easy walking distance of the Hotel; Hakone Lake is also well stocked with a variety of fish, including salmon, and the Fishing is FREE; while Entomologists will find rare and valuable specimens in the surrounding hills, and the Flora of the district is extremely interesting to the Botanist.

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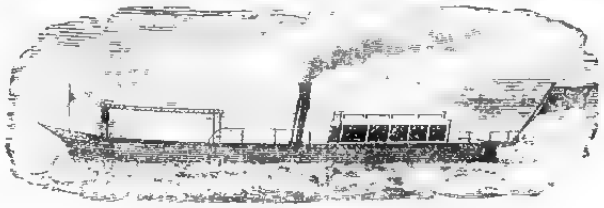

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TWICKENHAM, ENGLAND.

April 23rd, 1893.

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The Japan Weekly Mail:

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!!!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, AUG. 26TH, 1893.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

FROM Hokkaido comes news of a fatal colliery explosion causing the death of nineteen miners.

THE ban of suspens on placed on the *Chinzei Nippo*, of Nagasaki, was removed on the 22nd instant

PRINCE HARU, Heir-Apparent to the throne of Japan, has been spending the last week at Hakone.

A JAPANESE woman (66) was run over and killed by a train near Shinagawa Station on the evening of the 18th inst.

THE Directors of the Yokohama Specie Bank purpose declaring a dividend of 14 per cent. per annum for the past half-year.

DYSENTERY is still claiming numerous victims in many parts of Japan. Happily cholera has not made its appearance this summer.

THE Austrian Heir-Apparent left Japan on Friday by the *Empress of China*. His purchase of curios is said to amount to a large figure.

AN interesting discovery of Subterranean Chambers has been made in Tokyo. We print a sketch of them in another portion of this issue.

MR. ITO YUKICHI, a son of the Premier, who met with a serious accident near Shimonoseki a few weeks ago, is rapidly recovering convalescence.

THE death is announced of Mr. Shimidzu, Instructor of the College of Engineering in the Imperial University, which took place on the 19th inst.

MANY public meetings have been held in Tokyo lately in connection with the Soma mystery, and most of them have been characterised by much rowdiness.

COUNT ITO and Count Saigo have completed their inspection of the forts and naval stations which they undertook at the express command of the Emperor.

THE first instalment of the Korean indemnity has been paid, and orders have been given for its distribution among the merchants concerned.

THE British ship *Orpheus* was dismasted in the gale of Thursday, last week, and had to be towed back to Kobe by the *Tokio Maru* on Sunday.

THE Japanese Government recognized on the 18th inst. the appointment of Mr. M. Wollheim, Mexican Acting *Chargé d'Affaires*, as *Chargé d'Affaires* and Consul-General.

SEVERAL merchants of Kobe have agreed to establish a matting export company to be called the Hana-goza Nigawase Kabushiki-kaisha, with a capital of one hundred thousand *yen*.

MR. HOSHI TORU is in bad odour with certain sections of his party owing to his connection with the Soma family. In some parts of the country the Radicals refuse to hear his addresses.

MR. MAGAKI GOCHO was lately decorated by the King of Italy with the Third Class Order of the Crown in recognition of services rendered by him in introducing the Italian language into Japan.

Two determined attempts have been made this week by *roshi* to break into the Tokugawa mansion in Tokyo, and "interview" the head of the family. The police have had to arrest most of these enterprising youths.

AN earthquake was felt in the capital on the 22nd inst. at 9h. 37m. 55s. a.m. The ground moved for two minutes and thirty seconds from east to west. The maximum horizontal motion was 0.7 millimetre in 1.1 second.

MR. ABE ICHIBEI, one of the largest merchants of Shiga Prefecture, and others propose constructing a railway between Sanjo, Kyoto, and Muidera, Goshu. Surveys of the proposed route will shortly be made.

A DISTRESSING fatality occurred on the slopes of Fuji-san on Friday of last week, whereby six pilgrims lost their lives and about five others received dreadful injuries. The men were blown over a precipice by a southerly gale.

OWING to the heavy rains of the past week floods are reported from all parts of the country. Gifu and the adjoining towns were inundated through the river bursting its banks. The railway line between Kobe and Yokohama suffered two washouts a little lower down, and communication is still interrupted.

THE following is a list of Prefectures in which more than one thousand dysentery cases have been reported since the outbreak to the 19th inst.:—Osaka, 1,377 cases and 324 deaths; Ehime, 1,509 and 250; Fukuoka, 1,290 and 206; Oita, 1,754 and 339; Miyazaki, 1,111 and 161; Saga, 1,975 and 389; Kumamoto, 3,728 and 591.

THE tea business returns in Yokohama for the first half of this month were:—Arrivals, 20,252,500 *kin* and sales 19,269,000 *kin*. The quantity of leaf that remained in stock was 983,500 *kin*. As compared with the corresponding period of the previous year the above figures show a decrease of 37,500 *kin* in arrivals, 289 500 *kin* in sales, and 25,200 *kin* in stock.

IT is stated that the Government has decided to grant the sum of ten thousand *yen* from the Central Famine Relief Fund towards sufferers by the severe frost in the silk districts of Gumma Prefecture. Some months ago a similar application was made by the Governor of Saitama, but the latter's petition has been rejected, local funds being deemed sufficient for the purpose.

SEVERAL German, Austrian, Italian, and other foreign residents of Yokohama entertained the Captains and officers of the *Kaiserin Elisabeth* and *Iltis* on the evening of the 23rd inst. at the Club Germania. H.R.H. the Crown Prince of Austria was also invited, but was unable to be present on the occasion.

THE dimensions of a steel despatch vessel to be constructed at the Kure Naval Shipbuilding yard are as follow:—Length, 96 m; breadth, 1 m. 500; average draught, 4 m.; displacement, 1,800 tons; and horse power, 6,130. She will have a complement of 227 men and officers, will be armed with 8 quick-firing guns, and 4 machine guns, and 2 torpedo tubes. She will be fitted with two electric search lights, and will have two masts.

A VIOLENT shock of earthquake was felt in Tokyo and Yokohama on the 20th inst. at 0h. 28m. 27s. p.m. The duration was four minutes, and the direction from S.S.E. to N.N.W., the maximum horizontal motion being 3.6 millimetres in 0.5 second, while the maximum vertical motion was 1.0 millimetre in 0.3 second. The shock was weak for the first thirty-two seconds. During the following sixteen seconds a strong oscillation was experienced.

THERE is an epidemic of libel actions in Tokyo just now. The *Kaishin Shimbun* has two if not three on its hands, while Mr. Hoshi Toru is bringing several against various papers for commenting upon his action in appearing as Counsel for the defence of the Soma family. Several officials who deem themselves libelled by being connected by some journals with this affair are also laying charges of libel before the Courts.

DULLNESS continues to prevail in the Import trade, scarcely any lines displaying the slightest signs of life, Woollens, Grey Shirtings and T.-Cloths receding to a worse position than they occupied last week. A small call for Pig Iron was soon met, and then the Metal market resumed its former state of quiescence. Kerosene prices remain firm and unchanged, the 70,000 cases of Comet brought by the *Walden Abbey* having been mostly contracted for. Another drop in Brown Sugar is to be noted, 5 to 10 cents, as per latest reports, but White Java has risen 25 cents per picul. Tea transactions during the week are almost exclusively confined to common and medium sorts, and in face of the decreasing business, prices are falling all round. A dull, dragging, hand-to-mouth sort of week in Silk, with prices weak and irregular. Owing to the demoralization of the New York market, Filatures that would, under ordinary circumstances, have been shipped to the States are being secured for Lyons. Notwithstanding that exchange is ten per cent lower than the corresponding week of last year, quotations are actually less than at same date in 1892. In Waste Silk dealers are strong and refuse to lower their demands, although some important orders are on the market. What their motive can be, in face of the declining values of Raw, is not easily comprehensible, and we greatly fear that some will "burn their fingers," as the phrase goes, unless the unexpected comes to the rescue. The Export to date is, Raw: 3,285 piculs, against 6,091 piculs last year and 7,088 piculs on the 25th August, 1892, Waste: 740 piculs, against 1,795 piculs last year and 709 piculs at the same date in 1892.

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THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

Count Ito's sudden return to the capital has caused the newsmongers to indulge in much gossip and speculation. It was thought that the Premier would not come back till the end of the present month, it being believed that, after finishing his tour of inspection, he would spend a few days at his villa at Odawara. He has, however, returned direct to Tokyo, and people attach great importance to the fact. The *Kokkai*, among others, reports that some changes in the *personnel* of the Cabinet Ministers are on the *tapis*, the principal being Count Inouye's transfer to the portfolio of Finance. Should this take place, Count Inouye's successor at the Home Office will be, as some people think, Count Goto, the present Minister of Agriculture and Commerce. But the *Kokkai* does not think that Count Goto will care to leave his present position. Why a change in the *personnal* of the Ministry of Finance has become necessary, our contemporary does not pretend to know, but states that Mr. Watanabe was promoted to his present position merely to keep it until Count Inouye should find it politic to take it himself, it being understood that the Count's ruling desire is to have the control of the national finances. Besides Count Ito's unexpected return to the capital, another event which has attracted much attention in political circles was the almost simultaneous return of Count Matsukata, ex-Premier, to town. A strange course of events has compelled Count Matsukata to occupy a foremost place among the statesmen of the Military section, but his natural place is among the Civilians, and we have no doubt that sooner or later he will rejoin Count Ito and Count Inouye. For the present he remains outside, and is most unjustly regarded as taking active steps to crush the present Ministry. Under these circumstances his return to the capital has led some people to conclude that a serious crisis in the Cabinet is impending. Whatever may be the truth of the report as to the change in the Ministry of Finance, we have no hesitation in asserting that there is little danger of Count Matsukata taking any hostile action against the present Cabinet.

* * *

As to the supposed alliance between the Ministry and the Radical party, the metropolitan papers seem to think that all hope of the consummation of such an object is shattered by Mr. Hoshi's conduct in becoming Counsel to the Soma family. According to rumour, the so-called alliance between the Government and the Radical party is the work of Mr. Mutsu on one side and Mr. Hoshi on the other. Count Itagaki and the rest of the principal members of the Radical party have been skilfully manipulated by Mr. Hoshi to tacitly acquiesce in the policy suggested by him. But the party as a whole has not yet taken any step committing itself to an understanding with the Cabinet, while within the Cabinet itself, are some who are not favourably disposed to the conciliatory policy adopted by the Premier and a few others. The unpopularity of Mr. Hoshi has, according to rumour, rapidly cooled the ardour of many Radicals in the policy of compromise with the Government. The papers, consequently, believe that, in the coming session of the Diet, the Government will have to fight all alone and unsupported by any party. It should be noted that reports relating to Mr. Hoshi and the Radical party must be largely discounted before accepting them as worthy of consideration. We only notice them to show in what manner public attention is now employed.

* * *

It is a significant fact that the organs of the National Unionist party are freely criticising the Cabinet, even outdoing, in this respect, the virulent papers of the Progressionist party. The *Chuo Shimbun*, for instance, charges the Ministry with being perfunctory, inactive, and generally disorganised. To illustrate its sweeping accusation against the Ministry, our contemporary refers to the recent keen contention at a local election in Kanagawa *Ken*, to the increase of gambling, to the Soma case, to the delay in settling the fisheries' disputes, to the assistance given to foreigners by officials in the acquirement of real property in the interior, and so forth. Our contemporary's article would have done justice to the Progressionist press in its moments of bitterest opposition to those in power. In another article, it defines the Cabinet as "unprincipled," "inconsistent," and "without the courage to carry out a definite line of policy."

* * *

The *Choya Shimbun* charges the Ito Cabinet with the crime of deviating from the plain course of policy bequeathed by such men as Kido and Okuma, in whose footsteps Count Ito and his colleagues profess to tread. Why do they not fight with the Opposition as their predecessors did? Why do they tamely yield to the absurd clamours of the Popular Party? They are charged with being irresponsible in their actions. If they are resolved to adopt the programme of the Radical Party, they are advised to do so openly and courageously. As it is, they have not the courage either to fight to the end with the Opposition or to cōoperate with a portion of them in a dignified manner.

* * *

While a section of the Progressionist organs write as though they were in favour of alliance with the National Unionists, one of them, the *Hochi Shimbun*, distinctly asserts that there is absolutely no possibility of such an event. From every point of view, the two parties possess nothing in common; they stand at the opposite poles of political opinion, one being committed to a policy of thorough-going reform and progress and the other to that of ultra-conservatism. Even if they hoped to obtain a majority in the Diet by cō-operation with them, the Progressionists would never consent to an alliance. And in point of fact there is no likelihood of such a majority being obtained by combining with the National Unionists. The *Hochi*, therefore, begs its readers to pay no attention to the absurd rumours which are being circulated under this head.

* * *

While, on the one hand, most emphatically denying the truth of the report about an alliance between the Progressionists and the National Unionists, the *Hochi Shimbun*, on the other, earnestly calls upon the leaders of the various sections of the Opposition to stand by each other in the ensuing struggle with the clan Government. The folly of coalition with the statesmen of Sat-Cho extraction, is amply demonstrated, in the *Hochi's* opinion, by the personal experience of Counts Itagaki and Okuma. The rank and file of the two parties may yet be unable to appreciate this fact, but their leaders cannot pretend that they are unaware of it. Under the circumstances, the only rational course of action for them to take is to be again united in opposition to their common enemy. There may be, says the Progressionist organ, a certain class of men base enough to wish for a rupture between the two wings of the Opposition; but their selfish aims would avail nothing, if the majority of the Opposition be firmly united together. The *Hochi* scorns the objection that, after the recent violent contests between the two parties in Kanagawa and other localities, it is impossible to bring them again into the same camp. It points to the fierce and deadly struggles that took place between the two parties during the eight years preceding the formation of their alliance in 1890. Nothing then prevents them uniting in the coming session as they were united in sessions gone by. Such is the gist of our contemporary's article. Evidently, the Progressionists have found a good opportunity in Mr. Hoshi's unpopularity to pursuade the Radicals to abandon the reasonable and moderate policy, which they have hitherto pursued under his guidance, and join in the policy of reckless opposition to the statesmen in power.

* * *

Mr. Hoshi continues to be the object of violent attacks in the columns of the Progressionist and National Unionists organs. According to these papers, it seems that the Radicals themselves are greatly excited about the affair. They are said to have held repeated secret conferences to discuss the manner in which Mr. Hoshi ought to be dealt with. The results of these conferences are not known, but it is believed that, on his return from his lecture tour in Niigata, Mr. Hoshi will be formally requested by his party to resign his counselship to the Soma family, and in the event of his refusal to do so, some decisive step will be taken against him. The Progressionist papers are delighted with the opportunity thus afforded them of being revenged upon their inveterate enemy. They cannot forget that Mr. Hoshi twice headed a violent crusade against their party. The first crusade was undertaken in 1883-1884, when his conduct was disapproved of by such important members of his party as Messrs. Baba Tatsui, Taguchi Ukichi, Suyehiro Shigeyasu, and Oishi Masami. The second crusade is one which he commenced immediately after the close of the fourth session of the Diet. It is Mr. Hoshi that the Progressionists cannot manage. If he alone could be removed by any means from the stage, they would have no difficulty in bringing back the rest of the Radicals into a close alliance with them. They, therefore, spare no pains to exaggerate the so-called immoral conduct of Mr. Hoshi in order to bring about his fall from the high place he holds in his party.

* * *

It is worthy of notice that the Radical organ, the *Jiyu Shimbun*, stoutly defends the action of Mr. Hoshi. It maintains that there is nothing blamable in his conduct, and that, moreover, his actions as a barrister have no connection whatever with politics.

* * *

The efforts made by the business men of Tokyo and Osaka for the establishment of an iron foundry have attracted a large amount of public attention. The companies now under contemplation comprise one with a capital of 10,000,000 *yen* projected by Messrs. Takashima Kayemon, Amenomiya Keijiro, etc., and the other with 5,000,000 *yen* by Messrs. Okura Kihachi, Komuro Shinobu, and others. It is understood that the Government is in favour of the establishment of a private company for the purpose, with a State guaranty of 5 per cent annual interest. This prospect has caused active competition among men of business for the establishment of a steel foundry. It is reported that the projectors of the two rival companies are competing with each other in order to secure the approval of the members of the Diet. Certain projectors are reported to have declared that they have been able to obtain the promise of support from the Radicals and the National Unionists. Be this as it may, it is a noteworthy fact the organs of the Progressionist party strongly oppose the proposed grant of State guaranty. If the undertaking will really pay, what necessity is there, they ask, for a guarantee of interest? And if it will not pay, why commence it at all? The Government once proposed to establish a foundry with a capital of two and a half million *yen*. But the private companies now projected require from two to five times that amount. This alone makes it plain, in the Progressionist organs' opinion, that the principal object of the promoters of these companies is to make profit out of the interest that may be guaranteed by the State.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE ARCHDUKE OF AUSTRIA.

THE grand review, which was held on Saturday last at Aoyama, took place at 8 a.m. The troops comprising the Imperial Guards and a portion of the First Army Corps were marched on to the parade-ground at 6 o'clock. These were followed half-an-hour later by Count Oyama, Minister of War, Mr. Mutsu, Minister of Foreign Affairs, General Kodama, Vice Minister of War, several officials of the Household Depart-

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ment, a large number of the officers of the General Staff Office, and some members of the Diplomatic Body, including the Korean Minister and the Secretaries of the German and French Legations. At 7.40 His Majesty the Emperor arrived, attended by Marquis Tokudaiji, Grand Chamberlain, who rode in the same carriage. T.I.H.'s Princes Arisugawa and Kanin, Viscount Hijikata, Minister of the Household, Marquis Nabeshima, Grand Master of Ceremonies, Prince Iwakura, and several Court Physicians. His Imperial Majesty was dressed in the full uniform of Generalissimo of the Army. The Emperor was met at the entrance of the parade-ground by Lieutenant General Kawakami, the Commander of the troops, and staff. A few minutes later the Emperor was joined by H.I.H. Archduke Franz of Austria, who arrived in the same carriage with Mr. Yamanouchi, a Master of Ceremonies, followed by his suite, as well as H. E. the Austrian Minister Baron Von Biegeleben, and Mr. Sannomiya, Junior Grand Master of Ceremonies. At the entrance His Imperial Highness was welcomed by Lieutenant General Kawakami, who led him to the left of the Imperial position. The Emperor and the Archduke then together gave audience to the Ministers and officers who had been invited for the occasion. After a short rest, His Majesty and the Archduke, both on horseback, inspected the troops, being attended by the Princes Arisugawa and Kanin, Count Oyama, General Miyoshi, Major-General Count Leo Wurmbrand-Stuppach, Baron Von Biegeleben, Lieutenant-General Kawakami, and the Secretaries of the German and French Legations. On the Emperor resuming his seat together with the Archduke, the troops marched past the Imperial pavilion. The Review was over at 9.30, and after a short rest the Emperor shook hands with the Archduke, the former returning to the Palace and the latter to the Shiba Detached Palace. The weather being fine, though windy, a large crowd thronged the streets and parade-ground.

* * *

At noon on the same day, the Archduke was entertained at lunch at the Palace of Prince Kitashirakawa, in Hirakawacho. There were present Princes Komatsu, Arisugawa, and Kanin, the suite of the Archduke, the Austria Minister and several other foreign Representatives. His Highness returned at 2 p.m.

* * *

His Highness paid a farewell visit to the Emperor and the Empress at 3.30 p.m. the same day. The interview took place in the Phœnix chamber. At 5 o'clock, he was entertained at supper by Their Majesties, there being also present Princes Arisugawa, Komatsu, and Kanin, the members of the Archduke's suite, Count Oyama, Mr. Mutsu, Viscount Hijikata Marquis Tokudaiji, Marquis Nabeshima, Lieutenant-General Kawakami, the Austrian Minister and other foreign Representatives, and several high officials. Soon after supper, the Archduke took leave of Their Majesties, at the same time intimating a desire for no further formal recognition, to which the Emperor is said to have reluctantly yielded.

* * *

The Archduke Franz attended mass at the Roman Catholic Cathedral in Tsukiji Sunday forenoon, and left Uyeno Station at half-past six in the evening for Nikko.

* * *

The visit of the Archduke to Nikko was a melancholy affair. It rained almost unceasingly from the time of His Imperial Highness' arrival until the time of his departure. The streets of the village were partially illuminated, and great efforts of a similar nature were made by the proprietors of the Nikko Hotel where the distinguished visitor put up. Indeed, the Hotel presented a very pretty spectacle, not only the building itself but also the grounds within which it stands being a blaze of coloured lanterns. All the abigails that perform the function of attendants were also decked out in new raiment, but inasmuch as this was not effected at the expense of the Hotel, it is difficult to conceive how the poor girls found resources for such an extravagance. The Imperial Household Department sent from Tokyo a number of objects of art, and private persons in and about Nikko were invited to contribute from their collections, but the invitation produced very meagre results, as nothing seeking a purchaser was allowed to be displayed, and most persons possessing curiosities in Nikko belong to the class of astute dealers who understand that foreign tourists invariably come to a place of temples with the fixed expectation of finding some antiquities inaccessible to any one else, and who accordingly procure from Tokyo, Kyoto, Osaka, or the nearest town a quantity of fifth-class curiosities which are palmed off upon the unsuspecting but contented visitor. These individuals had "no show" on the present occasion, which was, on the whole, fortunate, though we are bound to say that the Imperial Household Department is not always entirely successful in saving its foreign *protégés* from the snares of unconscionable dealers. The Archduke, arriving at the Hotel at 11.25 p.m. on the 20th instant, retired to rest soon afterwards, and rose the next morning to find veritable Nikko weather, steady, drizzling rain with a persistent succession of clouds settling down on the hill-tops. The first thing done was to visit the temples, where every heirloom in the keeping of the priests was set out for the Archduke's inspection. We do not know how much interest the distinguished visitor takes in such things. Probably not much, as men of his age seldom incline to connoisseurship unless they are veritable enthusiasts. But it is scarcely likely that he can have failed to be struck by some of the exquisite objects displayed in the temples. We may mention here that these objects are to remain on view until October, so that visitors to Nikko during September will enjoy a rare opportunity. After the temples the Archduke went to the village and purchased some monkey skins, together with a great number of paintings of Nikko scenery by Japanese artists. For the afternoon an expedition to Urami Waterfall had been planned, and despite the steady rain, no departure was made from the programme. At a little after one o'clock a regiment of *jinrikisha* took the party to that favourite resort of Nikkoites, ample provision of refreshments having been sent forward. There was no difficulty in reaching the Urami hamlet dry, for a road, tolerably good at all times, and specially mended for the occasion, enabled the *jinrikisha* to bowl along without let or hindrance. But the climb from the hamlet to the Fall was by no means a picnic affair, though compensated, to some extent, by the unusual volume of water pouring over the rocks. On the way back to Nikko, the Archduke called at the picturesque villa of Mr. Sannomiya, on the bank of the Daiya-gawa, where tea was served by Madame Sannomiya. At 4 a.m. the following morning a special train took the party from Nikko to Utsunomiya, whence they proceeded by rail right through to Yokohama. It would scarcely have been possible to see Nikko under less favourable circumstances, and we do not suppose that this gem of Japanese scenery and temple architecture can have produced upon the Archduke anything like the impressions recorded of it by tourists who see it under happier climatic conditions.

* * *

The Austrian Archduke arrived in Yokohama at half-past eleven on Tuesday forenoon. He drove at once to Messrs. Kuhn and Co.'s, Main Street, where he purchased numerous valuable articles. The Prince then proceeded to the Grand Hotel, where he tiffined, after which he strolled through Honcho-dori, and other streets of the Japanese town making many small purchases on the way. He spent the night on board the *Kaiserin Elisabeth*.

* * *

The *Official Gazette* says that the Grand Chamberlain to H.I.H. the Crown Prince of Austria, the Captain of the *Kaiserin Elisabeth*, and seven other attendants in His Highness' suite or officers of the man-of-war have had conferred on them decorations ranging from the first to the fourth class.

* * *

The Archduke Franz Ferdinand concluded his visit to Japan yesterday, leaving with his *suite* by the *Empress of China* shortly after midday. His *suite* consists of Major-General Count Wurmbrandt, Count Clam-Martinitz, Lieutenant Sanchez de la Cerda, of the Austrian Navy, and Lieutenant von Pronay. As the time approached for the Archduke to leave the *Kaiserin Elisabeth*, her crew lined the deck, and as he went down the side, three ringing cheers were given, the band of the *Yayeyama Kan* at the same time playing the Austrian National Anthem. The Japanese despatch vessel had been sent to escort the distinguished visitor out of the Bay. The Prince was accompanied to the *Empress of China* by Baron von Biegeleben, Austro-Hungarian Minister, Baroness von Biegeleben, Consul-General and Madame von Kreitner, Capt. von Becker, Com. von Gedria, Count Coudenhove and Baron von Siebold, of the Austro-Hungarian Legation. On board the *Empress* were gathered to bid him *bon voyage* Governor Nakano of Kanagawa, Mr. Mitsuhashi, Chief Inspector Yoshida, Mayor Sato, Marquis Nembrini de Gonzaga, etc. Soon afterwards Mr. Sannomiya, Vice-Grand Master of Ceremonies accompanied by other Court Officials came on board to offer H.M the Emperor's good wishes for a pleasant trip across to the other side. Before leaving His Highness expressed his thanks to the Governor of Kanagawa and the officials of Japan generally for their kindness during his stay. As the *Empress of China* got under-weigh she ran up the signal "Good-bye" to which the reply came from the *Kaiserin Elisabeth's* masthead, "We wish you a pleasant voyage." The *Yayeyama-Kan* escorted the big mail-packet to Susaki.

SINGAPORE'S NEW CHIEF JUSTICE.

Mr. William Henry Lionel Cox, Procureur and Advocate General of Mauritius, has been appointed Chief Justice of the Straits Settlements, in succession to Mr. Bonser, who has been transferred to Ceylon. Mr. Cox was appointed Substitute Procureur of Mauritius in February, 1880; Puisne Judge of Mauritius, succeeding Mr. Pellereau, in August, 1880, and afterwards Procureur-General. As Procureur-General, which is equivalent to Attorney-General, he drew a salary of 13,500 rupees and fees.

HONGKONG CRICKETERS TO VISIT YOKOHAMA.

"X" writing in the *Hongkong Daily Press* on the 12th inst. says:—I hear that it is likely that the Cricket Club will send a team to Yokohama early in the season, if the difficulty of getting a representative eleven can be surmounted. An invitation was received from Ceylon, but the distance was too great to allow of its being accepted. It is just possible that some other interport contest may be arranged.

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE IMPERIAL MINT.

The twenty-third Report of the Imperial Mint has just been issued. It shows that the principal operations of the Mint during the financial year, ending the 31st March, 1893, were the receipt of imported bullion, the execution of coinage, the assay and refining of bullion, the manufacture of medals, the making and repairing of machines and tools, the amalgamation of sweeps, the melting of copper coins, &c. The work connected with these operations has considerably increased in comparison with the last financial year. In particular it may be mentioned that the importation of foreign silver bullion was exceedingly large and consequently the coinage of one *yen* silver was kept exceedingly busy. The first half of the financial year was occupied principally in coining one *yen* silver, while in the latter half of the year only could the coinage of nickel and subsidiary silver coins be taken up and brought to completion. This is the only year, since the commencement, in which the coinage of one *yen* silver has exceeded 12,000,000 *yen*. Work was further

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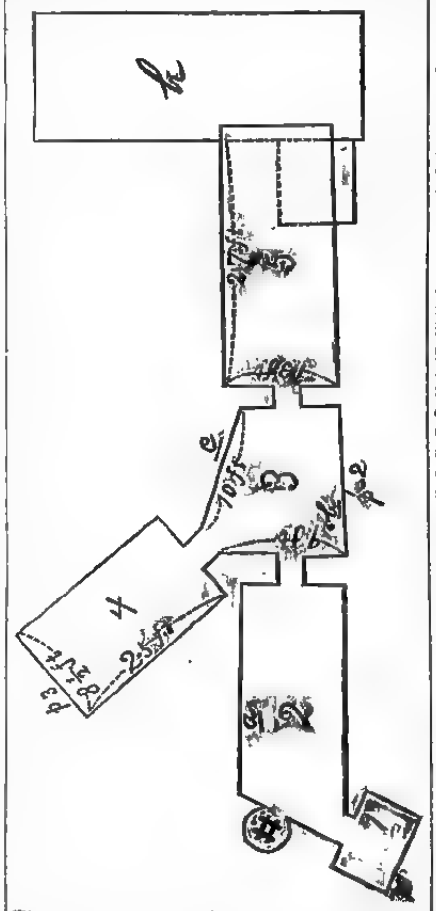
increased by the manufacture of several thousand steel puncheons for the making of Weights and Measures as required by the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, as well as by the manufacture of nearly 460,000 blanks for the new coinage of the Korean Government. Certain additional work was also introduced by the change in the system of weights used in the Mint transactions. Since the new Law of weights and measures has come in force, momme and gramme have been adopted for use in the Mint, in place of ounce troy and grain which had hitherto been used. The increased amount of work was met by the prolongation of working hours, and no inconvenience has resulted from large and occasional importations of foreign bullion. The expenditure depending upon the increase of coinage was greater than in the last year; but the balance of receipts and expenditure has not been much affected thereby. The total amount of bullion imported or purchased during this financial year are: Gold, 1,032,123.18 momme (at 900 standard); Silver, 105,318,094.16 momme (at 900 standard); and 7,066,105.52 momme (at 800 standard); and Nickel, 15,622,174 44 momme (at 25 per cent. of nickel). The total coinage of gold, silver, and nickel during this financial year amounted to 29,934,784 pieces, of the real or nominal value of 14,524,460 90 *yen*. Of this amount 1,369,905.00 *yen* were in 5-*yen* gold coins, 12,654,430 60 *yen* in 1-*yen*, 20-*sen*, and 10-*sen* silver pieces, and 500,125.30 *yen* in nickel. Besides the above coinage 102 ingots of refined gold, aggregating to 1,196,319.175 *yen* in value and 106 ingots of refined silver, aggregating to 146,967.448 *yen* in value, were manufactured. The total amount of coins paid out against bullion imported during the financial year was 13,993,195.118 *yen*. Bronze and copper coins to the amount of 500,000,000 *yen* were melted up during the year.

MATCH MANUFACTORIES.

MR. ARIGA, chief of the Patents Bureau, who is now, according to the *Shogyo Shimpo*, on official business in Osaka and neighbourhood, has discovered many points in the match industry which admit of improvement. Several meetings of the principal manufacturers were lately held, at which resolutions were adopted to ask the assistance of the Government to enforce control over the trade marks, to provide means for storing matches that have passed the inspection of the examiners, and to see that proper care is bestowed, both in public and private domains, on the cultivation of the willow, fir, and other trees used in the match trade. Another resolution was to make a special contract with the Osaka Warehouse Company to provide storage in a time of glut, as the people, under the belief that matches are dangerous, refuse to place them in their storehouses, and merchants are therefore liable to sell out, under the circumstances, regardless of loss.

DISCOVERY OF SUBTERRANEAN CHAMBERS

AN interesting discovery of subterranean chambers of considerable dimensions has been made in Tokyo. At No. 16, Sanchome, Haramachi, Ushigome Ku, there lives a respectable and well-to-do dealer in coarse-wares (*aramonoya*), named Nakagawa Sankichi. He is now past fifty; and though in easy circumstances, has not always been free from domestic troubles. He had nine children, but all died with the exception of two daughters. As is usual in such cases, he consulted a certain expert in the art of divination as to the cause of his misfortunes, and was told that it was due to an old disused well in the north-west corner of his compound, and that, unless he took prompt steps to clear it of impurities and then carefully fill it up, his own life would be in danger. Mr Nakagawa was at first disinclined to attach any importance to this singular advice. But as the prediction about his own life haunted him, he spent some days in searching for the traces of a disused well. One day he found a slightly indented spot in a corner of a field planted with potatoes. Thrusting a bamboo stick into the place, he discovered that the earth was loose to a considerable depth, and, concluding that this might be the well in question, he hired a workman to dig it up. This was on the 31st of last month. At a depth of about 10 feet, they came to a hole, which, on excavation, proved to be a rectangular apartment about 15 feet square. On further examination, they found an aperture which led to another chamber very much wider; and they have since succeeded in discovering three others. These chambers are located in the manner indicated in the following diagram:—



The excavation was first commenced at the spot marked *p1* in the apartment 1 and the other chambers were found in the order numbered in the diagram. The ceilings of these chambers are about 10 ft. below the surface of the ground. The soil being clayey, the ceilings and the sides are rather hard. The earth at the bottom not having been removed completely, the height of the chambers cannot be ascertained, but it is probably not more than 5 or 6 ft. The place marked ‡‡ is a well; at the point marked *a* on the side of the wall in chamber 2 is a figure of a monkey carved out in the clay; at the spot marked *b*, a reverberating sound is heard on stamping; the point marked *c* is supposed to have been the entrance to the chambers; and the places marked *p1*, *p2*, and *p3* are the air-holes, which were entirely filled up with the surface soil. Nothing of value or interest has as yet been discovered in the underground chambers, except a few round stones in chamber 5. It should be observed that *h* is the dwelling house of the coarse-ware dealer.

* * *

The above details, reproduced from the *Tokyo Asahi Shimbun* of the 22nd instant, are confirmed by our representative who inspected the chambers on the same day. He found the house besieged by a large number of people eager to have a view of the underground apartments Mr. Nakagawa cannot of course admit them all, and the privilege is granted only to his special friends and scientific experts. Our representative had to wait about an hour before he could descend into the chambers, so great was the number of people specially admitted before his arrival. According to his observations, the apartments are not of very ancient origin. It is stated that, until about eighty years ago, the ground covered by the compound formed part of a residence of the former Lord of Nagoya. A certain historian is of opinion that this vicinity was on the highway to the rebellious provinces of the North-East in the 11th century, when the famous Nine Year's War and the Three Years' War took place. Another antiquarian living in the neighbourhood, who claims to be the descendant of an attendant of the famous Prince Morinaga, who tried to undermine the usurped Government of Takauji at Kamakura in the early part of the 14th century, opines that the underground holes may have been used by the unfortunate Prince when he roamed about in the wilderness of Musashi. Of course these suppositions are not likely to have any value as explanations of the origin of these strange chambers.

JAPANESE PROJECTS AT JINSEN.

OWING to want of space, write the vernacular press, not a few Japanese in Jinsen are obliged to live in the quarter set apart for other nationalities. This, however, having been found very inconvenient and disadvantageous, the Japanese proposed, a year or so ago, to reclaim some 4,000 *tsubo* of land from the sea directly in front of the Settlement, there being no other course open to them. The scheme was based upon the terms of the treaty signed by Japan and Korea in 1883, and it was generally reported that the Korean Government were willing to accede to the request. But a difficulty arose from quite an unexpected quarter. The other foreign residents jointly represented that as the sea-frontage is held in common by all the Powers under the provisions of the treaty entered into by the Korean Government in 1884, the Japanese could not be permitted to lay sole claim to it. The Germans are said to be the real instigators of this movement. They greatly outnumber the other nationalities, who are perfectly indifferent in the matter, and the profits which they derive from letting land and houses, is therefore not insignificant. They fear that in the event of the success of the Japanese scheme, they may be deprived of not a little of the profits they now enjoy. The protest caused Korea to withhold her consent to the project. But Japan, by mismanagement, may be said to have really invited the present difficulty, for, whereas the first treaty exchanged with Japan provided for the enlargement of the Japanese Settlement, the second treaty concluded with all the Powers and also signed by Japan, practically prohibited it. Mr. Nose Tatsugoro, Vice-Consul at Jinsen, has held friendly consultations with the other Consuls and with the Korean Government, and it is believed that the matter will, before long, be brought to a successful issue. The question is a serious one in view of the steady development of trade with Jinsen and the yearly increase in the number of Japanese residents. The Chinese Consul is said to have a similar project under contemplation for the benefit of his countrymen.

THE MONEY MARKET.

THE total amount of convertible notes now issued, writes the *Nichi Nichi*, is, according to the latest returns, *yen* 129,901,933. If to this we add the bank notes now in circulation to the amount of about *yen* 30,000,000, and Government notes of from six to seven million *yen*, we get the enormous figure of *yen* 167,000,000 to *yen* 168,000,000. Looking back at the year 1878, when the Government issued non-convertible notes, the sum then in circulation did not exceed *yen* 165,000,000, while subsequent to the issue of convertible Bank notes, the total fell, at one time, to about *yen* 120,000,000. In 1890, when unusual tightness was experienced in the money market, the total did not exceed *yen* 135,000,000. The paper currency has, therefore, reached a figure never known before, and it is not surprising if the price of merchandise, following a well-known principle, shows an upward tendency with the expansion of currency. Rice, for instance, has been nearly al-

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sold out by speculators, but the price remains unchanged. One fact is evident, that the increase of notes in circulation is a proof of the development of the national resources, for while in 1890, the total amount of specie in reserve did not exceed *yen* 38,000,000, it is now above *yen* 86,000,000. If the present condition of finance be compared with that of the past, when 5 per cent. interest was required for the issue of *yen* 100,000,000 in convertible notes, the amount might be raised to-day to *yen* 200,000,000 without danger. It is hasty to conclude that there will be a repetition of the strain felt in 1890, for the money market is now on a firm basis and well regulated. Those who doubt the rise in prices cannot comprehend the real state of things.

MR. HOSHI TORU

MR. HOSHI, as we expected, has brought libel suits against the *Kaishin Shimbun*, the *Kokumin Shimbun*, and the *Choya Shimbun*, his attorneys in the three cases being Messrs. Yokota Sennosuke, Komiya Soichiro, and Sato Jiro respectively. These papers, as we recently noticed, published grossly libellous articles about the alleged conduct of the President of the House of Representatives in connection with the Exchange Bill and the Soma case. In cases of this kind, it is not necessary to prove the facts, but Mr. Hoshi has caused his attorneys to request the Court to allow the defendants to attempt to prove their monstrous allegations. According to the Newspaper Regulations, as we recently explained, the Court may allow journalists charged with libel to prove the facts, if the Judges think that the defendants acted in the interest of the public. And should the allegations be established, acquittal follows. If the facts alleged cannot be proved, the defendants are liable to major imprisonment for a period of from 15 days to 6 months with a fine of from 5 to 50 *yen*.

* * *

Adopting the recommendations of the Standing Committee of the Tokyo Barristers' Association, Mr. Oi Kentaro, President of that Association, has requested the Chief Public Procurator of the Tokyo Local Court to take steps for the opening of a Disciplinary Court to try Mr. Hoshi on the charge of immoral conduct in connection with the Soma case. The offence in question consists in the allegation that Mr. Hoshi was present for a few minutes in the room where Mr. Nishikori and the editor and attorneys of the *Yiyu Shimbun* were consulting about the case of insult to officials brought against that paper, and that a few days afterwards he consented to become Counsel for the Soma family in a case of false accusation brought against Mr. Nishikori and others. The enemies of the Radical leader allege that it was degrading to his position as a barrister to place his services at the command of the Soma family after having made himself acquainted with the secrets of the other side. But Mr. Hoshi has most emphatically stated that, although he was in the room for a few minutes, he heard none of the secrets of Mr. Nishikori and his friends. This has been attested by those present on the occasion. But Mr. Hoshi's enemies ignore all this, and are determined to bring themselves into ridicule by their intense display of animosity toward him. The Chief Public Procurator of the Tokyo Local Court has brought the matter to the notice of the Public Procurators of the Court of Cassation, who have to decide the question of opening a disciplinary Court.

THE SUICIDE ON THE "MOGUL."

THE full details of the melancholy occurrence on the *Mogul* were related at an inquiry into the death of Charles F. Forbes, surgeon, held at the British Consulate, Kobe, last week. Captain Golding, who was the first witness called, said that at 4.20 p.m. on the 14th August he was going towards the saloon when he saw the steward holding up his hands and singing out that the doctor had killed himself. He ran to the bath-room, where he found the deceased bleeding profusely from a gash in the right side of the neck; he was partly conscious, and said something about having had an accident in shaving; and was also able to answer, when asked where needles to sew up the wound could be found, that they were in his cigar-case. While the witness was engaged sewing up the wound a strong smell of laudanum was noticed, and on examining the cabin it was found that ten ounces of laudanum (nearly a tumblerful) were missing from a bottle which the purser had returned to the doctor that morning, having had the laudanum for the purpose of poisoning Mr. Forbes's dog, which had been ill. Mr. Forbes had apparently taken the laudnaum in his own cabin and then cut his throat, after which he had proceeded to the bath-room, his steps being marked by a trail of blood. Every effort was made to keep Mr. Forbes awake and to produce vomiting, but without avail, and at 1.40 on Tuesday morning he fell into a state of coma from which it was impossible to rouse him, and expired at 3.40 a.m. in lat. 32° 39′ N, long. 128° 6′ E. He was buried on the same evening at sundown. The evidence of evidence of Li Sing Woon chief steward (who very readily offered to take the oath), and that of Mr. Alwen, second officer, Mr. Lawrie, chief engineer, and Mr. Charlesworth, purser, was in the main a repetition of that given by the captain. Asked as to whether deceased was a sober man, Captain Golding said he believed he had been accustomed to take a considerable amount of drink, and on the voyage up appeared to be suffering from its effects. He had attended to his duties as usual at the ten o'clock inspection on the day of the occurrence, however, but was always more or less moody and preoccupied. After all the evidence had been taken, Mr. E. H. Griffiths, Acting Consul, before whom the inquiry was held, said:—"I find that the deceased killed himself by taking laudanum while in a state of temporary insanity, and that everything was done for him that could be done to resuscitate him from the time that he was discovered in the bath-room until the time of death."—*Chronicle*.

THE TOKYO MARINE INSURANCE CO., LTD.

THE balance sheet of the Tokyo Marine Insurance Co. Ltd., for the half year ended the 30 June, 1893, has just been published. The Working Account shows a balance to Profit and Loss Account of $463,485 444, inclusive of $26,099.543 brought forward from the previous term, after making due allowance for charges, commission, etc., exchange and depreciation of buildings and furniture. This it is proposed to distribute as follows: In payment of a dividend of 16 per cent per annum., $48,000.00, place to the reserve fund $387 352.079 and carry forward to new account $28,133.365. The premia,—less re-insurance and return premia,—amounted to $461,459.572, interest to $33,864.852, transferfess to $29.300 and sundry receipts to $510.612. The Reserve Fund to 31 December, 1892, was $455.380.062, which, with the addition of $387,352.079 transferred to it by the present account, will amount to $548,511.319.

FIRE IN KOBE.

ABOUT two o'clock on Saturday morning a fire broke out in a new saké shop situated in a cluster of small houses in Kitanagasa-dori, Shichome, Kobe, and quickly extended to the houses adjoining on either side. Fortunately there was little wind, and the brigades, though handicapped by difficulty of getting water, were able to confine the fire to these three houses, which were totally destroyed, the fire being extinguished by four o'clock. Had the outbreak occurred on the previous night, the thickly populated district at the back of Dr. Sano's hospital would have run great danger of total destruction, but there—"a miss is as good as a mile."—*Chronicle*.

JAPANESE CEMENT IN VLADIVOSTOCK.

THE effects of the cracks in the cement used in the Yokohama Harbour Works are having, says the *Shogyo Shimpo*, a disastrous influence in Vladivostock. Mr. Terami, who for more than ten years was Japanese Consul at Vladivostock, went there a short time ago as Agent of the Asano Cement Company, and effected the sale of some 3,000 casks to the Railway Office and the Port's Construction Office. Subsequently representatives of the Osaka Cement Company and the Onoda Cement Company followed and succeeded in making contracts. Vladivostock, therefore, proved a good market for Japanese cement, but since the trouble in the Yokohama Harbour Works became known, and the dissemination in a Russian paper of unfavourable comments upon it, the sale has ceased, and German cement is now in demand. It is feared that the bad impression conceived of Japanese cement will not easily be obliterated.

THE CHIEF PROCURATOR OF THE YOKOHAMA LOCAL COURT.

THE recent shooting case in Yokohama is not to be allowed to pass without comment by the Japanese press. We have already stated, says the *Mainichi*, that when Willett was discharged, the American Consul gave notice of his intention to reverse the position of the plaintiff and defendant. It does not consider the judgment of the Consular Court as altogether satisfactory, and thinks that Mr. Ichinose's laudable efforts on behalf of justice were frustrated by witnesses who were principally in the employment of the foreigners concerned. Our contemporary looks upon Yokohama as an Augean stable that must be cleansed, and commends Mr. Ichinose's energy, first in the Copeland case, and now in the Willett case, as praiseworthy efforts towards that end. "The regulations for the government of the foreign concession are so loose that immorality and gambling are rampant, as if the people were living in a state of savagery." It concludes by saying that the Chief Procurator finding it inconvenient to live either at his own house or in lodgings, has lately removed alone to his rooms in the Court.

MR. LABOUCHERE ON LITERARY STYLISTS.

WRITING in a recent issue of *Truth*, Mr. Labouchere says:—The pretty rules and the finicking ideals of the literary stylist always seem to me precisely on a par with those of the tailor-made dandy. Language is only the clothes of thought, and the fashionable style of literary expression changes as incessantly as the cut of fashionable garments. One part of a University education is to teach a man the art of turning sentences in the mode for the moment fashionable. Another part is to teach him the particular cut of clothes which are for the moment "correct form." The young fop who has acquired the first of these fine arts looks down upon the uninitiated penman as contemptuously as does his brother, the tailor made fop, upon the "bounder," or whatever is the fashionable name for him, whose waistcoat is of last year's cut or whose hat brim takes an unorthodox curve. In process of time these young fops from the Universities are taken on to the staffs of journals like the *Spectator* and *Saturday Review*. There they occupy themselves, like dandies at Club windows, in laughing at the literary clothes of the men in the street. Well, what does it matter? The man in the street has much more to laugh at.

A LADY DOCTOR OF SCIENCE.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Times* writes:—"Considerable interest attaches to the fact that Miss Maria M. Ogilvie, daughter of Dr. Ogilvie, of Gordon's College, Aberdeen, has just passed with the highest credit the final examination for the degree of Doctor of Science of London University. Her career seems to have been one of exceptional brilliancy. At the Ladies' College, Edinburgh, she gained the gold medal as dux of the school, a prize of £100, and other distinctions. She is an accomplished musician, having studied under Dr. A. C. Mackenzie, President of the Royal Academy of Music, and Sir George Macfarren. After attending the science classes at the Heriot-Watt College, Edinburgh, and determining upon a scientific career, Miss Ogilvie proceeded to University College, London, where she gained the B.Sc. degree, in the department of Natural

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Science, in 1890. She was awarded the gold medal in Professor Ray Lankester's class of Zoology and Comparative Anatomy. She then went to Germany for the purpose of doing original work, as required in the case of candidates for the degree of Doctor of Science. She studied at Munich, under Professor von Zittel, Professor of Geology and Palæontology in the University; and she made a detailed geological survey of a district in the South Tyrol Dolomites. Miss Ogilvie is the first lady Alpine geologist. The result of her survey was published in the *Quarterly Journal of the Geological Society* for February last. This paper was accepted by the London University as her thesis for the D.Sc. degree, and a few weeks ago, on her return from Germany, she successfully passed the written examination in London."

THE LONDON COUNTY COUNCIL.

THE London County Council, which is a notoriously Radical body, is anxious to build a County Hall to meet in. No more reasonable desire, surely, was ever entertained; so important a corporation should at least be fitly housed, if only for the honour of its County; and if the stories quoted by the *Spectator* are true, new accommodation is imperative. It is said that so narrow are the quarters in Spring Gardens, that committees which ought to meet are unable to meet, because they have no rooms to meet in; while others, more fortunate or less fastidious, have actually held meetings in the passage. Evidently there is a great squash, and a suitable County Hall is loudly called for. The trouble is that the County Council's ideas are very much too high. They want a Hall in the most fashionable part of town; in Westminster, indeed, close by the Houses of Parliament, Whitehall, the Horse Guards, the Palaces, and Marlborough House. This would cost a very large sum of money: £750,000 for the site, and just as much for the building. Now a capital of £1,500,000 represents an annual income of £45,000; and for London to spend such a sum upon a County Hall is stigmatised by the *Spectator* as a scandalous, ridiculous, and mad proposal. Nay, more; it is "a gigantic impertinence!" And really there is something very sensible in the counter-proposal of our excellent if somewhat pragmatical contemporary. "The County Council tell us," says the *Spectator*, "that they represent the struggling millions of London, that they are the champions of labour and the friends of the poor. Very well then; let them show themselves so by their acts. Instead of proposing to house themselves in aristocratic Westminster, in the vicinity of Buckingham Palace and St. James's Palace, of Marlborough House, of Whitehall, and of the Houses of Parliament, let them go into the slums and build their Hall there. In Battersea, Limehouse, or Bethnal Green, they could get a site for £50,000 instead of £750,000. Nor would this be all. They might choose an overcrowded and insanitary area, and by building thereon, might obliterate a moral and physical plague spot. Again, by putting up a pile of stately buildings in one of those terrible and squalid deserts of bricks and mortar which oppress the mind and body of man in the poorer quarters of London, they might add to the interest of life in a whole district. Lastly, the mere seating of themselves in a bad district would help to bring about better conditions of life. If the County Hall were in Whitechapel or Lambeth, we should hear much less about its being nobody's business to put a stop to infractions of the Public Health Statutes. The presence of the Council in the slums would have an exceedingly strong educational effect on the Councillors, and might induce them to talk less and do more. If a new County Hall is to be built, unquestionably it must be built in poor London, where public buildings are few and far between, and not at Westminster, which is full of them. The proposal to build there is little short of a scandal, and is making the enemies of the Council suggest that it is acting under the influence of the worst possible motives,—the desire to find a big job for the London building trade, a trade which can turn the scale at the elections. We do not believe that the majority of the Council would consciously be influenced in the least by such a consideration; but unless they are very careful, we fear they may be drawn into a course of action which it will be extremely difficult for them to defend from the charge at which we have hinted. Meantime, however, the scheme has been sent back to the Committee, and that, at any rate, is a point gained."

THE JAPANESE IN AMERICA

THE REV. E. A. STURGE, M.D., of San Francisco, writing in "The Church at Home and Abroad," says:—

It is estimated that there are now about four thousand Japanese in the United States. There are in San Francisco and the towns just across the bay about three thousand of these interesting people, but, as the Japanese in this land dress and live so much like ourselves, the presence of this large number among us is hardly noticed.

There are several reasons which lead the Japanese to seek a temporary home in our country. First, as all able bodied Japanese young men are obliged to serve three years in the Imperial Army, not a few who are reluctant to spend so much time in military duty, leave their own land to avoid that obligation. Then again, there are others with restless, adventurous spirits, whose chief desire is to travel and see something of the world. Also there are many of the poor student class, who are earnestly seeking an education, and who find opportunities here to pursue their studies, such as cannot be had in their own land.

Of late quite a number of an inferior class of Japanese, whose principal object seems to be the accumulation of a little money, have found their way to our shores. But the Japanese among us are as a people, gentle, polite, and law abiding and seem to be generally well liked.

During the fruit season, many Japanese find work in the orchards, many are employed in offices or families, and not a few are attending our public schools and higher institutions of learning, working part of each day for their board and lodging.

The Japanese upon arriving here, find themselves in a city where there is no Sabbath law, and where sin is probably practised more openly than in any other city in the United States. They have heard much of our Christian country, but the example constantly before them undoubtedly causes many to stumble. To counteract, as much as possible, the temptations and evil influences among which they are obliged to live, we have provided for them a Christian Home, where we have religious and social gatherings, educational privileges, and classes for physical development; the object being to meet the needs of their spiritual, mental, and physical natures.

There are few Japanese families here, and for this reason our religious work is unique, since our church and Sabbath-school are composed entirely of young men. The Japanese who come here do not intend to remain more than a few years, their object being to learn more of Western civilization, or to better their condition in some way, and then return to their beautiful island home. This is the most trying feature of the work, for, though there are many accessions to the church, we do not gain in numbers very rapidly, as our numbers leave us almost as fast as new ones are added. Yet we rejoice that so many of them go back to Japan to engage in the Master's service, and to use their influence for the advancement of the Gospel in their own land.

Two or three of our former members are now preaching in Japan, and a year hence we expect to send two others, who have just completed their second year in the Theological Seminary here, to engage in the same blessed work. Several others who were converted here, are now practising as Christian physicians among their own people. Thus the work done in this country is beginning to be felt on the other side of the Pacific. Our little church received twenty-three additions during the past year. The members are for the most part very earnest. Aside from the usual religious services, the young men often meet together for praise and prayer.

The Japanese Y.M.C.A., which is a part of the work, has about one hundred members. Each member contributes fifty cents per month, or six dollars a year, towards the work.

Our Japanese Home and Church, contains beside the chapel, parlour, reading room, kitchen, etc., sixteen rooms for students, plainly but comfortably furnished. The young men who occupy these, pay for the use of the same the small sum of three dollars each per month. In our Home almost every province in the Sunrise kingdom is represented. The rooms are usually all occupied, though just at present more than thirty of our members are in the country, but in the Autumn most of them will return to us again. Nearly all of our members belong to the Samurai or soldier class, and are descended from the old order of Japanese Knights. They are usually well educated in their own language, and learn English with great ease. Because of the respect in which they are held by their countrymen they will doubtless exert in the future a great influence for good upon their own people. Thus far very little has been said against the immigration of these people and many privileges have been accorded to them such as are not granted to the Chinese. How long this kindly feeling will continue it is impossible to say. If they come in increasing numbers to take the places of the decreasing Chinese, sooner or later there will be an outcry against them by the labouring classes. Indeed, some mutterings of an approaching storm are already to be heard. We trust, however, that the Japanese may not flock to our coast as the Chinese have done, for should they ever be badly treated here, the re-action would be most unhappy upon our work in Japan.

KOREAN AFFAIRS

A CORRESPONDENT, writing from Fusan, says:—"The *Japan Weekly Mail* of the 22nd ultimo mentions that the National Unionists, at a recent meeting, included in their report of proceedings the subject, "Injury to Japanese property by Koreans in the island of Zekkei." The so-called "injury relates to the pulling down of a coal depôt erected for the purposes of the Korean Steamship Company. The depôt being Korean property and the steamship company a Korean concern the matter had nothing to do with the Japanese. The fact that, despite these conditions, it has nevertheless been represented to be an injury to Japanese property, is said to be due to the former editor of the local newspaper. This man arrived in Fusan about two months ago, and began at once to stir up this peaceful place apparently with the object of creating a sensation and increasing the sale of the journal which he edited, the arrangement under which he edited it being co-operative, the projects being divided equally between the proprietor, the printer and the editor. The name of the journal was simultaneously changed from the *Fusan News* to the *Trading News of the Orient*. The Consul-General, Mr. Murota, finding the proceedings of the new editor injurious, denounced him publicly, and the editor vowed to be avenged. By misrepresenting the incident on Zekkei Island, he sought to show that Mr. Murota was not the man for his post, as the latter had of course taken no action about the incident. There was, it is true, some apparent justification for the editor's view of the case, since the management of the Korean steamship company had practically been entrusted by the Koreans to the *Shosen Kaisha* Company—who possibly, though secretly, may also be the principal proprietors in the Korean concern. It thus happened that the depôt was built by the Japanese Company and had the appearance of being Japanese property, but the editor of the *Trading News of the Orient* understood the real value of these appearances as well as anyone else. Zekkei Island, or Deer Island as it is commonly called, forms the southern limit of Fusan harbour and is divided from the mainland only by a narrow channel. This same island was recently the scene of a fight between Japanese fishermen and Koreans, some hundred persons in all being engaged on the two sides. The fight is interesting in that it was due to some Korean women who objected to the Japanese working without clothing. One of the women threw a stone at an offender against her ideas of decency, who returned the compliment by rude behaviour and, it is said, much brutality. Thereupon several men from the village attacked the Japanese, with the result that the woman who threw the stone, three Japanese and three Koreans were badly hurt. Meanwhile the murderers of the Japanese fishermen, killed some time ago at Crighton Island, remain undiscovered. Trade is dull. Merchants await the result of the rice crop, which, if good, will bring into the market a large quantity of this staple, simultaneously with stores of wheat and beans. In the vicinity of Fusan the rice has suffered from want of rain, but from the interior the reports are promising."

RAILWAY NEWS.

WHEN the last Diet, says the *Fiji Shimpo*, refused to decide on the numerous alternative lines to be undertaken in the so-called first-construction period, the Authorities despatched engineers to the respective localities to make further surveys. The result is a very minute survey, especially of those parts which had previously not received sufficient attention. In the meanwhile it seems that opinion in military circles has become adverse to the adoption of the Abt system, already decided on for certain lines. By the new surveys it has been found possible to abandon that system on the single line over the Itaya Pass between Fukushima and Yonezawa, and to substitute a different route where the steepest gradient will be 1 in 30. A similar change is also proposed for the Sasago Pass on the Hachioji-Kofu route, and in a certain part of the Okayama route, one of the alternative routes for connecting the Sanyodo and Sanindo. The effect of these changes is making itself felt on routes already decided upon. For instance, of the three alternative

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routes proposed for the Sanyodo-Sanindo line, the Government had declared in favour of the Himeji route, and had rejected those leading from Kurashiki and Okayama. One of the main objections against the Okayama route was the necessity for adopting the Abt system upon it, but as recent surveys clearly prove that the Abt system need not now be resorted to, and, moreover, as the Harima-Tajima private railway has recently been sanctioned, the Himeji route is losing much of the favour it enjoyed in the last session of the Diet. With regard to the prescribed Central lines, the noted Gotemba route is yielding to the claims of the Iwabuchi route, because it is asserted that even if the Abt system be avoided on the Sasago Pass, the outlay required will be much greater than was originally estimated, especially in the event of the construction work being started simultaneously from the Hachioji and Kofu ends. Such a plan would necessitate the opening of new roads between Kofu and the neighbourhood of Iwabuchi, and the laying of special rails for the conveyance of timber and rails to Kofu, involving a cost of some half a million *yen*. It is therefore proposed to construct the Iwabuchi-Kofu line in the first-construction period instead of the second, and to start the works for connecting this line with the Naoetsu line viâ Suwa and Matsumoto, in the course of which it is hoped a suitable route may be found for the so-called Central Route. Indeed, these important alterations being the result of investigations extending over but a brief period, many are of opinion that it might be well to give more deliberation to the selection of the alternative routes.

AMERICAN AND TANK OILS.

AMERICAN oil in Kobe, says the *Nichi Nichi*, has risen in price 20 *sen* per tin higher than it did in June last, while Russian tank oil shows a rise of only 6 *sen*. This appreciation in the rate of American oil may be ascribed partly to short supplies, and partly to the orders which come in from the northern provinces where the tank oil is not yet on sale. In Kagoshima and those districts lying along the Sanyodo and Sanindo, the tank oil seems likely to grow in favour because it is comparatively cheaper and little inferior to the American product. But as old tins are used for transporting the oil to distant parts, there is considerable leakage, and the loss which falls upon the purchaser, may induce him, rather than run the risk, to fall back on the American oil. For places less distant from the Oil Tanks, iron tins are used from which the leakage is not so serious. Our contemporary thinks that unless the oil is transported in more perfect vessels, it will not, in spite of its cheapness, replace the American oil.

YACHTING IN ENGLAND.

A LONDON telegram of July 31st gives a vivid description of the principal race in the regatta of the Royal Yacht Club which took place that day. The course was from a mark-boat off the club-house at West Cowes, Isle of Wight, eastward around the Warner lightship, westward to the buoy marking East Deep Shoal, passing north of Norman Fort. The course was sailed over twice. The weather was beautiful and the Solent filled with pleasure craft of every description. There was a fair breeze from the northwest and the yachts got away in capital style. The boats that took part in the race were Royal Phelps Carroll's *Navahoe*, Lord Dunraven's *Valkyrie*, J. Jameson's *Iverna*, Prince of Wales' *Britannia*, A. D. Clark's *Satania* and B. N. Doual's *Calluna*. The starting gun was fired at 10 o'clock, and under full sail, the yachts made for the line. The *Valkyrie*, with Lord Dunraven on board, was the first across, the *Iverna*, *Britannia* (with the Prince of Wales on board) *Satania*, *Navahoe* and *Calluna* following in the order named. At the beginning of the race the *Valkyrie* drew away sharply from the other boats and the *Navahoe* seemed to lose slightly. The wind freshened on a rising tide and the *Navahoe*, with everything except the spinnakers set, began to haul upon the leaders, and was soon leading, the *Valkyrie* two seconds behind. The *Navahoe* continued to gain slowly, and at 1.50 was leading the *Valkyrie* ten seconds, the *Britannia* a close third. Great interest was manifested in the *Navahoe*, which is the American challenger for the Victoria Yacht Club Cup, the Brenton's Reef Cup and the Cape May Cup. When the yachts started on the second round the *Navahoe* got over the line eight seconds ahead of the *Valkyrie*. The *Britannia* was the third to cross, one minute later than the *Valkyrie*. Then followed the *Satania*, *Calluna* and *Iverna* in the order given. The *Iverna* got away ten minutes behind the *Navahoe*. On the second round the *Britannia* and *Valkyrie* overhauled the *Navahoe* and the *Britannia* finished first; the *Valkyrie* second, the *Navahoe* third. The *Britannia* finished one minute and three seconds ahead of the *Valkyrie*, which was one minute twenty-six seconds ahead of the *Navahoe*. The *Satania* was fourth and the *Calluna* fifth. The *Iverna* gave up before the race was finished. Among those who witnessed the race were the officers of the United States cruiser *Chicago*, which arrived at Cowes that morning. The time of the first three yachts was: *Britannia*, 3 hours 46 min. 15 sec.; *Valkyrie*, 3 hours 47 min. 19 sec.; *Navahoe*, 3 hours 47 min. 42 sec. The *Navahoe* was tried on all points of sailing, and came out of the trial in a satisfactory manner for a first performance. It is evident that the *Britannia* and *Valkyrie* will have their hands full every time they meet the Yankee if she can be improved in a small degree; but the *Britannia* and *Valkyrie* fairly and squarely outsailed her to windward.

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The *Field*, in commenting upon the American yacht *Navahoe's* performance, says:—"Given a steady breeze, either the *Valkyrie* or *Britannia* can beat the *Navahoe* by at least five minutes over a fifty-mile course. Her want of stiffness, compared with that possessed by English yachts, renders her present performance uncertain. She will be a wonder in light breezes." The same paper adds:—"We know nothing as to the relative merits of the *Navahoe*, compared with the *Jubilee*, *Pilgrim*, *Vigilant* and *Calluna*. If any of these are superior to the *Navahoe*, as the New York press asserts, there is not one among them that the *Valkyrie* could beat. There is a strong feeling here that the *Valkyrie* will be sailing after an *ignis fatuus* in New York bay, and that she might just as well stay at home. But surely it will be well to know how much better the American machines are than our yachts in a fair stand-up fight. We shall always remember that the *Valkyrie* sailed on her own bottom to New York. If she is beaten by the shallow bodies of the pin-bulbkeelers we shall not take it to heart much."

COUNT INOUYE ON THE HOKKAIDO.

THE *Nippon* gives the following as the main points in a conversation which Count Inouye lately held with Mr. Maki, M.P. in Sapporo:—Having fixed a definite line of policy for the future, every encouragement should be given to local industries. Hitherto, no uniform policy has been pursued. Among the principal objects necessary for the development of the island, His Excellency places railway extension first on the list, then the improvement of harbours, and the drainage of the land. He does not see any particular urgency for the Hakodate Harbour Works, although the importance of the work he admits to be beyond dispute. He does not think Mororan well adapted for a Military depot; and considers that the reclamation of the sea and the construction of a pier at that port,—for which an application was made by the Coal Company, but not granted by the Military authorities,—a perfectly reasonable request. On the completion of these two works, the facilities for the transport of coal would be largely augmented, Mororan itself would became a big commercial centre, and the land along the railway route, would soon be reclaimed from the marsh and forest. Count Inouye is of opinion that Otaru is of much importance to the commerce of the island, and the improvement of the harbour there more urgent than at Hakodate. He intends to have young trees planted on the hills around Otaru, and to prohibit any irregular reclamation. The employment of criminals in the collieries, etc., he considers feasible. The Coal Company having completed the survey between Sorachifuto and Kawakami—a distance of 32 miles—with a view to the extension of their railway, asked the opinion of the Count, who not only approved of the scheme, but further suggested that the line might be prolonged, in one direction, to Ajiri viâ Kitami, and, in another, to Akkeshi viâ Tokachi, thus forming a Hokkaido trunk line. He is reported to have told Mr. Maki that the scheme he has in contemplation, as the result of his present tour, should be entrusted to a large private Company, and he further advised the Coal Company not to hasten the construction of their new lines. The Company will feel the necessity, within a year or two, of laying double lines between Iwamizawa and Sapporo and Otaru. The drainage works at Ishikari are an urgent necessity. With regard to roads, the Count found the estimates for the next fiscal year had been increased by 40,000 *yen* over those of last year, but he did not think the making of new roads as of immediate importance, and he had reduced the estimates, in various ways, by from thirty to forty thousand *yen*.

POLITICAL RUMOURS.

THE *Kokumin Shimbun*, which is as notorious as the *Nippon* for its boldness in hazarding political predictions, now ventilates disquieting rumours concerning a rupture in the Government. According to our contemporary, Count Yamagata, President of the Privy Council, who is regarded as the chief of the so-called Military party, is said to be busily engaged in consultation with Viscounts Tokushima and Kabayama. Viscount Torio is also reported to be an occasional visitor at the Count's residence at Mejiro. Another report to which much significance is attached by the *Kokumin*, is that Count Yamagata recently addressed a letter to Count Okuma. Count Matsukata is also stated to be expected in the capital, his object being, according to rumour, to have a conference with Count Yamagata. From these facts, our contemporary concludes that the political world is threatened with a storm. This may be, however, only one of the *Kokumin's* wonted devices to scare the Radicals into a reconciliation with the Progressionists.

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The *Jiji Shimpo*, alluding to the report that the Cabinet will unite with the Radical party in the coming session of the Diet, observes that, in its opinion, the majority of the Radicals will be opposed to such an alliance, because, at the present juncture, it would be attended with most disastrous consequences to the position of the party. Already, the rumours of friendly relations between the Cabinet Ministers and some of the Radicals, have led to a revulsion of popular sentiment in favour of the Progressionist party. Under these circumstances, the *Jiji* is disposed to believe that the Cabinet will have to face the Diet in the coming session without the support of any political party.

INDEPENDENCE IN YEZO.

THE natives of Yezo have always been credited with a certain spirit of independence, which is tacitly assumed not to be a characteristic of their more southerly kinsmen. This feeling is shown in a somewhat curious way on the Hokkaido railways, where, although the cars are divided into the usual three compartments, the classification is rendered in the vernacular as first, second, and ordinary or common people. The same occurs in the list of rates for travellers found in the inns. It may be a distinction without a difference, but there, anyhow, is the difference in nomenclature for the more analytically minded amongst us to search for the distinction.

ANTWERP INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION OF 1894.

THIS Exhibition, under the patronage of H. M. the King of the Belgians, will be inaugurated at Antwerp on May 5th, 1894, and will remain open for a period of six months. It will include

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Industrial, Scientific, and Artistic productions. Pending the Exhibition, the Antwerp Royal Society of Fine Arts will hold its renowned exhibition of Painting, Sculpture, Engraving and Architecture. There will also be held National, Colonial, and African Exhibitions to which particular attention will be devoted. Special competitions, meetings, conferences, musical festivals, and other entertainments will be held. The Exhibition buildings are to be located in the new quarter of the city, near the river Scheldt and the new maritime installations; they will cover an area of about 75 acres, and will be connected with the Railway.

SEVERE THUNDERSTORM IN KOBE.

KOBE was visited on Monday by one of the most severe thunderstorms experienced for several years. About half-past eight in the morning heavy clouds blowing up from the west massed themselves over the town, and it began to get so dark that about nine o'clock lamps had to be lighted in some of the offices. Fine rain then commenced to fall, and, after a few distant peals of thunder, suddenly, about half-past nine, a most vivid flash of lightning seemed to strike down upon the town, followed immediately afterwards by a deafening crash of thunder. The flash was so vivid that people in many places declared they saw the lightning strike the ground and explode like a bomb, this doubtless being due to the reflection in the wet ground of the forked lightning. More than one Japanese house appears to have been struck, and three coolies taking shelter in a house near the Waterfall were very severely injured, requiring a long space of time to bring them round. This, though the worst, was not the only accident in the locality. About the same time a foreign house on the hill felt the force of the shock, and though the lightning does not appear to have directly struck the building, it seems to have passed through the house and to have affected every one more or less who was in it at the time. A child three years of age who was entering a room from the verandah fell to the ground insensible, and when picked up its limbs were found to be quite rigid. The child was immediately undressed and placed in cold water and the arms moved backwards and forwards as in the case of the apparently drowned, and after a quarter of an hour it revived, and half-an-hour later was playing about again as if nothing had happened. Others in the house felt the shock, but none suffered to the same extent as the child. At a neighbouring house a Japanese woman at work in the kitchen was struck and fell, but did not become insensible.

NEWS FROM KOREA.

ACCORDING to the *Jiji Shimpo's* Korean correspondence, Messrs. Omiwa Chobei and An Shiju, who had been in Japan to arrange the coinage business, returned to Sōul on the 9th instant. Mr. Omiwa at once called on Mr. Boku Teiyo, Minister of Finance, to make a personal report on the provisional arrangement made with the Japanese Government. Mr. Boku is said to have expressed entire satisfaction with that arrangement, and highly appreciated the friendly attitude of the Japanese Government. The Korean Minister of Finance promised Mr. Omiwa to bring the matter immediately before His Majesty the King and to take steps for a final contract with the Japanese Government. Those opposed to entrusting the coinage to the Japanese mint are said to be unabated in their efforts to obstruct the carrying out of the scheme. But the *Jiji's* correspondent believes that there is no longer fear of their intrigues being successful.

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The Japanese School in Sōul under the control of the Korean Foreign Office, is said to be in a precarious state. It was founded in 1891 with Mr. Okakura Yoshisaburo, a graduate of an elective course in the Imperial University, as principal. The students of the highest class have made sufficient progress to read Japanese books. At first the school was prosperous; but of late, owing to the growing coolness towards Japan, Korean officials have been advocating its abolition. The Japanese Consul, Mr. Sugimura, perceiving the danger, interviewed the Korean Foreign Minister and represented to him the unadvisability of discontinuing the school which has just begun to bear fruit. The Minister then made a representation to the King and was barely able to secure the continuance of the school.

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The date for the payment of the indemnity for the damage inflicted on Japanese merchants by the prohibition of the export of beans having drawn near, the Korean Government is said to be busily engaged in collecting money. According to the *Jiji Shimpo* correspondent's information, the necessary money is to be raised without having recourse to foreign aid. We (*Japan Mail*) have since learnt by telegraph that the amount was paid on the due date.

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The same correspondent reports that in the Keiki-do, Chusei-do, and Kokai-do, the rice crop is expected to be unusually plentiful. In the Keisho-do, drought is said to have injured the crop more or less.

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Concerning the *Togaku-to*, the *Mainichi Shimbun's* Sōul correspondent states that, despite the unflagging efforts of the Korean authorities, the real condition of the malcontents is not yet known. With regard to their real power, various antagonistic views seem to be entertained by those who ought to know. According to a well-informed person cited by the correspondent, the *Togaku-to* is represented to be a band of lawless marauders, without any effective strength or any serious political aim. There are among them a few men of capacity, but there is no danger, it is said, of their causing any revolutionary trouble.

HOW TO ATTRACT AN AUDIENCE.

A PAPER on "Wood and its Application to Japanese Artistic and Industrial Design" does not suggest anything very attractive or interesting, and one marvels that such essays should draw audiences so numerous as those that attend the Japan Society's meetings. But the puzzle is explained when we read what kind of arrangements are made for submitting the paper to the meeting. Here is the programme:—

The Paper will be illustrated by Specimens, Diagrams, &c. H M. Science and Art Department has kindly granted the loan of the Collection of Japanese Wood-working Tools from the South Kensington Museum for exhibition at this Meeting.

A collection of the latest improved English and American Carpenters' and Joiners' Tools, kindly lent by Messrs. Melhuish, Sons & Co, Tool Manufacturers and Importers, of Fetter Lane, E.C., will be exhibited for purposes of comparison.

Mizutani Takichi, a *Daiku* (Master Carpenter and Joiner), of Tokio, will give practical demonstrations of Japanese Carpentery and Joinery.

A London Joiner will give illustrations of English methods of work, for purposes of comparison.

The people upon whose shoulders falls the duty of organizing these affairs deserve much credit.

MR. KITAOAKI AND THE HOKKAIDO.

THE following interesting article appears in the *Nippon* of the 22nd inst. Whenever the maladministration of Hokkaido is talked about, the first question that arises is that of the leasing of land. Indeed, such are the administrative delays under this head that more than thirty thousand applications for leases were lying unsettled on the shelves of the Hokkaido Central Office. The causes that brought about such a state of things may, according to our contemporary, be classed under three heads. The first refers to legal troubles. For instance, applications, accompanied by sketches, are received for the lease of certain land, but there being no accurate maps of the entire island, it often happens that the authorities grant leases of the same land to more than one person, or more frequently, complications arise about boundary lines. The inadequacy of funds for travelling expenses constitutes another difficulty, as the Board find it impossible to despatch officials into remote parts of Tokachi or Kitami when applications for leases of land in those parts require investigation. Repudiation of the leases by the applicants themselves is considered another cause. Mr. Watanabe, ex-Chief of Hokkaido-Cho, in order to overcome these obstacles to the development of the island, applied for a special grant of 120,000 *yen*, which the Government did not thing unreasonable, but which they declined to lay before the Diet, for fear of increasing the clamour against the Hokkaido. Mr. Kitagaki, the new Chief, however, has by a simple but ingenious scheme, lessened the difficulties. A notification was issued that all applicants for the lease of land should apply anew before the 31st July. Mr. Kitagaki was well aware that a large number of the thirty thousand referred to, were mere bogus applications, and so the result of the notification proved, for less than one third took the trouble to send in fresh papers. The labour of inspection having been thus materially lightened, it is hoped that all applications will be disposed of by June next.

THE COTTON INDUSTRY.

ACCORDING to returns furnished at the Japan Cotton Yarn and Spinning Union Office in Osaka, the following are given as the total incomes and rates of dividends of the various spinning factories for the 1st half of the current year:—

Names.	Average number of spindles in operation.	Total Incomes. Yen.	Dividends. per cent.	Dividends for the Corresponding period of last year. per cent.
Kanagafuchi	30,289	85,024.172	7	6
Osaka	28,862	80,132.311	10	15
Settsu	19,465	102,216.283	20	25
Hirano	11,491	73,089 762	20	20
Tokyo	8,960	36,313.300	10	10
Izumi	13,849	52,276.864	30	20
Amagasaki	11,215	37,694 383	13 6	17
Owari	15,139	53.335 256	12	—
Wakayama	5.557	25.300 888	16	18
Kurume	4,890	15,007.565	12	12
Kanahaba	13,552	58,083 637	20	16 6
Miye	30,672	94,424 975	14	15
Kurashiki	6,811	16,239.182	12	25
Okayama	12,888	42,501 741	20	22.5
Tenma	16,439	38,030 038	10	12
Himeji	4,585	9,249.118	6	—
Nagoya	8,304	8,515.375	6	10
Shimozuke	4,513	9,414 996	10	8
Mitke	10,287	33.539 797	18	10
Tamashima	13,672	40,231.590	20	22 5
Uwajima	2,064	7.197 856	14	16
Fukushima	3,030	2,779.581	5 9	20
Naniwa	27,700	31,719 322	5 per share	unknown
Hiroshima	4,000	133.829	13 sen per share	

THE SOMA CASE.

THE preliminary examination of witnesses in the Soma murder case is still going on. Viscount Kagawa, Master of Services to Her Majesty the Empress, having been summoned on the 22nd instant. It is stated that Mr. Nishikori presented to the Court on the same day some important documents bearing upon the case. These papers, according to some persons, throw a new light upon the complicated question of the alleged murder.

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The *Yami no Yono Naka* (A Dark World), a small pamphlet describing the facts concerning the Soma family as looked at from Mr. Nishikori's standpoint, is so much in demand that it has gone into the seventh edition in less than fifty days. It ends with the death of the late Viscount Soma. A second volume, dealing with the events that have transpired since then, is stated to be in course of compilation.

IRON FOUNDRIES AGAIN.

OF the schemes lately projected for starting Iron Foundries, only two remain, and they are likely to amalgamate. We (*Japan Mail*) mentioned that one party was led by Mr. Amenomiya with a capital of *yen* 10,000,000, and another by Messrs Okura, Takashima, etc., with *yen* 5,000,000 The foundry mania has spread to Osaka, and we see reports in the vernacular press of a special meeting having been held on the 17th inst. which was attended by wealthy merchants like Messrs. Hirose,

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Fujita, Matsumoto, etc. Mr. Komuro Shinobu seems to have been the prime mover in Osaka, where, according to the Osaka papers, he is said to have stated that the Government would not undertake the enterprise, but were resolved to entrust it to a suitable company, that it would have Government aid, and that those engaged in the scheme in Tokyo would be glad to cōoperate with the Osaka merchants. Count Matsukata and Mr. Wada, formerly Chief of the Mining Bureau of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, happened to be in Osaka at the time, and were asked to address the meeting. The former, speaking from an economic, and the latter from a technical point of view, gave their unqualified support to the scheme. And the doubts of the Osaka merchants having thus been cleared away, they expressed themselves ready to join the enterprise, provided the Government would guarantee a certain supplementing of profits.

PUPIL'S BLUNDERS.

MISS A. C. GRAHAM has taken a prize offered by the *University Correspondent* for the best collection of pupils' bunders. She vouches them all as literal copies of the originals, and explains that she was led to set about their collection by reading one day the enterprising statement that "Ilaied and Odessae translated Euripides." The *Youth's Companion* gives a few of the choicest gems of her collection :—Esau was a man who wrote fables and who sold the copyright to a publisher for a bottle of potash. ——The Jews believed in the Synagogue and had their Sunday on a Saturday, but the Samaritans believed in the Church of England and worshipped in groves of oak; therefore the Jews had no dealings with the Samaritans.——Titus was a Roman Emperor. Supposed to have written the Epistle to the Hebrews—his other name was Oates——Oliver Cromwell was a man who was put in prison for his interference in Ireland. When he was in prison he wrote "The Pilgrim's Progress" and married a lady called Mrs. O'Shea.—Perking Warbeck raised a rebellion in the reign of Henry VIII. He said he was the son of a prince, but he was really the son of respectable people.——The heart is a comical shaped bag. The heart is divided into several parts by a fleshy petition. These parts are called right artillery, left artillery, and so forth. The function of the heart is between the lungs. The work of the heart is to repair the different organs in about half a minute.

A NEW TENDENCY IN THE POLITICAL WORLD.

UNDER the above heading the *Kokumin-no-Tomo* has an interesting article dealing with the question of an alliance between the Progressionists and the National Unionists. Our contemporary some time ago speculated, as we then noticed in these columns, upon the probable alliance between the Cabinet on the one hand, and the Radicals and the National Unionists on the other. But the course of events since then has tended in a different direction, and the *Kokumin* now seems to be inclined to believe that the National Unionists, instead of cōoperating with the Radicals in support of the present Cabinet, intend to effect some sort of understanding with the Progressionists to be directed against those in power. The centre of gravity in the National Unionist party, observes our contemporary, has gradually swifted from Count Saigo to Count Yamagata. As long as Count Saigo remained the central figure of the National Unionists, there was little fear of their taking any decidedly hostile attitude against the Government. But things assume a different aspect when they come under the control of the President of the Privy Council. Count Yamagata, unlike Count Saigo, is angular in his character, and his friendship with Count Ito, close as it is, is formal when compared to that existing between the latter and the Minister of the Navy. Consequently, it is a matter of grave doubt whether Count Yamagata will consent to remain in his present position if the Cabinet pursues a conciliatory policy in the coming session of the Diet. The prospect is made still more gloomy by the probable transition of the centre of authority in the *Kokumin Kyokai* from Count Yamagata to men of second-rate order like Viscounts Kabayama, Takashima, and Shinagawa, or even to those of the third order like Messrs. Yasuba Yasukazu and Furusho Kamon. Count Yamagata's personal regard for Counts Ito and Inouye will prevent him from heading an open agitation against the present Ministry. But Count Takashima and the rest are more free to adopt whatever attitude they please toward those now in power; and when they obtain absolute sway over the National Unionist party, the latter will, in the Tokyo periodical's opinion, adopt a policy of vigorous opposition to the Cabinet. In that event, our contemporary thinks that their common antagonism to the Government will bring together the the National Unionists and the Progressionists in the next session of the Diet. Politically, these parties are worlds apart; the one striving to retard reform, and the other to effect reforms of the most sweeping character. The one is progressive while the other is conservative. But they have one vital interest in common, namely, opposition to the Ministry. The *Kokumin* confesses that such an alliance is not calculated to favour the progress of constitutional Government in this country; but true to its hatred of Counts Ito and Inouye, it contends that such a step is better than a tame and undignified submission. The blame of making it necessary for the Progressionists to cōoperate even with such allies as the National Unionists rests, in our contemporary's opinion, with "those short-sighted" and "corrupt members" of the Radical party, who, while openly maintaining an attitude of opposition, are secretly in communication with those in power.

INUNDATIONS IN GIFU AND MIYE.

THE *News Agency* reports as follows:—

Gifu, 23 Aug. 9 42 p.m.

The Nagara gawa has risen 20 feet above its normal level, since 3 a.m. the embankments at Ahachi, Hagui, Motosu, Atsumi, Kakami, and Agata gave way, but nothing is yet accurately known as to the number of lives lost or houses demolished. The water has not been known to rise to such a height for forty years

The Kisogawa has risen 18 feet, the Ebigawa 12 feet, and the water is still rising.

Miye, 23 Aug. 8.20 p.m.

The embankments of the Kisogawa and Ebigawa have collapsed, and 7 houses have been swept away. No lives lost.

Gifu, August 23, 10 p m

The two bridges over the Nagara-gawa in the town of Gifu, have been washed away. The embankments at Akumi-mura, Kakami-gun, and one other place have been burst through, carrying away 70 houses. Danger to life is imminent.

Nagara gawa has now overflowed in the vicinity of Katafuchi.

The Umase-gawa has inundated the Omizo provincial road, and has forced its way into Utsumura, Motosu-gun, stopping the passage to Ogaki.

The neighbourhood of Takasu is inundated by the waters of the Ebi-gawa to a depth of 10 feet. The waters have also burst into Matsuye.

Innumerable minor disasters have occurred. Officials have been distributed for the rescue of the sufferers.

PERSONAL ITEMS.

CONCERNING Mr. Oishi, late Japanese Minister to Korea, who has not yet started on his proposed tour in the West, the Imperial News Agency reports that certain influential members of the Government are exerting themselves to obtain for him an appointment as Vice-Minister of State. The delay in his departure is ascribed to this circumstance. Nothing is said to indicate what particular post is meant.

* * *

Mr. Hoshi Toru continues to be an object of virulent attack on the part of the vernacular press. It is asserted that several members of the Radical party have requested Count Itagaki to cause Mr. Hoshi to cut off his connection with the Soma family, and that Mr. Hoshi, in deference to the earnest solicitations of the Count, has consented to decline to act as Counsel for the Soma family in the case of false accusation. According to the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun's* information, Mr. Hoshi is stated to be resolved never to yield to the absurd clamours of some of the obscure members of his party. It is remarked that none of the more important members of the party countenance the indiscreet actions of their followers.

* * *

Mr. Ito Miyoji is certainly a very influential official. Some people even aver that he really wields the power of a Minister of State. The *Kokumin Shimbun* states that the Chief Secretary of the Cabinet looks down with contempt upon all the Ministers of State with the single exception of Count Ito. The choice of the members of the various Committees is said to be mostly determined by him. Another paper observes that he is now on good terms with Mr. Mutsu and Mr. Hoshi, because he sees little prospect of realising his ambition—to become a Minister of State—by working in concert with those statesmen usually included in the so-called Military party, with whom he was formerly rather intimate. We reproduce these rumours for what they are worth.

* * *

Dr. Kitazato's hospital and laboratory are said to be in course of construction at Shirokane, the ground being the property of Mr. Fukuzawa Yukichi, the well-known editor of the *Jiji Shimpo*.

PHYSICAL TRAINING IN SCHOOLS.

THE *Nippon*, in commenting upon the number of students in the common schools who are afflicted with myopia, consumption, *kakke*, and other diseases, says these troubles arise from irregular methods of study, negligence of ordinary hygienic rules, and a system of education which, while unduly straining the youthful intellect, provides no adequate means for the care of the body. The Minister of State for Education is said to be now taking the matter into consideration. Mr. Mishima, a graduate of the College of Medicine of the Imperial University, whose speciality is the diseases of children, has devoted over six months in inspecting the health of school children in localities adjacent to the capital, and the investigations of the educational authorities are based upon Mr. Mishima's reports. Looking backwards, adds our contemporary, we find that the late Viscount Mori introduced military drill into every public school, and although a voice was raised against its severity, the results were satisfactory. Since the lamented death of that Minister, so incessant have been the changes in the portfolio of Education that the authorities have had leisure to do little else than speed the parting and welcome the coming guest. One result is the lapse of that proper physical training of the children, which should be made part of the permanent school routine and independent of all official changes.

THE EMINENT CRITIC OF THE "DAILY TELEGRAPH."

MOST people would appear to be under the impression that Mr. Clement Scott derived his impressions of this country during the three—or was it four—weeks he spent here, chiefly from amongst the shambles of the Treaty Ports. It is a pity that any injustice should be done "the eminent critic of the *Daily Telegraph*," and, therefore, although our readers may be about satiated with the subject, we propose to let Mr. Scott speak for himself. "I had," he says in the *Illustrated American*, "as it happened, exceptional privileges and manifest advantages for seeing in a short time every phase of Japanese life and society outside the highest and most exclusive. But my experience and observation were not derived from the gossip of guides or the tittle-tattle of the hotel-bar and billiard-room. I have been for many an expedition on the mountains far away from civilization and explored the scalding sulphur springs and the steaming craters of this land of volcanoes. The shock of earthquake that made every house in Yokohama during my visit tremble and rock to its very foundations and the English ladies at the *table d'hôte* quake with fear, did not hinder my mountain climb with the athletic host of the Kaikatei Hotel, who pioneered me from Kowa-

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kidani, near Miyanoshita, straightaway over ice and snow to the happy valley of Hakone. I was made welcome in homes where Europeans had married natives in order to acquire property in Japan, and knew many who had borrowed wives, as Pierre Loti did, in order to save the expense of a valet and housekeeper. I have been the guest of my exiled fellow country-men who have coolly bought companions for the sake of distraction and chatter, or amusement. But I believe honestly, that if all these men—social outcasts for the most part—spoke the truth and from their hearts, that they would own they were sick to death of the whole thing, that they were heartily ashamed of their Japanese wives. * * * *" It is somewhat unkind—not to say curious—that Mr. Scott should describe the friends at whose hospitable table he was not loth to sit, as "social outcasts for the most part;" but a good deal must be excused in a man whose best work is said to be "dashed off" for an impatient and expectant public in the hours between the close of the play and the dawn. "Murray's Handbook," too, is inexcusably awanting in giving us no indication as to the whereabouts of the "mountains far away from civilization," and yet within a day's journey of Yokohama, that being the extent of Mr. Scott's peregrinations in the interior; it is also strangely silent on the Alpine delights of Kowakidani and the "happy valley of Hakone" at the end of March. But we trust the above extract will show how ungenerous have been the criticisms as to the sources of Mr. Scott's information on Japan, and that readers of his forthcoming volume will bear in mind his "exceptional privileges and manifest advantages for seeing in a short time every phase of Japanese life and society outside the highest and most exclusive."

RUNNING AMOK AT HONGKONG.

On Sunday evening August 13th, says the *China Mail*, a Chinaman named Chan a Chan suddenly became insane in a house at Aberdeen, Hongkong, and running amok, committed serious assaults on a a lukong and another man, set fire to the house No. 74, and burned himself to death. Chan Lin, the woman who occupied the house, has stated to the police that she knew the deceased when she lived at Stanley. He was a fisherman, and lived at Deep Water Bay. He visited her on Sunday morning at 10 o'clock, when he appeared in his right senses. He went for a walk, and returned about 3 p.m. and had food along with her, her father-in-law and her son. He told them he was going to commence work as a coolie at Aberdeen Dock at six o'clock, and went and laid down to rest. About six o'clock he awoke in a frenzy, shouted 'This is not Hongkong; it is Singapore. I will die rather than stay here.' Clutching hold of some rags, he poured kerosene oil over them and set them on fire, and upon the woman, who appears to have been alone with him, attempting to interfere, he picked up a heavy iron chopper and she had to make good her escape. Outside she encountered a lukong. He went upstairs, but although carrying a carbine he allowed himself to be driven back by the madman, and proceeded to the Police Station for assistance. Inspector Butlin promptly ordered him to return, at the same time giving instructions to other constables to follow and render any assistance that might be required. Report of the fire was then brought to the Inspector, who turned out the whole of his men and the Fire Brigade, and arrived on the scene only to find the whole of the house, a two-storied brick building, in flames. On the street he found a foreman coolie lying bleeding copiously from a severe scalp wound, and lukong 153 also suffering from ugly wounds about the head. Both men had attempted to enter the house when they saw smoke issuing from it. The madman attacked the coolie with the chopper, and threw a large samshu jar at the lukong, inflicting a bad wound on the left temple. The wounded men were hastily attended to, but all efforts had to be concentrated on the fire By cutting the roof of the adjoining house, the Fire Brigade prevented the fire from spreading, but No. 74 was completely gutted. When the fire had burned itself out, the remains of the madman were found lying across the charred joints of the first floor, face downward and roasted to a cinder. The man who was most seriously injured refuses to go to the Hospital.

* * *

A few days previously some fishermen of Aberdeen left a comrade to die on the beach, because he was too exhausted to crawl on board the junk.

SHIPPING ACCIDENTS IN SHANGHAI.

On the morning of the 14th inst., as the *Benalder* was crossing the inner bar at Shanghai, outwards, she took a sheer in the strong tide off Pheasant Point and run ashore between the Harbour Master's Station and the French godowns, so that at low tide she was out of water to past the foremast. Two tugs went to her assistance, and she discharged some of her bunker coal, but in spite of this, she did not float at high tide. Exertions were continued, and by evening she floated, and then proceeded on her voyage at once.

* * *

In the afternoon of the same day, as the Austrian steamer *Fesyung* was going alongside the N.Y.K. wharf she had the misfortune to run into one of the pontoons, end on. She smashed her own stem, and crashing through a fourteen inch fender, went through two wooden pontoon guards (one above the other) which are some twelve inches broad by eight inches thick, and then into the iron pontoon itself. The pontoon commenced to leak but the rent being promptly shored from the inside, the inflow of water was stopped. The concussion caused all the heavy pontoon shores to be shaken out of their sockets and the two bridges were dislodged, the pontoon ends falling into the water. So great was the shock that a beam against which one of the shores rested was pushed about a foot out of position although the inner end was embedded in the ground, so that the curb-stone of the road some twelve feet from the edge of the bunding was knocked out of place.

* * *

On the 16th the *Gutslaff* managed to dislocate the bridge connecting the P. & O. pontoon with the jetty. The tender was not damaged and the work of replacing the bridge was rapidly proceeded with.

THE LIBERAL POLITICIANS OF KIUSHU.

According to the *Yomiuri Shimbun's* information, the members of the Radical Party in several localities in Kyushu seem inclined to secede and join the Progressionist Party. Out of the seven Prefectures, four, namely Kagoshima, Nagasaki, Oita, and Saga—are stated to be decidedly favourable to the Progressionist Party, while in Fukuoka a section of the inhabitants are unalterably attached to the same party. It is said to be only in Kumamoto, and Miyasaki that the Radicals have any chance of maintaining ascendency. In Saga, also, it is feared that, if Mr. Matsuda Masahisa, who is a native of the locality, makes active exertions, the Radical Party may obtain a footing. It will be observed that this forecast, from whatever source it may have been derived, is exceedingly partial to the Progressionists, and that large allowance must be made before it can be accepted as a plausible view of the situation in the western island.

KILLED ON FUJI.

A shocking accident has occurred on Fuji, resulting in the death of six men, while four or five others have received dreadful injuries. It appears that a party of pilgrims from Saitama put up at an inn on the mountain on the 17th, having been overtaken by the strong gale that prevailed that day. The next day was also stormy, but some of the party insisted on leaving the house in spite of the earnest remonstrances of the landlord. Taking advantage of a momentary lull in the storm, they left the inn at about 11 o'clock on the 18th, and proceeded on their way down. Just as they reached Tomeri a stiff southerly wind sprang up without warning and catching the pilgrims in an exposed position swept them over a precipice. The fall was from a great height and six of the men were instantly killed, skulls and limbs being literally shattered; the five that escaped with life are badly injured, most of them receiving severe fractures.

SENDING CRIMINALS TO THE KURILES.

The proposal for the establishment of a convict settlement in the Kuriles has again been revived in official circles. According to the vernacular papers, the Police Bureau of the Home Department have completed their enquiries into the subject, and intend to lay certain propositions before Count Inouye on his return from the north. The scheme was first advocated in the early days of the present reign, but was suffered to drop in consequence of the expenditure necessary to carry it out. Present opinion is in favour of making the criminals engage in the fisheries and agriculture of the Kuriles, and that specially generous treatment should be accorded to those who labour diligently. In this way the islands might be gradually opened, and the land ultimately disposed of at suitable prices.

THE SUNG-PU OUTRAGE.

The Chinese Native papers say that the two ringleaders of the mob that murdered the two Swedish Missionaries at Sung-pu have been arrested and sent before Viceroy Chang Chih-tung, who has ordered them to be kept in prison, pending their examination, and notified the Swedish Consul at Hankow of their arrest. Li Taotai and some other officials waited on the Consul on the 1st inst. in connection with the matter. The Consul thought that there should be more than two arrests, and Taotai Li said the men in custody were the actual murderers, but that the local authorities would be instructed to apprehend all others implicated and send them to Hankow. It is said the date for examining the prisoners has been fixed.

EXTENSION OF THE YOKOHAMA SPECIE BANK.

The *Kokumin Shimbun* informs us that the scheme for establishing Branch Offices of the Yokohama Specie Bank in Hongkong and Bombay will probably soon be carried out. The Bombay Branch is likely to be opened before the end of the year, as the rapid development of the cotton-spinning industry between Bombay and Japan, calls for greater banking facilities than at present exist. Several Japanese have gone to Bombay in order to see how transactions may be conducted without the aid of foreign intermediaries. It is believed that the opening of the contemplated route by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha will give a great impetus to trade.

LONDON'S BIG FIRE.

Among the many mercantile houses which had offices and warehouses totally destroyed by the fire of July 17th in St. Mary Axe, Bevis Marks, Bury and other streets, London, we note the following, all of which have business connection with Japan:—Messrs. Lazarus and Rosenfelt; Messrs. Geen, Evison, and Stutchbury; Messrs. Hart and Dunk; and Messrs. I. Marians and Co. Those partly damaged were Messrs. Bethel and Co.; and Messrs. Marians and Priest. The fire broke out in Messrs. Brown & Co.'s printing and stationery warehouse, St. Mary Axe, and spread with remarkable rapidity. The last estimate of the damage was placed at £2 000,000.

LAO-T'IEH SHAN PROMONTORY LIGHTHOUSE.

The following notice to mariners, (No. 271), dealing with the Newchwang District of the China Sea, has been issued:—Notice is hereby given that the Light on Lao-t'ieh-shan Promontory was exhibited for the first time at sunset on the 7th instant. The illuminating apparatus is Revolving Dioptric of the First Order, showing double *white* flashes at intervals of half a minute. The Lighthouse stands on the south-western slope of Lao-t'iehshan Promontory, and the Light, which is elevated 315½ feet above the level of the sea, should be visible in clear weather at a distance of 25 nautical miles in all directions between the bearings,

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approximately, of S. 8° E. round by east and north to N. 73° W., except where it is obscured by outlying islands. The bearings are magnetic and from seaward. The tower is round, of iron, 25 feet high, with a total height from its base to the lantern vane of 52 feet. The tower, dwellings, and boundary wall are *white*. Approximate position:—Latitude 38° 43′ 17″ N. Longitude 121° 8′ 26″ E.

COUNT ITAGAKI.

We find the following note in the *Kokkai*:—"A certain Radical recently called upon Count Itagaki and asked his opinion as to the policy to be pursued in the coming session of the Diet. He was told by his leader that the Radical Party cōoperated with the Progressionists in the last session of the Diet, because circumstances made it necessary to do so. But they, the Count went on, repeatedly broke their promises with the Radical Party, and even betrayed its secrets to their opponents. The Radical Party will not, therefore, repeat the folly of cōoperating with the Progressionists in the next session, but will pursue an independent course of action alone. Some people, the Radical leader also stated, believe that the *Domei* Club will not cōoperate with the Radical Party. That may be so, but the object of that party is to increase the number of its members in the Diet until it obtains a working majority. Consequently, Count Itagaki declares that his party will pursue an active policy in the coming session. Concerning Mr. Hoshi, the Count considered his conduct manly and praiseworthy when looked at from his position as a barrister, although as a statesman it may be open to the charge of rashness. At all events, his action in becoming Counsel to the Soma family has no manner of connection with the Radical party."

* * *

The obscure followers of Mr. Oi, the inveterate enemy of the President of the House of Representatives, and some Progressionist lawyers keep up an incessant attack upon Mr. Hoshi in the press and on the platform. As to the suits brought by him against the *Kaishin Shimbun*, the *Choya Shimbun*, and the *Kokumin Shimbun*, the one against the first mentioned paper alone has been accepted by the Public Procurator, those against the two others having been thrown out on the ground that the statements in their columns complained of by Mr. Hoshi do not constitute a libel. Mr. Hoshi is now on a lecture tour in the Prefecture of Niigata.

FRANCE IN JAPAN.

The *Kokumin-no-Tomo* laments, in a recent issue, the decline of the influence of the French school of thought in Japan. In the first days of Japan's intercourse with foreign Powers, namely, in the latter part of the Tokugawa régime, France held a commanding influence in this country, most of the efforts of those then in power in introducing Occidental civilization and institutions being chiefly encouraged by France and her agents here. The basis of the present splendid Army was laid by French officers in the employ of the Tokugawa Government. Further, those ideas regarding the equality of man, which so powerfully swayed the minds of the immortal creators of modern Japan, were imbibed from French sources. A reference to the official documents and the rescripts of the early years of the Restoration, amply prove that the rulers of new Japan took the lead in putting those ideas into practice. To them was due the movement which deprived the nobles and *shizoku* of the privileges they had enjoyed for several centuries. The forces that were at work in the Japanese Revolution of 1867-1868 were thus identical with those which brought about that great political and social upheaval known as the French Revolution. The same forces manifested themselves in 1881-1882 in the rise of the Radical party and the general activity in the political world. But where are French scholars and French thought now? The *Kokumin* sees the whole field formerly occupied by the French school of thought now usurped by German ideas. The individualism preached by French scholars is now in danger of being completely trodden down by the German doctrine of the omnipotence of State. What are French scholars now doing? They are transformed either into tame and inoffensive officials or into mere translators of the impure novels of Zola and his school. The lamentable decline of the influence of French thought in Japanese politics is ascribed to two circumstances, namely, that the French scholars, in devoting themselves too exclusively to legal studies, neglected the political movements of the day, and that they have left no mark upon the literature of their time. They are called upon by our contemporary to rise and revive the influence of French thought which has been too long missed from the political arena in this country.

A MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY'S TROUBLE.

The application for permission to establish a new Marine Insurance Company lately forwarded to the Authorities by Messrs. Tsukahara, Umeura, Yamanaka, Asano, etc., has been rejected, on the ground of disagreement amongst the projectors themselves. The cause of the trouble is said to be Mr. Yasuda Zenjiro, a well-known banker, whose name had been added to the projectors by Mr. Tsukahara, and to whom the latter had entrusted the sole control of the business. The vernacular papers say that Mr. Yasuda made several alterations in the regulations of the Company, changing the amount of capital, for instance, to *yen* 2,000,000, or double the original sum, and the face value of shares from *yen* 50 to *yen* 100, and it was in this amended form that the application was sent forward. The other projectors, on learning these things, appear to have been much annoyed at what they considered the arbitrary action of Mr. Yasuda, and complications then arose. Mr. Sonoda, President of the Bank of Japan, Mr. Masuda, President of the Mitsui Gumi, and other notables intervened, and would have arranged matters had not Mr. Asano tried to retire from the concern on the pretext of being busy. This imbroglio brought about the rejection of the application.

"THE INLAND SEA AND COAST PILOT."

We have to acknowledge receipt of a copy of the "The Inland Sea and Coast Pilot" by Mr. John J. Mahlmann, Harbour Master, Kobe, and Examiner of Candidates for Inland Sea and Coast Pilot Licenses. It is a compact volume intended for the use of ship-masters in navigating along the Japan Coast and amongst the islands of the Inland Sea. The information is given in the form of questions and answers, a method which will doubtless commend itself for practical everyday purposes, as special points may more readily be found and settled by this means than by consecutive narration. We are glad to see Captain Mahlmann gives the Japanese names which have been adopted for the new charts as well as those found on the old, so that something like uniformity of nomenclature for the straits, islands, and headlands, may one day be looked for. We ought to add that an Appendix to the work contains accounts of six typhoons which have visited the south-east coast of Japan since 1889; of these, we notice, four occurred on dates ranging between the 11th and 16th of September, one on the 16th August, and one as late as the 30th September. The author is a well-known master-mariner of long experience, and we have no doubt that his work, which is lucidly written, carefully planned, and admirably got up, will be found indispensable by those for whom it is specially designed.

REFORMS IN THE NAVY.

From inquiries addressed to us, it appears that a portion of the public is still uncertain whether the Naval reforms, recently described in these columns, are in actual operation. Those reforms, let us assure our readers, went into force directly upon the issue of the Imperial Ordinances relating to them. As to the changes in the *personnel* of the service, there is no necessity to refer again to them, as we published at the time detailed lists of the appointments and retirements. We may, however, mention here that the total number of officers put on the retired list in consequence of the reforms was 61, distributed as follows among the different grades:—Rear-Admirals 6, Captains 14, Commanders 15, and Lieutenants 27. The number of retirements in the Engineer, Architect and Medical Staffs, was 34. According to the latest figures obtained from a trustworthy source, the present number of officers proper in the Imperial Navy, in the different branches of the services, is as follow:—

Grades.	Active Service.	First Reserve.	Second Reserve.	Total.
Vice-Admirals	5	9	—	14
Rear Admirals	2	6	—	8
Captains	33	21	3	57
Commanders	53	16	5	74
Lieutenants	252	40	18	310
Second Lieutenants	208	2	3	213
Grand Totals	553	94	29	676

The figures for other branches are as follow:—

Grades.	Active Service.	First Reserve.	Second Reserve.	Total.
Engineers	108	14	13	135
Architects	57	6	3	66
Physicians	121	17	20	158
Pharmacists	5	—	—	5
Paymasters	125	20	27	172

The following table shows the present number of Sub-Lieutenants, Petty Officers, and Marines.—

	Active Service.	First Reserve.	Second Reserve.	Total
Sub-Lieutenants	261	11	38	310
Petty Officers	1,560	164	—	1,724
Marines	7,468	1,201	463	9,132
Total	9,289	1,376	501	11,166

INUNDATIONS IN KII AND MIKAWA.

Mr. Yamamoto, M.P., reports that the drought in the Prefecture of Wakayama lasted for fifty days, resulting in parched land and almost withered crops. Heavy rain fell on the 17th and 18th, the rivers rose suddenly, especially those to the south of the town of Tanabe and in Higashi Muro-gun, carrying away bridges and generally spreading destruction. The Aidzu-gawa, Tomita-gawa, Hioki-gawa, and Singugawa overflowed their banks, inflicting considerable damage on the adjacent villages. Thirteen persons are missing from the vicinity, and over 100 houses are washed away. The town of Tanabe has suffered most; in nearly all the streets and in several of the adjoining villages, the water is from a few inches to 4 feet deep. There are over 1,000 sufferers seeking shelter in the Tanabe Common School, and 300 persons dependent on the Local Authorities for means of subsistence. The terrible flood of four years ago, and the devastation last year, though less extensive, required 100,000 *yen* from the local treasury for repairs, are heavy trials for the poor peasants.

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The rivers Yahagi, Toyokawa, and Sugan in Mikawa have also risen considerably, overflowing their banks and in some places breaking through them. In the town of Okazaki the water is from 1 to 2 feet deep in the houses. A whole family of seven people are missing in one of the hamlets on the banks of the Toyokawa, the water of which has not been known to rise to such a height for the last 20 years

COUNT OKUMA ON KOREAN FINANCE.

The report of Count Okuma's observations on Korean finance, the first portion of which was published in that number of the *Hochi Shimbun* which caused its suspension, is concluded in its issue of Sunday last, the ban of suspension having been removed the preceding evening. In return for taking charge of the surplus of 300,000 *yen* to be effected in the manner already indicated, the Korean branch of the Specie Bank ought, in Count Okuma's opinion, to receive from the Korean Government the privilege of issuing convertible notes. Then he goes on to allude to the eminently unsatisfactory condition of the Korean currency, and advises the Söul statesmen to give up the useless task of coining new pieces of their own, and to adopt Japanese coins as legal tender. In this way Korea would be able to possess,

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without expense and trouble, a stable and reliable currency, which would go far to restore credit and give a new impetus to the development of her commerce and industries. Besides, she would obtain substantial profits by imposing a reasonable tax upon the Specie Bank for the privilege of the issue of notes. The advantages of such a policy from a Japanese point of view would also be immense. For it would give Japan an effective means of extending the sphere of her commerce as well as secure her political position in the peninsular kingdom. It is of vital importance for Japan, the Count goes on, to assist Korea, as far as possible, to maintain her independence by offering material help in the developing of her natural resources. When, unfortunately, it becomes impossible for Korea to maintain her independence, Japan ought, in the Progressionist leader's opinion, to occupy the country. He thinks that the Japanese would be far better masters for the Koreans than either the Russians or the Chinese. Will it be possible to carry out such a policy? The Count has no doubt about its practicability. Indeed, he states that he once tried to carry it out, and hopes that he may have another opportunity to try it again.

TRADE WITH CHINA.

THE *Nippon* suggests, in one of its late notes, that Japanese merchants should seize the existing depression of trade between China and gold-using countries as an opportunity for developing their own trade. It quotes a recent telegram from Shanghai to the *Standard* which speaks of a serious falling off in the imports from India, especially in opium and cotton yarns, as a result of the change in the monetary system of that country. After quoting further communications on the topic under consideration, our contemporary says that as matters stand, the only way in which China can maintain supplies up to the figure hitherto imported, is either to produce them herself or obtain them from silver using countries. Japan is already exporting goods made in European style, and cotton-spinning has, of late, been largely developed, so that she has an opportunity that may never arise again, of displacing Europeans in the Chinese market. The Government is accused of indifference to this trade, adds the *Nippon*, although some Chinese merchants have informed the Japanese Cousuls of their desire to do more business with this country. "What is the use of the Commercial Bureau of the Foreign Office, and the Trade and Industry Bureau of the Noshomusho," it indignantly asks, "if such an important question is allowed to pass unheeded?"

THIRD CLASS DINING CARS.

ON the 1st of July the London and North Western Railway inaugurated a system of third-less dining-cars on their Scotch express trains. The Midland Company will follow suit, says the *Times*, and a similar service will be established on the east coast route in the course of the next few weeks. New trains have been built specially for this purpose, and within the last few days both the North-Western and Midland Companies have been running experimental trips with complete success. On the North-Western line, it may be mentioned, the passengers can walk from end to end of the train through corridors along the sides of the carriages and enclosed vestibules between them. The dining accommodation here is for 34 first and 18 third-class passengers; while on the Midland Railway 21 first and 43 third class passengers can dine simultaneously. Lavatories and smoking-rooms are among the other conveniences provided on these trains.

* * *

It is not probable that such elaborate arrangements for dining purposes will ever be called into requisition in this country. The first-class passenger on the Japanese railways seems, like his countrymen in the cheaper compartments, to be perfectly satisfied with the modest *bento*, which is so conveniently supplied at the carriage window, by hotels adjacent to the railway stations. It is clean, fresh, and besides being packed in neat, unpainted wooden boxes, contains a sample of the best things the particular neighbourhood produces. But other improvements introduced into this "Corridor" train, as it has been called, might find a welcome on the Japanese railways. Every traveller is, by an ingenious arrangement, made secure of his comfort in the carriage, and is free to stay in his place or move about without fear of infringement of his rights. No such comfort can possibly be secured on the Japanese railways, especially by those travelling second-class, where the compartments are allowed to be littered by baggage of all sorts, and where men stretch themselves out on the divans for naps of indefinite length, regardless often of the congested state of the traffic. Other minor inconveniences, which have often been referred to in the press, would be obviated by the adoption, or even partial adoption, of the excellent system just put into operation on the well-known English line.

THE "SOSHI" AGAIN.

ABOUT fifty *soshi* proceeded the other day to the residence of Marquis Tokugawa Girei at Yokoami-cho, Honjo, and attempted to effect entrance by force. Police were stationed both inside and outside the house, and succeeded in arresting most of the band. The vernacular papers give the following account of the causes which led to the disturbance. It seems that a gendarme, named Nakahara, had been asked by Nakamura, a steward of the House, to act on its behalf in connection with certain scandals, and also with the notorious Kawai Kotaro with whom the family was in more or less trouble. Nakahara consented to undertake the business for a reward of 200 *yen*, and, according to his own story, a promise that should he be dismissed from the gendarmerie for engaging in such affairs, some further consideration should be forthcoming. It is not clear whether Nakahara's services were of any value to the Owari family, but one thing is certain, that his conduct reached the ears of his superiors and he was consequently dismissed, imprisoned for some months, and ordered to refund the money he had received from the steward. On the expiry of his term of imprisonment, he found it impossible to earn a livelihood and so threw in his lot with the *soshi*. The refusal of the steward to fulfil his promise, led the band to take up Nakahara's cause, and attempt to gain their object by force. This was fortunately frustrated, as we have seen, but as the entire society of vagabonds and bullies in Tokyo, make common property of the affairs of any of its number, it is feared that another attack may be made on the residence.

JAPANESE ACTION IN SHANGHAI.

A CIVIL case in the Mixed Court, was tried lately in which the plaintiffs, the Japanese firm of Kichisho, sued a man named Li Ts'ing-liang of the Shenyuan hong of that port for failing to send to Japan the proper goods, *i.e.*, old rags, as specified by contract made between the two parties, alleging that the rags shipped to Japan contained a lot of stones, lime, and rubbish presumably to add to the weight. The Japanese Assessor was the Japanese Vice-Consul who, accompanied by his Interpreter, sat on the bench with Mr. Tsai. The charges were proved and Mr. Tsai gave judgment against the defendant for Tls. 298, the amount of damages alleged to have been sustained by the plaintiffs through the breach of contract. Mr. H. S. Wilkinson appeared for the plaintiffs and Mr. Catterall for the defendant. The defendant complained at the decision and Mr. Tsai replied that he was at liberty to appeal to the Taotai, and ordered him to find proper security for the payment of the money.

JINRIKISHA TRAFFIC IN TOKYO.

BASED on the enquiries which one of its staff has carried out in regard to the *jinrikisha* traffic of Tokyo, the *Choya Shimbun* has calculated that if each *jinrikisha*, out of the total of 39,021 employed in the urban sections of the capital, is drawn 3 *ri* per day, the distance traversed by these vehicles amounts to 117,063 *ri* daily, and that if each of the 41,347 men engaged earns 30 *sen* a day, the total daily amount reaches a sum of *yen* 12,404.10. In other words the people in the metropolis travel a distance of 42,827,995 *ri* in a year, which is about twice the distance between the earth and the sun, or about 4,282 times that of the circumference of the earth; while the sum expended for travelling comes to *yen* 4,527,679, or about nine times the amount of the local taxes of the Tokyo Fu.

A NEW LITERARY FIND.

ORIGEN, a Church Father, in his homily on Luke, mentioned an apocalyptic book in which the statement is made that angels of righteousness and iniquity engaged in a combat over the salvation or the destruction of the Patriarch Abraham. In the stichometry of Nicephorus and in the Synopsis of Athanasius, mention is made of such a book among the Apocrypha of the Old Testament. The long-lost writing, which at one time no doubt was an influential document in the Patristic Church, is now claimed to have been found. Our source of information is the *Theologische Litteraturzeitung* of Leipzig, from which we learn that a distinguished English specialist, a Mr. M. R. James, has published the text of this rediscovered book,—as he believes. He tells us that he has found it in two Greek versions, one somewhat longer than the other. The *Litteraturzeitung* says:—"As the document in contents and character is significant and representative of the religious and literary thought of the early Greek Church and has never before been made accessible, a reproduction of the leading thoughts is not a work of supererogation." The entire story, we are told, treats of a positive refusal on the part of Abraham to die, though he was repeatedly commanded to submit to the common fate of the race. The messenger is the Archanged Michael, who announces to the Patriarch his approaching death. For the performance of this task Michael assumes the form of a man of war, is kindly received by Father Abraham and royally entertained, so much so, that he finds it impossible to deliver his message. He therefore departs under a pretext, returns to heaven and informs God that he could not deliver the message of death to so pious a man. He was at once ordered by God to return to the earth, and perform the work assigned him. In order to lighten his task, God promises to cause Isaac to have a dream which Michael will be asked to interpret. Isaac thereupon dreams that he had seen the Sun and the Moon above him, and that a man came and took away first the Sun and then the Moon. This is interpreted by the Archangel as indicating first the death of Abraham and then that of Sarah, Michael himself being the one who had come to bear them away. He thereupon asks Abraham to follow him. This the Patriarch emphatically declines to do. When Michael reports this second failure of his mission to the Lord, he is immediately sent back to Abraham again, to show him that he must submit to the common fate of mankind. The Archangel does as he is commanded. Thereupon Abraham beseeches that God would let him see the entire world and all things, after which he would be willing to die. His prayer is accepted. Michael takes him up into the uppermost air, exhibits to him the universe, the fates of men, and the final judgment. Among the judged he sees a soul in which the good and the bad deeds exactly balance. At Abraham's request the Angel intercedes for this soul, and it is saved. Abraham is then again returned to the earth. Michael then reminds him that he should now consent to depart. But the good old Patriarch still refuses to die, and Michael also reports this fact to God. Thereupon another messenger is sent, namely, Death, who is ordered to assume a friendly appearance. Death then assumes the glorious form of an Archangel. But this too does not accomplish the end desired, for Abraham still refuses to die. Then ensues a long discussion between Abraham and Death, until the latter at last accomplishes his end by deception. He tells Abraham that he will receive vitality and strength

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by kissing his (Death's) hand. This Abraham finally does, and at once expires. Michael immediately carries his soul into Paradise, while his body is buried near the Oak of Mamre. This is the gist of the story. Whether this document is really the one mentioned by Origen, is as yet doubted by some scholars. Its contents do not fully cover the thoughts mentioned by the Church Father. Moreover, in the Apocalypse, the Angels are represented as strugg ing over the salvation and the destruction of Abraham. Mr. James, however, strongly defends the identity of these writings, urging that Origen had in mind the struggle of the Angels over the soul, the good and the bad deeds being equally balanced, and had transferred this thought to the entire Apocalypse. Leaving the disputed feature here out of consideration, the fact remains that this new find is an interesting addition to our knowledge of that unique class of literature which was so current in the Early Church and which adds so materially to our knowledge of the life and soul of that eventful period.

THE BANK OF JAPAN.

THE regular general meeting of shareholders of the Bank of Japan was held in the capital on the 19th inst. There were present Messrs. Tajiri, Vice-Minister of Finance, Matsuo, Chief Commissioner of the Accountants' Bureau; and Kato, Chief Commissioner of the Revenue Bureau in the Finance Department; Iida, of the Imperial Treasury Bureau, and about thirty others. The receipts during the past half-year amounted to *yen* 1,018,986.854, to which *yen* 100,720.015, brought over from the previous account, was added, making a total of *yen* 1,119,706.869. Of this sum *yen* 36,749.166 was set apart for the expenses of manufacturing convertible notes, *yen* 30,000.000 as a fund for the construction of buildings, and *yen* 22,382.492 to meet losses incurred by the Bank, leaving a net profit of *yen* 1,030.575 211, of which *yen* 300,000 000 was distributed among the shareholders as an ordinary dividend at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum, *yen* 70 000.000 was voted as remuneration to officers, *yen* 100,000.000 was added to the reserve fund, and *yen* 450,000.000 was declared as the second dividend, making the full rate of 15 per cent. per annum. *Yen* 110,575.211 was carried forward to the new account.

* * *

At the close of the general meeting, an extraordinary general meeting was held to elect a Manager, Mr. Yokura Morindo's term having expired. The voting resulted in the re-election of Mr. Yokura by 1,184 votes as against 1,008 for Mr. Shibusawa Eiichi. The Chairman announced that the decision of the meeting should be presented for approval to the Minister of State for Finance.

* * *

The *Shogyo Shimpo*, in one of its notes, observes that it was fully expected the Bank of Japan would feel the effect of the general depression in the money market, as has been the case with almost every other bank in the country, national or private. And so it has proved, for even including the profit of *yen* 217,939.106 accruing from the sale of public bonds, which the Bank was forced, by the persistent demands of the united Banks of Tokyo and Yokohama, to dispose of, the total net profit is only *yen* 1,030.575.211, or *yen* 153,266.333 less than the corresponding figures of the previous account.

CARELESSNESS AND ITS RESULT.

ON the 3rd instant, a sailor belonging to a police boat, lying at Hsiakuan, Nanking, while searching for something with a lighted taper in the boat accidentally let a spark drop into a keg of gunpowder that happened to be placed there. An explosion followed and the boat, sailor and two others were blown to pieces.

THE MIENYANG AFFAIR.

THE firmness shown by France in Siam has already made its influence felt at Wuchang, and M. Dautremer, the French Consul at Hankow, has been able to settle the Mienyang affair most promptly and satisfactorily. The Chinese have agreed to reinstate the chapel and other property destroyed, they have given compensation to the Chinese Christians who were beaten by the mob, and the negotiations ended with a banquet provided by the authorities, at which the foreign priests whose property was destroyed were the honoured guests.

EXTENSIVE INUNDATION AT GIFU AND TOYAMA.

A TELEGRAM from Gifu dated the 23rd instant says that the Nagara river has overflowed, resulting in an extensive inundation, and numerous houses have been washed away. Dwellings at Minatocho, Motonamacho, and Tamaicho in Gifu are partly submerged and two bridges completely destroyed. The embankments of various other rivers in the Prefecture have been broken, and many lives lost.

* * *

Telegraphic intelligence from Toyama received by the *Jiji Shimpo* states that in consequence of the late heavy rains the Shintsu river has broken its embankments, and flooded the town of Toyama, where more than six hundred houses have been submerged. The Shintsu bridge has been damaged.

* * *

A telegram dated Gifu 25th August, 12.30 a.m., states that 12 houses in Yawata and two other villages in Kakami Gun were swept down by inundations, and six persons drowned. It also reports that a landslip overwhelmed 50 persons who had fled from the flood. Particulars of further damages are not known on account of telegraphic communication with the inundated districts being interrupted.

THE ARCHDUKE'S POLICE ESCORT.

THE *Hochi* is indignant at the device resorted to by the Authorities for the protection of the Austrian Archduke. It seems while the royal visitor was driving round the streets of Yokohama, three constables of the Yokohama Concession Police, attired like ordinary jinrikishamen, were obliged to follow him To respect a national guest and provide for his safety is only right and proper, but to degrade the constables by making them wear the apparel of despised labourers in order to do so, is altogether repugnant to our contemporary's feelings. The *Nippon* is similarly excited over the affair.

THE WILLETT CASE.

PUBLIC Procurator Ichinose has rejected the charge preferred against the *betto* Suzuki Hikosuke, for attacking Mr. M. Willett with an axe on July 26th, on the ground that in his opinion Suzuki had no intention of killing Mr. Willett, and therefore the mere act of rushing upon the foreigner with an axe cannot form the subject of a criminal prosecution. Had the *betto* any intention of actually murdering Mr. Willett, Mr. Ichinose thinks he would have carried out his intention before being wounded.

CHINESE EMIGRATION TO BRAZIL.

A SPECIAL telegram to the *Diario de Noticias* (Lisbon), dated Rio de Janeiro, July 7, states that a convention between Brazil and the Empire of China has been signed relating to the emigration of Chinese to Brazil. According to the convention, it is stated, China undertakes to encourage the emigration of coolies to Brazil, while the Brazilian Government will take steps for the diminution or cessation of immigration from other countries, for the benefit of China.

U. S. SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR YOKOHAMA.

DR. THOMAS HALL TRIPLER has been appointed U. S. Sanitary Inspector for this port, attached to the Consulate-General. His duties are in connection with the inspection of passengers and cargo from here to the United States under the recently promulgated quarantine law.

REV ARTHUR KNAPP.

WE notice that Mr. Arthur Knapp, who, a few years ago, established Unitarianism in Japan by a banquet at the Rokumeikwan, has now established himself in London as a dealer in curios and modern second-hand diamond jewellery, at 26 Savile Row, Regent Street. Mr. Knapp was, we believe, in Japan a few weeks ago on matters connected with this business.

KELLY AND WALSH'S EXCHANGE TABLES.

WE have pleasure in acknowledging receipt of Messrs. Kelly and Walsh's latest Exchange Tables. They have been arranged from 2s. to 3s., converting Sterling into Dollars and Dollars into Sterling, ascending by one-sixteenth of a penny. Printed in clear type and strongly bound, they form a volume which should be found on every merchant's desk in the open ports.

POSTAL RATES TO HAWAII.

BY a recent notification of the Department of Communications, the postal rates to Hawaii are now the same as to the United States. The *Nichi Nichi* says the amount of correspondence between Japan and Hawaii is small for the number of Japanese in the islands, but thinks that the settlers there being of the poorer class, the reduction of the rates will, no doubt, prove a boon to them.

PENSION TO MR. UTSUMI.

IT is announced, says the *Chronicle*, that Mr. Utsumi, who will be remembered as one of the most popular governors of Hyogo Prefecture, has been granted a pension on his recent resignation of the governorship of Kanagawa Prefecture. The pension will amount to 948 *yen* annually besides some smaller payments from the Pension Bureau. Mr. Utsumi has now taken up his residence in Kobe, and intends to make his home there.

RABIES NI YOKOHAMA.

ANOTHER dog, suffering from rabies, has been destroyed by the police. Its owner lives at Negishi-mura, Kuraki-gun. The special attention of the general public is called to the fact that the dog, which was lately killed, after exhibiting symptoms of rabies, at Yoshihamacho, Yokohama, has bitten no less than ten stray dogs, none of which have yet been captured.

CANTON FLOODED.

ACCORDING to a despatch from Canton, there have been remarkable tidal risings of the West river, overflowing the banks and flooding the whole of the country drained by this river, even as far as the South and West gate suburbs of that city. Nearly nine-tenths of what is termed the "late crops" have been destroyed.

DR. KITAZATO.

WE learn from the *Asahi* that Dr. Kitazato, who lately abandoned his scheme of erecting an institution for the investigation of infectious diseases, has resolved to establish a private hospital and laboratory at Sankochô, Shirokane, Shiba, with the aid of Mr. Fukuzawa. The work is said to have commenced on the new site.

DISTRESSING STEAMBOAT ACCIDENT.

A TELEGRAM from Kanazawa received by the *Asahi Shimbun* states that the engines of the *Wago Maru* broke down on the 24th inst. while on a voyage towards Amamizu. The vessel at once sank in deep water, and eighty passengers are missing

BIG FIRE IN KOCHI PREFECTURE.

A TELEGRAM from Kochi, despatched on the 20th inst. at 8 55 a.m. and received by the *Asahi Shimbun*, says that a destructive fire occurred at Kure-mura, in the Takaoka District, destroying over one hundred and forty houses.

DREADFUL COLLIERY EXPLOSION IN JAPAN.

A TELEGRAM from Sapporo received by the *Asahi Shimbun* states that a fatal explosion of gas took place in the Yubari mine on the 20th inst. Several other explosions followed, and by the following morning nineteen persons had lost their lives.

DR. BAELZ.

DR. BAELZ, of the Tokyo University, returned by the *Oceanic* on Monday. We hear that the worthy professor has been appointed by His Sovereign, the King of Wurtemberg, a Privy Court Councillor. The honour is well deserved.

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VANDALISM.

A CORRESPONDENT lately commented in no measured terms upon the sale and destruction of some of the old trees which line the Tokaido, near Hakone, and incidentally went on to remark that if the Japanese show themselves indifferent to their temples, castles, and beautiful scenery, they will be pecuniary losers, for the foreigners, who now come in hundreds at a time, will come no longer. We sympathise with the sentiment which prompts an ebullition of this kind. No one can look on unmoved at the demolition of anything in nature or art that has served for a time to adorn our surroundings. It is as natural as the outcry invariably heard when some old landmark in London,—a tottering coffee-house in Grub Street, or a mansion, it may be, where my Lady Mayfair once dispensed her bountiful hospitality,—has to make way for inexorable city improvements. We truly live in very utilitarian times, and Japan is moving with them. The destruction of trees is always to be deplored, but timber is indispensable. Probably, in no other part of the world is wood in so much request for everyday use as it is in this country. The question, then, may well be asked what special purpose, in these railway days, is served by the old avenues? Formerly they afforded welcome shelter to man and beast from the burning rays of the noonday sun, besides being picturesque adjuncts to those long journeys on which KAEMPFER loved to dwell. Now, for the most part, they are utterly deserted or only used by the peasants as they go about their daily toil. The poorest pilgrim passes by their cooling shades for the suffocating atmosphere of a railway car in August. Two of the noblest avenues in the country are those of the Nikko Kaido and the Reheishi Kaido, both leading to the mausolea of the Shoguns at Nikko. But does one traveller in a hundred now-a-days take either of these routes in his journey to Nikko for the sake of the magnificent cryptomerias that line them, and in preference to the more prosaic railroad? We trow not. Either as objects of utility—if we except their timber value—or ornament, they may be said to be as lost to mankind as the wealth of rhododendrons that cover the Himalayas. The peasant derives no benefit from them, nor do they afford him any esthetic gratification. For these reasons we think it somewhat harsh to stigmatise the occasional destruction of the trees as acts of Vandalism. Similarly, with most of the old Japanese castles, which have been demolished, and their sites turned into public gardens, or otherwise utilised for modern needs. Like the avenues, they have served their purpose, one which they will never be called upon to serve again. They are, in fact, out of date. If adequate attention is to be given to new needs, the old idols must go. Ironclads, railways, and princely visitors were unknown in the days when temples were built in high places. Further, the official cult is now Shinto, and jejune spectacularly as that cult is, we can no more reasonably expect the Government to look after the interests of its more picturesque rival, than we could look for Protestant sympathy with the aspirations of Roman Catholicism. On the whole, too, it may be doubted whether the people at large are as indifferent to the really beautiful objects which their country has to offer for the traveller's delectation, as the *Fiji Shimpo* would lead us to believe. True it is that numerous temples and castles in all parts of the land have been allowed to disappear altogether or fall into irreparable decay; but we think it will be found that the majority of these were not worth the money spent on their maintenance, and that those which possess historic interest as well as architectural charm, have lost little of their hold on the affection of the masses. The fittest will survive here as elsewhere, and with that assurance, we may rest certain that the foreign visitor will always find enough, even in material things, to attract him hither. Did he come only for the sake of castles and temples, there might be more to say on behalf of our correspondent's complaint. But he does not. Europe and India both offer him much grander examples in more enduring material than wood. Into this aspect of the question, however, we have no occasion to enter. Recent writers, from SIR EDWIN ARNOLD to a CLEMENT SCOTT may be consulted in regard to the special and varied objects which lead the travellers' footsteps to these shores.

ENGLAND'S NEW POET.

READERS of the *Spectator* and the *Academy* have for some time looked forward with delight to the fitful appearance of short poetical pieces signed WILLIAM WATSON. But it is only since last year that a wider public has learnt his name; and the "Lachrymæ Musarum," now his best-known book, was first printed in November, 1892, though since then edition after edition has been rapidly poured from the press The youthful poet's occasional fits of insanity—insanity caused by money cares and hopeless love—have, perhaps, sad as they are helped him on in a worldly sense by bringing him a notoriety that has paved the way for fame. They deserve a passing allusion here, chiefly for the sake of the contrast they offer between the poet's life and his work, for no feature is more prominent in the latter than sanity and all that goes with sanity, moderation of tone, stately severity of style, an unerring critical faculty combined with catholicity of taste. WILLIAM WATSON'S own best laurels are those which he lays on the graves of other poets. Take the elegy on TENNYSON'S death, beginning

> Low, like another's, lies the laurelled head:
> The life that seemed a perfect song is o'er:
> Carry the last great bard to his last bed.
> Land that he loved, thy noblest voice is mute.
> Land that he loved, that loved him! nevermore
> Meadow of thine, smooth lawn or wild sea-shore,
> Gardens of odorous bloom and tremulous fruit,
> Or woodlands old, like Druid couches spread,
> The master's feet shall tread.
> Death's little rift hath rent the faultless lute.
> The singer of undying songs is dead.

This elegy without aught else would alone suffice for the establishing of a great literary reputation. Little wonder that the man who could write it has, in a moment of mental upsetting, believed himself a re-incarnation of MILTON; for never since "Lycidas" have a poet's regrets been so melodiously and majestically poured forth. WILLIAM WATSON'S judgments of other poets are touched with so peculiar a sympathetic insight that one might almost suppose them to have been written by those poets themselves in moments of true self-knowledge. What, for instance, could better paint SHELLEY than the following?

> And power is his, if naught besides,
> In that thin ether where he rides,
> Above the roar of human tides,
> To ascend afar,
> Lost in a storm of light that hides
> His dizzy car.
>
> Below the unhasting world toils on,
> And here and there are victories won,
> Some dragon slain, some justice done,
> While through the skies,
> A meteor rushing on the sun,
> He flares and dies.

Or could MATTHEW ARNOLD'S special genius be more accurately pourtrayed than in the stanzas?

> Rather, it may be, over-much
> He shunned the common stain and smutch,
> From soilure of ignoble touch
> Too grandly free,
> Too loftily secure in such
> Cold purity
>
> But he preserved from chance control
> The fortress of his 'stablisht soul;
> In all things sought to see the Whole;
> Brooked no disguise;
> And set his heart upon the goal,
> Not on the prize.

Could anything describe more graphically than the following, which we take from the series entitled "Wordsworth's Grave," that new spirit which swept over poetry in the middle of the last century, and paved the way for WORDSWORTH himself?

> The age grew sated with her sterile wit.
> Herself waxed weary on her loveless throne.
> Men felt life's tide, the sweep and surge of it,
> And craved a living voice, a natural tone.
>
> * * * *
> * * * *
>
> In sad stern verse the rugged scholar-sage
> Bemoaned his toil unvalued, youth unchecred,
> His numbers wore the vesture of the age,
> But 'neath it beating, the great heart was heard.
>
> From dewy pastures, uplands sweet with thyme,
> A virgin breeze freshened the jaded day.
> It wafted Collins' lonely vesper-chime,
> It breathed aloud the frugal note of Gray.
>
> It fluttered here and there, nor swept in vain
> The dusty haunts where futile echoes dwell,—
> Then, in a cadence soft as summer rain,
> And sad from Auburn voiceless, drooped and fell.
>
> It drooped and fell, and one 'neath northern skies,
> With southern heart, who tilled his father's field,
> Found Poesy a-dying, bade her rise
> And touch quick nature's hem and go forth healed.
>
> On life's broad plain the ploughmen's conquering share

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Upturned the fallow lands of truth anew,
And o'er the formal garden's trim parterre
The peasant's team a ruthless furrow drew.

JOHNSON, COLLINS, GRAY, GOLDSMITH, BURNS,—would it be possible in so few words to express more justly the tribute of praise due to each? No, we have had criticism in *verse* before. POPE has given us plenty of it. But such criticism in *poetry* as this is a thing new in literature. WATSON is not only a supreme critic, he is also an original creator, in proof of which, we choose, almost at random, the poem entitled "A Child's Hair," but which we regret is too long for reproduction here.

MR. HARTER'S COINAGE SCHEME.

MR. HARTER'S Coinage Scheme, enunciated in the article published below, having excited some interest, was sent by a resident in Japan to a friend in Europe, whose studies of the silver question have been profound, and his public comments on it widely read. His criticism of the scheme is so lucid and instructive that our readers will peruse it with pleasure, and we therefore print it in the sequel of the article embodying the scheme.

The free and unlimited coinage of legal-tender silver will never again be permitted in the United States. Free coinage, as we knew it a year ago, is a lost cause but to avoid the everlasting or constantly recurring demand for it upon the part of the thoughtless but well-meaning, which always proves so potent an aid to the demands of a selfish mining interest, we shall some day have to adjust our coinage system upon a permanent basis, and I suggest the following: As the only honest coined money in any age or in any land is that which when in the shape of bullion is worth practically as much as when coined, let us go on and coin (if we cannot sell it legally and to advantage) all the silver bullion the United States owns, meanwhile, of course, ceasing, and forever, the purchase of it. Then open the mints of the United States to the free and unlimited coinage of both gold and silver, precisely as we permitted it prior to 1873; but let us deny to all gold and silver coined after that date legal-tender functions. Let us make it, in fact, honest money, and let us treat silver exactly as we treat gold, and thus sidestep the apparently plausible cry of the silverites. Of course the United States should then, as now, control the subsidiary coinage for its own account.

The only objection to this plan which can be made is that the coinage thereafter will not be a legal tender, and that some legal tender is needed. This might be readily combated upon reasonable and scientific grounds, but it is not necessary, as we already have the practical and complete answer that we do not destroy the legal-tender quality in existing legal-tender money, which by the time our mints were thus thrown open would amount to over $1,000,000,000, or ten times as much legal tender as the Nation needs, a quantity which, humanly speaking, would not have to be enlarged in the next five hundred or one thousand years. But if we ever did need more legal-tender coin there is nothing in the plan which would prevent the United States supplying it upon its own account. This plan adopted, we never could have, for any length of time, either a surplusage of coined money or a deficiency either. If we had more than we needed it would be exported in the shape of coin or it would be melted down and shipped in pigs. If at any time we were short, or had a deficient supply, gold and silver from the world's stock would flow into our open mints until our wants were fully met. It will be found impossible to object to this plan of coinage except upon the grounds of its simplicity, and because it is a scientific and natural solution of the difficulty.

Of course, to a generation crazy on the subject of money, to a community drunk with the methods of the past fourteen years, a little reflection is needed, but in the end some such plan will be adopted in the United States, and elsewhere also. It is, of course, not likely that under it much silver would be coined, but simply because no additional silver is needed in our domestic commerce, which is proven by the fact that while we now have 418 000,000 of coined silver dollars we have in circulation but 63,000,000. Of course the non-legal tender coinage would be known by its date, but in addition to this the words "one dollar," "five dollar," "ten dollars" and "twenty dollars" should be replaced by "ten dimes," "fifty dimes," "one hundred dimes," and "two hundred dimes." No other distinction would be needed, and in the long run it would be found that habits of economy would be quietly advanced by the spending of two thousand dimes instead of two hundred dollars as now, precisely as French, English, Latin and German Europe have been helped to economy and carefulness by the smallness of their coins of measure—the franc, the shilling and the mark.

The prediction with which the above article opens is too positive to be respectable. The reason given for proposing the scheme—"to avoid the everlasting demands of thoughtless silverites"—is too shallow to afford a solid foundation for any serious monetary legislation. It savours rather of mere petulance.

If it is true that all money should be worth practically (by which is probably meant in the market) the same as the bullion it contains (or represents), upon what principle can the U.S. go on to coin all its present stock of silver into dollars of 412.5 grains? Would not that be a fraud on the people? Would the people stand such a fraud and deal in such money?

The open mints would coin money of full value, the "ten dimes" &c., and such money would universally be preferred to the Government money. It would be absurd for the Government to make its own money, of inferior value, a legal tender while better money was in general use. It could not forbid, or refuse to enforce, contracts made in the better (the free coined) money, and such contracts would be the rule. The result would be that the Government money (or the silver portion of it) would be useless as money, or if used, it would only be because it, and the other, the non-legal tender money freely coined for the people, would be of equal value; in which case the plan is a wholly empty one and quite unnecessary.

But the radical error of the whole proposal is to suppose that there can be any money which is not at the same time debt-paying. "Legal tender" is an expression which tends to mislead, by implying that Government may make that money which is not really money. Governments have no such power, except when they act as robbers of the people and force them to take less value than they had contracted for—Governments have done this, but always in the capacity of robbers, not as honest rulers. The only proper power of Government over money is to coin it for the people as the latter require it. Government may declare what is the national money, and it is convenient that it should regulate and control the coinage; but it ought to have nothing to do with making money. The people do that, in saying they will use Gold, or Silver, or Corries. The function of the Government is then to legalize such money, and to adopt it in its own contracts or exactions. It thus becomes "legal tender," that is, good for paying all obligations expressed in money. It is not the "legal tender" quality that makes the money, but the previously existing money which occasions the law. Money and "legal tender" therefore are, or ought to be, the same thing. If they are different in fact then there is something wrong about the money. Now Mr. HARTER proposes to make money which is not legal tender, to have one thing (or piece) for money, and another for legal payment of debts; and this appears impossible without some wrong or robbery as aforesaid. But one wrong cannot redress another wrong. What we want now is a restitution of right, not a new wrong.

There can be no doubt that money, that is, legal tender in payment of debts, could be made of other substances than gold or silver. The Spartans used iron money for many centuries. The reason why civilized men now prefer Gold and Silver for money (for "token" money is not money) is that these substances have proved more suitable for that use than any others, owing to their peculiar qualities, chief among which is their (comparative) indestructibility. On this account they are "precious," no other substances known and obtainable in sufficient quantity having this essential quality. Therefore, they have been almost universally adopted as money, and quite independently of any Governmental regulations on the subject. The money of the world now virtually consists of gold and silver, and nothing has been found to take their place.

But in the progress of Civilization and Art, it has been found possible to economize the use of the precious metals in many countries, by the employment of paper representative of them. These paper representatives are not, and cannot be, themselves money; but they pass current as convenient orders for the money, which may then remain in vault or store, until some holder of the paper wants to have his metal for one purpose or another. Every sound system of paper currency must have the metal money back of it. This *automatic* check is the only reliable check on over-issue of paper. Wherever it does not exist, to the full extent, currency disturbances are sure to occur, through over issues of the paper, or through doubt among the people as to its convertibility.

In practice, and particularly in the great commercial countries, private men and Bankers are allowed to over-issue paper, and as long as they enjoy public confidence, they do so with advantage to themselves and to the community, which benefits by the credit facilities so extended. But times come frequently, and almost regularly, when, either through some abuse of their credit by the issuers of the paper, or through an access of suspicion or fear among the people, this paper currency proves to be in excess, and the use of it has to be checked by a resort to the metal money behind it. All monetary crises and panics arise in this way; and it is probable that they arise in no other way, and are never caused by any deficiency of metal money in the country experiencing them, but solely by an excess of paper representatives of the real money. There is no

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real scarcity of money in a crisis, but there is a plethora of paper which is indigestible. The crisis ceases when this plethora is retired or absorbed.

Such crises and panics are apparently inevitable in every community using paper currency, and trading largely on credit, no matter what form of metal money such community uses. They are most frequent where most paper is used, as in England and America, and more rare where metal money is preferred, as in France. They are almost always started by the discovery, on the part of the public, that the supply of metal money has become inadequate to the volume of paper current. It is obvious then that the *sort* of metal money in use has nothing to do with them. The recent crisis in the U.S., for instance, was in no wise caused by the abundance of silver there, but solely by a perceived relative scarcity of gold, which is the standard money of the U.S. It would probably have occurred just the same if America had no silver money or "Sherman Act." London but narrowly escaped a similar crisis, though England has only gold money. France felt no uneasiness, though she has more silver than America has, and, like America, keeps it at the parity of gold. It was an over-trading and credit crisis, just like all previous ones, and had no other cause.

But its effects were complicated by the circumstance that our Government had also put into circulation a large amount of credit money, for which it had an insufficient gold reserve—and the fact proves once more that Government ought not to issue such money, but ought to have dollar for dollar in metal for all its paper. In "Sub-Treasury" days this was the rule, and when credit crises occurred (as they frequently did) the Government was not involved in, and did not contribute to produce, them. Probably the best course would be to get back to that rule as soon as possible. Government notes would then represent metal in the Treasury, and would be the best possible currency. The metal would hardly ever be touched and might be in big ingots which could not be stolen and would be practically indestructible. Mints would then be unnecessary, as every one would prefer the paper notes. But without the metal the notes would be valueless, as Bank of England notes would be, if the Bank could not redeem them in gold.

Judged by the principles here sketched Mr. HARTER'S plan appears wholly unsound and delusive, and no remedy for existing evils.

The question whether we should have silver or gold money, or both, is a separate question. Let the people decide it, and then let the Government issue its notes accordingly. We should gain some advantages (as the silver countries now do) by using silver money alone, and if it is a question between gold alone and silver alone, there is much to be said for silver. But in view of our habits, and existing circumstances among us, the wisest method would doubtless be a combined standard, gold alone being an appreciating standard, which bears too hardly on producers and debtors, and silver alone being a discredited standard which creditors object to. We hold that there is no such plethora of silver, or scarcity of gold, at present as to prevent the fixing of a legal ratio between the two metals which shall be practically stable and sound. This ratio is approximately fixed by nature, and Government has only to declare and establish it, as France did in 1804, to make it the accepted ratio among the people. The French ratio survived far greater disturbances of the relative supplies of the precious metals than any now to be considered. The annual production is unimportant in comparison with the stocks already in hand.

A TEMPERANCE ISLAND IN THE PACIFIC.

IN the northern part of the Sea of Japan, some forty miles distant from the large island of Ezo, lies a tiny island called Okushiri. Geographically speaking it is scarcely worthy of mention, its greatest length being only 14 miles, its greatest breadth about one half as much, its circumference 35 miles and its area 56 miles. Yet it presents certain peculiarities which distinguish it so completely from any other inhabited island on the surface of the globe, that we venture to refer to it thus in detail, and even to note that its latitude and longitude are 42°10′N. and 139°33′E., respectively. Its soil is fertile. Trees of varying proportions cluster thickly over its surface. The agriculturist and the lumber-man might find profitable occupation there. But the chief pursuit of the people is fishing. Every spring great shoals of herring approach the coast, and the fish are easily captured in such quantities, that this one bountiful dispensation of Nature suffices to feed and clothe the inhabitants from year's end to year's end. Living thus in ease and plenty the people might be expected to develop qualities usually incidental to such circumstances, and they appear to have fallen pretty freely into the vice of drunkenness. In 1885 there were some 260 souls in the island. They possessed only four fixed nets; they lived in houses thatched with coarse grass; they had scarcely any roads and they could boast only a single school. Yet they consumed annually $3,000 worth of *saké* in addition to *shochu* and other strong drinks. In short, these common fisher folks spent upon intoxicating beverages more than a dollar per month for every unit of their number, including women and children. The same ratio of intemperance applied to the whole of Japan, would signify an annual expenditure of 500 million dollars on intoxicating beverages alone. In the face of this reckless outlay for liquor, the people often suffered severely from hunger and cold during the winter, the price of rice ranging very high in the mid-winter months and the dwelling-houses being ill-adapted to exclude the inclement atmosphere. The local authorities prevailed upon them to adopt a system of storing provisions against times of scarcity, but their sources, reduced by payments on account of *saké*, were insufficient to accomplish anything effective in that line. These circumstances induced some bold men among them to openly denounce the excessive use of alcoholic beverages as the cause of all the people's sufferings, and to preach the necessity of applying to useful purposes the funds thus squandered. The crusade provoked violent opposition, but in 1884 the inhabitants were induced to enter into the following agreement.—

COVENANT MADE BY THE PEOPLE OF OKUSHIRI ISLAND CONCERNING THE SALE AND PURCHASE OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AND THE USE OF THE SAME IN THE ISLAND OF OKUSHIRI.

This land which we inhabit is a lonely island in the Pacific Ocean. Its inhabitants, numbering ninety families, find almost their only means of amusement in drinking alcohol. Nine out of every ten are addicted to *saké*, the sums annually spent upon which aggregate a heavy amount. In 1884 we imported about 880 tubs of *saké*, costing $3.50 each, in addition to other alcoholic liquors, yet a scarcity of such beverages was felt in the winter, as is often the case. Our Governor, when last he visited the Island, urged upon us the importance of cooperating to make provision against a famine, signs of the advent of such a calamity being more or less apparent. Impressed by what he said, we did and are doing everything in our power to induce others to join us in this work of making provision against impending calamities. But the take of herrings having been unusually bad this year, the people have little or nothing to devote to such a purpose. Debtors are unable to meet their engagements, and some are even compelled to depend on official aid for supplies of food. We are threatened with misery and some extraordinary measure is necessary to save us. Frugality must be the rule of our conduct, and every kind of excess must be avoided. We, therefore, hereby resolve to abstain from the luxury which we relish above all others, namely, *saké*, so as to terminate the importation of the liquor into the Island. The money hitherto devoted to the purchase of *saké* shall be applied to lay in stocks of rice and other grain as a provision against future want, on the one hand, and to increase the capital available for fishery purposes on the other. No other method offers for solving the difficulty without increased physical labour. We have therefore drawn up this covenant, so that the prosperity of the Island may be secured and its interests furthered by mutual encouragement. Those who desire to share in this effort of abstemiousness for the sake of future benefits, are invited to sign this covenant with all speed.

SIGNATURES OF THE PROMOTERS.

Dated, July, 1884.

Art. I.—We, the inhabitants of Kushiri Island, jointly and severally, in accordance with the Covenant hereby signed, do pledge ourselves to abandon wholly the sale, purchase and use of alcoholic beverages.

Art. II.—Any islander refusing to sign this Covenant, and engaging in the sale, purchase or use of alcohol, shall not receive sympathy or aid from his fellow islanders as a whole no matter what circumstances he may be placed in.

Art. III.—Any islander, whether a permanent or a temporary resident, who, having signed this Covenant, shall nevertheless violate its provisions by engaging in the liquor business, shall be fined as follows:—

	Yen.
For every tub of Osaka *saké* sold	30
For every tub of Echigo *saké* sold.....	15
For every measure of *saké* sold	10

Art. IV.—The alcoholic stock in trade of any one violating this Covenant, shall be confiscated.

Art. V.—The proceeds of all fines collected under this Covenant, and of all confiscated liquors, shall be devoted to the purchase of rice for storing

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in the common granary. The liquors thus sold must be exported at once to other provinces under the inspection of the proper authorities.

Art. VI.—Any islander, who in violation of this Covenant, shall be detected purchasing *saké* from a seller whose business is conducted either in violation of, or without reference to, this Covenant, shall be fined one half of the sums mentioned in Article III.

Art. VII.—Any person giving information of the above offences to the Committee of Supervision, and furnishing full evidance, shall receive one third of the fine.

Art. VIII.—Any person immigrating from an other province shall be fully instructed in the terms of this Covenant, and only upon his thorough understanding of them, as certified by the examiners, shall he be allowed to settle in the Island

Art. IX.—Should a ship or junk anchored in the waters adjacent to the Island, sell alcoholic liquors to an islander, the purchase should be regarded as an importer and fined according to Art. III.

Art. X.—This Covenant shall remain in force for five years, and when provision against times of scarcity shall have been fully made, and when all the islanders are in a position to lead independent lives, suitable changes may be made in its provisions after due deliberation.

(Signed) 117 OKUSHIRI ISLANDERS.

The consequences of this Covenant were very marked. It was rigorously observed. Even Government officials, whatever their rank, had to give up *saké* drinking when they visited the Island, and as a matter of course, every dramster who could not reform, was compelled to take his departure. Order thenceforth reigned completely, and prosperity came with rapid strides. The population increased five-fold in five years and the capital invested in the fishing industry, ten-fold. Reed-thatches were replaced by shingles. Four large granaries were kept full of rice, and in addition, each house had a store of its own. It is stated that there is now stored in the Island rice sufficient to support the people for three or four years, even though the herring fishery should fail entirely. Roads have been constructed in places where nothing of the kind existed before. The principal school has been greatly improved, and several branch schools have been established. New lands have been brought into cultivation, and hemp to the value of $2,000 is grown annually for the manufacture of fishing nets which, before the signing of the Covenant, had to be imported entirely from the mainland. Statistics also show a marked decrease of crime and so famous did the success of the experiment become that a large community of settlers in the neighbouring island of Ezo pledged themselves to a Covenant similar to that of Okushiri and with similarly happy results. Finally, we may add that when the five years originally contemplated by the Covenant expired, it was renewed for another term of five years, despite the opposition of an influential local official.

The coming popular song is entitled "Daisy Bell" It is a tantalising melodious ditty of the cockney coster brand, and the refrain runs something after this style:—

Dysy, Dysy, give me your answer, dew:
I'm half crazy all for love of yew,
It won't be a first class marriage;
We can't afford a carriage.
But you'd look sweet, upon the seat
Of a bicycle built for tew.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

THE PORTUGUESE AND THE IMPERIAL ORDINANCE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Having read in your valuable paper of the 8th instant an article entitled "The Portuguese and the Imperial Ordinance," an article attempting to justify the reason of the said decree, permit me to also enter the arena where the writer whom I refer to, so cleverly breaks his lance against the part that Portugal played in a question which has so suddenly, I should say, originally, risen between that country and Japan.

Certain that on my side the rules of tournament shall not be broken, I trust that you will give publicity in your paper to this letter, the sole motive of which is my patriotism, and the purpose of destroying accusations made against my country. Being convinced that to you, and to all reflective and intelligent minds, no doubts can remain of the justice of the arguments which I am going to adduce against those of the writer of the article in the *Japan Daily Mail*, I can assure him that, although through a real *tour de force* shadows of refutation may be founded against them, I am convinced that by this letter, nothing more is necessary to render those who read it thoroughly acquainted with the reality of the facts. The arguments made use of by the writer in the *Japan Daily Mail* are reduced to the following, which, in order to make clearer, I proceed to transcribe:—

"That Japan did not violate her Treaty with Portugal, but that the latter did."

"That it is most important for Japan to recover the right of exterritorial jurisdiction granted to Portugal by H. M. the Emperor."

"That H.M. the Emperor is constitutionally pledged to provide for the due administration of justice within his realm, and therefore would be plainly disregarding the Constitution did he suffer the Portuguese subjects to reside and carry on trade in Japan, without sufficient guarantees for the preservation of peace and order among them; and for securing to Japanese subjects justice in their dealings with them."

"That the restoration of the exterritorial system to Portugal is an idea that no Cabinet could entertain except at the cost of its own existence."

"Finally, that Japan's consent to restore the right which she took possession of, would be equivalent to a confession of incompetence to exercise jurisdiction over foreigners."

In order to analyse the first of these arguments we have to regard it through the prism of reality, and nothing else.

The Treaty of 1860 is perfectly clear, and free from double senses which might throw doubt on the subject; it does not establish the existence of Consulates General on the part of Portugal. Therefore, even granting that it was at the request of the Japanese Government, that Portugal created the Consular post in Tokyo, this creation however was not the consequence of any of those international acts, which have the force to modify Treaties. The establishment of this Consulate did not therefore modify the Treaty of 1860, neither in 1883 nor in 1887; and this Treaty had continued to be in full force in all its substance.

If, Sir, the creation of the Consulate in no way modified the substance of the Treaty, or altered its stipulations, how is it that its suppression could have altered, and therefore violated them?

And besides, Sir, a right which is granted, is it not to be enjoyed by him whom it was granted according to his pleasure or his ability?

And again, if it was Portugal that in the face of international right, did violate the stipulations of the Treaty, that is, the very Treaty; how is it that Japan came to abolish in it the portion that suited it most, and allowed the rest to subsist? Would it not have been more correct to have considered the whole Treaty as violated, and thus have been in accordance with the doctrinal principles by which intercourse between nations is ruled? It appears to me that it should be so.

However, Sir, it was not Portugal that violated the Treaty, it was not my country that abandoned its rights; it was (although it may displease the supporters to hear this) it was Japan that did it, against all rules, and all principles of public right, which for the sake of peace, harmony, and tranquillity of nations, so many illustrious thinkers did gradually build in their noble, though perhaps platonic intention, to form by its basis of morality, the supreme and sole tribunal where questions between states are settled; it was Japan that claimed for itself the rights it had granted.

Portugal did not abandon the stipulations of its Treaty, as is highly proved by all its proceedings in the matter, now well known to every one, though of a nature so far from satisfactory to the purposes of Japan. And as it did not abandon these stipulations but rather they were violated, on Japan lies the responsibility of an act so little in accordance with right, in spite of examples of identical violations being quoted, which should not be followed, in view of its aggressive nature. Moreover, are you aware, Sir, of the answer given by my country to Japan one month after the extinction of the Consulate of Tokyo? That the Portuguese Government would not suppress the Consulate, but would merely change its titular.

Does this answer imply abandonment? Five months of a historic, but most critical, period elapsed without the means of making the provision which was made later on; does this also prove abandonment on the part of my country?

Well, Sir, when peace reigns among the nations on earth, and dignity is not offended, what more fitting example can a Government give of the consciousness of its civilisation, than that of sympathising with the crises of others, and of taking no notice of simple futilities, of dates, and of the time for the settlement of questions?

The second argument is also easily confuted. Finally considered, of what importance can it be for Japan the fact of having deprived Portugal of a right granted it? To whom is this fact important, to the Japanese or to the foreigners?

In any of the cases its importance is trifling, because if has resulted in some sort of glory for Japan, such as would result from one filling a glass with water from a pond without opposition being made, when so much water is left in the great deep seas for which he has not found a like glass, pure and transparent, which would hold the smallest portion of its waves, so gentle in calm days, and still so roaring and yelling in the dark stormy weather.

The third argument is that of the Constitution. I shall not be very long in contradicting this point, lest I should profit too much of your kindness in reading my letter. Still, I shall merely state that order, peace and public safety were not altered until the date of the promulgation of the Imperial Decree; and I shall go further, not even until the date when Portugal at last succeeded in completing the measures it had been taking in order to comply with the wishes of Japan.

Nor did justice suffer; because until the date of the Imperial Decree, the Portuguese Consular Courts always worked, without the slightest claim or complaint being made by the Japanese Authorities, who were precisely those who had recourse to these Courts until nearly the 14th July, for the decision of several cases. I repeat, until a few days before the 14th July; and you can judge, from the simple fact I am stating, if the argument regarding the Japanese Constitution is not most convincingly refuted.

Moreover, do you believe that the Consul-General, during the whole term of his office, ever gave any judgement or decided any case? Nothing of the sort.

He gave instructions? But how can the fact of his giving instructions for the trial of cases, (of which I have heard so much talked about) be brought forward as a worthy proof of the abandonment of Portuguese jurisdiction? Were these sent for a final decision of cases. But that cannot be so, for he never judged any cases, and could never do so, considering, as I understand, that the instructions given him were to commit such cases for trial at the courts of Macao. Did his instructions refer to the procedure of cases? This also cannot be, as such instructions have long been given, and apply alike to all cases, and the officials in charge are and have been the same for years past.

It then follows that, notwithstanding the departure of the Tokyo Consul General, it was neither through the want of instructions or the absence of authorities invested with the power of final judgment that order, peace and tranquillity, the interruption of which caused the Japanese Government so much anxiety, had ceased to exist in accordance with the internal obligations enacted by the Japanese constitution, considering that the judge of Macao can, by the laws of my country, come and judge cases at Consular posts in Japan, whenever it is necessary for them to do so.

It is owing to these facts, that I ask if a right granted us is not to be enjoyed by Portugal as he best thinks, and is able to, in accordance with his laws and his systems regulating the enjoyment of such a right?

What I am convinced of is that some one was missing at the time, who could properly elucidate Japan, and I am still more convinced that the Japanese Government would have reserved for a better opportunity their otherwise justifiable wish for the realm.

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As to the fourth argument, I merely opine that certainly it would not be by restoring to Portugal her right that the Cabinet would endanger its existence. That may be the case; but if the attitude adopted towards Portugal is the sign of a policy and march through rugged paths, it will have to tread through it alone. That is all.

The fifth argument is difficult to understand. How is it that the restitution to Portugal of an international right can be equivalent to a confession made by Japan of her incompetence to exercise jurisdiction over foreigners? Does the fact of Portugal having her subjects under the jurisdiction of the Japanese Courts, (and in a way that certainly does not possess his "motu proprio") prove anything when Fifteen foreign Powers, including China, hold their respective subjects under their respective jurisdiction?

Does the fact of Japan restoring that right so arbitrarily seized, prove her incompetence or competence? What does it mean, before common sense, justice and reason, before all that irradiates from humanity like the rays of the brightest sun, what means the fact of Japan restoring to Portugal a right which she granted him through a contract?

It means, Sir, that Japan recognizes the justice of the cause of my country; it means that Japan no longer sees any plausible reason for her fears; it means, in fact, that Japan, through the men who constitute her Estate Government prides, for her sake and that of the nations whose civilization she has adopted, and along which she so nobly treads in strictly respecting both her dignity and that of others; in rightly recognizing the rules of justice and equity which are observed by others; a recognition, which in the sublime words of Nattel, is no incompatible with human dignity, but rather constitutes one of its finest and brightest attributes: "Elle (the nation) doit rendre justice a toute autre sur ses prétentions, et la satisfaire sur ces justes sujets de plainte Elle est donc obligée de rendre à chacune ce qui lui appartient, de la laisser jouir paisiblement de ses droits, de réparer le dommage qu'elle peut avoir causé, ou l'injure qu'elle aura faite; de donner une juste satisfaction pour une injure qui ne peut être reparée, et des sureté raisonnables pour celles qu'elle a donné sujet de craindre de sa part. Ce sont là tout autant de maximes evidemment dictées par cette justice dont la loi naturelle n'impose pas moins l'observation aux nations, qu'aux particuliers."

I conclude this, Sir, by telling the illustrious writer of the article which I have replied to, that although it appears to him and to the public opinion of Japan, that the action of the Japanese Government in connection with the claims of my country is right and justifiable; still it should also impress them both that conscience has no frontiers; it is as infinite as the austerity of the principles which rule it; and the grand and sublime standard of which is human morality.

Pray excuse the large space I am taking in your valuable paper.

Your's truly, A PORTUGUESE.

Yokohama, August 14th, 1893.

[To reply to this letter would involve re-opening the whole question. We do not desire to go so far, and moreover we are very willing to let our correspondent's arguments be judged by our readers entirely on their own merits.—ED. J.M.]

LETTER FROM CHICAGO.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT).

Chicago, July 27th.

The following is from a Chicago daily:—A letter which was written by Dr. Tensai Magayo of the National Board of Health of Japan asking for information in regard to the water supply and sanitary conditions here, has been turned over to Commissioner of Health Reynolds.

The letter requests especially that information be given in regard to sanitary arrangements at the World's Fair and special arrangements that may have been made on account of the Exposition. Dr. Reynolds is now collecting information preparatory to making a reply to the communication.

Mr. E. T. Mason, of New York City, was presented with a handsome gold medal at the Japanese Tea house in the World's Fair grounds the other evening. The medal was accompanied with a scroll, signed by 619 Japanese merchants, and bearing witness to the fact that "Mr. Mason originated the trade in *Habutaye* silk, jute and cotton rugs and fancy matting. The presentation was made, in behalf of the merchants, by Mr. Shotaro Fujimoto, with Mr. K. Sugawa as interpreter. The Marquis de Chesseloup Laubat also spoke and complimented Mr. Mason on his great services to the Japanese trade.

If the increasing number of Japanese stores is a sure sign of a larger demand for Japanese goods, the hopes entertained in Japan with reference to the advantages to be derived from the Exposition are being realized. There has recently been opened on Fifty-ninth Street, near one of the entrances to the Fair, a store called "Japan," which it is hoped will not disappoint its promoters.

Mr. Kotaro Konishi, one of the Secretaries of the Japanese Commission, resides in a suburb called Morgan Park; and on the 14th inst. delivered a lecture there in Blake Hall on Japanese life, illustrating the same with stereopticon views.

The August number of the *Ladies Home Journal* contains a charming sketch of "An Afternoon Tea in Japan" (the *cha-no-yu*) by Mary Holbrook Cappell.

In the "mid-summer," or August, issue of the *Century*, Prof. Fenellosa will treat "Contemporary Japanese Art," illustrated from the exhibits at the Fair.

Miss Adele M. Fields, a Baptist missionary, has issued "Chinese Nights Entertainments," with native illustrations.

Ex Senator Henry W. Blair, whom China refused to receive as U.S. Minister, is "getting even" with that country. In a recent address at Asbury Park, N.J., he vented his spite to the following purport:—Had it been permitted 20,000,000 of Mongolians would now be occupying the western portion of our country. They come to stay and to debauch the moral influences that now exist. They can live on 20 cents a day where it takes $2 to support an American. He continued in this strain and urged self preservation by shutting out the Mongolians. He cited treaties with China as mistakes, as the advantages were on the side of the Chinamen, and claimed that the Acts of 1888 and 1892 did not go far enough in dealing with the dangerous people. He asserted that the foreign powers were diplomatically trying to create an antipathy between China and this country for selfish commercial objects and declared that Great Britain was the most active nation in exciting the bad blood.

A report was circulated, and afterwards denied, that the U.S. man-of-war *Mohican* was fired upon and disabled June 25 by the Hawaiian steamer *Alexander*, which had been discovered in the act of raiding seal rookeries.

Advices from the Behring Sea patrol fleet state that this has been so far a successful season; that up to June 27 nearly 80,000 skins had been secured.

Considerable anxiety has been, and still is, felt for the safety of American missionaries in Siam in case of war with France. Such assurances, however, have been received from Rev. J. B. Dunlop, of the Presbyterian mission in Bangkok, that the departure of three young ladies (from Pennsylvania and Indiana) will not be delayed.

Letters from Presbyterian missionaries in Turkey tell of an unprovoked attack upon Miss Anna Melton, an American, in the Nestorian mountains. She was beaten and bruised, but escaped with her life.

The usual revolution in Central or South America is on the calendar; it is in Nicaragua this time. On the 24th inst the revolutionists without warning shelled the city of Managua for four hours, and came near damaging the house occupied by U.S. Minister Baker. He, together with the Spanish, Austrian and Italian Consuls, entered a protest against such an act of barbarism. The insurgents have since captured the city of Managua.

The latest news from Honolulu is interesting. It is reported that the provisional government is planning, in case annexation fails and it must stand alone, to expel the ex Queen. U.S. Minister Blount has finished his report, and is only waiting for his successor. Finance Minister Damon has made out a careful and exhaustive statement which makes a good showing. Prof. W. D. Alexander, the Hawaii historian, has been appointed a Commissioner to assist Minister Thurston in his negotiations for political union with the United States. A new treaty is said to have been formulated for presentation to President Cleveland. The main points of this are given as follows in this morning's papers:—

Art. 1 cedes from the date of the exchange of ratification of the treaty, without reserve, all rights of sovereignty in and over the Hawaiian Islands and dependencies to the United States to become an integral part thereof.

Art. 2 cedes and transfers the absolute fee of all government and crown lands, public buildings, ports, harbours, fortifications, military or naval equipment, and all other public property.

Art. 3 provides that the existing government of the Hawaiian Islands and the laws relating to its internal policy are to be continued for five years, to be executed and carried out under the direction of a United States Commissioner to be appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate, said Commissioner to reside in the Hawaiian Islands, with power to veto within ten days any act passed by the local government, which shall thereupon become void unless afterwards approved by the President of the United States.

Art. 4 prohibits the immigration of Chinese labourers into the Hawaiian Islands until such time as Congress shall provide further legislation on the subject. It also prohibits Chinese labourers now here from entering the United States. Otherwise the immigration and labour laws are to remain as they are where they do not come into conflict with the Constitution of the United States or such future laws as Congress may provide.

Art. 5 provides that the Hawaiian public debt shall be assumed by the United States, but the Hawaiian Government shall continue to pay interest thereon, Congress to provide for the future currency of the Islands.

Ex-Gov. George C. Perkins, of California, has been appointed U. S. Senator to fill out the unexpired term of the late Senator Stanford.

The work of the surveying corps in the Cherokee strip is being pushed, so that President Cleveland, if he wishes, may issue a proclamation about Aug. 1 to open the same.

At the Monona Lake Assembly at Madison, Wis., in a lecture on "Uncle Tom's New Cabin," Mr. John T. Graves, of Georgia, advanced a plan for settling the the vexing race problem. It is this:—The remedy is to be found in a negro State planted in the heart of our own great republic; under the shadow of the flag; under the benediction of the government. Here let him unmolested work out his final destiny. In the region of Colorado, New Mexico, and Arizona is to be found an area of 150,000,000 acres upon which our whole negro population could find subsistence and yet not be so densely populated as I found Germany or Belgium. The government should lend them every aid in developing the country. Negroes alone should hold the offices and rule the country. Nor are they opposed to such action. Actual investigation has shown that numbers are ready to go even to Africa where they can have a State of their own. This hard problem, if let alone, will better settle itself in time.

The advance information which put Chicago's population at more than 2,000,000 was incorrect. The new directory is now out, an immense volume of 2,246 pages, about as big as Webster's Unabridged Dictionary, and the largest published in the United States. This shows, on careful and conservative estimate, a population of 1,610,000, a gain of 190,000 in a year.

The late Anthony J. Drexel, of Philadelphia, left his books, pictures and works of art to Drexel Institute; and gave $1,000,000 to the German Hospital, and the same amount for the establishment of a public art gallery, in that city.

During the past few days there has been increased uncertainty in financial matters. Several banks in Denver, Milwaukee, Louisville, Indianapolis and other localities have had to close, and Charles W. Depauro, "one of Indiana's richest men," was compelled to make an assignment. Money is still tight; and great anxiety is naturally felt all over the country.

The Grand Jury of the District of Columbia has indicted Ainsworth, Covert, Dant and Sasse, the four men whom the coroner's inquest held responsible for the Ford's Theatre disaster.

Since my last letter there have been some "special days" at the World's Fair. On the 20th inst. the Swedes had a grand procession down town, and then enjoyed oratory and song at Jackson Park; yesterday the travelling men, or drummers, and the farmers, held reunions; and the commercial travellers are still "at it." They are here from all over the United States, and even from New Zealand.

Trouble continues to be caused by custom-house and jury matters. The restrictions placed on the sale of goods are galling to foreign exhibitors, who frequently become so indignant as to close or cover their exhibits for a day or so until their wrath is appeased. This was done by Russia during the past week, and was threatened by France. Then Belgium, because her displays had not been judged, as she had requested, by July 20th, withdrew all from examination.

In the list of jurors in various sections are some names of interest to people in Japan. In the transportation department is H. Akiyama; in painting are Ernest F. Fenellosa and John La Farge; ceramics and mosaics are Dr. W. S. Bigelow and Prof. E. S. Morse; in stained glass and decoration is John La Farge again; and in a list made out by the Board of Lady Managers appears the name of M. Shioda, Japan.

At a recent banquet given to Chief N. I. Buchanan, of the departments of agriculture, forestry and live-stock, Mr. S. Suwa represented Japan.

"An old Viennese boy," as he called himself, has had a novel but dangerous experience of a ride for 44 hours as freight, packed in a dry-goods box, from New York to Chicago. That is the way he came to the World's Fair!

The Exposition was closed, as expected, last Sunday. A young man, representing Mr. Clingman (who obtained from Judge Stein the injunction against Sunday closing), in vain presented a 50 cent piece at each gate. The next day the Fair officials were cited to appear before Judge Stein for contempt of court. The case is up this morning.

The Educational Congress began its sessions July 17th, and continues through this week. The different branches have included the deaf and dumb, manual and art education (in which Prof. Fenellosa had a paper on "The Influence of Japanese Art,") Chautauqua, Kindergarten, stenography, college and university students, college

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fraternities, representative youth, university extension, the blind, business education, social settlements, collegiate alumnae, higher, secondary and primary education, general education, industrial education, coëducation, art, music, technology, psychology, pedagogy, physical exercise, etc.!

From the *Chicago Tribune's* account of the Stenographers' Congress I take the following:—

One of the interesting papers of the day came from Japan and was written by Suyeote Fujiki of Tokyo. Among other things he pointed out the great difficulties of short-handing the Japanese language, as its letters were not represented by vowels and consonants, but fifty fixed characters. The word "come" he said, might in Japan be written twenty-five or more different ways. The phrase, "I hope to visit the World's Columbian Exposition," in the Japanese language would look like this: "Watakushi wa Corombaan no Sekai Daihakuranhuai wo mimai Tako Omoi Masu." Many other examples of the language were given.

In the Kindergarten Congress Miss Gaines and Miss Annie Howe represented the work in Japan,—the latter with a paper. Again I clip from the *Tribune*:—

"The Kindergarten, a Factor of Foreign Missions" was the subject of Miss Howe's paper and she presented many intetesting incidents of the progress and results of the new work in foreign lands Most of her observations, however, were made in Japan, where she had been a successful teacher herself. One of the strong points made by the essayist was in a statement to the effect that, in their humanity the children of all countries are much the same. The great difference lies in their surroundings, the environments, and the manner of their bringing up. This led to an assertion that the universality of child life ought to be carried to all nations. The children of Japan love to play just as much as in Europe and America, and the kindergarten might, said the essayist, be made one of the best methods of evangelical work. If they are earnest in their efforts, she continued, it is an easy matter for the missionary kindergartner to convert the educated men of any country to their support and elicit the aid of wealthy women in their cause.

In a Sunday session of college and university students Mr. L. D. Wishard and others spoke of religious movements in the institutions of America, Europe and Asia.

THE JAPANESE EXHIBIT AT THE WORLD'S FAIR.

I.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Chicago, July 31st.

The Japanese Exhibit at the Exposition as a whole, is *ichi ban*. It is true, of course, that in some points it is open to criticism; but it must be borne in mind also, that fault-finding is much easier than having a thing done as one thinks it ought to be done. The flaws in the Japanese exhibit are very few, and will be indicated *passim*: but they will be seen to be comparatively unimportant and often unavoidable. I doubt if, all things considered, the exhibits of any other foreign country averages any better, or elicits more frequent words of praise. Lieutenant F. S. Bassett, interpreter in the foreign department, says that the Japanese came here quietly, went about their business promptly, worked industriously, have not troubled the authorities with "kicking," have always been the extreme of courteous, and have done their work well.

In writing up the exhibit for *Mail* readers, it will be unnecessary to enter as much into detail and explanation as would be needed for the American public. I desire chiefly to let you know how the Japanese exhibits appear, set up here in their places. And I purpose to interpret the term "exhibit" with considerable freedom, and to set before you all the different aspects and forms in which Japan has exhibited herself.

To begin with, there are Japanese bazaars galore. The other day, in walking about several streets in front of the Exposition grounds, I chanced upon some half dozen booths, stores and bazaars, devoted more or less completely to the sale of Japanese articles. I am inclined to doubt, whether there is sufficient demand to make all these ventures profitable: but I am positive that the people can get as large a supply as they may want or need of "things Japanese."

Besides these smaller establishments, there is, *facile princeps*, of course, the Japanese Bazaar on Midway Plaisance. The main building is constructed in American style; and the gate-way in front is a hybrid. It was intended to represent a *mon* like those in front of the Shiba temples. But the ignorant, unskilled American workmen spoiled it by too much Occidentalizing. Still it retains some Japanesque features; and is topped by the decidedly Japanese emblem of a paper carp flying in the breeze. In the second storey, moreover, of the gate are several models of *samurai*, figuring in a war-scene. It is unnecessary to make out an inventory of the various articles which are on sale in this *kwankoba*; but it may not be out of place to single out for special mention a Kaga tea set of 40 pieces. It was manufactured by K. Watano, not made to sell but to show, and cost $150.

Japan is also represented on Midway Plaisance by a Miss Nishijima, of Nagasaki, in the International Costume Show.

An interesting Japanese concession is the "Nippon Tea House" in the main grounds. The spot is a little bit of Japan transported to Chicago, and transplanted in Jackson Park. A garden is laid out in Japanese style with winding pebble paths, various flowers, shrubs and trees (including, of course, the tea plant); rustic seats; storks and other birds; and stone lanterns. Of the latter the one on the west of the tea-house is old and famous; it was ordered by Hideyori in 1600 as an adjunct to his father Hideyoshi's monument.

Turning to the left after entering, you pass into a pavilion where tea and confectionery are served in American style, of which the table and chairs are a sufficient reminder. And yet even here are a number of Japanese features. A specimen of the tea-plant in blossom stands there; and a *tsuridoro* hangs from the ceiling.

Straight ahead from the entrance stands the tea-house, built in pure Japanese style, and furnished with the best. A fine wood-carving representing a priest taming a lion, attracts the attention of most visitors. This tea-house was opened under the auspices of the Central Association, which is represented by Messrs. Ito, Yamaguchi, Komada and others; it is under the general management of Mr. Takenosuke Furuya (LL. B., University of Michigan), who speaks English fluently. Mr. K. Sano, a fine type of the old-style Japanese gentleman, is superintendent of decoration, and is also the owner of the "furniture" of the tea-house. Mr. Morimoto is a fine artist; and plays well the *shakuhachi*. But the principal attraction is, of course, Mrs. Morimoto, who officiates as hostess with that grace and charm which characterize a Japanese lady. Your correspondent was specially delighted also to meet several Japanese from Ibaraki.

The visitor to this compound, on payment of ten cents, is served in the American pavilion to a cup of ordinary tea, a piece of *kashi* and a little present. On payment of twenty-five cents he receives at the tea-house a sip of *gyokuro*, some *kashi*, a sample package of common tea and a present. For fifty cents the guest is served a drink of *tencha* (or *matcha*), confectionery, an artificial feather-flower and a larger sample of common tea. In the last case the confectionery is either *kompeito* or *eisekan*; and all the *kashi* is made on the spot daily by Mr. S. Kirisawa, of Yokohama. The fifty cent guests, moreover, have the privilege, granted at the convenience of the Japanese, of witnessing a performance of the *cha no yu*.

It is delightful to linger here in the midst of Japanese life; it seems like being back again in Japan. This spot has been made, not a *Dai Nippon*, but *Sho-Nippon*.

WOMAN'S BUILDING.

The Japanese exhibit in the Woman's Building attracts a great deal of attention, and makes a magnificent showing. It is open, however, to one criticism: it is cold, dark, dead; it needs a living representative of Japanese womankind. A lady, sitting or moving about in the boudoir and the library, would make the scene life-like. In this respect the tea-house is more attractive But yet in these two rooms the life and work of Japanese women are accurately and artistically portrayed in clear object lessons.

In a show case are exhibits of the work of Japanese women:—cocoons, silk for the *obi* and other uses, crepe, cotton, lace, and other fabrics; painted plates, lacquer boxes, vases, fans and fan-holders; ivory-carvings; *hana-kago*; *kosse*; *yusen*; etc., etc. The rooms, of course, are made and furnished in pure Japanese style, except that all the articles of "furniture" are massed in the rooms for the purpose of display.

In the east gallery also of the Woman's Building is a Japanese room. It contains fine specimens of art work, both man's and woman's. The former comprise screens by Nishimura, Kobayashi, and Iida; a centre table; a chair, made of fine grain white cedar and upholstered with brocaded silk; and an artificial ceiling, made of square panels of silk brocade, with designs of birds and flowers. These were put there, by request of Mrs. Potter Palmer, simply to complete the furnishing of the room. But unfortunately their presence not only gives the false impression that they are woman's work, but also detracts somewhat from the proper appreciation of the other exhibits.

The art works of the Japanese women hang on the walls of that room. The most striking pictures are four panels, done in water-colours, and representing the seasons; Miss Ritsu Tsukahara's oil painting of Sei Shonagon at worship; a large *yusen kakemono* of a group in the time of the cherry-viewing; a water-colour picture of three ceremonies (holding the pen, giving and taking the *biwa*, and arranging flowers), and oil-paintings of a Japanese lady in costume and of a baby on the floor.

CHILDREN'S BUILDING.

The collection of Japanese toys in the Children's Building is very interesting, and seems to be exhaustive. It includes the little cotton and silk balls; sewing-box; dressing case with tin wash-basin and a mirror; dolls made of rubber, China, paper and cloth; battledores and shuttlecocks; wooden, brass and straw rattles, and jumping-jacks; straw and painted paper animals; porcelain fish; *Daruma*; fortune-wheel; *takara-bune*; cups of *shichi fuku-jin*; bows and arrows; swords and guns; drums, and masks; tops and whistles (pine or bamboo); a *dashi*; etc., Caucasian children look at them all with interest and longing; they would wish for them the more, if they only knew how cheap and simple they are, and yet how "full of fun."

ARIMA CHRISTIAN CONFERENCE.

(OFFICIAL REPORT OF THE PROCEEDINGS.)

The Third Annual Conference of Missionaries and others interested in Christian work has just been held at Arima, near Kobe. About a hundred and fifty persons attended from China and Japan, and the meetings (which were held in the new Conference Hall erected since last summer) were characterised by a fervour and seriousness which showed how much they were appreciated by those for whom they had been arranged.

The opening service, on Sunday morning 6th August, was conducted by the Rev. Dr. H. H. Rees (of Kobe) who preached from the text "What is Truth?" (John xviii. 38) and showed how the Lord Jesus Christ and His religion alone satisfactorily answer the enquiry. The Rev. N. W. Utley (of Osaka) conducted the evening service, giving an address on "Christ being made unto us wisdom, righteousness, sanctification, and redemption" (1. Cor. i. 30.31).

Half-hour prayer meetings were held every morning during the conference week at half-past six o'clock, and were found very helpful and stimulating, being attended by an average of about fifty persons daily.

The Rev. J. Frazer Smith, M.D. (of Hsin-chên, Honan Province, China) was elected President, and the Rev. G. H. Pole (of Osaka) Secretary, to the Conference. The morning meetings were held from ten o'clock till a quarter to twelve, and were occupied as follows:—

MONDAY.—Two papers, on "The distinctive work of the Holy Spirit under the Old and New Testament Dispensation" respectively, were read by the Revs. S. P. Fulton (of Okazaki) and F. S. Curtis (of Hiroshima), and were followed by fervent prayers for a fuller realisation of the spirit's presence, power, and blessing.

TUESDAY.—Two papers were read (and also followed by prayers without discussion) on "The fruit and the witness of the Holy Spirit" respectively, by the Revs. W. P. Buncombe (of Tokushima) and J. C. C. Newton (of Kobe.)

WEDNESDAY.—Accounts were given of missionary work in the Yangtze valley and in the province of Shan-tung, China, in interesting papers, the first by the Rev J. R. Graham (of Chinkiang) and the second by the Rev. W. B. Hayes (read however, in the absence of the writer, by the Rev. W. O. Elterich (of Ichow-fu). An interesting discussion followed and questions were asked on various points, such as:—The salaries of native workers, and the teaching of the Bible and of English in Mission Schools.

THURSDAY, FRIDAY, and SATURDAY were set apart for the consideration of the Resurrection of Christ, two papers being read each morning on different aspects of the subject as follows:—(1) "Christ's Resurrection is a fact of History," (by the Rev. H. McC. E. Price, of Osaka); (2) "Christ's Resurrection as evidenced by the gift of the Holy Spirit," (by the Ven. Archdeacon Warren, of Osaka); (3) "The relation of the risen Christ to the missionary worker" (by the Rev. H. T. Graham, of Tokushima); (4) "The intercession of the risen Christ," (by the Rev. W. E. Towson, of Kobe); (5) "The relation of Christ's Resurrection to that of believers," (by the Rev. J. H. Scott, of Osaka); (6) "Its relation to the last Judgment." (by the Rev. R. B. Grinnan, of Kobe). There was, as a rule, no discussion of these subjects, but

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on each morning the short time available after the reading of the papers was spent in prayer.

On MONDAY, the 7th, at special gatherings held in the afternoon, as well as at the regular meetings of the Conference, earnest prayer was offered in response to a call, from the Missionary Association of Shanghai to fellow-workers in China and Japan, for united humiliation and prayer on that day in view of the crisis arising out of the late murders at Sung-pu.

Devotional meetings were held each evening, lasting on several days nearly two hours, and consisting (besides appropriate hymns) of an address conference and prayer on specially selected topics as follows:—

MONDAY:—"The need of renewed consecration and reception of the spirit's power by the Church of Christ throughout the world," (by the Rev. L. N. Chappell, of Chinkiang). TUESDAY:—"Christ, our sufficiency for all things," (by Mr. Edward Evans, of Shanghai). WEDNESDAY:—"The hindrances to the work of the gospel in Central China," (by the Rev. J. L. Hendry, of Nanking) THURSDAY:—"The safety of God's cause in His own hands; and young people," (by the Rev. W. Wynd, of Osaka). FRIDAY:—"The need of more missionary workers," (by the Rev. T. W. Houston, of Nanking). SATURDAY:—"The Lord's Second Coming," (by the Rev. A. F. Chappell, of Gifu).

On SUNDAY morning, the 13th, the service was read according to the Church of England Prayer Book by the Rev. H. L. Bleby (of Osaka), and an eloquent discourse was delivered by the Rev. Dr. A. D. Hail (also of Osaka) upon the all important of character in the missionary, showing how the spiritual life is deepened by a realisation of the corporate relation of all believers to each other (John XVII. 19 and Eph. II. 22). Dr. Hail was kind enough to undertake this sermon at very short notice, in consequence of the temporary indisposition of the appointed preacher, the Rev. G. H. Pole. In the evening, a consecration meeting conducted by the President (who gleaned some practical lessons from the character of Daniel) brought the Conference to a profitable close; and many testimonies were then given as to the help and blessing received from the meetings attended.

The weather throughout, though warm, was fine, except for some thunder showers on the afternoons of three days. All the meetings were largely attended, and the interest was well sustained from beginning to end.

THE KARUIZAWA CONFERENCE.

The Christian Conference, arranged by the one held a year ago in this place, commenced on Sunday morning, August the 13th, the Rev. Dr McCauley preaching the opening sermon. The Subject, was "A Social Prayer and its Answer." The text was taken from Acts iv., 31, and the sermon was an apologetical and practical presentation of the power which has been exercised by the Christian Church in ages all through the agency of social prayer. In the evening, the Rev. Wm. Elliott, of Toyama, preached on the subject of "Christian Love," showing the inseparable relation which exists between Christian love and the performance of duty. A short discussion and prayer-meeting followed the sermon.

On Monday morning, the Rev. W. Noyes, of Matsushi and the Rev. D. R McKenzie, of Fukui, read papers on the Gouin System of Language-study, giving special attention to the application of the system to the study of Japanese. Mr. Noyes gave a digest of Part Second of M. Gouin's book—The Art of Teaching and Studying Languages. This Part treats of the Construction and Application of the System. Mr. McKenzie presented some of the advantages, direct and indirect, to be derived from the use of the System and advocated the establishment of a Japanese Language school where Missionaries, on arriving in the country, might spend their first year in the acquisition of the language by the use of the Gouin System in the hands of one or more first-rate Japanese teachers. In the discussion that followed, and which was of such interest that a special session was necessary, this suggestion seemed to meet with general approval, especially as it was the opinion of the essayists, based on the experience of a few months, that M. Gouin's estimate of one year for the practical mastery of a language was likely not overdrawn.

Mr. Page in his paper on Monday evening advanced the view that the victory of our Lord over sin and death was won in His human personality, and that it was in the same character that He received His exaltation. This exaltation consisted in His having received as man the Holy Spirit subject to Him—the Holy Ghost thus becoming the Spirit of Christ. A short discussion followed the paper.

On Wednesday morning a paper was read by Rev J. C. Ambler, on the subject "The Christian Worker from the Standpoint of the Apostle Paul;" and was followed by a discussion on "The Relation of the Missionary to the Work." A series of questions bringing out the debatable issues of the present day had been prepared, the answer to which might form the basis of discussion. The relations were first considered ecclesiastically, during which the various forms of church government in Japan were passed in review, and the relation of the Missionary to the native church in each was noted. This led up to the practical question, is the Missionary's work nearly done, or is the work still great enough to call for a further reinforcement of Missionaries. Discussion upon these issues occupied the special sessions of Wednesday and Friday afternoon. A committee appointed to draw up resolutions expressing the sense of the Conference on these and other questions reported on Friday afternoon as follows:—"Resolved that in the opinion of this Conference it is possible and practible to give a great impulse to the work of evangelizing Japan, First, by the thorough maintenance under Missionary influences of the various kinds of educational work already undertaken; Second, by the selection of Missionary and other teachers well qualified to exert a high spiritual influence upon students; Third, by a large increase of Missionary force to be directly engaged in evangelistic work; and Fourth, by the adoption of more aggressive methods in this department than have been used in the past."

After a spirited debate, inasmuch as the Conference was not a truly representative body, it was not deemed best to take any action on the resolutions. In the course of the discussion there appeared to be a practical unanimity of sentiment, that the Missionary was specially needed at present in the frontier work, co-operating with the lay evangelists in the work of the new stations and districts.

Wednesday evening was occupied with an address by Mr. R. S. Miller, of the Y. M. C. A. in Tokyo, on the subject of "Work among the Students." The speaker first spoke of the various methods employed in reaching young men, and then the extent to which the Young Men's Christian Association had spread in Japan. The first association was organized in Japan in 1878, and there are now about 250 Seinenkwai in the country, of which number about 25 are college associations—10 in Tokyo in addition to the city association. In the recent convention at Suma, the first approach was made to a national organization or union. The work of the Tokyo City Association was particularly spoken of as follows:—First, classes at night in English; Second, providing Christian boarding houses for young men. Third, maintaining a library and reading room, with an average daily attendance of 55; Fourth, a Sunday afternoon gospel service, with an attendance of about 100, mostly unbelievers.

Dr. C. S. Eby's subject on Friday morning was "Some Thoughts on Christian Ethics, or Applied Christianity." The address was a spirited protest against the tendency of the church in all ages to a theoretical Christianity, the tendency to give the more important place to the working out of a theology and a church government rather than to pratical life. This is entirely contrary to the mind of Christ, as set forth in the Sermon on the Mount. The social, practical side of the salvation of Christ ought to be more emphasized. The church ought to be made more of a Home, a Nursery, a Recreation Ground, a Training School, an Army.

On Friday evening, the Rev. W. Swann spoke on the subject "The First Chapter of Genesis," showing its full harmony with all the discoveries of science, and thus affording within itself an evident proof of its Divine Inspiration.

Sabbath morning a sermon was preached by the Rev. Eber Crummy, from the text Number 18 20, subject "Our Inheritance;" revealing the satisfying and glorious possession of the believer, in Christ, in what He has been, in what He is and in what He will be.

The Rev C. Harrington addressed the meeting on Sabbath evening taking for his subject "Faith," as shown in the life of Abraham; its trials, its encouragements, its rewards.

Thus came to a close a Conference which was especially instructive and helpful in all its parts. The subjects were ably presented by the speakers, and the discussions following were lively and interesting.

ECZEMA.—Book on „Skin Trouble," sent free for One Stamp by Messrs. NORTH & RAE, Limited, Yokohama.

BRITISH CONSULAR TRADE REPORT FOR NAGASAKI FOR 1892.

Mr. DE BUNSEN to the Earl of ROSEBERY.

Tokio, May 4th, 1893.

MY LORD,—I have the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship the Nagasaki Trade Report for 1892, which has been compiled by Mr. Quin, Her Majesty's Consul at that port.

I have, &c., (Signed) M. DE BUNSEN.

Consul J. QUIN to Mr. DE BUNSEN.

Nagasaki, April 17th, 1893

SIR, I have the honour to submit herewith my Report on the Trade and Shipping of Nagasaki for the year 1892.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN J. QUIN.

REPORT ON THE TRADE AND SHIPPING OF NAGASAKI FOR THE YEAR 1892.

GENERAL TRADE.

The aggregate of the foreign trade of Nagasaki for the year 1892 amounted to 919,717*l.*, while in 1891 the total was 1,107,047*l.*, being a decrease of 187,330*l.* for 1892:—

	1892. Value.	1891.
Imports	£438,237	£488,698
Exports	£481,480	£618,358
Total	£919,717	£1,107,047

This decrease during 1892 has taken place both in imports and exports. In imports the decrease amounts to 50,452*l.*, the smaller import in metals alone accounting for over 44,000*l.* In exports the decrease amounts to 136,878*l.*, of which 105,000*l.* occurs in the item of coals.

IMPORTS.

Cotton manufactures, which in 1891 showed an increase of nearly 4,000*l.*, show a decrease in 1892 of 5,459*l.*, having dwindled to the very insignificant figure of 2,136*l.*

This trade has been much smaller than usual, owing partly to the fact of the Korean market having been overstocked during the previous year, and partly to the Chinese steamers from Shanghai now running regularly to Chemulpo having taken a large portion of the trade that used to be done through this port.

Japanese dealers suffered heavy losses during 1891, mostly in produce imported from Korea, and a number of them who were considerable merchants are now reduced to small store-keepers, and are not able to make contracts, so that the business has fallen into the hands of Chinese.

Kerosene oil, which, like other produce for Korea, is imported in bond, has increased considerably; in 1890 less than 10,000 cases went from here, in 1891 over 25,000 cases, and in 1892 over 36,000 cases, all American oil. Other goods going from Japan to Korea are but trifling sundries, mostly going from Shimonoseki and Osaka.

The import in woollen manufactures is hardly worth mentioning, having only amounted to 856*l.*

The imports of metals during 1892 have decreased considerably, being 15,854*l.* for the past year, as against 60,205*l.* in 1891, a decrease of 44,351.

This is due to the fact that no rails were imported during 1892 for the Kushiu Railway, while in 1891 they were imported to the value of over 34,000*l.*

There is again an increased import in white sugar of about 3,000,000 lbs., valued at 87,756*l.*, showing an increase of 12,567*l.* over 1891. The trade in this article has been remunerative, and prices have been steadily maintained throughout the year under review, with an upward tendency towards the close.

The import of brown sugar has increased from 2,245,031 lbs., valued at 12,031*l.*, to 4,037,790 lbs., valued at 18,357*l.* Fully half the trade in brown sugar was in the hands of foreigners. The anticipations of the previous year as to the increase of the trade and the localities to be supplied from Nagasaki have been so far fulfilled.

The import of kerosene oil has increased some 300,000 gallons, with an increase of about 2,000*l.* in value. The year 1892 has been a better one for importers, and probably also for dealers, as prices during the year have mostly had an upward tendency, the American oil reaching to nearly 2 dol. per case at the end of the year. Deliveries for the year are largest in the history of the trade of Nagasaki, amounting to some 273,000 cases. The increase, however, is entirely in American oil, Russian oil being almost the same as during the previous year, about 45,000 cases. The Russian oil does not appear to be in much favour here, the relative difference in price between it and American oil remaining greater than at other ports. The stocks of oil carried over at the end.

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of the year were very small. Materials for tanks for the storage of Russian oil in bulk arrived here in the month of October, 1892, but up to the end of the year permission to erect them had not been obtained from the Japanese authorities.

There has been considerable opposition raised by those interested in the import of case oil, and land-owners and residents in the vicinity of the proposed site for the tanks appear to be under apprehension of its liability to explode. Doubtless, however, it will only require a little time and careful explanation to overcome the existing difficulty.

Over 6,000 tons of Card ff coal were imported, and, as in former years, were solely for the use of foreign men-of-war.

Powerful pumping machinery, valued at 13,562*l.*, was imported for the use of the Miike coal-mine.

The import of this article has more than doubled in 1892, 7,164,472 lbs., valued at 123,212*l.*, were imported, as against 3,370,807 lbs., valued at 64,346*l.* in 1891, being an increase of 3,793,665 lbs., and 58,866*l.*

The native cotton crop was very poor in 1892, which was the cause of the great increase, and prices were higher. The cotton imported was largely from China, and to a smaller extent from India, mostly for use of the native spinning mills, of which the Miike mills took about half, the other half being distributed among the mills in Kumamoto, Bichiu, and neighbourhood of Nagasaki, where it is spun into yarn of low numbers for the looms making native shirtings and cotton flannels.

There is again a very considerable decrease in the import of beans.

The import of oil or bean cake shows an increase of about 800,000 lbs., with an increased sterling value of over 7,000*l.*

Rice was imported in the earlier part of 1892 to the amount of 637 tons, valued at 4,294*l.*, against 1,165 tons, valued at 8,025*l.*, in 1891.

One steamer, valued at 12,194*l.*, was sold during the year.

The trade in hides at Nagasaki has become quite insignificant. The Osaka market now takes most of the Korean hides for the tanneries there. The import amounted to 5,218*l.*

Exports.

The export of tea shows little or no change. The export for 1891 amounted to 6,669*l.*, and that for 1892 to 6,839*l.*

Rice was exported during 1892 to about the same extent and value as in 1891. The respective figures being 3,928 tons, valued at 32,794*l.*, in 1891, and 4,179 tons, valued at 32,468*l.*, in 1892. The crop was a good one, but prices ruled fairly high during the year, and the difficulty of transport puts a stop to any development of the trade.

Kumamoto, which is the centre of the H go rice trade, is only 5 or 6 hours distant, but on account of the shallow water only very small steamers are capable of running there. Then the rice has to be brought from Kumamoto down the river in flat boats some distance, and there shipped. Should the weather be unpropitious delays occur, and even a small order cannot be executed to date with any certainty, and a cargo of 2,000 tons or 3,000 tons would take weeks to deliver.

On the other hand, if a cargo is required at Kobe or Osaka the rice can be placed immediately on the train, taken to Moji, there shipped at once for its destination, and delivered in 2 days. The cost of delivery at Osaka is not more than 10c. higher than the cost of transport to Nagasaki, which is more than compensated for by the certainty of despatch in the former case.

For these reasons no improvement can be looked for until the railway is completed to Nagasaki, and the same remarks apply to the transport of wheat and other cereals and general merchandise

The export of coals from Nagasak continues to decline. The total amounted to 418,277 tons, valued at 220,293*l.*; in 1891, 474,943 tons, valued at 325,691*l*, were exported; a decrease in 1892 of 56,666 tons and 105,398*l.*

As on former occasions, I append returns of the output of the Takashima coal-mines for 1892 and its ultimate disposition.

Takashima Net Out-put during the Year 1892.

Description.	Quantity.
Large coal	182,012
Small coal	188,963
Total	370,975

Sales and Destination.

Ports.	Large.	Quantity. Small.
Hongkong	43,036	34,640
Shanghai	22,335	49,054
Yokohama	59,495	3,680
Kobe and Osaka	1,674	3,158
Nagasaki	43,211	58,328
Singapore	10,041	7,944
Nine other ports	8,967	2,914
Total	188,759	159,718

The stocks of the coal on December 31, 1892, were 22,498 tons. The mine worked well all last year, but a seam on the island, and also the Nakanoshima seam, have given out, and it is expected that after June of this year the output will be considerably lessened. Borings are being made in various directions with a view to strike a continuation of the seam in the neighbourhood of the island.

The working of the Wusui mine is principally of a tentative character, and it is not proposed to sink a permanent shaft until the area of the coal field has been determined. The Kogayama mine was closed in August of last year, owing to the deterioration in the quality of the coal and the difficulty of working the seam, owing to the extreme dip The Shuinui and Namazuta mines are in flourishing condition, and produced during the year 117,465 tons and 122,178 tons respectively.

As during the year 1891 a quantity of coal was shipped from the special ports of export, as per following table, in addition to which local requirements have absorbed many thousand tons:—

Ports.	Quantity. Tons.		Value. £
Shimonoseki	64,880	.....	"
Moji	267,666	.....	"
Hakata	321	.....	"
Karatsu	40,664	.....	"
Misumi	5,857	.....	"
Kuchinotsu	329,346	.....	"
Total	708,734	.....	316,687

Export of coal from the above ports has largely increased, being 109,506 tons in excess of the previous year. The total output of the Chikuzen and Buzen collieries for 1892 was 1,035,000 tons, being an increase of 120,000 tons over 1891.

The trade has been much depressed in consequence of overproduction, causing extremely low prices to rule throughout the year. Many new mines having been opened during the previous year or two, and the consuming markets having been flooded with Japanese coals, mostly of very inferior qualities, have combined to give a bad name to Japanese coals generally, and helped to keep down prices.

As predicted in last year's report the export of tobacco has been very small. The trade did not amount to 2,000*l.* for every kind, prepared and raw leaf.

Trade in camphor shows a considerable falling-off from 22,832*l.* in 1891 to 7,703*l.* in 1892. The production in this district has greatly diminished, and has become of minor importance. Values have fluctuated as usual, ranging from 32 dol. to 33 dol. January and February, to 35 dol. and 39 dol. in June and August, jumping to 48 dol. and 50 dol. per picul in November and December. Very little was exported direct, most having been shipped to Kobe from here. Chinese shippers, however, took some for Hongkong market, probably for re-export to India and Europe.

The export of flour appears for the first time in sufficient quantity to be quoted. It was exported to the extent of 14,242*l.* This flour was made at the Nagasaki Roller Flour Mill Company, Limited, and was mostly exported to Vladivostock. Foreign flour (American) was also imported to the value of 3,721*l.*, of which about half, amounting to the value of 1,851*l.*, was re-exported to Korea and Vladivostock.

The demand for flour is partly owing to the burning down of the Vladivostock mills, but apart from that the population is largely increasing, and a considerable number of coolies go there every spring. The trade is expected to increase unless the failure of the local wheat crop should cause too great a rise in prices, as occurred the year before last.

The miscellaneous articles grouped under the head of dried fish, etc., and which include also papers, porcelain, timber, &c., form a large item of the export trade, amounting to 191,063*l.* Nearly the whole of this trade is in the hands of the Chinese merchants, who find their market in Shanghai and Hongkong.

Shipping.

The returns of the total shipping which entered the port of Nagasaki during 1892 shows a very slight decrease on that of the previous year. The total entries amounted to 733 vessels, aggregating 897,274 tons, as against 746 vessels, of 899,732 tons, being a decrease of 13 vessels and 2,458 tons. There is a decrease of 9 in the number of British vessels, but a slight increase in the tonnage of 1,531 tons. German shipping shows an increase of 14 vessels and 1,889 tons. In Norwegian shipping there is a decrease of 14 vessels and 9,233 tons, while the Russians show an increase of 10 vessels and 18,599 tons. Japanese shipping also shows a decrease. In 1891 there were 281 vessels, of 335,993 tons, while in 1892 there were 274 vessels, of 324,811 tons, a decrease of 7 vessels and 11,182 tons.

Kuchinotsu.

There is also a slight decrease in the total shipping for the special port of Kuchinotsu of 12 vessels and 13,830 tons.

Moji.

The shipping at the port of Moji, however, shows an increase all round. The total figures are 209 vessels, of 247,296 tons, for 1892, those for 1891 being 119 vessels, of 159,781 tons, of which 123 vessels, of 178,868 tons, represents British shipping, as against 71 vessels, of 109,840 tons, during the previous year.

The grand total, however, of the shipping of all nationalities for the Consular district of Nagasaki shows an increase under each flag represented, except Norwegian, which has decreased by 26 vessels and 33,607 tons. The total figures are 1,107 vessels, of 1,322,240 tons, in 1892, against 1 042 vessels, of 1,251,013 tons.

Public Works.

No public works of any importance have been undertaken during the year under review.

Hardly any increase to the mileage of the Kiushiu Railway has taken place. It is frequently reported that the works are going to be resumed, and the last estimate published for the line from Saga to Nagasaki was 4,590,080 dol., being over 1,000,000 dol. in excess of the former estimate, which was 3,433,660 dol. Several branch lines are in contemplation if ever the necessary funds are forthcoming.

Local Industries.

The silk industry was started some 5 years ago, and during the first few years experienced losses, owing to the causes mentioned in last year's report. However, during 1892 matters took a turn for the better, and prospects appear to be more favourable. Silk to the value of 36,430 dol. was produced, being more than double of the previous year. It was all sent north for sale, and the prices ranged from about 700 dol. to over 900 dol. per bale.

The tannery is kept steadily at work, and is apparently sufficient to supply the local Japanese requirements.

The small glass factory also continues to work, but has not, apparently, extended its operations. The consumers are content with a common grade of merchandise, which can be sold very cheap. About one third is exported, and the remainder is consumed locally.

General Remarks.

The same remarks about the unfavourable nature of the year's trade made in 1891 have to be repeated for 1892. Exchange has gone down steadily all during the year, causing great stagnation in trade, especially with gold using countries.

As will be noted from the figures in Annex 3, the imports from England, which were in 1891 164,276*l.*, went down to 77,293*l.* in 1892; exports also being respectively 16,189*l.* and 5,748*l.* Germany also shows a great decrease in imports from 41,719*l.* in 1891 to 8,713*l* in 1892, and in exports from 7,241*l.* to 581*l.* The differences, are not so observable with silver using countries.

The Japanese population of Nagasaki on December 31, 1892, numbered 61,999, being an increase of 2,372 over that of the previous year.

Annex 1.—Return of the Import Trade of Nagasaki for the Years 1892-91.

Articles.	1892. Quantity.	Value.* £	1891. Quantity.	Value.† £
Cotton manufactures	—	2,236	—	1,595
Woollen, and mixed cotton and woollens	—	886	—	2,778
Metals, and manufactures of—				
Iron rails ..... Tons	—	—	5,051	34,193
Iron pipes	—	1,851	—	3,807
Miscellaneous	—	14,003	—	22,205
Sugar—				
White ..... Lbs.	13,101,651	87,736	10,367,672	75,189
Brown ..... Lbs.	4,037,790	18,357	2,245,031	12,032
Miscellaneous, Western—				
Engines, and part of	—	2,381	—	3,147
Machinery, shipping	—	—	—	19,713
Machinery, various	—	7,456	—	10,090
Pumps, and parts of	—	13,562	—	—
Railway carriages, and part of	—	7,505	—	3,684
Coal ..... Tons	6,221	8,747	3,693	4,694
Drugs	—	3,725	—	4,290
Dyes	—	5 093	—	5,787
Beverages, provisions, &c.	—	8,580	—	11,241
Silks and satins	—	6,336	—	6,423
Wines, spirits, beer, &c.	—	3,628	—	5,339
Kerosene oil ..... Gal.	1,600,240	40,301	2,330,735	42,497
Steamers ..... No.	1	12,194	2	71,229
Miscellaneous Eastern—				
Raw cotton ..... Lbs.	7,164,472	123,212	3,370,807	64,346
Beans, pulse, &c. ... Lbs.	2,898,005	5,791	3,007,958	9,842
Rice ..... Tons	637	4,298	1,165	8,025
Oil cakes ..... Lbs.	21,010,717	27,941	19,919,980	20,408
Hides ..... Lbs.	525,486	5,218	889,058	4,256
Sundries	—	27,333	—	35,062
Total	—	438,237	—	488,689

* 1 dol. = 2s. 11½d. † 1 dol. = 3s. 4d.

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Annex 2.—Return of the Export Trade of Nagasaki for the Years 1892-91.

Articles.	1892. Quantity.	Value.* £	1891. Quantity.	Value.† £
Tea—				
Green, basket-fired .. Lbs.	263,492	2,883	130,627	1,531
Bancha, and sundries Lbs.	—	3,055	1,206,339	5,738
Rice .. .. .. Tons	4,135	32,468	3,928	32,704
Coal .. .. .. Tons	191,841	98,227	256,187	277,112
Coal for ships' use .. Tons	128,073	74,018	181,323	66,614
Coal dust .. .. Tons	98,362	48,050	97,153	61,936
Dried fish—				
Cuttle fish .. Lbs.	3,671,960	56,916	3,801,157	67,255
Iriko .. .. .. Lbs.	217,553	8,721	200,793	7,930
Sharks' fins .. .. Lbs.	—	—	108,812	4,479
Shrimps	—	—	183,687	2,175
All others.. ..	—	—	225,057	903
Shell fish—				
Awabi .. .. Lbs.	368,889	21,861	369,818	22,821
All others	—	5,320	—	4,933
Miscellaneous—				
Camphor .. .. Lbs.	207,677	7,703	256,115	22,832
Charcoal .. .. Tons	8,968	9,854	7,960	10,486
Grain, provisions, &c	—	16,461	—	24,257
Flour .. .. .. Lbs.	3,189,0 6	14,248	—	—
Mushrooms Lbs.	243,764	15,406	377,300	16,564
Paper and books ..	—	9,057	—	9,311
Porcelain	—	8,667	—	9,508
Textile fabrics ..	—	21,985	—	19,178
Tobacco	—	—	—	6,177
Timber	—	7,702	—	7,802
Wheat .. .. .. Lbs.	—	—	354,957	800
Other articles	—	29,289	—	29,207
Total Japanese produce ..	—	472,608	—	605,855
Foreign produce and manufactures ..	—	8,872	—	12,503
Grand total ..	—	481,480	—	618,358

* 2 dol. = 81. 10½d. † 2 dol. = 3s. 2½d.

Annex 3.—Return showing the Total Value of all Articles Exported from and Imported into Nagasaki from and to Foreign Countries during the Years 1892 91.

Nationality.	Exports. 1890. £	1892. £	Imports. 1892. £	1891. £
Great Britain—				
England..	5,748	16,189	77,293	164,266
Australia ..	22	1,676	2	238
Canada ..	680	16	3	—
Hongkong..	126,081	227,228	95,635	85,266
India ..	11,728	104	9,878	3.171
United States ..	3,813	5,699	44,792	50,252
Germany ..	581	7,241	8,713	41,719
Belgium ..	—	—	211	1,042
Russia ..	64,817	35,874	9,129	7,719
China ..	175,007	210,390	176,039	113,947
Corea ..	15,387	17,208	10,787	17,124
Other countries..	3,354	9,708	5,755	3,945
Total ..	407,218	531,333	438,237	488,689
Ships' use ..	74,262	87,025	—	—
Grand total..	481,480	618,358	438,237	488,689

Annex 4.—Return of all the Shipping in the Consular District of Nagasaki during the Year 1892

ENTERED NAGASAKI HARBOUR.

Nationality.	Sailing. Number of Vessels.	Tons.	Steam. Number of Vessels.	Tons.	Total. Number of Vessels.	Tons.
Japanese	—	—	274	324,811	274	324,811
British	22	16,762	299	355,876	219	372,638
German	2	484	170	125,272	171	125,756
Norwegian	—	—	20	28,120	20	28,120
Russian	—	—	45	54,647	45	54,647
Other countries ..	2	89	2	1,212	2	1,300
Total ..	27	17,335	721	879,939	733	897,174
Total for the year preceding ..	24	14,550	722	885,182	746	899,732

ENTERED KUCHINOTSU.

Nationality.	Sailing. Number of Vessels.	Tons.	Steam. Number of Vessels.	Tons.	Total. Number of Vessels.	Tons.
Japanese	91	9,207	64	37,116	85	46,323
British	3	3,506	65	107,547	68	111,053
German	—	—	3	1,493	3	1,493
Norwegian	—	—	9	18,802	9	18,8.2
Other countries ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	94	12,713	141	161,957	265	177,670
Total for the year preceding ..	87	12,859	190	279,642	277	291,500

ENTERED MOJI.

Nationality.	Sailing. Number of Vessels.	Tons.	Steam. Number of Vessels.	Tons.	Total. Number of Vessels.	Tons.
Japanese	2	894	12	9,095	14	9 989
British	4	1,808	119	277,000	123	278,808
German	—	—	65	52,793	65	52,793
Norwegian	—	—	6	4,074	6	4,074
Other countries ..	—	—	1	672	1	* 672
Total	6	2,702	203	344 534	209	347,296
Total for the year preceding ..	—	—	119	159,781	119	159,781

Total for the Three Ports within the Consular District of Nagasaki.

Nationality.	Sailing. Number of Vessels.	Tons.	Steam. Number of Vessels.	Tons.	Total Number of Vessels.	Tons.
Japanese	23	10,101	350	371,022	373	381,123
British	27	22,136	383	640,423	410	662,559
German	2	484	238	179,558	2.9	180,041
Norwegian	—	—	37	41,508	37	41 508
Russian	—	—	45	54,647	45	54 647
Other countries ..	1	89	2	2,583	3	2,672
Total	53	32,810	1,055	1,289,451	1,107	1,322,840
Total for the year preceding ..	52	96,409	991	1,324,604	1,043	1,851,013

Annex 5.—Return of Foreign Residents and Firms in Nagasaki on December 31, 1892.

Nationality.	Number of Residents.	Number of Firms.
British	92	5
American	60	4
Austro-Hungarian ..	19	1
Belgian	2	—
Chinese.. ..	600	35
Danish	20	2
Dutch	4	—
French	50	4
German	16	2
Italian	5	—
Portuguese	10	—
Russian	54	2
Other nationalities ..	—	—
Total	932	55

STRANGE CITIES OF THE FAR EAST.

SÖUL IN KOREA.

A little while ago there was published an excellent volume containing descriptions, from the pen of well-known and competent writers, of the most famous capitals of the world. Among their number, the only one which the mysterious region ordinarily denominated the Far East was held entitled to furnish, was, if I remember rightly, Peking. Yet there are other capital cities in the same parts of Asia which, if they do not share the monumental grandeur or the historic antiquity of Peking, are not behind it—nay in some respects, are ahead of it—in the quaint and uncommon characteristics which they present, but which few wayfarers diverge sufficiently far from the trodden track of travel to observe. Three such cities, each the capital of a Kingdom, each the residence of a Court and the seat of government, and each possessing features, either in architecture or population, of considerable dignity and magnitude, I propose to portray for such as may not have had the good fortune to behold them. They are Söul in Korea, Hué in Annan, Bangkok in Siam. Of these the third is known to an increasingly large number of Englishmen, the first to very few and the second practically to none. Let me endeavour to delineate the strange and fanciful mask which life is made to wear in each of them; how it acquits itself, in the streets, in the houses, in the palace, in the amenities of private, or in the functions of public, existence.

The most important thing to remember in Korea is that by position, by origin, by history, by association, and from expediency, the Korean people are greatly under the influence of China. Chinese is the language of the Court, the Government, and all the lettered classes. A tribute mission is annually despatched from Söul to Peking, and the Korean monarch receives his investiture at the hands of commissioners deputed by his Imperial suzerain. Up till a few years ago a Chinese garrison was even stationed in the capital. The reigning dynasty of Korea has found it advisable for five hundred years to acknowledge, and in times of danger actually to parade, this connection; and the costumes worn and the etiquette observed at its Courts are to this day a faithful reproduction of the Chinese equivalents under the Ming sovereigns, who lost the throne of Peking as much as two hundred and fifty years ago. To such as recollect these facts it will be no surprise, therefore, to find that Söul is in most exterior respects a Chinese city.* Indeed, it was first made the capital of the Kingdom exactly five centuries ago by the founder of the reigning house, a monarch who in everything aped the Chinese model, at that time, and, we may a most say now, the sole standard of Majesty or fashion to the petty surrounding states. He built the stone wall, over twenty feet high, with battlements and loopholes for archers, that climbs in sinuous fashion for six miles up and down the hill and mountain sides, by which the city is surrounded and circumscribed; and he made the eight great gates, consisting of a tunnelled passage in the wall, surmounted by a single or a double storeyed projecting tiled roof, by which access is still gained to the interior. Like the Gate of Peking, these have names of swelling import—the Gate of Elevated Humanity, the Gate of High Ceremony, and the Gate of Bright Amiability. As at Peking, also, they are shut soon after sunset, the keys being taken to the King's palace, and deposited with His Majesty. No bribe can then open them, and the only method of ingress is by climbing, with the aid of a friendly hand with a rope, a dilapidated portion of the wall. Just before my visit a British admiral, being a few minutes late, had been compelled to enter in this not unnautical fashion; whereat the Korean dignitaries could not make up their minds whether to be more shocked or amused.

Of the few relics of antiquity which a history of sack and seige has left Söul, the most noteworthy is a famous old bronze bell, which is reported, with a modesty that I cannot think remarkable, since I have found it shared by a least half a dozen rival competitors in the course of my travel, to be the third largest in the world. This bell is stationed behind a wooden grill in a sort of roofed pavilion, called Chong Kak, at the angle of intersection of the principal streets. It is in no respect an astonishing bell, being without ornament, save for an inscription, which relates that it was erected in A. D. 1468, by Tajio Tai Woang. But the Americans are said to have tried to get hold of it for Chicago; and it never allows its own presence to be forgotten by strangers, for it is banged every evening for some minutes before the gates are shut, with a swinging wooden beam, and is, I believe, sounded at other hours, when I was fortunately too fast asleep to hear it. The roads diverging from the Chong Kak are known as Chong Ro, or Bell Roads.

With the exception of the Palaces, Söul is a capital that is in no way remarkable for its public buildings. Nor is their absence compensated by any features of structural dignity beyond size. Some people say that there are 300,000 or 400,000 persons inside the walls. I never heard an Oriental calculation yet that was not absurdly exaggerated; and I should reckon from 150,000 to 200,000 as the probable total. With the exception of the great hooded roofs of the Audience Halls in the Palaces, the whole city, when seen from above, presents an almost even level of tiled roof-tops, packed so closely together that it looks as though a man might step from one to the other. The narrow alleys between them cannot be discerned, and only the white riband of the three principal streets, rendered whiter still by the white dresses of the Koreans strutting by the hundred up and down them, breaks the brown monotony. These main streets, which connect the eastern, western, and southern gates, and the King's Palace, are really from fifty to sixty yards in width, and would adorn any capital; but, with the incurable love for a degrading contrast that is part of the Oriental habit, their beauty or spaciousness is entirely destroyed by a hideous row of straw-thatched shanties that have been erected by poverty-stricken squatters on either side, encumbering the passage, and reducing the space available for locomotion to a narrow strip in the middle. When the King goes out, on when any state function of great solemnity takes place, all these improvised tenements are pulled down beforehand (but re-erected directly afterwards); and I own that I was far from sorry to see a large block of them blazing merrily one night, both because the street for a brief space resumed its proper dimensions, and from the insight which the spectacle afforded into the manners of the natives. Some of them sat on the neighbouring house-tops, praying to the spirits to arrest the conflagration, which they made no effort to retard; others adopted a remedy by one stage more practical, seeing that they ran about with small pots, bowls, and even teacups, filled with water, which they dashed with sanguine futility upon the flames. But had it not been for the privately organized fire brigade maintained by the Chinese Resident for the protection of the Chinese quarter, in or near to which the burning houses lay, there seemed no plausible reason why the conflagration should ever have stopped until it had reduced the entire city to ashes.

In the maps Söul is made to stand upon the river Han; and when I had read in history books of the French and American frigates steaming up the river to threaten or attack it, I had pictured to myself a scene and a site not unlike the Nile at Khartoum. But, as a matter of fact, the river is between three and four miles away; and the only local substitute for it is a narrow canal which may be an Abana or a Pharpar in the rainy season, but which, when I saw it, was only a filthy and shallow sewer, in which the Korean urchins appeared to find pleasure in paddling. Each street or alley, moreover, has an open and noisome gutter running upon either side, and containing all the refuse of human and animal life. The nostrils are therefore assailed by many and well-assorted effluvia; and in the summer, it is not surprising to learn that pestilence and sickness abound. In the exterior of the houses there is no beauty either, for they are, as a rule, constructed of a mixture of mud, paper, and wood; although those which are strongly built have walls made of round stones, which are tied round and held together by plaited straw in lieu of the too expensive luxury of mortar. There are no windows in the

* The name signifies "capital city." Compare the Chinese Peking and Nan-king—i.e., Northern and Southern capitals, and the Japanese Kio-to and To-kio—i.e., Western and Eastern capital. Söul is a dissyllable, but it is difficult to reproduce its exact pronunciation, which I have heard rival scholars transliterate phonetically as Sowul, Seoul, Syoul, and Sawull.

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house-front, only lifting or sliding screens; and whatever neatness or elegance exists in the abode is concealed in the interior, where the private dwellings, unseen from the street, are ranged round small courts. The houses of all classes are uniformly built either on platforms or on raised floors, for the purpose of warming by means of flues running underneath from a single furnace that serves the entire building. At the other end the smoke escapes by a blackened hole in the wall, usually into the street, where it adds to the æsthetic pains of perambulation. Another obstacle to the street embellishment of the capital has been the existence of crude and foolish sumptuary laws, prohibiting the erection of houses of more than a certain size, or beyond a fixed outlay.

For these drawbacks, however, Sôul does its best to atone by three properties of unquestioned and more creditable individuality—viz., a very beautiful situation, a singular and picturesque street-life, and a court which is alternately dignified and comic, and sometimes both at the same time. The city is an irregular oblong in shape, and is outspread in a cup or trough between high hills. Were these uniformly wooded, the situation might not inaptly be compared to that of Kioto in Japan. But a fresh piquancy is added by the contrast between the granite mountains of Ponk Han on the north, whose bleak and arid horns protrude skyward to a height of 1,100 feet above the city, and the splendidly timbered elevation of Nam San, less high by 300 feet, upon the south. It is worth while to climb Nam San; for from there is a wild and gloomy outlook over mountains rolling like grey billows on every side; while along the widening valley between the river Ham pushes its broad shining coils to the sea. On the top of Nam San, too, are four beacon-towers—circular structures built of big stones, in whose interior tall piles of leaves and brushwood are nightly set ablaze, to signal to the capital the message of peace and security or the reverse, which, like the bale-fires of Troy, has been passed from peak to peak from the southern confines of the Kingdom. On the north-west side another tall and three-pointed hill—known as Sam Kak San, which the French in their expedition of 1866 called the Cock's Comb, because of the fiery red which it blushed at the early dawn—flashes an answering gleam from the opposite quarter; nor has this primitive form of telegraphy been abandoned, except on the lines where it has been replaced by the electric wire. A special code of signals, depending on the number, position, and sequence of the beacon-fires, is employed in time of danger to announce to the capital the scene or moment of invasion and the fortunes of combat in the provinces. Towards nightfall the eye of the visitor, unaccustomed to the novelty, insist on turning skywards, and is not satisfied till the reassuring spark glimmers brightly from each sentinel peak.

Why the Koreans should all dress in white cotton no one seems able to say. It is not a fashion imposed by conquest, like the pigtail in China; nor by smartness, like the Albanian petticoat; nor by dignity, like the Roman toga; nor by serviceableness, like the Highland kilt; not even by the vulgar criterion of comfort, like the European trouser. The colour cannot have been designed to resist the sun, because in winter there is not too much sun to resist; nor can the material have been selected for its lightness, since in the cold weather it is only rendered wearable by being thickly wadded with cotton-wool. I can only attribute the phenomenon, therefore, to one of those inexplicable freaks of fortune which have endowed the world, for instance, with the crinoline and the top hat. Nevertheless, it makes the Korean individual, and still more the Korean crowd, a very picturesque spectacle. When seen on approach from the sea, the white spots on the hillsides might be mistaken for itinerant seagulls; while a street scene in a Korean town recalls the adjuncts of an English Confirmation service. Over their white cotton drawers, which terminate in a kind of padded stocking, the men of the middle classes wear an outer tunic or skirt of similar material, which is split up at the sides, and, looks very much like a nightshirt. Secretaries and persons in civil employ wear over this a similar semi-transparent garment in black. The costume of the women is even more eccentric; for, in the first place, they exhibit, by preference, a portion of the body which is usually concealed—a bodice, suddenly cut short, leaving the breasts entirely exposed; on the other hand, the unashamed frankness of this display among the lower orders is unexpectedly atoned for by the almost Mohammedan concealment of the features adopted by women of the higher classes. A gown of green, or crimson, or purple, instead hanging from the shoulders, is drawn up over the head, and is held closely together in front, admitting only a fugitive glimpse of a black eye behind. Masculine curiosity is, however, allayed by contemplation of the looks of the female lower orders, which are uniformely severe and repellent. The most astonishing Korean coiffure is that of the Abigail, or waiting-maid, who wears a colossal erection upon her head made of black horsehair, twisted in plaits, which exceeds in size any head dress, short of the Red Indian's or the Masai's, that I have ever seen. On the summit of this structure a tray or other piece of furniture reposes with as much security as upon a four-legged tea-table.

It is as a country of hats that Korea has attained the widest external fame, and in the course of a single stroll of Sôul will afford material for an extensive classification. The ordinary headpiece is a twofold structure; for the outer hat, broad brimmed and with slightly conical crown, no, unlike the old market-hat of the Welsh-woman—though made of a material more delicate than Wales ever saw, to wit, among the upper classes split bamboo fibres, woven together, and lacquered black, and among lower orders the cheaper variety of the same, or horsehair—is only the exterior covering or superstructure of a skull cap or head band of the same material which is pressed around the temples, in order to hold in place the uncut hair of the men, drawn upwards and tied in a knot upon the crown. The exterior hat is kept on by a riband or string of red and yellow beads beneath the chin. Then there are hats for every rank, occupation, and phase of life. The youth, when he is betrothed, wears, till his marriage, a smart fabrication of straw. The successful candidate at one of the literary examinations is distinguished by two wires adorned with coloured rosettes which project like hoops over the summit of his hat. Peasants and bull drivers are remarkable for colossal penthouses of plaited straw, which almost conceal the features, and whose circumference embraces the full width of the shoulders. Perhaps the mourner has the worst time; for, not only must he wear a somewhat similar extinguisher, hexagonal at the brim, but for a period of one, two, or three years, according to his relationship with the deceased, he is compelled to don a hempen robe, tied by a cord round the waist, and to carry in front of his mouth a small hempen screen between two sticks, in order, I believe, to keep at a proper distance the spirit of the departed. During the period of mourning, prescribed by an inflexible regulation, he is further forbidden to marry, or indulge in any of the lighter occupations of life; and instances have occurred of ill-starred bridegrooms, a continuous mortality among whose relations has left them stranded high and dry for years on the sad sands of celibacy, their *fiancees* meanwhile growing grey and ill-favoured before their eyes. Monks have a hat peculiar to their order, and terminating in a conical apex; but they are forbidden to show themselves inside the capital, in consequence, it is said, of the Japanese invaders having utilised a monkish disguise, three hundred years ago, in order to gain entrance to the city. The Korean soldiers also have a distinguishing hat made of black horsehair felt, tied on with coloured tape ribands; while a superior variety of the same article, adorned with flames, makes of their officers a wondrous sight. It is only, however, when we reach the grades of Court and official society, that the Korean hatmaker achieves his greatest masterpieces. Thus, for the governor of a province he supplies a sort of mitre pasteboard; while for ministers and officials generally are prescribed various degrees of headpiece, constructed with receding stages, like a Doge's cap of State, and fitted with wings or paddles projecting from the back. Even the royal lackeys have a headpiece, which is only less fantastic than the harlequin's cap of the Shah's runners at Teheran.

With nine out of every ten persons clad in white, and with the entire adorned with these astonishing varieties of headgear, it may readily be imagined that street life in Soul is not exactly the same, for instance, as in London or New York. Nor are there any carriages, or wheeled vehicles of whatsoever description, to suggest a Western parallel. Locomotion is entirely pedestrian, save for such persons, usually of high estate, as are perched upon the backs of the diminutive Korean ponies, clinging with difficulty to the pommel of a saddle, which lifts them almost as high above the back of the animal as the latter is above the ground; or as are borne along by shouting attendants in open chairs, or sedans. In the entire country I never remember seeing a wheeled equipage; nor outside the capital would the roads, which are mere bridle-paths, admit of their use. Next to ponies, the most familiar animals encountered in the streets of Sôul are magnificent bulls, marching along under vast stacks of brushwood, and behaving themselves with a docility that is quite extraordinary. They are the only beast of burden known to the country, are highly prized, and fetch comparatively heavy prices. Children abound everywhere, and derive a peculiar gratification sporting in the gutters. They are frequently clad in pink or some other bright colour, and are usually engaged in flying small rectangular painted kites, made of the wonderful oiled paper of the country. This material, besides being applied to almost every domestic purpose,—to flooring, wall-paper, and ceiling, to umbrellas, lanterns, fans and toys, to portfolios, boxes, chests, and screens, and to every kind of writing and printing,—is also turned to many sartorial uses. It makes excellent waterproof capes—old examination papers being frequently assigned this serviceable destiny—and is also worked up in hats and shoes. Almost the only purpose for which it is not utilized in Korea is as an article of food.

In Oriental countries the entire life of the capital invariably revolves round that centre of the palace and the King. The latter may be a small personage to the outer world—perhaps a large majority of mankind may be unaware even of his existence—but to his subjects he is something overwhelmingly great, while to these attributes is added, in the case of China and of its once dependent states, the prestige of a rank that is held divine, and entitles its wearer to be called the Son of Heaven. No celestial Scion in the world in all probability exercises less influence upon its destinies than His Majesty the King of Korea; but that does not in the least detract from his titular eminence in the eyes of Koreans, which an ancient and inflexible etiquette maintains in a becoming atmosphere of mystery and isolation. Fortunately in the case of Korea, the hedge of royal dignity still unimpaired in the case of the suzerain power and of the court at Peking, has been sufficiently broken through by the force of circumstances during the past twenty years, to admit of audiences being readily conceded by a monarch, whom close contact reveals as an amiable personage, not less human—perhaps in certain respects rather more so than the bulk of his fellow-creatures. There is quite a number of palaces in Sôul. One of these, Nam Kang, near the southern gate, is employed for marriage ceremonies, and has sometimes been the residence of the Commander-in-Chief. Another, the Nam Pei Kung, near the western gate, is reserved for the accommodation of the imperial envoys from Peking. A third, the Un Pyon Kung, in the north-east quarter, was formerly occupied by the Tai Won Kun, or Regent, the father of the reigning King, who practically usurped the throne during his son's minority, persecuted the Christians, tortured and killed the missionaries, and by his savage and reactionary policy forced upon foreign powers the first opening of the country. This old gentleman, now over seventy years of age, is one of the most remarkable figures in the country. He has been *de facto* King; he has once been kidnapped and deported from the country; he has put to death hundreds, if not thousands of persons; and last year he very nearly experienced a similar fate himself, a determined attempt being made to blow him up with gunpowder. To these experiences he also adds the accomplishments of an artist, and I am the possessor of an excellent signed pen-and-ink drawing by his hand.

The principal residence of royalty has usually been in one of two palaces of much greater size than those hitherto mentioned. Accounts vary as to the respective antiquity of the pair, the one that is temporarily occupied by the sovereign being commonly denominated the New Palace, presumably because repairs have recently been required in order to render it inhabitable. The two together occupy an enormous space, surrounded by walls, and entered by great gates, in the northern part of the city; and in their precincts are included several hundreds of acres of enclosed but uncultivated ground, extending to the summit of the Northern hill, a conical elevation covered with low scrub, that rises to a sharp and lofty point just behind. When I was in Sôul, the easterly and more extensive of the two palaces, which had been occupied by the King in the early years after his accession, had been partly burned down in 1882, had been rebuilt and reoccupied, but again deserted after the rebellion of 1884, was without a tenant; but it was reported that the King was going back there, because a snake had fallen from the ceiling of the Crown Prince's room in the other palace. Shortness of supplies, however, interfered with the execution of the design.

The more westerly and principal palace has three gates, the central one of which, called Thoi Hwa Mun, stands at the end of the broadest street in the town, a fine thoroughfare some sixty yards in width. Outside it are two grotesque stone lions upon pedestals. The gate is a massive double-rooted pile of masonry, containing three arched doorways, closed with wooden doors, adorned with painted figures. Of these the middle door is only opened for the ingress or egress of the King;

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but the others are the regular passage ways to the multitudes of interior courts, which are crowded with officials, retainers, soldiers, and lackeys. First come two immense paved courts, surrounded by low buildings and terminating in great gateways. The second of these conducts to a further quadrangle, also of great size, at the upper end of which, on a twofold terrace or platform, ascended by two flights of steps and surrounded by a marble balustrade, stands the Royal Audience Hall, which is used for the imposing pageantry of the annual *levée* held on the birthday of the King. Two rows of twelve low pillars on either side indicate the position of the mandarins in their several ranks. Thus ranged, in number several hundred, and all clad in Court dresses and hats, they face towards the platform and the great hall. This is a single vast structure, in the Chinese style, supported by huge circular wooden pillars, painted red above and white at the base; and is entirely empty save for a stained scarlet dais, mounted by six steps, and supporting a beautiful scarlet and black screen of pierced woodwork, in front of which is placed the chair of state. Thereon the King takes his seat, but dimly seen, if at all by the mandarins in the outer rows and receives the homage of his Court. The spectacle, like that which I shall describe in a later paper on Hue, is one of the few surviving and intact pageants of the Far East. In an adjoining court is the Summer Palace, a large hall or pavilion raised upon forty eight pillars of stone, twelve feet high, in the middle of a lotus pond. Hard by may also be seen the Cum Chang Hall, or Hall of Diligence, the Yan Hall, or Hall of Departed Spirits, which is used in the funeral celebrations of royalty, and the Chai Hall, or Hall of Fasting. The rear part of the building, where the king and his seraglio reside, consists of a number of smaller courts, kiosques and pavilions, adorned with a good deal of bright painting, and possessing a certain fantastic elegance. It was in one of these edifices that I was admitted to an audience with His Majesty.

In the Palace everything—dress, deportment, movement, gait—is regulated by a scrupulous and uncompromising etiquette. The middle and lower officials wear brightly-coloured dress of scarlet, blue, and yellow, but the Ministers and chief swells affect a richer and more sober line, usually dark blue or puce, the material being a figured silk. On the bosom is fixed a plastron or panel of coarse embroidery, representing a tiger, or stork, or some other symbolical creature; while round the waist is worn a broad belt, variously adorned with gold, silver, jade, ivory; or horn which projects several inches from the person, like the hoop of a beer barrel that has started from its place. On the head reposes one of the winged tiaras which I have before described. The King's robe was of scarlet silk, the royal colour, and his double tired headpiece was coloured violet. He spoke in a low whisper—a tone which, in Korean is supposed to be, as becoming in royalty as is the reverse in Siam, where the King shouted to me, as if he were leading a battalion to the charge. The main attribute or manifestation of dignity in Korea seems to be that its possessor is incapable of walking without supports. Unsustained he would, I suppose, fall to the ground from the sheer weight of his own importance. Accordingly a minister, if seen walking in the streets, is invariably supported by one, sometimes by two, attendants, who deferentially prop him up under the arm or arms, as he slowly and consequentially struts along. If he be mounted, the same theory prescribes that he shall be held on to his saddle by retainers running on either side. Thus upheld, the Minister for Home Affairs and the President of the Foreign Office were solemnly escorting me to the presence of royalty, when I suddenly seemed to observe a vacuum. The supporters had disappeared, and the Ministers had hurled themselves, forehead forward, on to the ground. One was an old gentleman with a long white beard, and he must have found it extremely trying.

As an illustration of the minuteness of Court ceremonial in Sōul, I may quote from a most interesting pamphlet, in my possession, describing the functions observed at the funeral obsequies of the late Queen Dowager in 1890, in the presence of Imperial envoys from Peking. At frequent intervals occur words like these:—

"The Master of Ceremonies will cry out 'Wail.' Then the senior usher will request the King to wail, and the King will wail. The members of the Royal Household, and the civil and military officials, at a signal from their prompters, will also wail."

But the true comicality of the Korean Court can only be properly estimated upon one of the occasions, somewhat of rare occurrence, when the King goes in state through the city, to visit some temple or tomb. Of one such function I was the interested witness. From an early hour in the morning the streets were guarded by military, of a species unique in the world. The infantry lined the roadway, and were for the most part lying upon the ground. They had almost as many flags as men; and their muskets, which I examined, as they stood piled together, were commonly destitute either of hammer, trigger, or plate, sometimes of all three, and were frequently only held together by string; while the bayonets were bent and rusty. Infinitely more remarkable, however, were the cavalry. These were clad in uniforms probably some three hundred years old, consisting of a battered helmet with a spike, and of a cuirass of black leather studded with brass bosses, and worn over a heavy jerkin of moth-eaten brocade. Enormous Jack boots completed the custume, and rendered it difficult for the men to mount their steeds, even although these were rarely more than eleven hands high. Banners of yellow, red, and green, with a tuft of pheasant feathers at the top, and stacks of arrows, were carried in front of the officers, who were with difficulty supported by squires upon their pyramidal saddles. The middle of the roadway was supposed to be kept clear, and was strewn with a riband of sand, about a foot and a half in breadth; but this was trampled upon and scattered almost as soon as sprinkled.

Throughout the morning, processions of ministers, courtiers, and officials passed along on their way to or from the Palace. The majority of these were borne by shouting retainers in open chairs, on the back of which rested a leopard skin. In some cases the sedan was also supported by a single leg underneath, terminating in a wheel, which ran along the middle of the roadway, easing the burden, and increasing the pace of the bearers in front and behind. Some of the officials wore gilt helmets of pasteboard, with Chinese characters upon the back. The Chinese Resident, the principal personage in the city, as representing the suzerain power, dashed past in a black velvet sedan, swiftly borne by stalwart Celestials, with red tassels. Upon either side of the street the while-robed crowd were pressed back against the house-fronts, and were prodded by the soldiers with their muskets, or spanked by active runners, who laid about them liberally with long wooden paddles. On the occasion of the last previous procession the mob had been suffered to approach too nearly to the person of royalty; and a notification had in consequence appeared in the official *Gazette*, docking the Minister of War of three months' salary for his faulty arrangements.

At length after hours of waiting, the Palace doors were thrown open, and there issued forth the most motley procession ever seen outside of London on Lord Mayor's Day, or the Christmas pantomime at Drury Lane. The soldiers snatched up their venerable muskets, or climbed on to their microscopic steeds. The banners were plucked up, and danced in lines of colour along the streets. First from the Palace gates emerged a company of men in red mitres, carrying scarlet lacquered chairs; then a similar band in blue. Presently appeared the Royal Standard, on which was emblazoned a mighty dragon upon a ground of yellow silk. The sound of drums succeeded; and there was a shout to keep silence. In the centre of a running crowd there followed upborne a single empty sedan, coloured the royal red. I heard two explanations given of this episode. One was that in former days, when etiquette had not been sufficiently relaxed to admit of any portion of the royal person being seen, two identical chairs were used in the processions, no one knowing which of the pair contained the King, much in the same way as an empty train frequently precedes or follows that containing the Russian Czar, with a view to frustrate the possible designs of conspirators. The other theory was that the first chair was intentionally empty, in order to hoodwink the evil spirits who would be likely to assault it in the idea that they had got hold of the royal person. Next came a long procession of the King's valets, in yellow robes and tiny straw hats, with worsted rosettes perched sideway on their heads; the corps of royal drummers, beating with frantic flourish the royal drums; a medley of cavalry, shambling along without the least attempt at order; a small detachment of artillery, dragging after them two small Gatling guns; files of runners, in alternate blue and green gauze, stretching across the street; a company of flute players, blowing a lusty monotone on a shrill note; then a rush of feet and shouting of voices to make way, and a phalanx of sturdy bearers, clad in red, with double mitres on their heads, running swiftly, and supporting in a canopied chair of state, with red silk screens and tassels, the uplifted person of the King. As he passed along, he looked to right and left, and the movement of the bearers made him bob up and down. At a little distance behind followed the Crown Prince, in spectacles, in a similar scarlet palanquin, carried by men in green mitres; and then came a heterogeneous jumble of courtiers, generals, colonels, matchlock men, and tottering cavaliers; the procession being closed by the European drilled troops, who made some attempt to march in step, and whose commander, heralded by stentorian cries, carried an immense banner on his own shoulder. Later on, towards dusk, I met the same procession returning. Everything and everybody had got thoroughly mixed up in the narrower streets: soldiers and citizens, colonels and chamberlains, were all wedged together in inextricable confusion; but above the heads of the crowd, ever oscillated the scarlet palanquin of the King, lit up by lanterns of blue and crimson silk, tossing at the pikeheads of the infantry soldiers.—GEORGE N. CURZON in the *Pall Mall Magazine*.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, August 19.

Numerous sunstrokes and deaths from the heat have occurred in Great Britain.

Cholera is increasing in Southern Italy.

Desperate fighting has taken place near the mines in Wales between strikers and non-strikers. Four thousand troops have been ordered there.

London, August 21.

Mr. Gladstone to-day moves that the closure be applied to the Home Rule Bill. Mr. Chamberlain has given notice of an amendment denouncing this as an attempt to convert the House of Commons into a mere voting machine; and urging that the closure is a measure of great national importance and not to be lightly abused.

London, August 22.

The House of Commons agreed to Mr. Gladstone's motion, defeating the amendment introduced by Mr. Chamberlain by a majority of 38.

[SPECIALLY TELEGRAPHED TO THE "JAPAN DAILY MAIL."]
(FROM THE "N.-C. DAILY NEWS.")

London, August 14.

At the conclusion of the silver debate in the House of Representatives a vote will first be taken on the Bill introduced by the Silver Party providing for the free coinage of silver at an increased ratio; then the bill introduced to-day by Wilson of West Virginia repealing the purchase clause in the Sherman Act, but retaining the legal tender qualities of silver and maintaining the parity between the gold and silver dollar, will be considered.

London, August 15.

The House of Representatives is in favour of the repeal of the Sherman Act, so the silver party are concentrating their attack upon the Senate where there is a small majority against the proposal.

The Duke of Connaught has been appointed to the command at Aldershot. General Sir Evelyn Wood, V.C., is appointed Quarter-Master-General.

London, August 16.

The riots at Bombay have been suppressed and the city is quieting down.

Opinion is growing in Washington that the unconditional repeal of the Sherman Act is impossible and that a compromise will be necessary on the basis of providing free coinage of silver at the ratio of twenty silver to one gold.

London, August 17.

Cooke, Conservative, has been elected at Hereford in place of Mr. W. H. Grenfell, Liberal, who has resigned.

Cholera has appeared in Berlin.

The award of the arbitrators in the Behring Sea seal fishery dispute is almost wholly in favour of Great Britain.

A British Naval force has landed and stormed Witu (Imperial British East African Company's territory) after two hours' fighting. The British loss is, one killed, two lieutenants wounded.

It is feared that trouble is brewing in Mashonaland.

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The minimum rate of the 3½ per cent. rupee loan is 94 rupees 2 annas. Tenders at this rate received 70.7 per cent.

London, August 19.

The Silver debate is proceeding in both Houses but up to the present has been uneventful, only ancient arguments being repeated. The United States Treasury continues to refuse to purchase silver except at the current price ruling on the London market.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the CHESS EDITOR.)

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 83.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1.—Q to K B sq.	1.—Anything.
2.—Mates accordingly.	

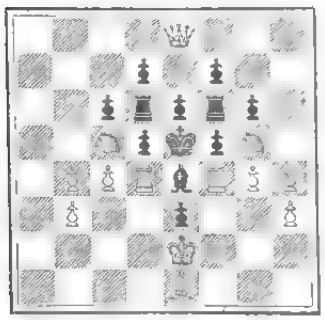
Correct solutions received from Omega, W.H.S., O.B., J.D., Amedea, Omicron, J.W.E., and Digamma.

PROBLEM No. 85.

YE CHESS-(NUT) TREE.

BY J. N. BABSON.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in two moves.

The proposed tournament in New York seems all arranged, and we look for some brilliant play when the Congress opens next month.

Intelligence from Europe is not very lively. It would seem that the unprecedented hot weather there has dimmished the energies of all the players.

We give below a specimen of the work done by two crack players of the Manhattan Club in New York. Mr. Hodges (last year's champion) had to succumb to his old opponent Mr. Delmar.

QUEEN PAWN OPENING.

NOTES BY JAMES MASON.

WHITE. Mr. Hodges.	BLACK. Mr. Delmar.
1—P to Q 4	1—P to Q Kt 3
2—Kt to K B 3	

2 P to K 4, reducing the defence to a *Hanchetto* against an open game, seems expedient. His next half dozen moves are of a routine character, and allow the advantage in development to rest with Black.

	2—B to Kt 2
3—P to K 3	3—P to K 3
4—B to K 2	4—P to K B 4
5—P to Q Kt 3	5—Kt to K B 3
6—B to Kt 2	6—B to K 2
7—Q Kt to Q 2	7—Castles.
8—Castles.	8—Kt to K 5

.... This Knight is not easily and properly disposed of in any case; but White's delay in attending to it at once gets him into difficulty.

9—P to Q B 4?	9—B to K B 3
10—R to Q B sq.	10—P to Q B 4
11—B to R 3	

All this is unfavourable. Even now Kt to K sq., freeing the Bishop's Pawn, etc., should have preference. The exchange following gives Black an open file and his centre Pawns become very troublesome; but considering the time already lost, nothing much better offered.

	11—P to Q 3
12—Kt takes Kt	12—P takes Kt
13—Kt to K sq.	13—Q to K 2
14—P to B 3?	14—B to Kt 4!
15—P to B 3?	15—Kt to Q 2
16—B to Kt 2	16—R to B 2
17—Kt to B 2	

Evidently these three pieces are not on very harmonious terms. The game is not well played by White.

	17—Q R to K B sq.
18—P to K B 4	18—B to K B 3
19—B to Kt 4	19—P to K Kt 3
20—Kt to R 3?	20—P to Q R 3
21—R to Q B 2	21—B to Kt 2
22—Q R to B 2	22—Kt to B 3
23—B to K 2	

This Bishop would be much better placed at Kt 2, for all purposes of defence.

	23—Kt to K sq.
24—Kt to Kt sq.?	24—P to Q 4
25—Q to Q 2	25—Kt to Q 3

.... To attack the King's Pawn from the point of vantage, B 4, White should have played 24 Kt to B 2, so as to have that piece in play.

26—P takes B P	26—Kt P takes P
27—B takes B	27—R takes B
28—P takes P	28—P takes P
29—Q to B 3	

The opposing centre is now very formidable. Here the Queen's Pawn threatened to advance with some effect.

	29—Kt to B 4
30—P to K Kt 4	30—Kt takes P

.... Over bold, perhaps, though in the circumstances the two passed Pawn very nearly balance the piece.

31—Q takes Kt	31—P to Q 5
32—B to B 4 ch.	32—K to R sq
33—Q to Kt 3	33—P to K 6
34—R to K Kt 2	

Certainly the attack is perplexing, and this is one of the wrong ways of meeting it. 34 R to K 2 would afford every prospect of a draw at least. Then if Black at any time took the diagonal with Queen, threatening mate, Q to Kt 2 would be a good reply in default of a better one. As it is, however, Black has the game in his hands, the continued advance of his Pawns being irresistible.

	34—Q to K 5
35—B to K 2	35—P to Q 6
36—B to B 3	36—Q to Q 5'
37 B takes B	37—P to K 7 ch.
38— R (Kt 2) to B 2	

If 38 Q to B 2, then 38 .... , R takes P. An exceptional situation.

	38—P takes R (Q) ch.
39—K takes Q	39—R takes B
40—Kt to Q 2	40—R to K 2
41 Kt to B 4	41—R to K 5
42—P to B 5	42 —R takes Kt P
43—Q to K 5 ch.	43—Q takes Q
44—Kt takes Q	44—P to Q 7
45—Resigns.	

The Knight is lost or the Pawn Queens.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, Nagasaki and Kobe.....	per N. Y. K.	Friday Sept. 1st
From America ..	per P. M. Co.	Sunday, Aug. 27th *
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co	Sunday, Aug 27th †
For America ...	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Sept. 5th. ‡
From Europe via Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Friday, Sept. 1st §
From Europe via Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd.	Wed'day, Sept. 6th.
From America .	per O. & O. Co	Friday Sept. 8th
From Canada, &c	per C. P. M. Co	Monday, Sept. 11th
From Hongkong	per C. P. M. Co	Thursday, Sept 14th

* *City of Rio de Janeiro* left San Francisco on August 10th. † *Verona* left Hongkong on August 29th. ‡ *City of New York* left San Francisco on August 19th § *Melbourne* (with French mail) left Hongkong on August 23rd.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For America	per O. & O. Co.	Saturday, Aug. 26th.
For Europe, viâ Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Aug. 27th.
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki ...	per N. Y. K.	Tuesday, Aug. 29th.
For Hongkong ..	per P. & O. Co	Saturday, Sept. 2nd.
For America	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Sept 5th.
For Europe, viâ Hongkong ..	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, Sept 8th.
For Victoria and Tacoma	per N. P. Co.	Saturday, Sept. 9th.
For Hongkong	per C. P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Sept 12th.
For Canada, &c	per C. P. M. Co	Friday, Sept. 15th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Kumamoto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,240, Olsen, 19th August,—Honjo viâ ports 15th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mogul, British steamer, 1,827, T. Golding, 19th August,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Natal, French steamer, 4,038, H. Verron, 19th August,—Marseilles 9th July, Hongkong 10th August, Shanghai 14th, and Kobe 18th, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Riversdale, British steamer, 1,311, Peck, 19th August,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, T. Sakai 20th August,—Hakodate viâ ports 17th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, Marshall R.N.R., 21st August,—Vancouver, B.C., 8th August, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Oceanic, British steamer, 3,808, W. M. Smith, 21st August,—San Francisco, viâ Honolulu, 1st August, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Aglaia, German steamer, 1,666, Peterson, 21st August,—Hamburg viâ ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Balcarres Brook, British steamer, 1,376, Harrison, 21st August,—Middlesboro' viâ ports, General. Smith, Baker & Co.

Tantalus, British steamer, 2,199, H. Jones, 21st August,—Liverpool viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Yuen Sang, British steamer, 1,106, Slessar, 21st August,—Hongkong 16th August, Rice, Sugar, and General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Yayeyama Kan (4), Japanese despatch-boat, Captain K. Miura, 21st August,—Yokosuka 21st August.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 24th August,—Hongkong viâ ports, 16th August, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

DEPARTURES.

Imperieuse (10), flagship, Captain J. M. McQuhae, 18th August,—Hakodate.

China, British steamer, 2,600, Wm. B Seabury, 19th August,—San Francisco, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Plover (6), gunboat, Lieut. F. C. B. Addington, 19th August,—Hakodate.

Ancona, British steamer, 1,880, W. D. Mudie, 20th August,—Hongkong viâ Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O S.N. Co.

Mogul, British steamer, 1,827, T. Golding, 20th August,—Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Kumamoto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,240, Olsen, 21st August,—Niigata viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, Marshall, R N R., 21st August,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Oceanic, British steamer, 3,808, W. M. Smith, 22nd August,—Hongkong, Mails and General. —O. & O. S.S. Co

Alacrity (4), despatch-boat, Captain Callaghan, 22nd August,—Hakodate.

Riversdale, British steamer, 1,311, Peck, 22nd August,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, Conner, 22nd August,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Strathdon, British steamer, 1,720, Wm. Waring, 23rd August,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Oweenee, British bark, 2,334, C. M. Birchell, 23rd August,—Tacoma, Wash., Tea.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co

Saint Hubert, British steamer, 1,962, McPherson, 24th August,—Otaru, Bahast.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Firebrand (4), gunboat, Lieut.-Commander G. Tufnell, 24th August,—Hakodate.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 25th August,—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Mogul*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Mrs. E. Shepard, Mr. Candlin, and Mr. Wadman in cabin.

Per French steamer *Natal*, from Marseilles viâ ports:—Messrs. Mineo Arajuro, Pottecker, Hacquart, Sasias, G. Charpentier, Leguen, Dumontier, P. H. Huggel, Estéve, Ch. Duncan Gurney, A. Valentin, Dr. Reich, Mr. and Mrs. Sillem, Mr. J. L. Scott, Mr. H. Munster Schaltz, Mr. Pio Strocchi, and Mrs. Remasse in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, from Kobe:—Mr. C. N. Crosse and Rev. E. J. Gardner in cabin; 1 passenger in second class, and 8 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, from Vancouver, B.C.—Mr Theo Brubacher, Captain G. T. H. Boyes, Mr. A. Fairlie, Mr. K. Fukushima, Bishop Graves, Miss Graves, Mr. E. Bruce Hart, Rev. S. E. and Mrs. Hager Miss Howard, Captain and Mrs. S. L. James, Mrs. C. Gardiner Johnson, Misses Johnson (3), Mr. G. Kazokow, Mr. Leadbetter, Mr. W. J. and Mrs. Lewis and infant, Mr. James Mackay, Mr. C. T. Matthews, Rev. J. T. and Mrs. Meyers, Mr. A. S. Morgan, Mr. and Mrs. Mordhorst, Rev. R. R. A, and Mrs. Parker, Baron Pochie, Rev. Dr. and Mrs. Potts and 2 children, Mr. H. Putnam, Mr. K. N. Putnam, Miss Richard, Mr. L. Ranston, Mr. Riach, Miss Riach, Miss M. E. Starr, Mrs. C. W. Starr, Miss G. L. Starr, Rev. and Mrs. C. A. Tague, Mrs. Dr. Terry, and Mr. Vyckoff in cabin.

Per British steamer *Oceanic*, from San Francisco viâ Honolulu:—Mr. F. W. Oewel, Mr. E. A. Simon Thomas, Mr. J. R. Moore, Mr. H. W. Morgan, Mr. H. Kuriyama, Dr. H. N. Allen, Mrs. Allen, Mr. Maurice Allen, Mr. Horace Allen, Duke of Newcastle, Mr. Gambier Bolton,

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Mr. F. Fanno, Mr. Edwin Beale, Mr. L. Jansson, and Mr. Benj Bonin in cabin. For Hongkong: Mr. C. A. Field, Miss A. M. Ricketts, Miss Kate N. Fleeson, Miss Margaret Wilson, Mrs. A. L. Fulton, and Miss M. Fulton in cabin. For Shanghai: Dr. L. Sanger, Mrs. Sanger, Miss Edna Sanger, Mr. L. Rosenthal, Mr. Jacob T. Child, Sr., Mrs. Child, and Mr. J. T. Child, Jun., in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Dr. C. Forbes, Mr. K. Weinheim, Rev. and Mrs. F. O. Wisner and 2 children, Mr. Grundy, Captain Buchanan, Captain Gerrard, Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Dudgeon and child, Mr. and Mrs. Wade Gardner, Miss Bidwell, Mr. E. S. Joseph, Rev. O. S. Noestegard, Mr. E. A. Smith, Mr. Sweishnikoff, Mr. J. W. Jameson, Mr. and Mrs. Fulkerson and 3 children, Mr. H. Grager, Mr. and Mrs. Gulland, Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Hellyer, Mrs. A. M. Blish, Mr. Walter, and Mr. Geo. Miller in cabin; Mrs. Chan See, Mrs. Jung Loke, and Mr. Gee Ding Fook in second class, and 184 passengers in Asiatic steerage.

Per British steamer *Belgic*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Justice and Mrs. Ackroyd, Mr. H. W. Arthur, Mr. Lo Yin Yue, Miss J. Bood, and Mr. A. Rochell in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *China*, for San Francisco:—Mr. Clark, Mr. W. J. Cruickshank, Miss M. de Guerin, Miss Gould, Rev. T. A. Hearn and infant, Miss Clara Howard and child, Mrs. C. W. Little, Mr. John McGibbon, Mr. K. Nosawa, Mr. J. K. Parry, Mr. H. C. Parry, Mr. J. Patterson, Mrs. J. J. Quin, Mr. R. Shibata, Dr. Steubel, Mr. C. A. Schultz, Mr. A. A. Thomas, Mr. Emile Trichot, Mr. J. L. Wood, U.S.N., Mr. Carl Weigle, and General and Mrs. Zubatkin in cabin.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Mrs. Lyle, Mrs. Lowder, Miss Stanley, Miss E. M. Sinclair, Mr. and Mrs. D. A. Beattie, Mr. and Mrs. H. G. Appenzeller, 2 children, and 2 infants, Mr. J. Walter, Mr. P. S. Cabeldu, and Mr. Tuck Loong in cabin; 2 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Cain, Miss S. F. Davidson, Miss Swain, Mr. and Mrs. Tang J. Shue, Mrs. Leider, child, and nurse, Mr. and Mrs. Child and son, Mr. and Mrs. Sanger and daughter, Mrs. Graham, Dr. Matherbe, Messrs. W. H. Stone, J. B. Coulson, A. Clark, K. Lindholm, Suzuki, Mori, D. Dishler, E. Kishi, A. J. Lines, R. de Malhouhe, Rosenbaum, L. Rosenthal, and J. J. Quinn in cabin; Messrs. A. Callarito, Murase, Brer, and Chun Kam Yee in second class, and 40 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—Count Arbatten and valet, Mr. Arai, Mr. L. D. Ahl, Mrs. D. Ahl, Mr. and Mrs. Aldridge, Mrs. Bisch and valet, Miss Cushing, Mrs. Church, Mr. Colton, Lieut. A. S. de la Cerda, I. & R. Austrian Navy, Lieut. Dewhurst, R.N.R., Mr. Edmonds, Rev. A. H. Etty, Mr. and Mrs. Fulkerson and 3 children, Dr. C. Forbes, Mr. and Mrs. L. Fagan, Major Gerrard, Prince Galitzin and valet, Mr. and Mrs. Hellyer, Mr. and Mrs. Hunt, Mr. R. Hunt, the Misses Hunt (2), Mr. J. W. Jameson, Mr. Krapp and 2 servants, Mr. Kuzaki, Dr. Lusk, Mr. Lusk, the Misses Lusk (3), Mr. G. Levi, Mr. Maruyama, Mr. J. F. McEwen, Count H. Clam-Martinic and valet, Mr. Monks, Mr. A. H. Marsh, Mr. Mac Culloch, Dr. McDonagh, Mr. J. McDonagh, Mr. T. D. McKay, Mr. McNeal, Rev. O. S. Nostegaard, Mr. Okura, Mr. Oso, Lieut. Julius Pronay von Totpuma und Blatnicza and valet, Miss Pomeroy, Count Wurmbrand-Stuppach and valet, Captain Stabbs, R.N.R., Dr. Stillwell, Mr. Tokui, Mr. J. Walter, Mr. and Mrs. Wisner and 2 children, Mr. Worthington, and Mr. Wheeler in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Silk, 696 bales; Waste Silk, 40 bales.

Per British ship *Oweenee*, for Tacoma, Wash.:—

TEA.

	NEW YORK	CHICAGO	CANADA	ST. PAUL	DETROIT	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Hyogo	276	7,744	1,117	540	1,558	2,936	14,181
Yokohama	6,718	13,221	4,423	2,366	399	3,649	30,778
Total....	6,994	20,967	5,550	2,906	1,957	6,585	44,959

Per British steamer *Mogul*, for Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C.:—

TEA.

	PACIFIC COAST.	NEW YORK	CHICAGO.	CANADA.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	558	—	914	225	497	2,194
Hyogo	38	—	—	165	360	563
Yokohama	969	278	714	553	658	3,112
Hongkong	27	—	—	—	1,055	1,082
Foochow	747	6,176	1,349	10,482	—	18,754
Total....	2,279	6,454	2,977	11,425	2,560	25,705

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Kumamoto Maru*, Captain C. Olsen, reports:—Left Honjo the 15th August at 2 a.m.; had fine weather with light easterly winds; at noon strong breeze increasing; at 5.15 p.m. Low Island south 3 miles strong gale from E.S.E. with heavy head sea and falling barometer, bore up for Hakodate for shelter, arrived at 7 p.m. and anchored; at midnight moderating. Left Hakodate the 16th at 4 a.m.; at 6 a.m. thick fog; at 1 p.m. clearing; at 8 p.m. strong breeze and high sea from south; at midnight moderate gale and very heavy confused sea, vessel shipping large quantities of water and rapidly falling barometer, slowed down engines; on the 17th at 3.30 a.m. sea moderating, full speed; at 11 a.m. passed Kinkasan; at 4 p.m. met steamer *Yechigo Maru* bound north; at 8 p.m. passed *Riversdale* bound south; at midnight strong breeze from S.S.W. with heavy sea; on the 18th moderate S.S.W. gale, but very heavy sea; at 6.30 a.m. rounded Inuboye; at 1.30 p.m. Katsuura N.W. strong gale with fierce squalls and a terrific sea sweeping decks fore and aft; at 4 p.m. met H.B.M. ship *Imperieuse* bound north; at 7 p.m. sighted Noshima light bearing W. by N.; at 8 p.m. gale still increasing with lightning and torrents of rain; at 11 p.m. same weather, unable to see any distance, hove-to, ship's head west; on the 19th at 3 a.m. moderating and clearing kept away on course; at 3.30 a.m. sighted Sagami Light N. ½ E., at 5.40 a.m. off Kannon-saki met steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, who wished to be reported all well, also steamer *Hiroshima Maru*. Arrived at Yokohama at 7.20 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Sendai Maru*, Captain Sakai, reports:—Left Hakodate the 17th August at noon; had light south-easterly breeze and high southerly swell; at 3.37 p.m. passed round Shiriyasak; at night light southerly breeze and overcast with rain at times, lightning at northward and heavy southerly swell, ship pitching heavily; on the 18th moderate southerly breeze and overcast, cloudy weather with occasional fog and rain, southerly swell very high, ship pitching heavily; at 0.27 p.m. rounded Kinkasan Lighthouse. Arrived at Ogimohama at 2.15 p.m., spent the night there, as the glass fell gradually and weather seemed very bad. Left the 19th at 5 a.m.; had gentle southerly breeze and cloudy weather, ship pitching heavily by high southerly swell; at 10.40 p.m. passed Inuboye Light, weather improving gradually and wind shifted to N.W.; on the 20th at 7 a.m. passed Noshima Lighthouse. Arrived at Yokohama at 6 a.m.

The British steamer *Oceanic*, Captain Smith, reports:—Left San Francisco the 1st August and Honolulu the 8th. Arrived at Yokohama the 21st August at 7 a.m. Passage from Honolulu, 11 days, 17 hours, 11 minutes.

The British steamer *Belgic*, Captain Walker, reports:—Left Hongkong the 17th August viâ Nagasaki and Kobe; experienced fine weather throughout the passage. Arrived at Yokohama the 25th August at 8.10 a.m. Time, 7 days, 14 hours, 57 minutes.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The Import Trade has experienced another very dull week. Yarns neither single nor double show any inclination to move. The slight demand for Grey Shirtings and T.-Cloths reported in our last has fallen off, and nothing is doing in these lines. Woollens continue without enquiry

COTTON PIECE GOODS

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8¼ lb, 38½ yds 39inches	$1 05 to 2 50
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 38½ yds. 45inches	2 30 to 3 00
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1 50 to 1 85
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches	1 50 to 1 90
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	1 65 to 2 50
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 32 inches	PER YARD. 0 14 to 0 18
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	6.25 to 8.75
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42 3 inches	0 62½ to 0 77½
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	PER PIECE. 2.40 to 1 47½
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb, 24 25 yards, 32 inches	1 57½ to 1 77½
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.00 to 2 27½
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5lb, 24,25 yards, 32 inches	2 47½ to 2 67½

WOOLLENS

	PER YARD.
Flannel	$0.30 to 0 45
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0 30 to 0.35
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0 25 to 0.29
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0.19 to 0.25
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 32 inches	0.13 to 0 19
Cloths—Pilots, 51 @ 56 inches	0.15 to 0 50
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0 60 to 0 65
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0 40 to 0 70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 4 to 3½ lb, per lb	0 40 to 0.53

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos 10/24, Ordinary	—
Nos 16/21, Medium	—
Nos 16/21, Good to Best	—
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	—
Nos 28/32, Ordinary	—
Nos 28 32, Medium	—
Nos 28/32, Good to Best	—
Nos 38/42, Medium to Best	—
No. 32s, Two fold	—
No. 42s, Two fold	—
	PER BALE.
No. 20s, Bombay	Nom. —
No. 16s, Bombay	Nom. —

METALS

A dull week in this market. The slight demand for Pig Iron that arose a few days ago has again subsided into its former state of quiescence. Holders stand firm, however, and prices remain unchanged.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ¾ inch	$3.60 to 3 70
Flat Bars, 1 inch	3 70 to 3 75
Round and square up to ¾ inch	3 15 to 3 25
Iron Plates, assorted	3 00 to 3.15
Sheet Iron	3.90 to 4.10
Galvanized Iron sheets	7.00 to 7.25
Wire Nails, assorted	5.00 to 5 45
Tin Plates, per box	5 70 to 6 00
Pig Iron, No. 3	1 40 to 1 42½

KEROSENE.

There is no change in this market. The arrival is reported of about 70,000 cases Comet *ex* British ship *Walden Abbey*, but most of this having been already contracted for it has had no effect upon the market.

Chester	$1.67½ to 1 72½
Comet	1.65 to 1.67½
Devoe	—
Russian Anchor	1 67½ to 1 70
Russian Moon	1.65 to 1.67½

SUGAR

Browns show further signs of weakness and prices are quoted 5 to 10 cents lower for Canton and Manila sorts. Java, however, is 25 cents dearer, while Taikao is unchanged. Whites remain dull with no demand.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Taikao	$4 85 to 4 90
Brown Manila	5.30 to 5 40
Brown Daitong	4.75 to 4 80
Brown Canton	5.45 to 5 65
White Java and Penang	6.60 to 6 70
White Refined	7 55 to 9 20

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last was dated the 18th instant. Since then, settlements on this market amount to 884 piculs, divided thus:—*Hanks*, 21 piculs; *Filatures*, 607 piculs; *Re reels*, 144 piculs; *Kakeda*, 90 piculs; *Hamatsuki*, 22 piculs. In addition to these figures, direct export has been 31 bales, making the total business for the week 915 piculs.

This week presents a remarkable contrast with the corresponding week of last year. Then a very heavy business had been done and sellers were masters of the situation; now, we have a dull, dragging market from day to day, with prices weak and irregular. Quotations for full-sized *Filatures* are actually less than the same date in 1892, although exchange shows a reduction of about ten per cent.

The special feature in the trade this year is the very small business done for the New York market where the demoralization caused by silver and general financial panic appears to reign supreme. Prices for full sized *Filatures* have now reached a point attractive to European buyers and many parcels of silk which would, in ordinary seasons, be destined for the United States, are now going to Lyons.

Exchange.—This has worked up, in sympathy with silver, from the extreme low rates of a week ago, and sellers of Raw Silk begin to fear that they will have to reduce their prices accordingly.

There have been two shipping opportunities since we last wrote, the P.M.S. *China*, 19th instant, taking 131 bales for the American trade and the English mail steamer *Ancona*, same date, had 696 bales for Europe. These departures make the present export 3,285 piculs, against 6,091 piculs last year and 7,088 piculs on the 25th August, 1892. The Canadian mail to day has 88 bales engaged and the American mail *Belgic*, leaving to-morrow, will probably have a shipment or two, of which particulars will be given in our next.

Hanks.—There has been a small business recently in medium *Hachioji*, price paid being $545; but stock is small and demand far from general.

Filatures.—As usual, these have been first favourites in demand, fine size of extra quality still commanding $900. Purchases of other grades have been made at quotations. In full sizes, extras have been done at $770; No. 1, $740 and so on down the list, prices closing weak with a firm exchange.

Re-reels.—Not very much doing in this class,

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Five Girl and *Tortoise* still quoted $700, with *Bushu* sorts $660 and $650.

Kakeda.—A moderate business in these at unchanged prices, quotations remaining same as in our last Circular.

Hamatsuki.—About 20 bales have been settled in the interior and brought down to a foreign house here; price and terms have not been divulged.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK).

Hanks—No 1½	—
Hanks—No 2 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2 Joshu	—
Hanks—No 2½ (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No 2½ (Joshu)	—
Hanks—No 2½ to 3	—
Hanks—No. 3	$550 to 555
Hanks—No. 3½	540 to 545
Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers	890 to 900
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	760 to 770
Filatures—No 1, 10 13 deniers	850 to 860
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den	740 to 750
Filatures—No 1½, 10/14 deniers	820 to 830
Filatures—No 1½ 13/16, 14/17 den	720 to 730
Filatures—No 2, 10/15 deniers	790 to 800
Filatures—No 2, 14 18 deniers	700 to 710
Filatures—No 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—(Oshu) Best No. 1	—
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	700 to 710
Re reels—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	680 to 690
Re reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	650 to 660
Re-reels—No. 2½, 14/18 deniers	—
Re reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Kakedas—Extra	790 to 800
Kakedas—No. 1	760 to 770
Kakedas—No 1½	730 to 740
Kakedas—No 2	700 to 710
Kakedas—No 2½	670 to 680
Kakedas—No 3	640 to 650
Kakedas—No 3½	—
Kakedas—No 4	—
Oshu Sendai—No 2½	—
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	—
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	—
Sodai—No. 2½	—

Export Raw Silk Tables to 25th Aug., 1893.—

	Season 1893-1894.	1892-93	1891-92
	Lbs. oz.	Lbs. oz.	Lbs. oz.
Europe	2,485	3,456	2,314
America	745	2,551	4,493
Total { Bales	3,230	6,007	6,807
Total { Piculs	3,285	6 091	7,088
Settlements and Direct Export from 1st July	4,300	9,500	7,950
Stock, 25th August	7,850	4,500	7,000
Available supplies to date	12 150	14,000	14 950

WASTE SILK.

Settlements in this branch are 367 piculs, all *Noshi-ito.* No direct export this week.

Dealers are very strong and refuse to give way, although there are important orders in the market at some slight reduction on quotations. Their conduct in this respect is incomprehensible, for Raw Silk is declining, exchange is advancing and the stock of fibre on offer now assumes large proportions.

There has only been one shipping opportunity, the English mail steamer *Ancona*, 19th instant, taking 20 bales *Cocoons* and 20 bales *Noshi* for Europe. The departure of this vessel makes our present export figures 740 piculs, against 1,795 piculs last year and 709 piculs at the same date in 1892.

Pierced Cocoons.—The market is said to have been opened by a purchase of 50 bales at 18 *baki*; this is equal to about $135 per picul for 75 per cent. yield; but even at this price there is no general buying and holders steadily refuse to reduce their terms.

Noshi.—Considerable business done in *Oshu* at $150 to $155; some purchases of superior *Filature* reported at $160; but at such high rates, no large business can be done. There is a heavy stock of *Joshu Noshi*, but high grades are scarce and held for long figures. The principal business has been in medium grade at $73 to $75 per picul, with good at $82½; best is held firm at $90 and over.

Kibiso.—Nothing whatever done this week, holders asking too much for their wares.

Nothing passing in other descriptions.

QUOTATIONS—(NEW WASTE).

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	$130 to 140
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	160 to 165
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	150 to 155
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	140 to 145
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	150 to 160
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	130 to 135
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	120 to 125
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	110 to 115
Noshi-ito—Bushu, Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	90 to 95
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	80 to 85
Noshi-ito—Joshu Ordinary	70 to 75
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	—
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	—
Kibiso—Oshu Good to Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Good to Fair	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Middling to Common	—
Kibiso—Hachoji, Good	—
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	—
Kibiso—Nori, Good to Common	—
Mawata—Good to Best	—

Export Table Waste Silk to 25th Aug., 1893.—

	Season 1893 94 Piculs.	1892-93. Piculs.	1891-92. Piculs.
Waste Silk	708	1,795	709
Pierced Cocoons	32	—	—
	740	1,795	709
Settlements and Direct Export from 1st July	Piculs 2,300	Piculs 1,400	Piculs 1,450
Stock, 25th August	12,300	11,500	9,350
Available supplies to date	13,500	12,900	10,800

Exchange has hardened from day to day in sympathy with higher quotations for Silver at home. We quote:—LONDON, 4m/s. Credits, 2 6⅞, Documents, 2/7; Credits 6m/s. 2/7⅞. NEW YORK, 30d/s U S $62½; 4m/s. U.S. $63¼. PARIS, or LYONS, 4m/s. fcs. 3.25.

Estimated Silk Stock, 25th Aug., 1893.—

Raw.	Piculs.	Waste.	Piculs.
Hanks	335	Cocoons	2,600
Filatures	4,517	Noshi-ito	4,900
Re-reels	2,370	Kibiso	4,350
Kakeda	787	Mawata	75
Oshu	10	Sundries	375
Taysaam Kinds	31		
Total piculs	7,850	Total piculs	12,300

TEA.

Business in this market has continued to decrease, and transactions during the week have been almost exclusively confined to common and medium grades. The stock now on offer is of poor quality and good tea is very scarce. Prices show a declining tendency.

	Per Picul.
Common	$13 to 14
Good Common	15 to 16
Medium	17 to 18
Good Medium	19 to 20
Fine	21 to 22
Finest	23 to 25
Choice	26 to 27
Choicest	30 to 32

EXCHANGE.

Exchange is hardening gradually, and closes firm at the undermentioned rates.

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	2 5⅞
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	2 6⅛
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	2 6⅛
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	2 7⅛
On Paris—Bank sight	3 15
On Paris—Private 4 months' sight	3 25
On Hongkong—Bank sight	Par
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	1 % dis
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	73
On America—Bank Bills on demand	61
On America—Private 30 days' sight	62⅛
On America—Private 4 months' sight	63⅛
On India—Bank sight	195
Silver	34⅛

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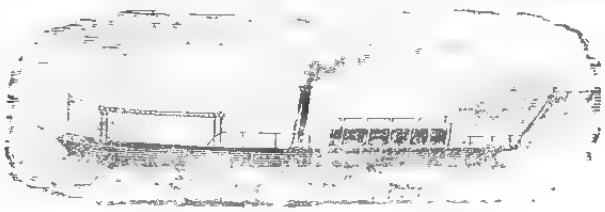

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS. ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, SEPT. 2ND, 1893.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THROUGH the running aground of the *Wago Maru*, over thirty lives have been lost

THE subterranean chambers at Ushigome, Tokyo, turn out to be merely disused yeast-cellars.

MR. AMANO KOJIRO, Secretary of Legation, has been appointed a translator in the Foreign Office.

A LOT of raw cotton stored in a warehouse in Kaigan-dori, Yokohama, was destroyed by fire on Tuesday night.

COUNT INOUYE, Minister of Home Affairs, was to leave Hakodate on the 1st of September, in the *Wakanoura Maru*.

OVER one hundred and twenty cattle have succumbed to the cattle disease in Wakayama Prefecture during the month.

MR. HONDA DAIKICHI, a Master of Ceremonies in the Imperial Household, has been released from his post at his own request.

THURSDAY being the birthday of Queen Wilhelmina of Holland a banquet, followed by a reception, was given at the Dutch Legation.

IT is affirmed that Mr. Mutsu, Minister of Foreign Affairs, and Mr. Yoshikawa, Minister of Justice, are desirous of resigning their portfolios.

OWING to the rapid increase in the price of rice a riot took place in Tottori on the 27th ult., and a rice merchant's warehouse was destroyed.

LAST Saturday's Sailing race was one of the prettiest we have seen this season, sixteen boats coming up to the starting line. The five B. Division craft who entered the race specially, with an increase of rating, found it pretty lively work beyond the shelter of the Bluff, but they came through all right at the end.

OWING to the *Princess Maud* fouling the stake boat last Saturday, the race for the A division has been awarded to *Sea Gull*, who came in second.

THE floods in the neighbourhood of Gifu are said to be the most disastrous of any that have visited the district for upwards of a hundred years.

MOST of the libel suits brought by Mr. Hoshi Toru against newspapers of the capital and provinces, have been thrown out by the Public Procurators.

ANOTHER new sailing-boat has been launched in Yokohama. She is an improved model of the *Daisy* and will be sent to New York, to sail in the races there

A REPORT from Yamanashi Prefecture states that rumbling sounds are being emitted from a mountain at Yumura, in the West Yamanashi District of that Prefecture.

MESSRS. KANDA MANEICHI and Matsui Hoshi, police constables of Hyogo Prefecture, have been decorated by the French Government with Silver Medals of Honour.

SOME leading Japanese tea-merchants have decided to establish a direct export company having a capital of one hundred thousand *yen*. They have applied for a charter.

COUNT ITO, Premier, and Mr. Mutsu, Minister of Foreign Affairs, visited Yokohama on the 26th ult., and after passing the night at the Fukkiro, left for Odawara the following day.

THE Nippon Yusen Kaisha's steamer *Sakata Maru* has gone on the rocks about eight miles north of Cape Inuboe, and all attempts to reach her have failed, owing to the bad weather prevailing.

MR. MUTSU, Minister for Foreign Affairs, has been permitted by the Decoration Board to accept a decoration of the First Class of the Order of the Iron Crown conferred on him by the Austro-Hungarian Emperor.

PUBLIC Procurator Ichinose, of the Yokohama Chiho Saibansho has refused to proceed with the charge preferred against the *betto* Suzuki by the U.S. Consulate for an attempt upon the life of Mr. Marinus Willett.

THE Soma case is still engrossing public attention in the capital. Upwards of sixty persons have been examined as witnesses in the preliminary Court of Examination, and application has been made for the attendance of Mr. Yoshikawa, Minister of Justice.

MARQUIS TOKUGAWA, of the Owari family, has been greatly annoyed by *soshi* of late. The youths have made several attempts to break into the Tokugawa mansion in Tokyo, but without success, and many have been arrested for their pains.

A RUMOUR is current that certain changes are likely soon to be made in the Cabinet, by which Count Inouye, Minister of Home Affairs, will be removed to the Finance Department, while Mr. Watanabe, Minister of Finance, will be made Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, Count Goto, being appointed Home Minister.

A DISTRESSING story is told of the family of Mr. Tozaki Jinbei, an advocate of Gifu. This gentleman is said to have left town on the 22nd ult. with his folks to inspect a silk filature at Fukuko-mura, where his family are living. The factory is reported to have been washed away by the flood, and Mr. Tozaki and the whole of his family are missing.

WE read in the *Official Gazette* that the resignation of Mr. Sone, Japanese Minister to France, of his seat in the House of Representatives, was accepted on the 31st ult.

A NAGASAKI telegram under date the 31st ult. states that the late Russian war-vessel *Vittas* has been purchased by Hashimoto Kiyoshi and one other Japanese for *yen* 10,500.

THE steamer *Moyune*, after her arrival home in the South West India Docks from Hankow, discharged her cargo of 50,000 half-chests of new season's tea in the short space of 17 hours.

WE learn that the French Chambers have voted an appropriation of 200,000 frcs. for the erection of Consular buildings in Yokohama, Shanghai and Saigon. Plans have already been submitted by M. Lescasse, upon which tenders will be asked, but whether the buildings will be commenced in 1894 or 1895 is not yet settled.

A SERIOUS disturbance took place at the French hatoba last Friday night. Some French seamen became embroiled in a dispute with a *sendo* and blows were exchanged. Immediately the whole of the *sendoes* in the neighbourhood rushed at the foreigners, forcing one into the water and knocking the other into a sampan. The police then appeared upon the scene and several arrests were made. The Frenchmen's injuries are serious.

THE foreign trade of Gensan, Korea, during June last amounted to *yen* 250,673 in value, of which *yen* 91,185 was imports, and *yen* 159,488 exports. The values of commodities over *yen* 2,000 exported and imported were as follow:— Imports: *yen* 20,690, muslin; *yen* 2,199 thin muslin; (*Kanreisha*); *yen* 44,645, white cotton goods; *yen* 2,271, threads, and *yen* 2,745, silk goods; Exports: *yen* 82,014, gold bullion; *yen* 4,544, dried sardines; *yen* 2,427, ox-hides; *yen* 26,911, *meitaigyo* (fish), and *yen* 24,388, hemp goods.

LIGHT intermittent enquires for several lines in Piece goods prevailed during the earlier part of the week, but anything like a revival of good business is out of the question with silver tumbling down every day closer to a 2/- dollar. A few bales of Yarn changed hands at nominal rates, but Woollens were wholly neglected. Metals are very dull, although Bar Iron at one time showed some inclination to move, but holders can make no concessions to induce trade under present circumstances. Native buyers do not display any anxiety to operate in Kerosene, although the arrival of 900,000 cases of Russian Moon has caused that brand to fall some 2 to 3 cents per case. In Sugars, Browns are dull and without enquiry, while Whites remain unnoticed. Sellers are trying to tempt buyers in Tea by conceding several points, but the stock now on offer is principally lower grade, and demand is consequently very small. The Raw Silk Market is in strange contrast to this week last year. Then all was activity and prices were booming. Now, consumers refuse to take hold in spite of the very moderate rates at present ruling, coupled with an exceptional exchange. Stocks are very light in consuming markets, and it is difficult to conceive of much lower prices. In Wastes there has been rather more demand, settlements for the week totalling 450 piculs. Europe is commanding most of the consignments, the States' demand being almost *nil*.

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THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The vernacular press has been full of rumours of probable changes in the Cabinet. It has been stated, for instance, that Mr. Watanabe, Minister of Finance, will resign; that Mr. Mutsu and Mr. Yoshikawa may follow his example; that Count Inouye will succeed Mr. Watanabe as Minister of Finance; that Count Kuroda is not in a good humour; that Count Ito will combine the portfolio of Home Affairs with his present position; that Count Matsukata has been advised to enter the Cabinet, and so forth. Certain conditions which it is difficult to foretell may make it necessary for the Government to effect some changes, but the Ministry as a whole will remain essentially the same. Such seems to be the belief prevailing in well-informed circles.

* * *

The National Unionist organs are still keeping up their attack upon the Ministry. Indeed, the *Choya Shimbun* has gone so far as to bring upon itself the ban of suspension. Our contemporary sneeringly alludes to the meekness with which the Cabinet yielded to the claims of the Opposition in the fourth session of the Diet, and ridicules its total unpreparedness for the struggle in the coming session. It observes that there is little hope of the reforms effected in the Navy, as well as those to be hereafter introduced in the other branches of the Administration, receiving the approval of the nation. It has been informed of a project among the Progressionists to introduce in the coming session of the Diet an Address to the Throne explaining the reasons why the reforms accomplished in the Navy are deemed insufficient. Would the Ito Cabinet, asks the *Choya*, be able to remain indifferent under such circumstances? Our contemporary tauntingly asks what was the use of submitting to such indignities and humiliations, if the Cabinet is incapable of retrieving its honour in the session to be opened less than three months hence.

* * *

The *Kokkai*, which is more or less in sympathy with the National Unionists, writes in a similar strain. It is at a loss to understand the motives of the Cabinet in letting precious time roll on without doing something to redeem the solemn promise it made to the Diet. Immediately after the close of the last session, the Ministers of State showed laudable zeal in effecting administrative reforms; but of late they seem to have become tired of their labours. Some people think that the Ministers have slackened their zeal, because, the Radicals and the Progressionists being at deadly hostility with each other, they feel confident of victory over the Opposition in the coming session of the Diet. If they really entertain any such hope, they are told that they will be cruelly disappointed. There may be a few Radicals willing to support the Cabinet, but the majority of that Party, as well as the Progressionists and the National Unionists, are sure to oppose the Government. Has the Cabinet any hope of resisting the united attack of these parties?

* * *

The Radical Party, as might have been expected, has publicly endorsed the conduct of Mr. Hoshi in connection with the Soma affair, and has warned its members in the provinces against being misled by baseless rumours circulated by its opponents. This course has called forth bitter criticism from the Progressionist organs. Had the Radicals denounced Mr. Hoshi, these papers observe, the Party as a whole would have been able to escape from the odium attaching to him. But now that Mr. Hoshi's action is publicly approved by the Radical Party, the latter must be prepared to share the responsibility with him. The *Mainichi Shimbun*, referring to the circular just issued from the Radical head-quarters, remarks that it a gross falsehood to declare that the statements made by the papers about Mr. Hoshi are mere baseless rumours invented by the opponents of the Radicals to injure the good name of the latter. There are Radicals, like Mr. Tokahashi Shonosuke, who openly attack Mr. Hoshi. If the Party approves of Mr. Hoshi's conduct, it must take some steps to stay the utterances of these rebellious members. That it can not do so is taken as a sign of its having become a slave of those personal considerations which, in common with the Progressionists, it has hitherto denounced in the Government.

* * *

The Progressionist papers are determined to make as much out of this affair as they can, and they strongly appeal to the progressive politicians in the provinces to raise their voices against the corrupt tendency in a section of the Opposition. On the other hand, the Opposition members of the Diet are reminded of the vows they made to their electors for the deliverance of the people from the evils of clan Government. They are told to reflect on their conduct and see if they have not acted contrary to their solemn promise. The Radicals are of course meant by the *Kaishin-to* papers.

* * *

The recent inundations in the Prefecture of Gifu, Miye, Wakayama, and Nara have caused such immense damage to embankments that the cost of repairs is estimated at over seven million *yen*. The Opposition papers accuse Government of neglect of its duties in regard to riparian improvements. The works hitherto undertaken in this direction are declared to be provisional and temporary in their nature. The Engineering Works Committee appointed by the present Cabinet is charged with the investigation of the improvements to be made in the eleven largest rivers in the country, but it is working so slowly, that nobody knows when its labours will be brought to a close. The Government is advised by the *Yomiuri Shimbun* and the *Kokkai* to act promptly in undertaking riparian improvements on a large scale.

* * *

The silver question continues to attract the attention of the vernacular press. It is reported that the Minister of Finance is in favour of the adoption of a gold standard, and that he purposes bringing forward, for discussion in the Cabinet, a scheme for carrying out such a policy. But the metropolitan papers, with the single exception of the *Jiji Shimpo*, do not discuss this report in any serious manner, for they take it for granted that the scheme, even if presented to the Cabinet, has little chance of being approved by the Ministers of State. The *Jiji* alone has been at much pains to refute the arguments in favour of the adoption of a gold standard.

* * *

Concerning the unconditional repeal of the Sherman Act by the United States House of Representatives, the Tokyo papers express surprise that the silver men constituted such an insignificant minority and sustained so complete and decisive a defeat. As to the results of the abolition of the Act, the *Kokumin Shimbun* thinks that the measure will not disturb the exchange so seriously as the closing of the Indian mints did. The demonetization of silver in India was entirely sudden and unexpected, but the abolition of the Sherman Act has been more or less expected for some time past, and its effects have been in great part discounted. Our contemporary believes that there will be no violent fluctuation in the value of silver when the Sherman Act finally goes out of operation. But the result of the purchase of silver being abandoned by the United States Treasury must be greater or less depreciation of the white metal, and the merchants and manufacturers are recommended to bear this fact always in mind.

* * *

The *Jiji Shimpo* sympathizes with the defeat of the silver men in the House of Representatives, but is, at the same time, confident that they will sooner or later find an opportunity to attain their object, for their influence is astonishingly great and extensive in business circles both in America and Europe. The *Jiji* seems to believe that it is merely a question of time until the free coinage of silver at the ratio of 1 to 24 or 25 will be adopted in the United States. Such a measure, our contemporary has no manner of doubt, will serve to raise the gold price of silver.

* * *

The reforms in process of being effected by the Minister of Education are upon the whole well spoken-of by the vernacular press. Recent changes in the organization of the various schools under the direct control of the Department of Education are generally approved. The *Nippon*, after warmly commending what Mr Inouye has thus far accomplished, calls his attention to the importance of unity in administrative affairs. While not looking for anything of the kind from the other Ministers of State, it considers that Mr Inouye alone may be inclined to make a serious attempt in the right direction.

* * *

Even the *Mainichi Shimbun*, which is usually little inclined to say good things of a Minister of State, bears ungrudging testimony to the Minister of Education's zeal for reforms in the Department and schools under him. The Progressionist organ calls his attention to the subject of moral education, and recommends him to make the teachers and other persons connected with education illustrate by their conduct the excellent principles of morality they are required to teach. The subject of moral education has occupied the attention of the successive Ministers of Education, but hitherto no practical result has been obtained because due importance has not been given to furnishing object lessons in the conduct of the teachers.

* * *

The *Mainichi Shimbun* discusses the question of the suspension of newspapers. Under the present Cabinet the duration of suspensions has been considerably shortened, but our contemporary is inclined to believe that the infliction of the punishment has become more frequent than under either the Yamagata or the Matsukata Cabinet. The Progressionist organ calls upon its contemporaries to take prompt measures for the introduction of a bill in the coming session of the Diet for thorough amendments of the Newspaper Regulations.

* * *

The Radical organ returns to the discussion of the Government's debt to the Nobles' Bank. The debt was contracted at the time of the Satsuma Rebellion. Its original amount was 15,000,000 *yen*, but 5,000,000 *yen* having been returned some years subsequently, 10,000,000 *yen* remain unpaid. Its interest is 7½ per cent. per annum. No domestic loan bears interest higher than 5 per cent. and why should not this loan be converted into a cheaper one?

* * *

The *Nippon* severely denounces the Rev. Mr. Tamura who recently published a book in America, in which he speaks ill of his countrymen. To point out the defects of one's fellow countrymen in one's own country and in one's own national language, is a laudable thing, because the motive is evidently to effect reform. But what good can be accomplished by denouncing one's countrymen in a foreign country and in a foreign language? Mr. Tamura is characterized as a traitor to his country, and our contemporary wishes there were laws to punish such unpatriotic individuals.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE INUNDATIONS.

TELEGRAMS sent to the Home Office from the Governor of Gifu Prefecture on the 25th ultimo, say that, according to rough estimates conducted as the inundations subside, the total number of burstings of embankments is over 300, and the number of districts invaded by floods is 13, but as to the houses washed away or damaged and the losses of human and animal life, no estimate can be given. No such destruction has been wrought by inundations for the past 50 years.

* * *

A very sad incident is related from Miyo. A little child was seen floating on some bedding

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in the current of the Nagara-gawa. It cried piteously for aid, but the spectators, though moved to tears, were unable to do anything towards rescuing it, and it was swept away among fallen trees and other débris. Among those lost was supposed to be Mr. Sato Torakichi, Chief of the Kitagata Police Station. He went to inspect the inundation on the 22nd ultimo, and no trace of him was discovered until the 24th, when he was observed signalling from the top of a farm-house several miles away from the station.

* * *

Of the 13 districts devastated by the inundations, Korigami is said to have suffered most severely. The river there rose 28 feet above its usual level, and carried away bridges and houses in great numbers. The town of Yamata, birth-place of several wealthy merchants now living in Tokyo, was submerged to a depth of many feet. Hundreds of the inhabitants sought refuge in a temple called Jion-ji, but a hill at the back of the building gave way, and more than a hundred persons were buried in the landslip. Fully 2 miles of the Gifu-Ogaki railway were damaged.

* * *

In Wakayama Prefecture, according to telegraphic information, 13 rivers overflowed; embankments collapsed in 518 places throughout a total length of 30,541 *ken*; 110 bridges were swept away; roads were damaged in 305 instances; through a distance of 52,742 yards; 450 houses were carried away, 3,521 were submerged, and 4,845 suffered more or less injury; there were 34 land-slips; cultivated land was devastated over 860 acres; an area of 3,535 acres was submerged; 35 boats were lost, 22 persons were drowned; 4 were crushed to death, 7 suffered injury and 96 head of cattle were lost. In Miye Prefecture the villages at the mouths of the K so and Ebi were more or less inundated, and the Tenru-gawa and Zuitsugawa respectively wrought considerable havoc in Shizuoka and Toyama Prefectures.

* * *

The railway section between Gifu and Ogaki suspended by reason of the track being considerably damaged by the recent floods, was reopened on the night of the 27th ult.

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A telegram from Gifu received by the *Asahi Shimbun* states that according to investigations completed at eight o'clock on the evening of the 25th ult., the present inundation is far more serious than the big flood which took place some ninety-six years ago

DEATH OF MARQUIS HOSOKAWA.

MARQUIS HOSOKAWA, formerly feudal chief of Kumamoto, in Hizen, one of the greatest nobles of Old Japan, died suddenly of apoplexy at the country villa of Marquis Ikeda, in Hayama, of Soshiu. The deceased nobleman did not take any active part in politics, and was never conspicuous in a public sense. He was decorated by the Emperor on the 31st ult. with the Second Class Order of the Mirror. The funeral will take place in the capital on the 9th inst., the bier leaving his residence at Koishikawa at 6 a.m.

EDUCATIONAL REFORMS.

SEVERAL Imperial Ordinances have just been published, announcing reforms in the different schools under the control of the Department of State for Education. These Schools are the Higher Normal School, the Higher Female Normal School, the Higher Commercial School, the First, Second, Third, Fourth and Fifth Higher Middle Schools, the Tokyo Industrial School, the Tokyo Fine Art School, and the Tokyo School for the Deaf and Dumb. Besides these Schools, which are supported by the State, there are two other institutions, which, though founded and maintained by private enterprise, are under the control of the Department of Education, in virtue of the School Regulations which provide that private educational institutions may obtain the privileges of a Government school by depositing their maintenance funds with the Local Governor or the Minister of Education. The schools now enjoying these privileges are the Yamaguchi Higher Middle School and the Kagoshima Higher Middle School (*Zōshi-kan*). The Professors and administrative officials in these schools are appointed by the Government and are entitled to all the privileges of official status, but their salaries are paid out of the private fund deposited with the Minister of Education.

* * *

Imperial Ordinance No. 86 relates to the amendment of the Official Organization of the different schools under the control of the Department of State for Education. The most conspicuous feature of the amendments consists in the simplification of the provisions, the number of articles having been reduced from 46 to 18. To mention a few of the more important changes effected, the Tokyo Academy of Music, hitherto a separate institution, has been incorporated into the Higher Normal School with more or less modifications in the numbers of the faculty. The position of *Gishu* (assistant experts) in the Higher Normal School and others has been abolished; and that of *Shakan* (Dormitory Wardens) has also been abolished in all of these schools, with the exception of the Higher Normal School.

* * *

Imperial Ordinance No. 87 fixes the number of professors and other members of the faculty. Little or no changes have been made in this respect in the Higher Normal School, the Higher Middle Schools, the Tokyo Fine Art School, and the Tokyo School for the Deaf and Dumb. The reduction of the teaching and business staffs in the other schools are as follow:—Nine in the Higher Female Normal School, sixteen in the Higher Commercial School, and twenty-one in the Tokyo Industrial School.

* * *

Imperial Ordinance No. 88 relates to the official rank and salaries of the administrative officials and the professors of and above *Sonin* rank in the Imperial University and the different schools under the control of the Department of Education. The Directors of the Higher Normal Schools and the Higher Female Normal Schools could be promoted to *Chokunin* rank under the former regulations. The salary of the President of the Imperial University has been cut down from 4,000 *yen* to 3,500 per annum, and that of the Director of the Higher Normal School from 2,500 *yen* to 2,000 *yen*. The salaries of the Directors of the other schools, with the exception of the Tokyo School for the Deaf and Dumb, remain unchanged, namely 2,000 *yen*. The Director of the Tokyo School for the Deaf and Dumb, who has hitherto received 800 *yen*, is cut down to 700 *yen*. The salaries for the Professors remain the same as before.

* * *

Imperial Ordinances Nos. 89 and 90 deal respectively with the Organizations of the Tokyo Library and of the Committee for the Investigation of the Prevention of Disastrous Effects from Earthquakes, the change introduced being simply a reduction of the number of clerks attached to those institutions.

NEW REGULATIONS OF THE RICE AND STOCK EXCHANGES.

THE meeting of the Presidents of the various Rice and Stock Exchanges, lately opened in a hall of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce to deliberate upon the regulations for controlling the Exchanges, has just been concluded. Most of the new provisions were agreed to without much opposition, but on two points there was excited discussion, and no definite conclusion arrived at. One refers to the bill introduced by the Department itself, the purport of which is to provide for lending on credit the funds of an Exchange and the money which it holds in trust as security. The other relates to the proposal to allow members to deposit shares as security instead of cash. The latter proposal which was submitted for discussion by Mr. Oye, President of the Tokyo Stock Exchange, met with opposition on the ground that a large holder of stock might create serious disorder in the market by publicly offering for sale hundreds or even thousands of shares. Such an act would entail ruin to many of the customers of the Exchange, and inflict no small loss upon the Exchange itself. Moreover, though the proposal may be practicable in direct transactions, difficulties might arise in transactions for fixed periods. The other proposition has evoked more discussion, and is unfavourably commented on by all the journals of the capital. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* says: The supporters of this clause maintain that the capital of an Exchange is the security for transactions made in it, and does not differ in character from that of an Insurance Company, which derives its profits from the sound investment of its capital. Why should not the same law apply to the capital of an Exchange? The locking up of money in a box is mere folly. An Exchange should, by investing its capital in an advantageous way, reduce the rate of commission charged upon transactions and consult the interests of its customers. The example of Mr. Nakamura, late President of the Tokyo Stock Exchange, is quoted by those who consider the the proposal as risky, but all business must come to a stand-still if apparently profitable investment is to be given up for fear of attendant risk. The opposition maintain that merchants engage in transactions amounting to hundreds of thousands of dollars with no anxiety, because they find in the capital of the Exchange security for the business to be done. Once this capital is lent out, a feeling of distrust would be aroused, and the Exchange business would become dull and depressed. Objection is made to the other half of the proposition on similar grounds. Money deposited as security may be withdrawn at any time. If it is appropriated in the manner suggested, ruin might overtake an Exchange at any moment. These views against the proposal are said to be endorsed by nearly all the Presidents, as well as by the Committee of the Tokyo Stock Exchange, and the brokers of the Osaka and Kyoto Exchanges. It should be added that Mr. Oye, President of the Tokyo Stock Exchange, supports it.

CRUELTY TO ANIMALS.

WHILE anxious to give full credit to the police for the endeavours they are now making towards stamping out rabies in Yokohama by the destruction of ownerless dogs, of which there are undoubtedly a large number in this port, it may be as well for them to know that such an object can be carried out without the parade of excessive cruelty. Nothing can justify dogs being strangled and dragged through the streets, or prodded and kicked in order to get them to the various police stations. If the police are unaware of these practises it is about time that they were made cognizant of them, and that they took steps to prevent their recurrence. A change can easily be effected, we imagine, by the police giving strict orders to the dog-capturers to avoid excessive cruelty. There are a large number of mongrel curs in Chinatown, as well as in the possession of Japanese, which display all manner of diseases to which dogs are heir, but for the sole reason that they have tags or a bit of string round their necks they are spared. Happy in the semblance of ownership these useless and noisy animals escape the fate of their unfortunate fellows Strict justice does not prevail in the canine kingdom, and we cannot expect the Japanese police to establish it. Neither can we expect that the operation of slaughtering stray dogs, or inveigling them to their slaughter, will be conducted entirely without evidences of cruelty. But it seems to us that the public sense of humanity is needlessly offended by some of the methods now pursued

SERIOUS DISTURBANCE AT THE FRENCH HATOBA.

LATE on Friday week a serious disturbance occurred near the French *hatoba*, the details of which are still somewhat obscure. Two French sailors of the M. M. steamer *Natal* were returning on board their ship about 20 minutes past

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eleven o'clock when a dispute appears to have arisen between them and some *sendoes*. The *sendoes* struck the Frenchmen and the Frenchmen naturally struck back. Other *sendoes* at once came up and joined in the affray, the result being that the Frenchmen were driven down to the water's-edge. By this time the noise had attracted the attention of the police on duty at the hatoba gates, but when they arrived upon the scene the foreigners were doing their best to escape from their assailants. One was attempting to get a sampan afloat, while the other was swimming, fully dressed, away from the shore. Reassured by the presence of the police, both men returned to the landing steps, and it was then seen that they were pretty severely mauled. As they landed, a *sendo* preferred a charge of assault against them to the police, saying that he had been struck by the Frenchmen while lying asleep. The policeman, however, took all three into custody, at the same time placing several of the other *sendoes* under arrest. Arrived at the police station, Dr. Rokkaku was sent for, and he quickly dressed the wounded foreigners, as well as the *sendo*, Ishiguro Sadakichi, who was deeply cut on the face, and had complained of being assaulted first. The Frenchmen are now in the General Hospital on the Bluff, where Dr. Rokkaku expects one will remain for about a week, and the other three weeks, ere their wounds are thoroughly healed. The *sendoes* persist in their statement that the Frenchmen started the row, and one story runs that it was owing to some birds belonging to the *Natal's* seamen being lost through the carelessness of the hatoba coolies, that the foreigners lost their tempers, only they struck the wrong man when dealing out retaliation. The affair is expected to come before the French Consulate and the Chiho Saibansho.

MEMORIAL TO A JAPANESE LADY.

THE *R.S. and Nagasaki Express* says:—According to our local native contemporaries it is proposed to erect a monument in the O'Suwa temple ground to the memory of Mrs. Oura Kei, a noted lady resident of this town, commonly known as "Oura Goke," owing to the fact of her having passed the greater part of her life in "single blessedness," who died here some ten years ago. It is said that all who came in contact with her, both natives and foreigners, considered her a woman of exceptional ability, especially in matters appertaining to business and industrial enterprise. Wealthy, well-connected, and of a benevolent nature, she employed her resources so that many natives hailing from this part of the country are at present in far better circumstances than they would have been but for her assistance, some of them, we believe, occupying the most important positions in the country.

THE JAPANESE GARDEN AT CHICAGO.

WE take the following from *Belford's Magazine* for July:—

One of the most curious and most observed objects of all is the Japanese garden which occupies a place midway between the Canada and Trinidad exhibits on the east side of the northeast curtain. It was in complete order on the first day of May, and has attracted much attention ever since. The narrow paths separate little trees and plants—parterres—that are not much bigger than table napkins, and structures that might be taken for toys. Even the gardeners who made these were short and slender, but they gave a good account of themselves, nevertheless, and of the work that they were sent here to accomplish. Most of the Japanese plants came to Jackson Park all the way from Yokohama in chalet-like boxes of salmon-colored cedar wood, which were pierced with windows and covered with wire net-work. Some of these plants suffered much during the voyage, and quite a number of them were killed outright; and many others had to go into the nursery, with a special note of recommendation to the doctor in charge. He, however, hesitated, in view of the delicate state of their health and the difficulty of hitting upon the best remedy, and therefore declined all responsibility until some Japanese herb doctor should arrive; but Mr. Thorpe took many of them in charge upon the non-appearance of the herb doctor, and brought most of them into a state of convalescence, although a few were never pronounced out of danger.

On entering this miniature garden, the visitor passes up a slight decline and enters upon a gravel walk, on either side of which are sticks of white and black bamboo, very skilfully combined.

A little further on are some steps cut in the shrubby slope, and formed of the trunks of the fir tree. A low palisade, in light bamboo work, held together by strips of bark, serves as an enclosure. Plants of minor value were arranged along this serpentine walk, including the iris, *iaroigate*, and *pinus parviflora*.

Then there are modest little Japanese and American plants, arranged so that they may nod at each other, while the big dahlias on the other side of the palisade seemingly look down proudly upon them. And there are beds of *ophiopogon jaburan* and *cycads*, whose bristling leaves spread from strange looking stumps, and do not at first impress one with the idea that they enjoy much vitality. The convolvulus occupies several pots, and may be seen climbing reeds set apart for its special behoof. Just beyond another shrubby embankment are borders of exquisite blossoms, and here and there nice arrangements of *davallia bullata*. Close by is an admirable collection of lilies, twenty two varieties in all, which embalms the air for many yards around with a delightful perfume, not unlike that of the scents arising from the flowers of a bouquet of delicate aromatic odours. Among the lilies are the ordinary white, with only one or two flowers on the same stem; then there is an orange-colored one dotted with black points, and a proud-looking beauty with a golden centre. And there are varieties unknown, which are incomparable for size and beauty. Some of these latter are enormous, and each petal is remarkable for its red, pink, or violet stripes But perhaps the *clou* of the *ensemble* are the dwarf trees for which Japan is famous. By what artificial process trees, which if left to themselves would have reached a respectable height, have been cut down to the smallest dimensions, it would be hard to tell. But here they are, some so small that they could be held in one's hand, and but few of them quite a yard high, —twisted and distorted trunks covered with knobs and warts, and giving life to slender branches, which are kept so well within the required limits that they are perfect balls of verdure. Most of these stunted trees have passed through the hands of many generations of gardeners, for not a few have reached the age of one hundred years and more. There are two specimens of the *thuya breviramea*, one of which is more than a century old, but which died on the way from San Francisco to Chicago during the terrible snow storms of the December preceding. There are others of the same family that look vigorous, but are similarly dwarfed, and many of them centenarians There are quite a number of dwarfed oaks and maples, whose denticulated leaves pass through every shade of red and yellow, and resemble those of the American maple during the latter part of autumn.

There are others that are curiously streaked, and still others in which the foliage has jagged edges and bears marble-like, white, red, and yellow veins. Here is the *fuiriteikakatsura*, a very long name for a microscopic climber with tapering and pointed leaves, struggling up a bit of light-coloured wood not much bigger than a giant's thumb. The utmost care has been given to this garden, which has a little meandering stream, over which are rustic bridges and other evidences of a truly rural scene. A large number of *olea fragrans* and other Japanese plants are in pots, which are of the best faience, porcelain, and enamelled ware

Altogether this Japanese garden is an exact reproduction of many in Tokio, where horticulturists are numerous in view of the widely prevalent taste for flowers

The following is a complete list of Japanese plants at Jackson Park, most which may be seen in the little garden.

Cycas revoluta, Thunb.
Rhododendron, indicum sw.
Pinus Parotiora.
Ophiopogon Jaburan.
Ginkgo biloba L. Conifers.
Cornus macrophylla.
Chlorantius brachystachys.
Davallia bullata.
Vitis incortans.
Gardenia florida.
Cammel a th efere.
Aucuba Japonica.
Dentzia Sieboldiana.
V. burnum odoratissum.
Punica Granatum.
Citrus bigaradia.
Terastroma Japonica.
Podocrapus Nageia R. BR.
Olea fragrans.
Chamaerops excelsa, Thunb.
Iris lacoigate, Fisch.
Futsia Japonica.
Larix Leptolepis.
Clematis florida.
Antesia Crispa.
Cinnamunum Loucelrii.
Cercidiphyllum Japonicum.
Abies firma.
Daphne odore.
Paeonia albiflora.
Daphne Gentswa
Olea squifolium.
Oaesolpunia Separii.
Albizzia Jubris.
Cryptromia Japonica.
Cammelia Japonica.
Pudocrapus Macrophy.
Acex Palmatum, Thunb.

DEATH OF ADMIRAL THORNTON JENKINS, U.S.N.

A SPECIAL telegram to the *Morning Call*, dated Washington, August 9th, announces that Rear-Admiral Thornton A. Jenkins died at his residence in Washington of heart failure, at 7.30 o'clock that night, aged 81 years. The same paper says that Rear-Admiral Thorton A. Jenkins was appointed midshipman from Virginia in 1828, and during the next five years saw much service in the West Indies in the pursuit of the Cuban pirates, being attached successively to the *Natches* and *Vandalia*. In July, 1862, he was made captain and placed in command of the *Wachusett*, then on duty in the James and Potomac rivers, and was the senior officer present at the attacks on Coggins Point and City Point. In the Fall of 1862 he was in command of the *Oneida*, blockading off Mobile, and was then made fleet-commander and chief-of-staff of Farragut's fleet. In March, 1863, he was present at the passage of Port Hudson, and the fight with the Grand Gulf batteries, Warrenton and Grand Gulf. Two months later he was present at the siege and attack on Port Hudson. During the engagement with the enemy's batteries at College Point, on the Mississippi, being then in command of three armed vessels engaged in convoy duty, he was wounded on board the *Monongahela*. He was in command of the *Richmond* and senior officer in command of the naval forces below at the time of the surrender of Port Hudson, July 9th, 1863. At the blockade of Mobile, from December, 1863, to the battle of Mobile Bay, August 5th, 1864, in which and in all subsequent operations he took part, he was in command of a division. He was left in command of the Mobile Bay division until February, 1865, when he was ordered to the James River and remained there until after Lee's surrender. Captain Jenkins was made commodore in 1866, while chief of the Bureau of Navigation, and in 1870 attained the rank of rear-admiral, being given command of the Asiatic squadron. He was still in command on that station in December, 1873, when he was retired by age limitation. He represented the Navy Department at the Centennial Exposition in 1876, which was his last appearance in the public service. Admiral Farragut thought highly of Jenkins, and in his report of the Mobile affair called particular attention to him.

FURTHER TROUBLES IN NOBLE FAMILIES.

THE Soma affair is not to remain without parallels, if we may trust the statements appearing in the vernacular press. Two other nobles have to complain of infidelity on the part of their stewards. One is Viscount Matsudaira Tadakazu, formerly of Shimabara, in Hizen; the other, Viscount Inaba Masakuni, formerly of Yodo, in Yamashiro. With regard to the former, it is alleged that his steward, Komida Toshiyoshi, has already been arrested on suspicion of making away with money entrusted to his keeping. The particulars, as ascertained by investigations conducted by the old retainers of the house, are that Komida, having fraudulently sold bonds, shares and lands of the Viscount, amounting in all to 170,000 or 180,000 *yen*, endeavoured to make good the deficit by entering at fictitious prices certain purchases effected by him on account of the estate. Thus, land bought from Viscount Aoki at Koganehara for 20,000 *yen*, was entered at 30,143.54 *yen*; land bought in Hakone for 10,000 *yen*, was shown at 60,000; and a house bought from Mr. Mutsu in Azabu for 21,500 *yen* was written down at 37,045.44 *yen*, the fraudulent steward being so methodical in his robberies as to append hundredths and thousandths of *yen* by way of local colouring. Viscount Inaba's business is not described with equal accuracy, but its general features are the same—an unfaithful steward who made away with some 100,000 *yen*. This fraud appears to have been detected by the Viscount's adopted son and heir, the third son of Count Matsura, formerly of Hirado. The youth is said to be exceptionally clever, and has had the advantage of an excellent education, being a graduate of Cambridge, in England. After his return from abroad, this young man, Mr. Inaba Matsura, observed that the family's circumstances seemed to have become considerably straitened, and immediately set himself to investigate affairs thoroughly. The steward, alarmed at probable consequences, tried to avert them by slandering the young nobleman to his father by adoption, and would have succeeded in getting the succession changed but for the interference of friends and relatives. The steward was finally removed from his post but the Japanese papers allege that he still retains the confidence of his former master, and that very ugly rumours are afloat as to his designs against Mr. Inaba Matsura.

* * *

It is not altogether surprising that these acts of dishonesty should be perpetrated. The nobles of to-day, as the vernacular press explains,

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can no longer command the services of men imbued with the sentiments of unswerving loyalty that kept retainers faithful in feudal times Moreover, the nobles themselves, though in most cases they belong to the old generation and do not possess competence to control their pecuniary affairs, are nevertheless dissatisfied unless they have stewards who will manage for them on modern lines, seeking safe investments for their money and handling it with a degree of freedom and enterprise unknown and unconceived by the *Karo* and *Shitsuji* of other eras. The steward has large opportunities for speculation, is unrestrained by any sentiments of affection or inherited loyalty, and has an incomparably keener preference for enriching himself than for enriching his master. Not until the new rising generation of nobles has taken its place at the head of household affairs, will there be an end to the danger of peculation and misappropriation that now hangs over every *Kwazoku*.

SILVER AND THE CHICAGO SILVER CONVENTION.

REUTER recently telegraphed to us a very infinitesimal precis of the resolutions adopted by the Silver Convention at Chicago. We have now before us the text of the resolutions. It runs as follows :—

"Whereas, Bimetallism is as ancient as human history: certainly for more than 3,000 years gold and silver came down through the ages hand in hand; their relations to each other having varied but a few points in all that vast period of time, and then most invariably through legislation; and,

Whereas, The two metals are named together, indissolubly united, in the constitution of the United States as the standard of value of this country, placed there by George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, John Adams, Alexander Hamilton and their associates, and subsequently indorsed and defended by Andrew Jackson and Abraham Lincoln; and,

"Whereas, Silver, one of these ancient metals, was, in the year 1873, without any previous demand by any political party, or by any part of the people, or even by any newspapers, and without public discussion, stricken down from the place it had occupied since the days of Abraham and Pharoahs, under circumstances of such secrecy that Allen G Thurman, James B. Beck, William M. Stewart, Daniel W. Voorhees, James G Blaine, then Speaker of the house, James A. Garfield, William D. Kelley and others present and voting for the bill, as senators or representatives, subsequently repeatedly and publicly declared that they did not know until long afterward that so great and grave a change had been made in the financial system founded by the fathers of the Republic; and,

"Whereas, The debates in Congress show that the parentage of the measure was in part ascribed by friends of the bill to one Ernest Seyed, a London banker, who, it is claimed, was sent over to Washington by the moneyed classes of the old world to secured its passage by secret and corrupt means; and,

"Whereas, President Grant, who signed the bill, declared long subsequently that he did not know that it demonetized silver; and,

"Whereas, the purpose of this attack upon one of the two ancient precious metals of the world was by striking down one-half of the money supply, to wit, silver, to double the purchasing power of the remainder, gold, by making it the equivalent of everything possessed or produced by the abour of man; thus reducing the price of all commodities, arresting enterprise, impoverishing the toiler, and degrading mankind. That these results were not only inevitable but foreseen appears by the following language used at that time by the then President of the Bank of France, who said :—'If by a stroke of the pen they suppress one of these metals, in the monetary service, they double the demand for the other metal, to the ruin of all debtors;' and,

"Whereas, The awful consequences thus prophesied are now upon the people of the whole world, we stand in the midst of unparalleled distress and in the shadow of impending calamities which are beyond estimate. The ruling industry of the people who inhabit one-third of the area of this Republic has been stricken down, property values destroyed and the workmen compelled to flee as from pestilence. Everywhere over this broad land the honest toilers, numbering hundreds of thousands, have been thrown out of employment and will have to eat the bitter bread of charity or starve; the products of industry, of the farm and the workshop have depreciated in price, as shown by official and public statistics, until production ceases to be profitable; the money of the country, inadequate for the business of the land has gravitated to the banks, while the people, distrusting the banks, have demanded their deposits to hoard or hide them; mercantile houses are going to the wall by thousands because the masses have not the means to buy even the necessities of life; to supply the lack of currency the banks of the great cities have issued a substitute for money unknown to the laws, called clearing house certificates; the movement of the great crops now being gathered demand a vast amount of currency which the banks are unable to furnish, and in the midst of these conditions the daily press is clamouring for the repeal of the Act of July 14, 1890, called the Sherman Act, although the repeal of that Act means the stoppage of the issue of more than $3,000,000 every month; thus shutting off the supply of funds for the business of the country in the midst of the terrible conditions which surround us, and ignoring the fact that to hold the balance level between the debtor and creditor classes the supply of currency must increase side by side with the increase of population and business, and that in this nation the growth of population is at the rate of about 33 per cent every ten years, while the increase of business is much greater; and,

"Whereas, The great expounder of the Constitution, Daniel Webster, said: Gold and silver at rates fixed by Congress constitute the legal standard of value in this country, and neither Congress nor any State has authority to establish any other standard or to displace that standard'; and,

"Whereas, The Hon. James G. Blaine, quoting this utterance, adds: 'On the much vexed and long-mooted question as to a bimetallic or monometallic standard, my own views are sufficiently indictated in the remarks I have made. I believe the struggle now going on in this country and in other countries for a single gold standard would, if successful, produce widespread disaster in and throughout the commercial world. The destruction of silver as money and establishing gold as the sole unit of value must have a ruinous effect on all forms of property except those investments which yield a fixed return in money. These would be enormously enhanced in value and would gain a disproportionate and unfair advantage over every other species of property. If, as the most reliable statistics affirm, there are nearly $7,000,000,000 of coin or bullion in the world, very unequally divided between gold and silver, it is impossible to strike silver out of existence as money without results which will prove distressing to millions and utterly disastrous to tens of thousands.'

"Again he said: 'I believe gold and silver coin to be the money of the constitution; indeed, the money of the American people anterior to the constitution which the great organic law recognized as quite independent of its own existence. No power was conferred on Congress to declare either metal should not be money. Congress has, therefore, in my judgment, no power to demonetize both. * * * If, therefore, silver has been demonetized, I am in favour of remonetizing it. If its coinage has been prohibited, I am in favour of ordering it to be resumed. I am in favour of having it enlarged."

"Whereas, the present Secretary of the Treasury, the Hon. John G. Carlisle, on the floor of the House of Representatives Feb. 21, 1878, said: I know that the world's stock of precious metals is none too large and I see no reason to apprehend that it will ever become so. Mankind will be fortunate, indeed, if the annual production of gold and silver coin shall keep pace with the annual increase of population, commerce and industry. According to my views of the subject the conspiracy which seems to have been formed here and in Europe to destroy by legislation and otherwise from three-sevenths to one half of the metalic money of the world is the most gigantic crime of this or any other age. The consummation of such a scheme would ultimately entail more misery upon the human race than all the wars, pestilences and fammes that ever occurred in the history of the world. The absolute and instantaneous destruction of half the entire movable property of the world, including houses, ships, railroads and all other appliances for carrying on commerce while it would be felt more sensibly at the moment, would not produce anything like the prolonged distress and disorganization of society that must inevitably result from the permanent annihilation of the metallic money in in the world'; and,

"Whereas, Senator John Sherman of Ohio, who, more than any man, is responsible for the demonetization of silver, clearly understood the evil consequences of shrinking currency below the legitimate demand of the business of the country, as evidenced by what he said in the Senate in 1869, to wit: 'The contraction of the currency is a far more distressing operation than senators suppose. Our own and other nations have gone through that operation before. It is not possible to take that voyage without the sorest distress. To every person except a capitalist out of debt, or a salaried officer, or annuitant, it is a period of loss, danger, lassitude of trade, fall of wages, suspension of enterprise, bankruptcy and disaster. It means ruin of all dealers whose debts are twice their business capital, though one third less than their actual property. It means the fall of all agricultural production without any great reduction of taxes. What prudent man would dare to build a house, a railroad, a factory, or a barn with this certain fact before him?

"Therefore, in view of all these facts we declare:

"1. That there must be no compromise of this position. All legislation demonetizing and restricting the coinage thereof must be immediately and completely repealed by an act restoring the coinage of the country to the conditions established by the founders of the nation, and which continued for over eighty years without complaint from any part of our people. Every hour's delay in undoing the corrupt work of Ernest Seyd and our foreign enemies is an insult to the dignity of the American people, a crushing burden on their prosperity, and an attempt to place us again under the yoke from which George Washington and his compatriots rescued us. We protest against the financial policy of the United States being made dependent upon the opinion or policies of any foreign government, and assert the power of this nation to stand on its own feet and legislate for itself upon all subjects.

"2. We declare that the only remedy for our metallic financial troubles is to open the mints of the nation to gold and silver on equal terms at the old ratio of 16 of silver to 1 of gold. Whenever silver bull on can be exchanged at the mints of the United States for legal-tender silver dollars worth 100 cents each that moment 412½ grains of standard silver will be worth 100 cents, and as commerce equalizes the prices of all commodities throughout the world, whenever 412½ grams of standard silver are worth 100 cents in the United States they will be worth that sum everywhere else and cannot be bought for less. While it will be urged that such a result would enhance the price of silver bullion, it is sufficient for us to know that a similar increase would be immediately made in the price of every form of property, except gold and credits, in the civilized world. It would be shallow selfishness that would deny prosperity to the mining industries at the cost of bankruptcy to the whole people. The legislation to demonetize silver has given an unjust increase to the value of gold at the cost of the prosperity of mankind. Wheat and all other agricultural products have fallen side by side with silver.

"3. That while the 'Sherman Act' of July 14, 1890, was a device of the enemy to prevent the restoration of free coinage, and is greatly objectionable because it continues the practical exclusion of silver from the mints and reduces it from a money metal to a commercial commodify, nevertheless, its repeal, without the restoration of free coinage, would stop the expansion of our currency required by our growth in population and business, widen still further the difference between the two precious metals, thus making the return to bimetallism more difficult; greatly increase the purchasing power of gold, still further break down the price of the products of the farmer, the labourer, the mechanic and the tradesman, and plunge still further all commerce, business and industry into such depth of wretchedness as to endanger peace, order, the preservation of free institutions and the very maintenance of civilization. We, therefore, in the name of the Republic and of humanity protest against the repeal of said Act of July 14, 1890, except by an act restoring free bimetallic coinage as it existed prior to 1873. We suggest that the maintenance of bimetallism by the United States at the ratio of 16 to 1 will increase our commerce with all silver-using countries of the world, containing two-thirds of the population of the world, without decreasing our commerce with those nations which buy our raw material, and will compel the adoption of bimetallism by the nations of Europe sooner than by any other means.

"4. We assert that the unparalleled calamities which now afflict the American people are not due to the so called Sherman Act of 1890, and in proof thereof we call attention to the fact that the same evil conditions now prevail over all the gold-standard nations of the world. We are convinced that bad as is the state of affairs in this country it would have been still worse but for the Sherman Act, by which the nation has obtained to some extent an expanding circulation, to meet the demands of a continent in process of colonization, and the business exigencies of the most energetic and industrious race that has ever dwelt on the earth, and we insist upon the execution of the law without evasion so long as it is upon the statute books and upon the purchase each month of the

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full amount of silver that it provides for, to the end that the monthly addition to the circulating medium the law secures shall be maintained.

5 That we would call the attention of the people to the fact that in the midst of all the troubles of the times the value of the national bonds and the national legal-tender money, whether made of gold, and silver or paper, has not fallen a particle. The distrust is not of the government or its money, but of the banks which have, as we believe, precipitated the present panic on the country in an ill advised effort to control of congress on the silver question and the issue of bonds. We invite the bankers to attend to their legitimate business and permit the rest of the people to have their full share in the control of the government. In this way they will much sooner restore that confidence which is so necessary to the prosperity of the people. It must not be forgotton that while boards of trade, chambers of commerce, bankers and money-dealess are worthy and valuable men in their places the republic can more safely repose upon the great mass of its peaceful toilers and that this 'business man's age' is rapidly exterminating the business men of this country. The time has come when the politics of the nation should revert as far as possible, to the simple and pure condition out of which the republic arose.

"6 We suggest for the consideration of our fellow citizens that the refusal of the oppenents of bimetallism to propose any substitute for the present law, or to elaborate any plan for financial needs or an unwillingness to take the public into their confidence; and we denounce the attempt to unconditionally repeal the Sherman law as an attempt to secure gold monometallism in flagrant violation of the last national platform of all the political parties."

PERSONAL ITEMS.

A REPRESENTATIVE of the *Kokumin Shimbun* recently waited upon Count Ito to ask his views on the policy he proposes to pursue in the coming session of the Diet. The Minister President of State is said to have told his guest that the secret of his policy was to keep the Opposition in ignorance of the routes he really wished to take. In reply to the question whether he would not surprise the Diet by adopting a strong and positive policy for the development of the country, Count Ito is reported to have remarked that he should be greatly pleased to adopt such a policy, did he see any chance of being disposed to approve it. But why not try it? This question elicited the observation that the primary object of the Count's policy in the fifth session will be to avoid collision with the Diet as far as possible. Should the Premier fail in that object, he intended, he said, to resign his office. Asked why he did not unite with some party, he replied that to identify himself with any of the existing parties, would be the last course he should adopt.

* * *

Count Matsukata has also been interviewed by a writer on the staff of the same paper. The ex-Minister President is said to have observed that the greatest desideratum in Japan, is that the policy of the country should be definitely settled. He is further represented as alleging that the present generation of his countrymen are apt to think that the work of the Restoration was long since completed. But in point of fact the country is still in the midst of the revolution: the majority of the reforms and undertakings projected at the time of the Restoration remain still to be carried out. Under such circumstances, Count Matsukata would oppose any tendency to a temporising policy on the part of the Government. We are told nothing further about the interview, but according to certain persons, it is reported that Count Matsukata has held repeated conferences at his house with the statesmen of the Military section. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, however, assures us that the report is entirely unfounded.

* * *

Count Yamagata is the object of considerable attention at the present juncture. It is believed in certain quarters that he is now the actual leader of the Military section, but well informed persons attach no credit to the story. The so-called Military statesmen may be desirous of having him as their leader, but he is understood to be little inclined to play such a rôle, and without his hearty approval and cöoperation, they would be almost powerless, either to influence the Cabinet or to force it to resign.

* * *

Count Kuroda, who has been suffering from a severe attack of rheumatism, is said to be much better. He does not see visitors in general, but on Saturday last he was called upon by Counts Ito and Matsukata. It is expected that he will recover sufficiently in a few days to attend his office.

PUBLIC MEN ON THE CLOSING OF THE MINTS.

SIR W. H. HOULDSWORTH writes to the *Statist* as follows:—"India has now no real standard of value at all. The idea that the Secretary of State can fix the gold value of the rupee, even approximately at 1s. 4d., or any other figure, is preposterous; and if this is not done nothing is done to remedy the fluctuations of exchange between England and India. By closing the Indian mints against silver from the public, fluctuations in the gold price of silver may be avoided between the rupee and the sovereign. But so long as 15 rupees are not convertible at will into a sovereign, for which no provision is made, the 'perverse rupee' will be subject to a thousand influences, which will render it as unstable as ever. The secondary effects of the Government's action, viz., the dislocation of trade between India and other silver-using countries, and the competition of China, Japan, &c., in gold-using countries will possibly not manifest themselves all at once. But they are bound to come, and when they do, the last end of India will be worse than the first. By refusing to consider an international joint-standard solution of the Indian currency difficulty on the one hand, and by pusillanimously avoiding the establishment of a gold currency for India on the other, the Government have fallen between two stools, all the consequences of which cannot, it is true, be now foreseen, but which, it is safe to predict, must include serious and prolonged disturbance, if not ultimate disaster." Several other public men, all more or less identified with bimetallism, write in a similar strain.

STRAITS NEWS.

THE Portuguese naval squadron at Macao consisting of the gunboats *Bengo* and *Dill*, is being reinforced by the gunboat *Macmahon*, which is daily expected at Singapore from Mozambique. . . . The *Penang Gazette* learns that the Governor of Acheen has sent an ultimatum to the Achinese at Simpang Olim, demanding the surrender of the prisoners taken by them from the steamer *Rajah Kongsee Atjeh*. . . . The *Ban Hin Guan*, which left Singapore for Java ports on the afternoon of August 10th, returned the same day to the harbour on account of a serious assault on one of the crew by the chief and second engineers, who are said to have been under the influence of liquor. After shipping two engineers the *Ban Hin Guan* resumed her voyage the next day. . . . A French Government transport passed through Singapore on the forenoon of August 11th from Toulon for Saigon. The Legion-Etrangère, which Reuter telegraphed as having left Oran for Siam, were believed to be on board this transport.

THE USHIGOME SUBTERRANEAN CHAMBERS.

THE mysterious chambers unearthed recently at Ushigome, in Tokyo, are very prosaically interpreted by Professor Tsuboi. The Professor, says the *Mainichi Shimbun*, made repeated examinations of the chambers and had the earth scraped away from the walls, but failed to find any indication from which he could infer their age or original purpose. Finally, however, it occurred to him that they might have some connection with the yeast-manufacturing cellars, common enough in Tokyo. He accordingly visited five such cellars in Ushigome, Yushima, Kanda and Mita. Four of them he found to be four or five generations old, and one had been constructed half a century ago. The areas, heights, and shapes of these cellars, the fashion of shelves with which they are furnished, and the narrowness of the passages leading to them, all corresponded with the features presented by the Ushigome chamber. Professor Tsuboi also assured himself that the so-called *Kiri-ana*, or cut-out hole, in the Ushigome chamber had its parallel in the *Otoko-ana* (man-hole), though which ingress to the yeast cellar is effected, and that the approach to the Ushigome chamber was duplicated in the *Soroban* (probably so-called because of some supposed resemblance to the Japanese abacus) of the ordinary yeast cellar. Thus it would appear that the subterranean mystery at Ushigome is a vulgar kind of affair after all; a yeast cellar which had fallen into disuse and been left to its fate. *Causarum ignoratio.*

THE EMBROIDERERS OF TOKYO

A MEETING of some interest was held in the big restaurant called *Nakamura-ro*, in the Rogoku district of Tokyo on the 26th instant. It appears that, owing to the growing prevalence of vicious practices among the embroiderers of Tokyo, and the consequent loss of the trade's prestige, certain leading embroiderers lately set themselves to organize an association with the object of correcting these abuses. Evidently the efforts of these promoters were successful, for no less than 500 persons assembled at the association's inaugural meeting last Saturday, among them being Prince Konoye, Count Itagaki, Mr. Yamagata, Secretary of the Municipality, Messrs. Shioda, Kurihara, Yamada Taizo, and Suzuki Manjiro, members of the Diet, Messrs. Yano Jiro, Aoki, Kyo and others. Mr. Takashima, President of the Association opened the meeting with a history of the movement and an account of the aims contemplated. The other speakers were Prince Konoye, Mr Niire, representing Mr. Wakamiya, Chief of the Bureau of Commerce and Industry, and Mr. Sakuma Teiichi. Dinner was subsequently served, and while it was going on Messrs. Shioda Shozo and Kurihara Ryochi spoke. The meeting broke up at 6 p.m.

FINANCIAL DEPRESSION IN AMERICA.

As an indication of the despondency with which many experienced business men regard the present situation in America, we cite the following passages from a private letter written by a close observer who has for years been actively engaged in Wall Street operations:—"It is easy to say that the worst stage has been reached, as the more sanguine newspapers tell us from day to day, but no one can yet discover upon what these buoyant assertions are passed. The feeling of distrust is universal. It began to manifest itself when Congress adjourned, not only doing nothing to relieve the position, but boasting that the Pacific States were strong enough to force the U.S. Government to purchase monthly 4,500,000 ounces of silver from the West. Still, the market continued undisturbed as late as February, and even after Cleveland's inauguration the incidental rise went far to lull the suspicions of all but *professional* 'bears.' The great depression came as a surprise to the majority, and, having been unprepared for, it will probably go on for some time, leaving a memory that will prevent the launching or recognition of any new enterprises for a considerable period. Railroads will be repaired, but the projected mills will do less than ever, and their hands be thrown out of employment. Wages will decrease, and the next break-down will be in real estate. We have now only arrived at the point when 'properties are withdrawn' from the auction block. The first that have come under the hammer show a sympathetic decline with stocks, but no conclusively significant sales have yet been forced. Wheat fetches now 70 cents. per bushel—exactly what it did when labourers were hired for that sum per day. Our financiers date the real beginning of the trouble from the folly of English capitalists in lending prodigious sums to the Argentine Republic, populated by four millions of scattered inhabitants, one half of whom are beggars, and equal amounts to Australia, without regard to ordinary prudence or foresight. At the first sign of insecurity in Great Britain, masses of 'American' stock were thrown upon the market, to our inevitable confusion. At this moment there is no thought

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of making money,—only of economising. The customary outlays not alone for travel, recreations and luxuries, but for actual necessaries,—food and clothing—have all fallen off together. The great railroads haul less and earn less, and consequently pay less. None of them is threatened with bankruptcy, yet the Northern Pacific preferred stock, quoted at 39 a few months ago, is now selling at 19. Among the signs of the times you will note that Mitchell's Milwaukee Bank failed yesterday. It stood to the whole West as the Chemical Bank stands to New York and vicinity. For two months past, each day has brought news of fresh failures. Decline is the rule. Sometimes a feeble stand is made, but it is a piteous exhibition of struggle with the steady current which sweeps the pluckiest Stock Exchange 'bull' off his feet, and frequently turns him into a 'bear.' Congress will meet in a fortnight, and will no doubt show its usual ignorance of and prejudice against Wall Street, forgetting, as it always does, that but for the outpouring of Wall Street money to fertilize the West, that vast territory might to-day be in the condition of Western Brazil. But in spite of all, no one questions that the approved good things will stand the racket and come out all right. This is no time to sell anything, no matter how dark the surroundings may seem."

* * *

A single glance at the financial column of any New York newspaper will supply abundant confirmation of the above statements, so far as the extraordinary depreciation of securities is concerned. The most active bonds of the Northern Pacific—the consolidated five per cent.—have fallen from their accustomed prices of from $800 to $850 to an average of $450; and the Chicago and Northern Pacific Railroad seems latterly to have lost some of its hold upon public confidence, but similar declines are apparent—though in a smaller degree—in securities which have always ranked first class, and have rarely been shaken by influences of panic and agitation. With respect to the future, however, it may be said that the opinions of experts are not at all as gloomy as that of the correspondent whose presages we have quoted. Some are more hopeful of the ability of Congress to avert impending dangers, and one citizen who looks at affairs from a manufacturing and financial standpoint, being the head of one of the largest New York bank-note companies, suggests that since the national legislature has undoubtedly the power to take such action as shall tend to restore confidence, its intentions should not be prematurely questioned. It is evident, at the same time, that in all expressions of reliance upon the Government, the wish is father to the thought, and that something more than faith in Congressional wisdom is needed to allay the prevailing anxiety and alarm. Intelligence from Washington will, for some time to come, be awaited with peculiar interest.

RAILWAYS IN CHINA.

THE following extract from the *Shanghai Mercury* shows how steadily China is proceeding with the extension of an Imperial Railway system:—"Some time ago we described the condition of the Railway line between Tientsin and the original termination of the line at Tongshan Colliery. The opening of a new mine at Linsi, where, in a series of low rolling hills, extending some distance into the plain of N.E. Chihli, the coal-beds were found well developed, called for the further extension of the line as far as the station at Kuyé, about 20 miles further east. At the same time the Chinese Government, in view of the projected extension of the Russian land-lines to Vladivostock, ostensibly for the purpose of concentrating troops at any portion of the long northern frontier of the Empire, awoke to the necessity, in self-preservation, of connecting with Chihli the outlying garrisons in Shingking and Manchuria. The line from Tongshan to Kuyé fitted in as the first link in the chain, and it was determined to carry the line in the first instance as far as the important frontier post of Shan-hai-kwan, where the Great Wall descends to the sea at the extreme N.W angle of the Gulf of Pechihli. Shan-hai-kwan has always been considered the key of Peking, owing to the facility with which an army can march along the flanks of the northern boundary chain of mountains; and the circumstances connected with the occupation of the post during the troublous time that closed the Ming dynasty have an attraction for all students of Asiatic history. Once determined on, the line has been carried out in a manner and with a promptness reflecting honour on all concerned. At present the line ends at Lwanchow, at the crossing of the Lwan Ho, but the permanent way, and a good part of the ballasting and bridges, are completed to within a few miles of Shan-hai-kwan.

ILLUSTRATED JOURNALISM AND THE ROYAL WEDDING.

As a Royal wedding is not of everyday occurrence the illustrated papers naturally make the most of such an event when it does happen. Both the *Illustrated London News* and the *Graphic* come out with "Royal Wedding Numbers which, although not gems of pictorial art, are doubtless appreciated by a curious public. Nothing we presume, is it to them that one paper should represent the "Wedding Breakfast at Buckingham Palace" by the privileged party being seated at small round tables, while the other delineates the same event by the guests, with H.M. the Queen in the centre, seated at one single long table The fate of the unlucky artist—if unlucky he be—who drew so much on his imagination, has not transpired, probably because he was not alone in adopting that airy means of securing details for his drawings.

TRADAL COMPLICATIONS IN KOBE

DIFFICULTIES, according to the vernacular press, have arisen between the Japanese manufacturers of screens in Kobe and Messrs. Samuel Samuel and Company as well as another foreign firm whose name we cannot identify in its transliterated garb. The resentment of the screen-makers is directed chiefly against the principal clerks of these firms, whose dismissal they have pledged themselves to bring about. It would seem that the screen-makers are in a position to carry on a resolute campaign, for they have formed a league, each member putting up 300 *yen* the whole of which will be forfeited by any associate doing business with the tabooed firms, and half of the forfeited money will be paid to any non-associate giving such information as may lead to the detection of a breach of compact by an associate. The *Nippon*, from which we take these details, adds that the league have issued copies of their resolutions to the association of general goods dealers, and further that they are organizing a company with a capital of 100,000 *yen*, the object of which is to send goods abroad directly without the intervention of foreign firms.

* * *

Within the past ten years a great many of these associations have been formed in Japan. One of the avowed objects which they invariably propose to themselves is to prevent all dishonesty on the part of Japanese dealing with foreigners, but we have never yet heard of a case of such prevention. Perhaps they occur. Perhaps our ignorance is alone to blame. At all events, the fact is that the association in every instance figures as exercising its power in combination to coerce the foreigner in the interests of the Japanese. We know nothing of the rights and wrongs of this Kobe affair, but all observers will agree that the general tendency of Japanese guilds and associations is as we have stated it.

A FASTING EXPERIMENT.

THE experiment pursued on the person of Mr. Yasui Jiro, a school teacher, by Dr. Ozawa, President of the College of Medicine, in conjunction with Professor Kumagawa and several students of the College, seems to have been concluded without the patient showing signs of any particular weakness. The trial lasted fourteen days, nothing but ice and water being allowed the patient during that interval. While under the experiment he rubbed his body down with a wet towel every morning, took regular exercise for about four hours daily, and devoted the rest of the day to study and amusement. Students of the College were in attendance day and night. The patient declined to continue the experiment for a longer period, although Dr. Ozawa considered it perfectly safe for him to do so. Two days after resuming his food, he is said to have recovered his normal condition.

INTERNATIONAL YACHTING.

OF the races that took place in English waters in the beginning of this month, the American yacht *Navahoe* only succeeded in winning two; the first British yacht she defeated being the *Satanita* and the other the *Calluna*, which she beat easily. In the race off the Isle of Wight she was put *hors de combat*, there being too much wind for her. In the Royal Yacht Squadron's regatta she was again beaten both by the *Valkyrie* and *Satanita*, the latter winning the race. From the reports of these matches it clearly appears that the American boat is only suited for light breezes. The "America" cup defenders have had their maiden race, and the *Colonia* won, the *Vigilant* presumably second. As will be seen by Reuter's telegram, Lord Dunraven's crack, *Valkyrie*, has left for American waters.

CANNIBALISM IN SAGHALIEN.

THE last number of the *Vladivostock*, a newspaper published in Eastern Siberia, reveals a terrible state of affairs among the convicts on the Island of Saghalien. It would appear that the convicts there have been treated by some of the subordinate prison authorities so harshly that the Governor of the island has been obliged to interfere for their protection. A warder named Khanoff and some of his assistants, who at one time were convicts themselves, and had been raised to the rank of jailors, have been removed from their posts. Khanoff's treatment of his prisoners was so abominable that a number of them crippled themselves of set purpose, cutting off fingers and toes in order to be treated as invalids and to be freed from his terrible cruelties. Others fled to the impenetrable forest, where they suffered all the horrors of hunger. In a satchel belonging to a fugitive convict, who had been hunted down, were found some pieces of human flesh. Investigation revealed that this man had been one of a party of four, and that only one of them now remained. The others had been killed and devoured by their comrades. Similar cases of cannibalism are, according to the Siberian journal, not infrequent.

LOCAL LEGAL WIT.

THE *Tetartos* case, says the *China Mail*, has had one redeeming feature in that it has been no mere legal discussion or a bare *exposé* of dull facts. It would be too much to say that actual intentional wit has been introduced, although there have been intermittent bursts of humour and occasional flashes of unconscious wit. However, it was left to the learned Attorney General to perpetrate the only pun. The manager of the Nam Wo shop had been referred to as the *ma chin* by one of the witnesses. When the manager was called, the Attorney-General requested him to 'ma chin' to the witness box. This was allowed to go without censure.

THE JAPANESE REPRESENTATIVE IN PEKING.

THE silver question seems to have touched the representative of Japan in China several years ago, if we may credit the *Mainichi Shimbun*, which journal, however, it should be observed, bases its comments avowedly on the usual impalpable "somebody" who always converses at convenient periods with a member of a Japanese newspaper staff. We read that when Viscount Enomoto was Japanese Minister in Peking several years ago, he entertained some broad ideas about the line that a representative of this empire ought to take. He did not altogether believe, for example, in the cooperative line of policy so much affected, and with such successful results by Occidental diplomats in Oriental countries. There might, indeed, be matter of common interest calling for united action, but, on the whole, the Viscount thought

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that Japan had more at stake than any Occidental Power in her relations with her big neighbour, and that she ought to work as far as possible independently for her own hand. At the same time, and partly, perhaps, to atone for this semblance of segregation, he was in favour of cultivating the most friendly intercourse with his foreign colleagues, and to that end he would have entertained on a scale not previously practised at the Japanese Legation. But there the problem of ways and means interfered. Virtually speaking, the Representatives of Europe and America had perpetually increasing stipends, whereas the pay of the Japanese Minister remained at best stationary. The gold received by the former represented always a larger sum in the currency of the country where the chief expenses of living had to be defrayed, while the purchasing power of that currency remained pretty constant. But the Japanese Minister had no such advantage, his salary being an invariable sum calculated in silver and paid in silver. The *Mainichi* adds that Viscount Enomoto having returned to Tokyo shortly after the enunciation of these views, and accepted the post of Minister of State for Communications, no further steps were taken in the matter, but the question was re-opened recently when the Government would fain have induced the Viscount to resume charge of the Legation in Peking after the return of Mr. Otori. Viscount Enomoto, our contemporary concludes, was in favour of raising the Chargé d'Affaires in Sōul to the rank of Minister Plenipotentiary, and of appointing a Chargé d'Affaires to Siam.

* * *

We give all this for what it may be worth, but certainly the question of diplomatic emoluments is very interesting. Take the British Minister in Peking, for example. Twenty years ago when the dollar was worth four shillings, the yearly salary of the Minister, expressed in silver, was 27,500 dollars. Now it is nearly 45,000. That is indeed a colossal difference. It means that the Minister can now spend in Peking the whole salary available for expenditure in former times, and yet find himself with a balance of some seventeen thousand dollars on the right side at the end of the year.

THE CABINET.

A RUMOUR which we are not in a position either to endorse or to deny with entire confidence, speaks of Cabinet changes as not unlikely to occur within the course of the next few weeks. The present Minister of State for Finance is spoken of as likely to go out of office, and the political prophets say that his exit may be contemporaneous with that of Count Kuroda, whose sufferings from rheumatism are published so persistently that people not unnaturally draw inferences. These retirements are believed to indicate the return to office of Count Matsukata, who is now in Tokyo, whither, it is said, he has come at the invitation of the Minister President of State. An idea circulated simultaneously with the above predictions is that Count Inouye will take the portfolio of Finance instead of that of Home Affairs, but who would succeed him in the latter post—now undoubtedly the most important in the Government—no one ventures to foretell. We repeat that, in reproducing these rumours, there is no intention of inviting our readers' credence of them. But while making no confident attempt to indicate details, we do nevertheless believe that the Cabinet, though remaining on the whole as at present, will probably undergo some re-modelling at no very distant date.

STRANGE BUT TRUE.

A CURIOUS circumstance happened on board the British four-masted barque *Samaritan* on the voyage from New York to Shanghai, says the *Mercury*. On the 13th May, when the ship was approximately in lat. 35° S. long 23° W., upwards of 1,000 miles from the nearest land, she encountered a squall of extraordinary violence, which caused the ship to lurch heavily to leeward, and she failed to right herself for some hours. On clearing up the decks the sailors found that a large cask had floated on board, covered with shells, crabs, and barnacles. It was found, on being broached, to contain an excellent Marsala wine. Captain Dexter, of the *Samaritan*, calculates that the cask must have been floating in the water at least two years; the occurrence is certainly remarkable and is one which we would expect to find in the domain of fiction rather than of sober reality. The cask is now in the China and Japan Trading Co.'s godown.

MILITARY NEWS.

THE *Hochi Shimpo* (Military Journal) publishes some tables showing the relative numbers of officers of different grades supplied to the Army by the different Cities and Prefectures. The first table relates to officers of and above the rank of Major General and other officers attached to the Army (Surgeons, Paymasters, etc.) of the corresponding grades:—

TABLE I

Tokyo	14	Akita	1
Yamaguchi	8	Shizuoka	1
Kagoshima	7	Kumamoto	1
Fukuoka	2	Niigata	1
Wakayama	1	Tokushima	1
Nagano	1	Tochigi	1
Saitama	1		

The next table relates to those of and above the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel:—

Yamaguchi	84	Kyoto	6
Kagoshima	32	Nara	6
Ishikawa	28	Yamagata	6
Wakayama	25	Iwate	6
Tokyo	27	Saitama	6
Shizuoka	20	Ibaraki	5
Kochi	19	Oita	4
Okayama	19	Tottori	4
Fukuoka	15	Shimane	4
Nagano	13	Miye	3
Hiroshima	13	Nagasaki	3
Kumamoto	11	Fukushima	3
Aichi	11	Kanagawa	2
Saga	11	Niigata	2
Hyogo	9	Akita	2
Fukui	8	Miyasaki	2
Tokushima	8	Tochigi	2
Gifu	8	Hokkaido	1
Chiba	8	Aomori	1
Shiga	8	Yamanashi	1
Miyagi	7	Osaka	1
Gumma	7	Kagawa	1

The last table refers to the officers of and above the rank of Lieutenant:—

Yamaguchi	290	Fukushima	65
Tokyo	240	Tottori	64
Ishikawa	207	Kyoto	60
Fukuoka	157	Oita	51
Kumamoto	138	Yamagata	46
Kagoshima	129	Tokushima	44
Kochi	120	Saitama	44
Shizuoka	116	Kanagawa	41
Aichi	108	Gumma	40
Wakayama	108	Nagasaki	40
Gifu	101	Shiga	39
Saga	100	Miyasaki	38
Hyogo	96	Shimane	36
Ehime	96	Akita	35
Ibaraki	88	Iwate	34
Hiroshima	88	Aomori	32
Okayama	87	Osaka	31
Nagano	85	Kagawa	23
Chiba	76	Yamanashi	20
Fukui	77	Tochigi	21
Miyagi	70	Toyama	17
Miye	66	Nara	16
Niigata	65	Hokkaido	12

THE NEW JAPANESE CRUISER.

THE steam trials of the Japanese cruiser *Yoshino* which has been constructed by the firm of Sir W. G. Armstrong, Mitchell, & Co., Limited, from designs by their naval architect, Mr. Philip Watts, have been held under the superintendence of a commission of Japanese officials, including Captain Kawara, Mr. Yanaki, Mr. Matsuo, and Lieutenant Kato. This vessel is generally similar in design to the *9-de-Julio*, which was built by the same firm for the Argentine Republic. The *Yoshino* has, however, attained a greater speed, and is at the present time the fastest cruiser afloat. She is 350ft. long and 46½ft. broad, and has a displacement of about 4,000 tons. Her armament consists of four 6-inch quick-firing guns, eight 4.7-inch quick-firing guns, 22 3-pound quick-firing guns, and five torpedo tubes. Lord Ravensworth, in his address at the London meeting of the Institution of Naval Architects, drew attention to this vessel, and stated that the firm contemplated attaining a speed of 23 knots. This was fully realised in the trials, when the speed attained as the means of four runs on the measured mile, with and against the tide, in accordance with the practice of the British Navy, was 23.031 knots. The actual speeds recorded were as follows:—

	Knots.
First run against the tide	22.642
Second run with the tide	23.377
Third run against the tide	22.571
Fourth run with the tide	23.762

The programme also consisted of a series of progressive trials to establish a curve of speed for the ship, the information thus obtained being required for further trials which have yet to be made, including a six hours' trial with natural draught, when a speed of 21 knots is contemplated. The speeds at which trials were made, and corresponding revolutions and horse-power observed, were 12, 16½, 20¼, 22·1, and 23.03 knots, the latter being accepted as the official forced-draught trial of the ship. The power corresponding to the higher speed was approximately 15,000 horses. The machinery, which has been constructed by Messrs. Humphrys, Tennant, and Co., worked throughout the day in the most satisfactory manner, and without hitch of any kind.

CHINESE HONOURS FOR A MISSIONARY BISHOP.

BISHOP ANZER, the head of the German Roman Catholic Mission in South Shantung, has, we learn from the *N. C. Daily News*, been honoured by the Emperor of China with the light blue button (3rd Class). This distinction has been conferred upon him in consideration of his meritorious services in preserving concord between native Christians and non-Christians. With the exception of the old Jesuit missionaries this honour has been conferred, so far as is known, on only two other missionaries, namely, the late Bishop of Peking, Mongr. Tagliabue, and Père Favier, who received this decoration for their services in connection with the transfer of the old Pehtang Cathedral at Peking.

* * *

Of quite a different fashion is the news that lately reached Tientsin, which runs to the effect that the anti-foreign feeling is being fomented in Northern Honan, where the Canadian Presbyterian Mission has been labouring for some years, and it is feared that this feeling will become more marked as soon as news of the state of things in Central China reaches there.

THE LOSS OF THE "WAGO MARU."

WITH regard to the loss of the steamer *Wago Maru*, which was reported in these columns recently, we read in the vernacular press that the ship was on a voyage from Nanao to Anamizu at the time of the accident. She was a one-masted wooden steamer, built at the Fukagawa yard some ten years ago and owned by Mr. Hizume of Anamizu, Noto. She ran on a sunken rock, and despite the plucky and resolute efforts of her crew she sank after a brief interval. It appears that in consequence of a fête about to be celebrated at Wajima, the ship was carrying an unusual number of passengers—79 or 80 according to some accounts—and when she struck the greatest confusion prevailed, the passengers crowding into the boats and defying attempts to preserve discipline. The consequence was a very lamentable loss of life. Exact figures are not furnished, but the highest estimate of the saved is only 41, some papers putting the figure as low as 33. On the morning after the disaster a large quantity of the cargo was salved.

H.B.M.'S MINISTER AT BANGKOK.

THE *Bangkok Times* says:—Some of our readers may be interested to read the following, which we find in Colonel W. W. Knollys' "Victoria Cross in the Crimea." It refers not to the battle of Alma, but to the Russian assault upon that portion of the lines of investment around Sebastopol known as "the Quarries," in 1856:—"Captain Henry Mitchell Jones, 7th Fusiliers, was another of the gallant

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leaders on that sanguinary night. Repeatedly did he lead on his men to repel the persistent attempts of the Russians to regain the quarries. He was wounded early in the affair; but, indifferent to suffering as long as there was work to be done, or danger to be encountered, he remained at his post till the following morning. He subsequently took part in the assault of the Redan on the 8th September, and was again wounded. In addition to the Victoria Cross for his conduct at the Quarries, he received for his services during the campaign the decoration of the Legion of Honour. Capt. Jones sold out in 1857, and as his name is no longer to be found in the army list, we presume that he is dead." In the light of recent events the concluding sentence of this extract reads somewhat quaintly. Capt. Jones is Her Majesty's Representative to the Court of Siam at the present moment.

FRANCE AND SIAM.

It is not easy to understand this morning's telegram about France and Siam. At the close of last month it was generally supposed that Siam had accepted the full terms of the French ultimatum, and that the terms were as follow :—

1. A recognition of the rights of Annam and Cambodia, on the left or eastern bank of the Meikong river.

2. The evacuation of the forts held there by the Siamese within a month.

3. Full satisfaction for various aggressions against French ships and French sailors on the Menam river.

4. The punishment of the culprits and provision for the pecuniary indemnity of the victims.

5. An indemnity of 3,000,000 francs for various damages sustained by French subjects.

6. The immediate deposit of 3,000,000 francs to guarantee the payment of the fourth and fifth claims, or the assignment of the taxes in certain districts in lieu of the deposit of 3,000,000 francs.

The Government at Bangkok having fully agreed to these terms, through Prince Vadhama, Siamese Minister, we can not comprehend or conjecture what difficulties now block the way. American journals give a scarcely credible account of one phase of the negotiations that ensued between England and France after the declaration of a blocade by the latter Power. The story seems very unlikely, but we re-produce it for what it may be worth. It was telegraphed from London under date July 31st:—

War between England and France has been averted by an extremely narrow margin. If each Power had abided by its declared intentions of yesterday, hostilities would have been begun within a week. I am able to day to announce as a fact, what I cabled last night as the probable truth of the situation that early yesterday morning when Lord Rosebery learned that a blockade of the Siamese coast had been declared without notifying England, he sent though Lord Dufferin to the French Government a short and simple note to this effect :—

Great Britain refuses to recognize the blockade begun on the coast of Siam. If English commerce in those waters is interfered with by France, such action will be construed as a deliberate attack upon the British flag.

Having sent this ultimatum, England began active preparations for war. All the bluster and defiance which have accompanied France's disgraceful treatment of her helpless victim in the Far East disappeared on receipt of this peremptory warning. The reply which the French Government sent this morning was a complete surrender to England's demands. It was in terms that the French blockading force will be instructed after to-morrow to allow English vessels unimpeded intercourse with Siamese ports. Inasmuch as nine-tenths of the Siamese commerce is in British ships, this concession amounted to abandoning the blockade.

Three hours after France had made this humiliating backdown the news came that Siam, hopeless of maintaining her rights against such odds, was ready to concede anything and everything that France might demand. Thus it appeared that France had needlessly humbled herself before the British lion, which she had been insolently teasing for weeks.

Whatever may be the truth of the above, there appears to be no doubt that Lord Dufferin succeeded in getting the French Government to agree to the establishment of a neutral zone between the French possessions in the Siamese peninsula, on the one hand, and British Burmah and the Shan States on the other. Possibly the complications now reported are in connection with the security demanded by France for the fulfilment of the terms of the ultimatum. That security is reported to be the temporary custody of Chantaboom, a town near the Gulf of Siam, and that Siam shall establish no military stations at certain named places near the frontier of Cambodia, or within a fixed distance of the Meikong River.

HYOGO AND OSAKA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

The following is the half-yearly report issued by the Chamber and read at the last general meeting :—

To the Members of the Hyogo and Osaka Chamber of Commerce.

Gentlemen,—In accordance with the usual custom your Committee beg to make a few remarks on the general condition of trade during the first half of the current year.

Every branch of business has been affected by the fluctuations in exchange, which have surpassed all previous experience in their rapidity and extent. As a natural consequence trade has been much hampered, and it no doubt will continue to be so until the controlling powers have devised some means by which exchange can be placed on a steadier basis

Raw Cotton, which now takes the leading place in our list of imports, has been dealt in to an extent which shows a substantial increase on the business of the corresponding period of 1892

The Japanese are making great efforts to get entire hold of this trade, and it is reported that they intend to send their own steamers to bring the staple from Bombay, though there is little doubt that this field of enterprise has not been a very rich one, so far, for the foreign importer.

Cotton Yarn shows a considerable falling off both as regards English and Indian Shippings—a consequence that naturally follows the increased local production.

Grey Shirtings have met with a steady consumption showing no diminution from last year, while T-Cloths have been taken in considerably increased quantity.

In other Cotton fabrics, as well as in Worsteds and Woollens, the trade generally has been dull and dragging, the only good feature being the gradual diminution and absorption of old and unsuitable stocks.

The trade in Metals has not been satisfactory as regards prices, though its volume is about on a par with that of last season.

The year opened with an absence of stocks of Kerosene in first hands, and it is understood that the general condition of the business since then has been moderately profitable.

The importation of Russian oil in bulk by tank steamers calls for remark, but this new departure does not appear to have had more than a temporary effect on prices, or to have caused such a revolution in the trade as was at one time anticipated

Chemicals find a large and increasing market, the demand being specially expansive for such kinds as are used in match-making. The experiences of those engaged in the business have been many and various.

Sugar—The consumption of refined descriptions continues to increase, and prices have improved during the six months under review.

Tea.—The quality of this season's crop is fully up to the average of former years.

Prices opened comparatively high, and a recent downward movement has been checked by the sudden decline in Exchange. Settlements are about on a par with those of last year.

Rice.—Although last year's crop was a fairly good one the export has been checked by the high prices prevailing throughout the season.

Camphor.—Prices have fluctuated in sympathy with home markets, but have on the whole ruled on a high level. Supplies have been restricted, sellers feeding the market to suit requirements. Total supplies of even date are slightly below those of last year

Copper favoured by a declining Exchange business, has been brisk, the Japanese mines realizing good prices. The production shows a slow but steady increase.

Kobe, 30th June, 1893.

THE SILVER CONVENTION.

It must be confessed that the declarations of the Silver Convention at Chicago have an *ipse-dixit* ring about them that does not command confidence. It may be quite true that so soon as silver bullion could be exchanged at the mints of the United States at the old ratio of 16 of silver to 1 of gold, a legal-tender silver dollar being procurable for every 412½ grains of the white metal thus offered, thenceforth that quantity of standard silver must become worth 100 cents all the world over, inasmuch as commerce equalizes the prices of commodities everywhere. That we say, sounds true enough, apart from the large inflow of silver and exodus of gold that would overtake the United States in the interval required by the equalization process. But what shall we say of the following clause in the same resolution :—"While it will be urged that such a result would enhance the price of silver bullion, it is sufficient for us to know that a similar rise would be immediately made in the price of every kind of property, except gold and credits, in the civilized world." Undoubtedly there would be a general rise in the prices of all kinds of commodities, but why is gold to be exempted from the upward movement? Gold, under such circumstances, would tend to go out of circulation, which means that a premium would have to be paid to procure it. However, the Silver Convention men probably regard that part of the affair as comparatively trivial, and so in truth it is when viewed by the light of the enormous change they propose to bring about. One decidedly striking feature of their proceedings was the very strong language employed by some of the speakers. We find the legislation of 1873 dubbed the "secret demonatization of silver," concerning which only one man in the United States had any appreciative knowledge, and that man "has never been hung or shot for treason." It is further declared that the demonetization act will be known in history as "the crime of 1873," and that the memory of those associated with it will "rot in oblivion." These violent utterances have provoked some ridicule, as everything exaggerated does, but to us they have a pathetic ring. Business men are suffering as they never before suffered in civilized times, and it is not to be supposed that some evidence of pain should not find its way into their complaints.

MR HOSHI AND THE RADICAL PARTY.

Considerable excitement having been caused among the provincial members of the Radical Party by the absurd agitation which Mr. Hoshi's enemies are making about his connection with the Soma family, the headquarters of the Party have deemed it necessary to issue a circular to allay the doubts and misgivings of local Radicals. "Mr. Hoshi's acceptance of a brief from the Soma family to defend them against false accusation," the circular declares, "is his own private affair connected with his professional practice as a barrister. The Radical Party has nothing whatever to do with it. But our opponents, taking advantage of this incident, disseminate various false rumours with the object of injuring our Party and creating dissensions among its members. There are indications that doubts and misgivings have been aroused in the minds of the provincial members of our Party. They ought, we presume, to know prefectly well that it is a common trick of our opponents to fabricate false stories about us." The document then proceeds to state that the Party ought not to interfere with the private professional actions of its members, that such a course is not only repugnant to the idea of constitutional government but opposed to the principles of the Radical Party.

* * *

The above circular has been issued in consequence of a decision made at a meeting of the Radical party on the 30th ultimo, those present including Count Itagaki and Messrs. Kono, Suzuki, Gamo, Ishizuka, Shioda, Yamada, and so forth. A few days previous to this meeting, the Radical Party sent Messrs. Shigeno Kenjiro and Nakajima Matagoro after Mr. Hoshi, who was then lecturing in the Prefecture of Toyama, to pursuade him to discontinue his professional connection with the Soma family. But according to the papers, these messengers were unable to make any impression upon the iron will of Mr. Hoshi. Immediately upon their return to Tokyo, the above mentioned meeting was convened, and those present came to an unanimous decision to support Mr. Hoshi. The papers hostile to the Radical Party denounce the latter's conduct in respect to Mr. Hoshi as inconsistent and effeminate. What was the use of seeking to pursuade Mr. Hoshi to sever his connection with the

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Soma family, if the leaders of the Party saw nothing reprehensible in his conduct? They are afraid of Mr. Hoshi, say these journals, and dare not take any decisive step against him. The *Yomiuri Shimbun*, for instance, observes in a contemptuous tone that there is no longer any necessity to recognize the existence of the Radical Party, for "it has been corrupted into Mr Hoshi's party." The Progressionist organs had counted upon a split in the Party, but in this hope they have been completely disappointed; hence the virulence of their attack upon the Radicals.

DOINGS OF A YOKOHAMA FIRM

THE Tokyo journals, almost without exception, contain more or less lengthy references to reprehensible transactions charged against a certain foreign firm in Yokohama. Of this firm we are told that whereas principal and employés are alike engaged in fraudulent practices, their modes of procedure are so ingenious that they have hitherto succeeded completely in evading the law. Their plan, according to the *Kokkai's* version, is to send a number of so-called clerks to Japanese merchants in the interior who have little knowledge of the conditions existing in the foreign settlements. To these merchants the clerks explain that the firm they represent, being of recent establishment, is prepared to make purchases at rates higher than those offered by any other firm. On this basis sales of goods are arranged and small sums of bargain money are paid. But no sooner do the goods pass into the possession of the firm than they are immediately disposed of to other firms at cheap prices, and the original owners are left to whistle for their money. The *Kokkai* alleges that many Japanese merchants have been thus victimized, and that one of the clerks, who went by the fictitious name of Haruyama Tamizo, having fraudulently obtained 500 casks of soy and three head of cattle, has been arrested. One of the artifices employed by the confederates is to remove their head-quarters in Yokohama from time to time, and as they never give real names, it is virtually impossible to trace them. They are said to have defrauded Mr. Shimizu Hikotaro, of Onoye-cho, Itchome, Yokohama, out of 290 *yen* worth of silk handkerchiefs. Mr. Tanaka Kichigoro, a *jinrikisha* maker, was also one of their victims. They ordered 100 *jinrikisha* of him, and having 10 ready, he sent them at once with the intention of executing the rest of the order speedily. But happily for himself he happened subsequently to have a 400-*yen* rock crystal for sale, and with the idea of offering it to the firm, he carried it to Yokohama. There, he met a Mr. Nakamura who, speaking from personal experience, opened his eyes as to the character of the firm, and he thus escaped with a loss of some 200 *yen* on account of the first batch of *jinrikisha*. The *Kokkai* adds that there are some 30 or 40 accomplices connected with the firm, and that the changes are rung on them for "clerks" to visit the interior, care being taken that the same person never goes twice to the same place. The principal is said to be a vagabond foreigner who before he conceived and began to carry out this brilliant idea, was in an almost destitute condition.

* * *

There is nothing impossible in the details of this story, but it certainly sounds most improbable. At all events, what we observe is that whereas one foreigner is supposed to be engaged in the swindle, he has thirty or forty Japanese accomplices. Whose is the master mind? It looks to us as though the foreigner were a mere tool. Under any circumstances there should be no special difficulty in setting the machinery of the law in motion against the rascals.

* * *

Since writing the above we learn that J. R. Polley, who is now figuring in the United States Consular Court, is the foreigner concerned, and that he was not in any sense the principal but only a mere tool. He is said to have received altogether about $170, and then to have been dismissed, the Japanese finding the game too hot for further pursuit. The firm was Japanese, and it traded under the name of Horin and Company. The Japanese newspapers appear to have turned the thing upside down, so as to place the chief blame on the shoulders of the foreigner, whereas in reality he was only an instrument, and beyond lending his name had probably no direct responsiblity. We do not want to offer the smallest excuse for the conduct of any one engaged in such an affair—assuming the details as quoted above to be correct—but we deem it fair that the blame should not be unjustly apportioned.

BY THE SAD SEA-SHORE.

A FEW days ago a gentleman in the mellow stage of human existence, of a somewhat corpulent tendency and adorned with a bald head, was walking slowly, says the *Hochi Shimbun*, along the sea-side at Oiso. Ever and anon he removed his hat to let the ocean breezes play among his few remaining locks, and often he paused to gaze out over the waves. Evidently he was a man of leisure, pining, perhaps, for occupation. To him presently arrived a small boy busily engaged munching a baked sweet-potato, several of which were already housed in his little tummy, while in his hand he held others ready to share their predecessors' fate. Putting on his Sunday smile, the small urchin approached the middle-aged gentleman, and said:—"*Ojii-san*, would you be so very kind as to hold my sweet-potatoes for me while I gather some shells. I shall pay you for your trouble with some beautful shells." The *Ojii-san* readily accepted this proposal, and presently the small body was wading knee-deep to his heart's content, digging out periwinkles and *hamaguri*. When he had obtained his sleeves full of these, he returned to the potato-holder, reclaimed his property and having rewarded the *Ojii-san* with two or three of the least edible shell-fish among the number, ran away with something very like a jeer on his juvenile visage. The temporary potato-bearer, says the *Hochi Shimbun*, was Count Goto. To such uses are statesmen put when they wander by the sea-shore in Japan.

THE CABINET AND THE SILVER QUESTION.

IT is reported in the papers that the results of the investigations conducted during some years in the Department of Finance and now concluded are favourable to the adoption of a gold standard in this country. The Minister of Finance is expected to bring the matter before the Cabinet at an early date, and it is supposed that he may resign if his colleagues refuse to adopt his suggestions on the subject. Whatever may be the truth of the latter portion of the above report, there seems to be no doubt that the question of silver generally has been engaging the serious attention of the Authorities in the Finance Department; and it is also an undoubted fact that some of the principal officials there are in favour of the adoption of a gold standard. This circumstance explains the extreme persistency with which the *Jiji Shimpo* has tried to refute the various arguments advanced for the demonetization of silver. There is, however, little fear of any precipitate action being taken by the Government in a matter of such grave importance.

ATTEMPTED MURDER IN TOKYO.

A VERY brutal attempt at murder was perpetrated in Motomachi, Hongo, on the evening of the 28th ultimo. The victim was a little girl only nine years of age, and her assailant was a servant in the employment of her parents, a dissipated youth whose conduct had nearly led to his dismissal on several occasions. It appears that the child's parents had just opened a new bath-house, and thither the father returned at 7 p.m. in company with the little girl, who had been to some distance with him on foot The child, wearied by the walk, passed into an inner room, and lying down on the mats fell asleep. Shortly afterwards the servant seized the opportunity to commit a robbery. He crept into the room where the child lay sleeping, and had rifled a cabinet of various articles when the little one awoke and said that she should tell her parents. The robber at once attacked her with a chisel and inflicted eight gashes on her body. The affair attracted no attention, the child's cries, if she uttered any, being lost in the hubbub of the bath-house at the busiest hour of the evening, and her parents being both on duty at the entrance. Indeed, the thief might have effected his escape easily, but he adopted the bolder course of hastening to the child's parents and declaring that a robber had broken in and killed the little girl, apparently fearing that she would give the alarm. The child was found insensible in a pool of blood. Doctors were quickly at hand, and as they pronounced life to be not yet extinct, it was decided to take her to the hospital. The servant had courage to keep up the deception by offering to carry the child, but on the way she opened her eyes, and seeing by whom she was borne, shrieked out to have the man arrested. Being taken to the station, he is said to have confessed the crime, but the vernacular press tells us nothing as to the subsequent condition of the little girl.

WHEAT.

THE extraordinary phase through which the wheat market passed in the United States at the close of July and the beginning of August is thus described in an American exchange:—

The present demoralized position of wheat prices is credited to the financial situation in part, but more largely to the immense stocks on hand, particularly at Chicago. A large portion is ascribed to the May wheat deal in that market, which at one time had attracted there 23,000,000 bushels in public and private elevators, and resulted in the advance of prices in Chicago to a figure above a parity with all other markets When it was found the deal was not successful prices dropped, but not sufficient to move the cash wheat in Chicago. The carriers saw in the large stocks great profits in handling the wheat, and an effort was made to hold it in store. This was successful; and from month to month huge profits were made on carrying charges, resulting on July 1 in a difference of 7½c. from July to September. Things ran smoothly until the financial depression reached its full force, and then it was impossible to get money on cash wheat, and the load in Chicago was forced out, driving it below a parity with New York. Toledo led the decline at the start, and at one time showed a net profit of 6c over shipping charges to New York. Inability to handle the new arrivals and inability to sell New York exchange accounted for the disastrous break. When the decline started there was no let up. The liquidation of the August deliveries drove prices on July 31 to 45½c. for cash, a price never before seen in Chicago. The highest price for cash wheat in Chicago this year was in April when it touched 88, making a net decline of 31½c. During the great movements in previous years low prices have been as follows: August, 1887, 66½c.; December, 1884, 69½c., and in October, 1884, 81½c. The price made on Monday was 11½c. below the lowest price ever seen in the Chicago market.

BRITISH OFFICERS FOR BRITISH SHIPS.

ONE of the most curious anomalies of English maritime law, says a San Francisco exchange, is that it allows foreigners the same privileges as British subjects in the matter of serving as officers. A bill embodying the principle that men who seek to command vessels carrying the British flag shall, *ipso facto*, be British subjects, has been introduced into the House of Commons. The measure proposes to enact that a ship of 500 tons shall carry a certificated master and first and second mate, and that a vessel of 1,000 tons or more shall, in addition to these, also carry a third mate. The most material clause, however, is the following:—"From and after the commencement of this Act no certificate of competency or service as master, mate or engineer shall be issued to any person other than a British subject."

THE "SAKATA MARU" ON SHORE.

THE N.Y.K. steamer *Sakata Maru*, Captain Giese, while on her voyage from Hakodate to Yokohama, ran ashore on Saturday at a point about eight miles north of Inuboye-saki. The place is very near the spot where the *Harima Maru* went ashore about four years since. Captain Forbes, Superintendent-Captain of the N.Y.K., left Yokohama at midday on Sunday in the *Sendai Maru* to proceed to the assistance of the stranded vessel, and hauling and pumping gear were sent up later in the day by the *Takasago Maru*.

* * *

The News Agency reports as follows:—"In consequence of telegraphic intelligence to the effect that the Nippon Yusen Kaisha's steamship

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Sakata Maru, while on a voyage from Atsugashi, in Hokkaido, with a cargo of herrings and miscellaneous goods, had taken the ground on the 26th instant at a place some seven *ri* to the north of Cape Inubo in Shimosa, the steamship *Sendai Maru* was despatched to the scene on the 27th instant at 1 p.m., and at 12 the same night the *Takasago Maru* was also sent. On the 29th instant a telegram from the Company's branch office at Asahagi-no-hama said that the *Sendai Maru* had arrived there without having been able to discover any trace of the *Sakata Maru*, owing to the heavy sea running at Cape Inubo. As for the *Takasago Maru*, she was still apparently engaged searching.

THE ARCHDUKE'S POLICE ESCORT.

In our issue of Saturday we reproduced from the *Hochi Shimbun* and the *Nippon* a paragraph commenting in very strong terms on the alleged humiliation to which the police had been subjected by being obliged to don the disguise of *jinrikisha* drawers for the purpose of escorting he Austrian Archduke through the streets of Yokohama. We have since learned that the basis of our contemporaries' strictures is non-existent. No such disguise was adopted by the police and the whole story is a *canard*. What possible object could be served by dressing the Archduke's escort so as to make it appear that he was without any official escort, we are at a loss to conceive, but doubtless the *Hochi* and the *Nippon* have their own notions of such matters.

THE PURCHASES OF SILVER BY THE UNITED STATES TREASURY.

Our readers are aware that under the Sherman Act the United States Treasury is required to purchase 4,500,000 ounces of silver monthly at the market price. The month of July witnessed the first departure from the provisions of this law. The Treasury, during that month, purchased only 2,384,000 ounces. On the other hand, no less than $5,000,000 worth of silver were shipped from New York to Europe during the same month. Concerning these very interesting facts, *Bradstreet's* has the following clear statement:—

There are already two well-defined issues in this connection. One of these is in reference to the right of the Treasury to purchase in a month less than the 4,500 000 ounces of silver named in the act as the monthly amount, on the ground that offerings of silver to the Treasury were not at the market price, and the other is whether the methods by which the Director of the Mint has attempted to fix the true market price are consistent with the act.

The contention of the Mint and Treasury appears to be that tenders of silver to the government since the suspension of free coinage in India and the curtailment of silver production in this country have not been made in accordance with the true level of the London market, but that a combination, informal or otherwise, of dealers and bullion-producers have regulated the figures at which their tenders were made so that the price would represent the supposed obligation of the government to fill the amount named in the Sherman act. Until recently the practice of the department had been to accept the lowest tenders out of the large amount of silver which would be almost invariably offered on the days for receiving such offers. This policy was, however, reversed when the present complications between the department and the silver-producers began, the Director of the Mint making counter offers to the firms presenting tenders whenever the figures did not meet his approbation.

The side of the case as presented by the silver interests is that the methods of interpreting the price is founded on erraneous assumption. The existence of any combination to force the Treasury to pay an illegitimate figure is denied, and it is claimed that the tenders that have been made are regulated by the actual condition of the market. It is, in fact, stated that the novel method of making counter offers is at the root of the difficulty; that action having stopped all competition in tendering silver to the government In view of the uncertainty about the acceptance of tenders, holders of bullion naturally adopted the expedient of having figures somewhat above the price at which they were really willing to sell to the government

The heavy exports of silver are, it is assumed by the Treasury authorities, proof positive that the silver men will sell at lower figures abroad than they wil to the Treasury. Silver dealers, however, reply that transactions take that course because they find a ready market at firmer prices abroad, as against the uncertainty involved under present conditions in making transactions with the Treasury. It is a noteworthy fact that there has been a steady demand in the London market since the fall in silver prices, and that at this time contracts can be made there for large amounts for future delivery. This, it may be observed, is characterised in public utterances by the Director of the Mint as going short of silver at the London figures, The fact that a considerable demand for silver for use in the China trade has appeared since the closing of the Indian mints, seems, however, to explain this movement.

SUMMER SCHOOL FOR GIRLS.

The Summer School for Girls to be held at the Ferris Seminary (178 Bluff), opened on Thursday with an informal meeting led by the Rev. Mr. Hoshino. The following is the Programme of meetings and lectures for the week:—

September 1st.

9.30 a.m.—Conversation, Miss Spencer, Kaigan Jo Gakko.
9.30 a.m.—Conversation, Mr. Hoshino, Ferris Seminary.
7.30 p.m.—"Current Ideas on Girls Education," Mr. Kenjiro Nakagawa, Girls H gher Normal School.

September 2nd.

9.30 a.m.—"Spiritual Life," Miss Convers, Soshin Jo Gakko.
9.30 a.m.—"Spiritual Life," Mr. Ibuka, Meiji Gakuin.
3.30 p.m.—"The Education of the Blind and Deaf," Mr. Konishi, Institution for the Deaf and Blind.
7 30 p m.—"Home Life," Mr Booth, Ferris Seminary. "Industrial Education," Mr. Tamura, Tokyo Eiwa Jo Gakko.

September 3rd

4 p.m.—Sermon, Mr. Uemura, Meiji Gakuin

September 4th.

9 30 a.m.—"Sunday School and Bible Class Work," Miss Deyo, Ferris Seminary, and Mr. Harada.
3.33 p.m—"Philosophy of Japanese Fencing," Mr. Hoshino, Meiji Gakko. "Women as Physicians," Mr. Ogino, Meiji Jo Gakko.
7.30 p.m.—"Good Literature," Mr. Nemura, Meiji Gakuin. "Art," Mr. Koyama.

September 5th,

Will be devoted to a picnic and social intercourse.

September 6th.

9 30 a.m.—"How to Stimulate Zeal in Christian Work," Mrs. True, Dokuritsu Jo Gakko.
9 30 a.m.—"How to Stimulate Zeal in Christian Work," Mr. Ogata.
3 30 p.m.—"Social Purity," Mr. Ando.
7.30 p.m.—"Japanese Literature," Mr. Togawa, Kyoritsu Jo Gakko, Literary Exercises.

September 7th.

9.30 a.m.—"Christian Love," Miss Gundry Friends Jo Gakko.
9 30 a.m.—"Christian Love," Mr. Honda, Aoyama Eiwa Jo Gakko.
3 30 p.m.—"History of Girls Education," Mrs. Sakura, Joshi Dendo Gakko.
3 30 p.m.—"Advantages of Girls Education," Miss Tsuda, Kazoku Jogakko.
7.30 p.m.—Closing Meeting Led by Mr. Ogata.

After the Summer School, the Educators of Japan are invited to hold a conference to discuss questions pertaining to Girls' Education. Meetings will be held on Friday the 8th at 9 30 a.m. 3 p.m. and 7.30 p m. and at 7.30 a.m. on the 9th. The subjects proposed are as follows:—1. "Physical Culture for Girls." 2. "Higher Education and Special Courses of Study for Girls," with a discussion of needs, benefits, and methods. 3. "The best methods of evangelization in the school." 4. "How to secure a practical application of Household Science." 5. "The Cause of the decline of interest in Girls' Education and how best to remedy it." 6. "Girls' Etiquette." 7. "How to secure deeper sympathetic relations between the Christian Girls' Schools of the Empire."

COUNT MATSUKATA ON SILVER.

The commercial editor of the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* has waited on Count Matsukata, ex-Minister-President and ex-Minister of Finance, and had a talk with him on the silver question. His Excellency holds on this subject opinions diametrically opposed to those of Count Okuma and Mr. Fukuzawa. It is well known that the Progressionist leader and the editor of the *Jiji Shimpo* are strong advocates of the continuance of the silver standard in Japan. They maintain that the fall in the price of silver is advantageous to a silver country, especially to such a country as Japan where industrial development is still in a state of infancy. Count Matsukata strongly criticizes the views of these distinguished silver men, for there can be no doubt that he alludes to them when he speaks of "a great teacher and a great statesman." The depreciation of silver is, in Count Matsukata's opinion, exactly similar in its results to that of inconvertible paper money. The unfortunate owner of silver is injuriously affected by the fall in its value exactly in the same manner as the holder of paper money is affected by its depreciation. Depreciation of silver may stimulate the development of industry and trade, but development thus excited seems to be regarded by the ex-Premier as unnatural and inevitably the prelude to disastrous reaction. He then proceeds to admire the decision and promptness shown by the English Government in demonetizing silver in India. The English and Indian financiers, he states, seem to have taken a hint from the announcement of the American delegates at the International Monetary Conference of last year, to the effect that, unless a bimetallic system were agreed to by the Powers represented at the Conference, America would be unable to maintain her existing fiscal system. The English Government evidently thought it advantageous to effect the contemplated change in the Indian monetary system before America set about the task of remodelling hers. With reference to President Cleveland's scheme to rescue the Republic from the impending financial crisis, Count Matsukata observes that America's endeavours to maintain the value of silver must be welcomed by Japan as giving the latter time to consider the whole question of her monetary system with special reference to her peculiar circumstances and to make the necessary preparations for such changes as she may deem essential. While he was Minister of Finance in 1888, he caused his subordinates to commence elaborate researches on the subject, and he believes that the investigations then made are still continued under his successor. Lastly, with regard to the proposed adoption of the Japanese silver *yen* as legal money at Hongkong, he would advise the Government to undertake the coinage of *yen* for that purpose, if requested to do so.

THE "KAISHIN SHIMBUN" AND THE RADICAL ORGAN.

The *Kaishin Shimbun* continues its violent attack upon the Radical party. It recently called upon the Radical organ to reveal the name of the individual who offered to that paper a bribe of 10,000 *yen* to induce it to abandon its crusade against the Soma family. The Radical organ has admitted that such an offer was really made, but refuses to disclose the identity of the maker, saying that a sense of chivalry forbids it to do so. The *Kaishin* now undertakes to make the revelation, the Radical organ having failed to avail itself of the generous challenge addressed to it by our contemporary. The individual in question, says the *Kaishin*, was no other than Mr. Miyaji Shigeharu, a son-in-law of Count Itagaki. Mr. Miyaji, some years ago, forfeited the confidence of his father-in-law and was disowned by him. But in deference to the mediation of Messrs. Takenouchi Tsuna and Oye Taku, the Count last year abated his anger a little and allowed his son-in-law to visit his house occasionally. It is said that he is now again indignant at the recent conduct of Mr. Miyaji. The latter, our contemporary continues, was requested to make the offer by a certain member of the Tokyo Bar, whose name is indicated by five asterisks, from which we infer that it consists of five Chinese ideographs. Such in brief is the tale as told by the *Kaishin Shimbun*. The true facts will be doubtless revealed in Court, when the libel suit against that paper comes on for public trial.

KOREAN CORRESPONDENCE.

According to the *Mainichi Shimbun's* Söul correspondent, writing under date of 18th August, the Korean Government does not seem to have yet paid the first installment of the indemnity with particularly good grace. On the 16th, Mr. Sugimura, Japanese *Chargé d'Affaires*, proceeded to the Korean Foreign Office to re-

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ceive the instalment. He was surprised to find that the Foreign Minister wanted to pay 10,000 out of 60,000 *yen* in Japanese currency and the rest in debased Korean coins. Mr. Sugimura refused to accept the latter, and thereupon the Korean Foreign Minister is said to have taken a most unexpected stand. He intimated that his Government felt some grave misgivings as to the propriety of paying the indemnity, because facts had since been disclosed proving that the amount demanded by the Japanese merchants was far in excess of the actual damage sustained by them. He said that, while the negotiations were going on, a certain Japanese merchant offered to pay to a Korean official a handsome sum if the Koreans could secure his Government's consent to the payment of the indemnity demanded by the Japanese. The letter in which this offer of a bribe was made had recently come into the hands of the Foreign Minister. Mr. Sugimura of course did not pay any attention to such a singular announcement. He is said to have taken back 10,000 *yen* in Japanese money, at once telegraphing the state of things to his superiors in Tokyo.

* * *

It is now understood that the Korean Government paid the rest, namely 50,000 *yen*, by a promissory note. Some doubt is entertained as to the nature of this note. The *Jiji Shimpo* supposes that it is must be secured by the Customs duties, which are the most trustworthy source of revenue in Korea. Notes of such a kind are very frequently issued by the Korean Government; indeed so frequently that after the date of their maturity time is often required before they can be redeemed, an interval of several months being sometimes necessary.

* * *

With reference to the work of coinage, the *Mainichi Shimbun's* correspondent takes a most disheartening view. He is sure that the Korean Government will either suspend or entirely stop the undertaking. Mr. Omiwa is said to be taking active steps for the settlement of a formal agreement with the Japanese Government on the basis arranged by him with the Japanese Foreign and Finance Ministers while he was recently in Japan. But his colleague, Mr. An Shiju, is reported to be in favour of entrusting the work to a private company at Osaka, and a powerful supporter of this latter view is found in Mr. Min Eishun. The Chinese Resident in Sōul is believed to be secretly using his endeavours to dissuade the Korean Government from putting the work into Japanese hands. The only Korean official of note who is in favour of entrusting the coinage to the Japanese Government is said to be Mr. Bok Teiyo, Minister of Finance.

* * *

The same correspondent states that the number of Chinese merchants at Sōul is about 3,000. They are said to have collected contributions to buy a steamboat for plying on the river between Sōul and Ninsen. A delegate has already been sent to Shanghai to effect the purchase of a suitable vessel.

MR. SPRING-RICE.

MR. SPRING-RICE, Second Secretary of H.B.M.'s Legation in Tokyo, has been appointed Second Secretary of Embassy in Washington and will shortly proceed to take up the duties of his new post. His successor at the Legation in Tokyo is Mr. Paget, a son of the Rt. Hon. Sir Augustus Berkeley Paget, G.C.B. Mr. Spring-Rice's departure will be universally regretted as he has become exceedingly popular during his brief stay in Tokyo. We believe that his transfer to Washington is owing to some special need having arisen in the Embassy there for the services of an official of tried ability and competence.

THE COLLIERY EXPLOSION IN HOKKAIDO.

PARTICULARS of the recent colliery explosion at Yubari in Hokkaido are to the effect that the accident occurred at about 7.20 a.m. on the 19th instant in No. 1 shaft, the oldest of the group and 3,650 feet deep. Many miners were working in the shaft at the moment. Seventeen were killed instantaneously, among them being two who being at the mouth of the shaft when the explosion took place, were hurled with fatal violence against rocks some distance off. Three were wounded, two severely and one slightly. The cause of the disaster is not clearly ascertained, but it is believed to have resulted from carelessness on the part of the miners in using their lamps.

MASHONALAND.

IN reference to the Reuter's telegram we published the other day, about the trouble supposed to be brewing in Mashonaland, we clip the following telegrams from an Australian exchange:—

London, July 20th.

Better news is to hand from Victoria, in Mashonaland. King Lobengula is not unfriendly to the white settlers. A few of the Matabeles, under King Lobengula's rule, slipped out of his control. The fort at Victoria is well provided with stores and Gatling guns

July 21st.

Sir Henry Loch, the British High Commissioner in South Africa, has requested King Lobengula to recall the Matabele impi, or warlike party, from the township of Victoria, and to punish the Indunas, or leaders. He expects that the request will be complied with, and does not apprehend any danger at the settlement, where there are 400 Europeans.

Later.

The Matabeles have retired from Victoria.

SILK IN THE UNITED STATES.

THE Imports of Raw Silk at the Ports of New York and the Pacific Coast for July, 1893, are as follow:—

	Bales.	Lbs	Value.
New York	391.....	91,353.....	$315,695
Pacific Coast ...	425.....	40,744.....	188,781
	816.....	132,097.....	$504,476
Waste, July, 1893.			
New York	167.....	66,800... .	$ 59,637
Pacific Coast ...	2.....	400.....	61
	169	67,200. . .	$ 596,98

SILVER AND THE UNITED STATES.

THE following telegram was received by the leading Bank in Yokohama on Tuesday afternoon:—

"The House of Representatives has rejected the free coinage of silver on the basis of

16 to 1	by a	majority	of	102
17 to 1	by a	majority	of	130
18 to 1	by a	majority	of	137
19 to 1	by a	majority	of	132
20 to 1	by a	majority	of	103

The Bland bill has been repealed by 132."

A "YOMIURI" STORY.

THE *Yomiuri Shimbun* has been romancing again. A note appearing in its columns lately referring to a contract alleged to have been entered into between the M.M. Company and the Hokkaido Coal Mining and Railway Company for the supply of coal to Aden has, we hear, no foundation in fact. The *Yomiuri* is surely hard up for news, or else the note must have been a badly concocted puff, meant to meet Japanese eyes alone.

SUSPENSION OF THE "CHOYA SHIMBUN."

THE *Choya Shimbun* has been suspended. We presume that it deserves the punishment, but of course only those behind the Japanese scenes can appreciate the exact necessity of muzzling any particular journal at a particular moment. The obnoxious writing in this case is, as usual, political: an attempt to bring the Cabinet into ridicule and disrepute, and to strengthen the party passion that is absorbing so much of Japan's useful energies at present. Would that the day had come when irresponsible agitators might be left to froth unhindered!

AN ADMIRAL'S COURTESY.

THE *Siam Observer* says:—Admiral Humann has given orders that the steamer *Asadong* shall be given back to her owners, as soon as they send down to Koh-si-chang for her. The act is a particularly generous one, in view of the fact that no application was made for her release, since she was captured whilst undoubtedly trying to evade the blockade.

EARTHQUAKE IN THE PHILIPPINES.

AN earthquake took place in the province of Suragao, in the Philippines, on the 21st ult. At Jativa the current of the river Agusan was reversed in direction, and the water rose two metres above the ordinary level, the current running up stream instead of down for the space of ten minutes, after which the water remained stationary for five minutes, and then rushed down stream at an enormous rate carrying everything before it and wrecking a number of boats moored to the banks. Some thirty houses were destroyed by the earthquake, including the convent and the schools, but no loss of life is recorded.

THE YOKOHAMA BOYEKI SHOKAI.

WE read in the *Kokkai* that the firm known as the Yokohama Boyeki Shokai, which was established some years ago for the direct export of silk, has been dissolved. Its career appears to have been a long chapter of disasters. It has lost—we quote always from the *Kokkai*—its capital of 200,000 *yen*; it owes the Mitsui Company 300,000 *yen*.; the Finance Department 18,000 *yen*; the Specie Bank, 80,000 *yen*; its total liabilities aggregating some 700,000 *yen*. Its President, Mr. Hara Zenzaburo, has intimated to the Prefectural Authorities the Company's resolve to wind up its business. Such of its affairs as are worth carrying on will be taken over by the recently established *Ki-ito Shokai* (Raw-silk Company.)

ATTACK ON A JAPANESE IN KOREA

IT is stated that as Mr. Otsu Naokichi, who has a branch store in Inchan, Korea, was on his way from Sōul to that town during the night of the 24th ultimo, he was set upon, at a place some three *ri* distant from Sōul, by six Koreans armed with cutting weapons who inflicted eleven wounds on him. He managed to escape, however, and no fears are entertained as to his recovery. It is believed that the assailants were highway-men, but against that doctrine has to be set the fact that nothing whatever was taken from Mr. Otsu.

A CONTUMELIOUS DEFENDANT.

J. R. POLLEY, who was brought before the U.S. Court on a Judgment Summons on Saturday, last week, was committed for contempt owing to his disinclination to answer questions relative to his means. He was released later in the day in order to permit of his procuring a lawyer's assistance. Since Wednesday he has been repeatedly brought up, and as he still refuses to answer, was this morning fined $50 and ordered to be brought up again on Monday.

THE SOMA AFFAIR.

THE analysis of the blood vomited by the late Viscount Soma just before his death, and preserved since then by the police, is now going on in the laboratory of the Sanitary Bureau in Izumi-cho. It commenced on the 29th ultimo, and is expected to last two weeks. A number of experts are employed, and the strictest measures are adopted by the police to guard against all interruption, or communication with outsiders.

STORM IN TOKUSHIMA.

A TELEGRAPHIC message from Tokushima received by the *Asahi Shimbun* states that heavy rain, accompanied by tremendous peals of thunder, visited that place on the afternoon of the 31st ult. about five o'clock. Six places in the town and twenty-eight in rural divisions were struck by lightning, and many persons were either killed or severely injured. Buildings were also set on fire by the lightning.

BREAK DOWN OF A FRENCH MAN-OF-WAR.

THE French man-of-war *Papin*, which was conveying M. Le Myer de Vilers from Singapore to Bangkok, broke down on the way and had to put in at Hatien, near Koh Samit, owing to an accident to her engines and M. de Vilers was transferred to the *Lion*, in which he completed his journey.

THE Siamese barque *Ban Pan*, Captain Wagner, bound from Shanghai to Bangkok, has been wrecked on the Lat Reef, south-east of Saigon. She was fifty days out from port when the disaster happened.

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RIVAL RESORTS.

THE essence of competition is comparison, and comparison in an invidious sense is above all things opposed to the canons of Japanese etiquette. Tradition says that the epithet "*tenka ichi*" (first in the empire) had its origin in the time of the *Taiko*. To say that a particular article, or a particular artist, or a particular manufacturer is "the first in the Empire," certainly implies comparison unfavourable to all others in the same profession or pursuit. But when the title is simultaneously given to several artists or several artizans who tread uniform paths, it becomes a mere honour not carrying any weight as a comparative distinction, and beyond the contrast suggested by some such epithet we have never heard the Japanese travel. It is essentially their moral habit each to follow his own route without seeking to cross or interfere with the route of a neighbour. Hard, merciless rivalry, with all its destructive consequences and unpitying processes, does not belong to the quiet easy-going life that the tradesman and manufacturer have hitherto led in this country. To say that of them is not necessarily praise. Certainly it is not praise from an Occidental point of view. Social inequality is the basis of all work in the West. The reward that effort anticipates, the goal upon which working eyes are fixed, is to rise above one's fellows: to be richer than they or more considered, or more powerful. Such a spirit exists in every community and must always exist, unless the worst form of socialism be momentarily supreme. But it exists in very varying degrees, and in Japan it can scarcely be said to have yet become really effective. It is coming, however. The shadow of the great *ego* presiding over Occidental civilization is rapidly creeping over this country. Men like Viscount TORIO and other conservatives of his school dimly detect its approach and shrink from the prospect, but have no more power to avert it than they have to stay the flow of the tides. We often wonder what must be the feelings of such men when they observe subtle but unmistakable evidences of the new mood's advance: how they feel, for example, when they see their countrymen at a particular summer resort openly attempting to magnify the merits of the place by parading the faults of other spots. Who, in olden times, ever heard of Kusatsu being reviled for the sake of extolling the *Nana-yu* of Hakone, or of Arima being decried to make a contrast favourable to Kinosaki? The principle used always to be that no man need abuse his neighbour's belongings in order to obtain applause for his own. But now we observe the Japanese adopting the foreign cue; building with the ruins of other reputations a pedestal whereon to set their own. In the matter of summer resorts it is easy to trace the origin of this tendency. There has been for several years a species of warfare between the foreign patrons of Nikko, Ikao and Karuizawa. The last named place may be said to have been discovered by foreigners. The Japanese never thought anything of it as a summer resort. In their estimation the prime essential in a summer resort is that it should be furnished with a thermal spring. Karuizawa does not possess that: its only recommendation is mountain air. Neither does it possess anything comparable with the splendid mausolea of Nikko. It stands, in short, so far as the essentials of attraction for Japanese are concerned, on a plane altogether inferior to both Nikko and Ikao. Yet we doubt whether Nikko itself would ever have become a place of summer sojourn had not foreigners set the fashion. To the Japanese it was rather a spot for a brief interval of sight-seeing, much as one visits a museum or goes to examine a celebrated architectural achievement. Indeed it is by no means certain that foreigners offered a wise example in this matter. The climate of Nikko cannot for a moment be called bracing. It is distinctly better than the climate of Tokyo, but where the standard of comparison is so low many degrees have to be climbed before we reach a satisfactory level. It has been said of Karuizawa that to have picturesque walks or attractive views, one must get out of the place. So it may be said of Nikko—if the Hibernicism be permitted—that to be healthy there one must be as little there as possible. Many people who go to Nikko treat the place as they would treat a sea-side resort visited perpetually by health-bearing ocean breezes. Nikko is by no means so happily circumstanced. It is distinctly a damp, enervating place of residence. The nights are always cool: that is an undeniable boon. But the days exercise no recuperative influences. To gather health and strength in Nikko it is necessary to spend the days on its surrounding hills. There are innumerable walks of the greatest beauty. One need never be at a loss for a charming spot at once suited for an *al fresco* tiffin and within range of moderate pedestrianism. But to remain day and night in Nikko itself, content with an afternoon stroll among the temples or a game of tennis before sunset, is to sink into a state of lassitude and to find little, if any, of the *vis mediatrix* that foreigners need so much in the hot season. Nikko has another draw-back: it is becoming too fashionable. By-and-by, it will be a Cheltenham or a Brighton. Dances, pic-nics, promenades, dinner-parties, lawn tennis, receptions—all the frivolities of fashion, all the devices of daughter-burdened society are establishing themselves as permanent features of the place. Other disagreeable associations are in sight. The one traversable road, the road along which the Daiya-gawa winds, has been invaded by a tram-way for the transport of copper from the Ashio mines. Down this iron path at frequent intervals thunder strings of carts, their goings and comings heralded by tootings of cracked horns that disturb the solitude of the hills and desecrate the sanctity of the temples. Moreover, for their passage across the Daiya-gawa, a bridge has been constructed with masonry bases and v-shaped girders that shed a manufacturing taint over the whole atmosphere. It is strange that the copper-mine folks should have been granted such facilities for themselves at such a cost to the picturesqueness of Nikko, to the comfort of the people and to the pleasure of sojourners. Be that as it may, however, Nikko has many draw-backs and is developing more. We make a present of these facts to the patrons of Karuizawa and Ikao, and we invite somebody to be equally frank about the two latter places, somebody who knows them as well as we know Nikko. Then a balance of advantages and disadvantages can be fairly cast, without any artificial puffing or invidious depreciation. They will all be open to foreign residence without passports one of these fine mornings, and since there is to be competition, let us have the record in a useful condition as early as possible.

THE SOMA CASE.

ABSENCE probably, of something better to write about, leads the vernacular press to talk a great deal about the SOMA case. No fresh evidence is forthcoming, so far as we can ascertain, nor have any new developments occurred, but the matter presents sufficient sensational features to furnish food for a multitude of paragraphists. It appears that Mr. NISHIGORI, the plaintiff, who brings against the chief SOMA retainers such terrible charges of poisoning and wholesale chicanery, is now somewhat inconvenienced by the too close scrutiny of detective policemen, and has shown a disposition to rebel. But, after all, Mr. NISHIGORI can scarcely expect that, having stirred up all this excitement, he will himself escape without any disturbance of any kind. The police, in our opinion, do not pass the most ordinary limits of plain duty when they watch him and examine the circumstances of his life, past and present, with the same attention that they bestow on the objects of his accusation. Meanwhile, controversy still rages about Mr. HOSHI TORU'S action. Originally it was alleged that Mr. HOSHI, having been taken into the confidence of Mr. NISHIGORI, the plaintiff, ought not to have accepted a brief for the defendants, the SOMA folks. That, of course, is a point of etiquette to which much weight attaches in the eyes of barristers. But unless we misinterpret the canons of the legal fraternity, a great deal depends on the circumstances under which confidence

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is reposed in a barrister by one of the parties to a suit. If a man be consulted in his capacity of barrister by one side, it is certainly contrary to all respected and respectable ethics that he should subsequently give his professional services to the other side. But if, in a private, not a professional capacity, he comes to a knowledge of one phase of a controversy, there can be nothing to restrain him in the subsequent disposal of his professional services. It seems on the face of it most improbable that a man of Mr. HOSHI TORU'S training, experience, position and known integrity should deliberately violate one of the best established tenets of Bar etiquette by accepting a brief from the defendant in a case after having been taken into the confidence of the plaintiff. The Tokyo Barristers Association, however, appear to think that he has done something of the kind, for they have moved the Chief Public Procurator to have him punished. But it must be noted that the Councils of the Association are at present swayed by a majority hostile to Mr. HOSHI; the majority that recently adopted such a singular course in the matter of electing a President, and that is now under the leadership of Mr OI KENTARO, a strong enemy of Mr. HOSHI. The public can not attach any conclusive weight to the hostile attitude of such an Association, and, moreover, the public must be getting somewhat perplexed to understand what a barrister's obligations really are in Japan. For the Radicals, or at any rate a section of them, are now beginning to discover that since there are plausible prospects of political capital being made out of the SOMA affair, a Radical so prominent as Mr. HOSHI TORU ought not, in the capacity of Counsel for the defence, to devote his talents to disproving charges which would seriously discredit officialdom if they could be established. Politics have usurped a disproportionately large place in the vista of Japanese public view during the past few years, but surely there has not been any more perverted application of them than this idea that a man whose profession is the law, who lives by its practice and who is enabled to be a prominent politician primarily because he is a prominent barrister, should be constrained by political considerations as to the application of his legal services. The SOMA case has to do with criminal charges —charges of robbery and murder. Politics can not exercise the smallest rational influence upon a barrister's connection with such a case, and it is surely a strong evidence of the diseased state of thought in Japan that politicians should be found to arraign Mr. HOSHI for holding a brief on the side of the defence, and that journalists should be ready to gravely discuss the arraignment. The political novel of which we recently gave a synopsis, prophesies all kinds of disasters for the country if party struggles continue to absorb the energies of the nation and to pervert its judgment as they do at present. This latest development of the SOMA affair disposes us to think that the author is right.

UNJAPANNED JAPAN.

THE *Illustrated American* has now given us the second chapter of Mr. CLEMENT SCOTT'S "Unjapanned Japan." Every man of ordinary intelligence who comes to this country, looks about him with common care, and records his impressions with a modicum of honesty, must find something that is at once worth saying and worth listening to. Mr. CLEMENT SCOTT possesses qualifications much above those of the average compiler of newspaper articles and magazine essays. He has also a reputation to lose. It is not, therefore, too much to expect that he should tell something interesting and instructive about Japan. There is, as every one knows, much local intolerance of tourists who, after a brief stay in Japan, undertake to publish impressionist sketches covering the whole field of Japanese politics, art, education, administration, ethics and history. Such persons, above all if they adopt a laudatory tone, are speedily denounced as impertinent charlatans. We have never appreciated this intolerance. The new comer's point of view is, in our opinion, quite as valuable as the old resident's. The former's verdancy does not unfit him for the critical rôle any more than the latter's jaundice. No man can have long breathed the atmosphere of a treaty port without imbibing a larger or smaller dose of prejudice. It is the fashion of the foreign settlement to despise the people of the country; to regard as unpatriotic every effort to defend them against calumny; to taboo all praise of them as fulsome flattery; to relegate them to the place of an emphatically inferior race. Living among such an environment of disparagement a man must either take its colour or develop a not less biasing indignation against it. Strict impartial justice is scarcely possible, on whichever side we seek it. The transient visitor may lack experience and knowledge, but he is at all events without prejudice, and, moreover, he brings to his task as critic, standards of comparison much fresher than those of the jaded and too often disappointed "old resident." For our own part we are always glad to welcome and peruse the writings of the twenty-days tourist, nor do we ever conclude that whatever they contain contrary to our own views is of necessity erroneous. No tourist, however, has ever approached Mr. CLEMENT SCOTT. We have had men who preferred epigram to justice and subjective pictures to sober portraits. But never before Mr. CLEMENT SCOTT have we had a man who deliberately set out to be a calumniator and who pursued his path with such undeviating recklessness. Under what malignant influence did Mr. CLEMENT SCOTT labour? His latest essays furnish a key to the enigma. He arrived here the victim of an extraordinary delusion: he imagined that men in Europe and America had deliberately set themselves to contrast the ladies of the West with those of Japan, and had concluded that the advantage rested conclusively with the latter. We do not speak conjecturally. We have the admission of Mr. SCOTT himself. Already, while *en route* for Japan and before he had touched her shores or commenced the scrutiny that betrayed him into such excesses, he declares that he had begun to combat this hallucination. But in truth the phantasy never had any existence outside Mr. CLEMENT SCOTT'S brain. No sober man has ever thought of comparing the ladies of the West with those of Japan to the disparagement of the former. The two are wholly different. They belong to incomparably divergent species. For the Englishman there can be but one ideal —the English lady. Nothing in the world approaches her in his eyes. He may admire, and unless he be blind he cannot choose but admire, the grace, the self-abnegation, the fidelity—all the more beautiful in that it is unrequited—the winsome docility and the perfect courtesy of the Japanese lady. But does he not find all these things, though slightly modified by a different social and ethical code, in the lady of his own country, and does he not find in addition something for the absence of which no graces of manner or self-sacrificing fidelity can ever atone, intellectual companionship. Mr. CLEMENT SCOTT has discovered that intellectual companionship with a Japanese woman is impossible. He was admirably equipped to make the discovery, seeing that he could not exchange two intelligible words with any Japanese, whether man or woman. Without emulating his assurance we nevertheless venture to assert that Japanese women are not intellectually inferior to European or American women, but that intellectual intercourse between them and the men of the Occident is virtually impossible, and must remain impossible, until several generations of contact with the West shall have furnished the indispensable basis of such intercourse, namely, historical, traditional, ethical, social and moral sympathies. An Englishman attempting to hold intellectual intercourse with a Japanese lady at present is like a man trying to speak a language without having mastered its alphabet. There are no subjects in common which either can discuss from the other's standpoint. But the disability is chargeable equally to both sides. It is not the fault of the Japanese female that national isolation has effected her standpoint, any more than it is the fault of the foreign male that ignorance of Japanese modes and origins

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of thought establishes an intellectual gulf between himself and the women of this country. We revert, however, to our original assertion that there never has been any idea of comparing the ladies of the West with the ladies of Japan. That is Mr. SCOTT'S hallucination. He talks of PIERRE LOTI and Madame Chrysantheme. Does he imagine that Madame Chrysantheme represents a Japanese lady, or that PIERRE LOTI ever associated with Japanese ladies? Mr. SCOTT is described by the *Illustrated American* as "the famous critic of the London *Telegraph*." A famous critic truly! A critic who can not distinguish between a PHRYNE and a SEMPRONIA; a critic who imagines that a common *cocote* picked up by a foreigner in exchange for dollars among the slums of an open port typifies the ladies of Japan! It is impossible to deal gravely with such silliness. Mr. CLEMENT SCOTT undertakes to vindicate the lady of Europe and America against the pretence that she is inferior to the lady of Japan in charms of manner, graces of person and ethics of intercourse. Where does he go for material to construct his refutation? The moment he landed in Kobe he proceeded to the Yoshiwara. Imagine a Frenchman who, coming to England to estimate the qualities of English ladies, should hurry off to the Haymarket after dark and then describe what he found there as illustrative of English womanhood! A horsewhip would be the only answer to such an insult. The Yoshiwara of Kobe, the Yoshiwara of Tokyo, the low tea-houses kept by strumpets in the purlieus of the foreign settlements and not to be found any where else in Japan—these were Mr. CLEMENT SCOTT'S haunts during his sojourn in Japan: in such places he sought types of Japanese womanhood. Conscious of this fatal flaw in his evidence, he asserts that he "had, as it happened, exceptional privileges and manifest advantages for seeing, in a short time, every phase of Japanese life and society outside the highest and most exclusive." Unfortunately that is a falsehood. Every day of Mr. CLEMENT SCOTT'S sojourn in Japan has been accounted for. He never had access to Japanese polite society at all. He never had any intercourse with Japanese ladies. When he attempts to describe the latter, he betrays an insolent indifference to veracity. When he describes them in gross, insulting, coarse terms such as he would not dare to use in the presence of any Japanese gentleman, he writes himself down a coward and a Goth. These are strong expressions, yet they fall far below Mr CLEMENT SCOTT'S deserts. He is not the person to discuss the comparative qualities of ladies. To undertake that task one must at least be gifted with the instincts of a gentleman, and these Mr. CLEMENT SCOTT seems to lack *in toto*. We question even his fitness to appraise the manners and customs of the *demi-monde* whose society he cultivated so assiduously during his stay in Japan. But certainly he ought not to travel beyond that sphere. And it is there alone that comparisons have been set up. What the foreign votary of pleasure has found in Japan is a girl facile without being false, morally easy without being morally degraded, accessible without being brutalized, virtueless yet not vicious, fallen from grace yet full of graces. Let Mr. CLEMENT SCOTT study such a girl side by side with the flaunting, drunken, foul-mouthed denizen of the London Haymarket. He could never get to the bottom of the analysis. There are subtleties that would defy his gross perceptions. But at any rate his aptitudes would be more appropriately employed than in discussing the qualities of ladies There never has been any question of comparing the ladies of Europe and Japan, and, for the rest, ladies seem to lie beyond Mr. SCOTT'S sphere.

THE SUNG-PU COMPLICATION.

A SINGULAR complication has cropped up in connection with the Sungpu massacre. The Chinese Authorities declare that in order to arrive at the truth about the catastrophe and to avoid punishing innocent persons, it is necessary to have the evidence of six of their nationals, who are in the service of the Swedish Mission in Hangkow. Every one knows what is involved in the examination of witnesses in China, and over and above that general knowledge, there is a strong feeling in this particular case that the six Chinamen are wanted, not to give testimony, but to be treated as culprits for their connection with a foreign mission. They have taken refuge in the Foreign Settlement at Hangkow, and the question now arises, how are the Chinese Authorities to get hold of them. *Primâ facie* there seems to be no room whatever for doubt or hesitation The fugitives are Chinese subjects within Chinese territory, and if the Chinese Judicial Authorities really require their evidence for the purpose of administering justice, that they should be given up forthwith is a fact admitting no denial. The Swedish Consul-General, Mr. BOCK, took that view, and, at the instance of the Chinese, instructed the Swedish Mission to deliver up the fugitives. But the Mission declined to do anything of the kind, and replied that if the Chinese wanted the men, they had better come and take them. This attitude of the Mission is warmly applauded by the Hangkow correspondent of the *North China Daily News*, and is even endorsed by that journal itself, but truly we find difficulty in comprehending the course of events as described in our contemporary's columns. With regard to the issue, there is not a particle of doubt. The Chinese have the law on their side, and will carry their point in the teeth of the Swedish Mission. Indeed, later telegraphic information is to the effect that the Mission agreed to deliver up the men on condition that the Chinese engaged not to maltreat them, an utterly valueless engagement, since no means of enforcing it exist, nor is there any possibility of punishing its infraction. Be that as it may, however, there are other inexplicable features. A direction to deliver up certain fugitives is in itself a method of procedure quite unknown in the East. The ordinary course in the premises would have been for the Swedish Consul-General to grant a warrant for the apprehension of the fugitives, and then the Chinese police, armed with the warrant, would have proceeded to the Mission and carried off the men. But to direct the Mission to deliver them up involves the notion that there are attached to the Mission persons qualified and prepared to discharge the functions of constables, an obviously extravagant notion. In so far as concerns the Missionaries' refusal to constitute themselves policemen, and their intimation that if the Chinese wanted the men they had better come and take them, it is plain that nothing extraordinary occurred. The Mission was under no kind of obligation to take active steps in the matter. But with regard to the idea evidently prevailing in the mind of our Shanghai contemporary's correspondent that the Mission took a kind of heroic stand, threw down the gauntlet to the Chinese, and virtually defied them to arrest the fugitives within the precincts of a Swedish residence, that, of course, is quite absurd, and can only tend to make foreigners ridiculous in Chinese eyes. Chinese judicial processes may be execrable. We do not affirm that they are so, neither do we pretend to think that China is an exception to the old adage, a nation's institutions are according to a nation's deserts. But since Foreign Powers do not possess any commission to remodel Chinese Courts and reform Chinese laws, there is nothing for it but to abstain from placing fruitless obstacles in the path of the Courts' procedure or of the law's operation. What interests and alarms us in the affair is, not the loose way in which it has been described in print, nor yet the strange notions that seem to be entertained in some quarters as to the possibility of defying Chinese officialdom within Chinese territory, but the evidence it affords of very strained relations between foreigners and Chinese. There is plainly an intensely bitter feeling in the air, a natural thirst for retaliation on one side and a stolid, if not defiant, antipathy on the other, that call for very gentle handling and very careful diplomatic treatment.

ECZEMA.—Book on „Skin Trouble," sent free for One Stamp by Messrs. NORTH & RAE, Limited, Yokohama.

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MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE RELIGIOUS PRESS

The religious periodicals of Japan for the month of August reflect fully and clearly the present temper of the Japanese people. Lecky maintains, it will be remembered, that religion and patriotism are the two great forces in human history. It is certainly true of Japan at the present time that both these forces are active, and that in their action they are closely related. The religious papers say nothing of politics; but what they say of religion is coloured through and through with that spirit of independence of foreign control which is so manifest in the political world. What is to be the religious future of Japan? In how far will Christianity be adopted? And, what changes will that religion undergo in taking root in this land? These are the questions asked and eagerly discussed in the Christian periodicals. That Christianity is in Japan to stay, that it is to be a factor in the future development of the Empire, is a conviction held by all Christian periodicals, if not also by those of other faiths. But equally clear, and almost equally universal, is the conviction that the Christianity which is to prevail in Japan has not yet appeared on these shores, nor, indeed, has it appeared in any other land. For that form of Christianity which will be acceptable to and influential in Japan, these periodicals argue, must be the product of Japanese minds, and must reflect and conform to the conditions of Japanese society.

* * *

A significant article illustrative of the prevalence of this spirit is that of Rev. Tamura Naomi, in the *Inochi* (Presbyterian). Mr. Tamura has just returned from a year's absence in America to his former position as pastor of the Shiyabashi church in Tokyo. Having been asked, he says, to state what are the principles on which he proposes to conduct his church work in the future, he speaks freely of his views and purposes. He proposes to establish an industrial home, in which young men will receive advanced instruction, and a school of evangelists, in which Christian men and women are to be prepared for practical church work. In his future activities he is to be guided by the following principles. First, he will incorporate Japanese ideas into his church policy. His church is to be independent of foreigners. In the second place, he will adopt and advocate Western ideas of the home. The influence of Buddhism, he says, has caused the home to degenerate in Oriental lands, so that we must look to the West for our ideals. In the third place, he will take a moderate position in theology, somewhat inclining toward conservatism. Progress is good; let us have it by all means; but it is not well to progress too rapidly, to leap as it were to an advanced position. Thus even this gentleman, who has just returned from a year's contact with foreign influences, and who frankly advocates Western ideas in one important particular, insists on the independence of his own church, and looks forward to a growth in theology which is to take place on Japanese soil.

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It is the *Kuristokyo Shimbun*, however, in which the question of Church independence is most fully and most vigorously present. The editor, Rev. T. J. Yokoi, whose approaching departure from Japan means the loss of one of the ablest writers as well as one of the most eloquent speakers in Christian circles, has long been known as a pronounced advocate of the independence of the churches of this country. In an editorial whose title declares that church independence is certainly to be realised, the whole situation is reviewed. A few years ago, says this paper, the various Presbyterian bodies of Japan united. This was prophetic of the one Japanese Christian Church that is to be. It is true that that movement stopped short of what it might have been. It is true, also, that there has been, recently, a revival of conservatism, a result of the triumph of the conservative party in America in the trial and condemnation of Professor Briggs. Encouraged by that success, the more conservative element in the Presbyterian church in Japan has been unusually aggressive of late. This and all other strifes delay that perfect understanding between Japanese Christians without which a concerted movement for independence is impossible. That church is the strongest Protestant body in Japan; let it cease its dissensions, and take the lead, as is its duty, in getting rid of foreign control. Consider now, the same article continues, the Methodist body. Two months ago a movement toward independence in the Canadian Methodist Church of Japan took definite form, Japanese and foreigners uniting in a reference of the whole matter to the Missionary Board in Canada. In the scheme for independence then mapped out are three principles, each of far-reaching importance. First, foreign missionaries are to become members of the Japanese churches, and are to be subject, like others, to the church rules. Secondly, money sent from Canada for missionary purposes, is to be sent directly to the managers of the churches. Thirdly, the system of church-government is to be considerably modified; even the name Methodist, the writer hears, is to be dropped. In corroboration of these rather startling statements, the writer refers to a letter of Rev. Mr. Hirawa, a preacher in the Canadian Methodist Church, who has been especially active in the movement for independence. This letter, however, which appears in the same periodical, merely endorses the editorials in the *Kyristokyo Shimbun*, and encourages the editor to speak out with increasing clearness and force.

* * *

In another editorial article the movement of Japanese churches toward independence is compared to the movement toward disestablishment in Great Britain. There, the church objects to the control of the government; here, to the control of the missionaries. The missionary spirit is inherent in Christianity. It is right that missionaries should carry the gospel, and it is right that we should receive their help. But the trouble is, says the writer, that the missionaries come not only in the name of Christ but in the name of the sect to which they belong. Their duty here is not simply to preach the Gospel but to propagate their sectarian views, and so not to enlarge but to limit the views of their converts. Manly spirited men can not endure this; Chinese or Koreans may do so, but Japanese cannot. Look at the sects in Japan,—Episcopal, Methodist, Baptist, Presbyterian and the rest! Individual Missionaries may be large-minded men, but they are bound by their sects. Hence, Japanese Christianity is only a *translation* of foreign sectarianism. This can no longer be endured. Our national spirit is that of self-reliance. We see the wide difference between the spirit of Christianity and the form in which it comes to us. We realise that no religion can get on without forms and symbols, but we believe that these should be adapted to the customs and ideas of the land. The governing power in the Japanese Churches must be in Japan. It is not necessary that the ruling officers should all be Japanese, but all must be those whom the Japanese Churches know and trust. It is true that to receive money from abroad tends to make the churches dependent. But such should not be the result. Let us do what we can to create different ideas in the minds of those missionaries who think that giving money entitles them to a controlling voice. They should come to our help in that generous, self-effacing spirit which Lafayette showed when he placed himself and his fortune at the service of General Washington.

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The extent to which this spirit of church independence has pervaded Christian society in Japan, is shown by the fact that it is actively discussed by the members of the two "Catholic" Churches, Greek and Roman. A writer in *Seikyo Shimpo* (Greek Church) says that the amount of independnece that can be realized depends upon the nature of the organization of the various churches. Protestants have little difficulty in throwing off the authority of the established church, or in making such changes as seem good to them in their forms or creeds. In the Greek Church, on the other hand, the Church, as such, is of so great authority that its teachings and its forms are fixed. The same is true of the Roman Catholic Church; but, says the writer, the magazines of that sect state that their churches in Japan are recognized as independent, in precisely the same sense in which the Churchs of Europe and America are independent. We are yet young as Christians, he continues, and should not move too rashly toward changes. But in one particular, at least, even we of the Greek Church may be, and all Christians ought to try to be, independent of foreigners, and that is in matters of finance. Let us first aim to become self-supporting. Reaching that goal, we may next try for a larger independence. The spirit which incites to self-government is at least a proper one. All men like to control their own affairs. In the matter of Church management independence is especially desirable, because many hesitate, through patriotic motives, to enter an organization in which foreign influence predominates. Especially is this true of our (the Greek) Church.

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Turning from questions of organization to questions of theology, the possible future of Japanese Christianity is still further discussed. Rev. Matsumura Kaiseki, connected with the Y.M.C.A. work, writes in the *Shukyo* (Unitarian) an able article in which he argues that the future Christianity of Japan will be no importation, however good, but will be the product of Japanese minds, on Japanese soil, and conformed to the conditions of life in this country. When Christianity came to the Greek and Roman peoples, says Mr. Matsumura, it found them dissatisfied with their own religions and seeking for one that was better. The universal nature of Christianity, and its practical character, caused it to take deep root in those nations. In doing so, it assimilated what was good in Greek and Roman thought and customs. Christianity has certain unchanging principles; but it ever changes its form. Even Paul differed from James, and Jewish Christianity was not wholly like that which was accepted by the Gentiles. Now Christianity comes to Japan. But it comes as a series of sects, Presbyterians, Methodists, Episcopalians, Unitarians and the rest. Our true policy forbids our accepting these sects, for they are all the result of conditions which have existed in other lands than ours. It is true that the Unitarians are trying to adapt Christianity to present conditions, but this, so far, has been the work of foreigners, and so is not yet what we want. If, now, we try to forecast the future of Christianity, we must realise, first of all, that Christianity will be largely modified by Buddhist and Confucian ideas. Just as Christianity absorbed the Greek philosophy when it entered Greece, so must it absorb the best Japanese thought as it enters Japan. It is further evident that the coming Christianity must adapt itself to various classes of people and be as varied as human life. For men of the lower classes, there must be practical teaching, and such people must be moved by appeals to faith and the emotions. Toward the great mass of more highly developed people Christianity must express itself in socialistic ways, propagating great moral ideas, edifying the people, and raising up benefactors of society. Lastly, for the benefit of the most thoughtful there must be that ideal Christianity, which deals with the greatest questions of thought and life, and ever tends toward the highest mysticism. May the day speedily come when such a national Christianity shall be realized.

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The same topic is vigorously treated by Rev. Harada Tasoku, in *Rikugo Zasshi*, in an article entitled "The future of Christianity in view of present theological discussions." In this cen-

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tury, he says, thought has changed as never before; and religious thought has changed with that on other subjects. See in America the trial of Dr. Briggs, and the affairs of the American Board of Foreign Missions; theological discussions among Scotch Presbyterians, and prosecutions for heresy in the Methodist church in England. These all indicate changes in the theological world; and such changes, wherever they occur, speedily affect Japanese ideas. Here in Japan we have all phases of thought; German, English and American criticism and philosophy. We can not avoid changes. But change does not mean destruction. Voltaire, Diderot, Bain and others have prophesied the death of Christianity, but it lives; and never in its history was it so vital as in the nineteenth century. It has ever changed. For a thousand years Christians believed that Christ died to dischange a debt owed to Satan. For centuries the church despised the home and the State and advocated asceticism. But these, and countless other ideas held for a time as of vital importance, have passed away, and the Church survives. The innovators have not been the enemies of religion. Huss and Luther, Robertson and Bunyan, Wesley and Chalmers, Schleiermacher, Coleridge, Maurice, Robertson and Beecher were all invovators, and were opposed as heretics. But they are the ones to whom we are indebted for the progress of the church. Even the so-called negative critics have done something toward the advance of Christian thought. The Tübingen critics gave clearness to early Christian history. Strauss, Renan and Keim brought out fresh truth concerning the life of Christ. Even in recent times Biblical criticism has made the Old Testament works more clear. Christianity changes; it absorbs ideas and customs; but as it changes, by absorption, it gives new life to that which it appropriates. It is still Christianity in spite of its changes. See how Origen differed from Augustine, Tauler from Calvin, Wesley from Edwards. Yet all were Christians. We need to distinguish carefully between the permanent elements and the transient accretions of our faith. Foolish people sometimes think they can make up a religion by combining the best elements of many faiths. As well try to make a living body by bringing together component parts from different places. A religion is not the product of thought, but a growth, a thing of life. Finally, the future Christianity must be founded on Christ. That will make it concrete, practical. Righteousness, strong faith, salvation, these are only words until they are realized in a great personality. Some oppose Christ, as they suppose; but it is always some theory of Christ, not himself, that they attack—Greek and Roman Catholics, Calvinists and Americans, Orthodox and Liberals unite in praising and loving him whom even such as Rousseau regarded as the ideal man. With this great character as the centre, the Christianity of the future will be such as will satisfy the whole of man, his thought, his feeling, and his will; and all our present sects, Baptists, Episcopalians, Methodists, Unitarians, and all, will have furnished elements of that large and inclusive faith.

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In a briefer fashion we may notice an able editorial in the *Kiristokyo Shimbun* on the "Evils of Sectarianism." When we entered the church, says the editor, we sought only salvation and believed in God. Later our ideas of the Church of Christ were disturbed by the intrusion of the idea of sects. Gadly we hail such a movement as the Young Men's Christian Association, the Christian Endeavour Society, and the King's Daughters, for they tend to unite Christians. Let us hope that we are not to repeat in Japan the history of sectarianism. The sect spirit is the spirit of Phariseeism; it exiles many from the church. The zeal of John Knox was not the result of sectarianism. Episcopacy never inspired Heny Martin, zeal for the Baptist sect did not send Carey Johnson to the torrid zone, the unrivalled eloquence of Wesley was not the outgrowth of Methodism. Let us strive for that deep faith which inspired all these men. The *Jiyu Kirisutokyo* (Universalist) has an editorial on "Evolution and Christian Doctrine" in which that scientific formula is assumed as true, it having been accepted by the best authorities on such matters. No doubt the Genesis account of Creation, says the editor, is incorrect, taken as science. None the less is that account true and noble in its teaching. When we cease looking for science, and read it as an expression of religious ideas, we see its value. Evolution only attempts to explain the process of creation. The fact of creation it leaves untouched. The Mystery of life it leaves unsolved. Such questions are left to be dealt with by religion. See how sublimely Genesis states it: "God created," man was made "in the image of God." Science has no word to contradict this, or to surpass it. The same magazine deals with the trial of Dr. Briggs, which it regards as having been judically unfair. The presbyters had resolved on his condemnation before his trial. The whole proceeding is a dark blot in the history of Christianity.

* * *

The *Shinri* (German) has two articles on the controversy started some months ago by Professor Inouye, and one on "Explanation of stumbling passages in the Gospels." In the *Kiristokyo Shimbun* is a sermon on "Eternal Life" by President Kozaki of the Doshisha. The meaning of Eternal Life he deduces from the text (John XVII-3), and regards it as not unending existence but as a deep experience of morality and religion, a life of faith, hope, and love. To know God and Christ is not a mental attainment, but a personal relationship. The *Sekyo Shimpo* urges that the government should superintend *matsuris*, since they may now be promoted by any one, coolies or school boys, and the house owners on the streets where the celebrations are to be held must contribute whether they approve or not. The same magazine reports a gain in the membership of the Greek church amounting to 1,135 in the past eleven months. They now have 20,915 members, and 190 "workers." The *Nichiyo Soshi* (Episcopal) treats of the trial of Dr. Briggs. The writer criticises his views, but regards him nevertheless as a great theologian, and says that if he had belonged to either the American or the English Episcopal Church he would not have been expelled. The same magazine reviews Allin's "Universalism Asserted," which the Universalist mission has just translated and published. It objects to Universalism *in toto* because (1) It denies the dual nature of Christ, (2) it is a reaction against Calvinism, which is no longer needed, (3) it is contrary to scriptures, and (4) it induces men to put off repentence to the future life. The *Rikugo Zasshi* reviews the same book, and recites the past history of the doctrines therein set forth. The reviewer regrets that so much effort has been thrown into a subject not vital to Christianity.

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Among the Buddhist periodicals the subjects treated are of greater variety. The controversy between Professor Inouye and Mr. Takahashi Goro is recalled; farewells to Mr. Doki, who goes to Chicago, appear in two magazines. The *Do Gaku* reads a sharp lecture to the contending parties in the Shingon sect, urging them to settle their disputes; and the *Dento* asks why Buddhist ceremonies cannot be resumed in the Imperial Household? The *Bukkyo* discourses "Salvation by self-effort, and salvation by the help of others," offers some "Considerations concerning the *non-ego*," and treats of "The nature of Good and Evil." The *Dento* pleads also for greater devotion on the part of Buddhists. For many years now, says the writer of this earnest plea, social conditions have been changing. These changes affect priests, directly by giving them new ideas, and indirectly by affecting their surroundings. Hence, to a great extent, priests have lost their former spirit of truth-seeking, and have become secular. They are lamentably ignorant, he says, and their conduct is not to be commended. They are not wholly to blame; the fault is partly in their surroundings. None the less, it is their duty to keep themselves free from such influences, and to lead lives of pure religion, unaffected by the fashion of world. The *Do Gaku*, in an article entitled "The Essence of Religion" urges the importance of knowing and embracing religion in its highest form. That Buddhism is that highest form is evident, the writer says, from the fact that in it every man has revealed to him his possible Buddhaship, that principle by which even the humblest may reach the highest place in the scale of being.

* * *

A writer in the same Magazine, who assumes the poetical name "Suigetsusei" (moon reflected in water), gives a "Practical Explanation of The Ten Words" of Buddhism, the words in question being the designations of the ten phases of existence, or of the places inhabited by the ten grades of being from the lowest to the highest. These he states and defines as follows. *Jikoku*, the lowest hell, is the abode of the worst sinners, who there suffer, some from extreme heat and others from extreme cold. *Gaki* is the place into which those are borne whose sins are less extreme; they also suffer, but from the pangs of hunger and thirst. *Chikusho* is the next higher hell. Into it men who in their human lives have committed the lesser crimes are reborn, taking the form of four-footed beasts, amphibians and the like, which spend their time in fighting. In *Shura* we reach the border line between the hells and the more favoured abodes. Here those in whom pride and envy have been ruling passions are reborn as demons. *Ningen* (literally mankind) is the abode of those whose previous actions have been, on the whole, commendable. *Tenjo* is the angelic world into which those enter whose lives have been filled with good deeds. In *Engaku* those live who have reached partial enlightenment. *Bosatsu* is reserved for those who are so enlightened as to be only one step from the attainment of perfect Buddhaship, and *Buddha* represents those who have reached the highest point of wisdom and felicity. These ten distinctions the writer (who seems to be an orthodox member of the Shingon sect) regards as representing actual places and states, though some, he admits, regard them as only convenient terms to designate the several possible conditions of conscious existence. In view of these explanations the following statement of the *Kiristokyo Shimbun* is interesting. This magazine says that a number of priests at Osaka have formed an association for the presentation of a drama in which these ten stages of existence will be illustrated, apparently a kind of Buddhist "morality" or "miracle play." The representation was to be given in Osaka beginning the first of August. After the play the members were to divert themselves with secular dancing. We have no words to add to this statement, says the *Kiristokyo Shimbun*. It shows to what Buddhism has come, as it approaches its end.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

A JAPANESE CHURCH DISPUTE.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—As I presided at the ordination of the Rev. K. Hikaru, I should be glad if you will allow me to correct the very erroneous and misleading account of the affair in Mr. S. Kato' letter contained in your issue of the 16th inst.

According to Mr. S. Kato's letter the Rev. K. Ibuka is said to have used on the occasion the following language:—"Who is this man?" "I am not publicly informed of this man as a Minister." "I don't know of this fellow publicly."

It is true Mr. Ibuka objected as a member of the Committee to Mr. Kato's taking part in the ordination, but he did it in very different language and spirit from what appears in Mr. Kato's letter. As Mr. Kato advanced to the front, Mr. Ibuka said to me "Is he (Mr. Kato) a Minister in the Church of Christ in Japan?" I said "I understand he has been recently readmitted into the

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Chinzei Presbytery." Mr. Kato said that it had appeared in the papers, and there was no other means of making it known. "But" said Mr. Ibuka "are we *officially* informed of it?" "I for one am not aware of such information." I then, seeing the force of the objection, asked Mr. Kato to withdraw, and so he did. After that the service was conducted as usual, and was brought to a close with the benediction by the chairman of the committee.

I may add that several years ago Mr. Kato left the church of Christ in Japan and joined the Unitarian church or club. After a short while, however, for some reason or other, he applied for re-admission into the First Tokyo Presbytery of which he had been a member, but the Presbytery refused to re-admit him; then he went abroad.

As to the other part of Mr. Kato's letter, it is largely a personal attack on Mr. Ibuka, and however erroneous and unjust it may be, he can amply take care of himself, and there is no need for me to touch upon it.

Faithfully yours, Y. ISHIWARA.

Tokyo, August 28th, 1893.

DR. BAELZ AND THE SOMA CONFESSION.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—On my return to Japan I find that during my absence base slanders have been circulated by the *Jiyu Shimbun*, stating that I had received 5,000 dollars as a bribe from the Soma family. To my great and painful astonishment this statement has been reproduced without comment in the *Japan Mail* of July 21st, and three days later only attention was called to the absurdity of the accusation.

Though it may appear superfluous, I should still like to denounce expressly the *Jiyu Shimbun's* assertions so far as they concern me as entirely untrue and without any foundation whatsoever.

The case now being in the hands of the courts, the truth will soon be known and I abstain from further remarks,

I am Sir, yours faithfully. E. BAELZ.

Tokio, August 28th, 1893.

[It is true that the *Jiyu's* story was reproduced in these columns, but appended to it was the following comments:—"Such is the wonderful story. We confess to considerable difficulty in penning it gravely." No stronger expression of general disbelief could well have been employed. Further, in our very next issue but one, we wrote thus:—"So far as foreigners are concerned, it was enough to be invited to credit the wild absurdity that Dr Baelz had accepted a sum of 5,000 *yen* in return for concealing the facts of a foul assassination." It is therefore incorrect to say that we re-produced the original *canard* "without comment," and scarcely fair to forget our speedy emphatic denunciation of the slander uttered against Dr. Baelz.—Ed. *J. M.*]

THE LEPER HOSPITAL AT GOTEMBA.

A few years ago, while living in a land where lepers were unknown, and where we shuddered and figuratively crossed ourselves as we whispered the word leprosy, I happened to be in the company of the editor of a well-known paper. Some telegrams were handed to him and we both laughed heartily to find that one of them was an announcement of the Marriage of Sister Rose Gertrude, who only a few months previously had been dedicated to her Mission with the prayers of a people, and followed by applause from all ends of the earth when she set out to aid the lepers at Molokai. The unromantic ending was a shock, and folding up the paper with a sardonic grin, my friend observed "Here endeth a big advertisement."

Out of the many thousands of people who come yearly to Japan and rhapsodise over the scenery and the peerless form of Fuji San, there are few among the number who are aware that immediately beneath its shadow, there is a place where a few heroic souls, unknown, and unadvertised, are risking health and life, and dooming themselves to solitary existence succouring the lepers purely for the "love of Christ."

Lately, quite by accident, I found myself within the immediate vicinity of the Leper Hospital, and although at that time I did not know that an appeal had been made on its behalf by those who were carrying out their divine mission of mercy and compassion, I determined to go and see for myself the nature of the work that was being done there. Situated half way between Gotemba and Sano, about seven or eight miles from each place, there is a lovely little spot called Koyama (the Cloud Mountain). No place could be more beautiful. The Hakone range, with a fertile valley at its base, forms a back-ground, while immediately in front stands the mountain, the ever changing beauty of whose face is one of Japan's principal attractions; the intervening space is filled by waving corn fields and scented tea plantations, watered by flowing rivers. Passing along the road at one point you come immediately upon a river; and sheltered behind a belt of dark pine trees, roofs and one or two small white crosses that gleam in the sun shine attract attention, as they peep picturesquely through the foliage. Down the valley in the far distance a glimpse of Numadzu Bay may be had, surrounded by blue hills. Here a few French priests are gathering together, caring for, and administering such relief and consolatives as they can, to those most unhappy of all wretched beings in Japan, the Lepers. With the pure breezes of heaven blowing around them, and the music of the river as it rushes by—such surroundings must in no small degree tend to soothe the suffering of the sad hearts, who have taken refuge within the walls behind the sheltering pine trees. Leaving the road, and crossing the river by a little bridge, you come upon a short, well-kept entrance, edged on one side by a wood, and in a few minutes you come upon the buildings themselves. To the right there is a stretch of what has been meadow land, now under careful cultivation; corn, vegetables and other things are grown upon this land for the use of the inmates.

The group of buildings consists of the Japanese houses where the lepers live, a chapel, a very large bath-house and priest and doctor's residence. At a little distance another and a larger building is in course of erection.

After ascertaining that the priests in charge were not unwilling that visitors who had courage enough to do so, should see over the place, I went up to the first house and enquired if I could see the doctor. The man I spoke to was one of the patients, evidently in the first stage of the disease. His hair was coming out in patches, but beyond that and the pallor and unutterable sadness of his face there was no outward sign that he too was a victim. His manner told me at once that he belonged to the better class. As my knowledge of Japanese was limited I only succeeded in making myself partially understood. Before I spoke and thus made my presence known through the open sides of the buildings, I could see groups of men and children. Everything was as orderly and quiet as possible, but, oh God, what an awful sight—some of the patients were frightful to look at, their faces were so horribly swollen, twisted, and distorted, but the saddest sight of all was to see little children among their number. All were quietly engaged in occupations of various kinds: some were at domestic duties, some were reading, the women were making and mending clothes, while those who were very much maimed or weakened by disease were simply resting. The houses are all situated on high ground where there is plenty of natural drainage. Little flower beds are scattered about, and all the houses were clean and comfortably matted.

From the peace, comfort and cleanliness in which these poor creatures are dragging out their living death, there can be no doubt that the priests in charge are making them as happy as they can be, until kindly death comes and finally releases them.

I am writing completely in the dark beyond knowing that this most charitable Mission is a Roman Catholic one. I do not know who supports it, or what the names of the men are who are devoting their lives to doing good, in spite of the fact that at any moment they may contract the disease and become outcasts and forlorn like the beings they are thus nobly befriending.

No one fully knows to what a terrible extent leprosy exists in Japan. In some districts whole villages are given up to this portion of the community. The questions arise, can anything be done to relieve it? Is anything being done by the Government to check its spread?

Those who travel in Japan know that but for its fine climate it would be a hotbed for many other terrible diseases. The Japanese build their houses close together, and wherever they congregate, the air is poisoned by the smells with which they delight to surround themselves. Wherever you look landscape of incomparable beauty meets the eye. You see a lovely hamlet, surrounded by green fields, and on approach meet with foul odours that effectually prevent your enjoyment of the scene, from which a few moments before you anticipated so much pleasure.

This continual persistent poisoning of the pure air must, as time rolls on, have ill effects upon the constitution of the Japanese as a people. Under existing circumstances the land is only saved from many dread plagues by being continually swept on all sides, by purifying sea breezes.

Leprosy, that terrible evil, exists in the midst of this people, and trying to cope with it, a few men have undertaken a task that requires more courage to carry out, than to stand at a cannon's mouth, or upon the deck of a sinking vessel. The help they require should come from the Japanese Government itself or from wealthy Japanese people; but at the same time there are many amongst us who could occasionally spare a trivial sum, nothing in itself to the giver, that might prove a great help to those who are giving up their youth, comfort and bodily safety in their endeavour to soothe suffering in its most loathsome form.

You have actually to visit a place like this before you can form any idea of the awful depression of mind such work must bring to those who are engaged in it.

There can be no question of the sincerity of those who care for the sufferers, or of the agony of the crucifixion they are undergoing, cut off as they are from the world, and the companionship of their fellow men, while at their solitary and melancholy posts. CASEMENT.

MARQUIS KURODA ON THE HOKKAIDO.

The colonization of the fertile land of Hokkaido and its important bearing on our national defence are prevailing topics of discussion among recent speculators on politics. Their views as to the spirit of the time, the importance of maintaining national peace against foreign agression, enriching the people, increasing the inhabitants in proportion to the extent of the land, etc., seem by themselves quite worthy of attention.

If we, however, rely on their reports or transactions, and desire to ascertain the actual condition of Hokkaido, we find ourselves, so to speak, in a vast ocean of obscurity, where we are utterly unable to discover the haven that we aim to arrive at. This led me to think of visiting Hokkaido myself, and as I had some leisure last summer, I was able to make investigations as to the general state of things there. Among other things, I found the construction of towns, the condition of uncultivated land, the circumstances of settlers, the policy of administrations, the means of communication and transportation, the production and the manners and customs of the people, exceedingly curious and interesting. What I thus gathered from my personal observation and inquiries I tested by the opinions of those who had had some experience in Hokkaido, and I found many points quite contrary to what I had imagined them to be before. I shall therefore proceed to lay before the public my general views on Hokkaido.

Administration of Hokkaido.

The prevailing policy of the Tokugawa Shogunate was conservatism and the prevention of works of great enterprise, so that although the land of Yezo had long been known, yet no policy of colonization was ever pursued. In fact, colonization commenced with the Restoration of *Meiji*. Since then the work of colonization has gradually been developed, and as its results we now see villages and farms where only some years ago were mere haunts of wild beasts. Nay, the people have begun to appreciate more and more the importance of Hokkaido colonization, and at the same time the number of criticisms passed on its methods have been daily increasing, so that Hokkaido at the present time occupies an important place in the attention of the nation. Having long been interested in the question and having lately made a tour of personal inspection, I can not but express the great dissatisfaction that I feel with regard to Hokkaido. I need not, I think, dwell here on the importance of clearing the land. Critics, who, pointing out past errors in the administration, severely rebuke the Government, evidently do so from the desire to prevent any repetition of the same errors in the future. As, however, their attitude is rude and violent, they unconsciously lead the public, I am afraid, to form the idea that Hokkaido is, as it were, the den of some tribes of strange and impure creatures. Now the work of colonization is an entirely new enterprise for the Japanese to undertake, and as we absolutely lack experience in this line it will naturally take some time before we can reap the results of our toil and hardship. Permanent success can only be achieved by a far sighted spirit which can submit to patience and delay. To me both the Government that seek to realize their undertaking within a short time and the public who are inclined to draw hasty conclusions on the future of Hokkaido from a rough survey of its present condition, which is only of a few years growth, appear equally mistaken. Devices that spring up accompanying the course of colonization in a new land are imperfect, as its society differs, and must greatly differ, from those in the mother land. Their results are therefore often very apt to be something beyond our ordinary anticipation. We

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see then it is not just to form any idea of the affairs of a colony as we should of an ordinary developed society. In order to form a correct opinion of such a society, one must imagine himself dwelling in the midst of it. With this view in mind, we must try and approve of all the future plans of the authorities relating to the colonization of Hokkaido, and try to make up all their deficiencies and shortcomings by assisting and advising them in a friendly spirit. Thus only by the united efforts of the Authorities and the people in promoting good and removing errors, will permanent success be attained in the long run. Here then we see the importance of establishing a broad and wise policy to be followed up earnestly and steadily in the administration of the colony both by the Authorities and the people for a long time to come. If this could only be established, whatever alterations may take place in the *personnel* of the Government, the policy itself, we may assure ourselves, will remain unchanged, except for such modifications as time and circumstances may render necessary. If, however, in the future policy of the administration of the colony we see nothing more than frequent changes of officials and offices as heretofore, the works of colonization being naturally made subject to these official vicissitudes, not a small portion of the undertaking, I am afraid, will come to nothing and no small portion of the national expenditure will be entirely wasted. We are indeed ashamed to compare such a policy with that of European countries. Generally speaking, in experienced countries of Europe, both the Government and the people, without finding fault with each other about trifles but by combining their efforts for future improvements, strive to bring every inch they can under their control, and by overcoming all perils and difficulties finally convert the land they have thus taken from their enemy into a profitable, quiet and prosperous colony. Now Hokkaido being originally a part of our country, there should not of course be any very great difficulty in the way of colonizing it, and the reason why we are nevertheless unable to enjoy the fruit of the colonization is, I venture to say, simply because the administrative policy has been quite unsettled. I shall therefore sketch some of the outlines of the policy that, I consider, ought to be adopted for the administration of Hokkaido in the future.

Protection of Immigrants.

Direct protection conferred upon every immigrant is limited in its extent, but its benefits are immediate. Indirect protection, on the contrary, conferred upon immigrants at large is very extensive in its scope but the results are not readily seen. Consequently, the Authorities have naturally been inclined to adopt direct protection, and the circumstances of the country, too, seem to have favoured it. Let us now compare the two systems of protection. At the time when the Colonization Bureau (Kaitakushi) was first established and the public at large did not yet know anything about Yezo, the immigrants to the land would not have been attracted unless by the inducements of what I term direct protection, and this has no doubt proved to be a convenient means for making Hokkaido what it is at the present day. But now that everybody knows Hokkaido, direct protection is not only useless but rather mischievous in some respects. The only necessary protection that ought to be given to immigrants in the future should therefore be indirect protection, the benefits of which are enjoyed by all the immigrants equally.

The Means of Communication and Transportation.

The fertile plains of Tokachi and Uriu stretching far and wide seem only to be waiting for the coming of the immigrants to whom the Government offers large protection; and, what is still more, the price of land in those regions is almost next to nothing. But why is it that the number of immigrants to this quarter is less than that to the sterile regions of the coast? The cause is simply lack of facilities of communication and transportation. Had such facilities been provided, those regions no doubt would have long since been developed. The actual condition following the construction of new lines by the Coal Mining and Railway Company well attests the fact. The digging out of coal mines in such mountainous regions as Sorachi and Yubari necessitates the opening of hitherto unvisited districts in order to connect those mines with the railroads; and the consequence is that no sooner do the labourers and coolies begin to cut down trees and to put up their temporary houses, than traders who support them with the necessaries of life follow as surely and naturally as the water runs to the lower level, and thus very soon a prosperous village springs up. This has been the origin of such thriving villages as Sunakawa, Nae, Asoro, etc., that lie along the railroad extending to the coal mining districts of Sorachi and Yubari, and it ought to be remembered that those now thriving villages were nothing more than mere haunts of beasts of prey only three or four years ago.

We see then, the construction of railway lines is one of the most important means of opening and clearing waste land. The construction of railways, however, requires a great outlay of capital, and besides, we can hardly expect to discover such good mines everywhere as those forming the bases of the already constructed lines. It is to be hoped, therefore, that the Authorities will take proper steps to show to the public the whereabouts of mineral and other profitable natural productions, encourage trade in them, and thus gradually but steadily necessitate the further construction of railroads.

It is noticeable that in Hokkaido, as no means of drainage has as yet been provided, the roads in the season of thawing and inundation generally become so muddy that neither men nor animals can pass easily, and the means of transportation are thus virtually stopped. Nothing could more impede the progress of developing the resources of a land than such an imperfect state of the roads, so that the Authorities will, it is hoped, pay due attention to this point and give sufficient encouragement towards improving them. Again, although roads have been already laid down in some places and the land as a whole presents the aspect of being arable, yet rivers are still left to flow in their natural ways, overflowing and submerging the vast tracts of wilderness, their currents not being brought under any control. The control of the currents of rivers has always been considered one of the most important functions of administration, but in Hokkaido, rivers being left just as they are, even fertile and arable lands, being always wet, have little advantage over waste lands. Take for instance the River Ishikari that runs through the plain of the province of Ishikari. Into this river all the water of the whole province naturally makes its way, inundating the whole valley, so that the plain is never dry even for a single day throughout the whole year. This being the case, I am inclined to doubt whether the land could be properly developed at all. Let us, however, just suppose for a moment that a number of canals having connection with the River Ishikari have been constructed; what would follow? All the water of the valley, in the first place, would be discharged into the River through these channels and thus the plain would be kept always dry and arable; at the same time the transportation of manure and crops could be easily effected by means of small boats, and thus a better prospect would soon present itself. This, I am informed, is not the case with the province of Ishikari alone, but with all the other provinces of Hokkaido. In fact, what drains there are in Hokkaido are only constructed on a small scale and few have any connection with the rivers. I think only a short time having elapsed since the Restoration of *Meiji*, the Government has not been able to undertake the construction of canals on a large scale. Nevertheless, nothing could be of more urgent importance in places like the Hokkaido than to promote the means of communication, transportation and drainage.

The Hokkaido Administration Board. (*Hokkaido Cho*).

Among those interested in colonizing Hokkaido, some think of the importance of establishing a Colonial Department (Shokumin sho) instead of a mere Board for its Administration, with a view to afford a wider scope of jurisdiction for the conduct of the business. Well, this may or may not be so. We must, however, remember this, that Hokkaido was first governed by the Commissioner for Colonization (Kaitakushi), then by the organization of three Ken or Prefectural Governments, and is now being governed by the Hokkaido Administration Board (Hokkaido-Cho). These experiences have amply taught us that to have recourse to improving agencies may be advisable in dealing with a complete and developed society, but that to do this with an incomplete and infant society is as detrimental as to pluck out prematurely young blades that have sprung up as the result of immense labour in order to sow in their place better seed. Besides, it is a pity that almost every succeeding functionary should try to make parade of his ability, unnecessarily upsetting almost all the plans of his predecessors and establishing his own. How much more must this be the case when the Administration itself is going to be reorganized. In fact, it must follow as a natural consequence that new policies and contrivances present themselves one after another and the result would be no improvement in any way but mere changes and alterations producing more harm than good. Should such a project then as the reorganization of the Hokkaido Administration be adopted in the case of such a grand and important work as the Clearing and the Colonization of the Hokkaido? The important point to be always borne in mind is to secure an administrative policy permanently and resolutely fixed and to persue one straight course of progress dictated by that policy. As Government functionaries are employed for the sake of public works, that they deem themselves at liberty to undertake or abandon them recklessly is a grave error to be avoided very carefully. The Central Government should choose for the Chief of the Hokkaido Administration a competent man of energy and patience. They should indeed instruct him as to the broad policy they intend to adopt for the administration, but as for details they would do better not to interfere at all. Then the cherished aim of Hokkaido Colonization would be attained. Some maintain the opinion, however, that such an administrative plan is entirely unsuitable to Hokkaido and they have been led into this opinion by their disgust at the lamentable rumours that they have occasionally heard of affairs in the North. But to me it seems that these bad rumours from the North chiefly relate to pecuniary matters; if so, it would be well if the Authorities in Hokkaido were made responsible for this financial account not only to the Central Government but also to the Imperial Diet. If they were thus made to regulate their financial affairs within the office and to show them plainly, together with the actual condition of their working, to the public, then they would surely be able to conduct this business more regularly and promptly than ever within, and to dispel a cloud of public suspicion without, which otherwise might easily grow to very ugly dimensions. Then and only then would the course to be pursued in the Hokkaido Colonization be established on a firm basis and we should be enabled to realize gradually but steadily our hopes of progress and improvement.

Means for Encouraging Emigration to Hokkaido.

It is a law observed among men that the more population increases the more difficult the means of living are to be obtained, but where it is possible for a people to emigrate to a less populated region, a proper balance is maintained. Taking for a standard the north-eastern district, which is the least populated of any in the interior of the Empire, the whole island of Hokkaido should be able to maintain something over seven millions of inhabitants. Although the rate of increase in the population of our country is not so rapid as stated by Malthus in his work 'On Population,' we are yet actually increasing annually at the average rate of about 400,000. It will be seen then that emigration is a most urgent and important question for the State and one that no serious thinker on Political Economy should ignore. The effort and toil of the Authorities for the past twenty years have indeed enabled the public at large to understand that Hokkaido is a suitable field for emigration. But the means for encouraging and inducing emigrants to go there ought to be investigated according to the state of improvements in the land. Want of knowledge as to the actual condition of Hokkaido on the part of the public seems to be the principal drawback in this respect. Now it is but a natural feeling on the part of any one desirous of emigrating, to wish to be well informed about all the conditions of the land that is to be his future home. But it is a pity that there is as yet no means provided for this purpose, every emigrant being left to learn everything about the land, not before, but after his arrival at his destination. This being the case, the desire to emigrate is naturally hindered. I was also one of those who discovered the actual state of things there to be something very different from what I had been led to imagine. What the temperature is, for instance,—and it is the temperature which for the most part frightens the people so much in the interior—I had learned only through official reports or other books in connection with the Hokkaido. In them the temperature is stated statistically either in its maximum or minimum degrees. The consequence is that the reader can not but imagine—and not without reason—that the temperature in Hokkaido is always as terribly cold as those books inform him. Concerning the temperature of Hokkaido, however, I made enquiries in detail of residents there from the cold northern districts of the interior, and they told me that even in the coldest days in winter except January and February, 20°F of thermometer was very rarely experienced in Hokkaido. We may believe therefore that it is the design of Providence that, some day or other, Hokkaido shall be made a populous and flourishing land. I was also informed of the fact that snow on the ground

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in winter is not deeper there than in such regions in the interior as Morioka or Awomori. According to my cursory observation, the nature of the soil and the quality of such grains and vegetables as wheat, beans, and so forth seem even better than those in the interior of the country, and such trees as elm, walnut, oak, etc., are found growing in abundance. These are only a few instances in which I found that the real condition of Hokkaido far exceeded my anticipations; and this was due to the defective knowledge which prevails with regard to Hokkaido on the part of the public. The duty of imparting such knowledge to the public is part of what I term the indirect protection of immigration. It is important that sufficient communication should be opened between the Hokkaido Administration Board on the one hand and the Prefectural Government offices of the interior on the other, with a view to giving every would-be emigrant sufficient inducements as well as trustworthy information about the actual condition of the land to which he seeks to emigrate.

Fisheries.

In Hokkaido, the art of fishing was already so much developed in the early days of the Tokugawa regime that it constituted one of the chief occupations of the people, and various kinds of marine products such as herring, laminaria Japonica, Codfish, Salmon, and other fishes for manure were found all over the country. Since the restoration of *Meiji*, progress has been especially rapid, and now they are not only supplying a large local demand but are also exporting ever increasing quantities, representing a great sum of money. In fact, it gives little or no toil to fishermen to catch fish, and what they have to do is simply to wait for the fishing season (extending over half a year during which time fish swarm together) and make captures, only observing certain regulations respecting fishing grounds. What they catch during that season amounts to something immense, and enables all concerned in the business to lead a life of ease and comfort for the whole year, and accordingly there is scarcely any capitalist who does not invest his capital in this lucrative occupation. The fishing grounds and their respective rights having now been determined almost everywhere in Hokkaido, the fishing industry there, it might be imagined, has reached such a state of development that there is little left to be accomplished. In fact, however, it is not so at all. The art of fishing being yet in a state of infancy and the implements used being yet far from perfect, the fishermen are often deprived by the waves of the fish they catch in their nets. Again they seem to be still ignorant of the art of deep sea fishing; and being apparently unconscious of the fact that fish abound in waters little further off the coast, they are not unfrequently found to complain of the comparative scarcity of the fish harvest. If these defects could be remedied, great improvements, I believe, would take place in the development of the Hokkaido fishery and this is one among the urgent and important duties that should engage the attention of the Administration.

Clearing of the Land.

As there is such great profit and so little labour required in the fishing industry in Hokkaido that the people engaged in it are enabled to get on very well for a whole year simply by labouring half a year, there is, it is said, little incentive to industry among farmers, and this has been considered to be the chief reason why agriculture does not flourish in Hokkaido. It may be so to a certain extent, but is that the only cause why agriculture does not flourish there? I should regard it only as a secondary cause. Agriculture is one of the safest kinds of occupation, there being little or no risk, but when compared to commercial business which is full of ups and downs of fortune, the returns must of course be very slow. It is therefore but the natural lot of farmers that they should first expend a proper amount of capital and labour, and thus gradually lay with patience the foundation for future prosperity and happiness. Again, are not the markets for their productions naturally very much limited because of the inconveniences of transportation? I ask further, were the majority of the Hokkaido farmers people who had originally been trained as farmers before they emigrated thither? Were they quite familiar when they went there with the hardships of farming, the proper methods of cultivation, etc.? May not all the inducements offered to the *shizoku*, who knew nothing of agriculture, to emigrate to the land in the early years of the Restoration, be a great cause of the present regretfully tardy progress of agriculture in the Hokkaido? I think all these facts must have acted very powerfully in hampering the progress of agriculture there. The *shizoku* of the present day, however, having for a long time struggled for existence, can by no means be considered with justice as the same sort of people as the *shizoku* of the Restoration days; so that I am not at all of opinion that they are not competent for the clearing of new land. In short, whatever may be their class in society, those who attempt to emigrate to Hokkaido should be robust in health, energetic in spirit, and conversant with all sorts of agricultural labour. I think agitators on the Hokkaido question are often apt to pass arbitrary judgment merely from an accquaintance with statistics upon things relating to land. When they compare, for instance, the number of the population to the extent of the land, I doubt whether they do not push their arguments to excess, and draw too hasty conclusions by comparing the proportion of the population to the land in such densely populated districts as Tokaido, Sanyodo, or Saikaido with the proportion as it exists in Hokkaido. Just think of the rotation of crops in the prefecture of Fukuoka, which is one of the most populous prefectures in Japan. There grain, cotton, rape and other vegetables may be cultivated throughout all seasons of the year. After the rice harvest, wheat may be grown, and such vegetables as turnips, cabbages, etc. almost at the same time; so that generally speaking, the soil is capable of annually yielding not less than two rotations of crops. But in Hokkaido, on account of frost and snow, the soil is not capable of yielding more than one crop. Consequently, farmers in Hokkaido want twice or thrice as much arable land as farmers in the south-western provinces of the Empire would require. I am afraid if agitators on the Hokkaido question do not take facts like this into consideration, their arguments based on mere statistics can never be wholly devoid of errors.

As the farming season in Hokkaido is of so short duration, it would be, I think, very advisable for the farmers there to have some other means of deriving an income besides that of ordinary agriculture. That part of the Empire is very suitable for the rearing of cattle. Our countrymen have never been experts in the pasturage industry, so that the word "production" has hitherto been confined almost exclusively to sowing and harvesting. A passing glance at the grass along the roads would remind travellers of the advisability of encouraging the pasturage industry among farmers, so that they may occupy themselves usefully and profitably in their leisure time. Might not this industry develop in course of time? And might not the people having access to more nutritious food be enabled to encounter the cold climate of the north more easily? I should like to know the opinion of those who are interested about Hokkaido upon this point.

The institution of Colonial Troops originally borrowed from the Cossacks of Russia would seem to be altogether as good a system both for purposes of defence and clearing the land. But the principal work of the Colonial Troops, which is under the direct control of the Department for War, is in times of peace exactly the same work as that which is carried out by the Administration Board of the Hokkaido under direct control of the Home Department. In some respects, therefore, the two offices would seem to be discharging the same functions at the same time. Now, if each rigorously discharges its duties, the demarcation of which is not clearly defined, collision becomes almost unavoidable. And I fear the more the Hokkaido develops the more complicated troubles will they find requiring settlement between the two in the future. Have they not already experienced some disagreements arising out of this double system of administration that on the whole proves it to be disadvantageous to the cause of colonization? The Government would do well to pay serious attention to this matter and establish a plan that would avoid any complication of the kind. It is a matter of great difficulty to attempt to govern society in its imperfect state of development according to the complex rules of civilized and advanced society. If a better result could be finally attained, it would be far more prudent, I think, that such society should be governed according to simple rather than complex rules of administration. I do not mean that this should be the case only in matters relating to the Colonial Troops, but also with all other rules and regulations of the Hokkaido administration. That such rules should be characterized all through by simplicity and ensured as far as possible against future complications, and that the efficaciousness of public business should be more prized than strict adherence to the letter of the rules, are principles to which the Government and the public functionaries in charge ought to pay special attention.

The Right of Legislation by the People.

I have been often asked of late whether it would be advantageous or not to establish a local legislative assembly for the people of Hokkaido. A legislative assembly itself is not a bad thing to be sure, the only difficulty being whether the people can make a good use of it. It is needless it dwell here on the fact that a legislative assembly must have its principles based upon the population and property. In regard to these points none of the eleven provinces composing Hokkaido surpasses Hakodate, Otaru, Sapporo, and Nemuro; and all the rest may be reckoned as comparatively insignificant. Would not then the right of the weaker provinces be sacrificed for the interest of the stronger provinces in an assembly when local interests are so unequally represented? Could such an assembly, as a body, satisfy the wants of the weaker provinces without any selfishness? It would be extremely doubtful. Moreover, taking advantage of the scarcity of population, petty politicians of the interior uniting themselves with the few originators of the institution would very likely do something calculated to offer hindrance to the progress of colonization. The people of Hokkaido had better therefore in the first place mind their own private business and fulfil the duty of paying taxes in full to the State, and then they may expect to discuss the public affairs of Hokkaido in their local assembly. Considering the question again from the present state of progress in Hokkaido, it would seem they could do no better at the present time than devote themselves wholly to the development of their productive industry. Their burden being as light as it is to-day and the distribution of population and wealth being as unequal as it is at present, whether an institution like a local legislative assembly which a certain section of the Hokkaido men contemplate establishing would suit them or not is a matter that requires, indeed, an impartial judgment.

General Outlines of Industry.

The principal business of Hokkaido is to send out marine products of various kinds to the interior of the country and to import various articles of daily consumption. The season in which the business is brisk extends over a period of about six or seven months in a year, there being little business done in the remaining five or six months; and there exists a great difference in the state of circulation of capital and in the employment of labour between Hokkaido and the interior of the country, because in the former they seem to be very uneven in the course of a year. The remedy for this evil would be nothing more than to promote various kinds of industry and thus to cause capital and labour as far as possible to be employed constantly and evenly throughout the year. Let me state here an instance or two that I was informed of. The island of Hokkaido having an abundant supply of wild mulberry, silkworms could easily be reared and the silk manufacturing industry might be so developed as to make silk one of the staple productions of Hokkaido. Indigo is said to suit the nature of the soil and may be cultivated there, just as well as in the interior, so that indigo manufacturing might be made a winter occupation for the farmers. Hemp may be said to be a unique production of Hokkaido in the whole Empire, and hemp manufacturing might likewise be made another occupation for winter, and there may be even many more productions promising future development. Coal is abundantly produced, and its price is never so high as in the interior, and firewood and charcoal can also be obtained very easily. Sledges in winter are said to afford a great convenience for the transportation of raw materials for manufacturing. If these kinds of industry would grow sufficiently to bring about some commercial relations with the interior as well as with foreign countries, it would give Hokkaido a very useful and influential stimulus and we might hope to see the island of Yezo in a state of prosperity through the whole year. Financiers and men of business should not grudge giving their full and mature consideration to the matter.

The Aspect of the Whole Island.

The prosperity and adversity of an insular country may be considered to depend upon the number of good harbours that it possesses. An examination of the geographical condition of Hokkaido, however, reveal that it absolutely lacks any good harbours, except the single harbour of Hakodate. But as the survey of both the land and the sea has not yet been completed, it is difficult to ascertain definitely any thing of the kind. For the opening and clearing of new land, the survey of the land and the surrounding sea, the encouragement of farming and fishery, the opening of public roads and railways, the examination of the beds of mines, the repairing of the banks of rivers and streams, the drainage system, the increase of light-houses, the extension

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of telegraph and cablegraph lines, etc., are of paramount importance, and consequently require thorough and trustworthy investigations that will prove permanently effectual, and this was the reason that we introduced into our House of Peers last session a bill of representation to the Government for the completion of the investigation of various matters with regard to the Hokkaido, which having been passed, was presented to the Government. Thus, while no effort should be spared on the one hand to complete all the necessary means for opening the Hokkaido, all kinds of naval protection on the other hand should receive no less important consideration. Even though there be not any good harbours, we must have at least some proper naval ports established along the coast. Although the islands of Chishima seem quite unsuitable for clearing purposes, yet as they abound in marine products, their surrounding waters are, as is often reported, constantly visited by foreign poaching vessels. Nothing could be more important for the maintenance of national dignity than to guard strongly the boundary lines of the Empire against the encroachments and trespassing of obscure foreigners. If so, the boundary defence of Hokkaido must be a question of the gravest consequence both from military and diplomatic points of view.

Let us now briefly turn our attention to the state of affairs in our neighbouring countries and see what they are doing. With what wonderful velocity the countries of the Pacific slopes, Australia, and others are advancing! How conspicuous is the progress that countries like Northern China, Korea, and Siberia are daily achieving! There is the great enterprise of the Siberian railroad already on foot that will effectually unite the two great continents of Europe and Asia; and on the other, the grand work of the Nicaragua Canal is likewise already commenced that will thoroughly connect the three oceans of the east, the west and the south. As our Empire is so favourably situated as to lie just in the centre of these lines of connection, the Strait of Tsugaru would seem to command in the future the most promising position. The Siberian Railroad is a project that Russia is enthusiastically carrying into execution, and the Nicaragua Canal is a work that the United States of America are endeavouring to accomplish, and so there ought to be no doubt that the World will one day witness these grand works of enterprise completed. The people of Japan who are thus looking forward to the glorious epoch of such prosperity and enlightenment in the near future, should cast aside all mean and superficial thoughts, and thinking seriously of the circumstances in which the Empire is placed, unite their efforts in a spirit of energy and perseverance to lay deeply and firmly the foundation for the everlasting prosperity of Hokkaido. Then, surely, there is no reason why we could not achieve success, although we are much lacking in experience in the way of colonization.

Translated from the Japanese by N. KANEZAKI.

JAPAN IN 1907.

A POLITICAL NOVEL.

II.

The primary object kept in view by our author is to bring vividly and forcibly before the intellectual eyes of his countrymen the disastrous, if not fatal, consequences of the interminable party strife in which are wasted precious energies that ought to be reserved for the healthy expansion of the national life. The picture which he presents of Japan fifteen years hence verges, consequently, on the pessimistic. The wonderful record of the past fifteen years fully warrants us in looking forward with some degree of certainty to real and substantial progress in the same number of years to come. Signs of ever increasing activity are noticeable in every department of national life; and despite the fruitless and unsightly party contentions in which her politicians are engrossed, Japan will steadily increase in wealth and power. The discouraging predictions penned by Mr. Suyehiro about the immediate future of the country, will, no doubt, prove for the most part untrue. But nobody in the least conversant with current events will deny that the warning which he addresses to his countrymen with so much enthusiasm is as well founded as it is timely. There is no question as to the existence of the evil tendency which he tries to correct. All that he desires is to divert his countrymen from the fatal course of action they are pursuing, by pointing out to them the possible consequences of their folly. He would take no pride in the realization of his forebodings, on the contrary, nothing would give him more satisfaction than to see them completely contradicted by a turn of events in the right direction. Possibly he himself does not believe that the immediate prospects of his country are really as gloomy as he paints them. What amount of progress does Mr. Suyehiro believe that Japan will achieve in the next fifteen years? Absolutely nothing, at least in the political sphere. The Japan of 1907 will, in his imagination, be no whit ahead of the Japan of 1893. Her public men are as completely as ever lost in the labyrinth of party intrigues, and utterly incapable of taking large and nationalistic views of things; her finances are in a state of embarrassment; her Navy, after much empty talk of increase, has become stronger only by 10,000 tons; Treaty Revision still remains an unsolved question; and an absurd agitation is still kept up by a motley group of political adventurers against the opening of the country for mixed residence. What is the cause of this lamentable deadlock in Japan's political progress? Party strife, answers the author. Party contention is indeed a curse in every political community under a representative system of Government, but nowhere else has the evil become so harassing as in Japan. The spirit of local exclusiveness, implanted in the Japanese character from the earliest times by the peculiar geographical configuration of the country and intensified by several centuries of feudal régime, has no doubt something to do with the present unsatisfactory state of things in the political field. But perhaps the evil is inseparable from a transition stage such as that through which the country is now passing on its way to Government by Party.

The situation is complicated by the existence of two powerful factions within the ranks of the Government, which, though differing from each other in some important points, are agreed in their hearty abhorrence of the various political parties forming the Opposition. One of these is composed of young officials of ability and learning, who are strongly imbued with German ideas of Imperialism, and spare no pains to oppose the introduction of the English system of party government. Perhaps they are not altogether disinterested in advocating these views. It cannot escape their keen observation that, if the clan Government continues a number of years longer, they will find themselves at the head of affairs. Already, the real business of administration is largely in their hands, and some of them even exercise influence in directing the policy of the Government. It may be that their interests accidentally coincide with their opinions. At all events, it is true that men of this school are trying hard to persuade their superiors to pursue a policy of uncompromising opposition to the democratic aspirations of the Opposition parties. Their position in the Government is exactly similar to that of the implacable Progressionists in the Opposition camp.

The other and more dangerous faction in the Government is composed of military men. From the outset they have not been favourably disposed towards the various political parties, and their dislike of the latter has of late been increased to such a degree by the Diet's repeated rejection of important Bills on the defence of the country, that some of them even go so far as to hint the desirability, nay, the necessity, of suspending the operation of the Constitution. For our own part, we are strongly disinclined to believe that any Japanese, in his sober moments, would venture to advocate such a fatal course of action. We are aware that in the Summer of 1892 some papers in Tokyo assiduously circulated a rumour that certain military men of Satsuma had the intention of memorializing the Throne on the necessity of suspending the Constitution for the present. But that was evidently a scare invented by party politicians for a purpose best known to themselves. Though there is not much fear of their ever going to the length of petitioning for the suspension of the Constitution, they are doubtless waiting for an opportunity to give practical effect to their peculiar Military views of government.

What is the remedy recommended for the malady from which the country is suffering so intensely? Does the author suggest any means of saving Japan from the curse of party strife? Rear-Admiral Yamaguchi, a friend of the hero Tamano, and presumably antagonistic to the Military school described in the preceding paragraph, thinks that the only hope of salvation lies in a foreign war. "Be it with Russia, with China, or with England, let us but have a fight. When the enemy's balls fly over our heads, then and not until then, will the country awake from its fatal slumber." To this opinion of his friend, Tamano gives his approval, though not without some qualifications. Hence we may perhaps infer that the author though not himself belonging to the War Party, nevertheless reluctantly recognizes the necessity of resorting even to a foreign war in order to deliver his country from the factious contentions now sapping and eating her very life. There has always existed a group of men who seem to believe that war is now and then essential to the vigorous development of national life. Such men have hitherto been in a hopeless minority. But of late various circumstances have combined to render their opinions plausible and attractive to a large and increasing section of the nation. The cry for war is certainly very popular with the rising generation, the centre of the newly awakened spirit of enterprise. This is a subject for serious reflection by every true lover of the country. There is little danger that a Ministry like the present will be betrayed into a needless foreign war by the clamours of irresponsible agitators and adventurers. But a Cabinet less strong may, in order to retain power, be driven to avail itself of this unsound state of public sentiment and plunge the country into disastrous foreign complications. The distinguished statesmen who have created Modern Japan and are still guiding her course have a grave responsibility to discharge at the present critical juncture of her history.

One of the most interesting subjects touched in the work before us is that relating to the attitude of Japan in the event of war between Russia and England. Mr. Suyehiro is convinced that the two last named countries are destined to fight one of these days. In that event China, will certainly unite with England, as their interests are identical in so far as Russian ambition is concerned. But what course will Japan pursue? There are, says our author, three different classes of opinion on this question; first, that it is Japan's interest to cast in her lot with England and recover the island of Saghalien; secondly, that, it being almost certain that Russia will in the long run obtain the victory over England and China, Japan ought to take the side of Russia and endeavour to get hold of the Korean peninsula; and thirdly, that the wisest course for Japan to pursue is to maintain strict neutrality, taking at the same time care to secure advantages from both combatants. The Conservative Cabinet of 1907 is severely criticised by the author for having been easily drawn by insinuating representations of English diplomats into a British alliance without taking the trouble to exact a definite promise as to the division of spoils in the event of victory. Mr. Suyehiro does not state which of the opinions mentioned above is most popular among his countrymen. It is, however, tolerably apparent that, for his own part, he is of opinion that Japan should give her support to the highest bidder. He seems to thinks that there is little to choose between the restless ambition of Russia on the one hand and the steady aggrandisement of England on the other. Japan, he remarks, holds the balance of power between them, and it is the wisest policy for her to make the utmost of the unique position she occupies in the East. The highest glory of Japanese diplomacy will be, in his opinion, to maintain, in time of peace, a strictly neutral attitude and to make both the Great Powers vie with each other to obtain her goodwill, and in the day of collision between them to cast in her lot with the one willing to give her the largest reward.

Equally interesting is what the author has to say on Russian intrigue in Japan. It is extremely improbable that there will ever be in Japan politicians of Shibuya's type base enough to sell their country for the sake of their personal ambition. Neither is it conceivable that such men, if they actually exist here, will ever be suffered to carry their treasonable plot to the verge of success. However, a prevailing notion among the Japanese is that, in critical moments, Russia will try to carry out in this country the plan to which she has always resorted in the Balkan principalities and in the states of Central Asia. Nor is it impossible that she may find men here willing to act as her agents and spies. It may or may not have been a mere accident that our author locates the traitress Ibaraki Yukiko's residence in the vicinity of the "Russian Cathedral standing so grandly on Surugadai." But his Japanese readers cannot fail to attach a significant meaning to this passage, and the imposing building will ever be present in their minds when they pursue the sequel of this story of treason. The erection of the Cathedral in such a conspicuous situation was probably a mistake. The edifice is an eyesore to every patriotic youth in Tokyo. It is regarded as a standing symbol of Russian aggressiveness and intrigue, and only serves to keep up and intensify in the breasts of Japanese patriots the sentiments of distrust and suspicion with which Russia has always been regarded by a large section of the nation. We do not of course mean to say that such distrust and suspicion of Russia are well founded, but we simply note here the incontestable fact that such feelings are entertained by a large number of Japanese.

There are various other subjects of great, though

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secondary, importance discussed by the author, but we have no space for them in a journalistic review of this kind. We may observe that any of his observations may apply equally well to the Japan of 1893 as to the Japan of 1907. Perhaps such may have been the concealed intention of the distinguished author.

IKAO.

(From a Correspondent).

Kindayu's, August 26th.

Ikao has been compared to Clovelly. It is perched, nest-like, half way up a precipitous mountain-slope, and the principal street consists of an irregular double flight of steep broken stone steps, on either side of which is a row of attractive-looking shops, varied with bath-houses pouring out clouds of steam. I have heard it said that there are only two walks in Ikao; one over the mountains to Haruna, the other downhill to Takasaki. A more unfounded statement was never made. Ikao abounds in walks, all of them extremely beautiful; over hills, through woods, down ravines of unsurpassed wildness and charm, by the side of torrents which dash and roar along at the bottom of the gullies and dash gaily over the rocks in the form of waterfalls. The great drawback is that there is only one walk upon the level; and to reach that—which lies along the base of the hills and leads through a charming landscape to the Kwannon Temple overhanging Midzusawa—one has to go jouncing downhill for about a mile. It is this precipitousness which rather detracts from one's full enjoyment of Ikao. One is not always in the mood for clambering; yet a walk here consists of toiling and panting upward and then of jouncing and jolting downward, and the result is undue weariness. The atmosphere, too, is not so bracing as that of Karuizawa; there is a certain mugginess about it even when the thermometer is low, and this has the effect of inducing a sense of languor which does not dispose one to take exercise.

For those who study and admire cloud-effects there are few places superior to Ikao. They present an endless series of changing phantasmagoria. At one time there is nothing to be seen from one's veranda but a mass of dense, impenetrable white vapour. Anon a shaft of sunlight bursts upon the distant hills, which assume the appearance of a gleaming fairyland midway between earth and sky, a sort of enchanted region sloping upward and losing itself in fleecy mists. Then the white pall breaks up, and floats about in huge streaks, playing round the now visible dark-green mountain-tops with wonderful effect; and finally the clouds collect again, and a great mass of vapour comes sweeping over the ground like the steam from some gigantic boiler, shutting out every vestige of the landscape and shrouding even the adjacent village roofs from view. The sequel to this is generally a tremendous downpour, which sometimes lasts a few minutes only but occasionally goes on for hours.

But the lion of Ikao is unquestionably the Shinto Temple at Haruna. I have seen nothing so impressive anywhere. The gorge is deep and narrow, flanked with tremendous precipices and towering cryptomerias. On all sides rise gigantic blocks of rock, many of them looking as though the slightest earthquake would tear them up and hurl them rolling and crashing down the great crags in a colossal avalanche. These mighty masses come jutting out of the ground everywhere, all the way up the rugged slopes to the very top; and some of them terminate in jagged irregular peaks, which look like ruins of some Titanic castle, the stronghold of some bygone race of monstrous men. Wedged in between the recesses of these overhanging blocks are the Temple buildings; rich in much faded decoration, and beautiful by reason of their exquisitely artistic roofs. Steep steps lead from the brawling torrent far below to these eerie shrines, whither flock many votaries; some in quest of a blessing on their silk-crop, others in hopes of securing a happy marriage with the object of their affections, and others perchance with even more lofty aims. But whatever may be the motive which inspires the pilgrimage in particular cases, the entrancing beauty of the spot is an excuse for all.

Ikao strikes one as being a wider, a more picturesque, and an altogether superior Miyanoshita. There are more resources here than at the latter place, a larger number of walks, and certainly grander views; the great drawback I have already mentioned. And it would be unfair to conclude without a word of cordial praise for the excellently conducted and most comfortable hostelry from which I write.

JAPANESE IN AUSTRALIA.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Sydney, June 30th.

As anticipated, the question of Japanese labour in Australia has attracted attention in the Queensland parliament. The day before yesterday, one of the labour members moved the adjournment of the Legislative Assembly in order to direct the notice of the House to the fact that Japanese labour was being introduced into the Queensland sugar plantations, in place of that of the Kanaka, and to protest, on behalf of the labour party, against any systematic immigration of aliens. This brought the Queensland premier, Sir Thomas McIlwraith, to his feet. He said he had no official knowledge of the matter, but he knew that the Queensland labour party was consistently opposed to alien labour, or indeed to any other labour. This provoked expressions of dissent from the labour members, but the Premier was not to be silenced. He declared it was no use disguising his views. He was in favour of alien labour which had proved of immense benefit to the Queensland planters and to the Queensland white labourers also. The Queensland Government believed thoroughly in the encouragement of tropical agriculture by any fair means which would not injure any class of Queensland labourers, and he thought that the employment of Japanese on Queensland plantations would create work for the white labourers. He spoke highly of the intelligence and industrious habits of the Japanese as a race, and seemed to think that their presence, in moderate numbers, in Australia would be a positive advantage. Some little discussion followed, in the course of which it was complained, on behalf of the labour party, that there was no legislation to prevent Japanese labourers from entering into competition with white men, and that it would be impossible to keep them to the sugar plantations. Here the matter ended, at any rate for the present.

Australian pastoralists have long regarded Japan as the coming market for their wool, and the steadily increasing amount exported to Japanese ports has been regarded by them with satisfaction of the highest kind. Their expectations have become increased by the presence of a Japanese buyer at the recent wool sales in Sydney, his purchases including a quantity of merino and cross-bred scoured wools for direct shipment to Japan. Commenting on this fact, the *Sydney Morning Herald* says:—"This indicates that the Eastern market, for which producers and brokers have long been anxious, is somewhat nearer to being realised. In 1891 Australia sent to Japan 373 bales of wool, and in 1892 the quantity showed a marked increase, being no less than 1,027 bales. The active competion of a buyer in the local market may therefore be held as attesting the importance of both the Australian market and the Eastern demand. The land of the Mikado has forty millions of people to be clad, and though we must deduct a great percentage of these from the ranks of our probable buyers by reason of their poverty, there yet remain a very fair number to whom fabrics made wholly or in part with our wools are not prohibitive in price, and who may be expected to appreciate the comfort of such garments in the winter time, irrespective of the demand for tweeds and such cloths as the European woollen dress now so much in fashion among Japanese men renders necessary. Japan grows hardly any sheep, and there is no base of supply nearer than Australia. Hence our gain lies in the extension of woollen manufactures in that country. Nor need we omit to take account of other developments in the Eastern market. Last year Calcutta took 375 bales of wool, and, small as the item is, Australians will hope that it means a new customer, and that from this beginning we may be able to date an Indian trade in our leading staple. With China, so far, we have done little; but we may be assured that any large demand from Japan for Australian wool would not be without influence in the great Empire where, of its 400 millions of people, a very considerable proportion is subject to a climate as rigorous as that of Japan. It would be idle to deny that there are circumstances which render the Indian, the Japanese, and the Chinese markets for the present somewhat problematical, and no doubt the opening of the American ports to our products would be of much higher immediate advantage. But in the case of Japan, and, to a less extent, in that of India or China, it behoves the trade in Australia to lose no chance of putting colonial wools in those markets. No one needs to have pointed out to him the importance of new markets, and if a demand from the Eastern peoples should be established, it promises to be immense and to be one without fear of rivalry, unless the expected development of Siberia should include pastoral occupation of that rich country."

KOREA AT THE WORLD'S FAIR.

(From a Correspondent.)

Chicago, July 28th, 1893.

Not the least interesting among the exhibits in the great Fair is the Korean. Although the space allotted to Korea is not large, in fact not large enough to afford room for the proper display of the exhibits, yet it speaks very highly for the energy and friendliness of that Government. One of the most conspicuous deficiencies in the Fair is the absence of any Chinese Government exhibit. Our commercial relations with her are much greater than with Korea, and yet it is Korea that has an exhibit, while China holds off and loses a splendid opportunity of showing that she has thrown off the old time notion that she is rightfully the ruler of the world. We note with pleasure the evident determination of Korea to be "in it," when there is an opportunity to show the fraternal spirit and to gain whatever advantage is to be gained in standing side by side with the other nations, in commemoration of an event which, for the very reason that it does not affect her personally, shows that it is possible for her to take interest in other peoples in a wholly disinterested way. As to the contents of the Korean exhibit, great wisdom has been shown in the selection of articles.

Whoever had the selection of the articles knew that it would be far more to the benefit of the public to have an instructive exhibit than one which should pretend to compete with others in intrinsic beauty. The fabrics and manufactures of Korea are not intrinsically beautiful; at least they do not appeal to Western taste as do many of the products of Japan. I dare affirm, however, that if a man who knew nothing about either Korea or Japan were to see the exhibits of those two countries he would learn much more about the Koreans than he would about the Japanese. And this is just what is wanted. The world at large knows a hundred times as much about Japan as it does about Korea, and an instructive exhibit is exactly what is most needed. So we do not find in the Korean exhibit a long line of selected fabrics, nor a large collection of decorated ware, but we find a carefully selected collection of the garments of the people, the instruments of their daily life and avocation, their shoes, their pipes, their foods, their musical instruments, and their vehicles. Conspicuous among the articles of exhibit in the Korean section are the following:—

A one-wheeled vehicle used by noblemen in royal processions and on other State occasions. The wheel is about two feet and a half in diameter, and from its hub rise the supports of the chair which is about five feet from the ground. Long shafts extend backward and forward from the sides of the seat and between these shafts the bearers walk to keep the vehicle from tipping over. They carry the shafts on their shoulders. It must be confessed that this kind of conveyance is not without considerable dignity. The occupant sits shoulder high and advances surrounded with his retinue who keep shouting at the top of their voice "Ki-ui chi-ru, Ki-ui chi-ru" which means, if I am rightly informed, "The great man is coming. Let all small folks get out of the way."

Another interesting article is a suit of armour suitable for a Korean general. It is made of heavy crimson felt, and is ornamented with various curious devices in washed gold. There are gold dragons for epaulettes, gold bosses in front and rear, and the helmet is covered with gold dragons and other devices intermingled with a blue and white enamel. The helmet is surmounted by a long spike from which depends a handsome crimson horse-hair plume. The lapels of the helmet and the entire coat are bordered with a wide margin of sea-otter fur, which is well known to be the finest fur in the world. As a whole it presents a truly imposing appearance. It is said that the colour is crimson, so that when the wearer wipes his bloody sword upon his sleeve the sight of the blood will be less startling. How truly sanguinary! One would almost think that war was a pastime in the "Land of Morning Radiance."

Not the least among Korean exhibits are the handsome tiger and leopard skins that grace the walls. The long fine hair of the Mongolian tiger makes him a successful rival of his brothers of Bengal.

The Korean woman's skill at needle work is well shown in the characteristic screens and pillow ends.

But if I were to try to describe the exhibit in full I should weary your readers. Let it suffice that Korea stands side by side with the other nations in this wonderful summing up of the world's progress, and though her exhibit may not vie with that of larger and more powerful kingdoms, let us accept it as a proof of her desire to be included in the number of those who make *Progress* the watchword of their national life

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LETTER FROM CHICAGO.

(From our own Correspondent).

Chicago, August 5th.

Prof. John C. Milne at the Edinburgh, and T. Fujimoto and H. Uchida at the Great Northern, are among the recent arrivals noted at hotels. The two latter, it is stated, will make an examination, as officials, of the mechanical displays at the Exposition for a report to their government.

Mr. S. Suwa, of Japan, has been elected President of the jurors assigned to the department of forestry.

The other evening Imperial Japanese Commissioners Yamataka, Tejima and Matsudaira gave an entertainment at the Auditorium Hotel to about 200 guests, including the foreign World's Fair commissioners, the heads of the various departments of the Fair and leading citizens. Commissioner Tejima delivered an address of welcome; Hon. Thos. B. Bryan officiated as toastmaster; Commissioner Yamataka responded to the toast in honour of the Emperor of Japan; Major M. P. Handy to the health of the President of the United States; and several foreign gentlemen responded to toasts each of his own country. The banquet it is said, "eclipsed in gorgeousness" all previous entertainments of the kind.

Pictorial posters advertise here and there a "Miyako dancing" entertainment. Quite a large audience, admitted only by special invitation card, attended the "opening" on the 29th ultimo, and seemed to enjoy very much the pretty costumes and the graceful posturing. They frequently indicated their appreciation by hearty applause. It was a decidedly unique entertainment for the American public. The company is under the management of Mr. K. Uyenishi, and deserves success.

Last evening the Young People's Society of the Hyde Park Presbyterian Church gave a *Shimbokwai* and reception to the Japanese of the Exposition. They sent out over 200 invitations. Absence from the city prevented your correspondent from ascertaining how successful was the kind and thoughtful hospitality.

Worthington's Illustrated Magazine for August contains "Mental Characteristics of the Japanese" by Walter Dening.

Great anxiety is felt in this country for the safety of Frank G. Lenz, who is making the circuit of the earth on wheels. When last heard from, he was 900 miles inland in China; and he was due in Calcutta on March 1. Inasmuch as up to January 1 he had had several narrow escapes among the Chinese, who looked upon him as an "evil spirit," the apprehension for his safety is not unwarranted.*

Judge Ross, of Los Angeles, Cal., has declared unconstitutional the imprisonment-at-hard-labour clause of the Geary Act.

A caucus of the Democratic members of Congress has been called to meet this evening at Washington. The sentiment, so far as expressed, is strongly in favour of the repeal of the silver purchasing section of the Sherman Act.

And yet the silver men are alert and hopeful. They have just held a large Convention in this city; and made up an assemblage of prominent men of all parties and from all sections of the country. The Convention was called to order Tuesday morning, August 1, by General A. J. Warner, of Ohio; was welcomed by Mayor Harrison; and chose Allen W. Thurman, son of "the old Roman," of Ohio, as permanent chairman. During the two days' session ardent speeches were made by such prominent "silverites" as Hon. T. M. Patterson, of Col.; T. V. Powderly; Ignatius Donnelly; Senator Stewart; Congressman Bryan, of Neb.; ex Senator Hill, of Col.; from the same State Gov. Waite, who recently became notorious for some wild and bloodthirsty threats against the "gold bugs;" Congressman Newlands, of Nevada; Senator Allen, of Neb.; and others of minor fame. The long platform, presented by the committee on resolutions, was unanimously adopted. It breathes the full spirit of the Convention, especially in its denunciations of Senator Sherman, Secretary Carlisle and President Cleveland. After several "whereases," in which the history of bimetallism was traced down from 3,000 years ago; the calamities and distresses caused by the demonetization of silver were vividly depicted; and Carlisle and Sherman are quoted against themselves:—The platform declared that there must be no compromise, but immediate and complete repeal of all anti-silver legislation; that the "only remedy for our metallic financial troubles" is to put gold and silver on the old ratio of 16 to 1; that the Sherman Act must not be repealed, "except by an act restoring free bimetallic coinage;" that the present financial troubles are not due to that act; that the popular distrust is not of the government or its money, but of the banks; etc. An extra resolution, kindly passed for Secretary Carlisle's benefit, reads as follows:—Whereas, In to-day's dispatches from New York it appears that Secretary Carlisle has been in consultation with the bankers of New York to know what they want, and

Whereas, There are at least 40,000,000 of people in the United States not in the banking business,

Resolved, That we notify Mr. Carlisle that it might be well to meet a representative delegation of those people to ascertain what they want touching the finances of the country.

Meantime the financial condition remains practically unchanged. The Erie Railway has gone into the hands of a receiver; John Cudahy, a Chicago Speculator in lard, pork, wheat, etc., has been "caught," and has entangled with himself N. K. Fairbank, and others; the large wholesale and retail drygoods house of James H. Walker and Co. has just failed; and several more banks here and there have been compelled to close. The city of Denver was for several days threatened with riots by the large army of unemployed which poured in particularly from the mining camps now closed: banks and stores were guarded at night by armed employés, and relief organizations were kept busy providing for those who were absolutely needy. Kansas City, Omaha, St. Louis and even Chicago received large accessions of the idle.

And yet the outlook in general is really hopeful. Banks are increasing their notes, and getting currency from Washington. Gold is coming back from England "in a steady stream," and has also been ordered in a special supply by Chicago banks. The Government's gold reserve is above the 100,000,000 mark. The increase of currency brings a feeling of relief, and will help move the crops. The approaching session of Congress also has a reassuring effect, because it is believed, that not only monetary but also tariff legislation will be considered. The President's message is awaited with much interest.

When Benjamin Franklin proposed to start a newspaper his mother opposed the idea because there were already two papers in America!

The Canadian Presbyterians have a "Briggs Case" on hand. Pro. John Campbell, of the Montreal Presbyterian College, is to be tried before the Montreal Presbytery at a meeting to begin September 2nd. His views of the Bible and of God are considered heretical.

Fred. H. Hovey, a brother of Mrs. Parsloey, of Nemuro, is a champion tennis-player.

Carson, Pivie, Scott and Co., of this city, are advertising "Japanese *Comonas*" for sale!

The people of the Pacific coast seem to be in earnest about their Mid-winter Exposition at San Francisco. They have offered Chief Thorpe, of the World's Fair department of Floriculture, a similar position at their Fair, to be followed by an engagement for ten years in the Stanford School of Floriculture.

Theodore Thomas, head of the Music Bureau at the Exposition, has tendered his resignation.

Ex-State Senator McNaughton, World's Fair Commissioner from New York, died the other day in the State Building.

A Mrs. Lucille Rodney, of Galveston, Texas, has achieved notoriety by winning a wager of $5,000, that she could walk from there to the Fair between May 16th and August 1st along railroad lines. She was a day ahead of time.

The Woonsocket Rubber Company distributes, but not promiscuously, as a souvenir a tiny pair of rubber-boots.

The Rajah-i-Rajagan, of Kapurthala, a "rich and popular ruler of the Punjaub," is here visiting the Fair. George Francis Train has also arrived, and told an *Inter Ocean* reporter: "Come to save the Fair, to save Chicago, to save the Republic, to save the world." He will be "guided by psychic force" in accomplishing this mission of averting disaster from the Fair, etc.

The Exposition Directors are undoubtedly relieved of much anxiety by the presence of "Citizen Train;" but even before his arrival they had found their finances in a fairly good condition under the circumstances. The Exposition is almost out of debt (floating) and will soon begin to make payments on bonds. The expenses will, moreover, be reduced still more by the discharge of unnecessary employés.

It was probably the consideration of economy which induced a change with reference to buildings open at night. Hereafter, only the Electricity Building, Machinery Hall, and one other (alternating) will be open every evening.

The Sunday-opening question has proved a veritable boomerang to the Directory of the World's Fair. They summoned "Banquo's ghost" which will not down at their bidding. Last Sunday, pending the outcome of the case in Judge Stein's Court, they opened the Fair, but having less than 20,000 paid admissions, lost money. On the 2nd inst. Judge Stein decided that certain World's Fair officials had been guilty of contempt of court in closing the Fair on Sunday in defiance of his injunction granted in the Clingman suit: and he fined Lyman J. Gage, Charles Henrotin, N. D. Kerfoot, Charles L. Hutchinson and Andrew McNally $1,000 each; Victor F. Lawson, $100; and Director-General Davis, $750. An appeal has been taken, but will scarcely avail. On account of the improbability of being able to get this injunction dissolved, it looks as if the Fair would have to be kept nominally open at considerable extra expense. For very few persons will care to pay 70 cents for looking chiefly at closed or covered exhibits.

During the last days of the Educational Congress, a National Geographical Conference was held. The most important and interesting fact of its programme was a lecture on "Arctic Expeditions" by Gen. A. M. Greely. Recent explorations in Alaska were discussed by Miss Eliza R. Scidmore.

The past week has been devoted to two congresses, running simultaneously:—that of Engineering and that of Art and Architecture. The former was divided into Civil, Mechanical, Mining, Metallurgical, Military, Marine and Naval and Engineering Education; the latter included architecture, photography, ceramics, painting and sculpture. Japan was represented in two sections; by a paper on "Recent Improvements in Photographic Lenses" by Prof W. K. Burton, of Tokyo; and by one on "Japanese Art" by Prof. S. Choyo before the Decorative Art section. Aërial navigation has also received considerable attention the past week.

[* Mr. Lenz had left Bhamo, in Upper Burmah, when last heard of a few weeks ago.—Ed. *J.M.*]

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[Reuter "Special" to "Japan Mail."]

London, August 24th.

The belief is gaining in Washington that the early repeal of the Sherman Act is certain.

The Duke of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha is dead. The Duke of Edinburgh, H.M. the Queen's second son, has taken the oath and assumed the reins of government as his successor, in the presence of the Emperor of Germany. It is understood, however, that he will abdicate the position in favour of his son Alfred (born October 15th, 1874), when the latter attains the age of 21 years.

Cholera is increasing seriously in Europe.

London, August 26.

The Report on the Home Rule Bill was closured without any excitement, the remaining amendments being mostly disposed of undivided. The third reading is fixed for Wednesday.

The Times states that M. Develle, the French Minister for Foreign Affairs, is demanding the explusion of the Danish officers in the Siamese Army and Navy. It believes that these claims are a mere pretext for demanding fresh territory.

London, August 28.

The House of Representatives has passed the Bill for the Repeal of the Sherman Act, and prospects are improving for its prompt adoption by the Senate.

Secretary Carlisle has ordered the mints in Philadelphia and San Francisco to coin with the utmost rapidity all the gold bullion lying in their vaults.

London, August 29.

Negotiations are at a standstill at Bangkok. The exact demands of France are kept a profound secret. The English press is renewing its attacks upon France and accuses French diplomatists of an attempt to establish a semi-protectorate.

London, August 30.

The French are constructing earthworks at Chantaboon, and threaten to recall the gunboats to Bangkok.

The House of Representatives has rejected an amendment proposing the free coinage of silver.

London, August 31st.

A cyclone, followed by a tidal wave, has swept the coasts of North and South Carolina,

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Georgia, and Florida, creating fearful havoc. It is stated that 500 persons were drowned.

Mr. Gladstone moved the third reading of the Home Rule Bill, and Mr. Leonard Courtney, Liberal Unionist, formerly Chairman of Committees, moved its rejection. The division is to take place on Friday.

[Specially telegraphed to the "Japan Daily Mail."]
[From the "N.-C. Daily News."]

London, August 22.

The French elections are at present going in favour of the Republicans; all the Ministers have been re-elected.

London, August 23.

The French elections have resulted most favourably for the Republicans, only fifty-six Conservatives and nine advanced Socialists being elected.

The King of Siam received the French Envoy-Extraordinary, M. le Myre de Vilers, with great ceremony.

London, August 25.

The speech of Senator Voorhees in the U.S. Senate, urging the repeal of the vicious Sherman Act, produced a deep impression, Voorhees being a pronounced bimetallist.

Senator Wilson, an advocate of low tariff rates, has been appointed Chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means, and he will proceed forthwith to revise the McKinley tariff.

London, August 26.

Lord Dunraven's yacht *Valkyrie* has sailed for America to compete in the races for the America Cup.

Hankow, August 21.

Consul-General Bock has wired instructions to the provincial authorities to deliver up the Sungpu refugees. The Viceroy Chang Chih-tung declines the mission and trouble is expected.

[From the Manila "Comercio."]

Paris, August 10.

The election contests are proceeding quietly.

General Dodds has left for Dahomey to organise another expedition against Behanzin.

Madrid, August 5.

Cholera has appeared at Naples, and is raging with great virulence.

Madrid, August 11.

A serious riot occurred in Vittoria on the occasion of the passing through of the Minister of War, the rioters protesting against the proposed abolition of the office of Captain-General. Vittoria has been declared in a state of siege.

Madrid, August 13.

Violent earthquakes have occurred in Italy, occasioning deaths and personal injuries.

Fears are entertained of an eruption of Vesuvius and Etna.

Madrid, August 18th.

Berlin has been officially proclaimed infected with cholera.

The strikes at the coal mines all over England have paralysed almost all industries and manufactures, and also traffic by rail and steamer, through failure of the fuel supply.

The Russian Government has issued an absolute prohibition of the import of silver, either in bars or in coin.

An outbreak is feared in Catalonia, arising out of the question of abolishing the post of Captain-general, or provincial military governor.

August 19.

A body of armed Republicans massed in the province of Valencia to-day, but was met and dispersed by the troops, the ringleaders being captured.

[From Saigon Papers.]

Saigon, August 11.

Strong pressure is being brought to bear by the French in Cochin China and Cambodia on M. Le Myre de Vilers to induce him to modify the treaty with Siam or refuse to sign it.

Paris, August 13th.

M. Dupuy in his electoral address urges adhesion to Republican principles.

He also points to the success of the Government in the Siamese affair.

Paris, August 14th.

A Socialist shot at M. Lockroy to-day, without any motive, and slightly wounded him.

Paris, August 15th.

Cholera has made its appearance in Roumania.

Paris, August 16th.

Cholera is spreading in Galicia, and some cases have also occurred in Berlin.

Paris, August 17th.

Dr. Charcot is dead.

The heat is suffocating. A drought prevails in Western Europe.

CHESS.

[All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.]

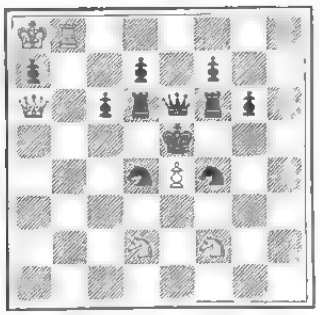
Solution of Problem No. 84

WHITE.	BLACK
1—R — K R sq.	1—K — Q B 6
2—R — R 2	2—P — Q 6 or K — Kt 6
3—Q — Q Kt 2, mate	
	if 2—P — R 5
3—Q — Q B 2, mate	
	if 1—K — K 6
2—R — R 4	2—P — Q 6
3—R — K 4, mate	
	if 2—K — Q 6
3—R — R 3, mate.	

Correct solutions received from Omega, W.H.S., J.D., J.W.E., and O.B.

A.M.S. (Sendai).—If Black moves instead 1—P to R 5, White cannot mate in two more moves. White certainly effects mate in the way the K is made to move, but Black must have freedom to make the best defence possible. The P on R 4 is placed there to prevent the common-place solution you have given. We welcome a lady contributor to our columns and wish her better luck next time.

Problem No. 86.
By H. F. L. Meyer.



White to play and mate in three moves.

We have received a copy of Lasker's journal, the *London Chess Fortnightly*, for July 14th, from which we learn that the Master proposes to challenge the veteran Steinitz for the Championship of the World. We call the following scheme from Lasker's manifesto: and as far as we know this is the first time in Chess history that a combatant desires to divide his winnings with his backers. We advise some of our local speculators (who are tired of contemplating "Banks," "Breweries," "Silver," "Exchange," etc.) to take a hand in this new venture! Note the 50 per cent.!

"In contemplation of such a match Mr. Lasker has already received numerous substantial offers from friends in the United States to contribute towards the necessary stake fund: and he now appeals to his English friends to render such financial assistance as will enable him to issue the challenge with a full knowledge that the entire stakes are covered. In making this appeal to a generous British public, we may be permitted to state that all rumours of his intention to permanently settle in the States are devoid of foundation. It is Mr. Lasker's intention to return to this country and it would be the proudest moment of his life, if on his return to England he could bring with him the championship of the world.

"Mr. Lasker is no unmindful of the brilliant record of his proposed opponent in match play, with its list of unbroken victories, extending over a period of thirty years, and he does not desire to enter into the great match in any light spirit. The task before him will be a great one; the victory—if he can obtain it—will be glorious; feeling this, he will nerve himself to the great task; he will strive to the best of his abilities to secure that glorious victory. Nothing will give him greater nerve for the encounter than a knowledge that the chess amateurs of England have shown their confidence in him by subscribing to the stake fund such a sum as the occasion demands.

"As to the stake fund, the amount will be 5,000 dollars, to be contributed under the following conditions:—

"1st.—If Mr. Lasker win the match, each backer to receive back the amount of his subscription together with a bonus of 50 per cent.

"2nd.—If the match be drawn, each backer to receive back the amount of his subscription without any deduction.

"3rd.—If Mr. Lasker lose, then the stakes are lost.

"Mr. Chas. A. Gilberg, president of the Brooklyn Chess Club, has consented to act as stakeholder in America, whilst Mr. W. H. Cubison, of the British and City of London Chess Clubs, has consented to act as stakeholder for the English subscribers, and we are assured that the mention of such honoured names is in itself a guarantee that the match, if brought about, will be conducted in a way creditable to all concerned."

Referring to our issue of 19th August, the challenge there mentioned has been taken up by two of our local players: and certain amateurs of Nagasaki and Yokohama are whiling away the pleasant summer hours by a game of long bowls. A simple telegram-code has been arranged, and two games have been started. We learn that one of them is a Ruy Lopez defended by the ancient stand-by of 3—P to Q R 3: and the other a Petroff's defence in which the Cochrane attack is being vigorously pushed by White. We hope the telegraph wires will be kept hot with the constantly passing messages; and heartily recommend players in the other Treaty ports to "go and do likewise."

Our English Correspondent writes as follows under date 15th July:—"Here is a game played a few days ago at the British Chess Club. Mr. Blackburne conceding the odds of King's Knight.

(Remove White King's Knight.)

WHITE. Blackburne.	BLACK. Amateur.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 3
2—P to Q 4	2—P to Q 4
3—Kt to B 3	3—Kt to K B 3
4—P to K 5	4—K Kt to Q 2
5—Q to Kt 4	5—P to K B 4
6—Q to R 3	6—B to K 2
7—P to K Kt 4	7—Castles.
8—R to K Kt sq.	8—B to Kt 4
9—P × P	9—B × B
10—P × P	10—Kt × K P
11—P × Kt	11—B × Q Kt P
12—B to Q 3	12—B × Kt ch.
13—K to Q sq.	13—Q B × P
14—R × P ch.	14—K × R
15—Q × P mate.	

"A game with a most delightful and problem-like termination. In this instructive game nothing comes out more distinctly than the importance of not wasting a single move. White's crowning sacrifice, on the 14th move, makes the game one of exceptional beauty, even among the many artistic examples of Mr. Blackburne's play."

Hensing.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAILS IN DUE

From Shanghai, Nagasaki and Kobe	per N. Y. K.	Friday, Sept 8th
For America	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Sept. 5th *
From America	per O. & O. Co.	Tuesday, Sept 12th †
From Hongkong.	per P. M. Co.	Sunday, Sept 3rd ‡
From Canada, &c	per C. P. M. Co.	Monday, Sept. 11th ‖
From Europe via Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Wed'day Sept. 6th
From America	per O. & O. Co.	Friday Sept. 8th
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Sept 10th
From Hongkong	per C. P. M. Co.	Thursday, Sept 14th
From Europe via Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Friday, Sept. 15th

* *City of New York* left San Francisco on August 29th † *Gaelic* left San Francisco on August 26th ‡ *Peru* left Nagasaki on August 30th. ‖ *Empress of Japan* left Vancouver on August 29th. The English mail is on board the steamer *Victoria*.

THE NEXT MAILS LEAVE

For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, Sept. 2nd.
For America	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Sept 5th.
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki	per N. Y. K.	Tuesday, Sept. 5th
For Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, Sept 8th
For Victoria and Tacoma	per N. P. Co.	Saturday, Sept. 9th.
For Europe, viâ Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Sept. 10th.
For Hongkong	per C. P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Sept 12th.

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LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Yokohama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,298, Swain, 25th August,—Shanghai and ports 18th August, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yayeyama Kan (4), Japanese despatch-boat, Captain K. Miura, 25th August,—Yokosuka 25th August.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. M. Young, 25th August,—Otaru viâ ports 21st August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hideyoshi Maru, Japanese steamer, 465, S. Asai, 26th August,—Kuchinotsu, Coal.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 684, M. Matsumoto, 27th August,—Kobe 26th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, M. Fukui, 27th August,—Yokkaichi 26th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Verona, British steamer, 1,878, C. H. S. Tocque, 27th August,—Hongkong 19th, Nagasaki 23rd, and Kobe 26th August, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Cardiganshire, British steamer, 1,657, Stocock, 28th August,—London viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,240, J. T. Smith, 28th August,—San Francisco 10th August, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S Co.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Ekstrand, 28th August,—Kobe 27th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Riversdale, British steamer, 1,311, Peck, 28th August,—Hakodate 26th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, Y. Arai, 29th August,—Yokkaichi 29th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,034, H. Walter, 29th August,—Otaru viâ ports 24th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Harima Maru, Japanese steamer, 436, Kawamuro, 29th August,—Yokkaichi 28th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kaisow, British steamer, 1,934, Jas. Gray, 29th August,—London viâ ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Melpomene, Austrian steamer, 1,848, C. Bellen, 30th August,—Batoum, Oil.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, M. Fukui, 30th August, Yokkaichi 29th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Pender, 31st August,—Otaru viâ ports 27th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. M. Young, 31st August,—Kobe 30th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Melbourne, French steamer, 3,400, Vimont, 31st August,—Marseilles viâ ports 23rd July, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,168, Crichton, 31st August,—Sydney viâ ports 28th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sessiu Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,011, Hayashi, 1st September,—Kobe 30th August, General.—Nada Kogio Kabushiki Kaisha.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 1st September,—Moji, Coal.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, Y. Arai, 1st September,—Yokkaichi 31st August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,358, Haswell, 1st September,—Shanghai and ports 26th August, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Daphne, German steamer, 1,394, F. Voss, 1st September,—Hamburg viâ ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Myrmidon, British steamer, 1,815, R. Nelson, 1st September,—Liverpool viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Moray, British steamer, 1,411, 2nd September,—London viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

DEPARTURES.

Bankoku Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,475, Okuma, 25th August,—Otaru, Ballast.—S. Asano & Co.

Yayeyama Kan (4), Japanese despatch-boat, Captain K. Miura, 25th August,—Yokosuka.

Yuen Sang, British steamer, 1,106, Slasser, 25th August,—Hongkong viâ Nagasaki, Ballast.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Tantalus, British steamer, 2,199, H. Jones, 25th August,—London viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Amagi Kan (8), Japanese corvette, Captain Nomura, 26th August,—Yokosuka.

Belgic, British steamer, 2,690, Wm. H. Walker, 26th August,—San Francisco, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Modoc, American barkentine, 430, Bosch, 26th August,—San Francisco, Coal and General.—De Souza & Co.

R. W. Logan, American schooner, 27, L. Paulson, 26th August,—Caroline Islands, Stores.—Captain.

Yayeyama Kan (4), Japanese despatch-boat, Captain K. Miura, 26th August,—Yokosuka.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 26th August,—Moji, Ballast.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Natal, French steamer, 4,038, H. Verron, 27th August,—Shanghai viâ Kobe, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, T. Sakai, 27th August,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. M. Young, 27th August,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Aglaia, German steamer, 1,666, Peterson, 28th August,—Hamburg viâ ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,219, Wilson, 28th August,—Shimonoseki, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hokushiu Maru, Japanese steamer, 735, S. Oka, 28th August,—Otaru, Ballast.—S. Oka.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, M. Fukui, 28th August,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,053, Thompson, 29th August,—Kobe, Light.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,240, J. T. Smith, 29th August,—Hongkong, Mails and General.—P. M. S S. Co.

Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 684, M. Matsumoto, 29th August,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yokohama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,298, J. W. Ekstrand, 29th August,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Riversdale, British steamer, 1,311, Peck, 30th August,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hideyoshi Maru, Japanese steamer, 465, S. Asai, 30th August,—Kobe, General.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,034, Walter, 30th August,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Thompson, 30th August,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, Y. Arai, 30th August, Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Meiji Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,010, Allen, 31st August,—Hakodate, Stores.—Lighthouse Department.

Harima Maru, Japanese steamer, 436, Kawamuro, 31st August,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kaisow, British steamer, 1,934, Jas. Gray, 1st September,—London viâ ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Sessiu Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,011, Hayashi, 1st September,—Shinagawa, General.—Nada Kogio Kabushiki Kaisha.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, M. Fukui, 1st September,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Clan Buchanan, British ship, 2,072, Geo. R. Harris, 2nd September,—Kobe, Oil.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

PASSENGERS

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Rev. and Mrs. J. F. Smith and child, Lieut. Wassieleff, Messrs. Lagonlajeff, C. A. Swanstrom, H. Sharp, N. Boranoff, and A. Michell in cabin; Masters Sakaki (3), Messrs. A. N. Newman, J. Manley, Edw. DeVos, C. H. Nelson, W. Smith, and W. Hart in second class, and 37 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, from Otaru viâ ports:—Messrs. Youtari, Kaiser, Ewaya, and Maki in cabin; 5 passengers in second class, and 36 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Verona*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Messrs. E. C. Herdman, T. F. Harvey, A. J. McKisack, and F. J. Hall in cabin.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, from San Francisco:—Dr. W. H. Abercrombie, Mr. P. Pinez, Rev. and Mrs. H. V. S. Peeke, Rev. and Mrs. J. F. Smith, Rev. and Mrs. U. G. Murphy, Mr. K. Akai, Mr. B. Yoshikawa, Mr. M. Fujita, and Miss Matsuma in cabin. For Hongkong: Mrs. Andrew Brown and Mr. Manuel Herrera in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Omi Maru*, from Kobe:—Mr. P. S. Herman, Mr. H. P. Wilkinson, Mrs. Maynell, Mr. W. Hampton, Mr. Y. Yamakuchi, and Mr. N. Yanada in cabin; 10 passengers in second class, and 54 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru*, from Otaru viâ ports:—3 passengers in second class, and 53 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, from Kobe:—Messrs. T. R. Green, Hengman, W. Putman, and Mrs. R. Swain in cabin; 4 passengers in second class, and 57 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, from Otaru viâ ports:—1 passenger in second class and 36 passengers in steerage.

Per French steamer *Melbourne*, from Marseilles viâ ports:—Mr. Arisaka Mariakia, Mr. Breger, Mr. Isutare Bickart, Mr. Poiget, Mrs. and Miss Wagen, Mr. Brepson, Miss Marie Place and amah, Mr. Geo. Saub, Mr. H. Vinag, Mr. C. de Wogack, Mr. and Mrs Adler, Mr. Philippe, Mr. H. de la Camp, M. de Wendrick and son, Mr. E. A. Apcar, Mr. Remedios, Mr. de Bure, and Mr. Hair, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Sagami Maru*, from Manila:—Mr. and Mrs. Pickford and Mr. Reynolds in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, from Shanghai viâ ports:—Messrs. A. Wilson, S. A. Lyall, R. A. Smith, J. B. Coulson, Miss Swain, Mr. Hardcastle, Mrs. E. A. Gibbens, Miss Daisy Fitzgerald, Messrs. K. Inouye, Y. Ito, Oyama Keemann, and A. Clarke in cabin; Mr. Phomior, Misses Hartly, Thorton Hoyan, Mr. K. Idzutani, Mr. T. Mochidzuki, Mrs. K. Sutton, Messrs. Chan Kan Yu, Cheng Nuoy Sung, Takakami, and Miss Sadanaga in second class, and 33 passengers in steerage. For Hakodate: Mr. and Mrs. Marshall in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Belgic*, for San Francisco:—Mr. F. A. Bather, Mr. J. Audonnet, Mrs. Elliott, Miss Elliott, Dr. W. H. Furness, Mr. W. R. Furness, Mr. S. Ishimoto, Mr. Y. Kawai, Mr. K. Marai, Mr. M. Saito, Mr. W. F. Todd, and Mr and Mrs. Y. Wooyeno in cabin.

Per French steamer *Natal*, for Shanghai viâ Kobe: Mrs. Vigneli and son, Messrs. Sankichi Tamauchi, Becquet, Hair Hong Take and boy, J. Kanakasundare, Remnan Pietnay, Poonan, C. C. Lee, C. W. Evan, Mrs. Roiz and 5 children, Mr. L. Trèves, Mr. and Mrs. John Whittle and child, Messrs. Guggenheim, L. Brisatto, and R. Roda in cabin.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, for Hongkong:—Rev. J. R. Taylor, child, and amah, Mr. J. R. Simms, and Mr. L. C. de Rozairo in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Rev. and Mrs. J. Frazer and child, Miss A. Morgan, Miss Stedman, Messrs. H. Huggett, M. S. Abrahams, P. Pity, P. Blesky, H. P. Williamson, C. N. Crosse, Hunter Sharp, H. W. Morgan, and Dr. Harris in cabin; and 28 passengers in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, $50,000

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—

TEA.

	CANADA.	CHICAGO AND WEST.	NEW YORK AND EAST.	PACIFIC COAST.	TOTAL.
Hongkong ...	—	—	32	40	72
Colombo ...	—	—	—	19	19
Foochow	825	—	—	275	1,100
Shanghai ...	1,341	1,068	2,836	30	5,275
Hyogo	503	278	—	41	822
Yokohama ...	1,435	—	—	315	1,750
Total	4,104	1,346	2,868	720	9,038

SILK.

	NEW YORK.	MONTREAL.	TOTAL.
Hongkong & Canton	10	—	10
Shanghai	4	—	4
Yokohama	88	—	88
Total	102	—	102

Per British steamer *Belgic*, for San Francisco:—

TEA.

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	CHICAGO.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai ...	100	—	—	—	100
Yokohama ...	2,376	293	905	579	4,153
Hongkong ...	69	—	—	—	69
Foochow	260	—	—	—	260
Total	2,805	293	905	579	4,582

SILK.

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	HARTFORD.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	—	10	—	10
Hongkong	—	231	—	231
Yokohama	—	68	—	68
Total	—	309	—	309

Per French steamer *Natal*, for Shanghai viâ Kobe:—Raw Silk for France, 698 bales; Waste Silk for France, 25 bales. Treasure for Singapore, $16,000.

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Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, $55,000.00.

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, Captain Swain, reports:—Left Shanghai the 18th August at 3 p.m.; had strong N.E. winds, gloomy threatening weather and heavy rain, moderating to light winds with occasional showers up to arrival at Nagasaki the 20th at 7 a.m., had heavy rain during stay in Nagasaki. Left the 21st at 5 p.m.; had moderate to light north-easterly and north-westerly winds and cloudy weather up to arrival at Shimonoseki the 22nd at 6 p.m. Left again the same day at 11 a.m.; experienced through Inland Sea, light variable winds, cloudy but fine mild weather up to arrival at Kobe the 23rd at 7 a.m., heavy rains during stay in Kobe. Left Kobe the 24th at noon; had fresh westerly to S.W. winds, dull, gloomy weather and frequent heavy rain squalls up to passing Oshima at 8.45 p.m.; thence to arrival at Yokohama the 25th August at 3.45 p.m.; experienced north-easterly winds and fine, clear weather.

The Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, Captain Young, reports:—Left Otaru the 21st August at noon; had light variable airs and fine weather to Hakodate, arriving the 22nd at 6.10 a.m. and left the 23rd at noon; had fresh S.W. to south winds and fog at times and southerly sea. Arriving at Oginohama the 24th at 11.30 a.m. and left the same day at 3 48 p.m.; had strong S.S.W. winds and high sea to Inuboye; thence to port light southerly airs and fine weather. Arrived at Yokohama the 25th August at 5 15 p.m.

The American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, Captain Smith, reports:—Left San Francisco the 10th August at 4.20 p.m.; experienced fresh to strong westerly gales with head sea most of the passage. Arrived at Yokohama the 28th August at 1.43 p.m. Passage, 17 days, 1 hour, 54 min.

The Japanese steamer *Omi Maru*, Captain J. W. Ekstrand, reports:—Left Kobe the 27th August at noon; had light east winds and fine weather; passed Oshima at 9 30 p.m. the same day, had from moderate to strong breeze and cloudy weather and high east swell; in the morning on the 28th, wind and sea moderating; passed Rock Island at 12 30 p.m., had gentle N.E. winds and fine weather. Arrived at Yokohama the 28th August at 6 30 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru*, Captain Walter, reports:—Left Otaru the 24th August at noon; had light variable winds throughout the voyage. Arrived at Hakodate the 25th at 8.40 a.m. and left the 26th at 5.10 p.m.; had fresh breeze and overcast with south-easterly sea; on the 28th at noon moderate breeze with fine, cloudy weather. Arrived at Oginohama at 7.50 p.m. and left the 28th at 4.40 a.m.; at noon had moderate north-easterly winds and sea, with thick, rainy weather; at midnight light air and fine, cloudy weather. Arrived at Yokohama the 29th August at noon.

The Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, Captain Young, reports:—Left Kobe the 30th August at noon; had light variable airs and fine weather throughout the passage. Arrived at Yokohama the 31st August at 3.45 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, Captain R. Pender, reports:—Left Otaru the 27th August at noon; had fresh to strong winds from S.E. accompanied with rainy and thick weather. Arrived at Hakodate the 28th at 7 a.m. and left the 29th at noon; experienced moderate S.S.W. winds with heavy southerly swell, weather misty and at times foggy. Arrived at Oginohama the 30th at noon and left the same day at 2 30 p.m.; had gentle southerly winds with fine, clear weather till 9 p.m. when set in with thick fog; at midnight fog cleared away but weather remaining misty; passed Inuboye the 31st at 5.53 a.m.; thence to port moderate S.W. winds with fine, clear weather. Arrived at Yokohama the same day at 4 p.m.

The French steamer *Melbourne*, Captain Vimont, reports:—Left Marseilles the 23rd July at 4.30 p.m.; called in quarantine at Alexandria the 28th and at Port Said the 29th, entered at noon on the 29th the Suez Canal which she passed through in quarantine. Left Suez the 30th at 8 a.m. Arrived at Aden the 3rd August at 10 47 a.m. and left Aden the same day at 11.17 p.m.; experienced fine weather till she passed the east promontory of Socotra; thence for 2 days, strong monsoon with heavy sea. Arrived at Colombo the 10th at 1.30 p.m. and left Colombo the same day at 11.47 p.m.; thence to Acheen head, fine weather with very light monsoon, but when approaching Poulo Way she experienced a very heavy rainy squall which obliged her to slack her speed; passed Diamond Point the 14th at 3 p.m.; thence to port fine weather with a very strong contrary current. Anchored at Sultan the 17th at 2 a.m. and came alongside the Borneo Wharf the 17th at 6 a.m. Left Singapore the same day at 4.30 p.m.; thence to Cape St. James, fine weather with light S.W. breeze, called at Saigon the 18th at 7.47 p.m. Left Saigon the 20th at 6 a.m.; passed Padaran Cape the same day at 7 p.m.; thence to Paracels Reef, fine weather with very smooth water; thence fine weather with some rainy squalls. Anchored at Hongkong the 23rd at 1.17 a.m. and left Hongkong the same day at 8.17 p.m.; had fine weather and favourable current; on the 24th at 8 37 a.m. passed the steamer *Changsha* of London (KHFQ); passed Lamock at 9.37 a.m.; thence to White Dogs, fresh N.E. breeze, sky overcast, rough sea, and contrary current; passed Turnabout the 27th at 1.24 a.m.; thence to Alligator heavy rainy squall with phosphorescent sea barometer 30 1, thence fresh N.E. breeze, sky overcast, moderate sea, and some showers at nightfall; passed Hieschan at 9 p.m.; passed Gutzlaff the 26th at 7 30 a.m. and anchored at Woosung at 11 a.m. Left Woosung the same day at 11.47 p.m.; passed Tungsha the 27th at 2.10 a.m.; thence to Shimonoseki Strait, overcast weather, strong N.E. breeze, heavy sea; passed Shimonoseki the 28th at 9 p.m.; thence to port fine weather and smooth sea; passed the steamer *Natal* at 11 a.m. on the 29th and came alongside the pier at 3.30 p.m. Left Kobe the 30th at 7.30 p.m.; had fine weather, light S.W. breeze, smooth sea; passed Oshima at 12 p.m. and Rock Island the 31st at noon; thence to port fresh S.W. breeze; passed Kanoi-saki at 3.40 p.m. and moored at Yokohama on the M.M. buoy at 4.30 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Sagami Maru*, Captain Chrichton, reports:—Left Sydney the 28th June at 7 a.m. Arrived New Castle the same day at 3 p.m. and left the 5th July at 11 a.m. Arrived at Noumea, New Caledonia, the 9th at 7 p.m. and left the 11th at 9 a.m. Arrived at Manila the 27th at 9 30 a.m. and left the 12th August at 3 p.m. p.m. Arrived at Hongkong the 15th at 9 30 a.m. and left the 20th at 6 a.m. Arrived at Nagasaki the 24th at 4 30 p.m. and left the 25th at 2 p.m. Arrived at Kobe the 27th at 7.40 a.m. and left the 30th at 12 noon. Arrived at Yokohama the 31st August at 9 p.m.; had light winds and calms and very fine weather throughout the entire passage from Sydney to Yokohama, viâ ports above mentioned.

The Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, Captain E. W. Haswell, reports:—Left Shanghai the 26th August at 11 a.m. and arrived at Nagasaki the 28th at 53 0 a.m. Left the same day at 5 p.m. and arrived at Kobe the 30th at 6 a.m. Left again the following day at noon and reached Yokohama the 1st September at 2.30 p.m.; experienced strong north-east winds with much head sea and cloudy weather to Nagasaki; light variables and calms were met with through Inland Sea to Kobe; thence along the coas. had light variable winds and fine clear weather to Yokohama.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

No revival in the Import Trade and affairs continue in a very unsatisfactory condition. A slight demand arose for double Yarns but, as usual, subsided before many bales had changed hands. In Piece Goods, Dyed Shirtings have experienced a light intermittent enquiry, while in the Fancy line a fair amount of Black Cotton Velvets were sold at a rise of 5 to 10 cents. Woollens remain neglected.

COTTON PIECE GOODS

	PER PIECE.	
Grey Shirtings—8½ lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	$2 05	to 2 50
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 38½ yds 45 inches	2.30	to 3 00
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.50	to 1 85
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches	1 50	to 1 90
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	1 65	to 2 50
	PER YARD.	
Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 32 inches	0 14	to 0 18
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	6.25	to 8.75
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0 62½	to 0 77½
	PER PIECE.	
Turkey Reds—2 0 to 2 4lb, 24 25 yards, 30 inches	1 40	to 1 47½
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	1 57½	to 1.77½
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.00	to 2.27½
Turkey Reds—4 8 to 5lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2 47½	to 2.67½

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.	
Flannel	$0.30	to 0.45
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0 30	to 0.35
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0 25	to 0.29
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0.19	to 0.25
Mousseline de Laine—Cape, 21 yards, 31 inches	0.13	to 0 19
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0 35	to 0 50
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0 60	to 0 65
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0 40	to 0 70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 4 to 5½ lb. per lb	0 40	to 0.53

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.	
Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	—	
Nos. 16/24, Medium	—	
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	—	
Nos. 16, 24, Reverse	—	
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	—	
Nos. 28/32, Medium	—	
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	—	
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	—	
No. 32s, Two-fold	—	
No. 42s, Two-fold	—	
	PER BALE.	
No. 20s, Bombay Nom.	—	
No. 16s, Bombay Nom.	—	

METALS.

Another dull week in this market. Bar Iron shows some slight inclination to move, but other lines remain without any enquiry whatever. Holders continue firm and anxiously await a definite settlement of the Silver question.

	PER PICUL.	
Flat Bars, ½ inch	$3 60	to 3 70
Flat Bars, ¾ inch	3 70	to 3 75
Round and square up to 1 inch	3 15	to 3 25
Iron Plates, assorted	3 00	to 3.15
Sheet Iron	3.90	to 4.10
Galvanized Iron sheets	7.00	to 7.25
Wire Nails, assorted	5 00	to 5 45
Tin Plates, per box	5 70	to 6 00
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.40	to 1 42½

KEROSENE

Nothing new to report in this department. Holders seem unwilling to come down in their prices and the native buyers do not display any anxiety to operate. An arrival of about 90,000 cases of Russian Moon per steamer *Melpomene* has given a somewhat easier tone to the market, the quotation for this brand having fallen 2 to 3 cents per case.

Chester	$1 67½	to 1 72½
Comet	1 65	to 1.67½
Devoe	—	
Russian Anchor	1 67½	to 1 70
Russian Moon	1 62½	to 1 65

SUGAR.

No activity has appeared in this market. Browns continue dull without enquiry and Whites remain unnoticed.

	PER PICUL.	
Brown Takao	$4 85	to 4 90
Brown Manila	5.30	to 5.40
Brown Daitong	4 75	to 4 80
Brown Canton	5.45	to 5.65
White Java and Penang	6.60	to 6.70
White Refined	7 55	to 9 20

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last was dated 25th ultimo. Since then settlements on this market amount to 622 piculs, divided thus: *Hanks*, 11 piculs; *Filatures*, 300 piculs; *Re-reels*, 267 piculs; *Kakeda*, 44 piculs. Direct shipments have been 29 bales, making the total export business for the week 650 piculs.

There has been some business doing from day to day, at gradually declining rates, but there is no life in the market, consumers refusing to take hold in spite of the very moderate prices now ruling, coupled with a low exchange. Probably when the silver question is settled (if ever it be) and exchange experiences a permanent rise, they will rush for silk (which they now despise) at very much higher cost. Settlements and export figures of even date last year give a marked contrast to the present state of affairs. It is admitted on all sides that silk is in fashion and that manufacturers are likely to have all they can do for an indefinite time to come. Stocks of raw material in consuming markets are light and it is hard to see how prices can go much lower.

Exchange has fallen again and we are down to the quotations of a fortnight ago.

There have been three shipping opportunities since we last wrote. The Canadian mail *Empress of China*, 25th ultimo, took 88 bales for the New York trade; the American mail steamer *Belgic* followed next day with 68 bales for the same destination, and the French mail of the 27th ultimo, steamer *Natal*, took 698 bales for Europe. These departures make the total shipments to date 4,177 piculs against 8,949 piculs last year, and 8,752 piculs at the same date in 1891.

Hanks.—The only sale to record is one parcel *Shimonita*, said to be something choice, at $625. In *Hachoji* sorts, nothing done this week.

Filatures.—Trade in these has fallen away somewhat, although prices are mostly on the downward path. In fine sizes, best *Mino* has been done at $870, with *Usen* at $875. In full sizes, some *Shinshu*, called Extra, has been done at $770, while *Kaimeisha*, medium size, has been freely taken at $810. Firm offers would probably bring out yet lower prices.

Re-reels.—Some revival in demand at low prices

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and a fair amount of business has been done. *Joshu* sorts, *Tortoise* and *Five Girl* $680; *Oshu Koriyama*, second quality, $650; *Joshu Shorusha* and *Ichimurasha*, $615; *Common Joshu* and *Bushu*, $590.

Kaieda.—Less doing and prices lower. No. 1 *Horsehead*, $680; *Niwatori*, $600; *Three Girl*, $620.

In other sorts, no business.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK).

Hanks—No 1	—
Hanks—No 2 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	$600 to 620
Hanks—No 2½ (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No 2½ (Joshu)	580 to 590
Hanks—No 2½ to 3	560 to 570
Hanks—No. 3	550 to 555
Hanks—No. 3½	540 to 545
Filatures—Extra 10 to 12 deniers	870 to 880
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	760 to 770
Filatures—No 1, 10/13 deniers	830 to 840
Filatures—No 1, 13/15, 14/16 den	730 to 740
Filatures—No 1½, 10/14 deniers	800 to 810
Filatures—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 den	700 to 710
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	770 to 780
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	690 to 700
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—(Oshu) Best No. 1	—
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	680 to 690
Re-reels—No 1½, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	670 to 675
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	620 to 630
Re-reels—No. 2½, 14/18 deniers	600 to 610
Re-reels—No 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Kakedas—Extra	740 to 750
Kakedas—No. 1	710 to 720
Kakedas—No 1½	680 to 690
Kakedas—No. 2	650 to 660
Kakedas—No 2½	620 to 630
Kakedas—No. 3	590 to 600
Kakedas—No 3½	—
Kakedas—No. 4	—
Oshu Sendai—No. 2½	—
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	—
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	—
Sodai—No. 2½	—

Export Raw Silk Tables to 1st Sept., 1893.—

	Season 1893 1894.	1892-93	1891-92
	Bales	Bales	Bales
Europe	3,183	4,316	3,234
America	901	4,490	5,371
Total { Bales	4,084	8,806	8,605
Total { Piculs	4,177	8,949	8,752
Settlements and Direct Export from 1st July	Piculs 4,950	Piculs 11,800	Piculs 8,900
Stock, 1st September	9,150	5,100	8,400
Available supplies to date	14,100	16,900	17,300

WASTE SILK.

Rather more demand, settlements for the week being 450 piculs, divided thus: *Noshi*, 422 piculs; *Kibiso*, 28 piculs. No direct export this week.

Dealers have stopped considerable business by their high tone. At closing, however, they seem to be rather more current and probably more business will follow

There has only been one slipping opportunity, the French mail steamer *Natal*, on the 27th ultimo, taking 27 bales for Europe. The departure of this vessel makes the total export 803 piculs, against 2,083 piculs last year and 1,010 piculs at even date in 1891.

Pierced Cocoons.—The market was opened yesterday by the purchase of about 1,000 piculs at 18 *kaks*, making $135 per picul for 75% yield. There is another thousand piculs waiting for the next comer at the same price.

Noshi.—A fair amount of business done in *Filature* and *Oshu* at last quotations. One parcel fair *Mino* has brought $97 and *Joshu*, good to best quality, has been done at $85

Kibiso.—Nothing done beyond a few sample bales of *Zagouri* at $77. There are some *Filatures* in stock but so far no demand comes from consumers.

In other sorts, nothing to remark.

QUOTATIONS —(NEW WASTE).

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	$130 to 140
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	160 to 165
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	150 to 155
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	140 to 145
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	150 to 160
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	130 to 135
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	120 to 125
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	110 to 115
Noshi-ito—Bushu, Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	90 to 95
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	80 to 85
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	70 to 75
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	—
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	—
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Good to Fair	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Middling to Common	—
Kibiso—Hachoji, Good	—
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	—
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	—
Mawata—Good to Best	—

Export Table Waste Silk to 1st Sept., 1893.—

	Season 1893 94	1892-93.	1891-92.
	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Waste Silk	769	2,083	1,010
Pierced Cocoons	34	—	—
	803	2,083	1,010
Settlements and Direct Export from 1st July	Piculs. 1,600	Piculs. 1,800	Piculs. 2,900
Stock, 1st September	13,400	13,100	10,100
Available supplies to date	15,000	14,900	13,000

Exchange.—This has declined again upon advices of lower Silver in the home markets. Present quotations are:—LONDON, 4m/s. Credits, 2/6⅛; Documents, 2/6⅛. NEW YORK, 30d/s. U.S $61½; 4m/s. U.S. $62½. PARIS, or LYONS, 4m/s. fcs. 3.19.

Estimated Silk Stock, 1st Sept., 1893:—

Raw.	Piculs.	Waste	Piculs.
Hanks	150	Cocoons	2,900
Filatures	5,390	Noshi-ito	5,140
Re-reels	2,550	Kibiso	4,810
Kakeda	1,010	Mawata	75
Oshu	10	Sundries	475
Taysaam Kinds	30		
Total piculs	9,150	Total piculs	13,400

TEA.

A further falling off in demand has been apparent in this market and sellers are trying to tempt operators by conceding slightly in their prices. The stock now on offer is large but composed principally of the lower grades.

	Per picul.
Common	$13 to 14
Good Common	15 to 16
Medium	17 to 18
Good Medium	19 to 20
Fine	21 to 22
Finest	23 to 25
Choice	26 to 27
Choicest	30 to 32

EXCHANGE.

Silver is still on the downward course, but closes somewhat firm at undermentioned rates.

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	2/5½
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	2/5⅝
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	2/5⅝
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	2/5⅝
On Paris—Bank sight	3.09
On Paris—Private 4 months' sight	3.19
On Hongkong—Bank sight	Par.
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	1 % dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	73
On America—Bank Bills on demand	59½
On America—Private 30 days' sight	61
On America—Private 4 months' sight	62
On India—Bank sight	197
Silver	34⅛

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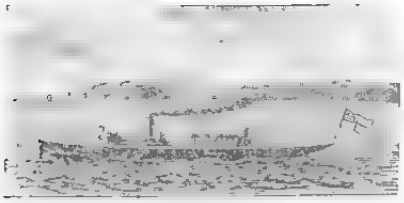

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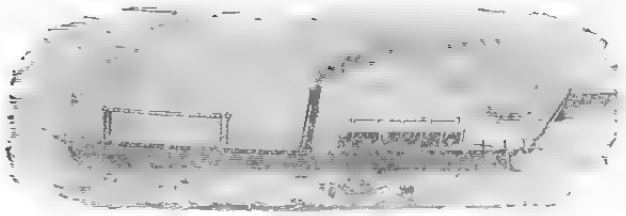

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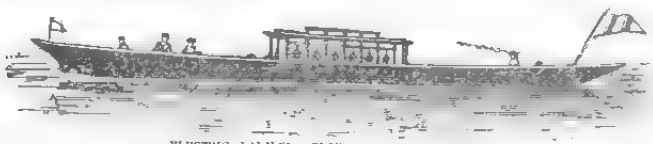

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The Japan Weekly Mail:

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, SEPT. 9TH, 1893.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

DYSENTERY is decidedly on the increase in Central Japan.

TWO very dastardly murders have taken place in Tokyo during the week.

A VERY violent rainstorm swept over Yokohama on the morning of Monday last.

THE ban of suspension placed on the *Chova Shimbun* was removed on the 3rd inst.

EIGHTEEN Japanese and twenty-four foreign men-of-war entered the port of Yokohama last year.

THE rinderpest which lately re-appeared in Wakayama Prefecture has extended to Osaka and Miye

A FANCY dress ball given by the French Minister and Madame Sienkiewicz at Nikko proved a great success.

THE Japanese steamers entering Yokohama last year totalled 747, the foreign steamers amounted to 245.

STEPS have been taken to construct an electric railroad between Oita and Beppu at a cost of seventy-five thousand *yen*.

THE big temple of Hongwanji in Tsukiji, Tokyo, was completely destroyed by fire on Thursday morning

ON the 3rd inst. the death took place in the capital of Mr. Haruki, Chief Public Procurator of the Supreme Court.

DURING a severe thunder-storm on the 31st ult. five persons were killed by lighting at Tokushima, and ten were more or less seriously injured.

MR. ABBEY'S new 17-rater *Daisy* won another fine race on Saturday, beating the B. division over the Outside and Inside Course. It was a pleasure to watch the skilful handling the little boat received from her owner during this race.

A CHINAMAN in Yokohama has set the fashion of hiring Japanese *soshi* to restore domestic felicity, through the agency of brute force.

A TRUCK attached to a freight train leaving Shizuoka on the 8th inst. at 10.15 a.m. for Tokyo became derailed, and delayed traffic for fully an hour.

THE death took place in Hongkong on the 31st ult., of Senhor Jose da Silva Loureiro, who for many years was Portuguese *Chargé d'Affaires* in Tokyo.

THE returns of the tea business in Yokohama for the second half of last month were:—Sales, 478,000 *kin*; arrivals, 420,000 *kin*; and stock, 924,500 *kin*.

DURING a thunder-storm on the afternoon of the 1st inst. the residence of a farmer at Inata, in the Tachibana District of Kanagawa Prefecture, was struck by lighting.

YOKOHAMA base-ball players received a drubbing at the hands of the U.S. Navy team in the match played on Saturday, but on Thursday they repaid the compliment in some measure.

THE *Sakata Maru* has been unloaded somewhat and on Wednesday was moved a short distance She is lying on a sandy bottom, and unless bad weather springs up should soon be floated off.

THE *Aikoku Maru* struck the Breakwater on Wednesday while making for the harbour mouth, and stuck fast till noon, when the *Tsukuba Kan* towed her off. No damage was sustained by the ship.

LIBEL actions raised by Mr. Hoshi Toru against the *Kokumin Shimbun*, *Chova Shimbun*, *Yorozu Choho*, which were thrown out by the Tokyo Local Courts, have been taken to the Tokyo Court of Appeal.

MR YAMAMOTO IHEI and other leading residents of Uda, Miye Prefecture, lately organized a joint stock company to introduce the electric light into the town. The capital is fixed at twenty thousand *yen*.

MR. UKITA KEIZO, M.P., residing at Ando, Higashi-ku, Osaka, while digging in the compound of his residence found a pot containing about twenty-five *kwamme* (one *kwamme*=8¼ lbs. Avd.) of ancient silver coins.

THE Local Japanese Court has inflicted some heavy fines upon a Japanese liquor dealer who has been infringing the "Kirin" Beer trade mark by selling spurious beer placed in bottles labelled with the Company's labels.

J. R POLLEY is still engaged in wearying out the patience of the U.S. Consular-General Court. He has been brought up, partially examined and then re-committed for contempt, every day this week with monotonous invariability.

NATIVE papers say that the Asahi Beer Company of Osaka, and the Yebisu Beer Company of Tokyo, have divided the Empire for business purposes, and both parties contract not to enter the domain apportioned to the other in search of extended trade.

WE read in the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* that a Kagoshima telegram received by the Government, states that numerous shocks of earthquake were felt there on the 7th inst commencing at 2 30 a.m. The oscillations were most severe at Chiran-mura, in the Kijirei District, where three strong shocks were experienced up to 8 p.m. Some sixty cracks were made in the roads, and more than half of the stone walls in the neighbourhood were damaged. No life is reported lost, but great anxiety prevails.

IT is gazetted that the *Matsushima Kan*, *Naniwa Kan*, *Takachiho Kan*, *Chiyoda Kan*, and *Takao Kan* left Otaru on the 6th instant for Korsakoff.

DURING a storm on the forenoon of the 4th inst. two boats, which left the English Hatoba with some passengers, were overtaken by the gale and became waterlogged. The people on board were rescued by the Customs' House steam-launch.

THE quantity of rice exported through Kobe during the month of August last was:—900 tons of refined rice, valued at *yen* 58,701.20, and 525 tons of uncleaned rice, valued at *yen* 27,342 00; total, 1,425 tons, valued at *yen* 86,043.20.

FOR the relief of the sufferers from the famine in the Shansi province, China, a sum amounting to $80,000 collected in Malaya and the neighbourhood has been remitted by wire from Singapore to Tientsin through the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank.

IT is announced that in consequence of Mr. Francois Esnaud, the French Gaurantee-Engineer of the *Chishima Kan*, being on the point of returning home, his evidence will be taken *de bene esse*, in H.B.M.'s Court on Monday, Sept. 18th, at 10.30 o'clock.

IT is stated that H.I.M. the Emperor of Austria has been pleased to confer on Mr. Sannomiya, Vice-Grand Master of the Board of Ceremonies; Marquis Kido, Mr. Ito Yukichi, and Mr. Yamanouchi Katsuhira, Masters of Ceremonies; Mr. Yamaguchi, Director of the Palace Superintendance Bureau; Captain Kurooka, Major Muraki, and Messrs. Tsuda, Hidaka, Takahashi, Niira, Oyama, Yagi, and Yamada, attendants in the Imperial Household, decorations ranging between the second and sixth classes, in recognition of services rendered by them during the stay in Japan of the Archduke Franz.

So far as the Import Market is concerned this has been another week of inactivity, and prospects of a revival of business in the near future are gloomier than ever. Yarns, Piece Goods and Cottons are absolutely lifeless. Flat Bars, which last week were enquired for slightly, are again hanging fire, but Wire Nails of various lengths are in moderate request. A small business is reported in Kerosene, but requirements are very small. Sugar is very apathetic, and a heavy arrival of Takao had no influence whatever upon the market, it having been principally settled while afloat. Holders of Tea are conceding points every day, but owing to the unsatisfactory condition of the Home market and the poor qualities now on offer, little is doing. Increased settlements of Raw Silk characterise the week, and owing to a buyer from London entering the market prices have been pushed up fully $20 all round in Filatures. Considerable parcels of Shinshu filatures are in treaty, prices ranging being $760 and $780. An enthusiastic buyer has also paid $700 for a few boxes of Joshu "Kaura," although other men secured the same chop for $690. Dealers are still very strong in their demands for Raw, which prevents business to a great extent, but prices show no signs of tumbling from their present quotations so long as the present low exchange lasts. Exchange, by the way, has recovered from the lowest point touched, but last week's closing rates were not recovered.

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THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

All the calculations of the political meteorologists as to the situation in the coming session of the Diet seem now in danger of being completely upset by a new movement in the Radical party. For some months past the Radical organ, the *Jiyu Shimbun*, has maintained an exceptionally reasonable and moderate tone towards the Government; so moderate, indeed, that some people concluded that the Radicals had completely displaced the National Unionists as supporters of the Government. Of course there was no ground to believe that any understanding had been actually arrived at between the Radicals and the Cabinet. But this much was certain, that the Radical party as a whole was not unfriendly to those in power. Of late, however, it was rumoured that the Radicals were contemplating a policy of violent opposition to the Cabinet in the next session. The so-called revelations about the manufacture of counterfeit money, which were begun in the columns of the *Jiyu* on the 7th instant and which at once brought upon that paper the ban of suspension, are taken as a sign that the Radical party has really changed its attitude towards the Cabinet. It is well understood that these disclosures are directed against the Minister of Home Affairs and possibly one or two other members of the Cabinet. In what respect these Ministers are to be mixed up in the story, is not known precisely, although it is not very difficult to guess. That the Radical organ should endeavour, presumably with the full approval of the leader of its party, to arouse popular feeling against those members of the Ministry whom it has been its custom for some time past to speak of as more enlightened and liberal than the statesmen of the Military section, looks as though a complete change has taken place in the whole policy of the great party. It is observed by some persons by way of explanation, that the Radicals were alarmed to find themselves the objects of universal attack and detestation as unprincipled instruments of those in power, and that they were still more alarmed to see signs of dissension and discontent in their own camp. They fear, it is said, that, unless they take at this critical moment some decisive step to vindicate their honour as being true to the cause of the people *versus* the Government, they will irretrievably lose the high position they have secured by their advocacy of that cause. They have consequently decided, according to rumour, to let the nation see that they are as radically opposed as ever to the Government by strongly attacking a few of the more important Ministers of State. We can vouch for the accuracy of this rumour, and believe it likely that the Radical party's attitude in the fifth session of the Diet will be more hostile to the Cabinet than people have hitherto supposed.

* * *

The *Jiyu Shimbun*, in an article in the same issue that brought about its suspension, observes that the day on which the Radical party will be able to declare its attitude towards the Government, will be that on which the administrative reforms under contemplation shall have been completely carried out. The reforms already accomplished in the Navy are declared to be very incomplete, so are those effected in the Army and various schools under the Department of Education. But the Radical organ does not like to be rash in its judgment, and will wait till all the changes shall have been introduced. "We have," it states, "our own ideas [on the subject of reforms], and if they happen to coincide with those of the Cabinet, the latter will be our friend; whereas if they disagree, we cannot regard the Cabinet as our friend."

* * *

With respect to the administrative reforms to be shortly carried out, the *Jiji Shimpo* is convinced that they will not be satisfactory. How, it asks, could it be otherwise? What are the evils to be reformed? The Cabinet Ministers, says our contemporary, seem to think that these evils are superabundance of officials and superfluous expenditure. These are no doubt evils that must be remedied, but the root of all l es, in the *Jiji's* opinion, in the very composition of the Cabinet itself. Constituted as it is on the basis of clan Government, how could it be otherwise. The present Ministry trying to reform itself, is like the Tokugawa Government striving to abolish the feudal system. If the Ministers of State are really desirous of introducing reforms, they are advised to leave office and let the Opposition take their place. But if they lack the courage required for such a course of action, they are told to leave things as they are and try as best they can to maintain the clan Government. No other rational course is said to be open to them, and the policy which they are now pursuing is denounced by our contemporary as leading to no good.

* * *

The *Yomiuri Shimbun* has a series of interesting articles on the subject of the situation in the coming session of the Diet. In its opinion the situation depends upon these questions; namely, first, whether an alliance will be formed between the Progressionists and the National Unionists; secondly, whether the Radicals will become unequivocal supporters of the Government; and thirdly, whether the National Unionists will really oppose the Government. As to the first question, the *Yomiuri* is decidedly of opinion that such an alliance will never be formed. The National Unionists and the Progressionists may accidentally happen to agree in attacking the Government on some questions. But the reasons which they will attack the Cabinet will be essentially different. The National Unionists are not satisfied with the present Ministry, because it does not pursue a strong militant policy. Consequently, anything like united action between them and the Progressionists is believed to be impossible. Some Progressionists may entertain hopes of co-operation with the Radical party *minus* the Hoshi section, but the *Yomiuri* thinks that the Radical party is not likely to disown Mr. Hoshi and his followers, and that, unless such an event takes place, there is little hope of reconciliation between the two parties. However these two parties will be found to agree accidentally on some points. With regard to the second question, that is the probable attitude of the Radicals toward the Government, our contemporary remarks that party may become moderate in its policy, but that it will not go so far as to declare itself for the Cabinet. The Radicals have at their backs a history of ten years' bitter opposition to the Government, and, consequently, they cannot shake hands with the latter without plausible reasons. Nevertheless, the *Yomiuri* is inclined to believe that the Radicals will be more or less friendly to the Government. "They will loudly oppose the Cabinet in the next session, although we are not sure that their opposition will not centre upon questions which are of trifling importance to the Ministers. They will also give their support to the Ministry, and we are disposed to believe that such support will be given on some of the more important questions. They will, moreover, take care to introduce several Bills calculated to win the good opinion of the people." Lastly, with reference to the National Unionists, they may be disposed to attack the Government, but the *Yomiuri* does not give them credit for the courage to take up an attitude of decided opposition. Their leader, Viscount Shinagawa, declared some time ago that he no longer held in reverence Counts Ito, Inouye, and Yamagata. But most persons believe that a word of displeasure from these statesmen would be enough to change him into a most submissive supporter of the Cabinet. Be that as it may, our contemporary does not seem to think the National Unionists capable of any effective opposition to the Government To sum up, the *Yomiuri* says that the fifth session of the Diet will be a most unsatisfactory one. Incapable of any effective cōoperation, the different Opposition parties will be unable to achieve any noteworthy results; while the Government, hopelessly addicted to a do-nothing policy, will be as incapable of pursuing any decided line of policy.

* * *

The *Jiji Shimpo* advises the leaders of the various political parties to direct in person the movements of their followers in the House of Representatives. The statesmen now in power were severely criticised for pulling wires from behind the curtain in the days of the Matsukata Cabinet. A similar charge may with equal force be preferred against the leaders of the various parties, who love to hide themselves behind a curtain and control the actions of their followers by means of wires concealed from public view. They may excuse themselves by saying that they are prevented by their titles from taking seats in the House of Representatives. The *Jiji* tells them that this is a mere pretext; if they are really anxious to have access to that body, they can very easily give up their useless marks of distinction. Their presence in the House, besides increasing the efficiency of their party tactics, will be beneficial in two ways. First, it will serve as a means of restraining the rash and indiscreet acts and speeches of the inexperienced youngsters, and thereby raising the character and dignity of the House as a whole. Secondly, their presence in the House will induce the Cabinet Ministers to give more weight to what transpires there, and to come there in person more frequently to give explanations and defend their policy.

* * *

The passage of the Home Rule Bill in the British House of Commons has not been left unnoticed by the Japanese papers. They are as a whole in sympathy with the Irish, and express boundless admiration for the extraordinary perseverance shown by the Grand Old Man. They do not believe that the Bill will receive the approval of the Lords, but they are confident that, whatever may happen, the war thus opened by Mr. Gladstone will ultimately lead to success. The *Yomiuri Shimbun*, alluding to the conservative nature of the English House of Lords, observes that there is in another country an Upper House which is more conservative and averse to improvement than its counter-part in England, and it congratulates Mr. Gladstone on the fact that he was not born in that country.

* * *

The *Nippon* strongly criticises the propensity of foreigners in Japan to insult the nation by posting placards at the gates of their premises that no Japanese are allowed to enter. Our contemporary strongly appeals to its countrymen to make foreigners give up such a custom.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

CENTRAL FAMINE RELIEF FUND.

THE state of the Central Famine Relief Fund is beginning to attract attention. It seems to afford another evidence of the fact that the official administrators of the country's affairs know what they are about much better than the Diet does, though of course the latter declines to believe anything of the kind. The fund when originally subjected, in 1880, to the system under which it has been controlled for the past thirteen years, aggregated 1,298,248 *yen*, and passing thenceforth into the keeping of the Treasury and being regularly augmented by contributions from the Central Government, it grew, in 1889, to 4,000,000 *yen*. A notification was then issued to the effect that, as the Fund had now attained dimensions sufficient to constitute a capital sum, the interest on which should prove enough to meet normal requirements, the Treasury's annual appropriation of 300,000 *yen* on account of famine relief, should be discontinued for five years. There ensued the calamities in Saitama, Wakayama, Toyama and other Prefectures, as well as the necessity of effecting large purchases of Chinese rice, and being thus subjected to heavy drains, the fund fell to 3,852,000 *yen* in 1891. That was the

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year of the Toyama and Fukuoka inundations, and of the Ai-Gi earthquake, on which accounts a total of 1,520,000 *yen* was taken from the fund, together with 67,000 *yen* in connection with subsequent inundations in Tokushima and Hyogo Prefectures. At the end of the last fiscal year the fund stood at only 2,095,781 *yen*, and the Government, apprehending that a capital sum so seriously reduced would not suffice for the period of thirty years contemplated by law, introduced in the last session of the Diet a Bill providing that certain money from the surplus revenue should be appropriated to the uses of the Fund. The House of Representatives, however, considered that it knew much better than the Government, and declined to sanction the proposal. But the weather paid no attention to this improvidence. Severe frosts in Gumma and Saitama Prefectures last spring, and the recent inundations in Wakayama and Gifu Prefectures, have necessitated new disbursements from the Fund, and its condition now will certainly be a subject for serious consideration when the Diet meets again.

SUPPLEMENT TO LANDSCAPE GARDENING IN JAPAN.

Mr. Conder has published a most attractive supplement to his recently issued volume on "Landscape Gardening in Japan." The supplement takes the form of an album containing forty collotype plates of the most artistic character and executed with all the technical skill for which Mr. Ogawa is famous. The purpose of the Supplement is to furnish illustrations of the most celebrated gardens now extant in Japan, an object that would have been fulfilled in the original volume but for the following reasons, which we quote from Mr. Conder's preface:—"The original volume being of a technical and historical character, has been fully illustrated from native works,—a method of illustration in many cases essential to the proper elucidation of the designs, and, at the same time, one which seemed the best means of conveying the true spirit of the ancient art in all its aspects. The introduction of modern heliographic plates, side by side with such quaint and idealistic draughtsmanship, would have proved inappropriate and misleading, especially as the existing gardens reproduced by the camera are but imperfect and fragmentary examples of a craft comparatively neglected in recent days. At the same time, the illustration in a separate form of some of the best compositions remaining, by the most scientific means available, presented itself as a fitting and desirable addition to the analytical work." In consequence of this view, the correctness of which can not be doubted, the public is furnished with an album of exceptional beauty, the plates and the excellent descriptions that accompany them furnishing a clear idea of the finest Japanese gardens. Quite apart from the original volume this album is welcome for its own sake, and will doubtless find many appreciative purchasers, but, of course, in its character of supplement it possesses additional value. Mr. Conder has certainly done his work most thoroughly, and we are persuaded that his talent, industry of research and enterprise will meet with adequate reward. It is no small undertaking for an author to publish, at his own expense, two such sumptuous volumes as "Landscape Gardening in Japan" and the present supplement, and assuredly it would have been a thousand pities if the intellectual gifts required for the compilation of the books had not been associated with courage to undertake their issue.

NEW COMPANIES.

In a recent issue we referred to a trouble among the projectors of a new marine insurance company, the result of which was that the Company's application for a charter was returned by the authorities. The enterprise has now been revived but with great changes in the personnel of the directorate. Mr. Yasuda Genjiro, whose alleged arbitrary proceedings with reference to the original application for license were said to have been the cause of the trouble, is now a leading projector. Resolved not to abandon an undertaking that promises to be so profitable, he obtained the co-operation of several others, and a new application has been sent in, which received official sanction on the 29th ultimo. The capital of the company is to be three million *yen*, divided into 15,000 shares of 200 *yen* each, the projectors taking one million *yen* worth. The principal names are Messrs. Yasuda Zenshiro, Miyajima Shinkichi, and Takei Morimasa.

* * *

The recently talked of company for the direct export of silk is now almost a *fait accompli*. Its capital is to be 500,000 *yen*, and it is to be organized on an unlimited liability basis, Messrs. Hara, Mogi, Morimura, Arai and others being the principal shareholders. Of the total capital, 300,000 *yen* is to be employed for branches abroad, and 200,000 *yen* for the Yokohama central office. The project having reached this stage, Mr. Arai, who is one of the most active promoters, sailed for New York a few days ago, his object being to transfer the business of the Doshin Kaisha in that city, whose manager he has been for some years, and to make preparations for the new enterprise.

WHAT WOULD DISRAELI HAVE DONE?

Lord Rosebery, says a home paper of June 28, was the sole occupant of the Peers' Gallery in the House of Commons on the 25th inst. when Sir E. Grey was replying to Mr. Curzon on the Siamese question. In the lobby the conversation was chiefly on the same subject. What Disraeli would have done was a theme much discussed. One reply was suggestive: "Disraeli would have said to the French, 'Well, take your Meikong boundary; and, to show that there is absolutely no ill-feeling in the matter, we will keep you in future to that boundary by declaring a British protectorate over the remainder of Siam.' Checkmate."

PECULATIONS OF A RAILWAY OFFICIAL.

The Station-Master at Umeda, Osaka, in conjunction with one of his subordinates is reported to have committed peculation to the amount of about 4,000 *yen*. It seems strange that the Railway Authorities, who were always informed by the culprits that the office had been broken into by robbers, allowed the defalcations to run to such a figure, before placing the matter in the hands of the police. The station-master has absconded and his whereabouts are still unknown, but his accomplice who also succeeded in getting away, was tracked to Asakusa Park, Tokyo, where he was arrested.

FIRST FREE FIGHT IN THE BRITISH HOUSE OF COMMONS.

There remains no manner of doubt that the unparalleled scene in the British House of Commons on the 27th of July was due to the outrageous conduct of the Irish members. These men's qualifications to sit in any assembly of sober legislators are more than questionable. Many of them have been picked up from the highways and byways, from directing the affairs of public houses, presiding at primary schools or conducting retail businesses in small towns. They could never have found their way into parliament without the aid of a treasonable organization the directors of which cared little about the nature of their tools and much about their docility and absence of independence. That such men should disgrace the British Parliament by their conduct within its walls was almost inevitable, considering the nature of the fight which they went there to wage. Their very admission was indeed a discredit.

THE KOREAN REFUGEE.

The Korean refugee, Mr. Boku Eiko, the celebrated leader of the abortive revolution of 1884, has issued an open letter through the columns of the Japanese papers appealing to the charity of the Japanese public in aid of a school which he intends to establish for the education of Korean youths. He thanks the Japanese for their generous hospitality to him during the nine years of his sojourn among them, and laments his present unfortunate position. "I have a country," he says, "but I cannot return to it. I have a sovereign, but I cannot serve him. I have the graves of my ancestors, but I cannot attend to their maintenance. A forlorn wanderer in a strange land, I am for ever forbidden to discharge my duties as a loyal subject and a filial son." He laments still more the steady decline of his country's vitality, the principal cause of which he finds in the lack of proper education among his countrymen. He learns from some Koreans that, his old friends at home being now very poor, their children are growing up without any education. Sympathising deeply with the unfortunate condition of his friends in particular and with the equally deplorable condition of his countrymen in general, he proposes to establish a school for the education of Korean children. This letter is endorsed by Count Katsu, Count Soyeshima and Mr. Yasushi, who request the public to sympathise with Mr. Boku and assist him by purchasing his caligraphic efforts, which he offers for sale in the interests of the projected school.

METHODS OF EXTRACTING CONFESSION.

A Chinese literate, who calls himself "a humble disciple of Buddha" is not without ingenuity in his devices for treating Christians who bring sorcery to the aid of their creed as all Christians in China are supposed to do. Here is a paragraph from a tract issued by him—we quote from the *North China Daily News*:—"1.—Children on the street and young men and women are often led off by enchanters and rendered speechless and confused. It must be because the enchanter before their very faces bewitches them. As soon as people cry out, seize him—the enchanter—and (hang him) up high. Examine him carefully. If he will not speak the truth, then take a woman's soiled garment, wrap it around his head and pour on water. He will immediately speak truly and clearly and you can thus secure evidence. At once then cut the tendons of his legs to prevent any others thereafter being bewitched and led captive by him and reduced to imbecility. Pour cold water upon the heads of those who have been affected and they will immediately recover their senses."

JEAN MARTIN CHARCOT.

Our readers will have noticed in last Saturday's issue the telegram announcing the death of Dr. Charcot, one of the greatest physicians of our time. He was born in Paris in 1825, graduated in 1853, and a few years afterwards began to devote special attention to the study of diseases of the nervous system. His long connection with the Salpétrière gave him the fullest opportunities to excel in this branch of research. But Dr. Charcot was never a "specialist;" like all those whose work in special branches of medical science has being valuable and enduring, his success was largely dependent on his wide and thorough knowledge of general medicine. Just as the doctor who finds medicine so exacting a mistress that he is unable to keep abreast of the general culture of his time, thereby loses one of the most potent elements of professional efficiency; so still more he who within the bounds of his profession elects for exclusive study, the diseases of some special organ or tissue, will, in proportion as he thus "specializes," become a bad practitioner. It is doubtless well for a man who takes especial interest in some particular class of diseases to devote a large share of his attention to this field of study; but it is only one whose desire is rather for immediate pecuniary gain than for the welfare of his patients and the advancement of science, who from an early period of his career persistently imposes himself on the public as a "Specialist" (let us say) "for Diseases of the Big Toe." It is not our purpose to give here even a summary of Charcot's work, but there is one branch of science in connection with which his name is known to all students of psychology and to most general readers. Charcot was one of the pioneers in the scientific study of the phenomena to which attention was drawn at the end of the last century by Mesmer, which were further elucidated some fifty years later by Braid, and which under the modern name of Hypnotism have taken an important place in psychology, in

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medicine, and (we regret to say) in general literature. Physicians who have studied hypnotism occupy two rival camps, one of which is known as the school of Nancy because at this town have resided the chief exponents of one side of the question; the other school is known, not by the name of a town but by the name of a man, being designated the school of Charcot. The essential difference between the two views is this, that whereas the physicians of Nancy regard the hypnotic state as one to which all persons are in a greater or less degree susceptible, and hypnotism as an extremely valuable therapeutic agent, Charcot and his successors, on the other hand, have taught that susceptibility to hypnotism is inseparably connected with hysteria, and that hypnotism can never become a generally useful method of treatment. Educated medical opinion is more and more inclining to accept the views of the school of Nancy; but this fact can in no degree lessen the debt we owe to Charcot for the new light which his researches and those of his pupils have thrown in some of the darkest corners of psychology.

TROUBLE AMONGST THE COTTON SPINNERS.

THE various spinning factories in Osaka have embarked on a crusade against the Iyo Spinning Factory, says the *Shogyo Shimpo*, owing to complications with the operatives. The Iyo Factory, which was only started a short time ago, being in want of competent hands, seems to have induced, by a promise of better wages, some thirty operatives to leave the Osaka factories to go over to Iyo. This was ultimately detected, and Mr. Suganuma, Manager of the Union Spinners' Association, was sent to request the return of the operatives, as such practices are contrary to the regulations which the Spinners have drawn up for their own mutual protection. But a curious question here arises. The Iyo people only joined the Association subsequent to the actions complained of, and they maintain that they see no reason why the Regulations should be made retrospective. Mr. Suganuma's mission proved unsuccessful, and the Osaka Spinners are accordingly much excited over the matter. The Nan.wa Factory specially despatched an officer to Iyo who brought back six of the deserters, and ten more are to be called back shortly. Moreover, it was decided at a meeting of the Osaka Spinners to boycott the Iyo people, by negotiating with the Mitsui Bussan Kwaisha, the Domestic Cotton Company, and the Nippon Cotton Company not to sell raw cotton to the Iyo Factory, and by persuading foreign merchants dealing in raw cotton not to supply it with the material.

NEW BELLEVILLE GENERATORS.

AFTER the very satisfactory trial-trips of the cruiser *l'Aiger*, 8,000 H.P., of the French Navy, which were remarkable from the nature of the engines and boilers employed, Mr. White, Chief Constructor of the British Admiralty, has, with the permission of the Minister for the Navy, inspected this cruiser's engine-room, and especially the Belleville generators, which are placed in eight separate compartments. Mr. White displayed lively interest in this visit. The good impression which he obtained, and the knowledge he had of the excellent results given by the Belleville generators on board the M.M. steamers on their China line, made him decide to have the working of the generators on one of these boats, watched by one of his engineers, and Mr. Gaudin was appointed to the post. After coming to an understanding with the M M. Co., Mr. Gaudin sailed on the 3rd June, 1892, in the *Armand Behic*, mail steamer of 7,500 H.P., and accompanied her to Albany. In this port he awaited the *Polynesien*, of the same power as the *Armand Behic*, and like her fitted with the Belleville generators. He returned to France on this boat and met at Marseilles Mr. Oram, Engineer-Inspector of the Admiralty. Mr. Oram then went to La Ciotat in the *Polynesien* and verified the observations of Mr. Gaudin. These gentlemen afterwards went to Paris where they spent three days, visiting on several occasions the establishment of Messrs. Delanny, Belleville & Co., where they examined in detail the construction of the generators Finally, and after reports on their visits and examinations had been sent in, the British Admiralty gave Messrs. Delannay, Belleville & Co an order for their generators to be fitted in the torpedo-catcher *Sharpshooter*, of 4,000 H.P. These generators are now in course of construction at Saint Denis. We publish with pleasure this new success of French industry in a place where it was difficult to obtain a foothold, not only on account of the special science of our competitors, but also because of racial traditions. [Translated from *Le Génie Civil*.]

INVENTOR OF A NEW STEEL.

THE *Jiji Shimpo* furnishes some interesting details of the life of Mr. Yamana Hannojyo, an old gentleman, already past sixty, and formerly employed at the Naval Arsenal, who has produced a new steel of marvellous temper. Mr. Yamana seems to be a born smith, his passion for fashioning knives out of old iron and such like having shown itself in boyhood. Even the protests of his father, who thought his son's proclivities derogatory to the house of a *shizoku*, were powerless to prevent him gazing for hours together at the smiths at work. As time went on, he was able to forge a sword capable of bearing comparison with the blades of the most famous makers. Prince Nariaki, elder brother of the late Prince Hisamitsu of Satsuma, hearing of this, placed him in his arsenal, where the ingenuity of Mr. Yamana had fuller scope, and where, besides many other useful contrivances, he is said to have discovered a process for the boring of guns. It was his lord's intention to extend the arsenal so that Mr. Yamana might have still further room for exercising his remarkable talents, a scheme that fell through owing to the death of the Prince. When the present Government was firmly established, Mr. Yamana was induced to serve in the Naval Arsenal. Here his abilities not only won the admiration of mechanics but of scientific men, and to him is ascribed the credit of being able to dispense with foreign experts in the Arsenal. To him, for instance, is also due the fact that cannon balls, the supply of which had formerly come from abroad, were produced in the Arsenal without showing any inferiority to the imported article. His speciality, however, appears to be in the tempering of steel. His skill in this line is such that even Honami, the best connoisseur of blades, can scarcely distinguish his work from that of a genuine Masamune or Sadamune. There is, therefore, nothing to wonder at in his recent invention of a steel of surpassing excellence Several friends wish to erect a proper workship for him, but he prefers to live like a smith of the old style, and work with a simple furnace in a corner of his modest house. It ought to be added that repeated experiments have been made with the new steel at the Naval Arsenal, the Yokohama Ship Yard, the Tanaka Factory, and others, with excellent results.

THE TOMIOKA FILATURE.

WITH reference to the recently advertised sale of the Tomioka silk factory, the *Jiji Shimpo* says that the business of the filature is now being conducted with a staff of 500 operatives The machinery employed is somewhat old, but the silk produced commands high esteem in the French markets, and is so readily salable that a good profit has often been shown on the working of the filature. This year, especially, unless some changes not now anticipated should occur, there is every reason to expect that a good result will be shown on the annual working. Hitherto the silk manufactured at the filature has been sold to foreigners through the medium of the Yokohama Doshin Kaisha, one result of that method of operating being that returns have been received at a much later date than is the case in the transactions conducted by ordinary merchants. Moreover, money received on account of the filature has often lain idle in the Treasury vaults for a long period, instead of being invested so as to return interest; and further, the concern has been saddled with the superfluous expenses incidental to every undertaking conducted by officials. It is believed that were all these drawbacks removed, the filature would pay well, and it consequently offers a tempting investment to any private capitalist.

* * *

A rumour, ventilated by the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, is to the effect that Count Itagaki contemplates purchasing the filature. Count Itagaki has always shown keen business proclivities, though his mercantile ventures have hitherto been unsuccessful. It is alleged that he went to Tomioka a few days ago to inspect the filature, and that he will probably become the purchaser, placing the management in the hands of Mr. Okuno Chiso, a prominent business man among the Count's political friends. This rumour has created others, one of which, also ventilated by the *Yomiuri* but not credited even by that credulous journal, is that through the intervention of Mr. Okazaki Kunisuke, a member of the Diet for Wakayama Prefecture, H.E. Mr. Mutsu has promised to lend Count Itagaki a portion of the money necessary for the purchase of the filature. While withholding all faith from this story, the *Yomiuri* observes that any purchase of important State property by the leader of a great political party in opposition is liable to be very inconveniently construed by the public, and that Count Itagaki had better proceed with the utmost circumspection if he desires to preserve the character for unblemished integrity which has hitherto constituted so important an element of his political strength.

* * *

In the *Mainichi Shimbun* we find some further information about the proposed sale of the Tomioka Filature. It appears that when the concern was put up to public tender some time ago, there were only two offers, one of 13,570 *yen* and the other of 13,025 *yen*, whereas the official valuation was 55,000 *yen*, the object of tenderers being, not to keep the Filature running, but merely to use the buildings for the purpose of storing cocoons. Under these circumstances no sale was effected. What the official valuation may be at present there is no public information, but inasmuch as there are included in the property 2,700 *koku* of cocoons which alone are worth tens of thousands of *yen*, the figure is doubtless far higher than it was on the previous occasion. The net earnings of the Filature are generally put at 40,000 *yen* annually in the Budget, and are believed to be about 10 per cent. of the capital invested, though how such a figure can be reconciled with the miserable offers recorded above, we are unable to conjecture. Last year, we read, the net profit was 30,000 *yen*, and up to the present 10 000 *yen* has been realized this year. Moreover, since it is anticipated with reason that the affair would pay much better in private hands than it can possibly do in official, there should be little question of the value of the investment. Several nobles are said to be contemplating a combination to effect the purchase, and it is also believed that the Imperial Household is in the market. The *Mainichi* thinks that into whatever hands the Filature goes, its present manager, Mr. Hayamizu, ought to be retained in his position, as he commands the respect of all the employés and operatives, the bulk of whom, of course, would not be changed but might be comparatively very troublesome under different control

TELEGRAPHIC COMMUNICATIONS LAST YEAR.

THE total number of domestic telegraphic communications during last year, according to official returns, was 5,235,572, and the charges levied amounted to 1,113,992 *yen*. These figures indicate an increase of 762,517 in the number of communications as compared with the previous year, or 17 per cent, and an increase of fees aggregating 128,225 *yen*, 13.1 per cent. As to the various kinds of telegrams, the official showed the greatest increase, or 21.2 per cent, private telegrams being responsible only for an increase of 16.9 per cent. The rate of increase in telegraphic office messages was 15.2. Coming to foreign communications, the total despatched was 51,498, costing 67,379 *yen*, while the total received was 54,895, costing 54,895 *yen*. The figures for messages despatched showed increases

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over the previous year of 474 in number, and 3,492 *yen*, respectively; but in the case of telegrams received, although there is seen an increase of 698 in number, the income derived from that source decreased by 1,090 *yen*. This is said to have been mainly due to an increase of 739 free communications on telegraphic business and connected with meteorological observations, and to a decrease of 41 messages in the paid list.

THE NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA AND THE PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

An arrangement was entered into between the Nippon Yusen Kaisha and the P. M. S. Company by which the vessels of the latter should not, for a certain prescribed time, call at Kobe and Shanghai. Owing, however, to the competition with the Canadian Steamship Company, and also to the necessity of providing for the comfort of passengers going to or returning from the World's Fair, much inconvenience is felt by the Pacific Mail Company in observing the conditions agreed upon. Our contemporary now hears that a compromise has been effected between the two parties, by which the Japanese Company has consented to the entry of the Pacific Mail Company's ships into Kobe to take passengers and cargo, on condition that after deducting the cost of food, the balance of the local fares will be paid over to the Nippon Yusen Kaisha. An arrangement for the return of a certain proportion of the rates on freight has also been made. The new agreement refers to Kobe alone. The Pacific Mail Company's vessels will not call at Shanghai for either passengers or cargo.

A PROMPT "SOSHI."

A few days ago a meeting—one of many such now convened—was held by *soshi* in Tokyo in connection with the Soma affair. The meeting was crowded and the promoters were vastly pleased. One of the *soshi* showed himself a very fluent speaker. He held the attention of his audience for a considerable time and finally began to speak of the police. "As for the police of this district," he said, "they are all this," crooking his finger. Now a crooked finger signifies, in Japanese digital phraseology, a robber, and the police on duty at the meeting, not unnaturally indignant at being publicly designated thieves and at observing the glee of the audience, promptly suspended the meeting, arrested the speaker and conducted him to the police station, where he was examined by a magistrate. But the *soshi* proved too adroit for his interrogaters. Smiling blandly, he observed that the human fingers were beautiful instruments especially designed by a beneficent providence to convery subtle meanings by graceful motions. Thus a thumb extended was everywhere understood to signify a master or husband, while a little finger gently elevated was interpreted to mean a sweetheart. As for a finger crooked in the manner that had given offence to the respected guardians of the law, it was true that vulgar persons employed the gesture to imply a robber, but among the *soshi*, to whom the speaker had the honour of belonging, no such crude significance attached to the sign. With them it conveyed the sense corresponding literally with its shape, namely, *kusshi no hito*, or a man of uncommon ability, such as, on account of the rarity of real talent, may be counted in any community on the fingers of one hand. In other times the magistrate would doubtless have adopted some drastic method of regulating this gentleman's gestures so that they should not be capable of any equivocal interpretation, but now-a-days the law allows no latitude. The discomfited police could only laugh at the ready wit of the *soshi* and discharge him unpunished. Thus the *Yomiuri*.

MR. HARRY FURNISS.

Mr. Harry Furniss, who is said to have climbed to fame as a Parliamentary caricaturist on the points of Mr. Gladstone's collars, has been assaulted in the Lobby of the House by Mr. Swift McNeill, of South Donegal, in consequence of a caricature which appeared in last week's *Punch*. Readers of John Bull's favourite gentleman-jester in these latter-days look forward eagerly to the "Humours of Parliament," as depicted by the artist who created the gracious, queenly Spirit of the House, knowing that the wit will never be tinctured with malice. Evidently Mr. Swift McNeill is a gentlemen of Celtic descent who cannot bear light-trifling, and his wrath boiled over when he encountered the famous caricaturist. Furniss is a short, rotund gentleman with a serious cast of countenance a-top of a neatly trimmed beard. Mr. NcNeill is, on the contrary, tall and not particularly gamly. The encounter must therefore have been decidedly comic, and we shall be surprised if the shorter man does not get his revenge in delineating the scene in his next few parliamentary sketches.

* * *

Mr. Furniss, by-the-by, was born in the "distressful country," seeing the light for the first time at Wexford—his parents were both English, the father an engineer. His mother was the daughter of the well-known Newcastle-on-Tyne author, publisher, and politician Eneas Mackenzie, the founder of the Joseph Cowen school of that place. Tradition runs that at one time the future *Punch* artist was a member of the outdoor staff of the Shanghai Customs, and that in those dark ages his fingers itched for mural scribblings, leading him to take for his principal designs the heads and bodies of magisters high in authority. Be that as it may, the present writer has seen Mr. Furniss delight a crowd of weather-bound golfers at Felixstowe, in the Bawdsey Ferry Links Golf-house, by covering a delicately-tinted wall outside the smoking-room with caricatures of most of the Club members of note.

U.S.A. TO BUY BRITISH COLUMBIA.

A bill, of which the following is the preamble, is to be introduced by Mr. Horace F. Cutler, in the U.S. Congress at an early date:—

AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE ACQUISITION BY PURCHASE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA BY THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Whereas, That portion of the coast of North America bordering on the Pacific Ocean and extending from latitude 49 deg to 54 deg 40 min. north, now called British Columbia, should, by its geographical position, naturally belong to the United States, therefore,

Be it enacted, etc., that the President of the United States be and he hereby is authorized and empowered to enter into negotiations with the British Government for the purpose of acquiring by purchase for the United States the ownership in entirety of the said now called British Columbia; and that the sum of one hundred millions of dollars or so much thereof as may be necessary be placed at his disposal to effect the said purchase.

The sum agreed upon to be paid either in gold, in ten equal annual payments without interest, or at once in silver bars at the actual average cost of the same as purchased by the United States Government.

San Francisco papers hail the project as a probable solution of the silver question, for if Great Britain and Canada agree to the proposition, providing the Bill passes, payment is to be made in silver bars, by preference!

CONSEQUENCES OF THE HACHIOJI FIRE.

A correspondent, writing us from Hachioji, says:—The consequences of the great fire at Hachioji, on the 6th ult., which was duly reported in the *Mail*, have by no means been exaggerated, 750 buildings actually were destroyed by the fire, which according to Japanese arrangements, constituted dwellings for 2,000 families, who are consequently homeless. Besides this, five Banks and 28 godowns were destroyed. The latter constituted perhaps the keenest loss, inasmuch as they were mostly well stored with silk, ready for the market. A goodly number of godowns withstood the fire splendidly, but the 28 which were burnt to the ground, were regarded as equally fireproof. One instance was related to your correspondent in which a gentleman lost his new dwelling, worth about 1,000 *yen*, and at the same time a godown filled with silk valued at 5,000 *yen*. The total loss, by the fire, is estimated at considerably above one million *yen*. The cause of the fire seems to be still unknown, but the general opinion is that it originated in a *joroya* on the main thoroughfare. And as the town has more than once been endangered by these public houses (a standing disgrace in the principal part of the town), it has caused no little indignation among the respectable people and especially among the innocent sufferers, many of whom have become homeless and penniless in consequence of the fire.

EARTHQUAKE AT NIKKO.

A very severe shock of earthquake was felt in Nikko at 6.15 a.m. on the 4th instant. There were two distinct disturbances of great violence separated by a succession of smaller shocks. No damage was done, however, the destructive component of the motion having been comparatively small. No shock of corresponding magnitude had been felt in Nikko since May 1868, when an earthquake that caused considerable loss and alarm in Tokyo and Yokohama made itself very unpleasantly perceptible in Nikko also. Recalling that experience and fearing that the capital, from its probably greater proximity to the centre of disturbance, might have suffered severely, much anxiety was felt by the Tokyoites in Nikko until the telegraph reassured them. Tokyo, in fact, experienced nothing more than one of those slight tremblings of which so many visit the city during the year.

JEALOUSY AND ITS RESULTS

Shanghai papers just to hand contain accounts of a shocking occurrence that happened in the Model Settlement on the 30th ult. A Mr. Nigg, skipper of the M M. tender *Whang-poo*, has been living with an Austrian woman, who assumed his name by courtesy, for many years. The other day Nigg returned home and went to bed. The woman waited till he fell asleep and then discharged both barrels of a twelve-bore fowling piece—No. 8 cartridge—into his back. The man was not killed, and making his escape went to Dr. Blanc's surgery. Here it was discovered that a large hole had been cut away by shot in Nigg's back, under the right shoulder blade, while there were evidences of severe internal hæmorrhage. Nigg protested that the affair was a pure accident, but the woman made a confess on to the police and on this a warrant was jointly issued by the French and Austrian Consuls, on which she was arrested. The woman swallowed a large quantity of laudanum before she shot her paramour. Nigg, whose depositions have been taken, lies at the General Hospital, and the woman in the French Police-station.

THE CABINET AND SILVER.

Concerning the attitude of the Cabinet on the silver question, the *Tokyo Asahi Shimbun* writes as follows:—"Of the Ministers of State, those who take any interest in the question are Count Ito, Count Inouye, Count Goto, Mr. Mutsu and Mr. Watanabe. The rest seem indifferent, perhaps for the reason that they are unable to make up their minds on the subject. Count Ito, Count Inouye, and a few others are in favour of maintaining the silver standard. Mr. Watanabe, Minister of Finance, is stated not to have yet openly declared his views even to his immediate subordinates. But he is supposed to share the opinion of his predecessor Count Matsukata, who is a strong advocate of a gold standard. The Count, however, is understood to acknowledge that it will be injurious to effect the change in any precipitate manner. It is believed that the silver question will ere long be brought up for discussion in the Cabinet."

HAKONE.

A correspondent in another column has a word to say on behalf of Hakone which we left out of account in writing lately on the subject of summer resorts. Oddly enough, we have never heard the claims of that picturesque spot advanced as a rival to those of Nikko, Ikao, and Karuizawa for the consideration of the foreign resident. Nor have we heard of the Hakone folks having bestirred themselves in any way—as has been done elsewhere—to attract the visitor. To the best of our knowledge, the hotels at Hakone are to-day as they have been for years past, and the roads,—the Tokaido

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and the approach from Miyanoshita—are, in wet weather, obstacles of so serious a nature, that the journey to Hakone to-day is more arduous than that to any one of the three resorts mentioned, two of which, indeed, are now approachable all the way by rail. It is also probable that it is not so much its inaccessibility as a reputation for being mostly shrouded in mist and dampness—whether deserved or not we cannot vouch for—which leaves Hakone behind in the race for popular favour.

STEAMSHIP COMPETITION.

THE competition among the small steamers plying between Osaka and the ports of the Inland Sea, appears to be as keen as ever; indeed, passengers are now carried simply for the cost of their food. Naturally, the country folks, who have now a respite from their labours, are taking advantage of the opportunity thus afforded them of visiting Osaka and Kyoto. Surely the proprietors of these steamers deserve to be classed amongst philanthropists, for the benefits they are conferring upon others are not few. So great is the rush for the steamers, that many travellers are unavoidably always left behind, to the delight of the innkeepers and those who cater for the travelling public. Some fifteen hundred passengers are said to be landed in Osaka daily from these boats, making it lively for the theatres and other places of amusement. The railways are also deriving a good share of the spoil. We hear that the Kiushiu Railway has already reduced its fares for the sake of the numerous pleasure-seekers over its lines. It is also stated that the police authorities have cautioned the steamship proprietors to take precautions against the risks which their boats, in the spirit of competition, are apt to run.

ASAKUSA AND THE ELECTRIC LIGHT.

STATEMENTS have appeared at intervals in the vernacular papers to the effect that the residents of Asakusa protest against the erection of a big electric generating branch of the Tokyo Electric Light Company on the site of the old rice godowns in that locality. The real motive of their complaints, however, appears to be traceable to the fact that the Company succeeded in leasing the ground from the Municipality at a very low figure. The Company, of course, are determined to carry out their project regardless of the clamours of a certain section of the Asakusa folks, permission to erect the buildings having been already obtained from the Authorities. It is said, according to the *Choya*, that if the movement against the Company succeeds in Asakusa, the residents of Nihonbashi and Kanda, where it is also proposed to erect generators, will follow in an attempt to thwart the scheme.

ANTI-MIXED RESIDENCE MOVEMENT BY FOREIGNERS.

THE *Boyeki Shimbun* has an extraordinary note alleging that the *Japan Mail* recently placed itself at the head of an anti-mixed residence movement among foreigners, and published a manifesto on the subject. It adds that two of our local contemporaries are with us in the matter, and that Japanese politicians of a similar manner of thinking have placed themselves in communication with these foreign agitators. The finale of the funny story is that the *Mail* has been in this case the tool of a certain gentleman, but whether he is foreign or Japanese our deluded contemporary does not say. Evidently the writer in the *Boyeki Shimbun* cannot read English, or he would never have fallen into the monstrous mistake of imagining that the *Japan Mail* has opposed mixed residence at any time.

COUNT INOUYE IN NEMURO.

WHEN Count Inouye visited Hokkaido six years ago, the people of Nemuro presented to him a petition, or submitted representations—we are not sure about the exact form of the movement—to the effect that the heavy duties levied on marine products greatly impeded the progress of the industry. The Count found these remonstrances very reasonable and shortly after his return to Tokyo, a radical change was effected in the rate of duties. Anxious to testify their gratitude for a favour so important, the leading men of Nemuro invited Count Inouye on the 21st ultimo to an evening entertainment, and presented to him a document of thanks. Count Inouye's reply is thus reported by the *Chuogai Shimpo*:—"Gentlemen—I have to thank you very heartily for the reception you have given me this evening, but with regard to the document of acknowledgment which you have presented to me on account of the reduction of the tax on marine products, I have no manner of right to receive it. It is to our Sovereign that such expressions should be conveyed. The Emperor's solicitude on account of the affairs of Hokkaido is not of recent origin. Since His Majesty visited Hokkaido in 1881 and inspected its condition, it has been his constant wish to promote the industries and enterprise of the place, and with that object His Majesty subsequently despatched the Chamberlain, Mr. Kataoka, on a tour of inspection, even to the confines of Chishima, from which procedure the Imperial intentions may be inferred. In 1886, Count Yamagata, then Minister of State for Home Affairs, made a tour of inspection in Hokkaido, and I accompanied him. Of course on our return we submitted to His Majesty a full statement of what we had seen, as well as of essential points connected with taxation and so forth, and by the Imperial directions these things became a subject of deliberation in the Cabinet, the result being that the Sovereign issued the Imperial Ordinance of 1887. The tariff and other reforms then effected were by no means the work of Count Yamagata or of me, Inouye, but were due to His Majesty's wishes. The Imperial benevolence shown on that occasion must never be forgotten. Now, too, on my return to the capital, it will be my duty to submit to the Sovereign a full statement of what I have seen and heard, and if reforms of the systems pursued here are subsequently effected, you will know that your thanks for them are due to His Majesty, and that they are not due in any way to Inouye Kaoru. I pray you to be under no deception on that point." His Excellency concluded by reminding his hearers of the exceptionally great responsibility that devolved on them in connection with the development of Hokkaido.

A PAIR OF ECCENTRICS.

MR. IWAMOTO CHITSUNA, who lately started for Siam, his old field of adventure, is decidedly a sort of modern Don Quixote. While *en route* from Shanghai to Hongkong, he seems to have met, according to the *Jiyu*, Mr. Ishibashi Usaburo, a youth of a little over twenty years, and of somewhat similar chivalric spirit, whose object it was to cast his lot in with that of Siam. Some six years ago he went to America where he studied for four years. Then considering himself fully equipped for the struggle of life, he determined to plunge into practical sociology. The war between Chili and Peru is said to have prevented him following out his plan of taking a European tour. After serving for a year on board an American man-of-war in South American waters, he returned to Japan. On the opening of hostilities between France and Siam, his restless spirit could not idly look on, so he set out to lend his assistance to the latter. Leaving Shanghai with a deck ticket and 50 *sen* in his pocket, was the fact that filled Mr. Iwamoto with admiration and drew them together. At Hongkong they called on the German Consul and the editors of the English and Chinese papers, to get information about the Siamese trouble. They then wrote a letter to the Minister of Education in Siam and to the German Representative in Bangkok. The *Jiyu* considers the former too violent in tone for reproduction in its columns, but the one to the German Legation ran as follows: "Many are the powerful nations of the world all intent in promoting their own interests. Never has there been a country chivalrous enough to crush the strong and help the weak." It then goes on to praise the Germans in Bangkok for rendering assistance to the Siamese, and with reference to the relations between France and Germany, says that every step forward of the French in the East, causes one step backward to the Germans, and ends by declaring the writers' intention to cōoperate with the Germans on behalf of the interests of the East, of Siam, and of justice. They both started subsequently for Bangkok, where they must have been deeply disappointed on arrival, to find their mission abruptly cut short by the recent conclusion of peace.

ALLEGED ILLEGAL CONFINEMENT.

A LEGAL suit, analogous in nature to the alleged treatment of the late Viscount Soma by his stewards, has, according to the *Nichi Nichi*, been lodged in the Tokyo Local Court by Mr. Minowa Ichiro, landlord of the well-known inn "Kirin-Kan," situated close to the Kanda-bashi, Tokyo. The personages proceeded against number eight in all, and of these his own uncle Ishihara Gonyemon, appears to be the principal figure. The plaintiff, who was a farmer in good circumstances in Chiba-Ken, came to Tokyo on business on the 12th July three years ago, but some days after, a letter reached him announcing his mother's sudden illness, whereupon he at once started for home. On arrival he was surprised to find his mother as hale as ever. The plaintiff had no time to enquire into the source of this mysterious letter, for, soon after, he was set upon, while in his bath, by five masked men, seized by force and locked up in a cell secretly made in a certain part of the house. There he was kept till the 18th January of the following year, being fed on two balls of boiled race and four slices of pickled radish three times a day. How he was allowed to get out, what part his mother took in the affair, and why the matter was left alone for more than two years, are points on which we are not enlightened. The alleged motive for such treatment is put down as a design on Mr. Ishihara's part to appropriate the property of Mr. Minowa to his own use, for which purpose he first obtained the testimony of two physicians, living close by, that his nephew was mentally deranged; that it was dangerous to leave him free, and on the strength of this document, he obtained the sanction of the police to place him in confinement.

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It is not at all improbable that the above will be but one of many similar cases arising out of a contemplation by weak minds of the harrowing details of the Soma case, disseminated as they are throughout the country in every conceivable form. The late murder of a girl in Osaka by an actor whose mind was doubtless affected by the part he was playing in a drama founded on the Soma case, only shows the mania in another aspect.

VISCOUNT SHINAGAWA AT KOBE.

VISCOUNT SHINAGAWA was interviewed by a certain journalist at Kobe on the 31st ultimo. "I do not like," he is reported to have said, "to bind the members of my party by any hard and fast lines of policy. They are left free to pursue whatever course they like in the Diet. What is the use of fixing a definite plan of action, when a resolution taken to-day has very often to be changed to-morrow?" Asked about the relations between the National Unionists and the Progressionists, he replied as follows:—"People generally talk of an alliance between these two parties in the next session. The rumour probably originated from what transpired at a conference which the principal members of my party held in Tokyo upon the arrival of Mr. Yasuba from Kyushu. Some members proposed on that occasion that it be understood beforehand that, in order to obtain a majority in the coming session, it might become necessary to cōoperate with the Progressionists. Some political detectives got hold of this fact, and rashly gave out that an understanding had been effected between the two parties concerned. It has been from the beginning the principle of the National Unionists to give its support to any measure calculated to be beneficial to the country, be it due to Progressionist, Radical, or any other party. Our policy will remain the same, and it is quite conceivable that our party may on certain occasions act in concert with the

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Progressionists. But the National Unionists will never be guilty of the folly of supporting the Progressionists on any and all questions." Concerning the Radical party, Viscount Shinagawa is said to have remarked that "that party is in a difficult situation. It will tax Count Itagaki's resources severely to handle his party properly. I am informed by some persons that certain connections have sprung up between the Radical organ, the *Jiyu Shimbun*, and Count Goto. At all events, the position of the Radical party in the coming session will be a singular one."

FIFTEENTH NATIONAL BANK.

An Extraordinary General Meeting of the Fifteenth National, more popularly known as the Peers' Bank, was held within its hall on the 1st instant, for the purpose of considering whether, by revoking the provisions of the second Article of its Bye-laws, it would be advisable to allow those outside the pale of the peerage, to become shareholders of the Bank. This meeting was considered necessary in view of the fact that not a few of the Bank's shares are in the hands of common money-lenders who advanced money on the security of the bonds, and also to an urgent appeal of Viscount Itsutsuji to the President of the Bank, for permission to sell the shares of the Bank to common people, for the adjustment of his own private family affairs. After stating these facts, the resolution submitted for the approval of the shareholders, went on to say that the Directors of the Bank no longer saw any necessity for confining the shareholders to members of the peerage. Already two-thirds of the shares were converted into the hereditary property of the peers, and thus the original aim of the Bank might be said to be practically attained. The proposition caused considerable discussion amongst the fifty shareholders present at the meeting, but on a vote being taken, a large majority voted in its favour. It is believed that the change will exercise considerable influence in financial circles.

STREET TRAFFIC IN YOKOHAMA.

We wonder when it will dawn upon the police authorities that one of the chief duties of town police is to regulate the traffic that passes along the thoroughfares which they are supposed to patrol. Time and again protest is raised in the press against this lack of traffic regulation but it seems to have no effect, if we may judge from every-day observation. Heavily loaded drays meander from side to side of the streets in the most irresponsible manner, while *jinrikishas* are even worse. The other day, in Main Street, a string of five drays were slowly crawling up towards Langfeldt and Co.'s corner—one was in the middle of the road, another on the right hand side and the other two were jambed up against the curb on the opposite side of the way. A carriage drove up from another direction. Immediately each drayman pulled his horse across to the other side, and a block resulted, the carriage horse having to be pulled up quickly to avoid colliding with the first dray, then pulled sharp across to the right-hand side to prevent being smashed by the succeeding dray, and then back to its proper position for the purpose of allowing the remaining two to pass, while several *jinrikisha* made use of the side-walk. A policeman was standing near-by at the time, but he made no attempt whatever to keep the draymen to their proper side. This is but one instance of dozens of a like kind that are happening every day. Surely nothing could be easier for the police than to draft a set of traffic regulations—they could be obtained from the Shanghai or Hongkong police offices on application if they are not already in the Bureau's archives—and then to see them strictly enforced. The wanton carelessness and insolence of *jinrikisha* men should also be subject to some police correction. At present, whenever any accident occurs through the *jinrikisha* being on the wrong side, the policeman who is on duty near at hand, merely smiles and says nothing. While on this subject, we think that the Authorities ought to stop the disgraceful mobbing of foreigners, more especially men-of-war's men, by the *jinrikisha* men who gather at the hatobas and landing steps. These men provoke the sailors almost beyond endurance, dropping their *jinrikisha* shafts right across their paths, while most of them are in league with rum-mills where they at once take their fares regardless of protest or remonstrance. The police must be cognisant of some of these proceedings, but to all intents and purposes they deliberately shut their eyes and stuff their ears, until a row occurs, and then of course the foreigner is held to blame.

DEATH OF MARQUIS HOSOKAWA.

We briefly announced in our Saturday's issue the lamented death of Marquis Hosokawa Morihisa, former chief of the Kumamoto clan. On the 30th ultimo, the Marquis, who was then staying at his summer villa at Hayama, Dzushi, went over by boat to the Kaihin-in Hotel at Kamakura. Just as he left the boat and set his feet on the beach close to the hotel, he was seized with congestion of the brain. Dr. Ogata was soon called, but his skill availed nothing, and the noble patient died at his villa on the 1st inst. at 1 a.m. He had just completed his fifty-fourth year, having been born on April 14th, 1839. At the time of the Restoration, he had not yet succeeded to his estates, but in obedience to a summons from the Emperor, he repaired to Kyoto at the head of a strong body of troops. In those days his clan was, like every other clan, divided into two factions, one in favour of the Shogunate and the other enthusiastic for the cause of the Imperial Court at Kyoto. The late Marquis, then a young man of scarcely thirty years, was a strong adherent of the Imperialist party; and despite the strenuous opposition of the principal retainers of the clan, he pushed straight to Kyoto, without paying his respects to the Shogun who was then stopping at Osaka. He guarded, together with the troops of the Satsuma and other clans, the palace at Kyoto. Upon the formation of the new Government he was appointed a *Gijo*. In 1869, he was made Governor of the Kumamoto clan, and while in that post he is stated to have effected several remarkable reforms in local administration. After the abolition of clans in 1871, he was appointed a Rear-Admiral in the Navy, from which post he was afterwards transferred to that of Major-General in the Army. The latter position he soon resigned, and afterwards remained outside official circles. At the time of his unexpected death he was a Director of the Fifteth National Bank, besides having a seat in the House of Peers, to which he was hereditarily entitled. He was a man of simple habits, straightforward and resolute in character. In the House of Peers he frequently manifested a rare capacity of independent judgment. His funeral will take place on the 9th instant at the Tokaiji temple, Shinagawa, the procession starting from the family mansion at Takata, Koishikawa, at 6 a.m.

NEWS FROM KOREA.

From late reports, it appears that the indemnity payment of 50,000 *yen* was handed over, not in a promissory note, but in Korean coins which were subsequently changed into Japanese money, the difference in excess being returned to the Korean Government. As to the source from which this money was obtained by the Söul Government, it was at first reported to have been borrowed from a certain Chinese merchant. But it is now stated that the whole amount of 60,000 *yen* was extracted as a fine from Chô Heishiki, the former Governor who issued the order for the prohibition of the export of beans. He had 100,000 *yen* in Japanese money, the remaining 500,000 *yen* being borrowed from a Korean merchant at Söul. Chô is said to be the owner of a large tract of land.

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As to the report that the Korean Government has obtained proofs of the bribery of a certain official by Japanese merchants, it is stated by the *Mainichi Shimbun's* Söul correspondent, writing under date of August 26th, that the official in question is named Nin Oko, who was despatched by the Korean Government to Gensan to make investigations in connection with the damages really suffered by the Japanese merchants on account of the prohibition of the export of beans. The story as told by the Koreans is said to be as follows: When Nin went to Gensan, the Japanese merchants at that place offered him a bribe of 1,500 *yen*, if he would report to his Government favourably upon their claims. Of this amount 500 *yen* were paid down at once, but the rest was given to Nin in the form of a promissory note payable after the delivery of the indemnity into the hands of the Japanese merchants concerned. A Korean, named Li, who served as intermediary in this affair naturally wished to obtain a share of the bribe, but being disappointed in this hope, he denounced Nin to the Government at Söul. Nin was at once put into jail, and a search made in his house resulted in the discovery of the promissory note mentioned above, as well as some letters bearing upon the matter in question. The Korean Government appears to be resolved to open negotiation on this subject with the Japanese Minister.

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All correspondents from Söul agree in stating that the agitation against placing the work of coinage in the hands of the Japanese Government is gaining ground. Mr. Omiwa is said to be disappointed and inclined to bid adieu to Korea.

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It is stated that the highway between Söul and Nimsen is infested with robbers. Several Japanese have fallen into their hands, and not only been robbed of all they possessed but more or less wounded. A man named Otsu, a clerk in the Japan and Korea Trading Company is said to have been so severely wounded that he is not expected to live.

THE POLITICAL SITUATION.

The *Kokumin Shimbun* reviews the present political situation in a series of articles just concluded. Concerning the Government, our contemporary believes that those in power are endeavouring by various means to blunt the sharp edges of opposition by the parties hitherto hostile to them, but that their labours in this direction are not likely to be crowned with any remarkable success. One of the devices tried by them to obtain the good-will of the Opposition, is that the Ministers have endeavoured to make a certain class of business men serve as mediators between the Cabinet and a section of the Opposition in return for some benefits promised in the shape of State protection to certain industrial enterprises under contemplation. This plan is said to be unlikely to lead to any practical results, for the business men in question are too adroit to become subservient to those in power. The plan of coalition with the Radical party being difficult of accomplishment, will Count Ito and Mr. Mutsu fall back upon the National Unionists as an unavoidable alternative? The *Kokumin* does not think them capable of such an inconsistent and suicidal course of action. The Cabinet, in our contemporary's opinion, will make it its aim in the coming session to give as little handle of attack as possible to the Opposition by refraining from introducing any important measures likely to arouse discussion. In other words, Count Ito will pursue his favourite policy of inaction.

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With regard to the Radical party, the *Kokumin* thinks it a grave mistake to believe that the party as a whole is in danger of becoming slavish supporters of the Cabinet. The relations between Mr. Mutsu and Mr. Hoshi as well as those between Count Goto and some confidential advisers of Tosa extraction about Count Itagaki, may possibly be the means of corrupting a portion of the Radical party; but the party as a whole will remain unassailably true to its original programme. A similar attempt to transform the *Jiyu-to* into an official party was made in the first session of the Diet. On that occasion, too, it was Mr. Mutsu who played the principal rôle on behalf of the Government, and curiously enough Mr Nakajima, the then President of the House of Representatives, took exactly the same part in the drama as his suc-

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cessor, Mr. Hoshi. As on that occasion, so now will the plan prove only partially successful. Some people think that the entrance into the Radical party of men like Sasada and Okada—who are understood to be on good terms with Count Ito and others—will be the means of corrupting that party. But our contemporary is disposed to think that it will rather serve as a means of getting rid of equivocal members. So despite all that is said to the contrary, the *Kokumin* is firmly convinced that there is little danger of the Radical party y elding to the clan Government, not only in the fifth session but in those that follow as well.

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The Radical party being now in a peculiar position, the responsibility of upholding the cause of the Opposition is said to rest principally upon the shoulders of the Progressionists. Indeed, the time has at last come for them to regain their influence in the political field. Under the circumstances, the *Kokumin* has to offer some wholesome advice to the Progressionists. They are generally accused of being cunning and pedantic, but they used not to be seriously troubled with what people said about them. At the same time it will be to their interest to give as little occasion as possible to the undiscerning pub.ic to prefer charges, however unjust.

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Lastly, as to the National Unionists, the *Kokumin* thinks that as a party they will be after all incapable of taking any course decidedly hostile to the Cabinet. So long as Count Saigo stood at their head, they were no doubt an eyesore to the Government, but since his entrance into office they have lost much of their former importance. Viscount Shinagawa is now their recognized leader, but it is highly doubtful whether he will be courageous enough to oppose Count Ito and Count Inouye. As to Viscount Takashima, who is regarded as a wirepuller of the National Unionists, his position is said to be almost as equivocal as that of Mr Mutsu. With one of his feet in that camp, he at the same time tries to extend his arms to Count Ito and others. Such being the case, it is not difficult, says our contemporary, to imagine the course of action that will be followed by the National Unionists in the fifth session of the Diet.

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To sum up, the *Kokumin* thinks that the Opposition in the coming session will be composed of the Progressionists, a portion of the Radicals, the *Domei* Club, the Independent *Minto*, and the military section of the National Unionists. On the other hand, the Ministerial supporters will comprise a portion of the Radicals, the Shiba Club, the Independents, and the industrial section (*Jitsugyo-ha*) of the National Unionists.

OSAKA POLICE AND THE RICE EXCHANGE.

THE *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* is indignant at what it considers the illegal interference of the police in the affairs of the Osaka Rice Exchange. It appears from what we gather from the statement of the *Nichi Nichi*, that two inspectors of the Osaka Northern Police Office lately visited the houses of certain brokers and inquired into the names of the customers for whom the brokers act as agents, and that a few days later the Vice-President of the Exchange was summoned to the same office and questioned on similar matters. The Osaka correspondent of the *Nichi Nichi* adds that the object of the police, was, according to rumour, to find out whether Mr. Raspe, of No. 91 Kobe, at that time staying at the Jiyutei Hotel, Osaka, and who daily visited the Osaka Warehouse Company, was not carrying on business outside the limits of the Concession, and contrary to Treaty provisions. Presuming that it was with the above object that the Police interfered with the business of the Rice Exchange, their action cannot, says our contemporary, escape censure; for, if it is justified, it follows that even contracts cannot be made outside the Concession limits. Should transactions be confined to within the boundaries of the Concessions, is a foreign merchant in Yokohama to be prohibited from purchasing the smallest trifle in the city proper? The limits for trade and those for exercise are, of course, not identical, but there is no reason why mercantile transactions should not take place w thin the latter. How much more is this the case in Osaka, a treaty port, within the bounds of which a foreigner is free to carry on business. It must also be remembered that the Kobe merchants frequently take delivery of goods at Osaka. Some say that though large contracts for the export of rice are made by these merchants, it often happens that the amount actually exported falls very much below that originally contracted for. But the *Nichi Nichi* explains there is nothing extraordinary in that, because it is usual after a preliminary contract has been made to enquire into the state of the home market, before concluding a final contract. Our contemporary then proceeds to censure the police for encroaching upon the rights of the Exchange, which is held responsible by the Authorities for the proper conduct of business done there, and in virtue of which, it suspends or forbids any transactions it may consider improper. The police in asking the brokers for the names of their principals were acting contrary to the provisions of Art. 432 of the Commercial Code, in which it is expressly provided that brokers must not divulge the details of transactions entrusted to them. To the suggestion that the police may have suspected gambling practices, the *Nichi Nichi* says that the Osaka police are still generally liable to believe that the fluctuations of prices in the Exchange, are controlled by human influence, and have often unjustly interfered when prices rose, though, strange to say, never when prices fell. The article concludes with the remark that it is extremely dangerous to permit police detectives to act in the way they have done at a time when the improvement of the Exchanges is under contemplation.

NEW GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF IND A ELECT.

GENERAL Sir Henry Wylie Norman, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., C.I.E., the present Governor of Queensland, has been chosen to succeed the Marquis of Lansdowne as Viceroy and Governor-General of India. The appointment should be a most popular one, as Sir Henry is an old Indian officer of most meritorious repute. He entered the Bengal Staff Corps on the 1st of March, 1844, and on December 25th, 1847 received his commission as Lieutenant. On the 1st of March, 1859, he was gazetted Captain, and about twenty months later Major; then promoted Lieut.-Colonel in December, 1860, Colonel 8th September, 1863, Major-General 23rd March, 1869, Lieut.-General 1st October, 1877, General 1st April, 1882 and placed on U.S. List December 1st, 1883. He was appointed Governor of Queensland in 1888, the salary attaching to the post being £5,000. Sir Henry Norman served as Adjutant of the 31st Bengal Native Infantry throughout the Punjaub campaign of 1848-49, including the passage of the Chenab, actions at Sadoolapore, Chillianwallah, and Goojerat, and subsequent pursuit of the Sikhs and Affghans under Sir Walter Gilbert (Medal with two Clasps). He was Brigade-Major to the Troops engaged in the Kohat Pass in February, 1850, under Sir Charles Napier and Sir Colin Campbell; and, as Brigade-Major or D.A. Adj.-General to the Troops employed, was engaged in various expeditions against the mountain tribes near Peshawur in 1850-51-52-53-54 (Medal with Clasp). Sir Henry served with the 31st N.I. during the Santhal insurrection in 1855-56, and for four months was in command of a separate Detachment, and was thanked by the Commander-in-Chief in India for surprising and capturing an insurgent chief. Throughout the operations against the mutineers and rebels in India, he was engaged from the first outbreak in May, 1857 until the termination of the war. As Assistant Adjutant-General of the Army he was present at the action of Badlee Serai on 8th June, 1857, in which the Adjutant-General (Colonel Chester) was killed, and performed the duties of Adjutant-General to the Army in the field from that date, with the exception of some portion of the siege of Delhi, until the end of the war. He served throughout the siege of Delhi, from the 8th June to the 20th Sept. 1857; was present with Greathed's Column at the actions of Bolundshuhur, Allyghur, and Agra; subsequently, in Nov. 1857, in action near Bunterah in Oude with the Troops under Brigadier Grant. The future Viceroy was present with the Commander-in-Chief in the skirmishes prior to and throughout the operations connected with the relief of Lucknow, and had his horse shot at the storming of the Shah Nujeef; was at the relief of Cawnpore and subsequent operations from 28th Nov. to 6th Dec., 1857, when the Gwalior Contingent and other Troops were finally routed and dispersed; at the action near Khodagunge and re-occupation of Futtehghur on 3rd June, 1858, at the siege and capture of Lucknow 2nd to 21st March, 1858; Rohilcund campaign in May, including the action of Bareil y (wounded) and the affair at Shahjehanpore; campaign in Oude during the cold season of 1858-59, including the affairs of Doundeakeira, Bergudia, Musjidea, and the Raptee. For these services he received a medal with three clasps, *C.B.*, and Brevets of Major and Lieut.-Colonel, and was 25 times thanked in general orders and despatches for service in the field. The Viceroy's salary, we might add is Rs. 20,833 per *mensem*.

CURRENT TOPICS.

CONCERNING the rumour about Count Inouye's transfer to the post of Minister of Finance, Count Okuma is said to have remarked as follows:—"This report may turn out to be without foundation. Inouye will no doubt make a very good Finance Minister. Indeed, when the Cabinet was formed in August last year, I thought he would receive that portfolio. It was extremely regrettable that some of his colleagues considered it impolitic to let him have the post. A man of exceptional astuteness, it has sometimes happened that he went beyond proper limits in the discharge of his duties. But he has gained experience, and moreover the rigid financial regulations leave little room for any irregular exercise of his extraordinary capacity. Supposing that he has been appointed Minister of Finance, what is to become of Watanabe? As Finance Minister, he can act his part as well as anybody else, but he will not be of much use in any other position. The market for him is rather limited. He is like a plant which does not bear transplanting. The Cabinet must be aware of the folly of sacrificing such a man at a time like the present when there is a scarcity of ability and talent."

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Count Matsukata's popularity at Osaka is extraordinary. The business men of the place are said to believe in his star. A writer on the *Kokumin Shimbun's* staff, who recently travelled in that region, states that the ex-Premier's kindness and affability are everywhere the subject of talk and admiration.

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With regard to the Vice-Presidentship of the House of Representatives which has become vacant by Mr. Sone's resignation, it is believed that either Mr. Suzuki Shigeto or Mr. Kusumoto Masataka will be elected to the post. The Progressionists recognize the futility of their putting up a candidate. As to the Radicals, Mr Kono does not covet the post, and there is no one else in that party who may be considered a likely candidate. The National Unionists may strive to have one of themselves selected, but their chance of success is extremely slender. So it is believed that the Independent *Min-to*, to which Messrs. Suzuki and Kusumoto belong, will be able to procure the election of its candidates.

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The *Jiyu Shimbun* promises to commence on the 7th instant a series of astounding revelations about an ancient case of the manufacture of counterfeit paper money. It is not difficult to op ne to what our contemporary refers. It is rumoured that a certain employé of Mr. Fujita

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Denzaburo, of Osaka, recently came to Tokyo with a large package of mysterious documents purporting to bear upon the alleged manufacture of counterfeit money by the famous Osaka merchant. It is further stated that he tried to sell the papers to Count Okuma, but failing in that object, he has succeeded in disposing of them to Count Itagaki. The story about Mr. Fujita's manufacture of false money was a *canard* of many years ago. But the Radical organ is determined to have it re-told. It is even rumoured that a certain member of the House of Peers, who was formerly an official in the Metropolitan Police Office—presumably Mr. Ando Sokumei—is one of the instigators. The disclosures, it is expected by some people, will involve one or two important members of the Cabinet. It is to be noted that the so-called revelations are the result of a secret political conspiracy.

FANCY DRESS BALL AT NIKKO

THE series of social festivities which have centered round the always popular receptions of Madame Sienkiewicz and have this year made Nikko the gayest place in Japan during the summer months, were brought to a close on Monday evening by a fancy dress ball at the French Legation. It is difficult to know which was the more to be admired, the courage of such a conception under the circumstances or the ingenuity with which it was carried out. Nikko, far removed from all the marts where materials for fancy costumes or artists to construct them are easily procurable, seemed the last place to be deliberately chosen for such a project, but when the fair sex set their will upon anything, the way is pretty sure to be found, and it was truly remarkable to see the variety of costumes, some beautiful, some grotesque, but all cleverly planned and perfectly carried out that graced the occasion. The scene was striking, for in addition to the diversity of costumes and the charms of their fair wearers, the whole of the spacious garden surrounding the building as well as the suite of chambers on the ground floor were profusely hung with variously tinted lanterns, and from time to time coloured lights burned near the verandahs threw the brilliant assembly into vivid relief. To describe the costumes in detail is a task beyond our ability. The most novel though not the most graceful were lanterns disposed in the form of drapery for ladies and gentlemen alike. Never was stiffer or more uncouth drapery imagined, yet some of the ladies showed their indomitable courage by wearing this rigid costume throughout the whole evening, an ordeal to which none of the stern sex consented to submit. Many really beautiful dresses were seen, but their number was so great that to particularize impartially is out of the question. Dancing was kept up vigorously until 3 a.m., with an interval for supper at midnight, and the universal verdict was that a more delightful entertainment had never been enjoyed in Japan even at the French Legation under its genial and hospitable *régime*.

COMPOSITORS' WAGES IN TOKYO.

A MUCH-INTERVIEWED man is "Mr. Sahei Ohashi of the Hakubunkwan of Tokyo," and much greatness is being thrust upon him by the light-horsemen of the Western press. Starting with San Francisco, on through Chicago and other big cities of the United States, his approach or progress was heralded by most laudatory notices, mainly dwelling upon the exceeding large number of men employed in his publishing offices and the amount of paper he used in his productions,—the bulk of the staple made by the paper-mills of the Empire! Now he has reached London and the irrepressible *Pall Mall Gazette* has devoted a page, with illustrations, to the "Book-king of Tokyo." The stock yarns spun for the edification of Yankee pressmen were all trolled out again, and then Mr. Ohashi broke fresh ground. At least, according to the interviewer's account of the conversation. Be it observed here, that neither the interviewer nor the interviewed spoke to each other in their native language, an interpreter being the medium of conversation. According to Mr. Ohashi, his compositors, of which the "establishment employs nearly five thousand," earn from "4s. to 12s. a day!" What a compositor's paradise must Tokyo be, and what a crowded Guild he must have! The more's the pity that neither statement rests on fact. Mr. Ohashi's staff-writers, however, are equally well remunerated, if we accept the *Pall Mall's* interviewer; they earn from £25 to £30 a month. No wonder Japanese literary men prefer to write for "home consumption." Well-a-day, it is the "first step" Mr. Ohashi has taken during his "already moderately long life, outside of the Japanese Empire."

AMERICAN IMPORTS OF RAW SILK.

FROM the latest statistics published by the Silk Association of America, we take the following figures:—

IMPORTS OF RAW SILK AT THE PORTS OF NEW YORK AND THE PACIFIC COAST, CLASSIFIED BY COUNTRIES OF EXPORT FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30TH, 1893.

Months.	Shipments from Europe. Strictly European. Bales.	Value.	Re-Shipped, Asiatic Bales.	Value.	Shipments from Asia Japan. Bales.	Value.
1892.						
July	495	457,759	—	—	425	882,352
August	1,423	372,144	—	—	1,655	1,167,753
September	629	594,544	—	—	3,432	2,534,864
October	2,497	1,707,173	—	—	5,885	4,638,694
November	1,446	1,337,341	—	—	4,073	3,221,702
December	619	664,480	—	—	4,080	3,645,315
1893.						
January	1,007	1,047,366	30	23,105	2,636	2,002,734
February	846	833,662	74	43,059	2,313	1,704,492
March	933	1,030 693	94	38,035	1,338	1,047,200
April	542	585,548	101	42,315	184	377,676
May	299	543,091	116	46,478	733	511 699
June	205	345,260	37	20,876	228	236,846
Total	9,921	9,405,376	452	203,852	27,360	20,615,026

Shipments from Asia.

Months. 1892.	Hongkong. Bales.	Value.	Shanghai. Bales.	Value.	Totals Bales.	Value
July	363	299 933	57	24,085	1,380	873,306
August	1,145	365,452	263	97,401	3,476	2,001,75
September	790	261,528	561	222,439	5,418	3,623,404
October	813	328,253	925	382,531	10,050	7,006,751
November	1,224	452,997	764	365,048	7,497	5,255,163
December	1,130	474,104	845	281,779	6,460	4,402,738
1893.						
January	622	266,674	638	316,371	4,938	3,646,340
February	770	300,818	8 4	368,937	4,127	3,250,591
March	626	243,450	700	385 000	2,781	2,745,148
April	358	134,709	945	469,929	2,560	1,810,417
May	486	197,005	1,315	645,781	2,889	2,807,778
June	30	9,074	633	308,374	1,135	819,436
Total	8,266	3,072,930	8,395	3,851,873	54,394	37,243,937

THE SILK MARKET.

THE *Chugai Shogyo Shimpo* has the following on the present state of the silk market in Japan. Owing to the depression in the silk trade with America as a result of the disorders in the money market, much anxiety is felt by silk merchants and manufacturers. Many of the leading manufacturers have decided to turn their attention solely to silk disposable to France until the American market is restored to a normal condition. It must be remembered that the silk which goes to America is full-sized while that wanted by the French weavers is fine-sized. It is therefore not to be expected that manufacturers engaged in making silk for America can turn out at once the excellent fine-sized article, but as the latter now commands a much higher price than the former, it can still be made profitable. The difference in price at present between the two kinds is as high as $100, about double that which prevailed last year, but the *Shogyo Shimpo* considers it overhasty to denounce the manufacture of full-sized silk on that account. The difference in price is relative and temporary, brought about by the unusual decline of the American market and the somewhat brisk condition of the French.

* * *

The same authority, speaking of the reception of Japanese silk in the French market, acknowledges the inferiority of the native to that of the Italian article. Still the Japanese product has one practical advantage over its Italian rival in being cheaper and more easily disposed of in the French market.

OUR TAILS

HERE is what Professor Henry Drummond has to say about our "lost tail":—"When one passes from the head to the other extremity of the human body one comes upon a somewhat unexpected but very pronounced characteristic—the relic of the tail, and not only of the tail, but of muscles for wagging it. Everyone who first sees a human skeleton is amazed at this discovery. At the end of the vertebral column, curving faintly outward in suggestive fashion, are three, four, and occasionally five vertebræ forming the coccyx, a true rudimentary tail. In the adult this is always concealed beneath the skin, but in the embryo, both in man and ape, at an early stage it is much longer than the limbs. What is decisive as to its true nature, however, is that even in the embryo of man the muscles for wagging it are still found. In the grown-up human being these muscles are represented by bands of fibrous tissue, but cases are known where the actual muscles persist through life. That a distinct external tail should not be still found in man may seem disappointing to the evolutionist. But the want of a tail argues more for evolution than its presence would have done. It would have been contrary to the theory of descent had he possessed a longer tail. For all the anthropoids most allied to man have also long since parted with theirs."

LABOUR AND ABILITY.

HERE is a most remarkable article—or rather condensation of an essay—contributed by Mr. W. H. Mallock to the *National Review* for July:—Just before the beginning of the present century, the population of Great Britain was about ten millions, and the national income about a hundred and forty millions. To reach and maintain that rate of production required the exertion of an immense amount of ability, and the use of an immense capital which ability had already created. We plainly understate the case if we say that British labour by itself—that is to say, apart from, and unassisted by, the industrial ability of the past ninety years—can, at the utmost, produce annually £140,000,000 for every ten millions of the population. And now let us turn from what the labourer produces to what the labouring classes [by labouring clases is meant all families having an income less than £150 a year] received. At the time we have been speaking of, they received but about half of what we assumed their labour to have produced. A population of ten million people received about £70,000,000. Two generations later the same number of people received in return for their labour about £160,000,000. They were twenty-five per cent. richer than they possibly could have been if in 1795 they had seized on all the property in the Kingdom, and divided it among themselves. Or, in other words: Labour in 1866, instead of receiving half of what we assumed it to have produced, received twenty-five per cent. more than it produced. If we turn from the year 1866 to the present time we find that the reward of labour has continued to increase, and that each ten million receives in return for its labour £200,000,000; or, in other words, labour now receives about fifty per cent. more than it produces. These calculations are based, the reader must remember, on the ridiculously exaggerated assumption, made for the sake of argument, that in the days of Watt and Arkwright, capital, genius, and ability had no share in production, and that all the wealth of the country until the beginning of the present century was due to the spontaneous efforts of the labouring class alone. Fifty years ago the gross income of the nation was £515,000,000. Of this, £135,000,000 went to the labouring class, and £180,000,000 to those who paid income-tax. Since then the labouring class has increased in numbers from 26,000,000 to 33,000,000 and their income has increased to £660,000,000; so that after making due allowance for their increase of numbers, they receive now £7,000,000 a year more than the national income fifty years ago. Dreams of some possible social revolution, dreams of some division of property by which much of the riches of the rich should be abstracted from them and divided amongst the poor—these were not wanting fifty years ago. But even the most sanguine of the dreamers hardly ventured to hope, that the wealth of the classes could be completely taken away from them—that a sum equal to the rent of the whole landed aristocracy, all the interest on capital, all the profits of our commerce and our manufactures, could be added to what was then the income of the labouring classes. Within fifty years this miracle has

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taken place, and not this miracle only, but another miracle added to it. The same number of labourers and their families as then formed the whole labouring population of the country, now secure amongst them every penny of the amount that then formed the income of the entire Nation. They have gained all that they possibly could have gained, if every rich man of that period, if duke and cotton-lord and railway-king, followed by all the host of minor plutocrats, had been forced to cast all they had into the treasury of labour, and give their very last farthing to swell the labourer's wages. The labourers have gained this, and, as before said, £7,000,000 more, and without revolution. Apart from this, the number of people who pay income-tax has risen from 1,500,000 in 1843 to 5,000,000 in 1893, showing a vast accession from the ranks of the labouring classes. In fact, as Mr. Giffen told us ten years ago: "It would not be far short of the mark to say that the whole of the great improvement of the last fifty years has gone to the masses."

THE "CHU-O SHIMBUN."

THE *Chū-ō Shimbun*, the National Unionist organ, recommends the leaders of the Opposition parties to enter the Cabinet. The best way to demolish clan Government is, in our contemporary's opinion, not to attack it from without but to effect its transformation from within. And it is now a unique opportunity to carry out such a plan, for the Ito Ministry is disinterested enough to open its gates for the sake of the statesmen out of power. Count Okuma, observes our contemporary, once tried this scheme, but he failed, because he did not place his principal followers in important secondary positions. This subject, it is true, has been repeatedly dealt with by several other papers on nearly similar lines. But that the National Unionist organ should at this juncture think it worth while to devote two long leaders to the question, is a circumstance which calls for some reflection. What indeed can be the real motive of our contemporary? There would be nothing singular, had these articles appeared in some of the independent papers like the *Jiji Shimpo* or the *Nippon*. But when a party paper treats such a subject in the way discussed by the *Chū-ō*, especially at a time like the present, it is natural that people should look for ulterior motives. Two explanations offer themselves. One is, that the contemplated alliance with the Progressionists having failed, the National Unionist organ seeks to injure the position of that party as though its leader, Count Okuma, were really desirous of entering office. The other explanation is that our contemporary is desirous of bringing about a final rupture between the Civil and Military sections of the Government by representing Count Ito and others of the former section as being in favour of handing over political power to the Opposition leaders, at least as being in no way averse to sharing rule with them. Most people seem inclined to favour the latter theory.

THE RADICAL PARTY.

THE excitement caused in the Radical Party by the Hoshi affair does not seem to have been at all quieted by the circular which was recently addressed to the provincial members from headquarters in Tokyo. According to some papers, not only provincial members but even many of those in the Capital are stated to be dissatisfied with the step taken to explain away Mr. Hoshi's conduct. These discontented members in Tokyo are reported to be now holding secret conferences to discuss the course of action to be taken on this question. Meanwhile, Messrs. Koinuma Michikore and Iwamoto Shinkichi, Radicals, of Shimotsuka in the Prefecture of Tochigi, have addressed a letter to Count Itagaki strongly criticising his support of Mr. Hoshi. It is a long document carefully drawn up in a clear and vigorous style. The writers, after alluding to the recent circular, proceed to question the wisdom of sacrificing the interests of the party in order to vindicate the honour of one of its members. Indeed the Radical Party, say these incensed members, has gone too far to identify itself with Mr. Hoshi. They denounce Mr. Hoshi as unworthy of the party's confidence, and strongly call upon Count Itagaki to take a decisive step to get rid of such a member. If he be unable to take such a step, he is advised to retire from the leadership of the party. Some people, they state, report that the Radical leader is incapable of taking any manly course of action with Mr. Hoshi, because he lies under great pecuniary obligations to him. But circumstances like these ought not to have any weight with him in the discharge of public duties. It is to be observed that the writers of this document have a personal grudge against Mr. Hoshi, as they are adherents of Mr. Yokobor. Sanshi who was defeated by Mr. Hoshi at the last general election.

* * *

The much talked-of Radical campaign in Kyushu is to commence about the middle of the present month. According to the report of the *Teikoku* News Agency, Messrs. Hoshi Toru and Matsuda Masahisa will leave Tokyo on the 10th instant, while Mr. Kono Hironaka, who is now lecturing in Fukushima Prefecture, will leave on the 14th or 15th. Mr. Hoshi will travel in the three Prefectures of Saga, Kumamoto, and Nagasaki, Mr. Matsuda in Fukuoka and Oita, and Mr. Kono in Kagoshima and Miyazaki. On their way back from Kyushu, Messrs. Kono and Matsuda will attend a grand meeting of the Radicals to be held at Okayama.

LAW COURSE IN THE IMPERIAL UNIVERSITY.

SOME weeks ago we referred to the request of the law students of the Imperial University that the Law Course should be restored to three years instead of four, as it is at present. It appears from what the vernacular papers say, that the University has decided to alter the length of the Course so that it will be alike satisfactory to the students who wish to graduate at the College as quickly as possible and to those, who, for various reasons, are desirous of pursuing their studies more thoroughly. The change from three to four years was introduced because the University Authorities thought it desirable to add one year to the term for the special purpose of making the students familiar with the new Codes, but the enforcement of the Codes having been indefinitely postponed, the necessity for extending the Course does not exist. Now the duration of the course of study is uniform in all the branches of the University, but the law students may, after having passed successfully through the three years' Course, continue to pursue their studies in the University for one, two, or even three years more, if they desire to do so.

THE "JIYU SHIMBUN."

THE *Jiyu Shimbun* was suspended on Thursday morning. On Thursday's issue happened to contain several matters more or less offensive to the authorities, but the principal article that brought about the suspension seems to have been the preface to the so-called revelations regarding the manufacture of counterfeit paper money. From the title of the story, the event is made to have taken place under the Ashikaga Shogunate. There was a monster in those days who, having made himself master of the black art (*bateren*) just imported from China, made a sign of the cross over a large number of small pieces of blank paper, which flying about in all direction, brought back to him human blood and flesh to feast upon. Having discovered the monster, the writer, who signs himself "General Kill the Wicked," was about to describe the strange scene, when a breeze smelling of blood, caused him to swoon. On coming to his senses again, he found himself face to face with a strange monster having three faces and six feet. One of the faces represented that of Isikawa Goyemon, the greatest robber Japan ever saw, another that of Tôseki, an equally famous Chinese robber, and the third that of a robber who is said to have had the noted conversation with Alexander the Great. The first and the last robbers advised our author to forgive the dealer in the black art, while the Chinese robber exhorts him not to spare the fellow, for he has not only robbed men but broken faith. All the three unite in giving testimony to the superhuman craftiness of the being in question. Such is the gist of the preface which is more elaborate than interesting. As to the wisdom of the measure taken by the authorities opinion naturally differs, but we are inclined to think that it would have been better had the article been allowed to pass unnoticed. At the same time, it is conceivable that certain political motives concealed behind the so-called revelations may have made it advisable for the Government to suspend the paper.

DEATH OF MR. JOSE DA SILVA LOUREIRO.

IT is with regret that we chronicle the death of Mr. Jose da Silva Loureiro, late Consul-General and *Chargé d'Affaires* for Portugal in Tokyo, which sad event occurred in Hongkong about midnight on the 31st ult. For some weeks past he had been suffering from influenza and intermittent fever and a trip which he took to Macao for the benefit of his health only appeared to hasten the progress of his malady, pneumonia supervening within a few hours of his return to Hongkong. The deceased gentleman came to Japan in 1857, entering the service of a commercial house in Yokohama, and became the first Portuguese Consul of this port. In course of time he was removed to Nagasaki and from thence, we believe, went home, taking up his residence in Lisbon for a time. In the year 1878 he returned to the East as Portuguese Consul in Hongkong. Six years later he was promoted to the diplomatic service, and transferred to Tokyo as *Chargé d'Affaires*. In this capacity he represented his country at the Treaty Revision conferences. He remained in Tokyo until the Consulate-General was abolished, when he returned to Macao. The late Mr. Loureiro was a most popular gentlemen and scholar, and much sympathy will be extended by a very large circle to the widow and family in their sad bereavement

SOSHI AND MARQUIS TOKUGAWA.

EVER since we last referred to this matter have these vagabonds been daily persecuting the family of the Marquis Tokugawa, by making attempts to enter the house. Sometimes they took to boats on the river, on whose banks the residence of the Marquis is situated, but every ruse was successfully repulsed by the police and other hired watchers. If, however, the *Yomiuri*, is to be credited, the patience of the family has become exhausted, and they have so far surrendered as to enter into parley with the *soshi*, and offer them $500 not to annoy the house any longer. This was refused. They want $3,000, and one authority says the demand has been granted. It will be a great pity if the disgraceful episode is allowed to end in this way.

SUN INSURANCE OFFICE.

THE Directors of the Sun Insurance Office presented the following report for the year 1892. The premiums received, less re-insurances, amount to £1,029,326 4s. 0d., being an increase of £71,993 19s. 10d. over those of the preceding year. The total of the sums insured during the year, after deduction of the amounts re-insured, amount to £391,806,887, being an increase of £18,690,777 over the corresponding figures for the year 1891. The losses paid and outstanding amount to £678,647 13s. 3d., being at the exceptionally high rate of 65.93 per cent. on the premiums received. The expenses of management (including commission to agents and working charges of all kinds) amount to £330,106 5s. 7d., being at the rate of 32·07 per cent. The income from investments during the year has amounted to £71,080 15s. 7d. After providing for the usual reserve of 40 per cent. of the premiums to cover liabilities under current policies, a balance of £62,855 8s. 10d. remains, which has been transferred to the credit of the profit and loss account. The Balance brought forward from last year amounted to £194,194 18s. 4d., out of which there has been paid for dividends and bonus in respect of the

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business of the year 1891 £102,000 0s. 0d., leaving a credit balance of £92,194 18s. 4d.; which by the operations of the year, as detailed in the account, has been increased to £153 830 6s. 5d. Out of this amount an interim dividend at the rate of three shillings per share, absorbing £36,000 0s. 0d was paid in January last, and the Directors have declared a further dividend of four shillings and sixpence per share, payable on the 10th July, which will absorb a further sum of £54,000 0s. 0d., and leave £63,830 6s. 5d. 7s. 5d. to be carried forward. The amount at the credit of the dividend reserve fund at 31st December, 1891, £130,000, has been reduced by the transfer to capital account of £120,000 to pay up the 10s. per share on each of the 240,000 shares of the Company (according to the provisions of the Companies' Act of Parliament), and now stands at £10,000. The funds of the Office will then stand as follows: Capital paid-up £120,000 0s. 0d.; general reserve £1,125,000 0s. 0d.; reserve for risks not yet expired £411,730 9s. 7d.; dividend reserve £10,000 0s. 0d.; investment surplus and sinking fund £70,500 2s. 5d.; balance at profit and loss account, after payment of dividends £63,830 6s. 5d.; total £1,801, 060 18s. 5d.

SAD FATALITY AT THE SEALING GROUNDS.

News has reached Yokohama, from Hakodate, of a serious misfortune which has befallen a boat's crew of the well-known local sealing schooner *Arctic*. It appears that Captain Pyne was out with two boats when a fog came down and hid the *Arctic* from sight. Through some mishap one boat capsized and her crew were drowned, disappearing almost at once; Capt. Pyne's boat, after encountering great hardships, made Copper Island. H.M.S. *Porpoise* happened to be cruising near at hand and seeing signals sent a rescue party ashore and took off the men. She then continued her cruize to Okotsk Sea and falling in with the *Arctic* transferred Captain Pyne to his vessel. A sailor of the party, however, remained on the *Porpoise*, and when she put into Hakodate he was landed, whence he come on to Yokohama. We hear that Captain Pyne was severely bruised, either during the boat's voyage to Copper Island or while landing there, but that he speedily recovered.

ABOLITION OF RACING SWEEPS IN AUSTRALIA.

The New South Wales Government, says the *Field*, has determined to put a stop to sweeps on the Melbourne Cup and other great events of the Australian turf. This mild form of gambling was abolished in the neighbouring colony of Victoria some ten years ago, but, in New South Wales, though declared illegal, it has been winked at by the authorities for some years past. The leading institution of the kind, run by Mr. George Adams, of Sydney, under the title of "Tattersall's Consultations," has for many years enjoyed an immense popularity, not only south of the line, but in India, China and America,—and to a less degree in Japan among residents of the Treaty Ports. The enormous extent of the business may be judged from the fact that last year £430,000 in sovereigns and half-sovereigns passed through "Tattersall's" books, 10 per cent. of which was deducted for working expenses, and profit, of course.

FRANCE AND SIAM.

The telegram, under date London 5th September published in to-day issue, is somewhat perplexing. That the Foreign Minister should accompany an Ambassador to his post, especially at such a juncture, would, if it were not unprecedented, certainly be sufficient to inspire alarm. But we have had no news of Lord Rosebery having gone to Paris at all. Lord Rosebery, we know, was at date of latest advices from London, to proceed to Homburg, and Lord Dufferin to Walmer Castle for three weeks. It may therefore be safely surmised that a portion of the telegram referring to the former has been dropped in transit, and that the names have been mixed up in that inexplicable manner known only to Reuter and his Agents in the Far East. The news regarding Lord Dufferin and his instructions, is, at this late date, serious enough in view of the feeling of distrust and uneasiness that prevailed and was openly expressed in the House of Commons, even after the signing of the protocol by France and Siam

PRODUCE RETURNS.

The following are the returns of tea, cocoons, raw silk, etc., produced in Japan during 1892 :—

City or Prefecture.	Cocoons. Koku. (5.13 bushels.)	Raw silk. (lb. oz. avd.)	Waste silk. Kwanme.	Silkworm Egg cards. Kwanme.	Tea Kwan-me.
Tokyo	1,942	2,136	229	236	47,778
Kyoto	26,517	22,012	8,869	31,893	530,325
Osaka	2,530	2,754	354	1,352	208,926
Kanagawa	54 712	18,316	7 217	5,281	8,384
Iyogo	37,075	20,722	7,635	82,601	258,106
Nagasaki	2,118	1,701	437	2,331	5,542
Niigata	30,9	22,896	9,304	21,683	13 497
Saitama	91 800	46 972	21,404	161,124	154,524
Gumma	358,358	245,472	297,646	208,008	7,269
Chiba	12,167	6,145	2,776	5,184	86,325
Ibaraki	29,9 2	13,067	3,671	20,882	187,509
Tochigi	28,643	10 734	4,811	64,865	35 512
Nara	3 595	2,103	288	2,791	213,766
Shiye	22,242	8,991	6,753	20,077	575,573
Aichi	41,315	27,093	7,315	27,938	132,830
Shizuoka	154,2	8,546	5,532	8,055	2,704,849
Yamanashi	65,241	63,210	20,853	97,057	6 770
Shiga	59,435	35,604	20,749	867 3.7	223,334
Gifu	85,832	55,889	20,633	22,881	308 901
Nagano	316,697	248 234	81,050	2,099,822	3,573
Miyagi	13 079	23,643	11,150	20,144	27 529
Fukushima	224,318	80,359	33,230	447,402	15,965
Iwate	20,360	15,080	4,664	9,120	664
Aomori	872	544	168	1,2 8	—
Yamagata	30,670	40,193	13,178	62,270	8,146
Akita	9,837	7,405	2,350	20,840	1,220
Fukui	26,123	20,335	7,474	19,200	75,488
Ishikawa	28,216	22,597	3,320	16,478	200,842
Toyama	7,812	22,504	5,353	40,949	41,855
Tottori	15,706	22,024	6,338	20 172	26,250
Shimane	9,247	7,232	2,447	23,741	72,289
Okayama	7,710	10,824	3,304	8,409	110,422
Hiroshima	4,619	4,791	534	6,643	537,194
Yamaguchi	3,385	2,735	2,084	3,534	287,627
Wakayama	3,333	2,670	465	2,167	180,489
Tokushima	2,115	2,097	1,202	8,238	57,203
Kagawa	2,345	513	32	834	2,404
Ehime	5,388	4,861	1,578	3,930	141,840
Kochi	3,951	4,243	2,232	3,561	210,763
Fukuoka	7,432	6,456	2,852	7,798	305,045
Oita	11,436	8,408	2,477	10,025	220,900
Saga	2,212	2,296	422	2,300	53,916
Kumamoto	6,203	4,715	830	9,418	151,221
Miyazaki	3,164	3,817	647	3,101	227,459
Kagoshima	3,460	6,320	700	3 058	282,847
Hokkaido	2,392	759	897	4,584	18
Total	1,445,097	1,071,092	518,435	2,823,041	7,791,005

The returns for the past two years, 1890 and 1891, were respectively as follow :—

1,172,252	868,068	320,099	2,095,004	not known
1,380,240	2,116,422	436,409	2,792,340	7,096,390

THE LAST CASE OF ELECTROCUTION.

The latest use of electricity for the purpose of executing a criminal resulted in a terrible scene. The victim was W. G. Taylor who had murdered his shopmate, Solomon Johnson, on September 20th, 1892, and the place of execution was Auburn, New York. The story is thus told by the *Empire* :—

The scene at the first attempt to electrocute the victim was something indescribable. The moment the full voltage was switched into his body the rigidity of the muscles became so great that the front supports to the chair to which his legs were strapped were torn from their fastenings and fell upon the floor with an ominous clatter. But the powerful current still held the body and the chair to which it was strapped in a firm embrace. The spectators were not very much startled at this unlooked for occurrence. The victim sat motionless in the chair, not even twitching hand or foot, but when the current was turned off the body sank back from its rigid position and the chair without its front legs tipped forward, the body slipped perceptibly, and if the stout straps had not held it would have pitched prone upon the floor. There was a smothered "oh" from the spectators, but not a man moved. Nobody had as yet realized that anything particularly horrible had taken place, as it was taken for granted the victim had died at the first contact. But in a moment more a shudder passed over the little throng. Froth and saliva had appeared at the mouth of the victim, which was left exposed by a narrow leather mask. A strange noise was then heard. It was repeated, and was then recognized as a gasp for breath. "He's alive" was the awful thought that oppressed every spectator. Spasmodic gasping continued, but was soon succeeded by stertorous breathing, and some of the more nervous spectators were afraid he would come to life. The warden ordered the electrician to renew the contact and the switch was again turned, but much to Davis' surprise no current came. He announced in a low tone that a belt was off or the dynamo had broken down. Here was a dilemma. The laboured breathing of the victim continued and his chest rose and fell convulsively. What was to be done? was the question that forced itself home to every spectator. It seemed as though Taylor might revive at any moment. The body had assumed a reclining posture in the chair, with legs stretched well out on the floor. Mr. Davis tried his lever again, but still no response. Taylor was now breathing regularly but stertorously and those who did not know that he was unconscious expected to hear him cry out. It seemed as though the attendants, who had gone to tell the engineer of the failure of the dynamo, would never return. Warden Stout paced the floor visibly nervous. "I'll go myself and see what's the matter," said Davis, and he hastened out to the power house. Everybody remained quiet and the painful stillness was only broken by the gasping of the victim, while the fluid from his mouth had now saturated the strap across his chin.

Mr. Davis returned with the information that the armature had been burned out. It could be used no more that day. The spectators still wondered what was to be done with the rapidly reviving victim. Finally the straps were removed, a cot was brought in, and he was lifted upon it and carried into the next room. He was now groaning aloud and moving his head from side to side. His eyes were closed, but his features were not distorted with pain. The witnesses were instructed not to leave. Taylor's pulse grew stronger, and his breathing seemed less laboured. He might recover. He was even now attempting to rise from his cot. It was necessary for the keepers to pinion his arms and legs. Dr. Conway gave him a hypodermic injection of morphine to quiet his struggles. He was asked if the patient would recover with sufficient time and he replied "most assuredly." The three physicians present coincided in the opinion that Taylor was absolutely unconscious from the first contact, and they did not think he had suffered for a moment. He was now in the same condition precisely as a man stricken with apoplexy. His symptoms were the same. There was certainly no burning of flesh. In fifteen minutes more a small dose of chloroform was administered. There was only one way to carry out the sentence of the law, and, inhuman as it seemed, the unconscious form must be strapped into the chair once more. Linemen were already at work stringing wires from the city electric light plant through the grated windows of the death chamber, making connections with the switchboard for the second attempt at Taylor's extinction. In one hour all was ready, and the limp form of Taylor was carried to the death chair by three keepers. The broken foot rest had been repaired. He was held in position by straps and the current was turned on. The body stiffened up, but not with half the force as upon the first attempt, and for half a minute 1,240 volts coursed through his system. The current was then turned off, the stethoscope applied, and he was officially pronounced dead.

BURNING OF THE NISHI HONGWANJI, TSUKIJI.

The fear expressed in our special telegram of yesterday morning from Tokyo was too surely realised. The huge building was burnt to the ground. This great temple, commonly known as the Tsukiji Monzeki, belonged to the Monto sect of Buddhists. It was originally founded in 1658, destroyed by fire in 1872, and rebuilt in 1880. It was conspicuous for its size and its massive, beautiful roof, and possessed a certain interest from the fact that it was the first example of the partial adaptation of European architectural principles to a building essentially Japanese. The handsome new lecture hall, close by, was saved, and as the sect is noted for its wealth and influence, the main hall will, doubtless, soon be rebuilt. The Higash. Hongwanji in Asakusa is almost a replica of the building just destroyed. So far the origin of the fire, which was confined to the temple, is unknown.

THE "AMIGO.

The German steamer *Amigo*, says the *China Mail* of the 31st ult., was towed round to the Hung-hom Docks this morning by the *Pilot Fish*. For the last two or three days the clearing out of the remains of the cargo has proceeded as expeditiously as was possible under the circumstances, and by temporarily patching the hole amidships and pumping out the water in the holds she was got afloat, and was towed into dock with very little difficulty. The work of raising the steamer has been most arduous and difficult, and it was rendered all the more difficult by the collapse of the after deck some three weeks ago when the steamer had practically been floated.

UNNATURAL DEATHS.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun* states that the body of a man, supposed to have been dead over fifty days, was discovered in an unoccupied house at Takashimacho, Yokohama, on the 4th inst. The man is supposed to be a resident of Fujisawa, named Wakazuki Tatsuzo (50). The remains of the wife of Kobayashi Yasaburo, residing at Matsukagecho, Shichome, Yokohama, were taken out of the Creak near the Okina Bridge on the afternoon of the 4th inst. She is said to have been temporarily insane.

A CLEARING-HOUSE FOR KOBE.

The necessity for establishing a Clearing House in Kobe, for which the merchants have been lately exerting themselves, has become, says the *Choya*, more urgent than ever on account of the recent dullness of export business, while the import trade is steadily increasing. The result is a deficiency of specie which subjects the merchants to great inconvenience. The Bank of Japan has, in reply to urgent appeals on the subject, stated that its negotiations with the

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Specie Bank in the matter have been satisfactorily settled, and it is believed that on the return from Tokyo of Mr. Tsuruhara, Manager of the Osaka Branch of the Nippon Ginko, the date for establishing the new institution will be determined.

YEBISU AND ASAHI BEERS.

Of the various beers brewed in Japan without foreign assistance, says the *Choya*, the Yebisu beer of Tokyo and the Asahi beer of Osaka, are most widely known. Believing it to be disadvantageous to their mutual interests, to pursue competition for the sake of extending their sales, the two companies have arranged to apportion Japan into two divisions, one for the Yebisu and the other for the Asahi, after the system followed by the German brewers. According to this agreement, the Yebisu beer is to confine itself to the Kwanto, or those provinces lying east of the Hakone Pass, and to endeavour to drive out other beers from those places; while the Asahi is to have the Kwansei, or provinces lying west of the Pass. The total sales of Yebisu beer for the month of August, are said to have amounted to 500 *koku*.

THE SOMA CASE.

No development is reported in the Soma case. The Court is still occupied with the preliminary examination of the prisoners and witnesses. On the 4th instant at 10 a.m. Mr. Nishikawa, a Judge of Preliminary Examination, proceeded to the residence of Dr. Sakaki Shuku at Kita-Kogacho, Kanda, and made a thorough search which was completed at 3 p m. Another Judge of Preliminary Examination, Mr. Sebata, made a search on the same day in the house of Dr. Katayama Kuniyoshi.

* * *

The analysis of the blood vomited by the late Viscount Soma is still going on; it will take a few days more to complete the work. The results of the analysis, may, it is stated, render it necessary to have the grave at Aoyama opened.

* * *

Concerning the celebrated "Confession," some people suspect that the document was drawn up by Mr. Nishikori himself. All the efforts of the police detectives to unravel the mystery have hitherto been in vain, and the matter remains as obscure as ever. According to some persons, it is believed that the paper was prepared by a real son of the adopted father of Mr. Aota Kozo, one of the accused. This man's whereabouts are not known.

* * *

Considerable excitement was caused in Tokyo yesterday by the news that the Judges of the Tokyo Local Court had commenced to open the grave of the late Viscount Soma. The analysis of the blood vomited by him was completed on the 6th instant, and it was decided at the meeting of the Judges on the 7th instant that the corpse should be unearthed. Notice of the decision was at once made to the present Viscount Soma, in pursuance of the provision of the 135th article of the Code of Criminal Procedure. The following day, (yesterday), Judges Okada and Yamaguchi and Public Procurator Nagamori proceeded to the Aoyama Cemetery at 8 a.m. All the grave stones near by were removed to afford space to work, and it was about 11 o'clock before the work of disinterment began. Dr. Yeguchi, Army Surgeon, and Dr. Hirayama, Army Pharmacist, who had charge of the analysis of the blood were also present, besides several judges and clerks of the Tokyo Local Court. At 1.30 p.m., our representative found the place guarded by a strong body of police constables and several gendarmes, who refused to admit him into the enclosure. Everything in the neighbourhood was quiet. People, mostly newspaper reporters and spectators attracted by curiosity, constantly arrived, but there being nothing to see, they did not remain long enough to accumulate into a crowd. According to the reports of the Tokyo News Agency, the number of the police constables called out for service at Aoyama were sixty, while the gendarmes mustered twenty strong under the command of two sub-officers. Two retainers of the Soma family were also allowed to be present at the scene of excavation. At 3.20 p.m. the workmen came, at a depth of 12 *shaku*, to a green stone forming the top of the outer covering of the coffin. The four sides of the outer covering were constructed of brick. On removing the stone, they found the whole space between this outer covering and the coffin filled up with lime. The portion of the lime in immediate contact with the coffin was somewhat yellow in colour. A small quantity of lime thus coloured was removed and put into a flask. At 4.10 p.m., all the workmen were ordered to retire outside the enclosure, and the coffin, which was made of boards of *hinoki* (*Retinispora obtusa*) about a *sun* thick, was opened in the presence of Judges Okada and Yamaguchi, Public Procurator Nagamori, Dr. Yeguchi, and others. Dr. Yeguchi is stated to have at once proceeded to make an autopsy. The operation was expected to continue far into the night.

* * *

People conclude that the analysis of the blood must have been damaging to the defence, otherwise the grave would not have been disturbed. We see no reason for such a conclusion. The disinterment was necessary irrespective of the results of the analysis.

BANQUET AT THE ROKUMEI-KAN.

A BANQUET was given by the Korean Representative on the evening of the 5th inst. at the Rokumei-kan to a large number of distinguished persons, the occasion being the Birthday of the King of Korea. Amongst the distinguished guests invited were H.I.H. Prince Kanin, Count Oyama, Minister of War; Count Saigo, Minister of the Navy; Viscount Hijikata, Minister of the Imperial Household; Vice-Ministers Hanabusa, Hayashi, and Ito, the Privy Councillors, the Privy Court Councillors, Mr. Otori, Japanese Minister to China; Mr. Sonoda, Superintendent-General of the Metropolitan Police; Mr. Hara, Chief Commissioner of the Trade Bureau in the Foreign Department; Private Secretaries Nakada and Hayakawa, Governor Tomita, of Tokyo, Mr. Watanabe Koki, Mr. Tsuji Shinji, and the Representatives for England, Russia, Portugal, Holland, and America. During the dinner H.I.H. Prince Kanin proposed the toast of the King of Korea, which was replied to by the Korean Representative. The assemblage dispersed about ten o'clock.

THE BANK OF JAPAN

With the view of extending its business amongst the people, the Nippon Ginko, has, according to the vernacular press, effected a great change in its organization. Seven bureaux which formerly regulated the business of the bank have been abolished, and new offices created. Forty-nine officials received congratulatory intimations of promotion, while twelve were dismissed. These latter, however, received kind consideration in the shape of liberal pensions, special allowances, etc.

EXPORT DUTIES.

Count Matsukata, according to the *Mainichi Shimbun*, is strongly in favour of the total abolition of export duties. His Excellency declares that the prime and unvarying purpose of his policy while in office was to give positive encouragement to the development of industry and enterprise, and that, in his opinion, the abolition of export duties would be a measure eminently calculated to effect that object.

IMPERIAL GRANT.

The *Asahi Shimbun* says that Their Imperial Majesties the Emperor and Empress have been pleased to grant *yen* 2,500 and *yen* 1,000 towards the relief of sufferers in the devastated districts of Gifu and Wakayama. Mr. Kataoka, a Chamberlain to His Majesty, has been sent to inquire into the condition of the people.

SHIP ON THE BREAKWATER.

The steamer *Aioku Maru*, 1,067 tons burden, owned, chartered, and commanded by Japanese, when coming into harbour early on Wednesday, ran on to the Breakwater at a spot to the north of the Red Lightship. She at once began to unload cargo from her forehold, to raise her bows, and was towed off shortly after noon by the Japanese man-of-war *Tsukuba Kan*. The steamer's bottom is said to be uninjured, but the breakwater was slightly damaged.

A SUBMARINE ROCK.

According to the *Kokkai*, a rock of large dimensions has been discovered in the narrow strait lying between the two small islands of Teuri and Yakishiri off the coast of Teshio, Hokkaido. The Strait being a portion of the usual route traversed by ships bound for Onishika, Mashike, Tomamaye, Captains are warned against this new danger. The rock is said to be 300 yards long and 30 yards wide, and was found by Captain Sanuki of the *Teshio Maru* to slope so that its depth from the surface ranged from 7 feet to 10 feet.

CHARTERED BANK OF I. A. AND C.

It may be of interest to our readers to know that by the mail of the 5th inst., the Head Office of the Chartered Bank advised its Agency here that the Hon. J. L. Mackay, C.I.E., of Messrs Mackinnon Mackenzie & Co., had been offered by the Directors, a seat on the Board rendered vacant by the death of Mr. Robert Stewart, which he accepted. Mr. Mackay's name has of late been very prominently brought before the Indian public in connection with the silver question.

REFORMS IN THE DEPARTMENT OF WAR.

The amended Organization of the Department of State for War has just been promulgated. The principal point of change is a reduction of the number of officers from 187 to 162. Other changes are the incorporation of the Veterinary Section into the Horse Section; the abolition of the offices of Assistants (*Fuku-kain*); and the creation of the post of Councillor.

FATAL LANDSLIP.

A telegraphic message under date 5th inst. says that landslips have occurred in Tsugumi-mura, in the Ikeda District. Three houses were buried and one police constable killed by the falling masses, six other persons being more or less severely injured.

SUSPECTED SUICIDE.

It is stated in the *Yomiuri Shimbun* that a Japanese woman, about twenty-two years of age, was found strangled to death at Ota, Yokohama, on the morning of Sunday last. The body of a man, aged nearly forty years, was discovered hanging on a tree near by.

EARTHQUAKE AND STORM.

A slight shock of earthquake was felt in Yokohama early this morning. Shortly after six o'clock a heavy rain storm passed over the town, and raged with considerable violence till about half past eight, the last half hour of the storm being, perhaps, the severest.

THE "SAKATA MARU."

The *Asahi Shimbun* states that a report has reached the capital to the effect that the *Sakata Maru*, through the efforts of the vessels sent to her assistance, has commenced to move, and she is now in a position to be hauled out to sea. She is expect to float with the next high tide, if no rough weather intervenes.

ASSAULT ON THE MAYOR OF OGAKI

A Gifu telegram received by the *Asahi Shimbun* states that the Mayor of Ogaki was assaulted by one of his political opponents about four o'clock on the afternoon of the 5th inst., and grave fears are entertained of his recovery. His assailant was arrested.

COUNTESS YAMAGATA.

The *Jiji Shimpo* says Countess Yamagata, who has been indisposed for a long time, has taken a turn for the worse and much anxiety prevails among her family and physicians.

"HOCHI" AND "JIYU" SUSPENDED

We read in the *Jiji* that the *Hochi Shimbun* and the *Jiyu* were suspended on the 7th inst., articles in the issues of that day being deemed injurious to the public peace.

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THE FOURTH INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION.

THE Committee of the Fourth Industrial Exhibition, to be held in Kyoto in 1895, are said to have concluded their deliberations and drafted regulations which, having received the approval of the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, will very shortly be promulgated. The *Mainichi Shimbun* says that the officials connected with the affair are very anxious to prevent it from involving such pecuniary failures as have attended all previous enterprises of the kind. The latest Industrial Exhibition left a very evil taste in the mouth of the public. The exhibitors indeed, suffered no serious loss. It is true that out of 500,000 *yen* worth sent in by them only 150,000 *yen* worth were sold. But benevolent and speculative folks contributed to make good the deficiency. The exhibitors, having received their money, went away happy, and the benevolent and speculative folks are still awaiting the fulfilment of the promises that drew their dollars from them. We are well aware of the untoward circumstances that overtook the lottery, and of the embarrassments that defeated its projectors' purpose, but the net result is none the less disagreeable for the victims, and there is no difficulty in appreciating the keen desire of the Committee to forefend anything like a similar fiasco next time. It is said that both exhibitors and local authorities labour under a misapprehension as to the nature of an industrial exhibition, the former regarding it as a huge saleroom, and the latter thinking chiefly of getting a maximum of articles sent from the Prefectures in which they are repectively interested. The Central Government, on the contrary, do not wish to see a multitude of exhibits, but are anxious to teach the people that an exhibition is primarily a place for advertising natural and artificial productions, and that the process of advertising should be carried on with a minimum of expenditure and a minimum of risk. So far as the extent of the Kyoto Exhibition is concerned, it will not differ sensibly from that of the Uyeno Exhibition of 1890. But whereas in the latter some 500 men were employed as members of committees and various employés, it is intended that 300 shall suffice in the case of Kyoto, and further, that on this occasion no emoluments shall be given to persons connected with the Exhibition in addition to their regular official functions. Economy, in short, is to be the order of the day. That, of course, is very laudable, but to us it seems that the great object to be compassed is to instruct the people in the true nature of exhibitions. The impression produced upon foreigners by the Industrial Exhibition of 1890, and, so far as we can learn, by the Japanese Section of the Chicago Exhibition, is distinctly unfavourable to Japanese business capacity. Japanese exhibitors do not appear to have any idea that the real purpose of an exhibition is to familiarize the public with the manufacturing capacities of Japan, and to open markets for the products of the country. At the Uyeno Exhibition three years ago many things were shown that attracted the attention and excited the admiration of foreign visitors, who would fain have given orders then and there for the duplication of these articles. But with exceptions too rare to be worth noticing, it was absolutely impossible to secure any attention for such orders Sometimes the exhibitors confessed frankly that they had contributed the articles simply as *tours de force*, and had attached prices that could never repay reproduction; sometimes no communication whatever could be established with the exhibitors; sometimes they were prepared to take orders but named extravagantly distant dates for their execution; and sometimes they quietly declared that they had never had any intention of doing the same work twice. It was like a great farce, and so far from fulfilling the purpose of an exhibition, the result was to deter many foreigners from all attempts to get into touch with Japanese manufacturers We do not doubt that the officials of the present Department of Agriculture and Commerce fully understand all this and will spare no pains to prevent a recurrence of such unbusiness-like proceedings at the Exhibition of 1895. Still, it is well to place again on record the view forced upon all foreigners who visited the Exhibition of 1890 and tried to make such use of it as they would have made of a similar affair in Europe or America. Until Japanese manufacturers learn than an exhibition is simply a place to display articles for the duplication of which orders are sought, and until they organize their connection with the exhibition on that basis, all such affairs will be mere waste of money and time.

THE "EASTWARD MARCH OF CONQUEST BY THE COSSACKS."

THE "Eastward March of Conquest by the Cossacks" (*Kosakku Tôhô Shinryaku-shi*) is the title of a pamphlet just issued in Tokyo by an association of students who earn their school expenses by engaging in various kinds of manual work. Their most usual employments for that purpose are the drawing of *jinrikisha* and the distribution of milk. The little *brochure* before us is said to be a compilation from a Russian work entitled "Amoor and Usuri" published at Moscow in 1885. The Introduction alone comprises the original work of the Japanese authors. They write somewhat in an alarmist strain about the incessant encroachment of the European races upon the Asiatic continent. They say that it is now high time for the people of Eastern Asia to stand firmly by each other and to check the tide of conquest rolling against their frontiers. The Orient has to defend itself, we are told, against England in the south and Russia in the north. These two Powers may quarrel but with whichever the victory rest, the principal burden of suffering will have to be borne by some Asiatic nation. Under such circumstances the youthful writers think it necessary to rouse their countrymen from apparent torpor, and the method they adopt is to recount the various stages of Asiatic conquest by one of these much dreaded Powers. They are confident that Asia, old and seemingly decrepit though she be, is still destined to play a commanding part in the drama of universal struggle, and that in the awakening of Asia Japan is to take the lead. They allude in condemnatory terms to the use of religion for the purpose of conquest by Russia, and call upon the Japanese Buddhist priests to re-light and raise aloft the lamp of a living faith and to cultivate once more the heroic ardour of their stout ancestors. Evidently these youthful authors are not disinclined to adopt on account of their own country a device which they spare no pains to denounce when employed by another nation. Why indeed should they? Mr. FUKUZAWA would have had Japan adopt Christianity for political reasons, or, at any rate, would have had her consider seriously whether, according to the teaching of nature, protection is not generally to be found for the weaker in mimicry; whether a nation that cannot hope to mould its environment according to its own volition, should not seek to adapt itself to that environment. Mr. FUKUZAWA was much abused for enunciating such a doctrine. He was accused of mingling human motives with divine matters; with subserving the affairs of the soul to those of the body. At such criticism he could afford to smile. Until the millenium comes we must be content to remain human, and so long as we remain human, even our supernatural faiths must be more or less influenced by our clayey origin. The ecstasy of religion has often raised men, and will often again raise them, as high above their surroundings as the heavens are above the earth, but when the propagandists of the religion that we of the West profess were first sent out by their great Master to teach us, they received from His lips an injunction that emphatically forbade them to lay aside wordly wisdom in the pursuit of their Christian crusade. If politics counsel to a nation the adoption of a certain kind of creed, there is no more obligation to shrink from saying so than there is reason to ignore the accidents of any every-day course of procedure. Religion has been applied by all nations to irreligious uses, and is still so applied. When we pray GOD to confound our QUEEN'S enemies and make them fall, does religion or does pugnacity direct our supplication? The principal volume in the great Emperor

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WILLIAM'S strategical library was the Bible, and all his sanguinary victories were attributed to divine intervention. The world looked on approvingly while the Deity of the Christians was successfully invoked to build up one nation and pull down another. Russian priests march with the CZAR'S battalions and by their spiritual teaching seek to make the soldiers hold their rifles straight and thrust their bayonets home. The Arab of the Soudan receives the British bullet gladly in his bosom because he has just been promised paradise if he dies on the field. When the huge armada of GHENGIS invaded Japan, it is recorded that the sums expended for prayers and litanies to secure Japanese victory and for thanksgivings after it had been obtained, far exceeded the amount required for military purposes. We are not living in a perfect planet but in a very imperfect world, and while every nation, however civilized, derives from religious enthusiasm material aid for purposes of aggrandizement, we fail to see why Japan should neglect such important assistance. But Buddhism—has it fire and force to kindle the spark of heroism? Who shall answer conclusively.

This *brochure*, emanating from a Society constituted on such curious lines, a Society of milk-carrying and *jinrikisha*-drawing students, whose earnestness in the pursuit of learning entitles them to be heard on any subject, has had the honour of obtaining prefaces from quite a number of distinguished personages. Among them we may mention Count SOVESHIMA, Viscount KAIVEDA, Mr. INOUVE KI, Minister of Education, Count ITAGAKI, leader of the Radical Party, Messrs. OZAKI YUKIO and SHIMADA SABURO of the Progressionist Party, and Viscount AKIZUKI. They all insist on the importance of taking timely warning from the past history of Russian conquest in Asia.

THE SUNG-PU MASSACRE.

THE following correspondence between the Chairman of the meeting recently held in Shanghai to protest against the murder of Messrs. WICKHOLM and JOHANSSON, and H. E Colonel DENBY, Doyen of the Diplomatic Corps in Peking, has been published in the proceedings of the Shanghai Municipal Council:—

Shanghai, July 20th.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit to you herewith report of a public meeting held here on the 11th instant, to express the feelings of this community in connection with the brutal murder at Sung pu of Messrs. Wickholm and Johansson (two Swedish Missionaries) on the 1st instant, and to invite the attention of Your Excellency and that of your colleagues to the following resolution which I was instructed by the meeting to send to the Foreign Ministers at Peking, viz:—

"That this meeting records its sense of horror and detestation of the barbarous murder of Messrs. Wickholm and Johansson at Sung-pu, with the attendant circumstances, and of the gravity of the occurrence as a menace to foreigners generally in China; and calls upon Foreign Representatives to take measures to ensure the guilty parties being punished, as well as to take steps to prevent the recurrence of a similar outrage."

In a separate packet I send 20 copies of the printed report of the proceedings, and I beg to request that Your Excellency will cause one copy to be sent to each of your colleagues.

The meeting, as stated in the report, was one of the largest ever held in Shanghai; it was characterised by much earnestness, and I venture to commend the subject of the resolution, as well as the proceedings in general, to the most serious attention of Your Excellency and your colleagues.

I have the honour to be, your Excellency, your most obedient servant, JOHN MACGREGOR.
Chairman of the Meeting.

H E. Colonel DENBY,
Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary for the United States of America, and Doyen of the Diplomatic Body, Peking.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, 5th August, 1893.

SIR,—I have the honour to ackowledge the receipt of your letter of the 20th ultimo, relating to the proceedings of a public meeting held at Shanghai, the 17th July, to express the feelings of the community concerning the brutal murder, at Sung-pu, of Messrs. Wickholm and Johansson, subjects of Sweden.

I have also received a package containing eighteen printed copies of the proceedings of the meeting.

Having received, in due course, by mail, the Shanghai papers containing a report of those proceedings, I did not think it necessary to wait for the reception of the official report before taking action here.

As Dean, I have already circulated, for the approval of my colleagues, a very strong communication addressed to the Tsung-li Yamên, demanding, on the part of the Diplomatic Body, the punishment of the ring-leaders of the mob, as well as of all the officials, high and low, whose criminal negligence contributed to the perpetration of the atrocious murder of the two unfortunate foreigners.

A copy of the proceedings of the meeting will be duly delivered to each of my colleagues.

I have the honour to be, Sir, Your obedient servant,
CHARLES DENBY.

JOHN MACGREGOR, Esq.,
Chairman, etc., etc., etc.
Shanghai.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, 11th August, 1893.

SIR,—I have the honour to inform you that, by direction of my colleagues, I have, as Dean of the Diplomatic Body, sent to the Tsung-li Yamên a communication concerning the recent murders at Sung pu.

After reciting the facts, this paper concludes as follows:—"They (the foreign representatives) demand the exemplary punishment of all the officials, high and low, who failed to obey the Imperial Edict above cited (the decree of June 13th, 1891) and who, by their culpable negligence, have permitted this atrocious crime to be committed. They demand, also, the just and severe punishment of the ring-leaders of the mob and of those who organised it, though they did not actively participate in it."

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
CHARLES DENBY.

John Macgregor, Esq.,
Shanghai.

The uncompromising language employed by Colonel DENBY towards the Tsung-li Yamên in the last paragraph of the communication addressed by him to that body in his capacity of Dean of the Corps Diplomatique, is naturally much applauded by the Shangha. press. Such terrible incidents as that of Sung-pu draw together all nationalities in a common bond of determination to stand their ground and insist that respect shall be paid to the Treaties. Under ordinary circumstances we find among the mercantile communities at the open ports little sympathy with the missionary. Perhaps the antipathy is mutual. Perhaps there are good reasons for it on both sides. But, however the missionary may be abused and thwarted by his lay-brothers in times of peace, all feelings of hostility disappear when he is struck down and brutally assassinated by a Chinese mob. In such cases foreigners to a man feel that the position of the whole community is threatened, and that any semblance of weakness or wavering, any distinction between nationalities or professions, is pretty sure to encourage repetition of outrage or to extend its scope. In this particular instance, too, the affair presented features well calculated to excite hot indignation. The attempt of the unhappy men to conceal themselves, their flight along the roofs in sight of a fierce crowd crying for their blood, their last leap into the street and their immediate fall under a host of murderous arms, were all circumstances of an appallingly dramatic character. But then, the action of an infuriated mob is always savage. DUMAS, with that wonderful mastery of emotional details that belongs only to him and GEORGE ELIOT, has described the workings of a mob's mind and the agglomeration of muscular impulses and spasmodic phrensies that impels it invariably to carry its work to brutal excess. The results of a mob's doings must never be taken as a fair measure of its unit's sentiments. But whatever allowance may be made on that score, we have to remember, on the other hand, that the responsibility of those who suffer mobs to assemble and take no efficient steps to control them, is all the greater. That appears to have been the thought animating the Foreign Representatives when they authorized Colonel DENBY to demand "the exemplary punishment of all the officials, high and low, who failed to obey the Imperial Edict (of June 13th, 1891), and who, by their culpable negligence, have permitted this atrocious crime to be perpetrated." But what chance is there of such a demand being complied with? The punishment of Chinese officials is not uncommon, but their punishment on any large or signal scale at the instance of the Foreign Representatives is so unusual that there appears to be very small probability of this ministerial demand receiving serious attention. Do the Foreign Representatives intend to press it in its integrity, or have they merely asked for a good deal with the idea of obtaining a little? In either case the result can not be viewed without uneasiness. For if the demand be pressed, if the Representatives insist on being understood to mean what they say, if they are resolved against ultimately resting content with mere diplomatic euphemisms, some very stern negotiations are evidently in prospect; while, if they are only talking big, and have the idea of accepting an infinitesimal fraction of what they have declared essential, China will be still further encouraged in her attitude of growing indifference to foreign rights and claims.

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MIND AND MATTER.

IN discussions concerning the existence and attributes of the DEITY, we have often found it necessary to point out that the disputants were all beating the air because all would give different answers to the simple question "What meaning do you attach to the word GOD?" So far are most people from understanding the true functions of language, so sincerely, if unconsciously, do most of us believe the time-worn epigram "speech is made to conceal thought," that a request for definition is often treated as a positive insult.

This same intense dislike of weak and erring man to exact thought is the basis of most of the endless controversies between materialists and spiritualists, for few of those who take part in the strife have clear concepts corresponding to the words forming the war-cries of their respective parties. We would engage without much difficulty to find two intelligent men whose opinions on essential matters when critically examined would not differ more than those of Tweedledum from those of Tweedledee, and yet, like those illustrious heroes, they would engage in furious battle, because they knew one another by the respective names of Materialist and Spiritualist. Neither knows exactly what he himself or his opponent means, and naturally neither can understand the other, but the party-badge is sufficient incitement to the strife from which each goes away with a pleasant sense of his own rectitude and of the ignorance and bigotry of his opponent.

We are not indeed surprised that the attempt is seldom made to form clear ideas before using the terms mind and matter. So difficult a task is not lightly to be undertaken. And yet, since this is the very basis of all philosophy, surely it is the imperative duty of all who wish to call themselves materialists or spiritualists, or, perchance, to rise superior to the controversy, to undertake this critical enquiry

The every-day point of view is of course to regard matter and mind as two independent entities. Matter has certain qualities, such as solidity, extension, weight, colour, etc.; and there are different varieties of matter, and the state of particular portions of matter varies at different periods of time; hence the diversity and inconstancy of the material universe. Mind, on the other hand, is less simple and easy to describe than matter; it is hardly correct, indeed, to speak of mind, in the singular; if we do so, we must admit that the existence of mind is only inferred, and that what we really know are minds, which exist when particular portions of mind become bound up in a peculiar way with particular portions of matter. Under these peculiar circumstances, these two totally heterogeneous entities, the tangible unconscious matter and the intangible conscious mind, become capable of acting and reacting, each on the other. The fact that they do so is the first and most obvious datum of philosophical enquiry. But *how* two entities so totally independent in nature as mind and matter can act on each other at all is the most hopelessly insoluble of all insoluble problems. The investigation of the various orders of properties of matter is the province of the physical sciences; the study of the properties of mind is the province of the metaphysical sciences.

The above is a short and we believe a fair statement of what may be called "The Philosophy of the Man in the Street." It is crude, but convenient and concise; and for practical purposes, for the purposes, that is, of the Man in the Street, it is likely to endure as long as that useful but somewhat ignorant individual continues to go about his daily business. As life is short, we fear that even philosophers will have as a rule to continue to use the every-day phraseology and mode of thought; and no harm will be done thereby if they are always recognized as mere formulæ used for the saving of time.

For it is from this crude philosophy, regarded as finished truth, that the futile disputes between materialists and spiritualists have arisen; and these disputes will continue as long as this philosophy holds its ground. Man has an irresistible craving for explanation, that is for the passage from lower to higher generalizations; and such being his nature, it was not to be expected that he would remain content with the two heterogeneous entities, matter and mind. He must simplify, dualism is impossible to him, he must unify. He can do this in one of three ways, and hence arise the three great divisions of the philosophy of all ages: the materialists, who regard the phenomena of mind simply as manifestations of states of matter—a particular form of molecular integration or molecular motion; the spiritualists, who regard mind as the sole reality, and matter as mere appearance, a figment of the thinking subject; and the monists, who think to solve the difficulty by regarding mind and matter as manifestations of the same single reality, as two different aspects of one substance which, regarded from without is matter, contemplated from within, is mind.

We can satisfy ourselves, however, with none of these three untenabilities; we must pass beyond the philosophy of the Man in the Street; we must examine the genesis of the concepts of mind and matter; and we must endeavour to reach a platform from which the dualistic controversy will appear devoid of meaning.

Let us first examine the term mind. Are we justified in using this singular term, or must we speak rather of minds? Obviously, at the outset of the investigation, we must admit the validity of the objection made above, that there is no sufficient evidence for the existence of one kind of which all individual minds are parts or manifestations—the Universal mind must be regarded as a mere figure of speech. But are individual minds, then, among the ultimate elements of knowledge? By no means. Let us admit for the present that to A his own mind is one of the primitive immediately known things (an admission which will be retracted hereafter), this is by no means the case with A in regard to B. A does not *know* B's mind at all, he merely *infers* its existence. He knows B's mouth and eyes, his walking-stick and boots, they are objects of immediate cognition; but his mind he does not know. Just as from the outward physical peculiarities of B which distinguish him from a chair or a table, he infers the existence of certain internal organs which, under ordinary circumstances, he cannot directly know during B.'s life, so from certain peculiarities about the modes of motion of the material mass he calls B he infers the existence in connection with that material mass of something which he calls B's mind; his starting point is the somewhat similar material mass whose peculiar modes of motion have from the dawn of his psychical life been associated with that which he knows as his own mind. These peculiar modes of motion have become to him typical of mental action, so that whenever he sees a material object endowed with them, he represents them as due to mind. Even language is in its essence nothing more than a very special mode of motion which is peculiarly associated with the highest developments of mind.

The antithesis to each one of us then is, strictly speaking, not mind and matter, but his own particular mind and matter. Speaking generally we might speak of a mind and matter, or of minds and matter, but not of mind and matter. But this point of view presupposes individuality as the basis of mental life, that something called by a man his own mind is among the immediate elements of primitive knowledge. Now such an assumption is not substantiated by a careful psychological analysis, and from the recognition of its untenability our philosophy takes its rise.

The ultimate elements of our knowledge are not two independent entities mysteriously interacting, but a continuous series of changing conscious states. Now from this series how do the ideas of thinking-subject and thought-object, that is of mind and matter, respectively arise? (Be it here stated, once for all, that we are fully aware that the ordinary man always, and the philosopher himself in practical life, are crude realists. The "objective" is a world of realities which somehow impress the equally real thinking subject. But these assumptions which in practice we all make, in no way invalidate the philosopher's attempt to determine how from the changing conscious states

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which are the only ultimately known realities, the fundamental concepts of subject and object, of mind and matter, must respectively have arisen)

Individuality is not a necessary element of these changing conscious states nor on the other hand is the reality of the outward world. In favourable circumstances, we can imagine, the phantasmagoria might continue without the ideas of subject and object ever crystallising out. What we subsequently learn to call the subjective and objective elements are present in each one of the changing states, and "the thousand natural shocks which flesh is heir to" soon make the consciousness of the contrast between the sensitive thinking subject and the cold and callous material world too clear to every one of us. For instance, imagine a conscious organism to which comes the sensation of hunger, and let this be immediately satisfied by the eating of food. Let the experiences be repeated ever so many times, and there is no reason why the sensations caused by the sight, the touch, the taste, the smell of the food, and the satisfaction produced by eating it, should be regarded as relating to an objective existence, food, distinct from the subject which feels the sensation of hunger. But suppose that one day the hunger comes and the food is not there. There is a break in the continuity of experience, and such breaks will not be many times repeated before our organism (presupposed capable of conceptual thinking) will have analysed every one of its experiences into two elements. One of these is a continued consciousness remembering past states of hunger, and whether they were satisfied or unsatisfied, this series forming the knower, the subjective, the individual mind, the other element is the 'reality' known as objective the thing seen, heard, tasted smelt or touched—or the 'reality' corresponding to an inward visceral sensation, for a man's own body is as much objective to his mind as is the dog-star, notwithstanding the peculiar relationship which a makes severe headache a far more exciting mental phenomenon than would be the disappearance of a whole constellation. The objective and subjective are thus born at one effort of analysis, and neither can exist in the mind without its counterpart, both forming the elements of every cognition. But it is the successive cognitions which form the only immediate knowledge, our knowledge of subject and object, of mind and matter is a secondary product of analysis and conceptual synthesis.

We have seen, then, that mind is a convenient name for the postulated permanent subjective element of our conscious states; let us turn to examine what we mean by matter. The objective element in our cognitions is the sensory, and hence matter, as the objective counterpart of the subjective mind, is the general name for all which arouses sensations, for all which (as MAX MÜLLER says), to use a telling German adjective, is *wirklich* or real. It comes to this; we examine our changing states of consciousness, we "see a tree," we "hear a bell," we "smell a rose," we "taste sugar," we "touch ivory;" turning the attention inward, we are aware of the continuance in memory of these successive conscious states, we perceive a common element (called subjective) in them, the continuing knower who knows first the tree, then the bell, then the rose, then the sugar, then the ivory; and that which, in any individual, knows all that comes through the various channels of sense (that whose simplest exercise is such immediate cognitions of the objective; the more complex being reproduction in memory; and still more complex, dealing with abstractions—but in all cognitions alike the objective element being present, however faint) we have chosen to describe by the general name of mind. On the other hand if, analysing the same sensations, we turn the attention outwards, we become aware of one common element in all the objects known, namely, that they all arouse sensation. The meaning of objective is, in fact, that which arouses sensation, and the common element of the objective is known by the general name of matter. Matter is anything which may be seen, heard, smelt, tasted, or handled.

From the standpoint we have thus reached, from our study of the genesis of the concepts of mind and matter, the controversies we considered above become entirely unmeaning. If mind and matter are the names given to the two different classes of elements into which every conscious state is analysed, these states and not mind and matter themselves, being the fundamentals of knowledge, we mean just as little when we say mind is the result of a peculiar integration of matter, as we do when we say that matter is a figment of the thinking subject, we mean, that is—nothing at all. We cannot deny the existence of matter, for we cannot deny that we feel hard bodies, see red bodies, etc., and matter means simply that which is felt, that which is seen, etc. On the other hand, we cannot deny the existence of mind, because we feel, we see, etc., and mind means simply that which feels, that which sees, etc. But the ultimate elements of knowledge are neither matter nor mind; they are feeling-hard-body, seeing-red-body, etc., and there for the present analysis must be content to leave them.

Doubtless for the pursuit of the physical and mental sciences alike, it will be convenient to continue to use the phraseology of the Man in the Street, to philosophise positively, and to speak of the knower and the things known, acting and reacting on each other, as if these formed the ultimata of knowledge. But for the purposes of pure philosophy we can despise these practical needs, and by a clear understanding of the genesis of the concepts of matter and mind, we attain a stable position, and are no longer vexed by the perennial efforts of philosophy to escape from an unsatifying dualism into the equally untenable fields of monism, spiritualism, and materialism.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

THE PORTUGUESE QUESTION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I have read, sometimes with advantage, often with amusement, but always with interest, the various and varying comments that have appeared in the *Mail* and in the columns of your contemporaries in reference to the extinction of Portuguese jurisdiction in Japan.

The real question at issue, it seems to me, has been unduly obscured in some quarters by the part which prejudice and patriotism have been permitted to play in the discussion. It is indeed unfortunate that a question which falls, as this one does, within the domain of pure international law, and which must at last find its just solution in the application of those recognized rules which govern the intercourse of nations, cannot receive at the hands of the press that calm and impartial consideration which it merits. But we must, I suppose, take human nature, more especially that portion of it which represents the "fourth estate," as we find it, certain that in the end right and justice will prevail.

Neither the Portuguese nor the Japanese Authorities have seen fit to take the public wholly into their confidence, consequently all criticism must be more or less hypothetical. Nevertheless, I venture to think that through the tangled mass of assertion and denial, statement and misstatement, charge and counter-charge with which we have been journalistically regaled during the past thirteen and one-half months, the principles applicable to the case are discernible.

With your permission, Mr. Editor, I shall endeavour to lay down as concisely as possible what I conceive to be those principles.

In order, however, to do so with clearness and precision, it is necessary in the first place to give a brief recital of the facts of the case so far as they are known to the public:

1. By the Treaty of 1860, Japan granted to Portugal certain civil and criminal jurisdiction in respect of Portuguese subjects in Japan. The same Treaty also provided that the jurisdiction so granted should be exercised by the Consuls or other Authorities of Portugal.

2. The jurisdiction so granted was, up to the end of 1883, generally exercised by merchant Consuls.

3. In the latter year a Consul *de carrière* was appointed by Portugal at Tokyo.

4. In 1887, the Consul at Tokyo was raised to the rank of Consul General, and at the same time the several Consulates at the open ports were suppressed and in their places Vice Consulates, in charge of Vice Consuls who were subordinate to the Consul General, were established. By this re-organization the Portuguese Consul General was given superior, if not exclusive, jurisdiction over Portuguese subjects throughout Japan, and to the same extent the Vice Consuls were severally divested of jurisdiction which had been exercised by their predecessors.

5. This arrangement was continued in operation until June, 1892, when, in consequence of a Decree issued by His Most Faithful Majesty in the previous November, the Consulate General was suppressed without any provision being made for the exercise of the jurisdiction which, under the re-organization of 1887, had been exclusively confided to the Consul General.

6. In consequence of this omission on the part of Portugal, the Japanese Government on the 14th July, 1892, by means of an Imperial Ordinance, abrogated the jurisdictional stipulations contained in the Japanese-Portuguese Treaty of 1860, and thereupon the jurisdiction granted to Portugal *ipso facto* reverted to Japan, since in the absence of any such grant the jurisdiction in question inherently appertained to Japan.

Other facts, perhaps in aggravation, perhaps in extenuation of Portugal's action no doubt exist, but they have not been revealed to the public. Upon the incidents which I have summarized,

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therefore, must popular opinion rest for the present at least

The jurisdiction granted by Japan to Portugal was so granted upon the condition that Portugal would exercise it. This condition does not appear in so many words in the Treaty, but it will hardly be contended that Portugal could retain the jurisdiction and at the same time neglect to exercise it

The due exercise of the jurisdiction so granted was a *conditio sine qud non* to the continuation of the grant, and the moment Portugal failed to perform the condition that moment the grant became voidable at the option of Japan.

In denouncing the clauses of the Treaty containing the grant in question, therefore, Japan acted strictly within her legal right, and in giving, as she did, more than one month's previous notice of her intention in the premises, she gave indication of a friendly toleration and benevolence towards Portugal which, taking all the circumstances into consideration, were, I believe, absolutely unique in the history of international relations

If *A.* grants a privilege to *B* with a condition subsequent annexed, the very existence of such a condition carries with it the unquestioned and unquestionable right on the part of *A.* to cancel the grant without notice, whenever *B.* fails to perform the condition. I know of no rule of law, or ethics either, which would make recourse to that remedy immoral or oppressive, if we substitute the Japanese Government in place of *A.* and the Government of Portugal in place of *B.*

On the contrary every known writer on international law admits the applicability of that remedy to cases such as that which has arisen between Japan and Portugal, and the catalogue would be long indeed that included every instance in which Governments have, under similar circumstances, freed themselves from conventional engagements. In such a catalogue Portugal would occupy a conspicuous position.

It has been suggested that a less drastic measure than denunciation would have answered the actual requirements of the case; that it would have been quite sufficient if Japan had temporarily exercised the lapsed jurisdiction, restoring it again to Portugal when Portugal found herself in a position to resume its exercise. I do not appear as the champion of Japan in this matter—manifestly she needs none—besides, I do not claim familiarity with the reasons which influenced the action of the Japanese Government, but speaking solely from a legal point of view I perceive insuperable objections to such a course.

By the Treaty of 1860, as we have already seen, Japan conferred certain jurisdiction upon Portugal, and Portugal in turn accepted and for a time exercised the jurisdiction. The surrender was complete, subject alone to the one condition that Portugal should continue to exercise it. So long as the grant remained in existence Japan had no more right to exercise the ceded jurisdiction than Great Britain.

In matters of domestic jurisdiction, the law, and not the consent of the parties, confers competence upon Courts, and, equally, in questions of international jurisdiction treaties and not the default of the parties to the treaties, confer jurisdiction upon nations.

Default on the part of Portugal gave to Japan, as the Power entitled to demand performance, the right to extinguish the engagement which was the source of Portugal's jurisdiction and thus to reacquire her surrendered authority. But so long as that engagement remained in force, even although Portugal failed to fulfil its essential conditions, it and it alone determined the question of national jurisdiction.

The law of nations recognizes four separate and distinct remedies, short of war, in favour of the aggrieved State in case of the violation of a treaty: 1st, Indemnity; 2d, Reprisal; 3d, Retorsion; 4th. Denunciation, either in whole or in part, of the violated compact.

International law has given its sanction to all of these measures in order that an appropriate remedy may, in all cases, be available without an appeal to arms.

In the present instance, indemnity and reprisal were manifestly inappropriate. Retorsion was equally out of the question. One of the complaints of the Japanese Government was, as I understand it, that the default of Portugal placed the whole Portuguese community outside the pale of any law. Refusal, therefore, on the part of Japan to entertain complaints of Portuguese against Japanese subjects would have aggravated, rather than diminished, the difficulty, since it would, under certain circumstances, have guaranteed to Japanese subjects a like immunity from all legal restraints. Denunciation, consequently was the only logical answer to Portugal's default, since it manifested, on the one hand, a just and reasonable resentment, and, on the other, it enabled Japan to fulfil her national obligations regarding the administration of justice throughout the Empire and in respect of all persons enjoying the protection of the Imperial Government.

The Imperial Ordinance, it must be admitted, accomplished its work effectually. The jurisdictional stipulations in the Treaty of 1860, have ceased to exist, and with their disappearance has also disappeared Portuguese Consular jurisdiction in Japan.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant, N. A. P.

Yokohama, August 30th, 1893.

SUMMER RESORTS.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—I venture to think that the leading article published yesterday in your highly valued paper indirectly does injustice to Hakone as a summer resort, by dwelling exclusively on the claims of Nikko, Karuizawa, and Ikao. My own experience of these latter places is that Karuizawa has a bad climate and Ikao a bad hotel, whereas Hakone is not only the oldest but the pleasantest of all the summer places on account of the boating and bathing in the Lake, and the magnificent view of the Peerless Mountain, Fuji, which may also be ascended without difficulty. Rents have been very low at Hakone this year, only half of former years. Hakone in summer also affords, what I trust many of those who leave Tokyo will consider necessary, namely, the privilege of public Christian worship, which is not always to be had at Nikko, Miyanoshita, and other fashionable resorts

Yours respectfully,

SUMMER RESIDENT.

Tokyo, 31st August, 1893.

MR. TALBOT'S TABLES.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—In the *North China Daily News* of 25th, August, are some tables compiled by Mr. W. H Talbot, Secretary of the Bank of China, Japan, and the Straits, Limited, in Shanghai, giving the ratios between gold and silver. As they emanate from so high an authority, I suppose they must be correct, but all my endeavours to discover how they are arrived at have failed. Will one of your numerous readers better versed in such matters than I am, kindly show me how they are worked?

Your obedient servant,

ENQUIRER.

Tokyo, September 4th, 1893.

THE CARRIAGE NUISANCE IN YOKOHAMA.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—I do not suppose that I am the first or the only pedestrian, who, when walking along the main Bluff roads, has felt the "missing word" rise angrily in his throat, because a passing carriage has forced him to step aside in order to save his life. Hardly has he resumed the even tenor of his way when the evil sound of the *betto's* "E! EH!" strikes him from behind and compels him to take another undignified leap to the other side of the road.

Of course the prime cause of the evil I am describing is, that our Bluff roads are lacking that attribute of modern civilization, the *trottoir* or pavement. Hence pedestrians are forced into the carriage road, which in itself is sufficiently degrading and annoying. This, under existing conditions, however, cannot be helped and has to be endured But the action taken by a small portion of the community, in practically monopolizing the Bluff roads by their carriages, is reprehensible to a degree. I say "monopolizing" advisedly, for if the conditions of the weather are such, that you are not splashed by mud or choked by dust thrown up by a passing carriage, you have under all circumstances to give way, when a person, who is probably too lazy to walk, whirls along in a carriage. And yet an English magistrate decided a collision-case between a bicyclist and a pedestrian in favour of the latter, maintaining that the road primarily belonged to him!

I have no objection to the Brokers' traps in the Settlement or the good Doctor's trap on the Bluff, because they are employed in legitimate pursuit of business. I also have no objection to any number of carriages careering along the Bluff roads at times when they are practically deserted, *i.e.*, in the morning and early in the afternoon. But when hard-working men leave their daily toil with the intention of taking some walking exercise along the Bund or on the Bluff they deserve something better than to be eternally pestered by yelling *bettoes* and pushed aside by carriages.

In order to bring this protest to a point, I beg to submit a definite proposal that *Dives* driving in a carriage should surrender the road to the enjoyment of the pedestrian during the cool of the evening, say for the two hours preceding dinner. He would then not only earn the gratitude of his fellow men, but I could also cite numerous authorities to prove, that, *to him too*, a little walking exercise at that time of the day would be of infinite benefit.

Enclosing my card, I remain, your's very truly,

PEDESTRIAN.

Yokohama, September 1st, 1893.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—Your correspondent "Pedestrian" is quite correct in his supposition that he is not "the first or only pedestrian, who, when walking along the main Bluff roads, has felt the "missing word" rise angrily in his throat." I feel for him. It *is* annoying that a person who prefers to walk, cannot have the whole Bluff to himself!

It certainly is "reprehensible to a degree that carriages should drive along the road and cause inconvenience to such an energetic gentleman as your correspondent, and I cannot even extend the same magnanimity as he does to the brokers' traps in the Settlement. Why should I? There is no business doing just now!

"Pedestrian's" remedy is excellent, but would require extension. I, myself, for instance, like to take a gentle stroll between the hours of 9 a.m. and 12 noon, my best friend prefers a walk between 2 p.m. and 5 p.m., while I notice that "Pedestrian" would fain enjoy "the cool of the evening, say "for the two hours preceding dinner" Being unacquainted with his domestic arrangements, I do not know the gentleman's hour. But, no matter. This difficulty is easily overcome. Let no carriage be allowed out between the hours of 9 a.m. and 9 p.m Then could we enjoy our rambles in peace, without fear of being subjected to the degradation of having to skip on one side at the bidding of an impetuous *betto*.

I am sure the *Dives* of the community must feel deeply grateful for the disinterested solicitude that "Pedestrian" evinces towards their physical well-being, in the advice he so generously tenders gratis.

Yours, etc., SAUNTERER.

Yokohama, September 4th, 1893.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—Might I suggest to your correspondent "Pedestrian" that there are beautiful walks round Fujiyama where there are *no carriages* to bother the hard-working man!

Yours etc.,

A SYMPATHISER.

Yokohama, September 4th, 1893.

BASE-BALL.

The return game of base ball took place Thursday afternoon, and contrary to general expectation was won by Yokohama, practically in the first two innings. The Home team was a better one than last time and played much steadier, although left field made one or two bad throws. Tilden distinguished himself by making a good hit which enabled him to make a 'home run' and send in two others. Dwyer who acted as pitcher for the Navy was shunted at the fourth innings, and his place taken by Black when the game became more even, the erratic pitching of Dwyer losing his side a lot of runs at the outset of the game. In the second half of the seventh innings three of the Home team were caught out on consecutive flies. Altogether, the game was a better one than last time. The following are the scores:—

U.S. Navy.	Pos.	Runs.	Out.
Mr. Pratt	SS	1	3
Mr. Murphy	C	0	3
Mr Quimby	LF	0	4
Mr Dwyer (Black)	P	0	3
Mr Franklin	2B	0	4
Mr Stokes	3S	2	1
Mr Hoff	3B	0	2
Mr. Eberley	CF	0	4
Mr. Irwin	RF	0	4
Total		5	27

Yokohama.	Pos.	Runs.	Out.
Mr. Conroy	C	1	3
Mr McGill	P	1	3
Mr. Stone	SS	1	4
Mr. Shirasu	3S	1	3
Mr. Morse	1B	3	1
Mr Tilden	2B	3	2
Mr Howard	RF	0	4
Mr. Blanchard	LF	2	3
Mr. Hepburn	CF	0	4
Total		10	24

Innings.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
Navy	0	0	1	1	0	0	3	0	0	1=5
Yokohama	4	1	3	0	0	2	0	0	0	0=10

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GOUIN'S "ART OF TEACHING AND STUDYING LANGUAGES."

A Paper read before the Karuizawa Conference, August 11th, 1893, by William Notes.

The task before me is to condense into 30 minutes or so the substance of a book of 400 pages. The only way to do this is to impose some severe limitations.

1st. I make no attempt whatever to review the last 200 pages of the book, which are as interesting and full of originality and instruction as the first part. This last part is occupied with the principles of universal grammar, and with annexes and corollaries of the system. From all this I vigorously abstain.

2nd. I must omit also any long reference to the most entertaining part of the book, that which relates M. Gouin's experiences in learning German. It is enough to say that it lacks none of the Frenchman's vivacity nor exaggeration. It is as light reading as a novel need be, and will besides set an active mind at work on problems connected with the very foundations of our educational system. If M. Gouin is right, the classical education of most of us was vanity and a striving after wind. A discussion of this question too I omit. Whether our previous education was a dismal failure or not, what we care for now is whether this system can offer us anything which will be a practical help in learning Japanese. The author says (p6.), "the youth or the adult should be able without trouble to learn in six months or in a year at the outside to speak * * * * Japanese." Although he himself, before developing the system, spent 10 months of titanic labour in an utterly vain attempt to learn German, afterward with the help of his system he became a perfect master of German in 3 months, and has since learned several other European languages, each in 4 months time. But you can easily find sufficient proof of the general excellence of the system by reading various articles on it in the *Review of Reviews*, beginning with July, 1893. It will not be easy to set forth the principles of the system and to present the interest which one has in perusing the book itself, so that I must crave your patience.

1. The first principle underlying this system is that the receptive organ of language is the *ear*. The very simplicity of this principle has led to its neglect. Children who know neither reading nor writing are the fastest learners of foreign languages. The only other possible organs are the eye and the hand, but they can be used only indirectly, by seeing or by drawing the form of letters, which at best only represent ideas. And yet the eye is what we have mostly depended upon. Think of the weary, weary hours that you have pored over Imbrie and Chamberlain primers and grammars and Brinkley and Hepburn, trying to establish a connection between the printed form and some already familiar idea! and how many of us have made lists of to us new words, work that has been better done hundreds of time before, in order that our hands might help our eyes.

Is there one of you who has not said when you heard a new word "I must write that down, or I must look that up so that I shall not forget it." How many times have we longed for plenty of easy Japanese literature to help us in learning the language. No one can deny that all these things are helps, Chamberlain's, Imbrie's and Brinkley's collections of sentences are all useful. Dictionaries we must have. The eye and the hand do help. The mistake is that we have made these the principal things. In learning a language they are all auxiliary, auxiliary to the organ which we have despised, the ear. There are two reasons why the ear should be given the principal work in acquiring a language, 1st, its organism is simpler than that of the eye, therefore *a.* it will not tire so soon, *b.* when it has recovered its pristine vigour, the impressions made through it on the mind are deeper and more lasting. Do not misunderstand me. The eye for colour and form, the ear for sound; and living language is sound. There would be no dead classics to day if our schools had not killed them by substituting the eye for the ear. I repeat it is a mistake to suppose that one can not remember a sound without seeing the form of letters which represent that sound. It is so only because our scholastic training has ruined our ears.

The second reason for exalting the use of the ear is that in no other way can a correct pronunciation be acquired. Letters in their origin are empty or arbitrary means of representing the sounds of the language, and at the very best they are a makeshift. Suppose there were a perfect phonetic-alphabet, we should still have no clue to the most delicate and important part of pronunciation. But we have no perfect alphabet. How absurd then to begin to learn a language by studying books! How absurd to take second-hand through the eye what you can get first-hand through the ear! Were we not among such a polite people we would continually be laughing stocks before them, simply because we had our eyes open before our ears. Says Gouin p. 137:—"Neither the temperament nor the throat nor the larynx are to blame." Your child talks Japanese like the Japanese and you talk it like a foreigner. Why? Because he has learned first and most through his ear, and you first and most through your eye. The reason why so few Japanese pronounce English correctly is not because their ability to vocalize is deficient. On the contrary, some of the distinctions that they easily make in vowel sounds and in stress are hardly perceived by us. No, the reason is that they are taught to read before they hear any correct pronunciation. In Government and other schools, instead of the younger pupils being taught by English speaking foreigners, the foreigners are put to teach the older pupils who have acquired all manner of evil habits which it is next to impossible to eradicate. In other words, instead of the *ear* taking the first impression, it is the *eye* that has the chief work to do. The ear, the best servant of all for learning language is made to be of no account. Gouin says p. 138:—"To close the subject, we have mistaken the organ. Nature has furnished us in the ears for the study of languages; we have thought it possible to substitute the eyes in their place. Here is the primal fall, here the original sin of the present teaching. Our method returns to the order of nature; it should arrive and it does in fact arrive at the same result as nature."

The *second* principle underlying this system may be stated thus:—"To know a language is to be able to translate into this language the book of our own personality. I have here used purposely the world translate, for according to our scholastic methods, translation has been the chief instrument in the learning of a foreign language. In that way we studied and did not learn Greek and Latin, and the vigorous courses of study issued by the different missions here in Japan consist largely of translations from Japanese into English. But says Gouin (p. 142):—"From the height of a long experience, I venture to denounce translation as the true source of our ignorance of those two unfortunate ancient languages, Greek and Latin, which we study all our lives and know never." Six, seven, ten years have we spent on them. We ought to be able to talk and read either Greek or Latin fluently, whereas the books are so much lumber on our shelves, and the only advantage gained is perhaps a better command of the language into which we translated—English. The trouble is that just as we have mistaken the eye for the ear so here we have mistaken an end for the means. Instead of learning Latin in order to be able to translate Cicero or Ovid, we have translated Cicero or Ovid in order to learn Latin. To go back to the principle stated above, to learn a language is to translate not Virgil, not Homer, not Junjo Tokuhon, not the Michi Shirube, but the vast book of our own individuality; to express one's ideas, not through the medium of one's own language, but directly in the language one is after. To learn Japanese, as M. Gouin says, is to reconstruct the whole of one's individuality, to form it anew piece by piece, to take again one by one all one's perceptions and treat them exactly as does the little child, viz., to transform them into images, into ideas, into conceptions to be expressed in Japanese, or in other words, to *think in Japanese*. All the so-called Natural Methods, *e.g.* Sauveur and Henness are built on this principle. They have defects, but put it to their credit that they have taught us that translation and thinking in the desired foreign language *cannot* go side by side. Some of you who have read M. Gouin's book will object that he uses the native tongue of the pupil to introduce the subject of the lesson, see p. 129. But this is simply to make a beginning, to get a handful of words, upon which to build. He says in describing the giving of a lesson (p. 131):—There has been no translation of English words, but a direct and immediate translation of ideas or perceptions. The English verb has simply served as a bridge for passing from one bank to the other, but a bridge that has been drawn up as soon as the passage was effected.

The 3rd principle recognised in this system, is that the soul of the sentence is the verb, and this means more than appears at first sight. The author says (p. 46):—'The verb! The method which is based upon the verb is based in reality upon time. The German term 'Zeit-wort' (time word) is a whole chapter of psychology. In time and by time everything is in order, because everything in it is successive, everything springs from something else. The method which rests upon the verb is therefore based upon a principle of order."

Here we have the very heart of the Gouin system. The psychological relationship of means to an end is made the working basis of the system by following the simple order of succession in time.

To appreciate the value of this principle it is necessary to call to mind some of the other so-called natural methods of language study, which are one and all, so far as I know, built upon the noun. Even Froebel made this mistake in teaching little children their own language, and so have Sauveur, Ollendorf, Henness and Meistershaft, for what can be more arbitrary than the order which they follow. Say we begin at the hand. From the hand we can go to the finger, from the finger to the ring, from the ring to the jeweler's shop, from the shop to street, from the street to the city; or we can go from the hand to the glove, from the glove to the kid, from the kid to the goat, and from the goat to his traditional diet, the tin tomato can! As an example of a still more ridiculous system whose only order is disorder, whose "plan" is to furnish the expressions in most common use, M. Gouin gives this. "Have you a hat? No, but I am eating a beet-root." Though not so ridiculous, what in earth is the value of a classification of Japanese sentences according to the English initial letters.

Amari mita koto ga gozaimasen,
Ano hito to iu koto wa useda,
Ate ni narenai.

Nor is this more vicious than to arrange sentences according to their translations of English idioms; all these methods as well as the classical process are thoroughly unscientific, for they begin anywhere and end nowhere. On the contrary, we have in M. Gouin's system constantly a definite aim in mind, and by following the simple order of succession in time, it is impossible not to "get there."

A single illustration will be of more service than a good deal of explanation, so I will read one from the book, p. 69:—The maid chops a log of wood. That is the aim.

The maid goes and seeks her hatchet, *seeks.*
The maid takes a log of wood, *takes.*
The maid draws near to the chopping block, *draws near.*
The maid kneels down near this block, *kneels down.*
The maid places a block of wood upright upon this block, *places.*
The maid raises her hatchet, *raises.*
The maid brings down her hatchet, *brings down.*
The hatchet cleaves the air, *cleaves.*
The blade strikes the wood, *strikes.*
The blade buries itself in the wood, *buries itself.*
The blade cleaves the wood, *cleaves.*
The two pieces fall to the ground, *fall.*
The maid picks up these pieces, *picks up.*
The maid chops them again and again, *chops again.*
The maid stands up again, *stands up.*
The maid carries back the hatchet to its place, *carries back.*

The end proposed is attained. The series of means used to attain this end have followed a logical order, that of succession in time. Once begin the series with the end in mind and you are irresistably led through it by simply asking "and what then?" Every conceivable objective event can be thought through by singly following the clue "and then." The only difficulty is that without experience or direction one will err either on the side of excessive minuteness or in being too general, but the faithful student of the system will avoid both these dangers.

You will readily see that the supreme advantage of following this principle of time sequence is that it is possible to include in it all human experience, so that not only can one readily learn a little of a new language, but he has a system whereby he can master the whole of it, or in the words of principle No. 2, he can translate into it the whole of his individuality. Moreover, it is possible to classify by this principle the whole of any language, for not only is there a logical connection between each step of exercise or theme, but each theme is logically linked to other lessons which together form a series. For instance:—

Add to the themes connected with drawing water, those concerned with building a fire, with cooking, with washing, with eating, with sleeping, with dressing, with keeping warm, etc., etc., and you have the Domestic series, and the Domestic series is continually dove-tailed into the out door or Rural series and these again with the industrial or technical series. And still you have not touched quadrupeds nor birds nor reptiles nor insects nor plants nor the elements. But, you say is not this a classification of objects, a study of nouns? Let M. Gouin reply, p. 66:—"It is not the substantives, naming in any order whatsoever, all the parts of the tree, all the parts of the insect, all the parts

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of the bird, all the parts of the quadruped, which constitute this method, but the expression of phenomena, and the detail of the existence of each kind of being. It is not the cold and hackneyed enumeration of the constituent parts of this being that our method proposes; it is rather representation of the life itself in its movement and in its national development. This method knows *sentences only*. It is therefore * * * the enemy of the vocabulary." I think I have said enough to show that the importance given to the verb is not a fanciful distinction, but it is the negotiation of a principle based on reason and big with possibilities.

The fourth principle recognised in this system is that there is a distinction to be made between the language which describes external wants and that which expresses the facts and activities of the mind. For the sake of clearness M. Gouin has named these two languages objective and subjective. That which translates the facts of the eternal world is called "objective language." That which translates the facts and operations of the soul is termed "subjective language." To illustrate. "The boy draws water," is objective language. "The boy wants a drink of water," is subjective language. In fact, all of the series of which I have spoken at such length belong to the objective language. Indeed, it was the classification of this language that led M. Gouin to recognize the existence of many expressions that cannot be included in the time series. Such are all verbs of thinking, feeling, hoping, believing, supposing, imagining, hand all that express the facts and gestures of the mind using the word in its widest sense.

Now in all speech these two languages, the objective and the subjective, are continually mixed together. Every one uses both from childhood up, for man does not talk simply about phenomena. The subjective language is the expression of the reaction of the mind on observed phenomena. No one will deny this distinction, and as M. Gouin has pointed out, the very stress and accent we give these subjective expressions distinguishes them from objective expressions, and M. Gouin proves satisfactorily that the only way the child has of distinguishing the two languages is the accent which is stamped upon the subjective.

Another characteristic of the objective language, is its dependence upon or relation to the objective language. It cannot be used quite alone or independently.

It is convenient—what is convenient?
He wishes to—what does he wish to do?
I believe—what do I believe?

This relation between the two languages led M. Gouin to invent the specific term Relative Phrase which at any rate is convenient. It is not enough to say that there are about 60,000 of these relative phases in every language; a better way to learn their importance is to attempt to talk for a little while without using them. They are the life of language, and any system of language study which neglects them is doomed to failure. We simply must have them in order to talk, and we are bound to pick them up somehow or other, system or no system. This Gouin system is the only one, so far as I know, that recognizes the existence of subjective language and makes a formal attempt to teach it. This, itself, is a tremendous step forward. Even if M. Gouin has not discovered the best way of teaching the subjective language, he has rendered an incalculable service by showing that it exists. The next step will be to classify it and invent a practical way of teaching it. Thus, it seems to me, M. Gouin has not done with any such success as he has classified and furnished a plan for teaching the objective language. I do not deny that he himself succeeds in teaching Relative Phrases, but the value of his plan depends upon its applicability to all circumstances, and in our circumstances here in Japan, his plan does not work.

I have seen no one here yet, no matter how successful he has been with the objective language, who has been able to do anything worth speaking of with the subjective language, according to Mr. Gouin's plan. What my own plan has been you can easily learn by consulting the *Japan Mail* of July 22nd. I hope those who are interested in the system will not skip this part of M. Gouin's book. He has but opened the door to a new wonderland. It may seem also to be a labyrinth, but now that its existence is clearly recognized the clue is sure to be found.

5th Closely connected with the recognition of these two languages, side by side is to be put M. Gouin's insight into the relationship of metaphorical language to these two. This is not nearly so important as the subjective language, for metaphor is a highly refined form of speech, and cannot properly be learned early in the acquisition of a language. This is on the principle that education must go from the concrete to the abstract. Gouin but follows here the principle so clearly seen by Froebel and Herbert Spencer. First the concrete, then the abstract. Figurative expressions are pure abstractions and should come last in learning a language. In nature the child learns them slowly, some never master them, and only among highly civilized peoples are they common. M. Gouin has not developed this subject as fully as the other two, but he should at least have the credit of recognizing its importance and giving it a place in his system.

Metaphors are always interesting, and any system which leads to an intelligent study of them adds just so much to its value. This M. Gouin's system does. He points out the source of symbolic language, and suggests a plan for its study. I am not yet prepared to express a judgment on the utility of the plan, but I am sure that even a slight attention to the origin of metaphor would prevent such a mixed metaphor as the one told of an American congressman:—"I smell a rat, I see it floating in the air, I will nip it in the bud."

To sum up the five characteristics of this system.

1. It restores the ear to its normal responsibility as the receptive organ of language.
2. It banishes translation.
3. Its exercises follow a principle of reason, that of succession in time, by recognising the verb as the soul of the sentence.
4. It distinguishes the language of thought and emotion from the language of external events.
5. It gives to metaphorical language its proper value and shows its relation to other speech.

Or to recapitulate from the point of view of the advantages of this system.

1. It gives the key to a correct pronunciation by recovering the use of the ear.
2. It teaches one to think in Japanese by translating translations.
3. The exercises are interesting and easy to remember, because in them a logical order, that of succession in time, is followed.
4. It induces clear thinking by emphasising the distinction between the subjective and the objective.
5. It points the way to a correct use of metaphor by calling attention to its origin.

In conclusion, I can only say that what I have here presented in a dry numbered summary is set forth in the book itself with all a Frenchman's sparkle and vivacity. The force of his arguments too is cumulative. By the author's experience in Germany the reader is prepared for a startling innovation, nor is he disappointed, and as he goes on step by step he is aroused to a pitch of enthusiasm to be matched only by the craze for bicycles.

LETTER FROM CHICAGO.

(From our own Correspondent).

Chicago, August 12th.

K. Takayama is the name of a Tokyo physician who has lately been enrolled among the guests at the Palmer House.

At the closing session of the Congress of Architects, Mr. Josiah Conder's paper on "Conditions of Architecture in Japan" was read.

A display of Japanese fire-works from the Wooded Island was stopped at the request of insurance companies. It had been planned to make a day display at 4 o'clock in the afternoon, and a night display at 8 o'clock: both were to have been given before the judges of award.

President Hill, of the Great Northern Railway, has confirmed a statement that a deal had been completed by which a large number of steamers would ply between the Pacific coast terminal of that road and Asiatic ports.

A despatch from San Francisco, under date of August 10th, states that the first enforcement of the deportation clause of the Geary Act took place that day, and that a Chinaman had been sent back per *City of Rio de Janeiro* to China.

The mind-reader, Seymour, is actively preparing to be buried alive, and to stay under ground while a crop of barley is grown on his grave. He has selected Dr. E. C Dunn, of Rockford, Ill., as his manager; and he has published the details of his manner of procedure. The sceptical are very numerous, and are waiting for developments. Dr. Dunn, however, has no doubt that the feat can be performed; he has seen it done successfully three times at Allahabad, Delhi and Benares.

The attendance at the Fair has been increasing since the first of this month. The following figures may be of interest:—

Total for May	1,050,037
Total for June	2,675,113
Total for July	2,760,263
Total to August 8th	7,243,365

These are the paid admissions only.

The increase in attendance and the continued reduction in expenses are very delightful to the Directory. It is probable that next week 10 per cent. will be paid on the bonds, and 10 or 20 per cent. more on the same before September 1st.

Last Sunday only about 16,000 persons were willing to pay 50 cents for the privilege of visiting a "half-Fair," and most of them probably frequented the side-shows on the Plaisance. Many of the latter, however, were closed in order to give their employes a day of rest.

The Exposition authorities are attempting to have the Clingman injunction dissolved. As soon as Judge Stein left for a vacation in Europe, a motion to quash the injunction was made before Judge Goggin, who announced that he would associate with him at least two other judges in the hearing of the case.

The grand jury exonerated from blame the four men (Burnham, Murphy, Skinner and McDonald) whom the coroner's jury held responsible for that awful fire in the cold storage warehouse at the Fair.

Professor Herman von Helmholtz, the great German Scientist, is expected to arrive here today with a number of assistants to study the Fair in the line of physics and physiology.

Theodore Thomas and his orchestra have resigned. The high grade classical concerts have been too expensive and not sufficiently popular, and will be discontinued. Arrangements will now be made for cheaper and more "popular" music.

Both Virginia and Louisiana have had a gala day at the Exposition.

There is a boom in the sale of the Columbian Souvenir half-dollars. A model of the United States Treasury Building has been constructed with those coins in the rotunda of the Administration Building. This is enclosed by a silver railing, within which are six young ladies selling the coins.

The Swedish Royal Commissioner, Arthur Leffler, has submitted a proposal, that the beautiful building costructed by Sweden be allowed to remain in Jackson Park permanently. The only conditions are that the parts belonging to private exhibitors be purchased at actual cost ($3,000); and that the whole be exempted from customs duty.

The California Midwinter International Exposition is being pushed with energy. Permanent head-quarters have been established here in the California Building. This Exposition, to be open from January 1 to June 30, 1894, will have 100 acres of ground in Golden Gate Park.

The Congress of Departments of Government has been in session this week at the Art Institute. This Congress has had four divisions: Suffrage; jurisprudence and law reform; civil service reform; and city government. The woman suffragists have, of course, not been backward in coming forward to present their cause; and the limitations of suffrage in various countries have been presented. One very interesting address in that line was made by Mme. Sigrida Magnusson, of Iceland. A paper written by Miss Cornelia Sorabji, of Bombay, presented "The Legal Status of Women in India." Japan was well represented in Prof. J. H. Wigmore's paper on "Administration of Civil Justice in Japan." Prof. Michael Revon, of Tokyo, is also on the programme for a paper on "International Arbitration."

To-day is a double gala day at the Fair and in the city; both the Foresters and the Bohemians have a great parade, music, speeches, fire-works, etc

The Fifty-third Congress is convened in an "extraordinary session" which promises to be an interesting and important one. The Republicans went through the formality of nominating candidates for the offices of the House of Representatives, and gave the unanimous nomination for Speaker to Reed, of Maine. The Populists named Jerry Simpson, of Kansas. The Democratic nominees were, of course, elected, and were as follows:—Speaker, C. F. Crisp, of Georgia; Clerk, Kerr, of Pennsylvania; Sergeant-at-Arms, ex-Congressman Herman Snow, of Illinois; Door-Keeper, A. B. Hurt, of Tennessee; Postmaster, L. W. Dalton, of Indiana; Chaplain, Rev. S. W. Hadaway (Meth.), of Maryland.

As the sessions of both Houses on the first day were brief, it was not till the second day that the President's Message was received. Inasmuch as the text of that document was probably printed from 'Frisco papers received by the last mail, I need not take space for it here; but I may say that on all sides it elicited hearty commendation. The only really disappointed people were the radical silverites: Republicans vied with Democrats in praising the brief, calm and statesmanlike document, which "hit the nail square on the head."

After considerable caucusing in the House of Representatives, the following course has been adopted. A bill was introduced yesterday by Mr. Wilson, of W. Va, for the repeal of the silver-

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purchasing clause of the Sherman Act. This bill provides that so much of the act approved July 14 1890, as directs the Secretary of the Treasury to purchase from time to time silver bullion to the aggregate amount of 4,500,000 ounces, or so much thereof as may be offered in each month at the market price thereon, not exceeding $1 for 371¼ grains of pure silver, and to issue in payment for such purchase Treasury notes of the United States, be and the same is hereby repealed. But this repeal shall not impair nor in any manner affect the legal tender quality of the standard silver dollars heretofore coined, and the faith and credit of the United States are hereby pledged to maintain the parity of the gold and silver coin of the United States at the present legal ratio or such other ratio as may be established by law.

Mr Bland, of Missouri, then offered the following substitute, now under debate:—

That from and after the passage of this act all holders of silver bullion to the amount of $100 or more of standard weight and fineness shall be entitled to have the same coined at the mints of the United States into silver dollars of the weight and fineness provided for in Sec. 3 of this act.

Sec. 2. That the silver dollar provided for in this act shall consist of 4 24 grains of standard silver, said dollar to be a legal tender for all debts, dues, and demands, both public and private.

Sec. 3. The holder of the silver dollars herein provided for shall be entitled to deposit the same and receive silver certificates in the manner provided by law for the standard silver dollar.

Sec. 4. So much of the act of July 14, 1890, as requires the monthly purchase of 4,500,000 ounces of silver bullion be and the same is hereby repealed

By agreement, the first vote will be taken on this substitute; if it fails to carry, a substitute calling for free coinage at a ratio of 17 to 1 will be introduced; and so on, up to 20 to 1. If they all fail, a vote will be taken on the Bland-Allison Act of 1878, and then on the original measure. The entire debate is limited to fourteen days: it was opened yesterday by Raynor (Dem., Md), and Brown (Dem., Ind.) in favour of unconditional repeal, and Bland (Dem., Mo.) on the other side. The Senate will await the action of the House.

Yesterday President Cleveland, by order of his physician, left Washington for another period of rest as explained hereafter:—"My absence from the capital at this time may excite some surprise in view of my intense interest in the subject now awaiting the determination of Congress. Though my views and recommendations have already been officially submitted to that body, and though I am by no means certain that I could aid in bringing about the result which seems so necessary, it would give satisfaction to me if I could remain at the scene of action. But whether I am here or elsewhere, I shall look with hope and confidence to the action of those upon whom the responsibility now rests of relieving our people from their present dangers and difficulties. I am going back to my summer home at the sea shore because I am not sufficiently rested from the strain to which I have been subjected since the 4th of March to fit me again to assume the duties and labours which await me here. I have been counselled by those whose advice I cannot disregard that the further rest I contemplate is absolutely necessary to my health and strength. I shall remain away during the month of August, and shall devote myself to rest and outdoor recreation. My day's doings will be devoid of interest to the public, and I shall be exceedingly pleased if I can be freed from the attention of newspaper correspondents."

Two more cholera cases (making four in all) are reported from Hoffman Island by Dr. Jenkins, the Health Officer of the port of New York. They are all quarantined.

Two deaths from yellow-fever at Pensacola, Fla., created a panic there, which, however, has been allayed since no more suspicious cases are reported.

About 700,000 spindles have stopped at Fall River, Mass.; and 7,000 operatives have thus been thrown out of work. Other mills in the East and the West have either shut down or are running on half time. Several railroads have laid off a number of employés, or have reduced their wages. But in general everything looks better, and much relief is expected from the continued influx of gold.

Hon. Laurence T. Neal ("Low Tariff" Neal), who framed the tariff's plank which carried the Democrats to victory in the last National Campaign, has been "ogically" nominated by the Democrats of Ohio for Governor against McKinley.

ECZEMA.—Book on "Skin Trouble," sent free for One Stamp by Messrs. NORTH & RAE, Limited, Yokohama.

The Russian Army, says a St. Petersburg correspondent, is being gradually supplied with the new small bore rifle, for which a new system of drill is being drawn up. Some new cruisers, of the *Rurik* type, are being constructed. Next September the cruiser *Poltava* will be launched from the Baltic works.

THE NATIONAL BANK OF CHINA, LIMITED.

The following is the report of the directors of the National Bank of China, Limited, for the half-year ending 30th June, 1893:—

GENTLEMEN,—The Articles of Association only stipulate for one Meeting a year, but your Directors consider it advisable to submit to you a statement of Accounts half yearly to show the progress the Bank is making.

Annexed they have the pleasure to submit to you the Accounts for the period ending 30th June last, from which you will see that (including $20,572 82 brought forward from last Account) the balance of undivided profit carried forward is $50,245 98.

The figures of the Balance Sheet speak for themselves and you will observe that every care is taken to minimise expenses.

The policy of your Directors is to conduct a strictly liquid exchange business, avoiding lock-up of Capital and advances on shares, which, however safe and profitable they may be in themselves, ought rather to be left to Financial, Mortgage and Investment Companies than to Exchange Banks; our sphere lies in financing the movements of merchandise outwards and homewards and in turning over our funds as often and as rapidly as circumstances will permit.

The half-year under review has been specially marked by the crisis in Australia and by the hurried action of the Indian and Imperial Government in legislating to maintain the value of the Rupee at a relatively fixed level.

The effects on our currencies in the Far East by the action of India and the prospective action of America have always the careful consideration of your Board, whose object, while so much confusion prevails with regard to monetary matters all over the world, is to try to steer a cautious, safe and middle course.

Your Directors have forfeited certain shares on which the Calls have not been paid (including those belonging to Russell & Co.), and the amount paid thereon and now forfeited is all held in a special Suspense Account to be dealt with later on as they may see fit.

The Accounts at the Head Office have been audited by Messrs. J. H Cox and Wm Hutton Potts and in London by Messrs. Deloitte, Dever, Griffiths & Co., Chartered Accountants,—Your obedient Servant,

D GILLIES, Chairman.

BALANCE SHEET—30TH JUNE, 1893.

LIABILITIES

Capital, 750 Fully paid Founders' Shares of £1 each (at par of 32.)	$ 5,000.00
Capital partly paid £335,585 (at par of 32.)	2,235,000.00
Fixed Deposits, Current and other Accounts	1,988,360.00
On Drafts, Acceptances, and Endorsements (Bills re discounted)	612,689.72
Balance carried Forward	50,245.98
Total	$4,891,201 70

ASSETS.

Cash on hand and at Bankers	$ 478,022.60
Government and other Securities belonging to the Bank	228,269.43
Bills receivable, Loans and Advances	4,007,709.56
Furniture, Stationery and Stamps	38,433.73
Adjusting Account (Exchange and Interest)	138,875.89
Total	$4,891,201 70

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT—30TH JUNE, 1893.

DR

Charges, Salaries, Directors' Fees, &c.	$ 62,310.35
Balance of profit carried Forward	50,245 98
Total	$ 112,556.33

CR.

Balance brought Forward from last half-year	$ 20,572 82
Gross earnings for the half year ending 30th June	91,983.51
Total	$ 112,556.33

D. GILLIES, Chairman.
GEO. W. F. PLAYFAIR, Chief Manager.
ANTHONY BABINGTON, Accountant.
HERM STOLTERFOHT, CHAN KIT SEAN, KWAN HOI CHUN, CHOW TUNG SHANG, } Directors.

We have compared the above Statements with the Books, Cash, and Securities at the Head Office and with the returns from the Branches and have found same to be correct, and in our opinion the Balance Sheet is properly drawn up, so as to exhibit a true and correct view of the Bank's affairs as shewn by the books (the London returns have been audited and certified by Messrs Deloitte, Dever, Griffiths & Co., Chartered Accountants.)

JAMES H. COX, W. HUTTON POTTS, } Auditors.

Hongkong, 17th August, 1893.

CHESS.

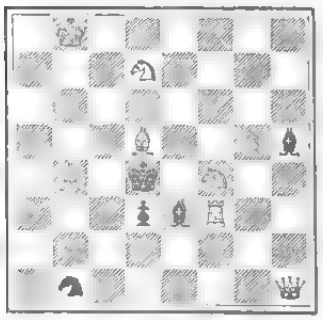
(All Communications to be addressed to the CHESS EDITOR.)

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 85.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—Q to K 7	1—Anything.
2—Mates accordingly.	

Correct solutions received from Omega, J.D., J.W.E., O.B., Digamma, and Ed. B.

PROBLEM No. 87.
BY P. HEALEY.



White to play and mate in two moves.

BERGER'S SCHACH-JAHRBUCH, 1892-93.

Herr Berger, the noted player and problem composer, has just published the result of two years' uninterrupted labour in the cause of Chess. The Year Book is intended to furnish an international handbook for chess players, and is widely comprehensive in its scope, containing a chronicle of Chess events for 1892, notations, tables of nomenclature, signs, and openings, laws of the game, telegraphic codes, etc. It is written in German, but, to render it accessible to non-readers of that language, signs and abbreviations, clearly explained in English, French, and Italian, are employed wherever possible.

A Correspondent writes:—"I notice your evening contemporary has gracefully retired from the position assumed in his issue of August 29th, and now informs us the reverse of what he originally stated, is correct. Perhaps you will be able to show me how the Yokohama players can possibly have adopted the Cochrane attack *before* Black plays the Petroff Defence. Like Rosa Dartle, I "ask for information"

We beg to remind our Correspondent that our strength—if we have any—lies in Chess problems, not in conundrums. He had better apply elsewhere.

Locally there is not much doing in Chess, although we hear of a few private games among some of our enthusiasts, just to pass the time and to furbish up their weapons against the opening of the Yokohama Chess Club which commences its next season on Monday, 2nd October.

The correspondence games by telegraph with Nagasaki continue their course. We give below the opening moves in both games:—

GAME A.—RUY LOPEZ.

WHITE. Nagasaki.	BLACK Yokohama.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to Q Kt 5	3—P to Q R 3
4—B to Q R 4	4—Kt to K B 3
5—Castles.	5—Kt × K P
6—P to Q 4	6—P to Q Kt 4
7—B to Q Kt 3	7—

GAME B.—PETROFF'S DEFENCE.

WHITE. Yokohama.	BLACK Nagasaki.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to K B 3
3—Kt × P	3—P to Q 3
4—Kt × K B P	4—K × Kt
5—B to Q B 4 ch.	5—Q B to K 3
6—B × B ch.	6—K × B
7—P to Q 4	7—P to Q B 3

Intelligence from home is meagre and the last mails bring no particular news. The English Chess magazines appear to be reduced to publishing lives of the ancient dead-and-gone Chess heroes from Ponziani to De Vere. Probably this will all change when the torpid weather moderates and the New York tournament commences. Things will surely be more lively then.

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We reprint a game which Gossip dubs "An off-hand skirmish" giving an example of the veteran warrior Steinitz in one of his "playful" moods.

KIESERITSKY GAMBIT.

WHITE. Steinitz.	BLACK. Belaieff.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—P to K B 4	2—P × P
3—Kt to K B 3	3—P to K Kt 4
4—P to K R 4	4—P to Kt 5
5—Kt to K 5	5—Kt to K B 3
6—B to B 4	6—P to Q 4
7—P × P	7—B to Q 3

..... B to Kt 2 is usually preferred, although the defence here played is sound enough.

8—P to Q 4	8—Kt to R 4
9—Kt to Q B 3	9—Q to K 2
10—B to Kt 5 ch.	10—K to Q sq.

. . . K to B sq. is better here.

11—Castles.	11—B × Kt
12—P × B	12—Q × R P
13—R × P	

The initial move of a grand combination.

	13—Kt × R
14—B × Kt	14—P to Kt 6
15—Q to B 3	15—R to Kt sq.

If ..... 15—Q to R 7 ch.; 16—K to B sq., Q to R 8 ch.; 17—K to K 2, etc.

16—P to K 6	16—P × P

If ..... 16—P to K B 3; 17—Kt to K 4 or P to K 7 ch., etc.

17—B × Kt P	17—Q to Kt 4
18—Q to B 7	

A beautiful finish!

	18 P to K 4
19—Q × R ch.	19—Q × Q
20—B to R 4 ch.	20—Resigns.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, September 3.

The Home Rule Bill was carried through its third reading in the House of Commons by 301 votes to 267. It was then sent up to the Lords, who at once met—it was then 1 a.m.—and the Bill was read in the Upper Chamber a first time.

London, September 4.

In the second ballots of the French Elections, Clemenceau and Floquet have both been defeated, but Goblet is elected.

The Welsh coal-miners strike is collapsing.

Fully a thousand persons perished in the cyclone which ravaged the South-eastern coasts of the United States.

Lonodn, September 5th.

It is officially announced that General Sir Henry Wylie Norman, G.C.B., Governor of Queensland, will succeed the Marquis of Lansdowne as Viceroy and Governor-General of India.

Lords Rosebery and Dufferin have returned to Paris with fullest instructions to protect British interests in Siam.

London, September 7.

The result of the St. Leger is as follows:—

Isinglass	1
Ravensbury	2
Le Nicham	3

London, September 7th.

The strike in Wales has ended.

During the debate on the second reading of the Home Rule Bill in the House of Lords, the Duke of Argyll severely condemned the Government for bartering the Empire for a few votes Lord Cross also strongly opposed the Bill.

[SPECIALLY TELEGRAPHED TO THE "JAPAN DAILY MAIL."]
(FROM THE "N.-C. DAILY NEWS.")

London, August 28.

Sir Edward Grey, Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, announced in the House of Commons that another vessel had been sent to replace H.M.S. *Linnet* at Bangkok.

The Times states that M. Myre de Vilers refuses to allow M. Jacquemins to take any part in the negotiations now pending between France and Siam.

Another disgraceful scene has taken place within the precincts of the House of Commons. Mr. J. G. Swift McNeill, member for South Donegal, assaulted Mr. Harry Furniss in the Lobby of the House, in consequence of a caricature which appears in this week's *Punch*

The meeting of plenipotentiaries upon the Franco-Siamese dispute has adjourned *sine die*.

London, August 30.

Four French men-of-war have arrived at Koh Samit, probably to exercise pressure upon Siam.

Prince Dewawongse has gone to Bangpam to consult with the King and lay before His Majesty his views of the attitude assumed by M. Myre de Vilers. M. de Vilers has demanded the exclusive concession of public works in the provinces of Battambang and Angkor on the right bank of the Meikong.

London, Sept. 2.

Sir Ed. Grey, answering a question addressed to the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, has informed the House of Commons that the Government's reports do not confirm some of the demands ascribed to France, but the Government adheres to its previous statements regarding the policy of Great Britain. Lord Dufferin returns to Paris forthwith to resume negotiations on a basis safeguarding British interests.

The London Chamber of Commerce urges the Government to protect British interests and to maintain the independence of Siam.

(FROM TONKIN PAPERS.)

Paris, August 18th.

Fierce conflicts have taken place at the mines of Rizières les-Salines between French and Italian workmen. Fifteen were killed and thirty wounded.

Paris, August 20th.

In the disturbance at the mines of Rizières-les-Salines the Italians were the aggressors. In connection with this affair demonstrations against France have taken place at Rome.

Paris, August 21.

The elections have been quiet. The following is the result:—Republicans, 312; Radical Socialists, 30; Royalists, 13; Conservatives, 56; second ballots, 155. The Republicans gained 63 seats. The greater part of the second ballots will be favourable to that party. The Ministers have been re-elected.

Paris, August 21st.

The windows of the Embassy at Rome have been broken by stones thrown at them.

The Prefect and Director of Police have been suspended.

Paris August 22nd.

The Franco-Italian difficulty is almost arranged.

M. Resmann has expressed the regret of the Italian Government for the tumult at Messina, in the course of which the escutcheon of the French Consulate was broken.

Demonstrations occurred in several Italian towns yesterday.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, Nagasaki and Kobe	per N. Y. K	Friday Sept. 15th
From America	per O. & O. Co.	Tuesday, Sept. 12th *
From Canada, &c.	per C. P. M. Co.	Monday, Sept. 11th †
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Sept. 10th ‡
From America	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Sept 19th §
From Hongkong.	per O. & O. Co.	Wed'day Sept. 13th ‖
From Europe via Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Friday, Sept. 15th ¶
From Hongkong.	per C. P. M. Co.	Thursday, Sept 14th
From Europe via Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Wed'day, Oct. 4th.

* *Gaelic* left San Francisco on August 26th. † *Empress of Japan* left Vancouver on August 29th. ‡ *Arcona* left Kobe on September 9th. § *City of Peking* left San Francisco on September and ‖ *Oceanic* left Hongkong on September 6th ¶ *Oceanien* (with French mail) left Hongkong on September 7th

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Victoria and Tacoma	per N. P. Co.	Saturday, Sept. 9th
For Europe, viâ Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Sept. 10th.
For Hongkong	per C. P. M. Co	Monday Sept. 11th.
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki	per O. & O. S.	Tuesday Sept. 12th
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. M. Co	Friday, Sept. 15th
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Friday, Sept. 15th
For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co	Saturday, Sept. 16th
For America	per P. M. Co.	Saturday, Sept. 23rd,

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS

Peru, American steamer, 2,540, Daniel Friele, 2nd September,—Hongkong viâ ports 26th August, Mails and General.—P. M. S. S. Co.

Benlawers, British steamer, 1,483, Webster, 4th September,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—Cornes & Co

Crown of England, British steamer, 1,940, Gibson, 4th September,—Kobe 3rd September, General. Samuel Samuel & Co.

City of New York, American steamer, 1,943, F. H. Johnston, 5th September,—San Francisco 19th August, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Aikoku Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,167, Fenkaka, 5th September,—Kobe 4th September, General. —Otye.

Riversdale, British steamer, 1,311, Peck, 5th September,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Pender, 6th September,—Kobe 5th September, General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, T. Sakai, 6th September,—Otaru viâ ports 3rd September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Agamemnon, British steamer, 1,342, Williams, 7th September,—Liverpool viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Glenfruin, British steamer, 1,918, E. Norman, 7th September,—London viâ ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Kriemhild, German steamer, 1,638, Forck, 7th September,—Hamburg viâ ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Nürnberg, German steamer, 2,007, H. Walter, 7th September,—Hongkong 1st September, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 7th September,—Moji 5th September, Coal.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, Nirei, 8th September,—Hachinohe 7th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, Conner, 9th September,—Shanghai and ports 2nd September, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Victoria, British steamer, 1,991, J. Panton, 9th September,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Cardil & Co.

DEPARTURES

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Pender, 2nd September,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. M. Young, 2nd September,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Verona, British steamer, 1,878, C. H. S. Tocque, 3rd September,—Hongkong viâ Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 3rd September,—Moji, Ballast.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Saipan, British schooner, 75, J. T. Blanchfield, 3rd September,—Guam, Stores.—Samuel Samuel & Co

Kaiserin Elisabeth (20), Austrian cruiser, Captain A. von Becker, 4th September,—Yokosuka.

Balcarres Brook, British steamer, 1,376, Harrison, 5th September,—Kobe, General.—Smith, Baker & Co.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,168, Crichton, 5th September,—Shimonoseki, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Peru, American steamer, 2,540, Daniel Friele, 5th September,—San Francisco, Mails and General. —P. M. S.S. Co.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,358, Haswell, 5th September,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha

Moray, British steamer, 1,411, Thomson, 5th September,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Myrmidon, British steamer, 1,815, R. Nelson, 5th September,—London viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Brodick Castle, British ship, 1,744, R. M. Fingerson, 5th September,—Vancouver, B.C., Tea.—Frazar & Co.

Benlawers, British steamer, 1,482, Webster, 6th September,—Hongkong viâ ports, Ballast.—Cornes & Co.

City of New York, American steamer, 1,943, F. H. Johnston, 7th September,—Hongkong, Mails and General.—P. M. S S. Co.

Daphne, German steamer, 1,394, F. Voss, 7th September,—Hamburg viâ ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Riversdale, British steamer, 1,311, Peck, 7th September,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

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St. John, American ship, 1,820, O. H. Fales, 7th September,—New York viâ Kobe, General.—Smith, Baker & Co.

Strathleven, British steamer, 1,588, Cormack, 7th September,—New York viâ ports, General.—Dodwel, Carlill & Co.

Aikoku Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,067, Furukawa, 8th September,—Honolulu, General.—Oiye.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Pender, 8th September,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, T. Sakai, 8th September.—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Agamemnon, British steamer, 1,342, Williams, 9th September,—London viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Nürnberg, German steamer, 2,007, Hugo Walter, 9th September,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per American steamer *Peru*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. P. S. Lalcaca in cabin; and 78 passengers in steerage.

Per American steamer *City of New York*, from San Francisco:—Mr. Sugishita and Mr. Iida in cabin; and 4 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, from Kobe:—16 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Sendai Maru*, from Hakodate viâ ports:—Mr. Swain, Mr. Wharlen, and Captain R. Nunome in cabin; 47 passengers in steerage.

Per German steamer *Nürnberg*, from Hongkong:—Mr. R. L. Rateliff, Mr. Egon Guderian, Pastor R. Goltschalk, and Mr. Chun Pin in second class; Mr. W. Rogen Mr. Chun, and 2 Chinese in third class, and 32 Chinese on deck.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Mrs. Anderson, Mrs. E. Bieler, Mrs. Sutherland, Mr. W. C. Nash, Mr. M. Loure, and Mr. H. Hogge in cabin; Mrs. Ozawa and daughter, Messrs. A. P. Tjeltstom, Kawakita, T. Abe, and Masters Sasaki (2) in second class, and 54 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Victoria*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Dr. and Mrs. Knaggs, Miss P. Knaggs, Miss N. Knaggs, Miss B. Knaggs, and infant, Mrs. Hozier, Mr. E. S. Wheeller, Mr. Coutts, Mr. J. R. Greaves, and Miss Saed in cabin. For Tacoma, Wash.: Mr. W. Harrison, Mr. Thos. Skinner, and Mr. A. R. A. Heath in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Verona*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. F. A. Allden, R.N., Mr. T. Delias, Mr. and Mrs. H. V. S. Peeke, Mr. and Mrs. Beveridge, Mrs. Follett, 2 infants, and amah, Mr. M. Russell, and Mr. Ah Wai in cabin; and 1 European in steerage.

Per American steamer *Peru*, for San Francisco.—Mr. E. S. Bell, Mr. W. Law, Mr. H. Mason, Lieut. N. Miyaoka, Mr. L. H. Smith, Lieut. Michel Wassilieff, and Mr. Los Yin Yue in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Rev. and Mrs. Graves and 3 children, Miss Graves, Miss F. Griswold, Miss A. Adams, Captain Wynn, Messrs. H. Helm, A. Burkill, W. H. Abercrombie, J. Strauss, and Chas. F. Hemlien in cabin; Messrs. J. Fant and K. Idzumiya in second class, and 56 passengers in steerage.

Per German steamer *Nürnberg*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Gielin, Mr. A. Khetsch, Mr. Barclay Duglas, Mr. Bun, Mr. and Mrs. Blüthgen, Mr. F. Grosser, Mr. E. Wismer, and Mr. C. Bretschneider in cabin; 2 sailors in third class, and 13 Chinese on deck.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Verona*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Silk, 566 bales; Waste Silk, 48 bales.

Per American steamer *Peru*, for San Francisco:—

	RAW SILK.				
	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	CHICAGO.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	24	—	—	—	24
Yokohama	3,817	270	485	1,091	5,661
Hongkong	122	—	—	—	122
Total	3,963	270	485	1,091	5,809

	SILK.			
	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	HARTFORD.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	—	20	—	20
Hongkong	—	56	—	56
Yokohama	—	169	—	169
Total	—	245	—	245

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, $100,000.00.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, $30,000.00.

Per German steamer *Nürnberg*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Raw Silk for Europe, 109 bales.

REPORTS.

The American steamer *Peru*, Captain Friele, reports:—Left Hongkong the 26th August at 2.15 p.m. Arrived at Nagasaki the 30th at 7 a.m. and left at 8.44 p.m. Arrived at Kobe the 1st September at 4.37 a.m. and left at 6 p.m. Arrived at Yokohama the 2nd September at 8.25 p.m.; had light winds and fine weather throughout the passage.

The American steamer *City of New York*, Captain Johnston, reports:—Left San Francisco the 19th August at 4.06 p.m.; experienced westerly winds and head seas almost the entire voyage; on the 31st, experienced heavy N.W. gale, lowest reading barometer 29.26; on the 4th September, experienced strong S.W. gale; crossed 180th meridian the 28th August at 6.30 p.m. Running time, 16 days, 2 hours.

The German steamer *Nürnberg*, Captain H. Walter, reports:—Left Hongkong the 1st September at 9.40 p.m; had up to Turnabout light S.W.-West and N.W. winds, smooth sea, easterly swell, and fine weather; through the Eastern Sea experienced an irregular swell, partly from S.E., E. and N., on the 5th on 30°.33′ N. and 130°.0′ E (westerly from Van Diemen Strait) spoke the British ship *Cuthona* of Liverpool; from New York to Tokyo, 128 days at sea; on board, all well. Arrived at Yokohama the 7th September at 9.20 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, Captain Conner, reports:—Left Shanghai the 2nd September at 2 p.m.; crossed Woosung Bar at 3.30, and came to anchor off Kintoan Small Beacon, on account of signs of approaching typhoon; experienced heavy gale all night from N.E. to N.W. and proceeded next morning at 9.30, arriving at Nagasaki the 4th at midnight; had heavy N.E. to light N.W. winds with confused sea throughout the passage. Left Nagasaki the 5th at 1 p.m. and arrived at Shimonoseki the 6th at 1.15 a.m. Left again at 7.30 a.m. and arrived at Kobe the 7th at 3.30 a.m. Left again the same day at midnight, arriving at company's buoy the 9th September at 4.15 a.m.; experienced light variable winds through Inland Sea and moderate winds from S.E. to N.E. and N.W. on coast with fine, clear weather throughout the passage.

The British steamer *Victoria*, Captain Panton, reports:—Left Hongkong the 29th August at 1 p.m., Amoy the 30th, Foochow the 2nd September, and Kobe the 8th at 4 a.m. Arrived at Yokohama the 9th September at 8 a.m. Strong north-east and northerly winds and moderate sea was experienced on the China Coast.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS

Another week of inactivity has been experienced in the Import Trade and the immediate future promises no improvement. Yarns both single and double have met with but small enquiry; a few trifling purchases have been made in Piece Goods, while Woollens have continued without demand.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

Grey Shirtings—8½ lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	PER PIECE.	$2 05 to 2 50
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 38½ yds. 45 inches		2.30 to 3 00
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches		1 50 to 1 85
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches		1.50 to 1 90
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches		1 75 to 2 75
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 32 inches	PER YARD.	0 15 to 0 20
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches		6.25 to 8.75
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches		0 6¾ to 0 7¾
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	PER PIECE.	1 40 to 1 47½
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches		1.57½ to 1.77½
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches		2.00 to 2 27½
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches		2 47½ to 2 67½

WOOLLENS.

Flannel	PER YARD.	$0.30 to 0 45
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best		0 30 to 0 35
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium		0 25 to 0.29
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common		0.19 to 0.25
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches		0.13 to 0 19
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches		0 55 to 0 50
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches		0.60 to 0 65
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches		0 40 to 0 70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 4 to 3½ lb, per lb		0 45 to 0 57½

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos 18 24, Ordinary	—
Nos. 16 24, Medium	—
Nos 16/24, Good to Best	—
Nos 16 24 Reverse	—
Nos 28 32 Ordinary	—
Nos 28 32 Medium	—
Nos 28 32 Good to Best	—
Nos 38/42, Medium to Best	—
No. 32s, Two fold	—
No. 42s, Two-fold	—
No 20s, Bombay	Nom. —
No 16s, Bombay	Nom —

METALS.

Flat Bars, after enjoying a slight intermittent demand, again hang fire. Wire Nails of various lengths are in moderate request. Other lines are without enquiry.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ½ inch	$3 60 to 3 70
Flat Bars, ¾ inch	3 70 to 3 75
Round and square up to ¾ inch	3.15 to 3 25
Iron Plates, assorted	3.00 to 3.15
Sheet Iron	3.90 to 4 10
Galvanized Iron sheets	7.00 to 7.35
Wire Nails, assorted	5 00 to 5 45
Tin Plates, per box	5 70 to 6.00
Pig Iron, No 3	1.40 to 1 41½

KEROSENE.

The situation in this market remains unchanged. Only a very small business has been transacted, buyers being few and their requirements small. No fresh arrivals reported.

Chester	$1 67½ to 1 72½
Comet	1 65 to 1 67½
Devoe	—
Russian Anchor	1 67½ to 1 70
Russian Moon	1 62½ to 1.65

SUGAR.

Browns show no sign of revival and the small business done has been principally confined to Manila grades. A heavy arrival of Takao has had no influence on the market, it having been contracted for while afloat. Whites have experienced a light demand.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	$4 70 to 4 80
Brown Manila	5.25 to 5.30
Brown Daitong	5.40 to 5.60
Brown Canton	4.10 to 4 40
White Java and Penang	6.60 to 6.70
White Refined	7 55 to 9 20

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last was of the first instant. Since that date settlements on this market amount to 888 piculs, divided thus: *Hanks*, 2 piculs; *Filatures*, 478 piculs; *Re reels*, 351 piculs; *Kakeda*, 53 piculs; *Hamatsuki*, 4 piculs. In addition to these figures, direct shipments have been 34 bales, making the total export trade equal to 925 piculs.

There has been rather more enquiry, resulting in increased settlements and Japanese have taken advantage of this to ask higher prices. In some cases they have succeeded in getting $10 advance, but buying as yet is far from general, although a new purchaser has taken a hand and is said to be operating on behalf of a wealthy London firm. As we pointed out last week, we did not see how prices could recede much further; but at the same time, consuming markets have not yet settled down to work, especially that of New York, where confusion still reigns supreme. The money question must evidently be settled before any regular trade will result in that direction.

Exchange is again lower, following the silver prices wired out from home, although we close at a trifle above the lowest point touched during the week.

There have been two shipping opportunities since we last wrote, the English mail steamer *Verona*, 2nd instant, taking 566 bales for Europe, and the American mail steamer *Peru*, 5th instant, carrying 169 bales for New York. These departures make the present export figures 4,926 piculs against 10,608 piculs last year, and 9,153 piculs at the same date in the previous season.

Hanks.—Some business has been done, though not yet included in the returns, *Shinshu Shimare* being mentioned at $580; *Maibash* at $570. Nothing done in *Hachoji* since last advices.

Filatures.—The demand has been increased by special circumstances, and holders have succeeded in raising quotations about $10 all round. Considerable parcels of *Shinshu* are in treaty at $760 to $810, according to quality and size. *Koshu*, full size, has brought $745, with medium *Shinshu* at $730. In fine silks, a few boxes super-excellent are noted at $910, with good No. 1 silks at $850.

Re-reels.—A comparatively large business has been done in these, and prices have advanced from the lowest point chronicled a week ago; in fact, one enthusiastic buyer has paid as much as $700 for a few boxes Joshu *Kaura*; other purchases of the same chop have been made at $690, with *Five Girl* at the same price. Some good *Soshu*, which could have been done a week ago at $620, have changed hands at $645, and prices are certainly stronger all round.

Kakeda.—These also have benefitted to the extent of about $10 per picul, although there has not been a very large business done. *One Horsehead* are booked at $690, with *Girl* chop at $680.

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Oshu.—Nothing done beyond a few samples of *Hamatsuki*, of which the price has not yet transpired.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK).

Hanks—No 1	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	$600 to 620
Hanks—No. 2½ (Shinshu)	580 to 590
Hanks—No. 2½ (Joshu)	570 to 575
Hanks—No 2½ to 3	560 to 565
Hanks—No. 3	550 to 555
Hanks—No. 3½	540 to 545
Filatures—Extra 10 12 deniers	890 to 900
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	770 to 780
Filatures—No 1, 10/13 deniers	840 to 850
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14 16 den	740 to 750
Filatures—No 1½, 10/14 deniers	810 to 820
Filatures—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 den	720 to 730
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	780 to 790
Filatures—No. 2, 14 18 deniers	700 to 710
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—(Oshu) Best No. 1	—
Re-reels—No 1, 13/15, 13/16 deniers	690 to 700
Re-reels—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	680 to 685
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	640 to 650
Re-reels—No 2½, 14 18 deniers	620 to 630
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Kakedas—Extra	740 to 750
Kakedas—No.	710 to 720
Kakedas—No. 1½	680 to 690
Kakedas—No. 2	650 to 660
Kakedas—No 2½	620 to 630
Kakedas—No. 3	590 to 600
Kakedas—No. 3½	—
Kakedas—No 4	—
Oshu Sendai—No. 2½	—
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	—
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	—
Sofai—No 2½	—

Export Raw Silk Tables to 8th Sept., 1893.—

Season 1893-1894.	1892-93.	1891-92.
	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.
Europe	3,749	4,798	3,525
America	1,070	5,624	5,371
Total Bales	4,819	10,422	8,896
Total Piculs	4,926	10,608	9,153
	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Settlements and Direct Export from 1st July	5,900	12,450	10,500
Stock, 8th September	9,800	6,800	9,000
Available supplies to date	15,700	19,250	19,500

WASTE SILK.

Settlements for the week are 1,379 piculs: *Pierced Cocoons*, 1,104 piculs; *Noshi*, 275 piculs. No direct export this week. Dealers are still very strong in their demands, and this has prevented any business in *Waste* on a large scale, the transactions in *Cocoons* which we mentioned a week ago being responsible for nearly five sixths of our settlement list.

There have been two shipping opportunities. The *Verona*, 2nd instant, had 48 bales and the *Myrmidon*, 5th instant, 25 bales, all for Europe. The German mail now in port is expected to have some fairly large shipments for Trieste, which will be included in our next issue. The present export figures are 1,023 piculs, against 2,554 piculs last year, and 1,820 piculs at the same date in the previous year.

Pierced Cocoons.—Nothing more has been done since our advices last week, but the purchases then mentioned have been weighed up and sellers are looking for more buyers for the balance of their stock.

Noshi.—A small business only; *Oshu*, good quality, $150; *Filature*, best, $160; *Joshu*, ordinary to good, at from $74 to $86.

Kibiso—Not a single line this week. The quality of *Hira* sorts is very poor and mixed, dealers stopping all business by the high prices which they demand. *Filatures* look better in quality, but at present there would seem to be no orders in the market.

In other sorts, nothing to remark.

QUOTATIONS—(NEW WASTE).

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	$130 to 140
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	160 to 165
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	150 to 155
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	140 to 145
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	150 to 155
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	130 to 135
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	120 to 125
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	110 to 115
Noshi-ito—Bushu, Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	90 to 95
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	80 to 85
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	70 to 75
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	—
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	—
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Good to Fair	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Middling to Common	—
Kibiso—Hachoji, Good	—
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	—
Kibiso—Nezi, Good to Common	—
Mawata—Good to Best	—

Export Table Waste Silk to 8th Sept., 1893.

Season 1893-94	1892-93.	1891-92
	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs
Waste Silk	989	2,553	1,820
Pierced Cocoons	34	1	—
	1,023	2,554	1,820
	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs
Settlements and Direct Export from 1st July	3,000	2,400	3,500
Stock, 8th September	13,700	14,200	12,500
Available supplies to date	16,700	16,600	15,000

Exchange has declined again in sympathy with Silver prices at home, and closes a point above the lower quotations of the week:—LONDON, 4m/s Credits, 2/6; Documents, 2/6½. NEW YORK, 30d/s. U.S. $60½; 4m/s. U.S. $61¼. PARIS, or LYONS, 4m/s. fcs. 3.17.

Estimated Silk Stock, 8th Sept., 1893:—

Raw.	Piculs.	Waste.	Piculs.
Hanks	170	Cocoons	2,100
Filatures	5,780	Noshi-ito	5,700
Re-reels	2,680	Kibiso	5,360
Kakeda	1,120	Mawata	70
Oshu	20	Sundries	470
Tsuzuum Kinds	30		
Total piculs	9,800	Total piculs	13,700

TEA.

No life in this market. A very small business has been transacted and holders are conceding still further in their prices. The unsatisfactory condition of the home markets coupled with the poor quality of the stock on offer here accounts for the small business doing.

	Per Picul.
Common	$12 to 13
Good Common	14 to 15
Medium	16 to 17
Good Medium	18 to 19
Fine	20 to 22
Finest	23 to 25
Choice	26 to 28
Choicest	30 to 33

EXCHANGE.

Rates have recovered somewhat and at the week's end close firm.

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	2/5⅞
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	2/5⅞
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	2/6
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	2/6⅛
On Paris—Bank sight	3 09
On Paris—Private 4 months' sight	3.18
On Hongkong—Bank sight	Par
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	¼ % dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	73
On America—Bank Bills on demand	59⅛
On America—Private 30 days' sight	60⅛
On America—Private 4 months' sight	61⅛
On India—Bank sight	Nominal.
Silver	34

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Visitors to Kowaki-dani who bring a rod with them will be shown the haunts of the speckled Trout, a nice stream of several miles in length being within easy walking distance of the Hotel; Hakone Lake is also well stocked with a variety of fish, including salmon, and the Fishing is FREE; while Entomologists will find rare and valuable specimens in the surrounding hills, and the Flora of the district is extremely interesting to the Botanist.

Apartments may be secured by Letter or Telegram, and Special arrangements made for the conveyance of Visitors and Baggage from the Tramway Terminus at Yumoto, by addressing

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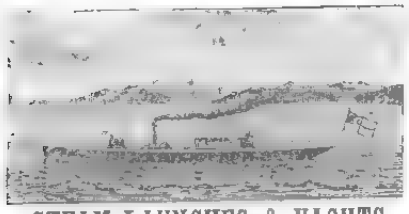

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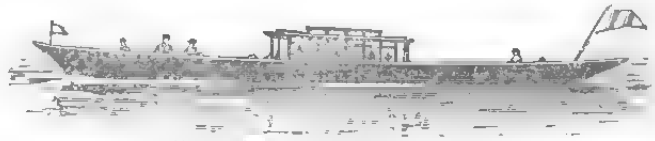

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A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, SEPT. 16TH, 1893

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE epidemic of dysentery shows no signs of abatement.

THE Soma affair is still engaging the attention of the Judicial officers in Tokyo.

MR SONE ARASUKE, Japanese Minister to France, arrived at Paris on the 11th inst.

COUNTESS YAMAGATA died in the capital on Tuesday, after a protracted illness.

MR. J. F. LOWDER has presented a handsome consolation prize to the Sailing Club.

MR. KOSUGI GAZO has been promoted President of the Osaka Marine Court of Inquiry.

THE Government granted a charter on the 7th inst. to the promoters of the Boso Railway Co.

THEIR IMPERIAL HIGHNESSES PRINCESSES TSUNE and KANE returned to Tokyo on the 12th inst. from Nikko.

PROFESSOR WEST'S *Daimyo* secured the winning gun in Saturday's Sailing Race for the A Division boats.

A MAN was run over and killed by a train on the Akabane and Shinjuku Section during the night of the 7th inst.

OVER two hundred workmen at the Naval Gun and Arms Factory, Akabane, Tokyo, were lately dismissed.

JUDGE KURIZAKA SEIGO, of the Court of Cassation, who has been in America for some time, returned home on Monday last.

THE Japanese officers and seamens, who have been commissioned to bring home the Japanese cruiser *Yoshino* lately constructed at Newcastle, England, arrived at their destination, and embarked on board the *Yoshino* on the 31st of August last. This cruiser is one of the fastest afloat.

THE Brazilian Embassy to China, *re* the sending of Chinese coolies to Brazil, passed through Yokohama *en route* to Peking, on Monday.

THE cool weather is inducing most of the inland visitors to return to their homes in town, although several of the health resorts still report crowded hotels.

THE amount saved through the dismissal of three hundred and fifty workmen at the Yokosuka shipbuilding yard amounts to over *yen* 30,000.

THE *Sakata Maru* is still buried in the sand to a depth of about five or six feet. It is expected, however, that she will be floated in about a week.

THE Japanese representative in Italy and Mrs' Nakajima, returned on leave of absence, owing to the ill health of the latter, on Monday by the *Empress of Japan*.

THE water-frolics of the aquatic members of the Yokohama Amateur Rowing Club took place on Tuesday afternoon. The weather was chilly with a nasty choppy sea.

MR. HOSOKAWA JUNJIRO, President of the Female Higher Normal School, has been appointed Chief Commissioner of the Private Records Bureau in the Imperial Household.

DURING last month the Osaka Mint struck coins to the following amount:—Gold 5-*yen* pieces, *yen* 154,000; silver 1-*yen* pieces, *yen* 662,000; and silver 10-*sen* pieces, *yen* 372,500.

AN explosion of gas took place in one of the Horachi coal mines, Hokkaido, about six o'clock in the afternoon of the 3rd inst. and three workmen were more or less severely injured.

THE Otsu Branch of the Radical Party was formally inaugurated on the 8th inst. in the presence of Messrs. Hoshi Toru, Kataoka Kenkichi, and many other *Jiyu-to* members.

MR. KIM, the Korean Minister Resident, proceeded to the Palace on the 12th inst. at 10 a.m., and presented his credentials to the Emperor. He was afterward received in audience by the Empress.

THE Minstrel Troupe on board the U.S. Flagship *Lancaster* gave a very enjoyable entertainment on Thursday evening, at which the officers and men of other men-of-war in harbour were present.

A WHOLESALE suspension of newspapers took place on the 8th inst. Among those falling under the ban were the *Osaka Mainichi Shimbun*, *Gifu Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, and *Shizuoka Minyu Shimbun*.

MR. SHIMADA SABURO, a leading member of the *Kaishin-to*, has resigned his position on the Steel Foundry Investigation Committee, and the seat rendered vacant by his resignation has been filled by Mr Asaka Michitaka.

COUNT KURODA, Minister of Communications, has issued a notification to the effect that a report from the International Telegraph Office has been received that telegraphic communication to Brazil, in South America, has been interrupted in consequence of the political troubles in that country.

MR. KONISHI SHIMPACHI has been appointed Director of the Tokyo Blind and Dumb School, while Mr. Uno Hogara has been made President of the University Hospital at Hongo, and Mr. Terao Hisashi, Director of the Astronomical Observatory attached to the College of Science.

DURING a gale on the afternoon of the 4th inst., which overtook fourteen fishing boats off Kamo, in the West Tagawa District of Yamagata Prefecture, one man was drowned, thirteen were injured, and six are missing.

THE 11th instant being the Birthday of the Czar, Marquis Nabeshima, Grand Master of Ceremonies, was despatched by the Emperor to the Russian Legation to tender his congratulations on the occasion.

NEWS has reached the capital that *yen* 60,000 of the Korean indemnity was handed by Mr. Sugiura, Japanese *Chargé d'Affaires* in Korea, to Mr. Kajiyama Shinsuke, representative of the Japanese merchants in the peninsular kingdom.

VISCOUNT KAGAWA KEIZO, Grand Master of Services to H.I.M. the Empress, has been permitted by the Decorations Board to accept a decoration of the First Class of the Order of the Iron Crown, conferred on him by the Austro-Hungarian Emperor.

AT last, after many weary weeks of inaction, the clouds are beginning to show a slight silver lining upon the business horizon bounding this port. Several branches of the Import trade give signs of decided improvement, among them Italian Cloths, which have moved off at a fair pace and at prices which indicate an advance. The enquiry for other Woollens is also good, the decided drop in the temperature during the last few days inducing country buyers to set about re-stocking. In Metals, Wire Nails were in fair demand and all other lines, with the exception of Pig Iron show a slight rise in price. Kerosene is dull, buyers refusing to operate; holders, however, are firm, being assured of the best of the deal, as the long nights of autumn are now at hand and demand should soon be brisk. During the week two large shipments of Russian and American oil came into port and stocks are greatly increased. Owing to concessions on the part of holders of Sugar, Manila Browns have moved off rapidly; but Takao and Whites are unnoticed just at present. The Tea market has witnessed a revival, buyers operating on a fair scale for fine and medium sorts. Prices are firm but the stock of these grades is very limited. For a few days at the beginning of the week Silk was very active, and for a moment it looked as though the good times of last year were returning. Japanese holders were confident and tried to push up prices. But the spurt proved illusive, and now prices are down to what they were a week ago and enthusiasm has completely evaporated. The principal business has been in the fine-sized silks for Europe, over 700 bales leaving port for Lyons by the outgoing mails. The stock is now over 10 000 piculs, and as there is plenty more silk up country waiting to be sent down, holders are anxious to be moving again. Some speculative buying for the States is to be noted, buyers expecting to get a good return when American houses re-enter the market. Dealers refuse to reduce quotation for Waste and thereby hinder the execution of many orders, but buyers are operating freely in Pierced Cocoons at from $125 to $135. The export of silk to date is, Raw: 5,799 piculs against 11,160 piculs year, and 11,053 piculs in 1891. Waste: 2,016 piculs, against 2,639 piculs last year, and 2 539 in 1891. The falling-off in the export of Raw is very noticeable now.

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THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The situation remains unaltered. The rumours about changes in the Cabinet have gradually died out, and the press seems to believe that they originated with crafty politicians. It is now reported that the Cabinet resolved at a recent meeting not to make any change in its composition at the present juncture, but to await the development of events in the approaching session of the Diet. What exact measure of truth is contained in this rumour, we do not pretend to say, but the public may now rest assured, that for the present there is no occasion to look for a change in the *personnel* of the Ministry.

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Administrative reforms, it is said, will soon be carried out, but the delay that has already taken place, though unavoidable, has made the public impatient of further postponement. The *Jiji Shimpo*, noticing this fact, urges the Government to hasten the announcement of the reforms that have been engaging its attention during the past few months. Some people are astonished at the inactivity of the Ministry and believe it to be due to want of a definite line of policy. But our contemporary is of a different opinion. Composed as it is of able men, the Cabinet, in the *Jiyu's* opinion, has no doubt a well-conceived policy, and is only awaiting a favourable opportunity to carry it out. Its position may be compared to that of a leading actor, who, conscious of his skill, spends much time in the preparation of the stage scenery. Like such an actor, the Cabinet is desirous of making everything ready for the rise of the curtain. But if it delays too long, it will tire people just as long intervals between acts weary an audience. Consequently, if the Cabinet does not soon announce the results of its deliberations on the subject of reforms, the *Jiji* fears that popular prejudice may be provoked against reforms before they are carried out. Moreover the Cabinet cannot be sure that dissension will not arise with n itself. So from every point of view, it seems politic for the Government to make haste in carrying out these reforms and completing other preparations for the coming struggle.

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Concerning the position of the Radical party, nothing has occurred to make it necessary for us to modify the views expressed in our last Weekly Summary. In the first number of the Radical organ which appeared after the removal of the ban of suspension, Count Itagaki defends the position of his party. But he only repeats what he has declared in public on more than one occasion since the close of the session of the Diet. What surprises one at first sight is that, after what recently took place, the Radical leader should write in such a moderate and sober tone. Is it to be inferred from this that the Radical Party will remain as friendly to the Government as before? It does not seem permissible to draw such a conclusion, for in the very next editorial, the Radical organ writes strongly against the Government, and declares that the summary method adopted by the authorities for its suspension has opened its eyes to the fact that it had hitherto overrated the character of the present Cabinet. It now declares its intention of directing its energies toward the removal of such open enemies of freedom of public discussion. If there be any solid meaning in the words used by our contemporary, we cannot but conclude that its attitude towards the Government has essentially changed. At the same time, it must be noticed that there are people who think the big words employed by the *Jiyu* to be simply a disguise under which that paper tries to hide the true position of its Party. For our own part, we are inclined to credit the sincerity of what our contemporary writes.

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The *Jiji Shimpo* is one of the journals that expects the Radicals to surprise the public by the violence of their attack upon the Government in the coming session of the Diet. What is the cause of that Party's growing strength and popularity? It cannot be either the principles professed by it or the ability of its members, for in these respects the Radicals have little or nothing to make them superior to other politicians. The *Jiji* believes that the consistency shown by the Radicals in their opposition to the Government has raised them to their present position. The day that they abandon this policy will be the day of their political extinction. No one knows that better than the Radicals themselves. They will consequently try to vindicate their honour next session by attacking the Government with unusual bitterness. The *Jiji* admits that there may be some politicians in the Radical camp, who for reasons best known to themselves will endeavour to ingratiate themselves with those in power. But our contemporary warns the Cabinet against the false representations of such interested politicians. The Cabinet's only hope lies in the antagonism between the Radicals and the Progressionists, but even there our contemporary is disposed to find little ground of hope for those in power, inasmuch as the ultimate object of the two parties being similar, they may yet co-operate in attacking the Government.

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In reply to the charge that the Progressionist policy is destructive, the *Mainichi Shimbun* explains that its Party is firmly convinced of the general demoralization of the military, as well as the civil, service, and that, consequently, it will not sanction anything more than what is absolutely necessary for the bare existence of the Government. To let the Government have supplies for new undertakings is, in the Progressionist organ's opinion, to put it in a position to repeat the disastrous blunders it committed in connection with the disbursement of the relief fund to the sufferers from the great earthquake in Gifu and Aichi, in the construction of war vessels, in the surveys of railways, and so forth. Such in brief is the drift of the article. It enables us to realise the sentiments entertained by the Progressionists towards the Government.

* * *

The Minister of Education is perhaps the most popular of the Ministers of State at present. It is indeed a remarkable circumstance that a member of the present Cabinet should be praised by the Progressionist organs. The *Hochi Shimbun* is glad to observe that Mr. Inouye Ki's views on the subject of educational reforms coincide with its own. According to its information, Mr. Inouye proposes to change the different Higher Middle Schools into ordinary Universities and to considerably change the organization of the Middle Schools. At present, Primary Schools and the Middle Schools are constituted on the basis of preparation for higher institutions of education. Consequently it is observed that boys graduating in these elementary schools are not yet fit for any walk of life. The present Minister of Education's idea is to change the curriculum of the schools so that their graduates may be equipped to begin life at once without passing to higher institutions. At the same time, the curriculum in the different Colleges composing the Imperial University is to be considerably lowered; such graduates in these Colleges as may desire to pursue their studies further being allowed to do so in the University Hall. Our contemporary expects Mr. Inouye to disregard the objections which some persons may be disposed to make to the reforms projected by him, and at the same time advises the public in general to give him hearty support in carrying out his programme.

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There are indications that the reforms which the Minister of Education has already introduced and those which he is reported to have in contemplation, are not favourably received by a class of educators in Tokyo under the lead of Mr. Tsuji Shuji, ex-Vice Minister of Education and President of the Japan Educational Society. Mr. Isawa Shuji, formerly Director of a Bureau in the Department of Education, is also said to be strongly opposed to Mr Inouye. The *Choya Shimbun* severely criticises the conduct of these gentlemen, calling it absurd and irrational. The principal point of their opposition is understood to be that Mr. Inouye is bent upon reducing the scope of the different educational institutions, but it is alleged that the critics do not take the trouble to explain why such a measure is undesirable.

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The metropolitan papers, especially that belonging to the Progressionist Party, are making much noise about the importance of forming a league for a thorough revision of the Newspaper Regulations, especially with a view to the abolition of the clause providing for arbitrary suspension. The *Mainchi Shimbun*, writing on this subject, complains of the frequency of suspensions under the present Cabinet. The duration of each particular suspension is now much shorter than formerly, but the power of suspension is exercised more frequently than ever. Our contemporary calls upon all the newspapers throughout the county to unite their forces and bring pressure to bear upon the Houses of the Diet next session.

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The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* opposes the abolition of the provision relating to suspension, holding it to be absolutely necessary in the present stage of journalistic progress in Japan. There may be cases of the law's abuse, but abuse does not constitute a sufficient ground for abolition. It is customary with the vernacular papers to say that suspension is a relic of despotism and contrary to the spirit of the Constitution. The Constitution, says the *Nichi Nichi*, plainly provides that liberty of speech shall be enjoyed within the limits of law. As to the alleged despotism, the Opposition papers are reminded that the same provision of law is in force in every civilized country of Europe. Our contemporary thinks that the Government is open to a charge of neglect of duty because it does not exercise its authority in behalf of public morals as frequently as is desirable. Unfortunately, the present condition of publication, whether journalistic or otherwise, demonstrates the necessity of some check of the nature of suspension.

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Concerning the much talked-of project for opening a steamship service between Japan and Bombay, it was reported some time ago that, there being lack of combination among the owners of the spinning factories, the project had little prospect of realization. But we are now informed that there is a hope of the service being opened. It is stated that many of the proprietors of the Japanese spinning factories refuse to join the league for supporting the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, because they expect that, in the event of the opening of the line, the P. & O. Steamship Company will lower its freight to a point below that promised by the Japanese company, and they wish to take full advantage of the competition. The vernacular press earnestly calls upon these persons to join the league and stand by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha. By taking skilful advantage of the competition, they may be able to obtain temporary profits, but they are reminded that, if they refuse to join the league, the projected line may not be opened, or, if opened, may not be continued, and that they will then be compelled to pay for ever the present high rate of freight charged by the P. & O. Company.

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The Nobles' Bank (XVth National) is the subject of considerable discussion in the vernacular press. The *Jiyu Shimbun* has devoted several articles to the question of redeeming the debt of 10,000,000 *yen* owed to the Bank by the Government on which 7% per cent. interest is paid. We have already referred to these articles. The question, what should be done with the Bank upon the expiration of its business term in 1897, has engaged the attention of the *Jiji Shimpo* and the *Kokumin Shimbun*. The latter paper recommends the noble shareholders to dissolve the bank, for "there is not a man among the *kazoku* capable of conducting so big a concern on a private basis without State protection. The *Jiji* also recommends the nobles to dissolve the bank and devote the capital to the purchase of Government railway lines, thus transforming the Bank into a railway company. The possession of such lines would be more profitable and secure than the continuation of the Bank as a private concern.

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EDITORIAL NOTES.

CURRENT TOPICS.

THE conference which the Privy Councillors held on Friday last has given rise to various absurd rumours. Some papers state that the meeting was convened to discuss some important questions concerning the defence of the country, while others suppose that Treaty Revision was the principal topic of consideration. None of these rumours are trustworthy, for according to a reliable information, the subject of deliberation at the meeting of the 8th instant related to comparatively trivial matters, which had no connection whatever with current politics.

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Rumour also has it Count Yamagata is so discontented with the result of the labours of the Administrative Reforms Investigation Committee, that he intends to resign. Marquis Tokudaiji's recent visit to him has been interpreted into a sign that his well-known attitude on the subject of reforms causes some anxiety to the Emperor. But we are assured by well-informed persons that the Grand Chamberlain's visit to the President of the Privy Council was simply to ask, by the Emperor's order, the latter's opinion on some questions relating to the amendment of the Organization of the Department of War.

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Another baseless rumour is that Count Itagaki paid a visit to Count Okuma on the 7th inst.

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It being understood that the administrative reforms will be carried out in a few days, the Opposition politicians are stated to be organizing a grand lecture meeting to be held immediately upon the announcement of the reforms. It is a foregone conclusion that they will be dissatisfied with the changes about to be introduced.

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It is further reported that the Progressionists are opposed to the appointment of members of the Houses of the Diet to the various Committees created by the present Cabinet. A similar view is said to be held by many Radicals. They are opposed to the measure because, as we understand, they apprehend that the presence of their fellow members in these Committees may sometimes compel them to approve the measures proposed by such Committees, and that the field of opposition to the Government may in this way be greatly curtailed.

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It is reported that the Government will appoint a Commission to investigate the silver question with reference to the special requirements of Japan. The Commission will be composed of members of both Houses of the Diet, officials, and private individuals versed in the subject.

* * *

The Radical leaders left the capital yesterday morning on their long talked-of tour in Kyushu. The principal members of the party, including Count Itagaki, Mr Hoshi, Mr. Kono, Mr. Matsuda and others, held a meeting on the previous day to consult about the course to be pursued in the forthcoming campaign in Kyushu. Mr Hoshi will be assisted in the tour by Mr Kanamori Tsurin, Mr. Matsuda by Mr. Tatekawa Umpei, and Mr. Kono Hironaka by Mr. Tatsuno Shuichiro. It is to be noticed that these gentlemen are all immediate followers of Mr. Hoshi.

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A novel method of deciding a journalistic controversy has been tried by local papers at Mito. There are two papers there, the *Ibaraki* and the *Ibaraki Nippo*, representing the two hostile parties of the place. The controversy arose out of the change of *personnel* in the Chiefship of the Kako District, the *Ibaraki* taking up the cause of the old, and the *Ibaraki Nippo* that of the new occupant of the post As usually happens in a small place, the controversy soon degenerated into a fierce personal quarrel. The two editors finally arranged to lay down their pens and discuss the points at issue once for all by word of mouth. The meeting took place in the presence of a certain barrister, and the discussion was taken down by a stenographic reporter. It seems that the quarrel was in this way brought to a satisfactory conclusion, as nothing has since been heard about it.

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Mr. Hoshi, who was recently lecturing in the Prefecture of Shiga, had a narrow escape from the attack of a gang of *soshi* at Otsu. While he was speaking at a meeting, the *soshi* gathered about the premises in a suspicious manner. The police detectives found out that these desperate youths were bent upon attacking Mr. Hoshi on his way back. A strong body of constables was at once despatched to the place, and under their protection Mr. Hoshi safely reached his *yadoya*.

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Mr. Oishi, who shortly leaves for the West, entertained his friends at the Kamesei-ro, Yanagibashi, Tokyo, on the 11th instant. A large number of members of the Diet, officials, and private persons of note were present.

PROGRESSIONISTS AT SENDAI.

THE Progressionists of the North-East held a grand meeting at Sendai on the 2nd instant. The object of the meeting was two-fold, to discuss current events and to celebrate the establishment of a branch office of the party at that place. Those present numbered more than three hundred, including several distinguished members from Tokyo, such as Messrs. Shimada Saburo, Asaka Yoshitaka, Maruyama Meisei, Sudo Rikuzo, and Takagi Morisaburo. Mr. Okuma Hidemaro, son of Count Okuma, happening to be on his way back from Hokkaido, also attended the meeting. The first business was the passing of the regulations of the branch office, and the appointment of managers, after which Count Okuma's address was read by his son. He congratulated his followers on the growing prosperity of the party, and alluded with much satisfaction to the steady adherence of its members, amidst the malicious attacks of their enemies and under the cruel persecution of laws, to their original programme which consisted in opposition to family government and to the maintenance of constitutional principles. In conclusion, he praised the zeal and industry with which his followers had striven to promote the prosperity of the party. Mr. Shimada and a few others then delivered speeches. Congratulatory addresses and telegrams from various parts of the country were read by Mr. Sakurada Moriakira The number of persons who applied for admission into the party on the same day is said to have been above one hundred, many of them being members of Local Assemblies and Headmen.

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On the next day, the 3rd, the Progressionists held a lecture meeting at the Sendai theatre. The audience numbered more than three thousand, the principal speakers being Messrs Shimada Saburo, Sudo Rikuzo, Maruyama Meisei, Asaka Yoshitaka, and several others. Four of them were ordered by the police to leave the platform without completing their addresses The meeting is said to have been on the whole very satisfactory.

DEFRAUDING A TEMPLE.

OF recent years tales of priests surreptitiously selling temple treasures for their own pecuniary profit have been distressingly frequent. Japanese journals are at present full of a nefarious scheme perpetrated on the priests of a certain temple, called the So Ji-ji, in the Minami-Adachi District, Tokyo, by which a famous treasure was stolen from their custody. The temple is dedicated to Kobo Daishi, a noted priest and founder of the Japanese alphabet. Within the shrine hung a *gaku*, 6 ft. by 8 ft., painted by Hokusai, the subject being Kobo Daishi, who is holding a sacred book while being tempted by a demon and guarded by a wolf. The painting is very old and the wear and tear of many generations have had their usual effect, even the name of the donor being indistinguishable. One of the devotees of the temple, Ito Kisuke, by name, living in Kanda, and his son a few days ago visited a teahouse near the temple in the company of a paper-hanger. Through the medium of the teahouse proprietor, Kisuke and his son informed the chief priest of the temple that a friend of theirs, represented to be a man of ample means and an earnest believer in Kobo Daishi, was desirous of repairing the delapidated *gaku* and had sent them as his representatives. The priest, all unsuspecting, at once handed the painting over to the men. The dishonest pair carried it to the latter's house in Nihonbashi, where it was ingeniously copied by a third-rate painter. The genuine Hokusai then found its way to a curio store in Asakusa where it changed hands for 150 *yen*. The copy they took to the priest who, knowing nothing of the transaction, was exceedingly pleased with the renovated painting. He accompanied the men to a repast, but as the revel was proceeding the police stepped up and arrested the culprits, to the great astonishment of the worthy priest.

PROSPECTS OF SPINNING IN JAPAN.

APPREHENSION exists, says the *Nichi Nichi*, that owing to the sudden development of the spinning industry, the supply may soon exceed the demand, and the disastrous consequences, natural to such a state of affairs, may entail heavy losses on those concerned. There is reason for some anxiety, if it be remembered that the spindles, which now number about 400,000 will be doubled by April next, while it is not unlikely, judging from the present condition of things, that new factories may be established, and the number of spindles reach a total of about a million in a year or two. Fortunately, there appears, from what our contemporary learns on high authority, to be no ground for alarm, as the development is in the direction of turning out threads of fine size instead of the full size which have hitherto been mostly produced. The Osaka Spinning factory were first in the field with fine-sized threads similar to the Indian article, and though not favourably received at the start, so steady has been the improvement ever since that the native product has virtually superseded the Indian in most places. This is not the case, however, with respect to the fine-size quality coming from England. Our workmen are not yet sufficiently advanced to affect significantly the import of English yarns; but it is confidently predicted, in view of what has been done with respect to the Indian, that it is only a matter of time. Those who regard the outlook with anxiety cannot know the real condition of affairs. Even if the sale be confined to Japan, the prospect is bright enough; how much more so must it be with the Chinese market open to our business men.

JAPANESE BUSINESS SCHOOL AT SHANGHAI.

ACCORDING to the *Fiji Shimpo*, Mr. Ara's Business School at Shanghai seems to be in a promising condition. Already eighty students are said to have graduated. They speak Chinese and English, and, as they allow their hair to grow long, they can at any moment dress their heads in the Chinese fashion and go about the country as freely as if they were native Chinamen.

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Connected with this school, there was recently opened a bazaar of Japanese manufactures, under the management of the graduates, who thereby endeavour to make themselves familiar with the needs and tendencies of the Chinese market. Branches of this bazaar are to be established at Tientsin, Hankow, and Canton. The managers of the bazaar will also take steps to keep the home manufacturers familiar with the requirements of the Chinese market.

PROPOSED SERVICE BETWEEN JAPAN AND MEXICO.

MR. TSUNEYA SEIFUKU, a member of the Japanese Colonization Society, has revived, says the *Mainichi* the formerly much-discussed question of regular steamship service with Mexico. Mr. Tsuneya seems to have had many interviews with the Mexican Ministers of State for Colonization and for Finance during his visit to

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the Republic some years ago to look into its capabilities as a field for Japanese emigration and commerce, with the result that his proposal to establish a general service between the two countries met with the approval of all parties. Evidently, however, the Mexicans would not come to a decision on the question of the subsidy required. Mr. Tsuneya's proposal is that the Japanese Government should grant a subsidy of *yen* 180,000 a year to the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, to run a steamer six times a year. This figure is based on an offer said to have been made by the Mexican Government, to a certain steamship Company for one service between a port on the Pacific Coast of the Republic and Hawaii, Japan, China, and the Philippine Islands; but, owing to want of funds, nothing ever came of it. Mr. Tsuneya's scheme will probably meet with the same fate in spite of his energy in pushing it forward. There are too many pressing demands for subsidies already in hand.

SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF ASIATIC COMMERCE.

THE rage for forming societies of all sorts has not yet died out. A new society styled the Association for the Protection of Commerce in Asia, has just been organised by Messrs. Oi Kentaro, Oyama Masatake, Goto Ryonosuke, and others of less celebrity. The following extracts from the prospectus will give some idea of its objects:—To give certain assistance to those who contemplate starting any commercial or other enterprise, if on enquiry, their aims are deemed reasonable and proper; that the Members shall be limited to 2,000,000, and the capital to *yen* 3,000,000, to be formed of the fees of ordinary members and by the special contributions of those interested in the Society A member's fee must not be below 50 *sen* or above 2 *yen* that six months shall be assigned as the term required for organizing the Society and if during that period the applications for membership reach thirty thousand, the Society shall be publicly inaugurated; if not, the time may be extended It is stated in the *Mainichi*, from which we take these particulars, that several members of both Houses of the Diet, Government officials, leading merchants, and so forth, have approved of the scheme. The temporary office is at Minami Konyacho, Kyobashi, where any one interested in the project may apply for admission.

FIRE IN HONGKONG.

DAMAGE to the extent of nearly $20,000 was done by a fire which took place in Second Street, Hongkong, on the night of the 25th ult. The fire broke out between eight and nine o'clock, and the whole building was soon ablaze. Turning out promptly, the Fire Brigade directed their efforts chiefly to confining the fire to the house in which it had originated. In this they were successful, but practically nothing was saved from the hong, which is occupied by the Kwan Mo as a tea storing and packing depot, with an adjunctory tea-box factory The damage to the stock is covered by insurance in the office of the Transatlantic Fire Insurance Company (Messrs. Siemssen and Co., agents), the policy being for $15,000. The fire was caused by a boy, who being sent by one of the masters of the shop to the cock-loft to get some clothes from a box, placed a kerosene lamp near a bundle of paper wrappers which caught fire.

JAPAN RAW SILK AT THE WORLD'S FAIR.

THE Doshin Silk Company of Yokohama have issued a Catalogue entitled "List of Exhibits of Japan Raw Silk at the World's Columbian Exposition." Besides a brief history of the silk industry in Japan, the Catalogue contains exquisite reproductions in collotype of the Trade Marks of the different exhibitors represented by the Company, and many of these are very quaint and pretty. From the history we learn that in the reign of the Emperor Keiko (A.D. 110), large tracts of land were laid out as mulberry farms and cultivated with great care Silk-worm eggs were first introduced into Japan from China in A.D. 196, but it was not until the end of the third century, when a large immigration from Korea took place, that silk-worm rearing and silk weaving made any marked progress. From that time forward the industry spread over a considerable part of the country, and the world is familiar with what its looms achieved in the ceremonial dresses of the nobility and the priesthood, the decoration of temples, etc. In 1860, an Englishman in Yokohama is said to have visited a store kept by one Shibaya, and purchased 300 catties of raw silk for one *bu*, per pound. At that time three *bu* were equal to one dollar! To Hayami Kenzo, a retainer of the Lord of Mayebashi is due the credit of having been the first to adopt European methods of silk reeling. He established a factory at Owatari, where two Swiss experts were engaged to instruct the people in the business. The brief review pays a tribute to the memory of Mr. Okubo, Minister of Home Affairs, who devoted so much attention to the development of the national industries. The Catalogue is a work of art in itself and reflects much credit upon the enterprise of the Doshin Silk Company.

REJECTION OF THE HOME RULE BILL.

THE House of Lords, as Reuter's telegram published in this issue informs us, has dealt with the Home Rule Bill exactly as the public expected. For many dreary weeks it was warmly debated in the Lower Chamber and its principal features were subjected to a trenchant criticism both in parliament and in the Press. There was little reason, consequently, for the House of Lords to re-open the thread-worn issues at length. But for all that, the Peers cannot be charged with unduly hastening its rejection. Its progress, from the moment that the House of Commons carried the measure through its third reading by the meagre majority of 34 votes, was strictly constitutional The Peers met at 1 o'clock in the morning to listen to the first reading and then appointed a date for the second reading debate. The only fragment of the discussion in the Upper Chamber which has yet reached us over the wires was the taunt thrown at the Government by the Duke of Argyle, who charged Her Majesty's Ministers with "bartering the Empire for a few votes." In the last division upon the Bill, the hereditary legislators, thoroughly realising the gravity of the situation, gathered in force, 460 recording their votes. According to Radical predictions in recent home papers, Mr. Gladstone's followers in the House of Lords, were expected to number at least 50. In the division of Friday, however, they could only muster 41 votes to the Opposition's 419, the majority against the Bill being, therefore, 378. A remarkable majority indeed.

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The question now arises, what will be Mr. Gladstone's next move? Some time back he announced his intention to call an autumn session, as a sop to the Moderate Liberals, who fear to return to their constituents with empty sates. The Ultra-Radicals would prefer an immediate dissolution so as to make the overthrow of the House of Lords a principal plank in the election platforms. Mr. Labouchere only desires a dissolution brought about through the Lords rejecting a British Bill! This is a revelation. Was not the Home Rule measure a British Bill? The lively Editor of *Truth*, by implication, says it was not. Then the claims put forward by the Disruption politicians that Mr Gladstone was returned to power by a majority of the electors of the British Isles to confer a Parliament on the Irish people was nothing but bluster and bunkum. No doubt within the course of a few days we shall hear what line of policy Mr Gladstone will adopt. Will it be an attempt to carry on the business of the nation until such time as some necessary domestic legislation has been accomplished and other arrears made up, or an immediate appeal to the country? We are inclined to think it will be the former.

FUNERAL OF THE LATE MARQUIS HOSOKAWA.

THE funeral of the late Marquis Hosokawa, the former chief of the Kumamoto clan, took place on the 9th instant. It was conducted according to *Shinto* rites. The procession left the family mansion at Takata, Koishikawa, at the appointed hour, 6 a.m. About eighteen hundred persons followed the hearse. Amongst the mourners were Prince Kujo, Prince Nijo, Marquis Mayeda, Marquis Satouji, Count Tsugaru, Marquis Nabeshima, Marquis Ikeda Ikimasa, Viscount Nagaoka, and other nobles and high dignitaries of State, as well as a large number of the deceased nobleman's former vassals, many of whom had specially come from Kumamoto for this purpose. A detachment of troops a so accompanied the procession as far as the Yayoikan, Shiba, where a short rest took place. The distance to be traversed being nearly eight miles, it was not before 12 that the procession arrived at the Tokaiji temple, Shinagawa. In the absence of the deceased's eldest son, who is studying in France, the office of chief mourner was discharged in his stead by his younger brother. Mr. Motoori officiated as High Priest. After a funeral oration, the last tribute of respect to the noble departed was paid by all present. A large number of doves and sparrows were then let free, a custom often followed in this country as a last act of benevolence in the name of the dead. It was nearly 3 o'clock when the ceremony was over and the party began to disperse.

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A large number of bouquets were presented by the deceased's friends and relatives, including Their Imperial Highnesses Prince Arisugawa and Prince Kitashirakawa, H.E. the Italian Minister, and many other Japanese and foreign notables.

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On the preceding day the Emperor graciously sent a Chamberlain to the Hosokawa Mansion, to condole with the bereaved family, and at the same time to bestow offerings to be placed before the coffin of the late Marquis.

ALCOHOL.

DR. LONGHURST in the *Westminster Review* delivers one of the most emphatic verdicts against alcohol we have ever read. "If we summarize," he says, "the most recent scientific conclusions as to alcohol and its action on the human system, they will be somewhat as follows: It is not found in Nature, nor provided by her as a necessity of animal life. It predisposes to disease; deranges the constitution of the blood; unduly excites the heart and circulation; paralyzes the minute blood-vessels; impairs the function of the digestive organs; disturbs the regularity of nerve-actions; lowers the animal temperature; lessens muscular power; is not a food; the highest health and longevity are attainable without it. With so much evidence of the evils of alcohol, and such scientific expressions against its use in the animal economy, it is high time that the profession of medicine should speak about it from the scientific aspect of the question. For a man to say that he takes alcohol because he likes it, regardless of the consequences to health which it entails, or the possibility of a drunkard's grave, is at any rate honest; but when he says that he takes it as a food, because his doctor tells him it is so, and is a necessity, then he defies science and brings a reproach on the profession of scientific medicine." The bars of clubs in the East would present a greatly changed aspect if Dr. Longhurst's creed found practical disciples.

A PROJECT FOR THE REDEMPTION OF THE BANK NOTES.

As the term of most of the National Banks will expire about 1897, the question of the redemption of the notes issued by them has already presented itself to the serious consideration of the Government and the bankers. It is stated that the banks will not then be in a position to redeem the notes, and that the bankers thought of applying to the Government to have the term prolonged for twenty years. Such a plan, however, is open to the charge of temporizing. The Authorities appear, from what the vernacular press say, to have devised a scheme which it is believed, will meet the peculiarly difficult situation in a way least likely to produce undesirable consequences. This is to let the

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banks sell the Government bonds owned by them so as to form a fund for redeeming their notes, a plan by which it is calculated they would derive a profit of from five to six million *yen*. The Bank of Japan would then issue convertible notes to the amount still required after the above fund has been appropriated for the object in view. These notes would be lent to the National Banks without interest, on the banks agreeing to repay them by yearly instalments, within a certain specified time. The *Jiji* points out that the arrangement is not to the advantage of the Nippon Ginko, but as the duty of maintaining order in the money market centres around that institution, it is said to have agreed to undertake the task. Naturally, the bankers prefer their own proposal to extend the term, but they also are said to have given their consent to the other, and it is hoped that a public announcement of the arrangement will shortly be made.

NATIONAL UNIONISTS AT OITA.

THE National Unionists and their sympathisers held a grand meeting yesterday at Oita, in Kyushu. According to a telegram received in Tokyo, the assembly numbered about 2,700 persons from all parts of the Western island, there being also a large number of distinguished visitors from Tokyo. Mr. Ando Kyukwa opened the meeting and explained the object for which it had been convened. The assembly then passed the following resolution:—"First, that this assembly recognizes that, in the present state of things in the interior, it is too early to allow mixed residence, and that, consequently, while endeavouring to oppose the opening of the interior, efforts should at the same time be made for preparing the country for mixed residence; secondly, that the provisions of the existing treaties should be strictly and strongly enforced; thirdly, that efforts should be made to promote the development of industries, the progress of liberal education, and the completion of military defences; and fourthly, that a grand meeting should be convened next year at Kagoshima. After passing the above resolutions, three cheers were given for the Emperor and the Empire. Fireworks and other open air displays usual on such occasions completed the functions of the day. The meeting which opened at 10 a.m. was closed at 1 p.m. Afterwards a lecture meeting was held at the Kyoraku-kan. Among those present at the morning meeting, we may mention Messrs. Imai Isoichiro, Ooka Ikuzo, Kashiwara Moribumi, Kayetan Nobuyuki, Maki Bokushin, Minaye Giichi, and Motoda Hajime.

RUSSIA AND CHINA IN THE PAMIRS.

A REPORT comes from Vienna, says a home exchange, that the Russian Government has resolved to demand an explanation from the Court of Peking concerning its attitude in the Pamirs. The St. Petersburg Cabinet is uneasy at the numbers of troops being concentrated in that neighbourhood. A correspondent at Berlin of the *Standard*, as a result of a conversation with a diplomatist who knows the subject, writes:—The Chinese Government appears to have gathered the impression that Russia intends to take possession of the Pamir region in the widest sense of the term. The ostensible motive is that the so-called scientific expeditions Russia has sent out there from time to time profess to have discovered in the Pamir Plateau enormous deposits of gold, silver, and coal, and these Russia would naturally want to have all to herself. But the secret and real reason is that Russia desires to gain a preponderating influence over Afghanistan on the one hand, and to be able to put strong pressure on China on the other in case of certain contingencies. China has learned so much of European civilisation during the last ten or twenty years that the times when she would give Russia enormous tracts of territory, like the Amour province, without the least compensation, are past for ever. Indeed, China no longer believes that she owes Russia some little gratitude for restoring to her the Kulja territory, for she now knows the Russia was compelled to give it back by the insurrection of the natives. In the present case, China has not the slightest intention of voluntarily ceding an inch of that part of the Pamirs that has always belonged to her, and is represented on all maps as a part of China. On the contrary, she is making the most comprehensive preparations for repelling, if necessary, by force of arms, every attempt at annexation there. She is massing troops on the frontiers of that province. Moreover, only the other day the Chinese Emperor received one of his generals, who is regarded as the best strategist in his service, and who proved his generalship even against European soldiers nine years ago, and to him his Celestial Majesty is reported to have announced his appointment to the command of the troops on the Pamirs. Immediately after the audience, the general began to make preparations to take up his new post, whose duties he may be expected very shortly to assume.

THE NOSHOMUSHO AND THE COMPANIES LAW.

THERE appears to be, according to the *Mainichi*, some difference of opinion between the Department of Agriculture and Commerce and the mercantile class with respect to the interpretation of the word "*Kiretsu*" in Art. 212 of the Companies Law, in connection with the payment of shares. The Department, rendering the word in the sense of "date," maintain that if the date for payment of shares is not specified, the bye-laws of a Company will not be sanctioned. This interpretation is opposed by business men, on the ground that great inconvenience would be felt by corporations whose capital is not all paid up at once, but only that portion considered necessary, the remainder being called in according to convenience or as occasion requires. The objections are obvious. A Company is obliged to raise the money when it is not wanted, or find itself unable to procure funds when a sudden emergency arises. A railway Company may have its construction work for certain distances far in advance of the prescribed time, and may desire to undertake new works at once, with no means of raising the necessary funds. So also with fire insurance Companies who may be confronted at any moment by a heavy demand upon their resources, and being powerless to call in the unpaid amounts due on the shares, be compelled either to borrow the money or to amend its bye-laws on every such occasion. On the other hand, a large amount of capital may come in when it is not wanted. Such grave inconveniences as well as minor ones have led business men to suggest that the word should be interpreted in the sense of "time," and the whole phrase taken to mean "the time required for the payment of shares." It is believed that this reasonable request will be agreed to.

COUNT OKUMA.

THE *Nippon* publishes an account of an interview which its representative had with Count Okuma. With reference to Treaty Revision, the Progressionist leader said:—"On this question I am a beaten general and do not like to discuss it. But I may observe that as this question is in itself a simple one and does not require elaborate investigation, I am at a loss to understand what Mutsu finds to investigate in it. When I was Minister of Foreign Affairs, Vice-Minister Aoki devoted himself to the management of the ordinary business of the Department, his principal work being the granting of passports to foreigners. I did not, however, on that account regard Aoki as incapable. On the contrary I thought he was an able man, and so I put him to the kind of business that suited him best. Mutsu was then at Washington as Japanese Minister, and seems to have been annoyed because I did not consult him, and indicated his wish to resign. But on being subsequently informed of my opinion of him, he gave up that idea, and devoted himself with zeal to the discharge of his official duties. Saionji also asked twice to be relieved of his functions. I had sole authority to deal with the Japanese Representatives in foreign countries." Then, speaking of the duties of a Minister of State, Count Okuma observed that a *Daijin* should never interfere with the details of administration. The frequency of changes in the *personnel* of the different Departments of State shows, in his opinion, that the Ministers of State meddle too much with trifling affairs. When he was in the Foreign Office, he did not pay any attention to business details. These he left in the hands of the Vice-Minister, and no change was made in the *personnel* of the Department, except the transfer of a single clerk to another place. With respect to the story about the manufacture of counterfeit paper money, the Progressionist leader proceeded as follows:—"The *Jiyu Shimbun* has promised to publish a realistic account of the affair. It is very likely that the Radical organ may have become possessed of some old scraps of paper which the *soshi* used at the time to read aloud in the streets for sale. This case occurred while I was Minister of Finance. It was on that occasion that, for the first as well as last time, I employed detectives, spending in all a little over 5,000 *yen* for the purpose. Mr. Ando Sokumei was the principal official charged with the police investigation. He showed great zeal in collecting evidence, but nothing criminating the suspected parties was forthcoming, except one or two ambiguous circumstances in their conduct. The affair remains a mystery to this day. Kido and Okubo are no longer, and what is the use of giving annoyance to those now in power by reviving the affair? It is a most cowardly and mean action. In my opinion, the *Jiyu* is simply repeating the blunder it made in giving too hasty credence to an anonymous document purporting to be a confession of one of the parties concerned in the murder of the late Viscount Soma." Lastly, speaking of the situation in the coming session of the Diet, Count Okuma laughed at the simplicity and ignorance of those persons who busy themselves in speculations as to the policy which the contending sides may pursue in the approaching struggle. Great men, he said, seldom decide beforehand on any fixed line of action. They simply shape their conduct in accordance with the course of events.

YOKOHAMA SPECIE BANK.

A GENERAL meeting of the shareholders of the Yokohama Specie Bank was held on Saturday afternoon. Mr. Soyeda, of the Finance Department, Superintendent of the Bank, an official from the Imperial Treasury Bureau, and one hundred and three shareholders were present. Mr. Sonoda Kokichi, President of the Bank, occupied the chair and dwelt briefly on the condition of the bank's business during the first half of the current year. The report for that period was then submitted and approved unanimously, the dividend being fixed at the rate of 14 per cent per annum.

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

	Yen.
Total income for the half-year	1,041,489.404
Current outlay	619,201.434
Balance	422,287.970
Brought forward from the previous account	29.920 762
Total of above two items	452,208.732
To Reserve fund	42,300.000
To Rewards	42,228 000
To Dividend at 14 per cent. per ann.	315,000 000
Reserve for building expenses	30,000.000
Carried forward to the next account	22,680.732

* * *

The Chairman's remarks were to the following effect. Agricultural plenty and unusual activity in the silk market last year raised in no small degree the purchasing power of the localities concerned, a fact to which was probably due the great increase in the import of foreign goods during the first half of the current year. As a set-off, however, there were the redemption of the Government bonds, the influx of silver from abroad, and the gradual appearance of the capital of the monied classes seeking investment, which naturally brought about a fall in the rate of interest. No bank could hope to escape from the influence of such a state of affairs, and the Specie Bank has suffered a diminution in the profits accruing from its business with the interior. The Chairman referred to the recent disorders in the money market caused by the collapse of the Australian Banks; the abolition of free coinage of silver in India, and

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the Sherman Bills in the United States. The Shanghai branch office of the Bank, opened on the 15th May last, showed satisfactory results. It had also been decided to open a branch in Bombay, but late events in the financial world, made him believe it prudent to wait until more normal conditions appeared. In conclusion, Mr. Sonoda referred to their method of dealing in bills of exchange by which purchases and sales are equalized, and no particular loss follows even a heavy fall in the price of silver. The Bank holds at its branch in London, gold to the amount of £500,000 sterling, as a fund for transactions in bills of Exchange. A large balance in favour of the Bank would accrue from converting this gold into silver at present market rates, but that would be a doubtful proceeding, and further, the fund was necessary.

PROJECTED LINE BETWEEN JAPAN AND BOMBAY.

THIS much talked of scheme of the Cotton Spinners' Association to establish a line of steamers between Japan and Bombay for facilitating the import of raw cotton, has fallen through. The question as to the number of ships for the service was apparently the cause of dissension amongst the members. The *Nichi Nichi* surmises that there was not much eagerness for the project when the spinners found that they could get raw cotton as cheaply and as easily under existing conditions as they could with a special direct line. But the larger-minded amongst them are resolved to carry out the idea at any cost, seeing in it not only benefit to themselves but to the nation at large. The Kamagafuchi, Osaka, and Miye Spinning Factories, the Nippon Cotton Company, and one other, representing a little less than one-seventh of those at the general meeting, have entered into fresh negotiations with the Nippon Yusen Kaisha on the basis of the programme drawn up at the Osaka meeting It appears, from the same authority, that the Union Spinners' Meeting appointed a committee to act as their representative.

RIOTING IN ENGLAND.

THE cable message printed in another column brings unpleasant tidings to Englishmen and Britishers generally. A few years ago London suffered from several incipient riots, during the course of one of which some parts of the West End were looted, but these were easily suppressed within the space of an ordinary working-day. With the exception of the Hull riots this year, a whole generation has passed away since the Midland counties were last convulsed by bread or strike riots. Indeed, it is even further back than this, and we have to retreat to the stirring period immediately preceding the repeal of the Corn Laws to find a parallel for the reign of terror that evidently prevails in Bradford and Wakefield. The coal famine of the early seventies, though productive of great distress everywhere in the manufacturing and mining districts of England, never led to such excesses of mob violence as Reuter's message suggests. The primary cause of the present outburst was undoubtedly the distress precipitated by the big miners' strike of August. The men struck against a reduction of 25 per cent. in their wages, urging that it was unfair that the producers should suffer alone in order that the mine-owner's profits might not be curtailed. The masters were firm, however, and the men continued on strike. The effect of the sudden stoppage of the collieries was quickly apparent. Mill-owners first put their workpeople on half, then quarter-time, and finally they were compelled to shut down altogether. It was the same with the foundries. Ironmaster after iron-master let out his fires, until but few furnaces were worked. As each mill, manufactory, and foundry closed, the crowds of unemployed were steadily augmented. Fortunately the summer in England has been most genial this year, and this no doubt has helped the working classes to tide over to a considerable extent the sea of terrible misfortune which has arisen in this year of grace. Strike-pay, however, cannot last for ever, be the funds ever so high in the Unions' treasuries. As time went on the weekly doles must of necessity have been cut down, and in some cases altogether stopped. Our telegrams of yesterday told of serious strike-riots in Yorkshire which the police had to put down with drawn cutlasses. Trade was also completely paralyzed, so that the two principal railways of the Central counties of England, the Midland, and the Manchester Sheffield and Lincolnshire had to stop running thirty and fifty trains daily, respectively. This statement spoke eloquently of the dismal state of affairs that prevailed in the strike districts. Still we were scarcely prepared for the news which to-day's telegram contains. The county police have evidently proved insufficient in number to overawe the starving people and a thousand men of London's picked constabulary—the finest body of police in the world—have been drafted down to their assistance. At Bradford and Wakefield, head centres of the weaving industry, things have come to a fearful pass. In the former town the troops were compelled to fire upon the mob, while 600 troops and 200 London policemen were marched into Wakefield where the well-to-do people have become so terrorised that they are afraid to leave their houses for fear of the mobs. It is hard to be hungry; but it is harder still to see the hopeless misery brought on loved ones through no fault of theirs, and feel unable to relieve that suffering. To such, life becomes a bitter mockery, and we cease to wonder that long brooding over misfortune in the end leads a man to commit acts of violence, which in happier days would be indignantly denounced. With the country in such a state, Mr. Gladstone dare not force a parliamentary dissolution—it would be madness to plunge the nation into further turmoil; and yet the times demand a man at the head of affairs in England who is not dominated by the one idea of meddling with Irish affairs to the exclusion of everything else, and who has for a Chancellor of Exchequer an aldermanic gentleman who can only crack unseemly jokes upon the silver question..

WATER WORKS.

THE project to supply the town of Kobe with water from the Nunobiki cascade has at last been decided, says the *Nichi Nichi*. For that purpose, a town loan of *yen* 950,000, bearing interest at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum, is to be raised, but as that amount is probably insufficient to cover the first outlay, Mr. Narutaki, Chairman of the Local Assembly, and Mr. Yokota, one of its members, are now in Tokyo, with the object of applying to the Government for the loan of *yen* 60,000 a year for 5 years, dating from the establishment of the works.

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When the Water-works were transferred from the control of the Kanagawa Kencho to the town of Yokohama, several conditions not provided for in the Water-works Regulations issued in 1890, were appended to the arrangement. One was that the town was held responsible for the repayment by annual instalments of the expenses of construction. The town has just been intimated by the Minister of State for Finance, that the three items under loan of volumeters, conducting volumetric experiments, and the private use of fire-cocks will be included in the list of liabilities to the Government.

A NOVEL SPORTING MATCH.

THE *Field* of July 29th, gives the following account of a novel sporting match which recently took place on the Links of the Felixstowe Golf Club:—"A match, golf-ball *versus* arrow, was played at Felixstowe on Tuesday between Mr. F W. Wilson, an old member of the club, and White, the young professional attached to the green. The first hole was won by the bow, Mr. Wilson laying his arrow almost dead in two. Two holes were then divided in four, but at the fourth the professional got level. At the next hole the bowman's arrow broke on the string when pulling for a long shot, and only flew a dozen yards, the golf ball thereby getting one up. At the eight hole (Bunker's Hill) the arrow was down in four, but bumped out again, and White, holing in four, won. The first round was completed: Golf-ball 43; arrow 44, the golfer being one up in holes. In the second round the professional, finding it no child's play to beat Robin Hood's old-fashioned wand, set down to work in earnest, and played the most brilliant half round on record. The bowman also shot up well, and the first three holes were done in four each. The archer lost several points in the game by the arrow glancing on the hard putting greens instead of sticking near the hole. White with the ball scored six successive holes in four and turned at Eastward Ho dormey three. Mr. Wilson won the seventh hole with three, but White holed Bunker's Hill in a brilliant three and won, the score being: White 4 4 4 4 4 4 3 4—35. The arrow's score for the same round was: 4 4 4 5 4 6 3 5 5—40. When each made a good tee shot, the golf-ball usually passed the arrow by about thirty yards. In short puts the arrow had the best of it, but lost two long puts by going into the hole and rebounding out."

THE CABINET.

CONCERNING the probable changes in the Cabinet, the *Yomiuri Shimbun* mentions various rumours now current in the capital According to some, it is stated that Mr. Yoshikawa, Minister of Justice, will resign; that his successor will be Count Goto, Minister of Agriculture and Commerce; that the latter's place will be taken by Mr. Watanabe, Minister of Finance; that the portfolio of Finance will go to Count Inouye, Minister of Home Affairs, and that the Home Office will be taken charge of by Count Ito in addition to the Premiership. According to others, it is believed that Mr. Watanabe will be transferred to the Department of Justice, that Count Goto will go to the Home Office, and that Mr Mayeda Masana, a member of the House of Peers, will be appointed Minister of Agriculture and Commerce. All rumours agree in believing that Mr. Yoshikawa will resign and that Count Inouye will be appointed Minister of Justice. As to Mr Mayeda, he was once Vice-Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, and is not unfit for the post, but the report has taken the public by surprise. It is asserted that Count Masukata, on being asked to enter the Cabinet, declined the offer and recommended Mr. Mayeda in his stead. Count Inouye is said to be strongly in favour of Mr. Mayeda's appointment. However, our contemporary is inclined to believe that the majority of the Cabinet Ministers are opposed to the removal of Mr. Watanabe from the Treasury, as he is acknowledged to be particularly well-fitted for the position. For our own part, we (*Japan Mail*) are strongly disposed to doubt the reports that so many changes are contemplated by the Cabinet. This much we know, that in spite of prevailing rumours to the contrary, there is no indication of any dissension or discord in the Cabinet.

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We alluded in our last Weekly Summary to the altered aspect of the situation in consequence of a new movement in the Radical party. This circumstance is beginning to attract attention in Tokyo. The *Yomiuri Shimbun* goes a step further, and states that the changed attitude of the Radical party is the result of the growing coolness of the Cabinet toward that party. "At the close of the fourth session of the Diet," says our contemporary, "the Cabinet, which had hitherto maintained a policy of neutrality, recognized the necessity of forming an alliance with one of the political parties. Judging that the Radical party was best suited for its purpose, the Minister President of State came to an understanding with Mr. Hoshi, through the mediation of Mr. Mutsu, and Count Ito has since been steadily directing his efforts towards the realization of that project. But the late campaign in Kyushu and the Soma affair have suddenly changed the aspect of affairs by diminishing the influence and popularity of the Radical party in general, and of Mr. Hoshi in particular. At the same time, a rumour has been extensively circulated to the effect that the Radicals and the Progressionists, though standing aloof from each other, will vote together on several questions. These circumstances have led the Cabinet to conclude that it will be

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better to renounce the friendship of the Radical party and return to its original policy of *chôsen*. The Cabinet consequently instructed its semi-official organ to state in the issue of the 10th inst that 'the present Government has no political friend in the Diet.' The adoption of the policy of neutrality on the part of the Ministry will have the advantage of pacifying the National Unionists, for their opposition to the Government is due to the latter's friendly attitude toward the Radical party. Now that the Government has turned the cold shoulder to the Radical party, the National Unionists seem inclined to adopt a more reasonable policy towards those in power. Mr. Yasuba's foreign tour was perhaps necessitated by this change of attitude of his party. Another incident which indicates the altered disposition of the party is that, at its Kyushu meeting, it refrained from announcing its general programme for the coming session. Things in the political world are thus gradually resuming their original aspect."

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The semi-official organ above alluded to is the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*. The statement quoted occurs in a series of articles on the situation commenced on Sunday last. We will notice them as soon as they are brought to a conclusion.

* * *

With respect to the much talked-of changes in the Cabinet, it seems that there is little probability of any change being made for the present at least. The quiet and confident attitude of the Cabinet Ministers of State have made the metropolitan papers acknowledge at last that the recent rumours were mostly without foundation, the fabrication probably, of ambitious politicians.

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As to the counterfeit money affair, it is stated by some papers that the materials for the so-called disclosures by the *Jiyu Shimbun* were originally supplied by a certain statesman of the military section, having close connections with the inhabitants of Osaka. Count Matsukata would answer this description in some respects, but it is mere silliness to suppose him capable of such a course of action. Who can the statesman be? Viscount Takashima may be considered by some people to correspond to the equivocal description given. But he is too honourable a man to stoop to such undignified tactics. There is no doubt that the affair originated in a political conspiracy directed against the present Ministry, but its origin remains a mystery.

REV. MR TAMURA.

MR. TAMURA is the object of universal criticism, and, we may almost say, detestation on account of his book "The Japanese Bride." It is a noteworthy fact that the Christian press unanimously condemn the work. The *Kirisutokyo Shimbun* (Christian) for instance, severely belabours the author for the reckless manner in which he puts on record most erroneous statements concerning the domestic life of his fellow countrymen. A certain Japanese lady writing to that journal strongly protests against the injustice he does to her sex.

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The *Fogaku Zasshi* (Woman's Magazine) is another important periodical of Christian prochivities which pours its vials of wrath upon the book as well as its author. It writes as follows:—"Mr. Tamura's 'The Japanese Bride,' which has called forth such unfavourable comments, is written in English and published in the United States. It describes marriage customs and domestic life in Japan. We read two or three chapters, but had not the courage to proceed further. The facts recorded in the book are erroneous, but what is still more reprehensible is that its whole tone is extremely reckless and indifferent. Although, as a rule, men naturally strive to keep in the back-ground the defects of their own country, there are times when they may be constrained by unavoidable necessity to disclose such defects. But in such cases, the tone of discussion or narration would naturally be pathetic and earnest, so as to move the sympathy of the listeners or readers. The late Mr. Baba Tatsui's writings about Japan, while he was in America, may in some respects be placed in this category. In Mr. Tamura's case, we fail to find any such plea on his behalf. It is plainly visible in every page that he endeavours to pander to the prejudices of foreigners by presenting elaborately painted pictures of the imperfections of his fellow countrymen and countrywomen. No high-spirited Japanese can help being moved to just indignation on reading the book. But this is not the worst. There are, no doubt, not a few true ladies and gentlemen among the multitude of American readers of the present volume who may be disgusted more with the author's execrable motives than with the libelous statements made by him; and they may infer the condition of our morals from the circumstance that such a man finds a place among the Christian Ministers of Japan. Nothing could be more deplorable than such a result. From whatever point it may be viewed, the publication of the book was a detestable action.

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The *Keisai Zasshi* (Economis.) refers to this work as follows:—"A Mr. Tamura has published in America a book describing the defects of the marriage customs in Japan. The money obtained by the sale of this book is said to be for the propagation of Christianity in this country. We presume that Japanese Christians will not tolerate the use of money obtained in such a manner. Does the author believe that the injury done to the character of his country can be retrieved by the profits realized from the sale of his work? His action deserves the strongest condemnation.

CHINESE NEWS.

THE Tientsin Correspondent of the *N.C. Daily News*, under date 26th August, writes:—"You, of course, know that Kung Chao-yuan, formerly Taotai of Shanghai and now Fantai of Szechuan, is appointed Minister to England and France. The native gentlemen best able to judge speak of him as an honest administrator and an amiable man, but distinguished neither by exceptional ability nor by diplomatic finesse: they seem to think that beyond an affable address he has no special qualification for so important a position. *On dit* that it is none of his seeking, and that some pressure has had to be applied to His Excellency to remove his diffidence. He will leave Szechuan this autumn, spend the winter in Peking and Tientsin, and will leave in the spring. As long as Sir Halliday Macartney is at Portland Place, the personality of the Minister is not so important as it would be in the absence of that able and indefatigable servant of the Chinese Government. He inspires unbounded confidence at the Foreign Office, and China steadily reaps the benefit."

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"You doubtless have observed that the Viceroy has memorialised the Throne for some punishment to himself *re* the floods in Chihli. This quiet appropriation of the responsibility for the visitation of God would be amusing were it not accompanied by the more serious items that two or three officials have been degraded for the same uncontrollable evil. It would be interesting to discover how His Excellency now regards Wu Ting p'in, the Taotai of Taming, who persuaded him to dig a big trench last spring to obviate these terrible calamities. This would-be-successor of Sung Li and the great hydraulic engineers has once more conclusively proved the utter inadequacy of any peddling measures to meet these recurring disasters. The material loss by one flood to the Government is far greater than the aggregate cost of preventive measures spread over ten or twenty years would be; the loss to the people is incalculable, but we may be quite sure nothing will be done. I do not think that any collective effort will be made by the foreign community to mitigate the distress this year. Many of us think that charity privately dispensed will do more good, and it will certainly do less harm, than a repetition of our former policy of subsidising a string of villages with monthly doles of cash. Much of our money in 1890-91 went to nourish a lot of superbious malcontents who were starving in pendulous paunches. The water this year was fully one foot higher than in 1890, but it happily came with less violence and the loss of life has been far less and, in our immediate locality, insignificant. It is an ill wind, etc.; we are now having boat sailing, and ice boating is assured for the winter. The water is now falling an inch or two every day, as the river surface is below that of the plain water."

* * *

"Tientsin has lost a character in Mr. John Welsh who last month died of a complication of nearly all the fatal diseases a man can have. Mr. Welsh, or "Paddy" as he was locally known, came with the troops in 1861 and then joined as a volunteer with Gordon and his assistants. He had at one time quite a small fortune from loot, chiefly derived from the Summer Palace. After this he entered the Chinese service (Li Hung-chang's) as a drill instructor on very high pay. Later on he settled in Tientsin as *restaurateur*, and during the winter months not only refreshed the thirst of the bluejackets, but shouldered his crutch and showed how fields were won. The last dozen or more years of his life were rendered possible by the unceasing kindness of the late Mr. W. Forbes and others who would blush to find it fame. He was also on excellent terms with all the native sailors who were exceedingly kind to him and at whose *al fresco* tables he was a frequent and free guest. Every one had a good word for the old man who was nobody's foe but his own. His "some Oirish" accent and straight military back were kept to the last and will long be remembered here. He had strong views on the burning powers of *samshu*, and was probably right; such a volatile and minute (but deadly) poison as fusel oil would probably escape the rough refining processes of the Chinese. Mr. Welsh thought he could have lived another 20 years had he been able to keep to honest whisky."

FIRST RACE FOR THE AMERICA CUP.

IN a very readable article in *Blackwood's Magazine* for August on Anglo-American yacht-racing an interesting description is given of the first race for the America Cup—that famous race in August, 1851, when the American schooner beat all the cracks of the English clubs. Yacht-racing was not then more popular than it is now; but the excitement over this race was such as we have not seen in the Solent or the Clyde of late years:—"The interest felt in the coming race was indescribable. Men left their moors untrodden, and crowded to Cowes. Accommodation was as difficult to obtain, and as costly and unsatisfactory when obtained, at the little town on the banks of the Medina, as it was last August, when the broad folds of the black-and-yellow standard of Imperial Germany streamed out in the roadstead. Eighteen vessels entered against the stranger; fifteen—eight cutters and seven schooners—started. All the fastest fliers of the English fleet, with the exception, perhaps, of the *Musquito*, were engaged—the *Volante*, *Mona*, *Arrow*, *Alarm*, *Bacchante*, *Aurora*, and *Gipsy* amongst them. The cutters, of course, were smaller than the Yankee, but many of the schooners were bigger, notably the square-rigged *Brilliant* of 393 tons. The vessels were got away at ten o'clock on the morning of August 22nd, with the wind from the westward, and described as a "five-knot breeze." A drizzly rain proved totally insufficient to damp the ardour of the coast watchers all around the island. The race is soon described. The Yankee stole through the entire fleet like a witch. One by one she dropped them, the cutter *Volante* alone giving her any trouble. Reaching out to the back of the Wight, she simply squandered her foes. Off Shanklin, the ridiculous little jib-boom, which she had adopted since she entered our waters, "snapped off short like a carrot;" not that it was any loss to her. To be brief with the tale, at 8.35 she got her gun at the Castle, the length of the race being a proof of the lightness of the breeze during the greater part of the day. Coming up from Hurst Castle to the winning line had been a most tedious affair; but no sooner had the cannon sounded than the wind freshened, and the

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Aurora, which happened to be the next vessel, came home with a flowing sheet, and was clocked seventeen minutes after the *America*—that is to say, her luck brough. her near enough to the stranger to have been only beaten by two minutes had they been racing on the time-allowance scale then in vogue. The rest of the flotilla came in—sometime. So was the famous America Cup won. And it has yet to be brought back to Europe."

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE IN A DILEMMA.

It appears from statements in the vernacular press that the Minister and Vice-Minister of the Department of Justice as well as the Chief of the Supreme and Appeal Courts are greatly embarrassed over the execution of their late resolution regarding the cashiering of incompetent judges. It was decided at the conference on the subject that they should advise the judges whom they considered incompetent, to resign, for as is well known, a judgeship is, according to the Constitution and the Law for the Organization of Courts, a life post and cannot easily be dealt with unless the holder is guilty of an offence not compatible with the retention of the office. The Supreme Court and the Court of Appeal are said to have failed to attain the object in view, none of the judges visited with the unwelcome notice, having acted upon it. Nor have the Osaka and Nagoya Appeal Courts been more successful. The case of Mr. Kubo, Chief of the Tsu Local Court, given by the *Kaishin Shimbun*, may be taken as illustrative of the others. Being an old gentleman, past 60 years of age, and as such, considered by everybody as falling under the category of *rokyu* (infirm from age), Mr. Kubo was called upon by the President of the Nagova Appeal Court, in conformity with the spirit of the decision referred to, to hand in his resignation. He was, however, utterly deaf to the advice tendered, and sheltering himself under the ægis of the Constitution, flatly declined to relinqu sh his post. He was then threatened with a notice of a meeting of the Appeal Courts which would be held, in accordance with a provision of the Law for the organization of Courts, to consider his competency for the duties of his office. Mr. Kubo replied that though they might consider him unfit through age to discharge his duties, he himself held a different opinion. Public opinion, he added, was the only competent judge on that point. The meeting is said to have been held a few days ago, but the result has not transpired Hence the dilemma in which the Department finds itself. Retrenchment is called for by the Committee for adjusting Administra.ive Business, but its efforts in that direction are met by rebuffs such as those we have just described.

* * *

The *Official Gazette* has since notified that Judge Kubo has been released from his post.

NIHILISM IN RUSSIA.

Max Behrmann, writing in the *Deutsche Revue* of Breslau for July, sums up Russian Nihilism in words that deserve the fullest publicity, since they furnish fresh evidence of the great danger of judging everything outside ourselves by our own particular standard. Englishmen sympathise with Russian Nihilists because they regard them as political agitators in the English sense, but Herr Behrmann takes a very different view:—

Mr Kennan would have us believe that the sole offence for which the politicals were condemned, was "a difference of opinion 'between them and their Government. Well, Ravachol would most probab y tell us that a difference of opinion subsisted between him and the momentarily dominating governmental and social theprists in France It was not a mere abstract question of difference of opinion which convulsed Russia during the terrible period of 1879-85. It was no mere question of constitutional amendmen. which led to the wholesale deportations of the period; but a wide-spread, well-organized criminal assault of the most disorderly social element, upon social order and morality. The Nihilists of 1880 differed from the Anarchists of 1892 in respect only that their technique was not so far advaced, and the dagger and revolver took the place of the cowardly dynamite. I can speak on this subject from personal knowledge, for on more than one occas on a lucky accident made me a witness of Nihilistic methods. I was in St. Petersburg when Sassulich fired at General Trepov and Solovjev fired at Alexander II. I saw Katchewski (Stepniak) stab Police-General Mesenzev; I was witness of the bloody fight between the students and Cossacks, which was followed so closely by Goldberg's murder of my friend, Prince Krapotkin. I was for many years in close contact with the Nihilists, and I can say from my own experience that to characterize Nihilism as a "political struggle" in the western European sense of the word, or as in any way a strugg e for constitutional reform is to falsify history. Not one of the Nihilist leaders could be appropriately characterized as liberal, const tutional, or peaceably socialist. It is true that the fundamental principles and aims of the movement were in great measure concealed, both with the object of drawing the less bloodthirsty into its ranks; and, secondly, with the object of escaping the detestation of all Europe. This renders the study of the subject for strangers more difficult, and resulted in a measure of inequality in punishment and deterrent measures, and, doubtless in many cases, of injustice The revival of Nih lism, under another name in France, has presented the matter in quite a new aspect to Western Europe. The liberation of the dynamitards roused all Europe, and called down the severest condemnation of the pusillanimity which prompted the verdict. And what were these dynamite attempts in comparison with the horrible scenes witnessed by the Russian people? Generals and Governors were murdered, railways and streets undermined, State treasuries robbed, traitors to the "good cause" assassinated, public buildings demolished in open day—the whole culminating in the most atrocious murder of a ruler who had won the sympathy of all Europe by his efforts for the advancement of his country. To have met such systematic, long-continued action with mildness would have been a crime. Civilization and popular sentiment called loudly for vengeance. The days in which a Sassulish might hope to escape the justice of the law were passed Every social class saw itself threatened; all ranks united against the secrect murderers. Only they who lived in Russia at the time can realize the horrors, the hate, the desire for vengeance, which inspired all classes against the Nihilists. Every fresh great deportation lifted a load off the nation's breast.

No, the hanging and banishment, and overflowing jails of those days, were not the "acts of brutality of a despotic government," but lamentable, yet easily intelligible, measures of the ruling class against brutal, inhuman, secret foes of civilization and order The country sat on a volcano with its existence menaced, and if in its effort to save itself, it was committed to some acts of injustice, it cannot be condemned *A la guerre comme la guerre* is a sad but jus. proverb.

GLYPTIC EXHIBITION AT UYENO.

We referred briefly yesterday to the presentation of prizes to the successful competitors at the Glyptic Exhibition at Uyeno. The total number of exhibitors was 793 forwarded by 150 competitors, while 252 pieces of old ware were furnished for reference purposes. There was a decrease in the number of articles compared with previous exhibitions due to the exhibition having been opened sooner than the artists anticipated. A general improvement was apparent both in the design and execution of the articles submitted. The seven artists who received silver medals were Namikawa Sosuke, for his parrot in *cloisonné*, Kano Natsuo, silver cigarette case, Ishikawa Mitsuaki, old man, in ivory, Shimomura Toshiaki, boy and parrot, in ivory, Matbara Unkai, pair of mounted warriors, in wood, Ito Katsumi, silver cigarette case, and Shibayama Socho, framework of peony and peacock. Besides these, 156 prizes in medals and certificates were awarded.

100TH NATIONAL BANK.

The 100th National Bank, says the *Jiji*, has decided to undertake exchange business with London, Lyons, New York, San Francisco, Shanghai, and Hawaii. The Bank does not take this step for the sake of deriving profit from it; in fact, so far as immediate prospects are concerned, it may incur some loss. The real object in view is to facilitate business. In spite of the vast development of the national resources during the last decade, Tokyo still remains without any means of carrying out the necessary financial transactions connected with foreign commerce. Hence the enterprise of the Bank will afford a great convenience to the merchants of the Capital.

SMUGGLING JAPANESE WOMEN.

Kobe vernacular papers state that the police managed to defeat an attempt on the part of some Japanese to smuggle six women on board the *Victoria*, to be taken to Canada. According to the account given in the *Kobe Yushin Nippo*, the women were taken out into the harbour in three sampans last Thursday afternoon, these sampans being ostensibly engaged in fish-ing, and the women were to be put on board just before the steamer started. The departure of the steamer, however, was delayed until the following morning, so the boats had to remain at their bogus fishing throughout the night. About 2 a.m. the sampans were rowed towards the steamer, but just as the women were going on board the water police observed them, and the whole party were arrested.

THE BEHRING SEA QUESTION.

The following summary giving the effect of the decision on the question of rights, may be of interest to those who were unable to follow the deliberations of the arbitrators:—

What exclusive jurisdiction and what exclusive rights in the seal fisheries did Russia exercise prior to accession of Alaska by the States? The answer by all but Senator Morgan was that Russia claimed by a ukase issued in 1821 jurisdiction in Behring Sea to the extent of 100 miles off coast, but in the course of negotiations, which led to the treaties of 1824 1825, she admitted that her jurisdiction should be restricted to a cannon shot from shore and from that time Russia never asserted or exercised any exclusive jurisdiction in Behring Sea or any exclusive rights to the seal fisheries beyond territorial waters

The second question: How far were these claims of jurisdiction on the part of Russia to the seal fisheries recognised and conceded by Britain—was answered by all but Senator Morgan. Britain did not recognize or concede any claim on the part of Russia outside territorial waters

The third question was: Was Behring Sea included in the phrase Pacific Ocean used in the treaty of 1825 between Britain and Russia, and what rights, if any, in Behring Sea were held and exclusively exercised by Russia after the said treaty? The unanimous answer was that Behring Sea was included in the phrase Pacific Ocean, and it was held by all except Senator Morgan that no exclusive rights were held or exercised by Russia outside territorial waters after the treaty.

The fourth question was: Did not all the rights of Russia pass unimpaired to the States? The unanimous answer was, Yes.

The fifth question was: Have the United States any and what right of protection of property in fur seals when found outside the three-mile limit? Answer by all but Senator Morgan was that the United States have not any right of protection of property when seals are found outside the three-mile limit. The regulations as a body are established by the votes of Lord Hannen and the three neutral arbitrators.

SUMMARIZED.

The first question establishes a zone 60 miles around the Pribyloff islands.

The second establishes a close season in the northern Pacific from the first day of May to July 31.

The third requires that sailing vessels will only be allowed to engage in fishing, with canoes and boats included.

The fourth requires that each vessel have a Government license and carry a distinguishing flag.

The fifth requires the log to show particulars of the sealing

The sixth abolishes firearms except shot guns, outside Behring Sea

The seventh requires that the Governments control the fitness of the men engaged in sealing

The eighth exempts the Indians on the coast from restrictions when hunting with canoes and boats

The ninth makes the regulations permanent, but orders them to be resubmitted for examination every five years.

The finding of the facts in reference to the seizure of vessels is of such a nature as to render it incumbent on the American Government to indemnify the owners of British vessels.

MR. LENZ'S ROUND THE-WORLD CYCLE TRIP.

A Chinese gentleman in the Telegraph service in Shanghai has received a letter from Mr. Lenz, the cyclist, dated from Mandalay, Burma. He says: "The last three months I mostly walked from Ichang west. At Tengyueh office I was sick for three weeks, but your kind letter made me very comfortable in all the telegraph offices. I received some hard knocks from Chinese, but this I fully expected. I, however, never want to try it again." Mr. Lenz also writes from Mandalay to the *N.-C. Daily News*, under date the 12th July, saying that notwithstanding the fact that he was discouraged by everybody but a few in Shanghai, he has nevertheless succeeded in crossing China completely. For the last three months since he left Ichang he had been continually walking. He made the distance from Shanghai to the Chinese frontier 2,884

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miles, and to Mandalay 3,149 miles. He has, says the Shanghai journal, certainly shown what pluck and resolution will do, and his full account of his journey when it sees the light should contain much new and interesting information.

THE SOMA CASE.

THE autopsy on the corpse of the late Viscount Soma which commenced at 4.30 p.m. on the 8th instant, was finished at about 8 o'clock the same evening. As to the condition of the body various contradictory reports have found their way into the press. According to some the head was in a state of putrefaction, while others state that the whole body with the exception of the nose was found almost in the condition in which it was at the time of interment. Yet another rumour would have it that unmistakable signs of violence were found upon the body. The latter report, however, does not seem to receive the credence of respectable papers. It may be taken for granted that the corpse did not externally present any suspicious appearance, and that it was in a sufficiently well-preserved state to allow of identification and the separation of the internal organs. Dr. Yeguchi of the Military Department, as we stated on Saturday, made the autopsy. He laid open the stomach, heart, and the other important internal organs. After a careful examination, a portion of those organs as well as the fluid in the coffin were removed and placed in receptacles specially brought for the purpose from the Laboratory of the Sanitary Bureau. The corpse was then carefully laid in its original position, and left in the care of the Soma retainers who were present during the operation The receptacles were at once taken to the Laboratory of the Sanitary Bureau at Shitaya, under a formidable escort of gendarmes and police. The Laboratory was guarded by four constables all through the night, and we presume that the same vigilant precaution is still continued there. The analysis of the internal organs was at once commenced by Dr. Teguchi and Dr. Hirayama and Mr. Tawara of the Sanitary Bureau. Nothing is as yet known about the progress or results of the analysis.

* * *

It is reported that some important documents bearing upon the case were discovered in the coffin. The retainers of the Soma family allege that these "documents" are simply those scraps of paper with texts from the Buddhist scriptures which it is customary in certain families to place in the coffin.

* * *

After the departure of the Judges and other officials from the cemetery, the retainers of the Soma family sent for Shinonome Shige, the mistress of the late Viscount Soma, and allowed her to see once more the face of her late lord With tears streaming down her cheeks and unable to speak, she carefully dressed her unfortunate master in the robes of death and placed the body in its original posture. The grave was then filled to a depth of about two *shaku*, the remainder being filled in on the following morning. It was guarded during the night by about 15 constables and a large number of the Soma retainers.

* * *

A *requiem* on behalf of the unfortunate dead whose repose had been so rudely disturbed will be performed by his former vassals on the 17th instant at the Hosenji temple, Ushigome, Tokyo.

THROUGH THE YANGTSE GORGES.

A PAPER lately issued by the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs contains a report of the journey in boats up the Yangtse to Chungkiang of the Customs' staff sent to that port to open it to foreign trade. The time taken from Ichang was 33 days and the labour of tracking the boats through the cataracts was very great. The Ichang gorge, which is the first, is described as presenting to view high, and in places inaccessible, mountains, beautiful glens, and charming scenery in general, while the stream offers no great difficulties to navigation. In the first eight days the distance traversed was only 40 miles. The most famous of the rapids in this part of the river the Yeh-tan, is described as formed by a reef of rocks commencing on the left bank, near the mouth of a ravine, through which a mountain stream discharges. The reef runs diagonally across the river for about two-thirds of its width, leaving the remainder of the channel clear; but it sweeps past the precipitous bank in a seething, swirling mass of water. It took the party from 1 p m. to dusk before their boats were hauled up this rapid. Some of the gorges are described as exceedingly impressive, and even gloomy, in their character. Wan-Usien, one of the chief cities on this part of the river, is said to look like a miniature Gibraltar. It is situated in a large bend of the river, the walled portion being small, while the western portion is of considerable extent, and contains many handsome buildings. Fine temples, surrounded by trees, set off the white-washed houses, which rise, tier above tier, from the water to the summit of the long ridge on which the city is built. At the back rises a mountain, the top of which is fringed with crags and crowned with what looks like a fort. Mr. Hobson, the Commissioner of Customs, and chief member of the party says there can be no steam navigation of this part of the river until a detailed survey has been made; but a deep-water channel free from rocks and with a strong current exists the whole way, generally in mid channel. There would be no difficulty about anchorages, for sheltered nooks and coves abound in which the largest junks moor in safety. The pilot of the party, who had been 40 years on the upper river, was of opinion that steamers of the same draught as the great Szechuan salt junks—viz., 5ft. could reach Chungkiang for 11 months in the year. The rapids vary considerably with the rise and fall of the river, many of them ceasing to exist with high water, while as the larger rocks become submerged new and more formidable ones come into existence. Mr. Hobson says that the amount of land devoted to poppy culture even along the river bank is "something astounding, and it would almost appear that if the supply of Indian opium were cut short to-morrow Szechuan alone would be able to provide for the wants of smokers over a considerable portion of the Empire." He met no real specimen of the debauched opium smoker so constantly paraded for the sympathy of Europeans. The agricultural and boating population of Szechuan slave like beasts of burden, and their yellow and generally jaundiced complexions testify to their indulgence in the opium pipe, and yet nowhere in the world will a hardier, better tempered, and more decent lot of people be found. "Whether mild indulgence in opium does not tend to secure immunity from various types of malarial disorder; to which, owing to poor living and damp dwellings, they would otherwise be liable, is a nice point for the medical faculty to elucidate."

THE EDUCATIONAL SOCIETY AND THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.

FORMERLY, the relations existing between the Department of Education and the Educational Society were of the most intimate character. Mr. Tsuji, then Vice Minister of the Department, was the guiding spirit of the Association as well as its President. The Department and the Society were therefore virtually considered as one body in different forms, and complaints were frequently heard of the Society becoming a mere tool of the Department. This state of affairs was completely changed by the severance of Mr. Tsuji from the Mombusho, and although he wished at the same time to resign his office as President of the Society, pressure was put upon him by the members to remain. Everybody then looked forward to a change in the attitude of the Society towards the Department, and, according to the *Jiji*, this change is now apparent. A special meeting of the Members of Committee of the Society was held, says our authority, on the 9th inst., to discuss the present policy of the Department. Mr. Tsuji addressed the meeting and severely criticised what seemed to him to be the platform of the Department. He first referred to the fact that the Minister now in power, once addressed the Society before he came into office on the importance of the diffusion of education, and that he had declared to those who had called upon him, the necessity for giving assistance towards the common school expenses. Mr. Tsuji was much pleased to think that he could be relied upon for promoting the interests of Education. He was therefore much surprised to read the rumours recently circulated in the press, that the opinions of the Minister had undergone a radical change. It was not possible for Mr. Tsuji to ascertain the truth of these reports, but it was easy to prove from the changes effected in the Imperial University and the Higher Normal School, that the Minister was treating educational matters as of but secondary importance in the administration. Mr. Tsuji then stated his views upon the evils likely to ensue from these changes, and concluded with an expression that he and his fellow associates should hold themselves responsible, in the interests of the nation, to defend the dignity of the profession. Mr. Izawa Shuji followed with some remarks to the same effect. Finally, it was resolved to deposit 500 *yen* with the Authorities, as security, so that the Society might be at liberty to discuss unreservedly, in the columns of its journal, the policy of the Educational Department.

MENDING OR ENDING THE HOUSE OF LORDS.

FOR several years past the motto "Mending or Ending the House of Lords" has run a close race for popularity with "A Free Breakfast Table," "One Man, one Vote" "Justice for a long-wronged Land," and others of a like class, on banners and scrolls at Liberal, or rather Radical, demonstrations. Indeed, it was hard to discover which evoked the loudest applause as it waved before excited crowds at big political meetings. But within the last nine months the ascendancy in Radical esteem of the first quoted has been very marked. Now, we hear by cable, that the members of the National Liberal Club, the stronghold of Militant Radicalism—for the old Reform has long settled down into the quietude induced by middle-age reflection—have placed it in the very forefront of their manifesto. As a catch phrase it is very glib and no doubt will have due effect at the polls. A curious thing to note is that Mr. Gladstone has always gone to the country on some smart party cry. With singular electioneering genius he raised the plaint of the "Bulgarian Atrocities," and was returned on the specious issue. "Justice for Ireland" was his 1885 rally; but in the election of 1886 he had no definite motto, trying to run half-dozen at the same time. It is a well-known fact that in the last election, in England at any rate, the Home Rule issue was subordinated to the local demands, and "Government for the People by the People" was far more potent than "Remember Mitchelstown." Somehow or other the Conservative party have never been so happy with their party-cries. Here and there they strike upon a phrase that catches the public ear of some particular constituency, but as a rule they rely principally on rosettes and ribbons and a clear statement of the matter at issue. Perhaps it is owing to the general stolidity of the Conservative party that prevents a general outburst of catch-phrases and political mottoes; perhaps it is that they are too clear-sighted to be blinded by the flummery of the thing, and imagine that the rest of the world is as observing as themselves. Be that as it may, there is no gainsaying the fact that the Radicals are always to the front, in season and out of season, with party-cries easy to remember and easy for the multitude to shout themselves hoarse with.

THE SHIMBASHI-YOKOHAMA LINE.

THE *Fiji Shimpo* severely criticises the perfunctory management of the Shimbashi-Yokohama line. The Railway Bureau is accused of paying no attention to the needs and convenience of the public. The line, it says, is managed exactly in the manner it was ten years ago, without introducing the slightest improvement. Among the improvements desired by the public, the most urgent is an increase in the number of trains between the two stations. At present the total number of trains from either terminus is seventeen, beginning with 6.45 a.m. and

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ending with 11 p.m. In 1883, the number was fifteen, an increase of two trains having been necessitated by the opening of the Tokaido line. The interval between the successive trains is generally more than an hour, and people travelling between the two places have to be very careful in order to catch the proper train, otherwise they are subjected to a loss of valuable time. In order to show how things are managed abroad, our contemporary refers to the city section of the Great Northern Railway in England. Along the distance of five miles from the Finsbury Park Station to the centre of London, trains formerly used to start every five minutes. But loud complaints being made about the insufficiency of the service, the Company had to reduce the interval to three minutes. The *Fiji* strongly urges the authorities to follow the example of the great English Company, and increase the number of trains between Tokyo and Yokohama. If they, however, propose to go on without making any change, they are requested, at least, to give permission to a private company to lay another line between the two places. Our contemporary has no doubt that a private line would absorb the whole traffic. It also regrets that the members of the Diet are engrossed with immaterial questions of rights and pay no attention to practical questions like the one under consideration.

PROSPECTS OF THE JAPAN-INDIAN TRADE

THE *Chugai Shogyo Shimpo* argues as follows concerning the prospects of trade between Japan and India after the opening of the new line to Bombay:—Exports to India, amounting last year to a sum of about *yen* 1,422,000, were chiefly made up of copper, silk handkerchiefs, cotton cloths, matches, and coal, while in return we imported from that country raw cotton, cotton yarn, indigo, leather, &c., to the amount of about *yen* 7,660,000. Now raw cotton, for the transportation of which the new service has been organised, reaches an annual total of above 120,000 bales, and as 4 bales may be roughly estimated at a ton, the freight amounts to the big sum of *yen* 255,000 a year, on the basis of 17 rupees per ton, the present rate. Besides raw cotton, and other articles of import and export, over 400,000 bales of cotton yarn enter China annually from India, so that there is little likelihood of the vessels employed for the service suffering from scarcity of cargo. The ships now running on the route are those of the P. and O. and an Austro-Hungarian Company, and with the addition of the four steamers which the Nippon Yusen Kwaisha and the five spinning factories have resolved to apply to the service, the result of competition will be to reduce the rate of freight. This will act disadvantageously to us in the matter of cotton yarns by the reduction which will, at the same time, take place in the price of the Indian article. Our contemporary says that no particular alarm need be felt on that score. It is merely glad to think that the reduction of freight will tend greatly to develop the trade between the two countries.

COLLISION AT SHANGHAI.

WHEN the Japanese steamer *Fechigo Maru* arrived at Shanghai, and the *Harold* from New York, at Woosung, both vessels reported having been in collision The accident happened under peculiar circumstances. It appears that the steamer was anchored this side of the Saddles awaiting a pilot, and was burning blue lights, and she had a light burning at the stem and another at the stern. Just at this time the *Harold* was making for Shanghai, and her Captain also wanted a pilot and fired blue lights, and seeing the other blue lights concluded they were answering signals. As he saw the two bright lights he thought they proceeded from two pilot boats, and so determined to make for one of them, but was astonished to find the lines of a vessel r se up between the lights, and he then became aware that a collision was imminent. He immediately gave orders to let the sails go by the run and endeavoured to avoid the other vessel, but he was so close up to it when he made out her outline, that he had not sufficient time to carry out the manœuvre, the result being that the *Harold* ran into the *Fechigo Maru*, striking her on the port side aft and after smashing her iron bulwarks, crashed into the after deck house which was cut into nearly up to the middle of the saloon. It was fortunate for the second officer of the steamer that he was on watch at the time, for his bunk was cut through. The damage done to the *Harold*, which is a steel ship, is not extensive, but she left her figurehead on board the steamer when she got clear. With regard to the *Fechigo*, some 40 odd feet of her rail is smashed, and five bulwark plates, one sheer strake plate and three on the deck house are broken and two beams bent, while a number of stanchions and the rail are either bent or broken.—*N.-C. Daily News.*

AN "OFFICIAL" MENU

AT a farewell tiffin given by the Civil Servants of the Straits Settlements to Sir Cecil Smith the menu, which took the form of a Secretariat minute paper labelled "Immediate action" and initialled in due form, was as follows:—

MISCELLANEOUS 8114/93.

From whom	Service, Colony & Native States.	
Place.	S.V.A. Drill Hall, Singapore.	
Date	26. 8.93.	Singapore Volunteer Artillery. No. 725. 26th Aug. '93

Farewell Luncheon to H.E. Excellency the Governor and Lady Clementi Smith.

Former Papers.	MINUTES.	Final Paper 29th October, 1893.
Hongkong 1886/1898.	H.E. the Governor and Lady Clementi Smith,	
Manila 18:8.	For your consideration,	
Straits 1878/1885.	26-8-93.	W.E.M.
Ceylon 1885/1887.	Clear Turtle Soup. Mayonnaise à la Gouffe. Filets de poisson—Sauce Tartare.	
Straits 1887/1893.	Aspic de Foie Gras Galentine de Volaille. Poulet à la Rupee. Turkey and Ham. Corned Beef and Carrots. Ox Tongues. Cold Saddle of Mutton. Pigeon Pie. Cherry Tart. Apricots. Fruit Salad. Soursop Ice. Chocolate Ice. Cheese. Coffee.	
	Approved. C.C.S.	

Attached to the menu was the usual piece of green paper denoting that "this paper" (the menu) "requires immediate attention." The menu was further encircled with a small piece of the official red tape.

THE KOBE SENDO AGAIN.

THE *Kobe Herald* thus describes another disgraceful scene at the Hatoba:—Two passengers by the *Empress of India* landed here early this (Wednesday) morning—the Rev. F. P. Sutherland and Dr. W. B. Boggs, both missionaries on their way home from India—and being utter strangers, asked one or two foreigners who by good fortune were standing on the Hatoba what was the proper fare from ship to shore. They were told in reply 7 sen per passenger, and the first named gentleman thereupon handed the sendo 15 sen The pair had not walked many yards when the sendo joined them and tugged at Mr. Sutherland's sleeve, finally taking firm hold of it. Mr. Sutherland then shook the arm free and waved his hand back and told the man to be off, and to leave him alone. In his hand he held a small round tin, not at all heavy. Neither of the gentlemen for a moment believe the man was struck. The action arrested the sendo's movements for a moment, but he quickly returned with blood streaming from what appeared to be a cut above the eye; and was followed by half a dozen angry men who at once blocked the new arrival's footsteps while one or two of the more aggressive sendos struck him viciously on the back. Mr. Sutherland made his way as best he could through the crowd, and with his friend sought assistance at the Police Box a few yards west of the Hiogo Hotel. There they stood detained for some time, while their names and addresses were taken down and the circumstances enquired into. Finally, the police informed the foreign visitors that the proper fare was 10 *sen* per passenger, and thereupon the extra five *sen* was paid. Both gentlemen called at this office almost immediately afterwards, and subsequently made an informal statement of the facts of the case to Mr. Smithers, United States Consul.

POLICE SCANDAL AT YAMAGUCHI.

THE scandal connected with the chief police inspectors of the prefectures of Kagawa, Hiroshima, and Fukuoka at Yamaguchi some days ago, has assumed, what seems to us, undue dimensions. The hotel at which the inspectors were staying was surprised in the middle of the night by constables, and three *geisha* found on the premises were taken to the Police Station. A letter was at once despatched by the chief police inspector of Hiroshima to the Yamaguchi Police Station, upon receipt of which the fair ones were set at liberty. The affair next appeared in an issue of the local paper, with a comment charging the Police Station with partiality. Then the citizens became so much incensed that the Governor deemed it necessary to dismiss the Chief Inspector as well as a certain constable who was unduly active in arresting the women. But the citizens, assisted by the local barristers, thought fit to espouse the cause of the constable, and, according to the *Yomiuri's* story, they called upon the Governor to explain his reasons for dismissing that officer. The fun does not end here. The *soshi* actors dramatised the affair and put it upon the local stage, whereupon the police stepped in and ordered the suspension of the performance. Verily a pretty little storm in a tea-pot.

GOVERNMENT DEBT TO THE NOBLES' BANK.

OF the home debts of the Japanese Government that of *yen* 100,000,000, which was borrowed from the Nobles' Bank, at the interest of 7½ per cent. per annum, during the Satsuma Rebellion of 1877, is the most important. The prescribed period for repayment of the loan is December, 1896, and according to the original agreement, no pressure for settlement was to be put upon either party until the expiry of that period. The Radicals, however, according to the News Agency, intend to bring the matter before the next session of the Diet, and to persuade the Bank to consent in some way to the redemption of the loan. Legally, the Government cannot, compel the bank to consent to repayment before the expiry of the term, or to reduce its rate of interest. The Radicals take another standpoint. They contend that the times do not justify the existence of a loan at such a high rate of interest, and insist that it should be repaid out of the Treasury surplus, or by raising a 4 per cent. loan if the surplus is insufficient for the purpose. In any case, they are determined to obtain the views of the House on the subject.

EFFECTS OF PROTECTION.

IN its Notes on Trade, a London contemporary named *Fame* says:—The protectionist policy of France has certainly played sad havoc with British trade, so far as Algiers is concerned, for Rouen has now almost the monopoly in unbleached calicoes, which were formerly obtained from Manchester; while the fancy figured muslins, which previously came from Glasgow, are now supplied chiefly by France. But Sir Lambert Playfair, the Consul-General for England at Algiers, points out that while the protective tariff, which has ruined our trade, has greatly benefited French manufacturers, it is open to doubt whether, so far as the colony itself is concerned, it is an unmixed advantage. Not only does the colony lose the moderate Customs dues which were formerly paid on British goods, but the inhabitants have to pay a high price for their clothing.

TROUBLE IN THE SHIGA NORMAL SCHOOL.

THE story which the *Mainichi* tells of the harsh treatment of a Christian student in the Shiga Normal School is so exceptional as to be difficult of credence in all its details. The youth entered the school in April last. The first lesson he received was one showing the heretical nature

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of Christianity, and, until he was expelled, his school life would appear to have been one of unmitigated persecution. The final trouble was due to the expulsion of two of the students for immorality and violation of the school rules, which led him to write a letter to a fellow Christian regretting that those who abused him for being unpatriotic, unfilial, and what not, should be capable of such conduct. This reached the ears of the other students and the teachers, who contended that he was thus guilty of the offence of divulging school affairs. He was summoned before the principal, admonished, and finally expelled.

NATIONAL UNIONISTS.

THE National Unionists are going to hold a grand meeting at Oita, Kyushu, on the 10th instant, and another meeting at Sendai on the 25th instant. The principal object of these meetings is to increase the influence of the party by forming an alliance with various conservative factions that are opposed to mixed residence. The meeting at Oita for instance, is to be attended not only by the National Unionists but also by the members of the *Gen-yo-sha* of Fukuoka and the *Kokken-to* of Kumamoto. Whatever may be the result of these meetings, it is noteworthy that the National Unionists are beginning to manifest a considerable amount of life and activity.

* * *

Mr. Yasuba, the Chief Manager of the party, who was to attend the grand meeting at Oita, cannot do so, on account of his unexpected departure for France. He has been commissioned by the family of the late Marquis Hosokawa, his former lord, to proceed to Paris, where the deceased nobleman's son is now studying, and arrange with him matters connected with the management of the household. Mr. Yasuba is to start on or about the 20th instant. The National Unionists met in Tokyo on the morning of the 4th instant, and decided that Viscount Shinagawa should be requested to proceed to Oita, and that Messrs. Imai Isoichiro and Maki Bokushin should leave the same evening for Kyoto, where the Viscount is now staying, and accompany him to Kyushu.

THE RADICAL PARTY.

THE ban of suspension having been removed on the preceding day, the Radical organ, the *Jiyu Shimbun*, resumed its publication on the 14th instant. We find in the issue of that day two important articles throwing much light upon the policy and position of the Radical party. The first article, entitled the Policy of Our Party, is over the signature of no less a person than Count Itagaki. In order to explain his party's position in an intelligible manner, he thinks it necessary to refer to its past history. He begins with those early years of the present era in which he and a few others endeavoured to establish the equality of four classes of the people, to introduce a system of Constitutional Government, and to secure the independence of the three departments of the Legislative, the Executive, and the Judiciary. Their endeavours were not destined to be successful, and soon the famous question of the Korean Invasion led to their resignation. They then recognised that the correction of the evils of Clan Government was only possible with the support of public opinion. Count Itagaki, consequently, together with Count Soyejima, Count Goto, the late Eto, and others, memorialized the Government for the establishment of an Electoral Assembly (*Minsen Giin*). Simultaneously, he and his sympathizers established a political party called the *Aikoku-kôtô* (Patriotic Party), which was soon afterward changed into a political association under the name of *Aikoku-sha* (Patriotic Association). It being rather too early for party politics, the new association had soon to be dissolved. After the suppression of the Satsuma Rebellion of 1877, the Government, flushed with its recent victory, grew more and more arbitrary. It thus became necessary to revive the defunct *Aikoku-sha*, the members of which put forth their exertions for the establishment of a National Assembly. The Association again became a political party under the well-known title of *Jiyu-to* (Radical party). The members of the *Jiyu-to* were regarded by the Government as though they were venomous serpents, and no means were spared to persecute and exterminate them. Some were beheaded, many were thrown into prison, and not a few were reduced to the last extremities of starvation and beggary. The party was again dissolved and revived under the name of *Daido Danketsu*, from which it has finally grown into the present Radical party. Such being its sad history, the Radicals, if they were so disposed, might now turn upon their former oppressors and be revenged upon them to their hearts' content. "But," says the Radical leader, "our party is impartial, and its aim is to increase the glory of the Imperial House and to promote the welfare of the people. . . . . Neither power nor poverty can make us swerve from our object. We are in no way the slaves of our personal resentment, it being our constant object to tread the path of justice. We can never be betrayed by our personal feelings into disregarding national interests. They are not our friends, who try to thwart public weal on account of personal and private considerations." Count Itagaki then goes on to review the conduct of his party in the past sessions of the Diet. In the first session, their inexperience of party politics prevented the Radicals from effecting any noteworthy results. In the second session, they tried to pursue what they called a positive policy, in so far as they were able to do so. In the third session, they simply rejected the Bills which had been the cause of the dissolution. In the fourth session, they endeavoured, on the one hand, to effect the reform of Clan Government, and on the other, to pass various practical measures in the fields of commerce, industry, navigation, and colonization. They plainly gave it to be understood that they were ready to vote supplies for new work in any Department of State in which satisfactory reforms were effected. The Radicals, the Count declares, do not like to quarrel with the Government; they only regret that reforms are not satisfactorily carried out. If the desired reforms are carried out, they would fain consent to pass the ordinary estimates without much alteration from year to year. As to the reduction of public expenses and the nourishing of the resources of the people, the celebrated Imperial Message issued toward the close of the last session of the Diet, holds the Government responsible to effect adequate reforms for this purpose, and the Diet, too, has to see that the Government redeems its pledge. Then passing on to the question of alliance in the Diet, the Radical leader remarks that his party will not hereafter rely on the support of any other party. He acknowledges the importance of cooperation in order to secure a majority in the House, but the past experience of his party—with the Progressionists, of course, although he does not say so—has convinced it of the folly of seeking alliance with any party under the present state of things. The Radicals will, therefore, try to carry out their views independently, though in exceptional cases exceptional methods may be adopted. As to the programme in the coming session, the Radicals will demand the re-assessment of the taxable value of land, the reduction of the land tax, and the revision of various laws. They will also pay attention to the extension of steamship navigation, the construction of railways, and the encouragement of industries. As to the two agrarian reforms mentiond above, no open decision has as yet been made by the party, but the majority of its members are said to be in their favour. Other measures will be introduced by the Radicals, but no public mention of them can as yet be made.

* * *

Such in brief is the gist of the article by Count Itagaki. It will be noticed that its tone is very moderate and reasonable, and the position of the party, as explained by him, seems to be exactly what it has been for the past few months. Has its recent change of attitude towards the Government been only apparent and not real? It would seem that such has been the case, if we take Count Itagaki's article by itself. But further light is thrown upon the subject by the other article alluded to at the outset. It is an editorial, and hence, anonymous article on the recent suspension of the *Jiyu*. Our contemporary severely criticises the summary manner in which the authorities proceeded in suspending the paper, the measure having been decided upon even before the contents of the objectionable issue were presented to the sight of the authorities. Such conduct, it states, is peculiary unbecoming in a Cabinet which has promised to conduct the administration in a constitutional manner. The affair has led our contemporary to discover that it had hitherto held the Government in too high esteem. However, the *Jiyu* considers it waste of time to repeat the arguments against the suppression of the freedom of the press. "In order to obtain that freedom, the open enemy of Constitutional Government has to be pulled down, and the whole evil removed from its very source." Consequently the Radical organ will not continue for the present the revelations which brought about its recent misfortune.

GREAT MEETING OF TEA MANUFACTURERS AND MERCHANTS AT SHIZUOKA.

AN important meeting of those engaged in the tea industry was held at Shizuoka and lasted three days, from the 10th till the 12th inst. Mr. Mayeda Masano, formerly Vice-Minister for Agriculture and Commerce occupied the chair. Seeing with extreme concern the disfavour with which Japanese tea was being received in America, its best market, owing to deterioration in quality, Mr. Mayeda undertook, when he occupied the influential position of Vice-Minister of the Noshomusho, to organise a central society of tea merchants and manufacturers. The Japan Manufacturing Society formed in 1890, was the outcome of that movement, but owing to defects in its organization, it ceased to exist without accomplishing any work of importance. This convinced Mr. Mayeda of the necessity of visiting the tea districts to talk to the merchants and manufacturers and try to inspire them with the importance of improving the manufacture of the staple. As soon as he was relieved of his post in the Department, he at once started on a lecturing tour, and about three years,—if we remember aright—have been devoted by Mr Mayeda to this object. His labours were not in vain. Tea manufacturers and merchants of the Kwansei districts and of Kyushu have organized themselves into Unions, while those in the adjacent districts met together last year at Ise, and finally the grand meeting was held at Shizuoka where representatives from every tea-producing district in the country were assembled. The object of the meeting was to take such steps as might be considered necessary to increase the sale of the product. Mr. Mayeda proposes to establish a central body which shall be maintained by the contribution of half a pound of tea from every one engaged in the industry. The total number of people thus engaged being roughly 1,200.000, the contribution would amount to 600,000 pounds of tea, and estimating the price per pound at 20 *sen*, the office would obtain a sum of *yen* 120.000 from the aggregate of these petty subscriptions. Besides that sum, Mr. Mayeda intends to have *yen* 300 000 granted to the central body out of the export duty imposed on tea. With these preliminary remarks, which we have mostly gathered from the *Shogyo Shimpo*, the following is what transpired at the meeting. The reason which led Mr. Mayeda and others of influence to hold the meeting at Shizuoka, was not only because it is the most important tea district in Japan, but of its generally central position. Eighty-nine deputies in all from the various districts attended the meeting, and these were augmented by outsiders, amongst whom Viscount Sano was conspicuous, until the total number present reached one hundred and fifty-four. Many speeches and addresses were delivered. But the most important part of the business of the meeting was the discussion upon

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Mr. Mayeda's proposition. This consisted of four articles, to the following effect:—

1. Unless native manufacturers and merchants combine with reference to the tea industry, and before foreigners undertake such an enterprise, whatever privileges are now enjoyed, may be lost.

2. Discussions about the abolition of the duty on tea should give way to deliberations on other matters calculated to achieve the objects of the tea associations.

3. Time does not admit of individual operations. All efforts should be concentrated in the work of co-operation.

4. Deputies should be despatched from the Kwansei Tea Association, Kyushu Tea Association, and from the tea manufacturers and merchants of the Kwanto districts to Chicago before the close of the World's Fair.

The first three articles received the unanimous consent of the Assembly, but with regard to the last, it was considered advisable to leave it in abeyance, a view in which Mr. Mayeda himself concurred.

* * *

The Meeting was then dissolved and a friendly gathering took place in the evening at the Fugetsu-ro. We understand that the manufacturers of the Kwanto district who have not yet combined will hold a meeting in February next for that purpose, and subsequently deputies from all the local bodies will come together in Tokyo for the purpose of inaugurating the grand Association under which every tea manufacturer and merchant in the country will be placed.

MARQUIS ASANO AND MR. NISHIGORI GOSEI.

MARQUIS ASANO, guardian of the late Viscount Soma Seiin, and Mr. Nishigori were yesterday summoned to the Tokyo Local Court to be examined before Preliminary Judge Okada. During the course of the proceedings, the plaintiff, Mr. Nishigori, requested Marquis Asano to explain the harsh treatment the Viscount received at the hands of his attendants. No satisfactory answers were given by the Marquis, and the plaintiff pressed the point until the Marquis becoming exasperated lost control of his temper, finally striking Mr. Nishigori on the head with his fist. Judge Okada expressed surprise at such behaviour, and the Marquis at once apologized to the Court for his unseemly conduct. Thus the *Asahi Shimbun*.

JAPANESE IN FOREIGN EMPLOYMENT.

A CONSIDERABLE number of Japanese are in the employment of foreigners at Yokohama, but owing to their neglect to forward the necessary information to the local authorities, much inconvenience is caused in preparing the census returns. The matter was referred by the Chairman of the Yokohama City Council to the Governor of Kanagawa who conferred with the Consuls of the respective Powers on the subject. The *Mainichi* says that the Consuls having given their assent, the officials connected with the work of collecting the census returns, will be free to make their enquiries at the dwellings of foreigners. A similar method will be applied to Portuguese, Mexicans, and Koreans.

DEATH OF COUNTESS YAMAGATA.

WE regret to learn of the death of Countess Yamagata, wife of the President of the Privy Council, which sad event took place in the capital on the 12th inst at 10.15 a.m. The deceased noblewoman was in the forty-third year of her age. The funeral will take place on the 15th inst. at 2 p.m., at which time the bier will leave the family residence at Mejiro. The interment takes place in the Gokoku temple grounds. Count Inouye, Viscount Hijikata, Count and Countess Oyama, Mr. Mutsu, Mr. Yoshikawa, and many other distinguished persons have paid visits of condolence.

AN ANCIENT CRAFT.

THE "Look-out Man" in a recent issue of *Fairplay* writes:—It is said that the oldest sailing-vessel afloat is the *Svanen*, of Copenhagen. She is reported to have been built in 1777, and is consequently 116 years old. She has long been engaged in the Iceland fishing trade, which is by no means the lightest kind of employment a vessel can be engaged in. It is stated that the *Svanen* is accepted by underwriters at the same premium as new vessels. It would be of interest to know who those underwriters are. But cannot some of the Cumberland owners trot out an older craft than the above? My impression is that they can, and I shall be glad to hear from any one of them who can throw the Danish brigantine into the shade.

UNIVERSITY MUSEUM OF OXFORD.

IN the Report of the Curator of the Pitt-Rivers Museum (Ethnographical Department) just issued, we notice that several valuable additions have been made to the Museum by donors in the Far East. Professor B. H. Chamberlain, Imperial University, Tokyo, contributes a large collection of interesting articles from Shinto and Buddhist temples, such as costumes, votive pictures, presents, and charms of all sorts from various parts of Japan; also a number of objects made by the Ainu and other antiquities from Yezo. Mr. W. G. Aston presented a Buddhist palm-leaf MS. from Kandy, Ceylon.

"LANCASTER" MINSTRELS.

A PERFORMANCE was given by the Minstrel troupe of the U.S. steamer *Lancaster* on Thursday evening on board their vessel. A stage was erected on the deck with drop screen, wings, and other accessories, while Japanese lanterns were hung in festoons round about and added to the picturesqueness of the scene. The entertainment began with the usual songs and "goaks," after which a variety performance was given, which proved highly amusing, especially the sketch entitled the "Sunny South;" the whole concluding with a farce. The Flagship's band was in attendance and played selections at intervals. The decks during the evening were crowded with the guests of the officers and the friends of the crew.

REV. W. WESTON'S RESIGNATION.

THE Rev. W. Weston explains, in a letter published in the *Hyogo News*, that his reason for resigning the chaplaincy at Kobe is due solely to an affection of the eyes, which, much to his regret, has on several occasions interfered with his work by causing him to go away for needed rest. He has been strongly recommended by his medical adviser to leave Japan on this account. Preceding his sermon on Sunday evening Mr. Weston made a short allusion to the matter, speaking feelingly of the wrench the parting will be to him, and warmly acknowledging his indebtedness for constant friendliness and help.

ALLOWANCES OF CUSTOM HOUSE OFFICIALS.

THE *Mainichi* advocates a reform in the treatment of Custom House Officials, who appear to enjoy exceptional privileges in the way of short hours of duty and special allowances for extra time. The former consists of five hours only per day and the latter is on a sliding scale by which officers of every grade derive some benefit. Our contemporary takes credit for being the first to bring this matter before the public, and although of no great significance, it ought to be included among the other schemes of retrenchment in official expenditures.

VANDERBILT'S NEW YACHT.

MR. W. K. VANDERBILT'S new yacht, built by the Lairds of Birkenhead, is 312 feet long and 2,400 tonnage, with engines of 4,500 horse-power, driving twin screws. She is brig-rigged, and has tall spars. The total cost is said to be $750,000; and to give an idea of the roominess of the vessel we may mention that one saloon is thirty-four feet broad. Artists have been at work for months on the state-rooms, and probably it is the most luxurious yacht afloat. The crew numbers seventy, and most of them are Scandinavians. This is not a new departure, says an American paper, as most of the *Alva's* men were Danes, Norwegians or Swedes.

IMPERIAL UNIVERSITY.

THE following appointments in the Imperial University were gazetted on the 11th inst.:—Prof. Toyama Seichi, Director of the College of Literature; Prof. Furuichi Koi, Director of the College of Engineering; Prof. Yamakawa Kenjiro, Director of the College of Science; Prof. Hozumi Nobushige, Director of the College of Law; Prof. Matsui Naokichi, Director of the College of Agriculture; and Prof. Koganei Ryosei, Director of the College of Medicine. Various other changes took place the same day.

ACCIDENT IN THE HARBOUR.

A CURIOUS bathing accident happened in the harbour about noon yesterday. An apprentice on board the British barque *Oread*, now undergoing extensive alterations and repairs, dived from the ship's gangway and as he entered the water, his head struck some object which was unobservable from the ship's side. He was able to return to the vessel without assistance, when it was found that he had sustained a severe scalp wound. Dr. Munro was quickly in attendance and the lad is now making favourable progress towards recovery.

CONTRACT FOR THE OSAKA WATER-WORKS.

THE members of the Osaka City Council appear to be incurring the displeasure of the citizens in consequence of the late trouble between them and Messrs. Jardine Matheson & Co. over the contract to supply iron-pipes for the water-works. The *Mainichi* notes that several meetings have been held in the respective subdivisions of the city with the view of finding out who were responsible for the late mismanagement.

EARTHQUAKES.

TELEGRAPHIC intelligence despatched by the Governor of Kagoshima and received by the Home Minister states that earth tremors continue, and three strong shocks were felt at Chiran-mura on the 10th inst., which were followed by ten weak tremors. Seven severe oscillations were experienced the following day, and some ten feeble shocks followed. A telegraphic message from Kumamoto to the *Asahi Shimbun* reports a violent shock of earthquake on the 13th inst. at 4 a.m.

RATHER MIXED.

THE Punjabi has a loyal but rather mixed conception about our English Royalties. In answer to the question, 'What is the surname of the Prince of Wales' one of a class undergoing examination in conversational English promptly replied 'Salisbury, but there has been an election since.' No less astonishing was the information that 'Mr. Caine, who lectured on the sin of drinking,' was a member of the Royal family!

H.M.S. "SWIFT" AT BANGKOK.

THE *Singapore Free Press* of the 28th inst. says:—H.M.S. *Swift* came in about noon yesterday from the west, and after only a stay of a minute or two in order to receive orders and despatches from the Senior Naval Officer, steamed straight out of the roadstead. Her destination is Bangkok, where she takes the place of H.M.S. *Linnet*.

TOMIOKA FILATURE.

THE highest tender for the purchase of the Tomioka Filature in Gumma Prefecture has been sent in by Mr. Mitsui Takayasu. The details are as follow:—*yen* 121,460, Mr. Mitsui; *yen* 103,170, Mr. Shimozato Dembei, of Shiga; *yen* 102,550½, Mr. Hayashi Kunizo, of Nagano; *yen* 102,050 Mr. Yoshizawa Rihachi, of Nagano; and *yen* 75,202.10 Mr. Morimura Gyota, of Gumma.

WRECK OF A SAILING VESSEL.

THE *Sinyo Maru*, a sailing vessel, owned by a resident of Aomori Prefecture, was caught and wrecked in a gale on the 4th inst. while passing Okujiri on her return voyage from Watsukanai, Hokkaido. Twenty-two passengers, out of a complement of twenty-eight, were drowned, and seven corpses have floated ashore.

DEATH OF MR. ENDO KINSUKE.

MR. ENDO, ex-Chief Commissioner of the Osaka Mint, died of dysentery on the 12th inst. at Kobe. The deceased was an able official and was in the service of the Mint since its establishment in 1870 up to a very recent date.

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THE MODERN PRESS.

THRE is no longer room to conceal the fact that a steadily growing section of the thinking public regards the newspaper press of our day as a curse Every man has his own ideals, and to Englishmen, of course, the English newspaper stands at the head of journalism. But even when full allowance is made for national prejudice, we do candidly believe that if all newspapers were conducted on the lines of the leading English journals, the fourth estate would not now be gradually and steadily falling into disrepute. The better class of English newspaper seeks above all things to speak the truth and to do justice; eschews personalities; never questions the motives of its opponents; avoids scandal; respects the privacy of households and individuals; bestows its praise and blame honestly; and in controversy endeavours not to misrepresent an antagonist or to treat him with discourtesy. That is a simple code of morality. It contains no item that goes beyond the ordinary duty of every ordinary individual. Yet how diametrically it varies from the code practised by so many newspapers! DON FERNANDO DE ANTON, writing in the *Revista Contemporanea* for July, has this to say about the modern newspaper:—

The press has undoubtedly all the faults of this age as well as its virtues. It is hasty and inconstant, easily swayed from side to side, given to pandering to the multitude. There was a time when the press echoed the noblest sentiments, when the greatest men were proud to speak through its columns to the people, when those columns were opened to every generous doctrine, every noble thought. Those times are past. Cool and courteous argument no longer belongs to the newspaper. The press is now an established political tribune, where endless speeches are made upon political subjects, coloured to suit party purposes. The press of the beginning of our century was a beautiful model, which has not been followed in its further development. Therefore, the glorious times are past when a newspaper man would frequently leave the columns of his sheet to take part in the deliberations of a Ministry.

Ideal politics have been succeeded by distinctly practical politics; the purely, or almost purely, political press has become a very diversified institution. Is it quite certain to be an advantage that we advance in a few days further than our ancestors advanced by years of hard work? But do we not lack seriousness in our judgment, fixity of ideas, dignity in our criticism, solid conviction in our opinions? And if we do not lack these qualities, why are we so ready to worship the idols to-day which we execrated yesterday? Why is there so little logic in our lives? *Quién Sabe!* It is certain that the press has been transformed with the society which it reflects, and if we recognize no longer in its columns the light shield of the languid, aristocratic dreamer, we find the rather more objectionable and ponderous armour of gross materialists. What a variety in the contents of the papers! They would be called regula books, if they were not so full of huge telegrams. There is religious news and quotations from the stock-exchange: talks about an upstart citizen who expects a decoration or title to veil his low origin, and scandal about the ancient noble falling away from his high state. To the bad instincts of the money-seeker this press panders, it begins and ends with advertisements. It accuses without pity and defends without reason; it elevates or pulls down its heroes without any other reason than that based upon the impressions of the moment; it ignores what it has said, and often does not know why it has expressed its opinion as it did. The press had a sacred mission to perform. It could have ennobled the people—instead of which it is only a money-making concern. In place of the pen, a pair of scissors; instead of intelligence, the haste to be first in the market, instead of greatness of expression, insolence. Book criticisms, are usually written by the audacious author or his friends: in fact, any one who is willing to pay make use of the press for his aggrandisement. The little cadet, just out of the military school, is made into a hero; any one may be called illustrious who, though a born fool, manages to draw the press into his service. Surely the carnival does not only last three days; it lasts from one end of the year to the other in this incomparable press, which advertises soap as if it were a man, and men as if they were some kinds of soap!

This critic seeks to soften the lines of his harsh picture by placing the fault on the shoulders of the public. "The press," he says, "is not to blame for its faults: it does not form the opinions of the public, but public opinion forms the press. An honorable, pure, dignified, noble, generous press would only be possible if a public with noble qualities could be found to support it." The excuse is just, but its application seems to us too extended. The same apology might be made for prurient publications like *La Vie Parisienne* or demoralizing exhibitions such as may be seen any night in a Western capital. Human nature has certain evil propensities of which there appears to be no likelihood of its divesting itself on this side of the Millenium. Can the existence of those propensities be fairly pleaded in excuse for a journal that truckles to them? As well justify an adulterator of food on the ground that the public palate is not subtle enough to reject everything impure. Editors of newspapers are surely bound, if they have any respect for themselves or pride in their calling, to appeal to the nobler side of human nature instead of pandering to its baser. If they conclude that their largest market is to be found among persons who love sensational items, who revel in slander and personalities, who long to pry into the affairs of their neighbours, and who think that acuteness consists in detecting degraded motives under every act of their fellows, and if, guided by that conclusion, they lay themselves out to cater for that market, then surely it is no excuse to say that the market exists, nor is it fair to pretend that the existence of the market is responsible for the deliberate choice of those who adapt their wares to it. A newspaper can be exactly what its editor wishes to make it. In the great majority of cases, we believe it to be a true reflection of himself. Whatever evil qualities are persistently betrayed in its columns, these qualities will assuredly be found dominant in the character of its editor. If a journal prefers abuse to argument and personalities to logic, its editor can not but be a man of vulgar and mean proclivities. If the tone of its comments is always harsh and unsympathetic, its editor is in all probability an unsuccessful and disappointed person. If it attributes to base motives everything that does not match its own creed, its editor is assuredly himself swayed by base influences. If, under the cloak of anonymity, it opens its columns to correspondents who, under innumerable aliases, stab and slander others, or if, in its own articles, it employs language which the writer dare not use in the presence of its object, then the editor may be safely set down as a liar and a coward. How is the offence of such a journal condoned by saying that its issues sell? Wares of a wholly different nature sell also, but to produce them a man must have something in common with them. Who that now-a-days takes up a journal and finds in its columns some attack upon another's reputation, some sensational scandal, or some highly painted account of an unusual occurrence, can pretend that there remains with him a sense of confidence in what he has read? On the contrary, he lays down the paper in a state of entire uncertainty how much he may credit, or how much he should regard as pure invention made to sell. Can it be doubted, again, that the brotherhood of nations would be a much less hopeless consummation if newspapers could be restrained from accentuating international prejudices and exaggerating causes of offence? Journals have usually a great deal to say about their own usefulness and about the noble rôle they play in human progress, but when the history of their influence, as they exist at present, comes to be written with impartiality and discrimination, some of the jewels will be plucked from their self-manufactured crown.

RACIAL PREDOMINANCE AND THE FUTURE OF CIVILIZATION.

IF twenty years ago a cultured Englishman or American had been asked "Who shall inherit the earth," the unhesitating answer would have been: "The Western section of the Indo-European races, more particularly the Teutonic tribes, and of these pre-eminently the English-speaking races. The general superiority of the nations of Western Europe can hardly be denied, whilst the extraordinary colonial expansion of the English-speaking races during the past century points to them as chiefly destined to conquer in the struggle for existence." But since that time the nations of Western Europe have begun to realise their inability to form permanent colonies within about thirty degrees of the equator, and the negro problem of the Southern States of the American Union is assuming a new phase as it becomes evident that one kind of superiority at least cannot be denied to the man of colour—a superior adaptation to his environment which leads to an increase of population far more rapid than that of the white. And even in other kinds of superiority the justice of our claims has been freely questioned.

The question of racial predominance is passing from the domain of arrogant assertion to that of scientific investigation, and one of the most interesting of recent contributions to the subject is Dr. PEARSON'S

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"National life and character; a forecast." Scientific forecasts resemble religious forecasts (vulgarly known as prophecies) in being liable to error, but the former have the advantage of being based on deduction from the data obtained by observation of existing tendencies. In so far as our forecasts are truly scientific, that is in proportion to the extent and accuracy of the data of inference and in proportion to the certainty with which we can exclude the future operation of factors not working in the past, just so far they rise superior to prophecy, and are worthy of serious attention.

The first requisite of the scientific forecast is undoubtedly fulfilled by the work of Dr. PEARSON. He has made an exhaustive investigation of existing tendencies, and has therefrom carefully deduced his results. In brief, his conclusions are these. First, that the period of active colonial expansion is almost at an end—the world is being filled up. Second, that the white man can only thrive in the temperate zones, and that "the most fertile parts of the earth are thus the inalienable freehold of the inferior races"—Chinese, African, and Hindoo. Third, that as we, the white races, become thus compelled to confine our energies within our own borders, we shall be involved in serious social, political, and economical changes. Fourth, that the two increasing evils of militarism and (if we may coin the word) oppidism, the ever-increasing expenditure of blood and money in armies, and the ever advancing depopulation of the rural districts, are two serious dangers threatening the stability of our civilization. Fifth, that our characters are decaying amid the weakening influences of modern life. We have not space to explain what these influences are and how they act; but those who have fully grasped the significance of TENNYSON'S line "the individual withers, and the world is more and more" will easily understand why Dr. PEARSON looks forward to a time "when the lower races will predominate in the world, when the higher races will lose their noblest elements, when we shall ask nothing from the day but to live, nor from the future but that we may not deteriorate."

It will be seen that Dr. PEARSON'S views are somewhat gloomy; they might almost be called pessimistic. Nor does he seem to see any way of avoiding our fate; we must march forward, stoically accepting the inevitable. But is it inevitable? Has the second requisite of a scientific forecast been taken into account? Are there not indications that in the future new tendencies may come into play, and save us from the decadent course so clearly mapped out for us by Dr. PEARSON? Can we not find, amid the ashes of an outworn civilization, the seeds of a moral rebirth? Does the decay and dissolution of the old ideals imply a contented and mulish acceptance of the actual? No, a thousand times, no. We are in a period of transition. Most of us run aimlessly hither and thither, not knowing what we seek; but this will not be for ever, and even now new ideals are arising, and the twin spirits of Commercialism and Commonplace no longer hold undisputed sway.

Religion is dying, if by religion is meant the formalisms with which the ideals of men were once inseparably connected. Loss of faith in ideals which keep such questionable company has given the death-blow to the old creeds, and if these be religion assuredly none need regret its loss. But if by religion we mean the earnest endeavour to transform the actual by pursuit of the ideal, this is above all others a religious age. It is possible, of course, to look down upon our Anarchisms, our Socialisms, our Positivisms, has the mere fads and bubbles of a decaying civilization; it is possible to look back with regret to a sterner, simpler time when TOLSTOI and CARPENTER would have been sent to Bedlam, GEORGE and BURNS to the block, HARRISON and CONGREVE to the stake. But it is also possible, amid all the crudities, the absurdities, and the untruths of our new faiths, to recognize in them genuine elements of good, and to hail with joy the rebirth of the ideal.

It is natural that MR. FREDERIC HARRISON, one of the ablest and most enthusiastic preachers of a new faith, should hasten to reply (*Fortnightly Review* for July) to the gloomy forecast of DR. PEARSON. The latter is accused, and we think justly, of neglecting to take into account the transforming forces of our new-born ideals. "No doubt," says MR. HARRISON, "if civilisation is to lose all its noblest forces, its ancient beliefs, its hopes of heaven, its passion for the beautiful, and its spirit of self-sacrifice, and yet to retain all its love of domination, its traditions of caste, its love of enjoyment, its rage after wealth, and its disdain for tenderness, discipline and rest, the future of mankind must be dreary and ungracious enough. But we have no right to rob Humanity of its higher and perpetuate its lower attributes: the real pessimism lies in assuming that the material side of modern civilization is destined to permanence, and the spiritual side of civilization is destined to atrophy and decay."

MR. HARRISON does not doubt the accuracy of DR. PEARSON'S conclusions about the limitation of the white races to the temperate zones, but the prospect does not appear to fill him with dismay. He says: "The wages of sin is death; and the wages of national buccaneering is disaster in the end. Why should we wish to see the white man settled in any but in the temperate zones, where he best thrives? In the tropics he is never at his best: some of his fiercer qualities shine out there for a time, but his nobler side, his spiritual life, is dormant, and he sinks too readily into the sot or the brute. It would be a wild dream to imagine the white race to cover the planet and drive out the coloured races, as the Western man has nearly done in Northern America. There is no conceivable prospect of the white man ever being in the majority, and with his enormous superiority in initiative and self-assertion it would hardly conduce to the good of mankind if he were. There is not the least reason to assume that the balance of the white, yellow, and black races of mankind will ever be very largely changed—and there is none to wish that it should be. Any large attempts to alter the *habitat* of the races on the planet are full of evil. They end in race dominion, race antipathy, slavery, intemperance, pride, sloth, and lust.

"But why the 'higher races'? Europeans and North Americans are (for the most part) considerably in advance of any coloured race *in very many essential points*. Every one admits that they lead the van of civilization, that they have committed to them *at present* the priceless inheritance of mankind. But it was not so always. All the early steps (perhaps the most difficult steps) of civilization were taken by those who dwelt in Asia and in Africa. All the great religions rose in Asia or in Africa; all the first ethical ideas; all the primitive axioms of science; all the germs of social organization were there formed. As to race, who knows anything exact about the affinities of those to whom we owe ships, carts, domestic animals, the year, the month, the metals, and the alphabet, to say nothing of the Ten Commandments, ideas about the relation of the living to the dead, and the life before or after the grave? Down to the later Roman Empire, and well into the ages of the Christian Church, the idea of an inherent aristocracy in the European race had never dawned. In war, in commerce, in science, in enterprise, the white man has an enormous superiority to-day. But the coloured races have noble intellectual and moral qualities of their own—delicacy of perception, patience, perseverance, gentleness, warmth of affection, passive courage, love of nature and of animals, subtle imagination, which are of priceless value. There is no 'highest' race in any absolute sense.

"If the 'higher races' were consistently to act as if they were 'higher,' things would be different from what they are. Hitherto, they have too often acted only as 'the stronger.' They have conquered, ruled the darker races, put them to task-work, and made them tributaries, almost serfs. Their aim has been empire, trade, gain, but not the moral improvement of the 'lower races,' who have been looked on as fellaheen, coolies, ryots, niggers, and the like."

"When Europe and America have raised themselves to a higher moral standard, they will be in a fit position to offer a moral standard to others. It may be true that

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the lower races increase faster than the higher by reason of their low standard of culture; but the answer is that we must raise their standard of culture. The idea that all dark skins are of a race innately 'lower,' in the sense of being unfit for progress and civilization, is an idea born of imperial insolence, an inhuman religion, and a narrow conception of human progress."

We can only summarise Mr. HARRISON'S views concerning the danger of militarism, and the danger of the growth of large towns. The first is to be counteracted by Home Rule and democracy, which are the natural antagonists of great military establishments. He has not much hope of an exodus to the country, but he thinks that with the cessation of industrial expansion the growth of towns will cease, and an enlightened civic patriotism will then succeed in making them "wholesome, beautiful, pleasant, convenient. It is a tremendous task, but it is not beyond the resources of civilisation in the twentieth century."

Mr. HARRISON concludes his reply to Dr. PEARSON by declining to accept the latter's view of the general decay of character. We must confess that just as Dr. PEARSON'S forecast appeared too gloomy, so Mr. HARRISON'S appears somewhat over cheerful. He has a constitutional infirmity (or is it a religious bias?) which leads him always to overlook the darker side of the picture. But even if we fail to share the enthusiasm with which he contemplates the future of the Kingdom of Man, we may re-assert our own conviction that in the rebirth of the ideal lies the secret of social salvation.

THE DARWINIAN THEORY.

WHEN the problems we discussed in the above article have all been solved, when struggles for racial predominance have ceased and a universal and uniform civilisation prevails, there cannot be much doubt that the man of the future, whether he be the dull and listless creature of Dr. PEARSON'S forecast, or the glorious being of Mr. HARRISON'S imagination, will look back with considerable interest to the period in which our own lot is cast. From that distant point of view it may well be that many things which loom large in our field of vision may to him appear insignificant, and much perhaps which to us is the pride of our century may to him appear to constitute its worst features. We may venture to hope, for instance, that much of the material progress which constitutes the "Grandeur of Nineteenth Century Civilization," and which, under our very eyes is introducing many of its ugliest features into the mediæval paradise of Japan, will in the coming ages evolve into quieter and less unlovely forms; we may hope that to the man of the future our railways and our factories, our telegraph wires and our sky-signs, our torpedoes and our hundred-ton guns, will appear the sad but inevitable incidents of youth. Not for these things whose size and clatter monopolizes the attention of the crowd is the nineteenth century momentous, its most marked features in the sphere of practice have been the completion of the industrial revolution and the movement towards social democracy, the general diffusion of education and the growth of international communication—all of which things are of course largely conditioned by the purely material features of our progress. In the sphere of ethics, again, we have ventured to hope that we are at the outset of a moral renascence. But no change in our century has been more striking than the change in our point of view, which is so vast that if we should imagine three cultured men of the eighth, the eighteenth and the end of the nineteenth centuries respectively to be placed in the same room together, there would, we believe, be more power of mutual understanding between the man of the eighth century and the man of the eighteenth than between the man of the eighteenth century and the man of our own time. Whilst in the eighteenth century supernaturalistic explanations had in many departments of thought given place to naturalistic, and whilst a few individuals such as HUME and DIDEROT, might be found unwilling to accept any but naturalistic explanations, the general sense of the community was still opposed to rationalism. Now the whole aspect of nature has changed for us, and notwithstanding the here and there lingering belief in the supernatural, notwithstanding the mental haziness which enables many to hold simultaneously two opposing creeds, keeping that one uppermost of which at the moment they have need, notwithstanding even the surprising fervour of the Theosophical Society, the practical belief in supernatural interference with physical law has dwindled almost to invisibility, and the triumph of rationalism is complete. This, it seems to us, will in the future appear the most characteristic and glorious achievement of our century, this will be the most far-reaching in its effects. And when we turn to investigate the causes of so vast a change we find one of out-standing importance, the influence of the Darwinian theory.

Fully to discuss the manner in which this all-important change has been assisted by the growth of Darwinism would lead us beyond the scope of the present article, whose chief purpose is to refer our readers to one of the most recent works on the subject, "The Darwinian Theory" by Mr. ROMANES. This volume is the first of a projected series of three, entitled "Darwin, and after Darwin." The second will contain a study of "Post-Darwinian Questions," the various aspects which the evolutionary hypothesis has assumed in the works of WALLACE, WEISMANN, EIMER and other great naturalists, and the subsidiary problems of Heredity, Utility, Isolation, etc., with which controversy is now mainly concerned. The third volume will deal with the purely historical side of biological science; being of less general interest, the publication of this, strictly speaking the first instalment of his work, may, says Mr. ROMANES, "be allowed to stand over for an indefinite time."

The present volume consists of two portions, dealing respectively with "Evolution," and "Selection." This division is logically sound and practically useful; for it is essential that the question as to the fact of evolution should be recognized as quite distinct from the question as to its causes. When DARWIN began to write on the subject, the attitude of most naturalists towards existing evolutionary hypotheses was one of undisguised contempt; the special-creation theory was still an article of faith; and a clear, and consistent, and plausible theory of the causes, such as that offered by DARWIN, was needed before men could begin even to consider the possibility of evolution. But now the fact is so little in question, that since the death of OWEN hardly a single great naturalist could be named who does not consider the case for evolution as fully demonstrated; and the sole remaining dispute is as to the factors of the process. Modern biological research, stimulated by the desire to find evidence in support of the various theories, and guided in its aim by the new light thrown by these theories, has made the case for the fact of evolution so overwhelming, that it is widely accepted even by teachers of dogmatic Christianity. When such men speak of evolution, it is no longer with denial of its truth; they occupy themselves and amuse the public with their attempts to show how admirably the theories of DARWIN support the Mosaic account of the creation; or they endeavour to replace the ruined and discredited teleology of PALEY and the Bridge water Treatises by a subtler and more insinuating Argument from Design, whose roots shall be firmly planted in the very camp of the enemy. Those who survived the irresistible logic of HUME and KANT will we fear unblushingly continue to demonstrate the existence of the DEITY as shown by the design manifested in his works; but a careful study of Mr. ROMANES' book will show all open-minded readers that the new teleology is as utterly untenable as the old.

It must not be supposed that Mr. ROMANES' book is a piece of anti-religious polemic; but the case being one of evolution *versus* special creation, of physical law *versus* divine interference, of naturalism *versus* supernaturalism, the discussion of such questions cannot be avoided, and his treatment of them is all that it ought to be—fair, clear, and philosophical; and

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we cannot conclude this article more fitly than by quoting his closing paragraph:

"Upon the whole, then, it seems to me that such evidence as we have is against rather than in favour of the inference, that if design be operative in animate nature it has reference to animal enjoyment or well-being, as distinguished from animal improvement or evolution. And if this result should be found distasteful to the religious mind—if it be felt that there is no desire to save the evidences of design unless they serve at the same time to testify to the nature of that design as beneficent,—I must once more observe that the difficulty thus presented to theism is not a difficulty of modern creation. On the contrary, it has always constituted the fundamental difficulty with which natural theologians have had to contend. The external world appears, in this respect, to be at variance with our moral sense; and when the antagonism is brought home to the religious mind, it must ever be with a shock of terrified surprise. It has been newly brought home to us by the generalizations of DARWIN; and therefore, as I said at the beginning, the religious thought of our generation has been more than ever staggered by the question—Where is now thy GOD? But I have endeavoured to show that the logical standing of the case has not been materially changed; and when this cry of Reason pierces the heart of Faith, it remains for Faith to answer now, as she has always answered before—and answered with that trust which is at once her beauty and her life—Verily thou art a GOD that hidest thyself."

CORRESPONDENCE.

Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

INDEPENDENCY OF MISSIONS IN JAPAN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In the summaries of the religious press which appear from time to time in the *Japan Mail*, frequent reference is made to the opinion that the Christians of Japan are "under the control of the missionaries." It is proper to enquire whether this opinion is correct.

In the Protestant Christian community the two strongest bodies, numerically at least, are the Congregational (Kumiai Kyokai) and the Presbyterian (Nihon Kirisuto Kyokai), and they represent more than two-thirds of the whole. Now, whatever may be said as to missionary dominance in other Protestant churches, the fact respecting these two is that the alleged dominance does not exist, and cannot exist, so long as the church constitutions remain as they are now. Congregationalism, as its name implies, means the autonomy of each individual congregation, and a missionary's influence in any self-supporting congregation, with which he may connect himself, depends on his personality as a Christian irrespective of his status as a missionary. No doubt his judgment is oftentimes deferred to; but this is simply because it is regarded as trustworthy. In a self-supporting Presbyterian congregation the missionary's place is precisely similar. Only in congregations which depend for their support to greater or less extent on mission funds may missionaries, individually or as missions, attempt any measure of direction; but inasmuch as it is an integral part of mission theory to encourage self-support and the exercise by Japanese Christians of all church functions, it is hardly probable that even in these financially dependent churches the foreigner are oppressors. In the Presbyterian church a portion of the authority that is exercised rests with the several presbyteries, and with the Synod, which is the highest court of the church—very much as is is the case in modern systems of representative civil government. Missionaries may become regular members of these church courts: viz., of presbytery, by applying for admission thereto after having severed their church connections at home, and of Synod, according as they are elected in presbytery as ordinary representatives. The Japanese members are very largely in the majority in all of these assemblies, and by way of illustrating their disposition "to control their own affairs" it is only necessary to allude to the formation of the present creed and constitution of the church, some three years ago, when missionary opinion, not to say authority, counted practically for nothing.

In the Congregational body also there are representative conferences in which missionaries take part, as "associate members," but with powers that are certainly no *greater* than those referred to above.

So much for the possibility of missionary dominance in the ordinary work of these two churches. Nor is there any essential difference with respect to the conduct of what is called "Home Mission Work," viz., that which is supported by the combined contributions of Japanese Christians and grants from mission treasuries. In the Presbyterian church there obtains the proportion of one-fourth Japanese to three-fourths foreign money; but the committees authorized to control the expenditure of this joint fund consist half of foreigners and half of Japanese. In the Congregational church the Home Mission fund is similarly made up, while its expenditure almost, if not quite, is wholly in Japanese hands. Thus it appears that in this important branch of church work the missionaries possess at most a right of co-operation with rather than one of control over their Japanese colleagues; of cooperation, too, on terms that must be regarded as distinctly liberal.

In educational work the Presbyterian missions observe this same principle of co-operation, notwithstanding the fact that the support of the various institutions—at Sendai, Tokyo and Nagasaki—comes almost altogether from abroad. And the missionaries of the Congregational church have—as for example at the Doshisha—adopted a policy of even greater liberality.

Turn now to the words in the *Mail Summary* for August which were taken from the *Kirisuto Kyo Shimbun*, viz. "The governing power in the Japanese churches must be in Japan" From the above showing is it not in Japan so far at least as Presbyterianism and Congregationalism are concerned?

As is well known, there are certain Japanese of prominence who urge the necessity of church independence, even at a cost of entire separation from foreign aid, financial as well as missionary. Such independence would of course be real, and any church able to establish it would have, and would deserve to have, that credit for being independent which is so earnestly desired.

There are those on the other hand, who believe that independence would be theirs if only they could eliminate the missionary factor, and control from beginning to end the financial aid that comes from abroad. Whether or not such a plan would work well in practice, what would be gained by it would certainly not be independence in the true sense of the word. Japanese writers on the above subject seem not to understand that under present conditions it is the missionaries who are entrusted with the funds sent from Europe and America for evangelizing purposes, and that they and they alone are held responsible for the wise use of the same. In the light of this statement the following sentences, which also are taken from the *Mail Summary* for August, read very strangely indeed: "Let us do what we can to create different ideas in the minds of those missionaries who think that giving money entitles them to a controlling voice. They should come to our help in that generous self-effacing spirit which Lafayette showed when he placed himself and his fortune at the service of General Washington."

Furthermore, it is said that missionaries come to Japan "not simply to preach that gospel, but to propagate their sectarian views, and so not to enlarge but to limit the views of their converts." So far at least as Presbyterian and Congregational missionaries are concerned, the justice of the charge contained in these words is open to question, for although, as was natural, they taught their respective church politics on coming to Japan, it is not so very long since an earnest effort was made to merge the two in one. The attempt failed as it happened, but not because of opposition from the missionaries concerned, who were all but unanimous as to the desirability of the union. The failure was due to dissatisfied parties amongst the Japanese Christians themselves.

Another point on which continuous and great stress is laid is that the Japanese must have a Christianity of their own, different in type from any that has heretofore and elsewhere existed, but it does not appear how they have been trammeled by missionaries in the development of this nationalized Christian faith. For years past we have heard the demand for change; but of really constructive criticism little if any has been offered. It is only fair to say of at least the Congregational and Presbyterian missionaries that their attitude toward this spirit has been one of expectancy and even of readiness to concur in reasonable suggestions made by their Japanese brethren, and it would help materially in solving the problem of missionary relation to the native churches if the demands of the latter, or of those individuals who speak for them, were couched in more definite terms.

It is hardly necessary to add that aside from the place which they occupy as indicated above, more especially in the various church schools, academic and theological, missionaries find a by no means circumscribed field for their effort in the hundreds of places throughout the Empire where churches are not yet established, and where of course there is no opportunity for the exercise of "oppression."

I am, yours truly, THEO. M. MACNAIR.

Tokyo, September 6th, 1893.

WILD BLACK-CURRANTS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—May I ask if any of your botanically informed readers can give me any information as to whether our familiar English black-currant has ever been found growing wild in this country?

Some weeks ago I came across some deliciously flavoured specimens when climbing a mountain in the heart of the Hida-Shinshiu range, but nowhere else have I seen it, nor have I noticed it included in lists of fruits, such as raspberries, strawberries, &c., which are often met with growing wild in various parts of Japan.

If any of your correspondents will kindly enlighten me I shall be greatly obliged.

Your obedient Servant,

WALTER WESTON.

Kobe, September 13th, 1893.

REVIEW.

The Evolution of Decorative Art. By HENRY BALFOUR, M.A., F.Z.S., Curator of the Ethnological Department (Pitt Rivers Collection), University Museum, Oxford. London, Percival & Co., 1893.

How to represent a snake or a monkey by straight lines only, may seem an idle problem. The author of a very charming little book recently published shows, however, that it is to problems such as these that not a few of the apparently geometrical patterns of existing savage races—presumably also of existing civilised races—owe their origin. The book in question is entitled "The Evolution of Decorative Art," and is from the pen of Mr. Henry Balfour, Curator of the celebrated Pitt Rivers collection at Oxford. Some of our readers may have visited this museum, whose object it is to set forth, by means of a graduated series of examples, the slow evolution of all the material arts of mankind from elements the most simple. For instance, there is the bottle series, which, beginning with the pigskin of ancient days, leads the student step by step *vid* the "eather bottell" of our old mediæval drinking songs and a whole catalogue of intermediate forms to our modern jars and bottles. In like manner musical instruments are traced, not indeed along a single line of development, but along three lines which have been independent from the beginning, namely, the stretched skin used as a tomtom, the reed, and the string, it being shown, for instance, that the very earliest form of stringed instrument is simply a war bow whose accidental twanging having arrested the savage's attention, led up at last by developments each one of which is almost imperceptible, to our modern harp and to the grand pianoforte, which is but a harp laid on its back and enclosed in a case.

What Mr. Balfour has done is to apply a similar close scrutiny to the early history of patterns, and to show more especially how large a proportion of these owe their origin to human and animal figures whose outlines grow sketchier and sketchier, more

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and more conventional, till at last they sink into mere geometrical lines, not known by the modern artist who uses them to have ever been anything more significant than decoration for bare surfaces. Successive copying is shown to be responsible for many such changes. For example, in an experiment made by Mr. Balfour for the purpose of testing this very point, a picture of a snail crawling over a twig, which was given to successive copyists each of whom was allowed only to see the *last* copy and not the original sketch, was metamorphosed, at the fourteenth time of copying, into a sort of conventional bird, and yet between any two members of the series it is impossible to trace a radical difference. Each copyist honestly tries to reproduce his original. Another potent agent of change is unpliability of material. All basket, plaited or bead-work admits of straight lines only, so that what is rounded in nature becomes perforce angular in the representation, and hence often quite unrecognisable. The wampum belts of the North American Indians give an example of this process at its outset. To Mr. Balfour belongs the credit of discovering cases much more curious and instructive occurring in matting brought from British Guiana. In these the conventionalisation is so far advanced as to lead the superficial observer to think that he is only looking at a variety of the familiar *à la grecque* or key pattern. Close inspection shows, however, not only that these collections of ornamental straight lines depict snakes and monkeys, but depict them with such truth to nature as actually to tell what sort of poisonous snake and what species of long-tailed monkey is intended. A step further in the direction of conventionalism and we reach the stage in which the human body sinks into a mere lozenge-shaped pattern, as on certain spears used in the Solomon Islands, where the whole series, from the grotesque but evident human figure down through a series of degradation and simplification to the mere lozenge, can be traced step by step. The chapter of accidents contributes its quota, here as in all other branches of human activity. Thus we learn that the Cypriote potter of the present day, when he has turned his jug and is taking it off the wheel, puts two little dabs of moist clay on the right and left side of the rounded surface, a little above the middle; and it seems that this, too, is the last lingering remnant of a portrayal of the human figure. In ancient Cyprus it was usual to mould vases into the shape of a female head and bust; but the face being difficult has been dropped, and now nothing remains but two little dabs to indicate the breasts. In like manner the handles of vases in several parts of the world can be traced back to human ears or else to arms akimbo. In these, as in numerous other instances, the most practically useful portion of the figures has remained, while all the rest has been dropped. In other cases again, vases retain as ornamental patterns what were at first only the inevitable markings of the plaited or twisted bindings used to keep together the moisty clay before baking.

To accompany Mr. Balfour in all his theories and examples is not possible within the limits of our space. Nevertheless we trust that we have sufficiently indicated the interest and importance of a work which is as amusing as it is scientific. Japan is a mine of decorative art. Can any method or leading idea be traced in Japanese patterns? Are human and animal forms responsible for any of them, or have we here a development along lines totally dissimilar? Here is a field for local investigators,—a field to be fertilised not by haphazard guessing or *à priori* dogmatism, but by a laborious comparison of ancient and modern specimens of cognate patterns and of the ideas—feudal, religious, or poetical—with whose expression they are found connected.

LETTER FROM CHICAGO.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Chicago, August 17th.

Prof. S. Choyo has repeated his lecture on "Japanese Art" in the Agricultural Assembly Hall at the World's Fair.

A London newspaper says that "one of the first of Japanese experts, Mr. Hiromichi Shugio, is at present in England for the purpose of examining the few collections of note which are to be found here. He has just completed an admirable catalogue of the ceramic portion of a well-known American collector, Mr. Thomas E. Waggaman of Washington. It is, however, more than a catalogue, for each section is prefaced by a history of the manufacture of the ware to which it refers, and Mr. Shugio's knowledge and research have enabled him to print for the first time in the English language many facts concerning them."

The awards have been announced in the Department of Sculpture at the Exposition. Japan is represented as follows: Asahi Gyokuzan, for the wonderful skull; Sessei Okazaki, for the eagle and for the dragons in clouds over water; Noriyuki Otake, for hen with chickens, and for the tailed cock on the plum-tree; Chokichi Suzuki, for the twelve falcons and for the eagle; Kyuichi Takenouchi, for a mythological bronze, portraying a Buddhist "St. George and the Dragon;" and Kisai Yamada, for wood carvings, depicting a military procession and a wrestler.

In my last letter, in the report of the then current congress, I omitted mention of a paper by Mr. R. Hayakawa on "The Suffrage in Japan."

Mrs. C. H. Carpenter, of Nemuro, Japan, spoke last Sunday morning at the Hyde Park Baptist Church.

Messrs. Edward Bedloe, honorary commissioner of the Exposition to China, and N. C. S. Fales, have reached here from Amoy on a visit to the Fair.

Last Sunday night twenty-eight Chinamen of this city were initiated into the mysteries of Mongolian masonry. The ceremonies, which were of the most elaborate kind, lasted from ten o'clock that evening till ten o'clock Monday morning.

Yung Yu, the new Chinese Minister to the United States, upon his arrival per *Gaelic* at San Francisco, was received there with great ceremony by the Chinese Consul and attachés.

The arrival of Hon. Frank L. Coombs, per *Gaelic*, is also reported.

The same steamer brought Hon. James H. Blount home from Hawaii. His successor as U.S. Minister there has not yet been appointed; so that Consul-General Severance is in charge at Honolulu. According to a reporter Mr. Blount's chief reason for leaving Honolulu was to represent to the government the danger of Japanese designs on Hawaii. The Japanese government has demanded that its 22,000 people in Hawaii shall be given the suffrage. If this demand is ignored Japan is said to be ready to enforce it. She wants Hawaii as a dumping ground for surplus labourers. Mr. Blount opposes the Japanese demand, as he regards compliance with it as fatal to the islands." How much truth is there in this paragraph?

The mind-reader Seymour, having failed to secure a burial permit at Rockford, Ill., is now at Jamestown, N.Y., where he hopes to obtain an opportunity to attempt his remarkable feat.

A new battleship, named *Minneapolis*, built by William Cramp and Sons, was launched on the 12th inst. from their shipyard at Philadelphia. Vice-President Stevenson was present. Miss Lizzie M. Washburne, a daughter of the Senator from Minnesota, performed the christening ceremony. The *Minneapolis* weighs 3,327 tons; displaces 7,350 tons; has a speed of 21 knots per hour, and a horse-power of 21,000; and cost $2,690,000.

It is hoped that the Cherokee strip may be "opened" early in September.

Attorney General Little, of Kansas, has rendered an opinion, based upon a decision of the Supreme Court, that "all clubs where the members congregate and drink their own liquors from individual lockers are nuisances, as defined by the prohibitory law;" and "every member is held responsible and is subject to fine and imprisonment." This "sweeping opinion" has, it is said, "caused a sensation!"

Hon. A. C. Beckwith, appointed by Governor Osborne, to represent Wyoming in the U.S. Senate, has resigned. No one will be appointed in his place until the Senate has passed upon the legality of similar appointments from Montana and Washington. The Senate committee has reported against gubernatorial right of appointment in these cases: but the Senate has not yet come to a vote.

A bill has been introduced into the Senate for a new $4,000,000 Federal building in this city.

The debate on the silver question continues before a small attendance. The Populists say that they will vote steadily and consistently against any ratio except 16 to 1.

On the 14th inst. Senator Voorhees, of Indiana, introduced a bill, accompanied by a letter of endorsement from Secretary Carlisle, to allow national banks to increase their circulation to the extent of the face value of the bonds deposited by them as security for their circulation notes. It was referred to the finance Committee, who unanimously approved it. But the next day when Senator Voorhees asked that it be taken up for immediate consideration, Senator Cockrell of Missiouri, with a tirade against the national banking system, made objection. A few minutes later Senator Cockrell himself, as Chairman of the Committee of accounts, reported for immediate action on a bill, passed by the House of Representatives, authorizing the payment of mileage for this special session! With sarcastic reference to the Missouri Senator's greater zeal for a few hundred dollars of mileage than for the financial relief of the people, objectors promptly blocked the bill!

Meanwhile, the financial stringency continues, and business failures do not cease. The Dakota Hotel, a "Swell" establishment of this city, and minor "World's Fair hotels," as well as the Northern Pacific Railroad Company, are in the hands of receivers. The Great Northern and other railway corporations are reducing both the number and the wages of employés. Thus the body of unemployed is rapidly increasing in numbers. Some 7,000 or more of them in this city gathered on the Lake Front the other afternoon around the Statue of Columbus, and listened to speeches setting forth the reasons for lack of work and suggesting remedies. They passed a number of "resolutions," and voted to march in a body next Monday to the City Hall and demand work for the winter. At Minneapolis a big fire, which, on the 13th inst., burned more than 200 houses, rendered at least 1,500 persons homeless, and destroyed $2,000,000 worth of property on Nicollect and Boom Islands, has increased the suffering and destitution.

The Republicans of Iowa have nominated ex-Secretary of State Frank D. Jackson, of Iowa, for Governor on a platform which abandons prohibition for local option. The prohibition element, defeated by the close vote of 613 to 590, threaten to defeat the ticket.

The *Japan Mail* was, of course, apprised by cable of the decision in the Behring Sea matter, and by papers per *City of New York*, sailing today from San Francisco, will have learned the details as far as known to date. The comments of the American press are quite varied and interesting; they are really amusing in their attempts to prove victory for the United States. All the rights which the "brilliant foreign policy" of Blaine claimed for us are expressly disallowed; but the protection of the seals is now assured. One journal will say that Great Britain wins the technical points, and the United States gains a practical victory in the restrictions on seal-fishing. These last regulations, moreover, are quite displeasing to the Canadians.

The motion to dissolve the Clingman (Stein) injunction against closing the Fair on Sunday is being argued before Judges Goggin, Dunne and Brentano of this city. Last Sunday the Fair was open with a slim attendance: Mrs. Ernest Hart gave a sacred concert in her Irish Village.

The paid attendance for each of the last three days has been more than 100,000; and the total to date exceeds 8,000,000.

The finances of the Fair have so far improved, that ten per cent. of the bonded indebtedness has been liquidated and another ten per cent. has been ordered paid off on August 30th.

The sale of duplicates of exhibits will be allowed in the Fair upon payment of a tax of ten (10) per cent on the valuation.

A series of "popular" amusement features has been introduced to draw crowds to the Fair. One afternoon there was an international song and dance concert; another day swimming, diving and boat-racing contests; and again an international ball. In connection with the last was arranged the following:—

INTERNATIONAL MENU
Served to order on y.

RELISHES.
Hard boiled potates, a la Irish Village.
International hash, a la Midway Plaisance.

GOLD DISHES
Roast missionary, a la Dahomey, west coast of Africa.
Jerked buffalo, a la Indian Village.
Stuffed ostrich, a la ostrich farm.
Boiled camel humps, a la Cairo street.
Monkey stew, a la Hagenbeck

ENTREES.
Fricasee of reindeer, a la Lapland.
Fried snow balls, a la Ice Railway.
Crystalized frappe from Libby glass exhibit.

PASTRY.
Wind doughnuts, a la captive balloon.
Sandwiches (assorted), specially prepared by the leather exhibit

DESSERT
Twenty-five per cent of gross receipts.
"Pure water from the Chicago river."
P.S.—No extra charge toothpicks.
Carriages (patrol wagons, called at 4:30 a.m.

Day before yesterday a review of troops by Maharajah of Kapurthala was the "drawing card."

The Lady managers, or, as they have been nicknamed, the "Lady Wranglers," have adjourned *sine die*; and the National Commission is expected soon to take a vacation. At their last meeting the latter body upheld Mr. Thacher in his exclusion of women from the court of appeals on awards.

The World's Fair Directory has taken a wise action in the appointment of Director-General Davis, President Higinbotham and Mr. J. W.

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Scott, of the *Herald*, a committee to arrange for the establishment of a permanent museum of anthropological, ethnological, mineral and other exhibits.

This week is being devoted to Congresses on Miscellaneous subjects not otherwise included. These are considering the subjects:—Arbitration and Peace (with a forcible illustration in the Behring Sea case); Africa and the Negro Race; Medical Jurisprudence; Dentistry (in which Dr. Takayama, of Tokyo, has been a speaker); Horticulture; and Trade Journals. In the African Congress Bishop Turner vigorously upheld a theory (also held by Prof. Winchell in his "Pre Adamites"), that the original man was black. He once heard an African tradition to the same effect, with the added explanation, that the black skin sometimes peeled off and left a white man, who, for that reason, by some Africans is called a "peeled man."

THE JAPANESE EXHIBIT AT THE WORLD'S FAIR.

NO. II.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Chicago, August 21st.

SHOES BY A BARE-FOOTED NATION.

The leather and shoe building at the World's Fair is a place where one would little expect to find a Japanese exhibit. It is surprising that a people accustomed to go barefooted or to wear a straw sandal or a wooden clog should be able within their short period of advancement along the path of Aryan civilization to make an exhibit in the line of modern and Occidental foot-gear. If the Japanese had sent over for exhibition examples of various styles of *waraji* and *zori*, of *tabi*, and of *geta* for the purposes of inspection and comparison the American people would be much interested, but unfortunately those articles are lacking.

Instead of such exhibit of the native foot-gear the Japanese have sent over a number of articles to show their progress. In a small space in the leather and shoe building they have on exhibition skins and hides, plain and coloured in various hues, tanned and untanned. Natural skins of fox, marten, seal, sea-leopard and other animals are there, as well as an exhibit of leather belting. The specimens of figured leather are very interesting. There are panels, small and large, and screens of various designs of painting. There are even two framed pictures of water colours on leather, one of which represents a festival or picnic. Besides, in show-cases are quite a large number of pairs of slippers, shoes and boots, common and fine, of all sizes, styles and colours. It is enough, without invoicing the exhibit, to mention lace, button and congress shoes, slippers and high boots.

Somehow one cannot refrain from feeling and expressing astonishment at the exhibit. An expert, undoubtedly, would be able to pick flaws; but a common man cannot help wondering at the imitative power, the ingenuity and the artistic taste exhibited in this little display. It expresses in small space the determination of the men of Nippon to stand with the new civilization.

AGRICULTURE.

Inasmuch as agriculture is the occupation of by far the greater part of the people of Japan, a good exhibit is expected and may be found at the west end of the Agricultural Building. The front entrance is at the South end of the section. The doorway is constructed of native woods in the style of a Japanese gateway with a gable roof.

Just inside the entrance is a booth devoted to the exhibit of tea from Shizuoka Ken. A sample package of this prime tea, put up in paper dipped in the tannic acid of an unripe persimmon to preserve it from moisture, is given away to visitors. A printed circular gives many interesting facts about the culture of tea in general and this tea in particular. It states, for instance, that the annual product is 25,000,000 pounds, of which 20,000,000 pounds are exported to the United States.

Next to this booth is the exhibit of Ise tea, above which is a series of pictures illustrative of the different stages and kinds of labour employed upon the leaves from picking to shipping. There is also a printed circular of information concerning this famous tea.

Other important agricultural products exhibited are rice, barley, wheat, buck-wheat, beans, sweet potatoes (dried), *daikon* and tobacco. There are also many kinds of bottled, boxed and canned fruits, jellies and confections, among which *ame* and *sembei* are most numerous. An advertisement of one manufacturer is a curiosity; it reads as follows:—

"AWA-AME AND OKINAKAN."

"The manufacture of the Awa-Ame is perfected by my house with experiments of many years and scientific principles. It contains more nutritive materials. That taste is very sweet. Persons who have tasted it always would taken the cheerful feelings.

The Okinakan, a cake, is made of the Awa-Ame again. It is most delicate in taste and especially excellent quality for tea-cake. There is no slightest danger for the change of its taste kept long.

Both are so honourable that obtained medal at each time of national industrial exhibitions.

Original manufactured by Osugi Kuroumon.

Pass sixteenth generations to me from the first manufacturer of my house. Continuing about during 250 years."

The honey industry is represented by specimens of bees, honey, bees-wax and hives. These are accompanied by a little pamphlet explaining the way of using the hive, the method of collecting honey, and giving the names of the plants from which the bees get honey. Statistics there given state that one swarm will produce 13.582 pounds of honey and 7.497 pounds of wax.

A very interesting feature of the Japanese agricultural section is the exhibit of domestic fowls, including bantams, *shamo*, and long tailed fowls. The *shamo* cock is about two years old, weighs almost ten pounds, and "has never been defeated" (and never will be!). The long-tailed fowls are in a high coop; one, two years old has a tail five feet long; another, four years old, has a tail measuring 10½ feet in length.

The Japanese have also on exhibit on specimens of their wild birds, both useful and injurious, and of their forage plants. They have published descriptive catalogues of both birds and plants. The beneficial birds of forest and farm, twenty-one varieties; the birds used for food, thirty five varieties. These are numbered consecutively, and are carefully described as to location, characteristics and utility. The forage plants, similarly numbered, are minutely described with reference to duration of growth, height, flowering, seed-ripening and cutting times, produce to the acre, composition and locality.

Last but not least interesting, are five pictures which hang in the south west corner of the Japanse pavilion, and represent methods of hunting. One shows the manner of catching small birds by hanging cages of decoy birds near bird-limed twigs. Another represents sportsmen, in the early morning or evening twilight, when the wild ducks are flying low, catching them in nets at the end of long bamboo poles. The pictures at the extremes portray the two allied methods of catching wild duck on Lake Tega in Chiba Prefecture. One is by means of bird-limed ropes stretched over the surface of the water; the other is by a number of large spread-nets toward which the ducks are driven by hunters. The remaining picture illustrates Japanese hawking, or the capture of cranes with falcons.

FLORICULTURE.

The Japanese exhibit in the Horticultural Building covers only a small space (130×20 feet); but it is crowded full of "things Japanese," and gives a comprehensive idea of Japanese floriculture.

There are many varieties of shrubs, ferns, grasses, vines, and flowers; a path laid out with sand, hemmed in on the sides by bamboo; natural stones of all sizes from pebbles up to rocks; urns containing plants, both flowering and non-flowering; stone lanterns, a rustic bridge, a pond; a well, which over-flows with spring water, and above which hangs the *tashima*; truncated trees, dwarf trees, wide-spreading banana trees, sago palms, etc.; in fact, everything to be expected, except the sand model of Mount Fuji, which seems to be missing. Unfortunately the dwarf tree near the south end was killed on the way by the frost. It was a specimen of a kind of a arbour-vitæ and was about 100 years old. The two stone-lanterns, *toro*, represent two different styles, the southern one bears the name *kasugatoro* (deer-lantern); the other, with the broader cap, is called for that reason *yukimi-toro* (snow-guard-lantern). The name "Japan" is inscribed on a *funa-ita*, a piece of worm-eaten "shipwood," fastened to the eastern wall.

The only fault to be found with this display is unavoidable, and was due to the limitations of space. No one ever saw a single Japanese garden in which were accumulated so many varieties of vegetable and mineral life in so small a spot. The different species which, in Japan, would be found only in a hundred or more localities, are collected into one exhibit. A typical Japanese garden may be seen, either on the Wooded Island in front of the Hoōden, or in connection with the Nippon Tea-house. The display in the Horticultural Building is rather a comprehensive exhibit of the flora of Japan, and as such is interesting and important.

FORESTRY.

The Japanese pavilion is located in the north-west end of this building. The section is small and over-crowded; but the display is remarkably complete and well arranged, even artistic. I overheard a visitor remark upon entering: "How nicely they do everything!" The pavilion itself is constructed of bamboo strips in the regulation Japanese style.

Woods of all kinds in varnished slabs are arranged both along the outside and in the inside of the pavilion. Each slab has a descriptive label giving valuable information concerning the wood. The slab of camphor is accompanied by an illustration and a long description of the method of obtaining that valued article of commerce. The process of getting lacquer from the tree is also illustrated by pictures and descriptions; and charcoal making is shown by a picture just above specimens of charcoal.

Bamboo, of course, figures extensively in the exhibit, both as raw material and in a manufactured state. Said one boy to another: "Hi, Billy, look at them fishin' poles!" Not only bamboo poles are numerous, but also bamboo baskets of all kinds and sizes, bamboo ropes, hoops, tubs, pails, bamboo dipper and tea stirrer (used in the *cha-no yu*), bamboo portieres, etc. There is also a varied assortment of willow boxes and baskets, and of reed and vine baskets, exhibited by S. Ohashi, of Kobe.

There are some very large specimens, not only of bamboo, but also of *sugi*: also drawings of high specimens of pine, larch, *hiba* and *hinoki*, and a large number of coloured pictures of various shrubs and trees. Visitors sometimes note a curious fact that one tree has a Japanese name spelled *ohio*; it is a kind of slippery elm.

Other exhibits in this section include ropes made of the sheath of a kind of palm, pails and tubs, a slab of fossil wood, two or three pieces of *umoregi*, charcoal and charcoal bags, and bottles of oils, seed, sap, wax, soda, starch, nuts, acids and mushrooms, etc., etc.

FISHERIES.

This exhibit is in the north-eastern part of the Fisheries Building. Over the doorway hangs the Japanese flag above a sort of curtain of nets; and above the door is a sign with the name Japan made of shells of *awabi* (sea-ear). Immediately on the left and the right of the entrance are piled up cans of fish, of *tai*, wafer cake, *unagi kaba-yaki* (roast eels), green turtle, mackerel, lobster, oyster, *maguro* (tunny), tortoise, salmon (under the name "saumon,") and spring salmon.

There are also shells; glass cases of salt cod, dried anchovy, broiled smelt, sardines, smoked salmon, bonito, dried flounder, boneless herring; bottles of fish oils of many kinds, edible sea-weed, oyster sauce; and kegs of similar articles. The various kinds of apparatus for catching fish are also exhibited, the hooks, the lines, the bamboo rods, the nets of silk or other materials, the prawn pots.

Several models attract the attention of a visitor: they represent a sardine press, the boats and nets used in catching bonito and cod, the apparatus and furnaces for curing bonito, and the method of fishing with tame cormorants.

On the wall of Japan's space are pictures of various scenes connected with the fishing industry, also a group of gold fishes. On the outside at the left of the entrance are drawings of many kinds of fish and of oyster-culture grounds.

This display in the Fisheries Building is very creditable to Japan, which, as an insular country, would naturally be expected to do well in that line. It shows, not only the simple but successful methods of fishing in vogue in that country from ancient times, but also to what extent her marine industries have been developed under the inspiration of modern commercial ideas. It also suggests further capability of expansion in the same line.

MIYAKO DANCING.

In a previous "Letter from Chicago" I mentioned the opening of a "Japanese Music Hall," to which "Miyako Dancing" is performed daily. The managers of this enterprise believe in the advantages of wide advertising, and are scattering circulars all over the city. One of these contains a picture of half a dozen maidens engaged in a fan dance; calls it "the greatest novelty of the World's Fair City"; and says: "Do not fail to see these beautiful little Japanese in their characteristic national dances and costumes and hear the ravishing Japanese music." Another circular is a *fac simile* of a vote of thanks passed May 21st by the passengers of the *Empress of India* for the "excellent entertainment" given by the company.

ECZEMA.—Book on "Skin Trouble," sent free for One Stamp by MESSRS. NORTH & RAE, Limited, Yokohama.

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THE SILVER QUESTION.

SIXTEEN TO ONE IS RUIN.

[The essential facts in the Silver Free Coinage question have rarely been presented more clearly or comprehensively than in the following letter from the Hon. William H. West, of Bellefontaine, Ohio, the famous blind orator who presented the name of James G. Blaine to the Chicago Convention in 1884. Whoever wishes to have in brief compass the vital points about which Congress will soon be in commot on will find it well to read and preserve this paper.—Ed. *M.F.T.*]

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE TRIBUNE."

SIR,—I send a statement of what I understand to be the grounds and cause of the silver controversy. My endeavour has been to make a plain statement for plain people, not too long to be read nor too learned to be understood. I hope it may be considered worthy of an insertion in the columns of *The Tribune*.

THE QUESTION AT ISSUE.

The question, in brief, is this: Ought the mints of the United States to be opened to the unrestricted free coinage of both gold and silver into standard dollars at their present coinage ratio or difference in weight, of 1 to 16, when the commercial ratio, or difference in the market value, between the two metals is 1 to 24, and the actual value of the amount of metal contained in one of these dollars is only two-thirds the actual value of the amount of metal contained in the other?

The mere statement of a proposition to give to 66 2 3 cents in value of one metal equal dignity, power and privilege as money with 100 cents in value of another metal awakens so strong a sense of its unwisdom, injustice and danger to monetary stability and the common welfare as seemingly to compel to it a negative answer by all who rightly understand its terms and fully comprehend the consequences to which its adoption in practice must inevitably lead. That this question correctly states the issue will first be shown.

COINAGE RATIO.

By existing statutes standard gold or silver consists of nine parts pure metal and one part copper or other alloy, to give it hardness and durability; the standard dollar of gold contains 23 22 grains pure metal and 2.58 grains alloy, or 25 8 grains standard gold; the standard dollar of silver contains 371.25 grains pure metal, and 41 25 grains alloy, or 412.5 grains standard silver. One ounce of gold will coin $20 64; one ounce of silver will coin $1 29. The weight of the silver dollar is sixteen times the weight of the gold dollar. Their coinage ratio, under the existing statutes, is therefore 1 to 16. In considering the bearing of these facts on the question, the important truth must be borne in mind that the coinage ratio of the two metals, which is the difference between the respective weights of the two dollars as established by the statutes, remains constantly the same when once established, until changed by statute, regardless of fluctuation or change in the relative values of the two dollars. This ratio has been changed but once. Originally the gold dollar contained 24.75 grains pure metal, and the coinage ratio was 1 to 15. It was changed in 1834, by reducing the gold dollar to its present weight.

COMMERCIAL RATIO.

The commercial ratio of the two metals, at any point of time, is the difference between their commercial or market values at the same time. If their coinage ratio and commercial ratio were, or could be, constantly kept equal and the same, the unrestricted coinage of the two dollars might not be seriously objectionable, as in that case they would each continue to be in value equal to 100 cents and therefore equally acceptable in all business transactions. But the two metals are commodities of mercantile traffic as bullion, having each its own commercial value, which is the creation not of statute law, but of the inexorable law of supply and demand, the operation of which no statute law can control or restrain. Only demand which is the desire to possess by purchase or barter, coupled with the means and willingness to gratify it, gives commercial value to either. Supply alone regulates that value, comparative abundance depressing it. Under the operation of this law the commercial values of the two metals are widely different and subject to continual fluctuation in unequal degrees, their divergence sometimes increasing, sometimes lessening. Their commercial ratio is therefore not unchanging, like their coinage ratio, which is the creature of state law, but fluctuates from day to day, or week to week, or year to year. When our coinage was established in 1792, one ounce of gold was in commercial value equal to fifteen ounces of silver, and hence their commercial ratio was 1 to 15. The Hamiltons and Jeffersons and Madisons and other statesmen of the period, believing that a sound and honest monetary system required it, made the coinage ratio of the two dollars the same or 1 to 15. One ounce of gold, having in 1834 become in commercial value equal to sixteen ounces of silver, or their commercial ratio 1 to 16. Congress in that year, and for the same reason, changed the coinage ratio and made it 1 to 16 also. Since then their coinage ratio has remained unchanged, although their commercial ratio has during a series of years continued to increase, until, at the present writing, it exceeds 1 to 24, thus making the real value of the silver dollar only two thirds the value of the gold dollar. Is this difference in the real value of the two standard dollars compatible with financial stability, industrial and commercial prosperity and the common welfare?

POWERS OF STANDARD COIN.

Standard coin possesses certain powers distinct from and independent of each other, the one legal tender, or debt paying, which is conferred exclusively by statute; the other commercial, or purchasing, which exists an erior to and independent of all legislation.

The same statute which established the coinage ratio of the two standard dollars at one to sixteen required that both should be accepted at par in payment of equal and the same amount of debt. Notwithstanding one of these dollars has become in value only two thirds the value of the other, the same statute compels their acceptance at par in payment of equal and the same amount of debt as before, and for no better reason than "thus saith the law." That law gives the debtor the option to make payment of his debt after maturity in whatever kind of money is then a lawful tender. As the collection of debts can be enforced only by process of the law, through the agency and assistance of the courts which it establishes and controls, whether the debtor tenders payment in one or the other standard dollars, that law says to the creditor that if he refuses to accept the tender it will withhold its process and the aid of its courts, and he shall have nothing. This is "legal tender," and the creditor being powe less to do otherwise, must submit. This legal power of standard coin depends not on its commercia value or purchasing power, but is the same, and will pay the same amount of debts, whether it be of the commercial value of 1 cent, or 10 cents or 100 cents.

But the law does not nor can it compel one citizen, against his consent, to part with his property to another citizen in exchange for money or any other thing. The commercial or purchasing power of standard coin is therefore measured by the amount of commodities which dealers therein, in the general market, willingly part with in exchange therefor on a cash in hand transaction. If it be parted with on credit, then the legal-tender or debt-paying power supersedes the commercial or purchasing power, and the law in such case controls. If Charles lend to Rufus, to be repaid in sixty days or any other time, 1,000 gold pieces each of the value of 100 cents, Rufus may repay him in 1,000 silver pieces each of the value of 66 2-3 cents. Or if Charles part with his horse or his house or his goods to Rufus on credit, at their value in gold, Rufus may make payment in standard silver dollars is value only two thirds that of the property obtained. The circulation concurrently of standard money thus unequal in commercial value must sooner or later cause business disturbance and ultimate financial convulsion, unless the cheaper money be restricted in volume too insignificant to become a disturbing factor. In view of these facts, in this state of the law, and under these monetary conditions, "with malice toward none and charity for all," let it again be asked, ought the mints of the United States be opened to the unrestricted free coinage of both gold and silver into standard dollars, at their present coinage ratio or difference in value of one to sixteen, when the commercial ratio or difference in their market value of the two metals is one to twenty four?

HISTORY OF AMERICAN COINAGE.

What was deemed financial wisdom by the earlier statesmen of the Republic ought not to be necessarily considered as unwisdom, but rather the light of experience by the statesmen of the present generation in dealing with similar monetary conditions. As stated, Congress established our system of bimetallic coinage in 1792; so regulated the relative weights of the two standard dollars as to equalize their commercial values or purchasing power by conforming the coinage ratio of the two metals to their then commercial ratio of one to fifteen; accorded to all such coins, including subsidiary or fractional silver, equal freedom of coinage, and made them a full legal tender in payment of all debts. Subsequently foreign coin was made such legal tender at prescribed rates of valuation in our own money. Afterward one ounce of gold having become worth sixteen ounces of silver, and the commercial ratio between the two metals one to sixteen, in order to restore their parity and again equalize the commercial value or purchasing power of the two dollars, Congress in 1834 conformed their coinage ratio to their then commercial ratio of one to sixteen by reducing the gold dollar to its present weight. This coinage ratio has not since been changed, except as to fractional silver.

The extraordinary supply furnished by the California mines from 1849 to 1853 so far depressed the commercial or market value of gold as to make one ounce worth only 15 1-2 ounces of silver. The amount of metal in the silver dollar consequently advanced to 3 per cent. premium above the value of the metal in the gold dollar. As a result the gold dollar of less value expelled the silver coin of greater value from circulation as money. Hardly could a single silver coin issue from the mint until it was shipped abroad, or melted in the jeweller's pot, so that it was practically impossible to maintain in circulation sufficient fractional silver to meet the demand for small change in business. To remedy this, Congress in that year (1853) reduced the weights of fractional silver more than 2 per cent., limited its legal tender or debt paying power to sums of five dollars, and prohibited its coinage on private account, which is the status of fractional silver at the present time. Congress in the same year withdrew from foreign coin its legal-tender or debt-paying power, which has not since been restored. Between 1792 and 1873 only 8,045,000 standard silver dollars were coined, of which a little more than 4,000,000 were coined previous to 1853, and a little more than 3,000,000 between 1853 and 1873. During the same period of eighty years $164,000,000 in fractional silver was coined, of which that part, which was much the greater, coined previous to 1853 long since went out of existence because of its 3 per cent greater value than the subsequent coinage. From these historic facts it is disclosed that while previous to 1873 the standard silver dollar was not legally demonetized, it was practically demonetized, for that during the preceding twenty years less than 4,000,000 of them had been coined, nearly all of which immediately passed out of existence, not 100,000 of them being in circulation when they were loyally demonetized in that year.

THE DEMAND OF FREE COINAGE.

From the preceding historic sketch the nature of what free coinage demands can be the better ascertained and understood. Under the statutes in force previous to 1873 every person delivering gold or silver bullion at the mint was entitled to have it converted and the same returned to him in standard dollars at trifling or no cost. This was the equal free coinage of the two metals. Since 1873 this privilege has been denied to silver. From 1873 to 1878 the coinage of the silver dollar was suspended. In 1878 its restricted coinage was revived by the Bland-Allison act, which required the Secretary of the Treasury to purchase monthly at its market value silver bullion and coin therefrom not exceeding $4,000,000 nor less than $2,000,000 each month. This continued until 1891. By the statute passed in 1890, known as the Sherman Compromise, the Secretary of the Treasury is required to purchase each month, at its market value, if offered, 4,500,000 ounces of silver bullion; issue in payment therefor, legal-tender Treasury certificates redeemable in coin, and retain the bullion in the Treasury as security and pledge for their redemption. This is the present state of the law.

Free coinage demands the restoration of silver to its ancient privilege, or in the more pretentious but disingenuous rhetoric of its advocates, "the restoration of silver to its constitutional place as a money metal on a parity with gold." In other words, it is demanded that every one delivering 66 cents in value in silver at the mint shall have it converted into a standard dollar, and returned to him without charge, clothed with equal and the same debt-paying power which the statute confers on the 100 cent dollar, and this is called "on a parity with gold."

SILVER'S CONSTITUTIONAL PLACE.

The assumption that silver has a constitutional place as a money metal, and that the silver dollar is the "money standard of the Constitution," suspending or restricting the coinage of which is a breach of that instrument, merits notice only because it has received the sanction of and been repeated by eminent gentlemen of Senatorial rank and National reputation. If the assumption be correct, further discussion of the subject is superfluous, for what the Constitution has established no statute can change. Is it correct? The Constitution does not prescribe what shall be the metals of coinage, nor the weight nor the denomination of any coin, nor the amount which shall be issued. It simply ordains that "The Congress shall have power to coin money and regulate the

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value thereof." To Congress, therefore, is delegated the power, uncontrolled and omnipotent, to coin money of any weight or denomination, and to choose therefor gold, or silver, or nickel, or copper or bronze, or any metals, and coin either one or several, or all, or suspend or restrict the coinage of one or more as in its judgment the one or the other will subserve the common welfare for the promotion of which the Constitution was established. Our coinage system was not established by the Constitution, but by the statute of 1792; and what the statute may constitutionally establish the statute may constitutionally change, suspend or repeal. If this were not so it might be difficult to relieve the country of statutes, originally wise and beneficent it may be, the operation of which from changed circumstances or altered conditions has become most detrimental to the common welfare.

THE MEANING OF PARITY.

The opinion is professed that because the amount of metal in the old silver dollar does not have equal freedom of the mint which it formerly enjoyed its parity with gold is denied and great injustice done to silver. The opinion is erroneous, but, because widely entertained, merits special refutation. Parity in the coinage of gold and silver into standard dollars is equality in the freedom of coinage accorded, not to equal weights, but to equal values of the two metals, and this has always been the governing principle. Value is the only thing looked to and considered in standard money. The value of the standard dollar is the unit measure of all other values, just as the length of the standard yardstick is the unit measure of all other mercantile lengths, and the weight of the standard pound is the unit of all other weights.

The denunciation of Holy Writ against false balances is therefore as applicable to standard dollars of unequal values as it is to standard yards of unequal length or standard pounds of unequal weight. They are all alike, and equally pernicious. The equal freedom of coinage is therefore not denied to the 371.25 grains of metal contained in the old silver dollar because it is silver, but because that weight of metal has ceased to have the value of 100 cents., requisite for the coinage of the dollar which is still required for the coinage of its golden consort. When formerly 100 cents in value of either of the metals presented itself at the mint it was freely coined into a standard dollar of equal value, and clothed with equal debt-paying power of 100 cents. This was parity, was equal and exact justice. One hundred cents in value of gold is still required for the coinage of a standard dollar, and is therefore freely coined into such dollar and is clothed with the debt paying power of 100 cents and no more. But 66 2-3 cents in value of silver now demands coinage into a standard dollar, and that it be clothed with the debt-paying power, not of 66 2-3 cents, but of 100 cents, or 50 per cent more than its value. This is not parity, but the grossest discrimination. When parity of coinage is denied to 100 cents of value in silver it will be time enough for producers of or speculators in silver bullion to complain that parity with gold is denied to it. Standard money is coined by the Government for the common weal, not for private emolument. It coins standard dollars, nor for the individual benefit of bullion producers or speculators, but for the common good, the benefit of the people, whose business such money is intended to transact, and in payment of whose debts its acceptance is made compulsory. Business honesty, equal justice, and the common welfare, therefore, alike demand that the values of these dollars, regardless of their weights, shall be equal and uniform so long as kept in concurrent circulation. Of this opinion were the statesmen of 1792, who, in establishing our monetary system, to make the values of the two dollars equal, made their weights unequal. Of this opinion were the statesmen of 1834, who, to restore the equality of their values, readjusted and changed their relative weights. The statesmen of the present day might profit by these illustrious precedents.

EFFECT OF FREE COINAGE ON VALUES.

Senator Stewart, the ablest advocate of free coinage, concedes that parity or equality in the commercial values of the two dollars is essential to the maintenance of their concurrent circulation as money, and that their values are now unequal; but contends that if unrestricted free coinage was accorded to silver equally with gold, at their present ratio of one to sixteen, the mint would create such increased demand for silver as would restore the commercial value of the silver dollar to its former parity with gold. The mint, run to its full capacity, can no more increase the commercial demand for or value of the silver which it coins into dollars for its owners, or the commercial demand for or value of the dollars so coined, than can the flour-mill increase the commercial demand for or value of the wheat which it grinds into flour for the owner, or the demand for or value of the flour so ground. Only an increased demand for flour in excess of the supply of wheat can increase the value of wheat. Only an increased demand for silver dollars in excess of the supply of silver can increase the value of that metal. Neither the mint nor the flour mill can create such increased demand in either case. It can only be furnished as to flour by the food market of the world; it can only be furnished as to silver dollars by the business demands of the world. Is the world's business or commercial demand for silver dollars so far in excess of the annual supply of silver as to appreciably increase the value of that metal so the mint of the United States alone be opened to its unrestricted, unlimited coinage into silver dollars for the producers and speculators in silver bullion?

Previous to 1874 the average annual product of silver in the world had reached about $65,000,000, estimated in our money. Now the capacity of the world's annual production has reached, and in 1892 was, $195,000,000. Then the nations of Europe, Asia and Africa, except England were engaged in silver coinage; now they have suspended its coinage. Then the States of Central and South America supplied and coined their own silver, and they do the same now. Then the United States coined of silver dollars less than $100,000 annually. Then Europe, Asia and Africa, containing more than four-fifths of the world's population, demanded more than four-fifths of the then annual product of silver; now that demand has increased three fold. To restore the value of silver to its former level, the business of the United States alone must furnish a coinage demand for silver three times as great as that furnished by the United States and the Eastern Hemisphere combined before coinage suspension by the latter. In other words, the United States Mint alone is required to coin, and the business of the United States alone is required to absorb into its money circulation, four fifths of the annual silver product of the world, or more than $130,000,000. I say this large amount must be absorbed annually by the business and in the money circulation of the United States alone, because the American silver dollar is not excluded from every country in the world except at its value as bullion, and hence, as money must remain at home and be absorbed in our own domestic trade. Is the business capacity of the United States, of the 65,000,000 of its brave, energetic and enterprising people equal to the burden and task of absorbing alone three times the amount of silver money which they and the 1,000,000,000 commercial people of the Eastern Hemisphere formerly demanded and absorbed. It is simply impossible.

THE GREAT TASK TO UNDERTAKE.

The arts require annually not to exceed $35,000,000 of silver, estimated in our money. Central and South America consume and absorb in coinage not to exceed $300,000,000 annually. Of the $195,000,000 annually produced, this leaves $130,000,000 to be absorbed in coinage and by the business of the United States alone. Can it be done? It must be borne in mind that no silver dollar coined by our mint is receivable abroad as money. It must, therefore, remain at home, be absorbed in business wants. We have now in the Treasury a little more than $400,000,000. In addition thereto we have in fifteen years been able to force into circulation among an unwilling people no less than $60,000,000. Adding $130,000,000 annually to this already $500,000,000 will in a dozen years make the aggregate exceed $2,000,000,000; or an amount equal to one-half the silver money of the world. What then? Shall we go on or stop there? Unless we can find an outlet and a market for our silver money abroad we cannot go on. We cannot stop without collapsing the balloon and bringing such financial and business catastrophe as the country has never experienced; for unless we continue coining the world's surplus of silver, its value will decline as surely as night follows the day, and with it will come decline in the value of our silver money, with consequent panic and bankruptcy.

Again, Senator Stewart informs us that the world's present volume of gold coin is about $3,800,000,000, and of silver coin about $4,200,000,000, estimated at the present ratio of one to sixteen. But the present commercial value of silver as compared with gold is less than one to twenty-four. Therefore the actual commercial value of the $4,200,000,000 of the world's present silver volume is only $2,800,000,000, or one-third less than its nominal or par value. To bring this silver volume to par with gold, $1,400,000,000 must be added to its present market or commercial value. One third in value must be also added to the volume of silver which the United States shall coin in the future. Can the free coinage of silver by the United States alone and the absorption of future coinage by its business alone add $1,400,000,000 to the value of the world's present volume of silver, besides adding one-third to the value of future coinage, and thus lift this mighty mass to par with gold and close the gap between them. The 65,000,000 of our people, with all their courage, industry and enterprise, are not equal to this task. They cannot furnish a demand for silver money three times as great, or even equal, to that furnished by themselves and the 1,000,000,000 commercial people of the Old World before demonetization by it. And yet, to restore the value of the silver dollar to par with gold, the United States, unaided and alone, must not only do this mighty work, add this mighty sum to the value of the world's money, but must keep and maintain perpetual equality between the values of gold and silver at the present ratio of one to sixteen in the future.

It cannot be done, and they who cherish the idea that it can are visionaries and dreamers. Parity between the values of the gold and silver dollars at their present ratio can therefore not be restored or maintained by unrestricted free coinage.

WHAT MAKES THE VOLUME OF MONEY.

Senator Stewart affirms that the volume of money in the country at any time is equal to the number of standard or unit dollars composing it, and that free coinage will increase this volume by the number of silver dollars which it will add thereto. The volume of money in the country at any time is the aggregate purchasing power of the standard money in circulation at the time, and is always equal to the sum of the products of the standard or unit dollars composing it, multiplied each by its own value. Thus, $6,000 standard money, each dollar of the value of 100 cents, is an aggregate volume of $6,000; and hence is greater than $10,000 of standard coin, each dollar of the value of fifty cents., which is an aggregate volume of $5,000 only.

When the volume of money in the country is composed chiefly of gold or its equivalent, each dollar of which is of the value of 100 cents, the addition thereto by free coinage or otherwise of standard silver dollars of less value may increase the volume temporarily. But the world's experience demonstrates that cheaper or depreciated debt-paying dollars will always expel from circulation the money of par value, unless the cheaper dollar be in volume too small and insignificant to become a disturbing factor in the aggregate volume of circulation. Thus at present the silver dollars are worth only 66 2-3 cents. But the amount in circulation is less than $60,000,000, or only about the one-twenty fifth of the aggregate of $1,600,000,000 of circulating money in the country. This bagatelle of less than $60,000,000 or about 90 cents to each citizen, is scarcely sufficient for daily change or pocket money, and the great business, industrial and commercial interests of the country prefer to tolerate and float it at a par with gold rather than produce panic, with its incalculable brood of consequences, by reducing it to its real value in business transactions. Let the volume of this cheap money become sufficient to fill the channels of domestic trade and transact all domestic business, and as each dollar of it will pay as much indebtedness as a 100 cent dollar, debtors, as is natural, will prefer to make payment in the cheaper dollar, gold will necessarily be expelled from circulation, as it ever has been under like circumstances, and the volume of circulating money be correspondingly contracted, because reduced to the basis of the cheaper silver alone. Shortening the mile one-half will not increase the distance between New-York and Liverpool; it will only require a greater number of short miles to be traversed in making the crossing. Shortening the value of the standard dollar one-half will not correspondingly increase the aggregate volume of money, but only require the employment of a greater number of such short dollars to transact the business of the country.

CONSEQUENCES OF DEPRECIATED MONEY.

Since 1879 all values have become adjusted to the 100 cent standard, and all debts and money obligations have been contracted in the expectation of payment in 100 cent dollars. When by free coinage gold and its equivalents shall have been expelled, the purchasing power of the silver dollar, left to float on its own merit, will sink to the level of its real value. But its debt-paying powers will not diminish. Whether depreciated 40, 50, or 60, or any other per cent, it will continue to pay 100 cents of old debts as before. But its power to buy bread or purchase homes, or provide against want, or sustain infirmity, or support old age, will have shrunken to the extent of the depreciation. More fully than can be expressed will the consequences suggest themselves of 50 per cent. scaling or shrinkage on all existing debts and money obligations, on the wages

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woman's savings deposit, the orphan's income, the widow's annuity, the workingman's back wages, the insurance policy, the soldier's pension and the billions of other debts and obligations of whatever kind contracted before depreciation. Only one class of citizens can be benefited—the comparatively small number of debtors who owe more than is owing to them. All others will either not be benefited, or will be infinitely prejudiced. Even this class of debtors will be benefited only in respect to their old debts, which they will be the more easily enabled to pay with legal tender dollars of half value. But the prices of all commodities will immediately advance in proportion to the depreciation of the debt paying dollar. Twice as many such dollars will thereafter be required to purchase the amount of commodities for cash or on credit to be subsequently paid for.

A measure or policy which will relieve the financial embarrassment of thousands only by beggaring other thousands and bankrupting millions cannot be justified. Besides the relief can be but temporary. Extravagance, reckless speculation, and the creation of new debts in numbers and magnitude doubling the old, which invariably result from an influx of cheap debt-paying money, will surely follow, requiring new, possibly drastic, measures of relief.

THE COLORADO ADDRESS.

The very earnest address of the recent Colorado Convention frankly conceded that business confidence and the financial welfare require the restoration of equality between the values of the two standard dollars; but contends that free coinage will accomplish this, and as an earnest of its sincerity asserts that if, after a fair trial, free coinage fails to restore their commercial equilibrium, the 2,000,000 citizens for whom it assumes to speak will consent that the weight of the silver dollar be so far increased as to restore it. The proposition is captivating, but deceptive. What shall be a fair trial; who shall be the judge; how long shall it continue and how many millions or billions of silver dollars shall be coined to make the trial? As before shown, their equilibrium can be restored only by adding $1,400.000 to the value of the world's present volume of silver money, or by taking $1,300,000,000 from the value of the world's present volume of gold money. During the last few years the United States have annually coined $70,000,000 and India $50,000,000, or a joint aggregate of $120,000,000, and yet the divergence of the two metals has continued to widen. India has not suspended and ceased to furnish a demand for silver coinage. Suppose the United States alone shall annually coin this $120,000,000, can it, will it, with this diminished demand for silver money by India's suspension, increase the value of silver, while its annual supply continues to be so enormous? It is impossible. With diminished demand for silver money United States alone, though the throttle valve of the mint be opened to its utmost capacity, cannot add one farthing to the value of silver. Nor can they alone, though the mint issue silver dollars in numbers as countless as the sands of the sea, reduce the value of gold a single farthing while the markets and the business of the hundred nations of Europe and Asia and Africa are open to and furnish a demand for it, and the gates of these nations are closed against silver. Its free coinage may, by adding increased millions to the volume of our own silver money, dilute the mass and diminish the value of each dollar composing it for want of a demand and outflow abroad; but can only expel gold, not impair its value.

But the acceptance of the Colorado proposition and the adoption of experimental free coinage will not assuage the controversy, which will continue to rage with undiminished vehemence. Everything would continue in an unsettled state of feverish anxiety and insecurity during the progress of the experiment, which must certainly fail in the end. The address consents that after such failure to restore equilibrium through free coinage it may be effected by changing the relative weights of the two dollars. Why not adopt the certain mode now, which it consents shall be adopted then, terminate the controversy by restoring our monetary system to a solid basis of equal values, and revive business confidence at once? Why continue to augment the ulcer by increasing the fuel on which it feeds, only to be cut out in the end.

But will not increasing the weight of the silver dollar be attended with serious loss to the Government on account of the large amount of silver it holds in the vaults of the Treasury? Yes; but National honour, the public credit, business interests and the common welfare will gain a hundredfold by the sacrifice. Besides the loss will be infinitely less if the increase be made now while the amount of silver in the Treasury and the number of silver dollars in circulation among the people are comparatively small, than it will be if made after the unsuccessful experiment of free coinage shall have swelled the number of these dollars to billions. Resort to the proposed remedy now, to which the appeal consents after failure of its proposed remedy, will result in less sacrifice than if postponed, because the ulcer is of less proportions now than it will be then. It must be resorted to sooner or later. Better, then, that the decision be accomplished at once and wounds heal than that it be postponed and the business and financial interests of the country continue unsettled in the mean time.

BIMETALLISM AND MONOMETALLISM.

He who on principle favours a single standard of gold or a single standard of silver is an honest monometallist. He who favours the use of both metals in our monetary system is an honest bimetallist. But he who, professing to favour the bimetallic standard, advocates a policy and such weight of one of the standard coins as will, and of necessity must, expel one of the metals, is a monometallist sailing under bimetallic colours. Senator Stewart, in his recent very able and exhaustive debate with Mr. Hoar, exhibits such colours when, in answer to a question pressed by Mr. Hoar whether cheap standard silver dollars would not necessarily expel gold from circulation as money, replied that he could not see that any detriment would result if it did.

Disguise it as they may, the real question now presented to the country for its decision by the friends of free coinage is not, "Shall we have the single gold standard or bimetallism," but "Shall we have the single silver standard or bimetallism?" The producers of silver naturally prefer the single silver standard. The oft reiterated accusation that European suspension of coinage was the result of gold monometallic conspiracy is simply the cry of "stop thief" under which to cover the movements of silver monometallists. Whether that suspension was wise or unwise, was or was not the fruit of conspiracy, twenty years have elapsed, and no government of Europe has reversed that action. It is therefore an accomplished fact confronting us; we must accept it and govern our action accordingly.

CONCLUSION.

The conclusion is resistless that under existing monetary conditions the mint of the United States should not be opened to the unrestricted free coinage of both gold and silver into standard dollars at their present coinage ratio, or difference in weight, of 1 to 16, but at a coinage ratio of not less than 1 to 24, so as to conform it to the existing commercial ratio and restore the parity of values between the two dollars, as our illustrious ancestors did in 1834. Either this or some equivalent legislation must be resorted to; otherwise abandon one of the other of the metals.

This is a plain statement of what I understand to be the salient and material points in the controversy. In the effort to be brief, some of them may have been left obscure. Some of the issues much discussed are left wholly out of view because not regarded material to the real question.

As to what Congress ought to do, I have a clear opinion and matured conviction, the presentation of which is not within the purview of this statement. It remains to be seen whether President Cleveland and Secretary Carlisle have the courage of their convictions and whether they can influence the incoming Congress to adopt sound legislation. If they can, then no detriment will come to the Republic from silver legislation under their regime.

W. H. WEST.

Bellefontaine, Ohio, Aug. 5, 1893.

BRITISH CONSULAR TRADE REPORT FOR YOKOHAMA FOR 1892.

The report by Consul James Troup, dated April 29th, on the Trade and Navigation of Yokohama during the year 1892 states as follows:—

RETURNS.—There are five returns transmitted with this report. Of these, the first three are compiled from the revised customs statistics; the returns of shipping and of foreign residents and firms from figures received from the various foreign Consulates, and from the customs. I am also indebted, for various information given in this report, to the Japanese authorities, to the statistics compiled by the Yokohama General Chamber of Commerce, and to private individuals.

EXCHANGE.—In the valuation of imports the customs figures are converted into sterling at the rate of 2s. 11⅞d. per *yen* or silver dollar, being the average for the years of the quarterly rates used by the Customs in their conversions from gold into silver. In the valuation of exports and in other calculations in this report the silver dollar is taken as equal to 2s. 10⅝d., being the mean of the monthly averages of the bank sight rate for the year.

GROSS TRADE.—The returns show that the total value of the foreign trade of the port for the year amounted to £13,563,205, being £4,683,018 value of imports, and £8,880,187 value of exports. The total value of the trade in 1891, as shown in last year's report, was £12,803,455, being £4,830,469 value of imports, and £7,972,986 value of exports. It has been pointed out that, inasmuch as the valuation of imports, as given in the Customs statistics, are, with insignificant exceptions, the first cost or invoice values of the goods, to arrive at the figure which Japan actually pays for her imports, an addition should be made to the figures given in these statistics. It is naturally a matter of some difficulty to determine exactly what such addition should amount to, but it would appear that the one suggested of 15 per cent. is, on the whole, a very fair one. Applying this correction to the import figures both of 1891 and 1892, we arrive at a sum of £5,555,039 as the value of imports in the former year, and of £5,385,471 in the latter; and of the total trade, of £13,528,025 in the former year, and of £14,365,658 in the latter. To arrive at still more nearly exact figures, it would have been necessary to have separated the imports arriving from gold-using countries, from those arriving from silver-using countries, and to have applied to the values of the latter the same rate of conversion as that applied to exports. This would probably have reduced the above valuations of imports by about 1 per cent. of the total amount; but where, at best, the valuation is but approximate, the error resulting from the method actually adopted cannot be considered a serious one.

It would thus appear that the total value of the trade of the port, as expressed in gold, was last year greater by about 5¼ per cent than that in 1891; that the Import trade had decreased about 3 per cent. in value, and the export trade had increased about 11⅜ per cent.

Notwithstanding that the statistics of imports thus show a falling-off in gold values, it will be seen by the quotations made in this report of deliveries that an increased consumption has been the rule in the case of nearly all staple imports, the chief exception being in iron, stocks held over from the previous year having thereby become much reduced.

The *Silver valuation* of the trade, as given by the Customs, shows an increase both on the import and export sides. The figures are:—

Imports, 1892.....	$31,328,904	..1891...	$28,982,816
Exports 1892.....	61,552,204	...1891...	49,540,894
Total trade...	$92,881,108		$78,523,710

SPECIE has been imported to the value of £669,022, being £135,748 in gold, and £533,274 in silver; and exported to the value of £1,172,341, being £1,042,462 in gold, and £129,879 in silver. Exports exceeded imports by £503,319.

DUTIES levied by the Customs amounted to £450,237, being £255,746 on exports, £190,003 on imports, and £4,488 miscellaneous duties.

In the spring of last year there was a wave of depression in commercial circles in the Far East, indicated by a general shrinkage in the value of shares of joint-stock companies and otherwise, and accompanied by some failures in the banking and trading world. In this depression this port participated; but, notwithstanding this, it is now recognised that the year has, on the whole, been a satisfactory one for the foreign merchants here; and it has proved a specially prosperous one for the people of this country. The Japanese producer has been getting high prices for his produce, while consumers of imports have been supplied at minimum rates. For two successive years also crops in the country have been good.

BRITISH TRADE.—The trade between the various portions of the British Empire and this port amounted in all—following the Customs returns—to the equivalent of £2,525,028 for the declared value of imports, and £1,019,554 for that of exports. To arrive at a more nearly exact estimate of this trade, the correction of 15 per cent., which has been applied above to the totals of the general table of imports, should be applied to the total of imports in the table of British trade. This will give £2,903,782 as the gold value of the total imports from the British dominions, and £3,923,336 as that of the total trade of the year with the same or 27½ per cent. of the total trade of the port. This shows a decrease of 2½ per cent., as compared with the ratio of the British to the total foreign trade of the port in 1891. The decrease occurs with the trade with the United Kingdom, with Canada, with Australia, and in exports to Hongkong, while in imports from Hongkong and in the trade with British India there is an increase. It should further be noted that the decrease of this

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trade is under the head of exports; in the total of imports from the British dominions there is an increase.

IMPORTS

The following estimate of the deliveries during the year of cottons, woollens, and other manufactures are taken from the statistics compiled by the Yokohama General Chamber of Commerce:—

	1892.	1891.
Cotton yarns—		
English .....lbs.	12,748,000 ...	12,584,000
Bombay .....lbs.	1,258,400 ...	1,480,000
Grey shirtings .....pieces	400,200 ...	464,350
T-cloths .....pieces	60,082 ...	61,950
Indigo shirtings, &c pieces	127,170 ...	124,850
Prints .....pieces	174,568 ...	84,650
Cotton Italians .....pieces	43,738 ...	14,000
Turkey-reds .....pieces	184,730 ...	285,900
Velvets .....pieces	54,328 ...	34,260
Victoria lawns .....pieces	71,890 ...	56,000
Silk-faced satins ...pieces	17,072 ...	15,480
Flannel .....pieces	57,872 ...	43,500
Italian cloth .....pieces	154,860 ...	131,500
Mousselines .....pieces	415,320 ...	298,300
Cloth .....pieces	7,970 ...	5,127
Blankets.....pairs	176,927 ...	157,650

The most marked increase shown by these returns appears under the headings of prints, cotton Italians, velvets, Victoria lawns, flannel, Italian cloth, mousselines, cloth and blankets, the most marked decrease under the headings of grey shirtings and Turkey reds. Stocks, except in the case of Bombay yarns, T-cloths, Victoria lawns and blankets, had decreased in most instances largely during the year.

The variation in the deliveries of *Cotton Yarns* is not great either way; there is a slight increase in English, and some decrease in Bombays. Indeed, it is somewhat remarkable that the decrease has not been greater, considering the competition now experienced, of Japanese spinnings. According to an official return taken in November last there were in Japan 37 cotton-spinning mills, with 447,376 spindles. It would seem as if the total consumption of yarn in the country had increased, the increase being chiefly, if not entirely, in home spinnings

ENGLISH YARNS continue to be used by manufacturers of certain fabrics for which the home-made yarns are not suitable. In this way a development has taken place of the trade in what are known as two-folds, 2/32's and 2/42's, and in gassed yarns.

GREY SHIRTINGS still occupy the chief place among cotton piece goods, but with a tendency to a decreasing consumption.

In T. CLOTHS a decrease has been apparent during the last few years.

PRINTED COTTONS and chintzes may be said to have recovered their previous position, the large stocks brought over from 1891 having been wrought off.

VELVETS show a large increase both in imports and deliveries.

THREAD, last year, claims separate mention in the import table.

WOOLLENS generally are a somewhat uncertain business. Last year, flannels, which are mostly of German origin, showed a large increase both in import and delivery. Mousselines de laine continue to hold the premier position among woollens

On the whole, the trade in cottons and woollen manufactures, from the reduction of stocks last year, is now in a distinctly healthier condition than it has been for some time.

The METAL TRADE of last year, like that of the two previous ones, has not been generally satisfactory for importers; for, although silver prices here, have, for most sorts, advanced, while the home-cost has declined somewhat, these movements have not kept pace with the fall of silver, and it has been with difficulty that anything like covering prices could be obtained for metals.

Deliveries of IRON of all kinds, but excluding nails and other manufactured iron, are given by the Chamber of Commerce at the equivalent of 18,662 tons as against 21,566 tons in 1891.

Deliveries of BAR IRON, &c., are given at 11,146 tons as against 12,302 tons in 1891. A new feature of this market has been considerable shipments of continental iron, chiefly Belgian, which the trade has taken in preference to English or Scotch, as it is cheaper in price. Unless, therefore, British iron comes down in price, it would appear as if a further falling off in its import here may be looked for. Prices here rose from $2 c.80 and $2 c 95 per picul (133⅓ lbs) at the beginning of the year, to $2 c 90 and $3 c.5 per picul

Deliveries of iron-plates and sheets were 2,899 tons against 3,854 tons in 1891; of hoop-iron, 223 tons.

Deliveries of WIRE NAILS amounted to 8,384 tons as against 4,979 tons in 1891. The trade in this article is a growing one. Over one-half of the import may be looked upon as of German origin, and next in bulk, is the import from Belgium.

PIG IRON shows a decreased import and a decreased delivery. Deliveries amounted to 3,558 tons as against 4,134 tons in 1891. In connection with this import it may be mentioned that a contract has been entered into by the Tokyo Municipality with a Japanese company for the manufacture, in Tokyo, of pipes for the waterworks to be constructed for that city. This ought to stimulate the import of pig iron through this port during the current year. Deliveries of galvanized iron were 520 tons as against 625 tons in 1891, of tin-plates, 7,632 boxes as against 5,750 boxes.

From the above it appears that deliveries of all classes of iron named above, with the exception of wire nails and tin-plate, have decreased. Probably this is sufficiently accounted for by the ever increasing cost, in silver, of imported iron to the Japanese consumer, who will use up such old iron as may be within his reach before he will buy new at the enhanced price which the importers must get, or cease the supply. It is possible, however, that an increased production of iron in Japan may also be affecting the import.

JAPANESE IRON.—The production of iron in Japan in 1890 has been estimated at 17,435 tons from iron sand, and 3,782 tons from Kamaishi ore. In 1891 the latter production rose to 4,794 tons, and, in the first half of 1892, to 3,093 tons. Trials with Kamaishi pig have been made at Osaka, it is reported with success, in the casting of cannon, for which hitherto Italian iron has been used. Kamaishi iron is used there along with English in the making of water-pipes also. The proposition is to make the Tokyo water-pipes of the same, it is certain, however, that neither in quantity nor quality is the Kamaishi pig alone sufficient for this purpose. It is reported that in Government departments a preference is given, even at a higher price, to Kamaishi pig over Scotch brands.

The importation of the above classes of iron, except wire nails, having been less last year than in the previous one, stocks at the end of the year were small notwithstanding the general falling off in deliveries. Shipments also are understood to be light Another feature in the trade is that importers, having experienced serious losses from the fall in exchange in the past, have refused to contract for supplies unless either at high dollar prices or in sterling. With these and other restrictions on over-trading, the position in this branch of import also may be looked upon as healthy.

The quantity of the above classes of iron which comes from the United Kingdom, excepting as before, wire nails, may be taken as being about five-sevenths of the whole.

It is somewhat difficult to follow details of the very considerable miscellaneous import of articles manufactured from iron, steel, and other metals, and appearing in the import table under the headings of ironware, arms and munitions of war, engines, boilers, and fittings, instruments and implements, machinery, &c. A large proportion of such articles, as well as of steel, is imported for Government use.

It was remarked in a previous report that, with certain exceptions, contracts for materials required by the Government for public works were put up to public tender. This rule is still applicable; but it has to be taken with a certain qualification. In the purchase of material for dockyards, arsenals, and other establishments the Government reserve the right of limiting the call for tenders to certain selected manufacturers. Heretofore the number of British makers included in this selected list has been comparatively small. Perhaps the reason of this is that British makers are generally specialists, the number of British firms possessing works which comprehend various branches of industry in one establishment is smaller than such under the Continental system. The apparent completeness of an establishment, which, says, receives the ore at one end and turns out the finished gun or warship at the other, has, no doubt, induced a preference for such establishments. Of late, however, some contracts, such as had hitherto gone to Continental makers, have been secured for English specialists.

Among the material supplied by British makers may be mentioned steel for the hoops of big guns, cast for coast defence, for shipbuilding purposes and for boilers. Also boiler tubes and engine fittings, the larger and thicker class of copper tubes, telegraph wire and cable, and various other material and plant, some of which have been mentioned in previous reports. The plant imported for the spinning mills is mostly of English make.

I may repeat here that the inspection of material delivered at the Government dockyards is extremely rigid, to the extent of being hypercritical, extensive rejections taking place at times of material which had passed careful inspection by impartial surveyors before leaving the maker's hands.

Another point which makers at home ought to know is that it is practically impossible for them to tender for Government contracts with any chance of success, unless with a responsible representative here on the spot. The Government does not care to take the risk of importation from abroad, unless, say, for vessels of war.

The import of SUGAR has come to be a large trade, its value for the year coming next in amount to that of cotton manufactures. There is an increase in the importation under the headings both of white and brown. With the exception of quite an insignificant quantity, the whole of the 29,464 tons of white sugar imported may be taken as the produce of the Hongkong refineries. This gives an increase of 14 per cent. in the import of this class of sugar over that in 1891. Values rose gradually in the course of the year, owing to the enhanced cost of raw sugar. Deliveries of sugar of all sorts are estimated at 70,404 tons, as against 63,579 tons in 1891. The Customs returns show also an increased import of molasses.

Deliveries of KEROSENE are estimated at 2,245,681 cases of ten gallons each, as against 2,066,333 cases in 1891. The importation was some 340,000 cases under that of 1891, a reduction brought about in a great measure, through the apprehension of tank oil being introduced into the market. Supplies having thus come forward more sparingly, prices have been well maintained and the stocks at the end of the year reduced. Of the deliveries about 27 per cent. were Russian oil, which has been sold, practically, at equal prices with American during the year.

The importation of Russian oil in tank steamers has been satisfactorily inaugurated at Hiogo, while here some delay has occurred from difficulties in the way of providing a site for the necessary storage tanks. These difficulties have now, however, been overcome, and the importation of oil in such steamers may be looked for at no very distant date.

EXPORTS.

The year commenced with large stocks of *Raw Silk* on hand, but mostly of inferior quality. From January to March a fair amount of business was transacted for both Europe and America, with little variation in prices, No. 1 filatures, when to be had, fetching about $600 with exchange on London at, say, 3s Through April and May with a falling exchange, there continued to be some activity, with an advance in prices, and by the beginning of June there was but little of the old crop to come forward. The available supplies for the season 1891-92 amounted to 6,973,000 lbs., as against 4,853,000 lbs. for that of 1890-91.

It was not until towards the end of June that the new crop began to come on the market. The quality was about equally satisfactory as that of the year previous. The market opened at $650 for Koshiu filatures, but rapidly rose, while supplies came in freely. Shinshius began to arrive in the latter part of July and fetched $720, the low exchange enabling purchasers to lay down produce in the consuming markets at favourable rates. Throughout August, September, and part of October an active business was transacted, first for Europe mainly, and then for America. Prime qualities were at once bought up, and prices rapidly rose until, for best filatures, $920 were paid in September, and even $930 for extras. A scarcity in the supply of dollars was experienced during this period, which somewhat hampered operations, and helped further to render exchange firm. As October wore on, quotations fell to about $880 for best qualities, and a fair amount of business continued to be done until the close of the year.

Settlements, together with direct export by Japanese merchants, from the opening of the season until the end of the year, amounted to 4,947,000 lbs, as against 4,260,000 lbs., for the same period in 1891. Stocks at the end of the year were estimated at 920,000 lbs., the estimated available supplies for the season up to that date being thus 5,867,000 lbs., less than at the same date of the previous year.

Of the raw silk exported, about 2,800,00 lbs. went to Europe and 4,400,000 lbs. to America.

The crop of the season 1892-93 is estimated at about 10 per cent. less than that of the previous year and the good demand for the consuming markets has already caused a prospect of enhanced prices for the opening of the coming season. This, no doubt, will stimulate growers to do their best to increase production this year.

Business in Wastes was most active in the spring, and again from September till the end of the year, prices rising during the latter period. The chief demand for Japan wastes comes from Switzerland. English spinners appear to prefer Chinese material.

The silk export of raw and waste together constituted over 63 per cent. in value of the total of

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the export of the port last year. The fostering care of the Government over the silk industry in past years is now bearing its fruit. Care is however, still necessary in the sorting of cocoons and in reeling in order to maintain the reputation of the silk. With this care exercised, the trade promises to grow in importance and the industry to develop from year to year.

The quantity of TEA exported last year was 29,301,969 lbs., or 1,342,427 lbs. under that of 1891. The season of 1891 92 closed in the United States and Canada with excessive stocks of the hurriedly-prepared low grades referred to in last report. These were eventually forced on the market at prices which entitled severe losses to shippers. Better grades, on the other hand, were in short supply and in demand. The season 1892 93, therefore, opened in Japan favourably for growers and dealers. Prices were high, and, as the demand for good qualities was sustained throughout the year, they continued firm, and results have been generally favourable to shippers, and eminently profitable to Japan. Low grades were neglected in the consuming markets, although more recently there has been something of a reaction in the case of both higher and lower grades. The season here opened late. The quality of the leaf was better than in the previous season.

Notable features in the year's trade have been a falling-off in the shipments to Canada, and an increase in those to New York and Chicago. The destinations of the export were as follows:—United States, 21,562,993 lbs.; Canada, 6,734,356 lbs.; Europe, &c. 938 284 lbs.

The export of *Copper* last year amounted to 8,748 tons, as against 10,023 tons in 1891, and 11,409 tons in 1890. The diminution in the export may be attributed to the fact that the produce of a portion of the Akita mines now finds its way by sea to Tsuruga, and thence by rail to the Osaka refineries, instead of coming to this port. The production of copper in Japan has, no doubt, increased last year for, in addition to the fact that the total export from Japan is somewhat more than it was during the previous year, it has to be noted that there has been of late a good demand for consumption in the country itself.

I am not able to give the figures of the production of copper in Japan for the last two years, but it may be of interest to note that the total output of the mines in 1890 is given at 17,972 tons. As the total export in 1892 is given as 17,837 tons, it would seem to follow, allowing for home consumption, that a considerable increase in the output has taken place during the two years. Of the total production in Japan more than one-half is from the mines in the north-east portion of the country, including the Ashio mines, which are the largest, the Akita group of mines, those of Iwate Prefecture, and Kusakura mines and others in Echigo.

Early in the year dollar prices were low, $16 to $16 50c. per picul (133⅓ lbs.) being current for slabs and ingots; but by June they had advanced to $17 and $17 50c. and by the end of the year to $18 for slabs, $11 50c. for refined ingots, and $19 for tile, the rise being mainly due to the fall in silver. As in the previous year, a considerable portion of the copper went to China for the Government mints. Among miscellaneous exports, by far the most prominent are silk manufactures. The total value of these last year amounted to £1,175,232, including £499,201 worth of silk handkerchiefs, and £581,137 of the piece goods known as "habutæ." The export goes chiefly to the United States.

BANKS.—At this port there are branches of three British Eastern Banks of Exchange—the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, the Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China, and the National Bank of China. The Mercantile Bank of India and the Comptoir d'Escompte de Paris, are represented by agencies.

The Yokohama Shokin Ginko (Specie Bank) has its head office in Yokohama and is the leading bank among the Japanese banks established here. It also transacts exchange business with foreign countries. There are about nine Japanese banks carrying on business at this port. In former times banking business in this country was done in a limited way by a few old established private concerns; but since the establishment of the National Banks, under the banking regulations enacted by the Government, there is not a town of any importance in the country which is not now supplied with its bank or banks. These greatly assist the internal trade of the country, and are coming to be of service to foreigners visiting the interior. Direct relations, however, between Japanese and foreign banks do not exist, except at the open ports. At this port there is a growing intercourse between Japanese and foreign banks, and the cheques of both are cleared daily.

SHIPPING.

Last year there entered this port 2,078 merchant ships (not including junks) of an aggregate of 1,910,191 tons. This shows a increase of 359 vessels and 16,670 tons or about ¾ per cent. on the tonnage entering the port in 1891. Under the British flag there is an increase of 8 per cent. in the tonnage, under the Japanese flag a decrease of 1⅞ per cent, mainly under the head of sailing vessels; under the German flag, a decrease of over 24 per cent.; under the French, Swedish and Norwegian flags the variation in number or tonnage is insignificant. There is a decrease in the number of sailing vessels entering the port under every flag under which such have entered.

Under the Japanese flag alone the decrease in the number of sailing vessels is given as 115, mostly small vessels. Of the Japanese vessels which entered, 76, of a total of 111,328 tons, were steamers engaged in foreign trade, and 4 were sailing ships, of a total of 363 tons, engaged in the same.

Under the British flag there entered, steamers from the United Kingdom 78, from New York 11, from Hamburg and Antwerp 20, from San Francisco 20, from Vancouver 15, from Victoria (British Columbia) and Tacoma 10, and from Batoum 6, the remainder being from Hongkong and ports in China or Japan, and sailing vessels from the United Kingdom 5, from New York 6, from Guam 3, from Manila, Vancouver, Victoria (British Columbia), the Northern Pacific, and Hiogo, 1 each. Assuming that the same proportion holds good for this port, taken by itself, as obtains according to the customs statistics in the foreign trade of Japan taken as a whole, the value of goods carried between foreign countries and this port, in British ships, amounted to 58 per cent. of that of the total, import and export of the port.

Shipping facilities, no doubt, give British shippers in the United Kingdom an advantage over Continental rivals. It may not be out of place to mention that these advantages would be still further increased were sufficient care always exercised in the stowage of goods on board of vessels.

Silk freights to European ports by Peninsular and Oriental, Messageries Maritimes, or North German Lloyds' steamers were steady throughout the year at 5 dol. 60 c. per cwt. To New York by Pacific Mail, Occidental and Oriental and Canadian Pacific routes and railways, the rate throughout the year stood 8c. per lb. gross; by Northern Pacific steamers and rail to New York, *vid* Tacoma, from September, at 6c. per lb. gross.

Tea freights by Canadian Pacific, Pacific Mail, Occidental and Oriental steamers and rail to eastern cities of the United States and Canada, at the opening of the season in April, stood at 1½c. per lb. gross, during May they rose to 3½c. and 3c. per lb. gross, and from the early part of June they gradually until September when they again reached 1¾c. per lb. gross, at which point they remained steady until the end of the year. The average rate for the three lines was nearly the same for the 12 months. By the Northern Pacific line rates began at 2c. per lb. gross in the early part of June, gradually decreasing to 1¾c. per lb gross in July, and remained thus, with little variation, to the end of the year. To San Francisco by Pacific Mail and Occidental and Oriental steamers, the rate stood at $10 per ton; by Canadian Pacific and Northern Pacific lines to Vancouver, Portland, &c., at $8 per ton throughout. By Suez Canal steamers to New York, freights ranged from $35 to $50 per ton, by sail to New York they remained at 1½c. per ton.

GENERAL.

HARBOUR WORKS.—Operations on the harbour works, described in previous reports, have continued during the past year. Of the portion of breakwater on firm bottom, extending in all to 7,730 feet, 6,429 feet have completed, while the remaining 1,301 feet are completed all but the superstructure. Of the portion on soft bottom the whole of the superstructure is finished, and of the concrete superstructure 2,450 feet are built up to a height of 6 feet 1 inches from the level of the top of the breakwater, and the rest up to the height of 10 feet 2 inches from the same.

Quite recently it has been found that a number of the concrete blocks used in the construction of the breakwater have shown signs of cracking. The matter is at present under investigation. What the extent of the damage may be it would be premature to state; but the existence of these defects can hardly fail to cause some delay in the completion of the works.

The training works, extending a distance of 6,093 feet from the mouth of the Katabira River to the tail of the north breakwater, are already completed.

Dredging operations for the general deepening of the anchorage are in active operation. The mud excavated from the bottom of the harbour during the last twelve months amounts to 144,130 cubic yards.

The commencement of the construction of the iron pier was delayed until October last, but it has since been completed to a length of 305 feet, including the bridge-way of 50 feet span on the land end. The rest of this work is now rapidly progressing.

The commencement of the construction of the graving-dock, for which, as was mentioned in last year's report, a charter had been granted by the Government, is still delayed. The promoters of the scheme have, it is reported, applied to the Government further extention of the one year in the time for the inception of this work, with what result still remains to be seen.

The pressure for accommodation which was experienced in the matter of the landing and shipping of cargo at the port has recently been much relieved by the reclamation of ground near the Custom-house, and the erection of additional sheds for chargo.

POPULATION.—The Japanese population of the town of Yokohama on Dec. 31 amounted to 143,252 persons, and of the town of Kanagawa to 16,296 persons, or 159,548 persons in all, an increase of 10,653 during the year 1892.

The foreign population of Yokohama, exclusive of Chinese, amounted on the same date to 1,588 persons, of whom 763 were British. This show an increase during the twelve months of sixteen persons in this general foreign population, and of forty-nine in the British by itself. The Chinese population is returned at 3,339, or slightly less than it was twelve months before.

RAILWAY CONSTRUCTION.—By the opening, which has just taken place, of the small section of railway at the Usui Pass, alluded to in last year's report as being under construction, the through line of railway communication between this port and Tokyo, on the one hand, and the north west coast, in the province of Echigo, on the other, has been completed.

No railway construction is now actually in hand in this part of Japan, but, since the date of last report, a general scheme of railway extension has been approved of by the Diet. A sum of 5,000,000 yen (or silver dollars) is to be spent annually for the next twelve years in railway construction throughout the country, and a certain classification of proposed lines has been submitted for the consideration of the Diet. The discussion of the details of this project, which naturally involves the consideration of the relative advantages of different routes, and of conflicting interests in the case of most of the lines proposed, has to come before the recently instituted railway council and future session of the Diet; but, in the meantime, the construction of two new lines, for which alternative routes are not in question, has been determined on. One of these is to extend from Tsuruga, north eastwards, by Kanazawa to Toyama, in Etchiu, a distance of 124 miles, and is estimated to cost 7,000,000 yen. The other is to extend from Fukushima, on the existing line between Tokyo and Awomori, by Yonezawa, Yamagata, and Akita, to Awomori, a distance 298 miles, and to cost 16,000,000 yen. Of the 5,000,000 yen which, as just mentioned, are to be expended yearly on railway construction, 3,000,000 yen yearly are to be expended on the two lines just named.

It may be noted that the latter of these two lines will bring the silk districts of Yonezawa, and beyond, as well as the copper mines of Akita, into connection by rail with this port.

Throughout the whole of Japan there are now 1,875 miles of railway open to traffic.

TELEGRAPHS.—There are now about 8,543 miles of telegraph lines open in Japan, the length of the wires of which amounts to 24,314 miles, and of telegraph cables 213¾ nautical miles, the length of the conducting wires of which is 278¾ nautical miles. Of telephone lines there are in the country 375 miles, having 3,234 miles of wires. There is a telephone exchange at this port connecting also with Tokyo.

From the Tables attached to the report we take the following:—

IMPORTS.

	1892.	1891.
Cotton manufactures	£ 929,060	£ 854,105
Woollen manufactures	565,912	495,478
Metals	392,794	441,856
Sugar	779,596	791,264
Kerosene oil	256,446	380,793
Miscellaneous, Western	1,278,971	1,324,375
Miscellaneous, Eastern	477,427	540,102
Japanese produce	2,812	2,496
Grand total	£4,683,018	£4,830,469

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Exports.	1892.	1892.
Silk	£5,653,891	£5,074,853
Cocoons	44,670	31,330
Tea	653,216	692,899
Rice	2,260	572
Coal	81,903	70,414
Copper	335,258	452,948
Fish	94,860	122,550
Miscellaneous	1,970,536	1,467,318
Foreign produce and manufactures	43,593	60,102
Grand total	£8,880,187	£7,972,986

BRITISH CONSULAR TRADE REPORT FOR HYOGO AND OSAKA FOR 1892.

Consul J. J. Eshle, writing on April 3, 1893, reports on the foreign trade of the above Consular district for the year 1892, based on statistics compiled by the Bureau of Customs, and by a return of the number of registered British and other foreign residents and firms. He states:—

The trade for the past year compares with that of 1891 as follows:—

	1892.	1891.	
Imports	£5,414,158	£4,964,201	+£449,957
Exports	3,223,825	3,657,781	— 433 956
Total	8,637,983	8,621,982	+ 16,001

The foregoing is calculated to give an exceedingly erroneous idea of the trade of this district, as will be seen from the following returns in Mexican dollars, based, as usual, on Customs returns:—

	1892.	1891.	
Imports	$36,220,175	$29,762,143	+$6,458,032
Exports	22,345,665	22,481,800	— 136,135
Total	58,565,840	52,243,943	+ 6,321,897

The very great difference between the increase in the trade for 1892 over that of 1891, as shown in the sterling returns, and the returns made out in Mexican dollars, is due entirely to the fact that, acting under instructions, the sterling calculations for 1891 were taken as follows:—Imports at 3s. 4d., exports at 3s. 2⅝d., whereas those for 1892 are, imports at 2s. 11⅞d., exports at 2s. 10⅛d., a difference on every dollar of 4½d. for imports and 4d. for exports. Reduced into sterling, at the rate ruling towards the close of 1892, the increase in that year over 1891 is about £870,000, and not £16,000, as stated above. For the purpose of a return of foreign trade Hiogo and Osaka must be considered one district, of which Kobe, with its foreign merchants, is the "feeder," in the same way as business with Tokio and the northern part of Japan goes through Yokohama; all the foreign trade of Osaka is done by merchants residing in Kobe (Hiogo).

The following return conveys a succinct idea of growth and present volume of trade in Hiogo and Osaka and in Yokohama:—

Imports.	1882.	1887.	1891.	1892.
Hiogo and Osaka	$6,430,806	$15,257,284	$29,762,143	$36,220,175
Yokohama	20,208,802	27,253,149	33,967,840	31,310,091
Exports.	**1882.**	**1887**	**1891.**	**1892.**
Hiogo and Osaka	$6,762,663	$13,210,507	$22,481,800	$22,345,665
Yokohama	26,662,889	33 428,249	40,102,300	61,175,385

The important features of the foregoing are:—

1. In 1882 the import trade of this district was nearly $14,000,000 less than that of Yokohama, whereas in 1892 it was nearly $5,000,000 in excess.

2. The export trade of Yokohama must necessarily always be largely in excess of this district, owing to the monopoly in silk and silk manufactures existing in the former port.

3. The relative growth of the export trade of the two districts during the last few years:—In the Hiogo and Osaka district more than threefold. In the Yokohama district two and one quarter fold.

4. The excess of the exports from Yokohama in 1892 over that for 1891 is almost entirely due to the extremely high prices paid for silk during the past year. (See note end of report.)

Notwithstanding the very large dimension of the export of silk and its manufactures, almost exclusively confined to Yokohama, as also the unprecedented high prices paid for silk during the year, under review, the increase in the entire foreign trade of this district for 1892 as compared with that of 1882, is only $2,691,000 less than that of Yokohama.

Total Foreign Trade	1882	1892	Increase in 1892
Hiogo and Osaka	$14,645,105	$58,565,840	$43,923,435
Yokohama	46,870,691	92,485,474	45,614,783

From the foregoing it is very clear that, making allowance for the excessive prices paid for silk during the past year, the increase in the volume of foreign trade has, during the last few years, been greater in this district than in Yokohama. It being quite impossible to fix the average sterling rate of the Mexican dollar in 1882, the above returns have been compiled in dollars.

Summarising the total foreign trade for 1892 of the two districts, the following result is arrived at:—

IMPORTS:—Hiogo and Osaka upwards of £700,000 in excess of Yokohama.

EXPORTS:—Exclusive of silk and silk manufactures, in which, under the very special circumstances referred to on this and former occasions, this district is not in any way up to the present able to compete with Yokohama, the export trade of Hiogo and Osaka is upwards of £1,000,000 in excess of Yokohama.

COMMERCIAL MORALITY:—The observations made in the reports for 1890 and 1891 as to the very great importance of commercial morality have received considerable attention, and will, it is hoped, produce good results. At the second graduation ceremony of the Higher Commercial School at Tokyo, which took place in November last, an old and respected British resident in the capital, particularly esteemed by the Japanese, when addressing those present, made some interesting remarks on this subject. After complimenting the director, Mr. Yano, on the excellent work done by him, he said:—"The accession of men like you to the ranks of commerce cannot fail to raise the status as well as the moral standard of the profession, and let me impress upon you that no mere point of sentiment is involved in this question of moral standard. I am afraid it must be admitted, and you yourselves will doubtless admit, that partly owing to the contempt in which trade and its votaries used to be held in Japan, and partly owing to lack of practical lessons, commercial integrity never reached a very high level in Japan. Honesty is to a great extent the outcome of circumstances. Philosophers have devoted many essays to discussing the problem whether men are born good or whether they become good; whether in short, their characters are shaped by innate qualities or moulded by environment. In the case of the modern merchant, for instance, not only does his place in the markets at home and abroad depend upon the reputation of his goods, but also the possibility of establishing a system of credit is based upon the mutual confidence existing between man and man. It is scarcely necessary to remind you what is involved in a system of credit. A great part of the potentialities of banking depends on it, and by its means the effective power of capital is enormously multiplied. One of the chief obstacles to the rapid development of trade and industry in your country is that a proper system of credit has not yet been established, and I can conceive no more laudable or useful *rôle* for the graduates of this College than that they should devote themselves to inculcating a general conviction of the vital truth, 'Honesty is the best policy.' I must crave your pardon if in thus speaking I seem to reflect upon the merchants of your country, but in connection with this subject of honesty it certainly would not become me to show any want of frankness. I repeat the general opinion entertained by foreigners who have lived long in your country when I say that Japanese commercial integrity has not yet attained a satisfactory standard. That it should have done so was scarcely to be expected, for, as I have already said honesty is to a large extent the outcome of circumstances, and the circumstances of your merchants in the past were not favourable. Not only were they free from the keen competition which makes failure certain for anyone lacking the essential of honesty, but also the inferior social grade to which they were relegated must have deprived them of any strong sense of self-respect. You, therefore, enter the field of practical affairs with exceptional responsibilities and possibilities; not your own interests alone but those of your country and your profession being involved in your conduct. Let me add one word. Some of you doubtless will take the open ports as your arena of practical study, and will, therefore, come into contact with the European and American merchants who are engaged in the foreign trade of your country. It is the fashion of many of your journalists to speak in strongly condemnatory terms of the resident foreign merchant; to describe him as an arbitrary, grasping sort of person, who sacrifices everything to the lust of gain. Now, the foreign merchant himself does not deny that some of the methods to which he resorts in this country are theoretically objectionable. But, he declares, and if you investigate the subject you will find his claim strictly true that he is driven to these methods by the very defects to which I have already alluded—namely, by the lack of a trustworthy sense of responsibility and by the comparative absence of commercial integrity among the Japanese merchants with whom he deals. He himself would infinitely prefer to conduct his own business on lines of mutual trust and confidence, and it would pay him far better to do so. Much might be said upon this subject, but I have already detained you too long to trespass further on your patience. What I want to impress upon you is that you should not allow yourselves to be too much influenced by the diatribes of superficial critics. As a matter of sentiment it might be very agreeable that, whatever part of your country's foreign trade is carried on within her own borders should be in Japanese hands. But from the point of view of practical advantage it would be impossible to find any better agents than the foreign merchants at the open ports. They take upon themselves the whole risks of the trade. On the side of imports, they bring here such goods as seem likely to be needed, and, since the number of competing nationalities at the open ports puts anything like combination out of the question, these goods are offered to your people at prices including a minimum of profit; while, if purchasers are not found, the loss generally falls entirely on the foreign importer. On the side of exports, they buy the staples of production and manufacture directly from the Japanese producer or middle-men, paying ready-money for them, and accepting all the risks and responsibilities connected with their transport and sale abroad. It would, I repeat, be quite impossible to find better agents than these men, who bring to your country their capital and experience, and who stand between Japan and every chance of loss. It is owing to the operation of such a uniquely advantageous agency that within the short space of thirty years there has been built up a commerce which puts tens of millions annually into the pockets of your people, and your shrewdest plan is to utilise the service of these agents for the future conduct of an enterprise which has hitherto fared so remarkably in their hands."

TRADE GENERALLY.—As stated in the report presented by the Committee of the Hiogo and Osaka General Chamber of Commerce, the trade during the year under review was very remunerative for Japanese merchants. Nearly all the staple articles of export realised higher prices than in 1891, dealers having derived the full benefit of the decline in silver, while the condition of the import market also was decidedly favourable for them.

Both here and elsewhere in this Empire the results of business have been decidedly and largely in favour of the country; what has been going on ever since the ports were opened was specially accentuated during 1892, and the Japanese have again been most unquestionably the greatest gainers by the results of foreign trade.

To emphasise this statement, it is well to quote the opinion of the editor of the *Japan Daily Mail*, an authority on these and other matters, when he says, writing on the subject of a certain agitation against the immediate opening up of the Empire to foreigners:—"The major part of the profits have hitherto gone, and are steadily going into Japanese pockets. For every one foreigner that has grown rich by that trade, for every one foreigner that has acquired even a moderate competence by it, ten, ay, twenty, Japanese owe to it a condition of greater or less opulence. Round the settlements there have grown up flourishing towns and prosperous communities where in former times there were only unconsidered wastes or squalid hamlets. These facts are not to be ignored or explained away. The Japanese merchant has not been ousted from the trade inaugurated by foreigners. On the contrary, he holds a stronger position than ever in that trade. The profits of the commerce in which foreigners engage have not been monopolised by them. On the contrary, many Japanese have grown rich while the foreigner toils on with a bare competence. Has the competition of foreigners in the country proved injurious to the development of national commerce? On the contrary, has not the commerce in which foreigners are engaged grown from a cipher to 170,000,000 *yen* annually in thirty years, and does not the lion's share of the gains come into Japanese pockets?"

To foreign firms at Kobe the results of the import trade during the past year can hardly be considered satisfactory, although in exports generally a reasonable remunerative business can be recorded.

Hints to English traders have of late years been frequently given in Consular reports from various parts of the world as regards the advantages often enjoyed by foreign competitors by their use of the decimal and metric systems. These remarks apply with much force to our trade with Japan, but the time when a change may be expected in this all-important question seems to be still far distant.

IMPORTS.

The usual interference of China New Year holidays with business was accentuated by a heavy fall in exchange, which caused importers to put

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up prices, and brought about much stagnation in most branches of the import trade during the earlier part of the year. Later on there was a fair improvement, but the bitter feeling distinctly noticeable was to a considerable extent interfered with by another fall in silver of an almost unprecedented nature, which affected foreign importers and Japanese dealers alike. Foreigners have benefited to a moderate extent, contracts being kept with fair punctuality, while Japanese have had a prosperous year.

Speaking generally, the volume of imports was not so great as might have been expected, but large stocks have been cleared off, and the market is now in a healthier condition.

The increase in imports occurs principally in the following articles:—

Cotton yarn .....Lbs. ...	6,856,548	£129,963
Cotton piece-goods—		
Chintzes .....Yards...	1,075,632	13,059
Satins ... .Yards...	2,206,268	39,587
Shirting.....Yards...	13,968,406	10,859
Velvets .....Yards...	717,919	16,489
Cotton (raw) .....Lbs. ...	29,024,074	336,874
Woollens—		
Blankets .....Lbs. ...	329,582	20,092
Cloth .....Yards...	93,032	8,107
Flannels .....Yards...	933,769	46,888
Mousseline de laine .....Yards..	2,318,495	29,363
Yarn ....Lbs. ...	89,355	9 065
Metals .... — ..	—	14.472
Sugar..... .....Tons ..	10,530	123,298
Chemicals... ..... — ..	—	19,678

The decrease in imports occurs principally in the following articles.—

Cotton Manufactures—		
T-cloths .. ..Yards...	235 985	£3,391
Turkey reds .....Yards...	324,431	9.243
Woollens—		
Italian cloth .....Yards...	1,738,269	64.434
Kerosene oil .....Galls....	4,671,475	131,886
Rice ....Tons ...	31,075	205,502
Barley .....Tons ...	1,830	55.517

COTTON YARN.—There was a considerable increase in the importation of this article, and throughout the year sales were effected at gradually increasing prices. The increase was due to the very large stocks with which 1891 commenced, leading to reduced importation during that year, whereas a much larger supply was required in 1892. In all probability the Japanese mills will turn out yarn in increasing quantities, resulting in less demand for the imported article.

BUSINESS IN RAW COTTON continues to increase. Six years ago the quantity imported was 3,915,322 lbs., while during the period under review the amount was 80,973,051 lbs. There has also been a large increase in the importation of unginned cotton, amounting to upwards of 4,800,000 lbs.; owing, however, to the rate at which exchange has had to be calculated the value in sterling is less by some £14,484

The cotton spinning mills throughout the country have done remarkably well, paying dividends ranging between 10 and 24 per cent per annum. During the past year the number of spindles was augmented by upwards of 230,000, and an additional 100,000 may be counted on during 1893 The accompanying return of spinning companies for the first six months of 1892 may be of some interest. The increasing success of many of the mills is proved by the following tables, one showing a comparison of the quotations of some of the $100 shares on the Osaka Stock Exchange, the other giving the profit per spindle and the dividend declared on Dec. 31 last:—

	July 15, 1892.	Dec. 15, 1890.
Osaka	$123 50	$103 50
Naniwa	101 40	36 00
Temma.....	105 20	43 00
Settsu	188 00	37 50
Hirano	163 00	78 30
Senshu	176 00	— —
Amagasaki	145 45	33 45

This, be it remarked, is an industry which is asking the Legislature that the duty on raw cotton should be taken off, in order to allow it to contend with the foreign importation of yarns.

The very large increase in the importation of cotton, raw and unginned, has resulted in a considerable decrease in the business in cotton yarn. The nature of the change thus produced in this portion of the foreign trade of this Empire is very clearly shown by the following return:—

Raw Cotton, 1882 ...lbs.	4,413,061	...$ 467,249
Raw Cotton, 1887 ...lbs.	7,427,486	...$ 711,952
Raw Cotton, 1892 ...lbs.	104,862,421	...$11,022,637

	1882.	1887.	1892.
Of the above to Hiogo and Osaka.....Per cent.	31	53	77
do. Yokohama .....Per cent.	45	29	17
do. Nagasaki .....Per cent.	24	18	6
Cotton Yarn, 1892...lbs.	33,729,466		$6,562,011
Cotton Yarn, 1887...lbs.	44,395,373		$8,235,204
Cotton Yarn, 1892...lbs.	32,411,325		$7,131,980

	1882.	1887.	1892.
Of the above to Hiogo and Osaka.....Per cent.	20	49	56
do. Yokohama .....Per cent.	80	51	44

These returns testify to the extraordinary growth of the trade in cotton yarn and raw cotton in this district, as compared with Yokohama.

Quoting from the report on the trade of Hiogo and Osaka for 1891, the following is the approximate percentage of the distribution of this part of the trade among firms established here:—

	British.	German.	American.	Japanese.	Chinese.
Cotton yarn (English).	89	8	—	—	—
Cotton yarn (Bombay)	95	1	1	3	—
Raw cotton..	17	—	4	58	20

COTTON PIECE GOODS.—Grey and White shirtings have done better than in former years; this also applies to satins, velvets and chintzes. A continual increase at the same ratio cannot, however, be reasonably expected, and the market is at present very languid.

WOOLLENS.—This description of goods has been extensively imported, and throughout the entire year met a fairly satisfactory market. Blankets and mousselines were particularly good; there is, however, a falling-off in Italian cloth, due to previous heavy stocks, and also probably a change of fashion.

METALS.—Another year of generally unsatisfactory trade, both for foreigners and Japanese, has to be recorded, due, in a great measure, to forward contracts made by Japanese merchants, on a sterling basis of cost laid down, resulting in most cases in heavy losses, owing to the decline in silver. The market was thus frequently supplied with large shipments of bars and pigs, which had to be sold on arrival, almost without regard to cost, and it was only at the end of the year, when stocks were found to be diminishing, and shipments falling-off, that prices showed anything like remunerative figures

Considerable shipments of Belgium bar-iron have been placed on the market at prices precluding larger importations of British iron, but it remains to be seen whether the trade will no again require the latter quality in preference to continental iron, even at a higher cost.

Redcar No. 3 continues to be the standard brand of pig-iron, though the Clarence brand of Belgian manufacture has established a position in the market, being usually obtainable at a lower price than the Middlesboro' article.

In September tenders were opened at the Imperial arsenal in Osaka for the supply of 2,000 tons of Redcar No. 2, to be used in the manufacture of pipes for the new waterworks in that city. Three Japanese and six foreign firms sent in tenders, and the contract was awarded to one of the former, who bid the equivalent of £3 3s. per ton, against £3 6s. 5d., the lowest foreign offer. From information placed at my disposal, it would seem that a contract at the above price cannot show any profit.

The direct importation of metals by Japanese firms, referred to in my last report, appears to have ceased, the results not warranting a continuance of the business.

Wire nails have fluctuated in price from month to month, and in some instances satisfactory sales have been effected; the demand for this article, which is entirely supplied from Germany, continues to be large and increasing.

Sheet zinc has been in steady demand for packing cases, following the largely increasing requirements of the export match trade.

KEROSENE.—A large business was done early in January at gradually hardening prices, but rumours of early arrivals of Atlantic and Russian shipments soon caused operations to weaken, the transactions among Japanese also falling off considerably owing to the attitude of holders. Late in the year the wants of stocks, owing to non-arrival of ships, became so accentuated that dealers were obliged to import oil from Yokohama to supply their requirements.

The following returns in cases show the movement in oil during the last two years:—

Year 1891 ...	Stocks on January 1		553,623
	Arrivals (American)	1,450,948	
	Arrivals (Russian)	313,387	
		.....	1,764,338
	Total		2,417,458
Year 1892 ...	Stocks on January 1		740,105
	Arrivals American)	1,060,432	
	Arrivals (Russian) ...	228,485	
		... ...	1,288,917
	Total		2,029,022
Year 1893 ...	Stocks on January 1		13,136

The new scheme started by an influential British syndicate to import Russian kerosene in bulk is calculated to bring about important changes in the general conditions of the trade in oil, and if present expectations are in any way realised, the advantages to be derived by the consuming public are likely to be considerable. Five large tanks, four of which are 25 feet high and 57 feet in diameter, have been erected at a safe and convenient distance from the town, and the first steamer, bringing 4,844 tons of oil, arrived here early in March. The consumption of kerosene oil is bound to increase, though, during 1892, there was a falling-off of upwards of 4,000,000 gallons, owing to heavy stocks of the previous year and fears as to the result of the tank oil scheme.

SUGAR.—The market was satisfactory throughout the year with steadily advancing prices, which enabled Japanese buyers to secure good profits on nearly all their purchases

The following figures show a good expansion in the volume of trade:—

	1892.	1891.	Increase, 1892
Sales by foreign firms.....Piculs	370,237 ...	513,563 ...	143,326

No foreign refined sugars are imported by Japanese into Kobe, and the foreign brown sugar trade is a limited one. The refined sugars were all imported from Hongkong, where they are prepared.

The increase in the importation of sugar during the last few years is as follows:—

1882 .....Piculs.	148,559 ...	$1,039,271
1887 .....Piculs.	369,198 ...	1,667,099
1892 .....Piculs.	668,912 ...	3,678,133

This advance is entirely due to the increasing wealth of the country, and will probably be maintained.

The following return, taken from a leading Japanese newspaper, published in the capital, shows the quantities of home-made sugar, of that imported from abroad, and the amount consumed per head of the entire population of the Empire:—

Years.	Japan.	Abroad.	Consumption
1886.....lbs.	85,133,513 ...	111,707,786 ...	5 11
1887.....lbs.	65,891,431 ...	134,778,848 ...	5.11
1888.....lbs.	70,768,419 ...	151,222,373 ...	5 59
1889.....lbs.	86,645,769 ...	126,222,345 ...	5 03
1890.....lbs.	138,972,881 ...	173,673,167 ...	7.72
1891.. .....lbs.	83,217,112 ...	167,531,523 ...	6 15

RICE.—The importation of this article has been to a great extent by Government, and was a tributable to short crop and the high prices of Japanese grain.

CHEMICALS.—These products, used for match making, advanced in prices in sympathy with home cost, and there was good inquiry for chlorate of potash and phosphorus, though paraffin was neglected; wax was generally plentiful and, therefore, weak in price.

EXPORTS.

The prices of export articles have been high during the year, but trade generally has been satisfactory. A prosperous tea business has been experienced; the quantity shipped was less than during the previous season, but the value about 10 per cent. more. Business was much stimulated by low exchange.

It is reasonable to assume that Japanese merchants generally know their own interests best, but to onlookers unconnected with trade this fact is not invariably apparent, and the fable of the goose with the golden eggs is now and again called to mind by a seemingly excessive desire for immediate profits, regardless of what the future may bring forth. Such appears to be the case with regard to some of the articles of export, where, induced probably by present and increasing demand, prices have risen until there appears a probability that fashion will not hold its own against heavy cost, and that trade will, if this state of things continues, to a great extent turn in the direction of competing markets in China and other countries.

The increase in exports occurs principally in the following articles:—

Copper .....Tons.	1,889	£33,237
Cotton manufactures .	—	15.549
Drugs	—	9,601
Glassware	—	3,736
Kanten (isinglass) ...	—	8,031
Matches .....Gross.	1,294,315	24,693
Matting	—	63,650
Porcelain	—	8,841
Rags .....Tons.	1,748	7,811
Umbrellas .....No.	461,491	21,340

The decrease occurs principally in the following articles:—

Rice.....Tons.	41,439	£359,624
Tea .....Lbs.	1,294,539	6,920
Antimony .....Tons.	613	13,836
Coal .....Tons.	29,139	27,891
Camphor .....Tons.	650	62,337
Fans .....No.	639,381	8,439

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Lacquered ware.....	—		8,719
Rapeseed ....Tons.	874		9,062
Rapeseed oil .....Tons.	160		6,114
Screens	—		6,179
Silk	—		9,973
Silk manufactures.....	—		9,899
Straw plaits .....Bundles.	105,677		7,926
Wax .....Tons.	98		8,568
Wheat..... ....Tons.	1,502		9,602

RICE.—During the earliest days of the year there was some activity in this article as regards mill-cleaned and uncleaned, which caused prices to remain firm; stocks in Hiogo were, however, low, though quotations were kept up in Osaka by Bourse operations.

In February and March there were some large shipments to America, Europe, and Australia, the sharp fall in exchange having materially assisted these operations, notwithstanding the fact that the Osaka syndicate was, backed by all the banks in that city, powerful enough to hold some 270,000 koku (3.13 bushels each) in that place alone.

Later on heavy rains and disastrous inundations caused quotations on the Japanese bourses to advance, and speculative operations were of such nature that, notwithstanding extremely favourable reports about the new crop, purchases on foreign account could not be made. In spite of typhoons, the prospects of the new crop seemed well secured in September, and prices gave way to some extent, although the stocks of old grain were currently reported to be very light.

A small business was done during the remaining months of the year, but towards the close there was little animation in the market, notwithstanding the free arrival of supplies and reduced range of prices. The crop for 1891-92 was above the average, but local speculation generally kept prices above those payable by exporters, resulting in a decrease of upwards of 41,000 tons in the export of this article.

TEA.—The limit of buying is much more concentrated than it used to be and instead of extending over several months the bulk of the crop is disposed of between May and August. This is partly borne out by the fact that only 315 piculs of old leaf were sold between January and the opening of the new season in May, as against 2,500 piculs in 1891. Owing to a backward Spring, the growth of leaf was so retarded that the market did not open till a fortnight later than usual. It was well known beforehand that, in consequence of stocks having run low in the United States and Canada, there would be an animated demand for fine teas, and this was passed on to the producers, who made good use of the information. The knowledge of this fact, and also the low rate of exchange then ruling, enabled dealers to display considerable firmness in their ideas; in consequence, opening prices showed an advance of 2 dol. per picul over those of last season. The larger proportion of fine teas produced was another important factor in this question.

The crop throughout was an abundant one, but as only fine grade leaf was picked, instead of letting it grow into a lower and coarser quality, settlements have all along shown a deficiency, which now stands at 12,000 piculs.

Regarding style and cut, the crop was better than that of the previous year, and this, added to decreased export, has given both growers and buyers good results. It is to be hoped that the latter will view this in the light of encouragement to continue paying stricter attention to this important industry.

Towards the end of June dealers managed to establish a further advance all round of about 2 dol. per picul, which was fully maintained till the end of the year. The settlements have been 150,554 piculs against 162,534 piculs in 1891, but the value is 3,102,615 dol., against 2,792,961 dol., the average price per picul being 20 dol 68 c., against 17 dol. 18c. in the preceding year. Japanese exported 8,457 piculs.

Appreciating the importance of this branch of the export trade of the Empire, the Kansai Tea Dealers' Association held a meeting in Osaka on January 28 last, when various matters were discussed, and the former Vice-Minister of Agriculture and Commerce delivered an address regarding the present state of the tea trade, agriculture generally, and the industries and commerce of Japan. The principal objects of the association appear to be to correct any abuse existing between the producers and the purchasers, to enforce attention to the preparation and packing of teas, and to ensure the fulfilment of contracts in a creditable manner.

The export tea trade in the Hyogo and Osaka district and that of Yokohama for 1892 and the year under review is as follows:—

District	1892.		1893.	
	Lbs.	$	Lbs.	$
Hyogo and Osaka	14,037,600	2,467,629	20,066,120	2,950,193
Yokohama	21,177,066	4,470,873	29,301,968	4,527,703

CAMPHOR.—The total purchases of foreign exporters reached 1,713 tons, which is below the business of an average year. Prices ruled in favour of Japanese producers, the lowest having been 35 dol per picul of 133⅓ lbs. in May, and the highest 63 dol. in December. The figures represent common crude, which during the year has been doctored and adulterated worse than ever, in spite of high values paid, and the strong protests of purchasers, some of whom now absolutely refuse to have dealings in camphor which has not drained in the warehouses during at the least 48 hours.

The Formosa drug threatens Japan's monopoly, whenever work in the interior can be conducted regularly and free from the dangerous attacks of aborigines.

I am indebted to an important British firm of this district, dealing largely in camphor, for the following details:—The camphor tree of Japan is a huge evergreen of singularly symmetrical proportions and not unlike a linden. Its blossom is a white flower, and it bears a red berry. Some of the trees are fully 15 ft. in diameter, and are upwards of 300 years old.

In times gone by camphor was produced in Sumatra and Borneo, and in other parts of the East Indies, as well as in China; now, however, the crude camphor of commerce is a product of Japan and Formosa exclusively, the Formosa supplies having since the war between China and France been very small and uncertain until lately, when the industry was resumed by a German syndicate upon concessions obtained from the Chinese Viceroy of the island, leading to increased exportation. However, great difficulties remain to be surmounted before the trade can be depended on, for the trees are only found inland, where the inhabitants are aboriginal barbarians, who make matters most unpleasant for explorers. The Formosa drug is inferior to the Japanese, the latter by reason of its greater purity, pinkish colour, and bold grain, commanding in foreign countries higher prices, by some 2 per cent. or 3 per cent., in spite of its comparative abundance.

The annual export of Japan camphor averages about 5,000,000 lbs., of which about one quarter reaches the United States of America, either direct or via Europe, the remainder being shipped to Europe, excepting a small quantity sent to India. The districts in Japan famed for camphor trees are Kiushiu, Shikoku, Iga, Suruga, Isé, and Kishiu. The forests, owned by the people, are now almost denuded of timber, and very little will be left a few years hence. However, the Government forests are still very rich in camphor trees, and it has been estimated that this alone will maintain annually, during the next 25 years, the full average supply of crude camphor.

Formerly very little care was bestowed upon the preservation and cultivation of this valuable timber. More recently, however, not only the Government, but also the people, have been giving to this most important question the attention it long ago deserved. Numerous young trees have now been planted, and their growth is being carefully tended. Consequently, although hitherto the youngest wood from which camphor was extracted was about 70 or 80 years old, it is expected that under present scientific management, the trees will give equally good results after 25 or 30 years.

The roots contain a much larger proportion of camphor than the trees, 10 lbs. of crude camphor out of 2,000 lbs. of wood-chips being thought satisfactory. The Suruga timber yields a much smaller percentage. In a village in Kochi (Tosa) there is a group of 13 trees about 100 years old; it has been estimated that they will produce 40,000 lbs of crude camphor, and are worth, as they now stand, 4,000 silver dol.

It appears that the only process of extracting camphor from the wood among the mountains in this Empire, and the materials used, are of the roughest and most unscientific description. The wood-chips are boiled, the vapour being conducted into a receptacle containing several partitions, surrounded by cold water. In the sides of these partitions are apertures alternating contrarily, which, when open cause the vapour to fill the divisions by a circuitous route, thus improving the grain of the camphor.

The crude article is brought to market, as a rule, in very rudely constructed wooden tubs. To make it fit for shipment requires much work, diligence and experience. Each tub is carefully sampled; vertically, and diagonally, and the samples are tested by fire and sometimes by alcohol. If no solid adulterant is discovered, the condition of the drug is next enquired into, the difficulty of this step being best explained by at once stating that this crude camphor contains a quantity of water, varying anywhere between 5 per cent. and 20 per cent. This trouble overcome, the rest is comparatively easy, and consists in weighing, cutting, mixing, and packing for shipment, the packing being in tubs prepared on the premises, partly out of the original packages. Of course the camphor cannot be packed in its present condition, much of it has to be drained and dried, and frequently a special parcel of "dry" must be bought, at a very high figure, for mixing with it.

VEGETABLE WAX.—The year opened with easier prices, but this leading to some business, holders at once commenced asking higher rates, which stopped transactions. A reaction setting in, some sales at lower figures were made, but on the whole there was little doing. Towards October supplies near at hand had all been taken up, and considerably higher prices were being asked for future deliveries. On the whole prices were well maintained, and ranged between 11 dol. 10 c. and 12 dol. 30 c. per picul.

ANTIMONY.—There was little doing in this article till February, when quotations became firmer, and about 2,000 piculs changed hands. This was followed by marked dulness, a few very small parcels only finding buyers at advancing prices, which ultimately stopped business. It was impossible to induce purchasers to come forward, and, save insignificant lots, nothing was done, dealers being apparently unwilling to come down in their demands. Prices varied between $7 and $8 75c. per picul.

COPPER.—The year opened with considerable sales, $16 c.75 being paid for tiles and $15 c.35 for slabs, but gradually increasing prices soon proved an obstacle to business, sellers being apparently indifferent whether buyers came forward or not. In sympathy, however, with improved feeling in Europe, a large trade was for a time done in March at hardening prices, though the inquiry did not last long. The market becoming very quiet, remained so, save some small transactions, till September, when it showed a brief period of activity. In October a brisk demand set in for Korea, and considerable shipments were made to that country. The year closed quiet but firm, prices having ranged between $16 c.25 and $19 c.25 per picul.

FLOOR MATTING.—Notwithstanding the fact that considerable damage was done to the grass crop in July, owing to heavy floods in the producing districts, whereby prices for the raw material were forced up 20 per cent. to 30 per cent., the manufacture of matting has been carried on with great activity, and it is stated that orders from foreign countries, chiefly the United States, are actually larger than can be executed within a reasonable time. The farmers have been stimulated by this healthy and growing demand to cultivate new districts with the plant, and at the same time the manufacturers are increasing the numbers of their looms, and striving among themselves to invent new and attractive designs, with a view to securing orders during the present year.

Shipments for 1892 amount to 165,907 rolls of forty yards each (of which 157,134 rolls went to the United States), against a total of 128,145 rolls in 1892.

The following returns shows the very large increase in the value of this article of export:—1886, £89; 1887, £5,307; 1888, £22,113; 1889, £25,389; 1890, £57,941; 1891, £104,369; 1892, £168,019.

MATCHES.—The manufacture and export of matches continue on a large scale, and the Japanese-made article is rapidly obtaining a monopoly of the Far East ports. For a time the manufacture of this article was stopped, as buyers did not respond to the increased cost of production, caused by the advance in value of chemicals; towards the close of the year, however, markets having improved and mutual concessions being made, business was resumed on an extensive scale.

The steady growth of this business is shown by the following return:—1888, 3,482,116 gross, £111,806, 1889, 5,068,266 gross, £171,623; 1890, 6,413,564 gross, £239,715; 1891, 7,670,073, £283,703; 1892, 8,964,388 gross, £308,396.

STRAW PLAITS.—Owing to an advance in prices, the export business in this article is less than in 1891, but the demand is constantly on the increase.

UMBRELLA TRADE.—The export of umbrellas has lately developed in a most remarkable manner; the import trade having almost entirely ceased, stays, handles, and other materials required in the manufacture of umbrellas being principally produced in Japan. The only articles imported in this connection are Italian cloths and cotton satins. About nine tenths of all the umbrellas are manufactured in and about Osaka, and are exported by Chinese merchants residing at Kobe. The wholesale export price ranges between $4 to $8 per dozen, the better kinds are exported from Yokohama, and those of an inferior class principally from Kobe. The market in China is a large one, and the demand in India and Russian-Asia is said to be on the increase.

The following return shows to what extent the business in umbrellas has increased during the

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last few years:—1888, 363,229. £9 800; 1889, 385,430, £13,398; 1890, 547,683, £20,094; 1891, 608,241, £23,392; 1892, 1,069,732, £44,732.

SILK MANUFACTURES.—In connection with the unsatisfactory state of this part of the export trade, it is well to note that so much more activity, originality, and industry are shown by the manufacturers at the northern port and its vicinity, that foreign firms established at this place often find it to their advantage to have their orders executed in Yokohama.

SHIPPING.

The total tonnage for 1892 of ships of foreign build, owned by foreigners and Japanese, is 1,273,309 tons, and 94,754 tons in excess of that for 1891. Of this the foreign tonnage is 930,503 tons, against 872,870 tons in 1891, showing an increase of 57,633 tons. The increase, as regards British shipping interests, is 49,095 tons. The percentage of foreignship entered during 1892 is:—

	No. per cent.	Tons per cent.
British	66·845	70·900
French	9·269	13·233
German	17·647	11·489
American	2·317	2·234
Norwegian	3·030	1·597
Other nationalities	6·892	0·547

There is a slight increase in the percentage of British tonnage as compared with 1891. A decrease is noticeable in French shipping, amounting to 1·944 tons.

The following table, showing the increase of foreign shipping at this port during the past twenty years, is not devoid of interest:—

Nationality.	1872. Vessels.	Tons.	1882. Vessels.	Tons.	1892. Vessels.	Tons.
Total foreign shipping	291	300,943	256	282,122	598	930,503
British	227	84,648	123	250,891	375	659,737
German	40	11,962	18	11,105	99	106,910
American	106	196,909	25	17,484	13	20,189

The notable decrease in American ships and tonnage in 1882 as compared with 1872 is due to the fact that, under arrangement with the Japanese Mail Steamship Company, the Pacific Mail Steamship Company had ceased to run to this port, their local steamers having been purchased by the Japanese Company.

The importance of the shipping in this district is shown by the following returns for 1892:—

	Total Shipping. Vessels.	Tons.	Foreign Shipping. Vessels.	Tons.	British Shipping. Vessels	Tons
Hiogo and Osaka.	921	1,273,303	561	930,503	375	659,737
Yokohama	470	856,795	392	745,034	284	530,777

Another sign of the rapidly increasing commercial importance of this district is that the Austrian Lloyds Steam Navigation Company have this year extended their line to this port, and that the ships of the Oriental and Occidental Steamship Company and the Pacific Mail Steamship Company now call here on their way from Hongkong to San Francisco.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.—Although Hiogo is the treaty port, business, whether for this part of the district or for Osaka, is, as already stated, always transacted at Kobe, and ships anchor in Kobe Harbour. On Oct. 1 last Hiogo was, however, opened to foreign shipping, but, using the words of the Chairman of the Hiogo and Osaka General Chamber of Commerce:—"So far not much advantage has been taken of the new port, owing to the lack of facilities afforded."

Some improvements have recently been made to the Customs landing, but that accommodation is still insufficient, and the facilities for embarking and landing passengers are lamentably defective.

Beyond some desultory discussion, no progress has as yet been made with the waterworks scheme.

Since the commencement of this year a telephone exchange has been opened between this place and Osaka, and it appears there are so many subscribers that the authorities find it difficult to keep pace with the demand for instruments.

NOTE ON THE PRICES PAID FOR SILK.—The following, published in a leading Japanese newspaper since this report was written, is illustrative of what has been said in the general remarks regarding the phenomenally high prices paid for silk during the past season:—

Year.	Maximum.	Minimum.
1889 ..... Per bale	$810	$600
1890 ..... Per bale	730	560
1891 ..... Per bale	670	550
1892 (silk for America) Per bale	900	600
1892 (silk for France) Per bale	1,015	700

Principal Articles of Import:—

	1891.		1891.	
Cotton manufactures ...	—	£862,645	—	£659,672
Cotton, raw .. Lbs..	114,431,085	1,465,677	91,758,050	1,143,387
Woollen manufactures.	—	447,950	—	392,820
Metals	—	237,569	—	221,092
Kerosene oil .. Gallons.	25,257,805	202,776	17,819,380	338,662
Rice and other grain ...	—	237,002	—	499,770
Sugar ..... Tons...	39,815	549,804	29,285	426,300
Miscellaneous	—	1,318,141	—	1,190,399
Total	—	£5,414,158	—	£4,964,901

Principal Articles of Export:—

	1892.		1891.	
Rice ..... Tons ..	63,918	£527,915	104,357	£887,517
Tea ..... Lbs ..	80,660,120	425,660	81,300,233	431,580
Metals ..... Tons	29,959	419,714	20,066	427,554
Dried fish ... Tons	2,897	91,555	3,008	104,605
Coal ..... Tons	58,950	36,900	87,287	64,792
Miscellaneous. Tons.	—	1,792,125	—	1,750,718
Grand total ..	—	£3,223,824	—	£3,657,761

A return of registered foreign residents and firms at Hiogo and Osaka during the year 1892 shows:—Residents at Hiogo: British, 351; German, 37; other European, 109; American, 76; Chinese, 949; total 1,572. At Osaka: British, 64; other European, 14; American, 62; Chinese, 132. total for both places, 1,834. Firms: at Hiogo: British, 48; German, 18; other European, 10; American, 10; Chinese, 8: total, 94. At Osaka: Chinese, 3; Swiss, 1; total, 10. The total firms at both places being 104.

The following statement give some particulars of the cotton spinning companies of Japan for the six months ended June 30, 1892:—Thirty-five companies ran 324,800 spindles, of which 225,559 ring, and 92,241 mule. Yarn produced in lbs. 32,120,808½ ring, and 9,225,483½ mule, making a total of 41,346,291½ lbs. Cotton consumed 48,297,625 lbs. Coal consumed 93,555 129 lbs. Working days (average) 152½. Working hours, 22. Employes numbered 21,530, being 5,450 men and 16,116 women. Wages in cents per diem, men 16.23, women 8.06.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the CHESS EDITOR.)

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 86

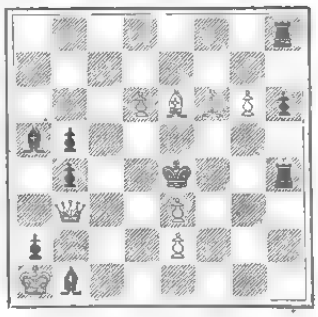
WHITE.	BLACK
1—Q — R 2	1—Q × Q or along diagonal.
2—Kt — K Kt 4 ch.	2—K — K 3
3—R — K 8, mate	
	if 1—Q moves along other diagonal.
2—Kt — Q B 4 ch., etc.	
	if 1—Q — K sq.
2—R — Q ch., etc.	
	if 1—P — B 4 or Kt 4
2—Q × Q ch., etc.	

Correct solutions received from Omega, J.D., Ed. B., Digamma, and O.B.

PROBLEM No. 88.

BY C. P. BALLS.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in three moves.

CHINESE CHESS.

The *North China Daily News* has the following notice of a new and welcome addition to the literature of the royal game:—"*A Manual of Chinese Chess*, by Mr. W. H. Wilkinson, B.A., author of *The Game of Khanhoo*, etc., has just been issued from this office, containing in a handy form the articles which recently appeared in these columns on the comparatively little known, but decidedly interesting Chinese form of Chess. With the aid of this book, which contains full explanations and numerous diagrams, a very full knowledge of the game can be easily acquired and Mr. Wilkinson is to be complimented upon the painstaking care with which he has gone through an old Chinese book, *The Secrets of the Orange Grove*, published originally as far back as 1632, from which he says his pamphlet has been compiled. To all lovers of Chess this description of the Chinese mode of playing should be very interesting, and we can not help thinking that if the result of Mr. Wilkinson's labours comes under the notice of home Chess students they will readily appreciate it. The pamphlet is published at 50 cents."

Referring once more to the Lasker manifesto mentioned in our issue of 2nd September, we now transcribe the following from the *Illustrated London News* of 29th July: which, we have no doubt, expresses the opinion of all genuine Chess-lovers in the old-country.

"In the number recently published of the *London Chess Fortnightly*, Mr. E. Lasker makes an appeal to the British Chess-playing public to find the money necessary for him to issue a challenge to Mr. Steinitz. The stakes are modestly proposed at £1,000 a side, and the championship of the world—terms that seem inspired by the example of the prize-ring rather than the precedents of the game. While in the interests of Chess we should like to see a match between such experts, the suggested conditions savour too much of Corbett and Mitchell for us to have the slightest sympathy in the success of this appeal."

The Columbian Chess Congress in New York is by this time become *fait accompli*. Entries for the tournament will include the best American players, while Blackburne, Mason, Lee, and possibly Gossip, will be there to represent England. It is not expected that Steinitz will take part; although some sanguine individuals persist in hoping that the young master Lasker (who is still in the States) may be induced to play. We fear however that this can hardly be expected after his modest estimate of his own powers as printed in a recent number of the *Albany Journal*. In answer to the question:—"Do you expect to defeat Steinitz" the great Emanuel replied:—

"Certainly I do; else why do I risk 5,000 dollars and my chess reputation? I confess that I anticipate the toughest fight of my life; that I shall be forced to exert myself as I never have done, and that I shall have to play better and deeper chess than I have ever done in order to beat him. I entertain an excellent opinion of Steinitz' ability. I know that it will be no easy matter to wrest from him the world's championship, which he has so honourably and bravely held for more than a quarter of a century: but I have enough confidence in myself to essay that difficult task. I am vain enough to believe that the match will be the greatest one ever played. All that I can say is that I shall do my best, but whether or no that best is good enough to defeat Steinitz remains to be seen."

"I wish to say that I have never played my best chess; for I have never been required to exert myself to defeat such players as I have encountered. I am willing to admit that Steinitz is decidedly superior to anyone I have confronted; yet I shall face him with the firm conviction that I will defeat him. I may have some surprise in store for him, and the chess world. I am regarded as strongest in defence and end-games; yet in my match with Steinitz I may prove that my ability lies in attacks. I expect to open the eyes of chess-players. I am imbued with an ambition to be acknowledged Chess Champion of the World: and if the match with Steinitz can be arranged, that ambition will soon be gratified."

How different all this is from the gentlemanly, unassuming bearing of Walbrodt, who endeared himself to all persons with whom he came in contact when he visited the American continent last spring, and whom apparently the aspiring World-champion was afraid to meet over the board. Well may the *British Chess Magazine* characterize the above farrago as "about as pretty a specimen of self-conceit and bounce as we ever came across:" and we heartily endorse the comment of the *New York Recorder*: "We are most willing to have our eyes opened. Meanwhile, let the Goddess of Modesty bestow her greatest gifts upon one who is going to astonish the world."

On his return to Europe last May, Walbrodt was a fellow traveller with the celebrated American player Max Judd. They had a couple of games *en mer* (both won by the young Berliner): and we transcribe one of them for the delectation of our readers.

RUY LOPEZ.

NOTES BY JAMES MASON.

WHITE. Herr Waldbrodt.	BLACK Mr. Judd.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to Kt 5	3—Kt to K B 3
4—Castles.	4—Kt × P

.... 4—B to K 2 is a reliable move. It gives a comparatively simple defence, with as good a "future" as any other based upon 3—Kt to K B 3. The capture merely adds to the variety of attack at White's disposal. True he may go wrong, but if he does not, Black's way becomes less easy than if the capture were declined.

5—P to Q 4	5—B to K 2
6—Q to K 2	6—Kt to Q 3

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7—B × Kt	7—Kt P × B
8—P × P	8—Kt to Kt 2
9—R to Q sq.	9—Castles.
10—Kt to Q 4	10—Q to K sq.
11—P to Q B 4	

All this is after the manner of Weiss and the Vienna school Stress is placed upon the Q P the double P and the faulty situation of the Kt.—with attack through Kt to B 5, Q to Kt 4 etc. in the distance

11—Kt to B 4

Doubtless to push the Bishop's pawn as on the next move. But, even here, if 11—P to B 3, 12—P to K 6, P x P; 13—Kt x P, B to B 4; 14—Kt to B 4, Q x Q; 15—Kt x Q, B to K Kt 5 etc. Black has a good fighting game, the doubled Pawn notwithstanding.

12—Kt to Q B 3	12—P to K B 3
13—P to Q Kt 4 !	13—P × P
14—Q × P	14—Q to B 2
15—Q to K 2	15—Kt to R 3

..... Surely 15—Kt to Kt 2 is preferable. From this point Mr. Judd labours under something more than a theoretical disadvantage.

16—P to Q R 3	16 P to B 4
17—Kt to Q 5 !	17—B to Q 3
18—Kt to Kt 5	18—B to K 4
19—B to Kt 2 !	19—B × B
20—Q × B	20—P × P
21—P × P	21—B to Kt 2
22—K Kt to B 3	22—P to B 3
23—Kt to K 3	23—P to B 4

..... 23—Kt x P would not do because of 24—Kt to K 4 threatening Kt to Q 6. Loss of the Q P follows naturally now.

24—P × P	24—Kt × P
25—R to R 5 !	25—Kt to K 5
26—R to K B 5	26—Q to Kt 3
27—Q × B	27—Kt × Kt
28—R × R ch.	28—R × R
29—R × P	29—P to Q R 4
30—Q to Kt 2 !	30—Kt to K 5
31—P to B 3	31—Kt to B 4
32—R to Q 5	32—R × P

..... A desperate attempt at recovery of force. He could not maintain the Knight by 32—R to B sq. and the loss of the R P would be fatal.

33—Q to K 5	33—R to B sq.
34—Kt to B 5	

Decisive—Herr Walbrodt's play throughout is most excellent

	34—R to K sq.
35—Kt to K 7 ch.	33—R × Kt
36—Q × R	36—Q to Kt 8 ch.

..... The remainder is merely *pro forma* on Black's part, the loss of the exchange being really conclusive—to say nothing of the further loss inevitable. A fine game.

37—K to B 2	37—Kt to K 5 ch.
38—K to K 3	38—Q to K 8 ch.
39—K to B 4	39—P to Kt 4 ch.
40—R × P ch !	40—Resigns.

Just as we go to press one of our correspondents has broken out into rhyme. We print his verse and shall be glad to hear from him further on other subjects when he is "i' the vein."

There was a young man called Lasker,
Of Caissa a favour did ask her,
"Oh ! I'll be content,
With fifty per shent,
If I win," said Emmanuel Lasker.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, September 9.

The House of Lords rejected the Home Rule Bill by a vote of 419 to 41

In the debate upon Siam, in the House of Commons, Sir Edward Grey denied that the French had violated the integrity of the independance of Siam in any manner that would affect British interests.

London, September 11.

Serious rioting has taken place in the Midland counties, and a thousand London policemen have been drafted to the chief centres.

Troops had to fire upon the mob at Bradford before it would disperse.

Six hundred troops and two hundred extra police have reached Wakefield, where the people have been so terrorised that they are afraid to leave their houses for fear of the mobs.

Later.

The Prince of Wales' yacht *Britannia* has won the Victoria Cup, defeating Mr. Royal Phelps Carrol's cutter *Navahoe* three times.

Mr. James Henry Dalziel, Liberal member for the Kirkcaldy district of Scotland, has been defeated on his motion to reduce the War Office vote as a protest against the Duke of Connaught's appointment to the Aldershot command. The motion was rejected by a vote of 156 to 39.

London, September 14.

The National Liberal Club has issued a manifesto which dwells on the rejection of the Home Rule Bill by the House of Lords and declares that the mending or ending of the House of Peers is imperative.

Charles de Lesseps has been liberated.

London, September 15

Cholera is increasing in London and elsewhere in England.

Peace is restored in Uganda, the Christians having expelled the Mussulmen. Sir Gerald Portal is, consequently, returning to the coast.

[SPECIAL "TELEGRAM" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

Kobe, Friday, 8.30 a.m.

At 2.30 o'clock this morning a destructive fire broke out in the Kawasaki Dockyard and Ironworks. Several work-sheds were totally destroyed and the destruction of property is very considerable.

[SPECIALLY TELEGRAPHED TO THE "JAPAN DAILY MAIL."]
(FROM THE "N.-C. DAILY NEWS.")

London, September 5.

Lord Dufferin announces in Paris, that M. Myre de Vilers has given Siam three months wherein to consider the new treaty. This new treaty practically overrides the commercial treaties of other countries. His Lordship has reason to believe, however, that England and France are virtually agreed as to the creation of a buffer state, and also as to what constitutes the integrity of the independance of Siam.

The Emperor William, speaking at Metz, said that Metz and its Army Corps were the corner stones of Germany's military power and were destined to preserve European Peace,—a peace which he was firmly resolved to maintain.

London, September 6.

A missionary at Ujiji reports that it is now undoubted that Emin Pasha and thirty Nubian Soldiers were massacred and eaten by man-eaters.

The new French Chamber consists of 513 Republicans, of various shades, 60 Socialists, and 68 Conservatives. Cassagnac has been defeated.

London, September 7.

Earl Spencer, in the House of Lords moved the second reading of the Home Rule Bill, and reiterated Mr. Gladstone's views upon the measure.

The Duke of Devonshire moved its rejection and claimed that the Bill was not accepted by the country. It was simply the outcome of Gladstone's brain. The debate then was adjourned.

Cholera is spreading in Germany.

London, Sept. 9.

Serious miners strike-riots have occurred in Yorkshire. The police were compelled to charge the rioters with drawn cutlasses. Trade is completely paralyzed. The Midland Railway Company have stopped running thirty trains, and the Manchester Sheffield and Lincolnshire Company fifty trains daily.

The Lords resumed the debate on the Home Rule Bill to-day. Lord Selbourne denounced the measure, whilst Lord Rosebery warmly defended it. He twitted the Duke of Argyll with deserting Mr. Gladstone.

(FROM TONKIN PAPERS.)

Paris, August 26.

Madrid, August 28th.

Riots have occurred at San Sebastian, where Their Majesties the Queen Regent and King are at present residing.

Stones were thrown at the house where the President of the Council of Ministers, Senor Segasta, is staying.

The Civil Guard charged the mob, with the result that one person was killed and several wounded.

Paris, August 27.

Everything is now quiet in Italy.

Paris, August 31.

Cholera has appeared in Nantes.

The Prince of Naples is attending the German manœuvres at Metz.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, Nagasaki, and Kobe ...	per N. Y. K.	Friday, Sept 22nd.
From America	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Sept. 19th.*
From America	per P. M. Co.	Saturday, Sept. 30th.†
From Hongkong ...	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Sept. 24th.
From Canada, &c. ...	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Oct. 2nd.
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Wednesday, Oct. 4th.
From America	per O. & O. Co.	Sunday, Oct 8th.
From Hongkong ...	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, Oct. 12th.
From Europe, viâ Hongkong ...	per M. M. Co.	Friday, Oct. 13th.

* *City of Peking* left San Francisco on September 2nd. † *China* left San Francisco viâ Honolulu on September 12th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki	per N. Y. K.	Tuesday, Sept. 19th.
For America	per P. M. Co.	Saturday, Sept. 23rd.
For Europe, viâ Shanghai	per M. M. Co	Sunday, Sept. 24th.
For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co,	Monday, Oct 2nd.
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Thursday, Oct. 5th.
For Europe, viâ Hongkong ...	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, Oct. 6th.
For Victoria, B.C., and Tacoma, Wash. ...	per N. P. Co.	Monday, Oct 9th.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, Oct. 13th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS

Sessiu Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,011, Hayashi, 9th September,—Kobe 8th September, General.—Nada Kogio Kabushiki Kaisha.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,219, Wilson, 9th September,—Shimonoseki 7th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Oanfa, British steamer, 1,970, Shaw, 9th September,—London viâ ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Ancona, British steamer, 1,880, W. D. Mudie, 10th September,—Hongkong 2nd, Nagasaki 6th, and Kobe 9th September, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Meiji Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,010, Allen, 10th September,—Hakodate, Stores.—Lighthouse Department.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, R. Ripple, 9th September,—Kobe 8th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Thompson, 9th September,—Otaru viâ ports 5th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,695, W. G. Pearne, 10th September,—San Francisco 26th August, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Tacoma, British steamer, 1,661, J. R. Hill, 10th September,—Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C., 23rd August, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Elax, British steamer, 4,200, Carmichael, 11th September,—Kobe 9th September, Ballast.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, 11th September,—Vancouver, B.C., 29th August, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Porpoise (6), cruiser, Captain C. L. Burr, 11th September,—Hakodate.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,168, Crichton, 12th September,—Shimonoseki 9th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Owari Maru, Japanese steamer, 748, T. Kaya, 12th September,—Yokkaichi 11th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. M. Young, 12th September,—Otaru viâ ports 8th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, T. Sakai, 12th September,—Kobe 11th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Riversdale, British steamer, 1,311, Peck, 13th September,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Carradale, British steamer, 2,269, Sharp, 13th September,—Batoum, 119,000 cases Oil.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Setsuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,011, Kawano, 13th September,—Kobe 12th September, General.—Kabushiki Kaisha.

Cuthona, British ship, 1,702, W. Ditchburn, 13th September,—New York 28th April, Petroleum.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Oceanic, British steamer, 3,808, W. M. Smith, 13th September,—Hongkong viâ ports 6th September, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, Marshall, R.N.R., 14th September,—Hongkong viâ ports, 6th September, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Miikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,202, K. Ono, 14th September,—Kobe 13th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

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Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 684, M. Matsumoto, 14th September,—Kobe 13th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, M. Fukui, 14th September,—Yokkaichi 13th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 14th September,—Moji, Coal.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Yokohama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,298, J. W. Ekstrand, 14th September,—Shanghai and ports 9th September, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Océanien, French steamer, 2,127, Schmitz, 15th September,—Marseilles, viâ ports, 6th August, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, Y. Arai, 15th September,—Yokkaichi 14th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,034, H. Walter, 15th September,—Otaru viâ ports 11th Septembe , General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kaiserin Elisabeth (20), Austrian cruiser, Captain A. von Becker, 16th September,—Yokosuka 16th September.

DEPARTURES.

Sesshu Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,011, Hayashi, 9th September,—Shinagawa, General.—Nada Kogio Kabushiki Kaisha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, Nirei, 9th September,—Miyaki, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 684, M. Matsumoto, 9th September,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Melpomene, Austrian steamer, 1,848, C. Bellen, 9th September,—Kobe, Oil.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 10th September,—Moji, Ballast.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Melbourne, French steamer, 3,400, Vimont, 10th September,—Shanghai viâ Kobe, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Victoria, British steamer, 1,991, J. Panton, 10th September,—Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,219, Wilson, 11th September,—Shimonoseki, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Thompson, 11th September,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, R. Tipple, 11th September,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, G. A. Lee, 11th September,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Tacoma, British steamer, 1,661, J. R. Hill, 11th September, Hongkong viâ ports, General. Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,695, W. G. Pearne, 12th September,—Hongkong, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, Conner, 12th September,—Shanghai viâ ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kriemhild, German steamer, 1,638, Forck, 12th September,—Hamburg viâ ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co

Owari Maru, Japanese steamer, 748, T. Kaya, 12th September,—Miyako, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Setsuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,011, Kawano, 13th September,—Shinagawa, General.—Kabushiki Kaisha.

Mikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,202, K. Ono, 14th September,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Oanfa, British steamer, 1,970, Shaw, 14th September,—London viâ ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Riversdale, British steamer, 1,311, Peck, 14th September,—Hongkong viâ Moji, Coal.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,168, Crichton, 14th September,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. M. Young, 14th September,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Oceanic, British steamer, 3,808, W. M. Smith, 15th September,—San Francisco, viâ Honolulu, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S Co.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, Marshall, R.N.R., 15th September,—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 684, M. Matsumoto, 15th September,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, M. Fukui, 15th September,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ancona, British steamer, 1,880, W. D. Mudie, 16th September,—Hongkong viâ Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P & O. S.N. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Captain Grey, Mr. and Mrs. Manger, Mr. G. A. Willis, Mr. W. Cameron, Mr. J. B. Cunliffe, Mrs. E. Place, Mr. J. Jesselsen, Jun., Master Jesselsen, Lieut. T. Ivanoff, Mrs. Ivanoff, and Capt. Blyth in cabin; one Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Omi Maru*, from Otaru viâ ports:—Mr. Wier, Mr. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Kunagaye, Mrs. Griffiths, Mrs. Simmons, and Mrs. Allin in cabin; 4 passengers in second class, and 51 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, from San Francisco:—Mr. S. Amano, Mr. O. Nosawa, Mr. A. D. Allbliss, Mr. P. de Pohl, Rev. J. T. Takasugi, Mr. J. D. Hanbury, Mr. A. H. Butler, Mr. P. H. Wheeler, Mr. R. C. Givins, Mrs. R. C. Givins, Mr. R. S. Givins, and Mr. and Mrs. Chas Bowie in cabin. For Shanghai: His Excellency Admiral Barao da Ladario, Envoyé Extraordinaire et Ministre Plenipotentiaire de la Republique des Estats-Unis du Brasil en Mission Specia en Chine, Baroneza da Ladario, Senor Eubemio de Abren, Secretaire de'L Ambassade Brasil en Chine, Senor J. da Rebo Barros, 1st Secretaire de la Mission, Lieutenane Bento Jose Manso Sayao, Secretaire at Ambassade du Brasil en Chine, Madame Sayao and two children, Pedro Montanha, and Miss Emma Gardner in cabin. For Hongkong: Mr. R. C. Patterson and Mrs. R. C. Patterson in cabin.

Per British steamer *Tacoma*, from Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C.:—22 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Sendai Maru*, from Kobe:—Mr. T. Suda, Miss Rena Rezner, and Mr. T. Komai in cabin; 28 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, from Otaru viâ ports:—Mr. Johnson and son, Mr. Marken, Miss Guevic, Miss Cardonar, and Lieut. W. Richardson, R.N., in cabin; 54 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, from Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. Kurizuka, Miss C. Roper, Miss J. Cunningham, Mr. Arnold, Mr. P. J. Such, Miss Milliken, Mr. Moses Taylor, Mr. F. A. Moore, Mr. Irwin B. Laughlin, Mrs. Sheffield, Miss G. W. Stanley, Miss M. L. Parbridge, Miss V. J. Brown, Miss A. A. Gould, Rev. C. Williams, Miss N. B. Williams, Miss B. Gulch, Miss C. M. Crombie, Mr. Mamashima, Mrs. Mamashima, Mr. A. Chisholm, Mr. T. Yoshida, Mr. K. Hamaguchi Mr. S. Nitta, Mr. T. Fierz, Dr. W. Lodier, Mr. K. Iwardare, Mr. A. Matsuna, Mr. F. Bake, Mr. G. B. Blake, Mr. A. G. Chapin, Dr. Lloyd, Master K. Follett, Dr. and Mrs. H. Slade, Mr. H. J. Coolidge, Mr. F. G. Williams, Mr. F. Townsend, Jun., Mr. A. G. Williams, Mr. Gres de Ratsins, Mr. De Han de Staplana, Miss K. W. Johnson, and Major F. C. Farmer in cabin. From Victoria, B.C.: Mr., Mrs., and Miss Jarrett, Mr. and Mrs. T. S. Tailer, Mr., Mrs., and Miss Senior, Miss E. Senior, Mr. F. Senior, Captain G. A. Wood, Mr. and Mrs. L. Sands, Mr. J. Feyerick, and Mr. F. Reiner in cabin; 3 passengers in steerage. In transit for Kobe: Mr. O. Meyer in cabin; 1 passenger in steerage. For Shanghai: Mr. L. Anderson, Dr. H. H. Hare, Dr. and Mrs. J. B. Neal, Rev. and Mrs. Jno. Endicott, Mr. G. A. Matthews, Dr. and Mrs. E. H. Hart, Miss Poindexter, Dr. Anne Walter, Mrs. Denby, Mr. E. K. Lowry, and Mr. Robt. Scott in cabin. For Hongkong: Dr. H. Dalton, Mr. F. W. Thurston, Mrs. J. Grundy, Mr. M. H. Mody, Mrs. Laura Crawley, Mrs. E. W. Kelly, Mr. E. W. Kelly, Master and Miss Kelly, Mr. Lloyd, Mr. K. Burdenski, Mr. Smith, and Rev. W. C. Carr in cabin; Mrs. Ying Tai and 2 children in second class, and 180 passengers in Asiatic steerage.

Per British steamer *Oceanic*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Mrs. Chapman and child, Messrs. Orth, F. Grosser, J. R. Hinde, and Quong Chung in cabin. For San Francisco: Mr. A. Jaussen, Mr. O. Von Der Heyde, Dr. MacLeish, Mr. C. Baker, Jun., Rev. and Mrs. Ohlinger, Master Ohlinger, Mr. and Mrs. C. G. Fall and child, and Miss C. W. Fabian in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. and Mrs. MacKay and family, Mr. and Mrs. Boggs and family, Mr. Koa Kane, Admiral Palliser, Lieut.-Colonel and Mrs. Ravenhill, Miss Robinson, Mr. and Mrs. Andrews, Mrs. J. M. Armstrong, Mr. M. R. Courage, Mrs. E. Ebner, Mr. D. E. Brown, Mr. C. S. Taylor, Mr. P. J. Talate, Mrs. Bartlett, Rev. F. P. Sutherland, Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Haskell, Captain Perks, Mr. H. A. Ritchie, Mr. J. Richards, Mr. W. L. Dayton, Miss Dayton, Mr. Haronun, Dr. and Mrs. Horder, Mr. C. Inbin, Mr. C. Bretschneider, Mr. and Mrs. Géiten, Mr. Dimock, and Mr. Sato in cabin; Mrs. Newton and 2 children, Mr. A. D. Lamont, Mr. Lawrence, Mr. Leong Sin Lo, and Mr. W. H. Shaw in second class, and 138 Chinese and 20 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Master S. Clark, Mr. K. Kurizuka, Mr. Y. Kumamoto, and Rev. R. A. Haden in cabin; Mrs. Kato and 2 children, Mrs. Nakagawa and infant, Miss S. Yamada, and Mr. S. Miura in second class, and 39 passengers in steerage.

Per French steamer *Océanien*, from Marseilles viâ ports:—Mr. MacKinnell, Mr. Nagayo, Mr. Fushimo, Mr. Paget, Mr. and Mrs. MacKamara, Messrs. Scheel, Gervais, Trélate, Bedais, Voisin, Polisel, Neo Hong Kee, Oliver, de Sena, Miss Monteggio, Mr. Bickart, and Mr. Thompson and family in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru*, from Otaru viâ ports:—46 passengers in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per French steamer *Melbourne*, for Kobe:—Mr. C. Jubin in cabin. For Shanghai: Mrs. Ramasse, Mr. and Mrs. Sillem, Mr. J. E. Leo Lamb, Mr. and Mrs. Allcott, Miss Allcott, Mr. and Mrs. Kechine, Mrs. Reifunger, and Mr. Utinkler in cabin. For Hongkong: Mr. C. A. Freber, Mr. Tan Yee Hing, child, and boy, Mr. Galvez, Mrs. Ch. Alford and child, and Mr. Tan Chuy Tin in cabin. For Singapore: Mrs. Ojou in cabin. For Marseilles: Mr. and Mrs. Damilte and child, Miss Utako Shimoda, Miss Yoshiko Horiye, Mr. Suzuki, and Mr. G. Series in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Mrs. Fearon and 2 children, Miss Emma Gardner, Messrs. Sparks, A. Wilson, W. C. Nash, K. Ohtori, C. Hunt, K. Oda, K. Asawa, Matsumi, and F. Tsumura and child in cabin; M. K. Enomoto in second class, and 33 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Oceanic*, for San Francisco viâ Honolulu:—Mr. C. Baker, Jun., Mr. Nicholas Basanoff, Miss E. N. Bowne, Miss Fabian, Mr. and Mrs. C. G. Fall, Master Fall, Mr. O. Gruttner, Mr. and Mrs. Herter, Mr. T. A. Hardcastle, Mr. O. Von Der Hyde, Mr. E. C. Herdman, Mr. A. Janssen, Mr. A. J. McKissack, Mr. G. C. Leisse, Dr. Macleish, Rev. and Mrs. Ohlinger, Master Ohlinger, Mr. E. D. Rosenbaum, Miss Rena Rezner and maid, Mr. D. W. Stevens, Mr. and Mrs. S. Watanabe, Captain F. D. Walker, and Mr. K. Yamao in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Boggs and 3 children, Mr. D. E. Brown, Mr. Blum, Captain Bourke, R.N., Mr. and Mrs. Blankenburg, Mr. C. A. Conolly, Mr. Dayton, Miss Dayton, Miss Featherstonhaugh, Mr. Greaves, Mr. Hiroumi, Dr. Kagami, Mr. Koa Kan, Dr. V. M. Law, Mr. and Mrs. Mackay, Mr. G. Mackay, Miss M. E. Mackay, Miss B. K. Mackay, Miss J. A. Myers, Mr. Oishi, Mr. H. Putnam, Mr. K. Putnam, Mr. and Mrs. Pope, Admiral and Mrs. H. Bury Palliser, Lieut. Richardson, R.N., Mr. J. Richards, Mr. Smith, Rev. F. P. Sutherland, Mr. Uyeno, Mr. K. Weinheim, Mr. W. A. Wilson, and Mr. G. A. Willis in cabin.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. A. Blancker.z, Major and Mrs. Park, Mr. H. D. Allbless, Captain Blyth, Mr. S. H. Fremantle, Captain Grey, Mr. W. Cameron, Mr. Kwong Sang Woh, Mrs. Kwong Sang Woh and child, Mr. L. Wing Ban, Mr. E. Hamilton Sharp, Mrs. Johnson, Misses Johnson (3), Miss Rickards, Mr. G. T. How, Mr. H. G. Dowler, Mr. H. Mody, Mr. P. Buller, and Mr. and Mrs. Gullard in cabin; 1 Chinese in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, $105,977.$^{10}_{100}$

Per French steamer *Melbourne*, for Shanghai viâ Kobe:—Raw Silk for Europe, 615 bales; for Port Said, 4 bales. Treasure for Singapore, $40,000.00.

Per British steamer *Victoria*, for Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C.:—

TEA.

	PACIFIC COAST.	NEW YORK.	CHICAGO.	CANADA.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	225	888	728	461	—	2,302
Hyogo	—	293	338	—	—	631
Yokohama ...	271	753	—	—	—	1,024
Hongkong	255	—	—	40	—	295
Foochow	580	—	—	6,238	—	6,818
Amoy	20	6,894	3,418	—	—	10,332
Total	1,351	8,828	4,484	6,739	—	21,402

SILK.

	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	10	—	10
Yokohama	136	—	136
Total.....	146	—	146

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, $33,200.00.

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Per British steamer *Oceanic*, for San Francisco via Honolulu :—

	TEA. SAN FRANCISCO	NEW YORK	CHICAGO.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai ...	1,314	311	537	—	2,162
Hyogo	74	486	2	—	562
Yokohama ...	2,820	—	311	528	3,659
Hongkong ...	378	—	—	354	732
Total	4,584	817	750	982	7,133

	SILK. SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	HARTFORD.	TOTAL.
Hongkong	—	75	—	75
Yokohama	—	50	—	50
Total	—	125	—	125

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, for Vancouver, B.C. :—

	TEA. CANADA.	ON CARS AND WEST.	NEW YORK AND EAST.	PACIFIC COAST.	TOTAL.
Hongkong ...	—	—	64	88	152
Amoy	—	—	9,913	—	9,913
Foochow ...	1,314	—	775	206	2,195
Shanghai ...	1,883	—	6,044	—	7,927
Foochow ...	—	—	—	100	100
Hyogo	83	425	377	—	885
Yokohama ...	1,989	—	—	102	2,091
Total	4,169	425	17,173	496	23,263

	SILK. NEW YORK.	MONTREAL.	TOTAL.
Hongkong & Canton ...	10	—	10
Yokohama	83	—	83
Total	93	—	93

Per British steamer *Ancona*, for Hongkong via ports :—Silk, 433 bales; Waste Silk, 112 bales.

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Fushiki Maru*, Captain J. Wilson, reports :—Left Shimonoseki the 7th September at 5 a.m.; experienced fine weather all throughout the passage. Arrived at Yokohama the 9th September at 2 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, Captain Tipple, reports :—Left Kobe the 8th September at noon; had moderate S.W. winds and fine weather; passed Rock Island at 11 28 a.m. on the 9th. Arrived at Yokohama at 5 6 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Omi Maru*, Captain W. Thompson, reports :—Left Otaru the 5th September at noon; had from light to strong westerly winds and fine weather. Arrived at Hakodate the 6th at 9 a.m. and left the 7th at noon; had from light to fresh southerly winds and fine weather. Arrived at Ogimohama the 8th at 10.30 a.m. and left the same day at 3 p.m.; had from moderate to strong southerly winds and fine weather. Arrived at Yokohama the 8th September at 5 20 p.m.

The British steamer *Gaelic*, Captain Pearne, reports :—Left San Francisco the 26th August at 3.45 p.m.; to the 30th had light variable winds and fine weather; thence to the 3rd September strong southerly and south-west gales with head sea; thence to port light westerly winds and fine weather. Arrived at Yokohama the 10th September at 10.20 p.m. Passage, 14 days, 12 hours, 58 minutes.

The British steamer *Empress of Japan*, Captain Lee, reports :—Left Vancouver, B.C., the 29th August at 5 10 a.m.; called and embarked passengers at Victoria, B.C., sailing again at noon the same day; experienced variable winds with foggy weather and smooth seas throughout the passage. Arrived at Yokohama the 11th September at 10 5 a.m. Time from Victoria, B.C., to Yokohama, 11 days, 22 hours.

The Japanese steamer *Sagami Maru*, Captain W. Crichton, reports :—Left Shimonoseki the 9th September at 2 p.m.; had light to gentle breezes and very fine weather throughout the passage. Arrived at Yokohama the 12th September at 5 15 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, Captain Young, reports :—Left Otaru the 8th September at noon, had southerly to south-west winds and fine weather. Arrived at Hakodate the 9th at 8 a.m. and left the 10th at noon; had light east winds and fine weather to Ogimohama, arriving the 11th at 9 30 a.m. and left the same day at 2.30 p.m.; had light southerly airs and fine weather throughout the passage. Arrived at Yokohama the 12th September at 4.20 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Sendai Maru*, Captain Sakai, reports :—Left Kobe the 11th September at noon, had light south-westerly breeze and fine weather; at night light westerly breeze and fine weather; at 9.1 p.m. passed Kashino-saki Light; on the 12th gentle north-westerly breeze and fine weather with following sea; at 1 5 p.m. passed Observation point of Vries Island; at 1.20 p.m. passed a full rigged ship bound in. Arrived at Yokohama at 5.15 p.m.

The British steamer *Oceanic*, Captain W. M. Smith, reports :—Left Hongkong the 6th September, Nagasaki the 10th, and Kobe the 12th. Arrived at Yokohama the 13th September at 9.05 p.m. Passage, 7 days, 5 hours, 7 minutes.

The Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, Captain J. W. Ekstrand, reports :—Left Shanghai the 9th September at 11.15 a.m.; had fresh south-easterly winds and sea, dull, cloudy weather, moderating to light breeze, and fine, clear weather up to arrival at Nagasaki the 11th at 2 10 a.m. Left Nagasaki the same day at 5.20 p.m.; had light variable winds from S.E. to E.N.E. up to arrival at Shimonoseki the 12th at 5 20 a.m. Left again at 1.10 p.m.; had light northerly and N.E. winds and fine, clear weather, through Island Sea, arriving at Kobe the 13th at 8 20 a.m. Left Kobe the same day at 5 20 p.m.; had light southerly airs up to Oshima; thence to arrival at Yokohama the 14th September at 10 p.m., light northerly and north-easterly airs with continued fine, clear weather; at 5.30 p.m. passed *Yamashiro Maru* bound southward.

The Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru*, Captain Walter, reports :—Left Otaru the 11th September at 0.50 p.m.; at midnight had moderate breeze and drizzling rain. Arrived at Hakodate the 12th at 10 7 a.m. and left the 13th at noon; at midnight had light air and fine, clear weather with heavy east-south-easterly swell; on the 14th at noon light breeze and fine, clear weather with smooth sea. Arrived at Ogimohama at 2.3 p.m. and left at 6.33 p.m.; on the 15th at noon had light breeze and cloudy, rainy weather. Arrived at Yokohama at 11 35 p.m. out of Breaker; on the 16th at daylight entered to berth.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS

Some branches of the Import Trade show signs of improvement, while others remain featureless. Yarns both single and double remain dull. Grey Shirtings have been in light demand while other Piece Goods are neglected. In the Woollen department, Italian Cloths have moved off at a fair pace and prices show an advance. Other lines continue without enquiry.

COTTON PIECE GOODS

	PER PIECE.	
Grey Shirtings—8¼ lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	$2 05	to 2 50
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 38½ yds. 45 inches	2 30	to 3 00
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches ...	1 50	to 1 85
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches ...	1 50	to 1 90
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	1 75	to 2 75
	PER YARD.	
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 32 inches	0 15	to 0 20
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches ...	6.25	to 8.75
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42 3 inches ...	0 6¼	to 0 7¾
	PER PIECE.	
Turkey Reds—2 0 to 2 4lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.40	to 1 47½
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	1 57½	to 1.77½
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.00	to 2.27½
Turkey Reds—4 8 to 5lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2 47½	to 2.67½

WOOLLENS

	PER YARD.	
Flannel	$0.30	to 0 45
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0 35	to 0 40
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0 28	to 0 35
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0 20	to 0.28
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.13	to 0 19
Cloths—Pilots, 52 @ 56 inches ...	0 45	to 0 50
Cloths—Presidents, 52 @ 56 inches ...	0 60	to 0 65
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0 40	to 0 70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 4 to 3½ lb per lb	0 45	to 0 57½

COTTON YARNS

	PER PICUL.
Nos 16/24, Ordinary	—
Nos. 16 24, Medium	—
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best ...	—
Nos 16 24, Reverse	—
Nos 28 32, Ordinary ...	—
Nos 28 32, Medium	—
Nos. 28 32, Good to Best	—
Nos 38/42, Medium to Best	—
No 32s, Two-fold	—
No. 42s, Two fold	—
	PER BALE
No 20s, Bombay ... Nom	—
No 16s, Bombay ... ... Nom.	—

METALS

Some indication of improvement has at last appeared in this market. Wire Nails continue to be in fair demand and all other lines—with the exception of Pig Iron—show a slight rise in price.

	PER PICUL.	
Flat Bars, ½ inch ...	$3 60	to 3 70
Flat Bars, ¾ inch	3 70	to 3 80
Round and square up to ¾ inch ...	3 15	to 3 30
Iron Plates, assorted	3 10	to 3 20
Sheet Iron	4 20	to 4 25
Galvanized Iron sheets ...	7 25	to 7 52
Wire Nails, assorted ...	5 30	to 5 65
Tin Plates, per box ...	6 00	to 6 25
Pig Iron, No 3	1.40	to 1 42½

KEROSENE

Buyers show no anxiety to operate and holders remain firm knowing that they must get the best of the situation, the season for good demand being near at hand. The ship *Cuthona* came in from New York on the 13th inst. and an arrival is also reported of 119,000 cases of Russian oil from Batoum.

Chester	$1.70 to 1.72½
Comet	1.67½ to 1.70
Devoe	—
Russian Anchor	1 67½ to 1 70
Russian Moon	1.62½ to 1.65

SUGAR.

Some concessions on the part of holders have induced buyers to enter the market, and in Browns, Manilas have moved off at a fair pace. Takao, however, remains firm with but small demand. Whites elicit no enquiry, but holders remain firm and prices show no change.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	$4.70 to 4 80
Brown Manila	5.10 to 5.20
Brown Daitong	4.00 to 4 05
Brown Canton	4 10 to 4 40
White Java and Penang	6.00 to 6 10
White Refined	7 55 to 9 20

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last issue was of the 8th instant. Since that date, settlements on this market are 1,263 piculs, divided thus: *Hanks*, 61 piculs; *Filatures*, 938 piculs; *Re-reels*, 175 piculs; *Kakeda*, 78 piculs; *Hamatsuki*, 11 piculs. In addition to these purchases, direct shipments are 85 bales, making the total business for the week equal to 1,350 piculs.

After our last issue our market was very active for two or three days, and at one moment it appeared that we should have a repetition of the large business this time last year, with an increase in prices; Japan holders were very confident and were pushing things towards higher prices. Now it has fallen quiet again and there seem to be no real grounds for any enthusiasm. Prices are once more down to what they were a week ago, with depressing advices from consuming markets. It looks as though our little spurt were over.

As before, the principal business has been in fine-sized silks for Europe, which are in good supply. In full-sized silks suitable for the United States there is some scarcity caused by the reelers having devoted their attention to reeling fine sizes, which so far have paid them better this season. This has even led to some speculative buying, both on foreign and native account, the operators looking for a rise when American consumers really come into the market.

Arrivals come in freely from the interior and the stock is now over 10,000 piculs. This weight of silk must press upon holders more or less, especially as there is plenty more silk in the country waiting to be sent into Yokohama as soon as any move is made here.

Exchange at one time showed a rise, but it has gradually declined again to the quotations given in our last.

There have been three shipping opportunities since we last wrote, the German mail steamer *Nuernberg*, 9th instant, taking 109 bales for Europe; the French mail steamer *Melbourne*, 10th instant, 619 bales for Europe and the American mail steamer *Victoria*, 10th instant, 136 bales for the New York trade. These departures make the present export figures 5,799 piculs against 11,160 piculs last year, and 11,053 piculs on the 15th September, 1891.

Hanks.—A fair amount of business has been done, considering the small stock which we have in our market. Good *Chichibu* were reported at $597½; *Shinshu*, *Shimare*, $605, *Hachoji*, $550; prices being practically unchanged from those reported last week.

Filatures.—A large business has been done at our quotations. At one time more money was paid, but at closing we think there would be no difficulty in doing the rates of a week ago. Among the purchases made are *Hakusuru*, $750, with similar silks at the same price; while in fine sizes best *Mino* have been done at $875; good *Shinshu*, $835.

Re reels.—These have shared in the demand and considerable business has been done. The last prices paid include *Tortoise* chop, $690; *Shika*, $650; *Bushu* $635.

Kakeda.—A strong attempt was made to advance prices in this class of silk, but without much result. A few bales have been settled, but the higher pretensions of holders have undoubtedly stopped the trade.

Oshu.—One parcel *Hamatsuki*, *Katsuhama*, has

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passed the scales at $650; but beyond this there have been no purchases.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK.)

Hanks—No 1	—
Hanks—No 2 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	$610 to 630
Hanks—No 2½ (Shinshu)	600 to 605
Hanks—No 2½ (Joshu)	580 to 590
Hanks—No. 2½ to 3	570 to 575
Hanks—No 3	560 to 565
Hanks—No. 3½	550 to 555
Filatures—Extra 10 to 12 deniers	890 to 900
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	770 to 780
Filatures—No 1, 10/13 deniers	840 to 850
Filatures—No 1, 13/15, 14/16 den	750 to 760
Filatures—No. 2½, 10/14 deniers	810 to 820
Filatures—No 1½, 13 16, 14/17 den	730 to 740
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	780 to 790
Filatures—No 2, 14 18 deniers	710 to 720
Filatures—No 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re reels—(Oshu) Best No. 1	—
Re-reels—No. 1, 13 15, 14/16 deniers	690 to 700
Re-reels—No. 1½ 13/16, 14/17 deniers	680 to 685
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	640 to 650
Re-reels—No 2½, 14/18 deniers	620 to 630
Re reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Kakedas—Extra	—
Kakedas—No 1	740 to 750
Kakedas—No 1½	690 to 700
Kakedas—No 2	660 to 670
Kakedas—No 2½	620 to 630
Kakedas—No. 3	590 to 600
Kakedas—No 3½	—
Kakedas—No 4	—
Oshu Sendai—No 2½	—
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	—
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	—
Sodai—No 2½	—

Export Raw Silk Tables to 15th Sept., 1893.

	Season 1893-1894	1892-93	1891-92.
	Bales	Bales	Bales.
Europe	4,477	5,355	4,520
America	1,206	5,624	6,228
Total { Bales	5,683	10,979	10,748
Total { Piculs	5,799	13,160	11,053
Settlements and Direct Export from 1st July	Piculs. 7,250	Piculs. 14,400	Piculs. 12,000
Stock, 15th September	10,050	6,600	9,600
Available supplies to date	17,300	21,000	21,600

WASTE SILK.

Settlements for the week are 1,185 piculs, as follows: *Pierced Cocoons*, 1,041 piculs; *Noshi*, 53 piculs; *Kibiso*, 91 piculs. Nothing done for direct shipment this week.

The market remains in much the same position as last quoted. Dealers are still very strong in their demands and will not reduce quotations for *Waste*, thereby hindering the execution of sundry orders which are in town. Transactions in *Pierced Cocoons* again make up the bulk of the settlements.

There has only been one shipping opportunity; the German mail steamer *Nuernberg*, on the 9th instant had 279 bales for Europe and the present export figures are 2,016 piculs against 2,639 piculs last year and 2,539 piculs on the 15th September, 1891.

Pierced Cocoons.—The business has increased, buyers operating freely at or near the same quotations which we gave last week. This reduces the stocks on the market to small proportions and it would seem that the basis of prices for *Cocoons* this present season is now firmly established. Another week's work like the present will nearly clear out the remaining stock. Prices have been shaded a little, 17½ *kaki* having been accepted for several parcels, with 16½ and 16 *kaki* for other lots which were of inferior quality. These prices will give from $120 to $130 per picul for 75% yield.

Noshi-ito.—A small business only, sellers hindering trade by their high quotations. The only thing actually done has been a parcel of *Tegara* at $140, but it is understood a large parcel of *Joshu* is being negotiated. Not a single bale has been entered in either *Oshu* or *Filature*.

Kibiso.—A small business in *Filature* at prices ranging from $110 to $115 per picul. In *Hira* sorts, nothing done.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW WASTE).

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	$125 to 135
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	160 to 165
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	150 to 155
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	140 to 145
Noshi-ito—Oshu Good to Best	150 to 155
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	130 to 135
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	129 to 125
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	120 to 115
Noshi-ito—Bushu, Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	90 to 95
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	80 to 85
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	70 to 75
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	120 to 125
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	110 to 115
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Good to Fair	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Middling to Common	—
Kibiso—Hachoji, Good	—
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	—
Kibiso—Nerai, Good to Common	—
Mawata—Good to Best	—

Export Table Waste Silk to 15th Sept., 1893:—

	Season 1893-94 Piculs	1892-93. Piculs.	1891-92 Piculs
Waste Silk	1,982	2,638	2,539
Pierced Cocoons	34	1	—
	2,016	2,639	2,539
Settlements and Direct Export from 1st July	Piculs. 4,200	Piculs. 3,800	Piculs 4,000
Stock, 15th September	14,500	14,700	12,700
Available supplies to date	18 700	18,500	16,700

Exchange, after a temporary rise, has declined again to the following rates:—London, 4m/s Credits, 2/6; Documents, 2/6½. New York, 30d/s. U.S. $60½; 4m/s. U.S. $61½. Paris, or Lyons, 4m/s. fcs. 3.17.

Estimated Silk Stock, 15th Sept., 1893:—

Raw.	Piculs.	Waste.	Piculs
Hanks	120	Cocoons	1,500
Filatures	5,890	Noshi-ito	6,630
Re-reels	2,900	Kibiso	5,820
Kakeda	1,090	Mawata	70
Oshu	90	Sundries	480
Tavasam Kinds	50		
Total piculs	10,050	Total piculs	14,500

TEA.

A slight revival has been apparent in this market. Buyers are again operating on a fair scale and prices consequently look firmer. The business of the past week has been principally in the fine and medium grades of which the stock is very limited.

	per picul.
Common	$12 to 13
Good Common	14 to 15
Medium	16 to 17
Good Medium	18 to 19
Fine	20 to 22
Finest	23 to 25
Choice	26 to 28
Choicest	30 to 33

EXCHANGE.

Exchange after rallying a few points fell rapidly, and closes weak at undernoted rates,

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	2.5⅛
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	2 5⅛
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	2 6/16
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	2 6⅛
On Paris—Bank sight	3 09
On Paris—Private 4 months' sight	3.18
On Hongkong—Bank sight	Par
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	½% dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72½
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	72½
On America—Bank Bills on demand	59½
On America—Private 30 days' sight	60⅛
On America—Private 4 months' sight	61⅛
On India—Bank sight	Nominal
Silver	34⅛

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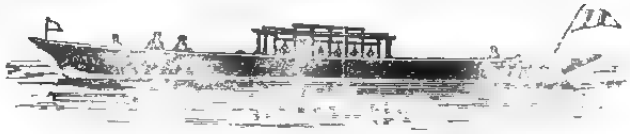

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, SEPT. 23RD, 1893.

BIRTH.

At "Grasmere," Dulwich Road, Herne Hill, London, on 10th August, Mrs. WILLIAM HOGGAN, a Daughter.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

AN earthquake of considerable duration and intensity occurred here on the 15th inst.

TURKISH baths have been opened at 37, Water-street, under the management of Mr. Culty.

MR. PAGET arrived by the last French mail to take up his appointment at H.B.M. Legation, Tokyo.

H.M.S. *Daphne*, Captain MacArthur, arrived here on the 16th inst. and left next day for Hakodate.

A DESTRUCTIVE fire has occurred at the Kawasaki Dockyard, in Kobe, involving considerable loss of property and the partial suspension of work.

MR. MIZUNO HAMON, the publisher of a Japanese newspaper in San Francisco, has left there for Hawaii to start another paper in those Islands.

THE opening of the Autumn Cricket Season took place on Saturday last, but a game made up this week had twice to be postponed on account of rain.

IN a sailing race last Saturday the *Hokiboshi* won over a 4½ mile course in 51m. 21s., beating her own record of 56m. made on the 5th of August.

AT a meeting of the Yokohama General Hospital on Wednesday, a deficiency of $950 was announced. In other respects the report was satisfactory.

THE Tanko Railway Co., of Hokkaido, has applied to the Hokkaido Administrative Board for permission to build a pier in the harbour of Muroran at an estimated cost of one hundred and fifty or sixty thousand *yen*.

A JAPANESE periodical, to be named the *Yokohama Trade and Industrial Magazine*, will be started at that port, commencing on the 5th of October next.

THEATRICAL performances relating to the Soma affair, announced to be given at the Fukai Theatre by *soshi* actors, have been prohibited by the Authorities.

MR. NAKANO, Governor of Kanagawa, has returned to Yokohama from his recent tour of inspection of Ashigara-shimo District. He will visit another rural division shortly.

IN aid of the funds of the Convent, a promenade concert was given in the Bluff Gardens on Monday by the band of the *Kaiserin Elisabeth*. The affair was a great success.

AT the annual meeting of the Yokohama Co-operative Association, Limited, a dividend of 10 per cent. was declared, in addition to a 10 per cent. bonus to shareholders and ticket-holders.

DURING a gale on the 4th inst. thirteen fishing boats were capsized off the port of Kano in Yamagata Prefecture, and three fishermen were drowned, fourteen others being more or less severely wounded.

IT is stated that the Korean Government contemplates purchasing one hundred and fifty horses for military purposes. It will be remembered that the demand has hitherto been supplied by China.

MR. SHISHIJIMA KINZO, of Horaicho, Yokohama, has been permitted by the Home Minister to dredge, at his own expenses, the bed of Yoshida river, which runs through Yoshida-shinden, and connects with the Horiwari Canal at Negishi.

ACCORDING to investigations made by the Agricultural and Commercial Department, the total quantity of barley harvested throughout the country this year was 16,680,273 *koku* (one *koku* = 8½lbs. avd.), showing an increase of 738,997 *koku* as against the previous year.

THE receipts of the Kiusha Railroad during the ten days ending the 10th inst. amounted to *yen* 13,367.370, a daily average income of *yen* 9 775 per mile. The Sanyo Railroad received *yen* 10,600.605 during the same period, a daily average income of *yen* 13 612 per mile.

THE weather remains cool, 62° to 65° Fahr. being the readings in different situations in Yokohama on Sunday last. There have been copious showers during the week, which were more or less general throughout Japan for three or four days, but much less rain fell in Hokkaido.

DR. KITAZATO SHIBASHIRO, who lately abandoned the project of erecting in Shiba Park, Tokyo, a hospital for the investigation of infectious diseases, has resolved to establish a private laboratory near the Sanko-zaka, Shiba, and has applied to the Authorities for permission to commence work. The Shiba residents are commencing another agitation against this new enterprise.

THE figured matting trade of Japan is making rapid progress. The total quantity of matting that arrived at Kobe from Bizen, Bitchiro, and Bingo Provinces during last year amounted to one million six hundred thousand *yen* in value, while this year the output is expected to treble last year's total. The rushes from which these mattings are made command steadier prices, the rush planters making a good business of it. One *tan* of rush-field, it is said, gives the farmer a net profit of six or seven *yen*, which is large compared with the receipts from rice fields. The latter, therefore, are now being gradually utilised as rush plantations.

A VIOLENT shock of earthquake was felt in the capital on the 15th inst. at 6h. 28m. 22s. p.m. Its duration was two minutes, direction from E.S.E. to W.N.W., the maximum horizontal motion being 0.6 millimètre in 8.4 second, and the maximum vertical motion 0.4 millimètre in 0.3 second. During the first nine seconds the oscillations were weak, but they gradually became stronger. Feebler tremors continued during the following fifteen seconds.

THE regular general meeting of members of the Japan Ladies' Sanitary Association was held at the Kojimachi Club, Tokyo, on the 18th inst. After the reading of the report on the finances and working of the organization for the past half-year, lectures were delivered by Messrs. Miura Kinnosuke and Kanasugi Eigoro. Among the distinguished ladies present were H.I.H. Princes Komatsu, Viscountess Hijikata, and Mrs. Hamao.

A REPORT upon the recent big earthquakes in Kagoshima, sent by the Local Governor to the Central Government, states that the greatest shock was unprecedented for fifty or sixty years for violence. It occurred on the 7th inst. at 2.30 a.m., the oscillation being severest at Chiran-mura, in the Kinsei District, where, on the following three days, nine earthquakes of equal violence occurred, with no less than three hundred tremors and rumblings. The inhabitants were living outside their residences up to the date of the despatch of the report. Many weak shocks were being felt daily and the residents were panic-stricken. Water in the wells had changed colour, and some had dried up while others overflowed. The stream of the Uchigawa turned ash-colour. Very small damage was done to dwellings, only one house being party damaged at Chiran-mura. Ten godowns were more or less severely injured, and stone-walls were broken at eighty-eight different places. Sixty-three cracks were noticed on the roads.

THE improvement noted last week in the Import trade has not been well sustained, and, though Yarns of different counts continue to be taken, the trade is light. There has been a small demand for Piece-goods, Grey Shirtings being the principal article in request, and Fancy Cottons have not commanded much attention though prices are firm. There has been a moderate demand for certain lines of Woollens, especially Italian Cloths, but Flannels are rather weaker. There has not been the revival that was anticipated in the Metal market, buyers continuing to hang back in spite of a lack of stock for immediate use, Pig Iron and Wire Nails being the principal articles purchased, though there are enquires for other Metals and prices are firm. There is no change to note in the Kerosene trade, prices continuing firm though transactions are small. Some parcels of Sugar have been taken, Browns at a large, and Whites at a small, reduction on late rates. The Silk trade seems to hang fire, a large stock being now on this market, with but few buyers even at a reduction on late rates. Waste Silk has been in a little better demand, though business is not active. The Tea trade has slightly improved, both in the quantity taken and in the prices obtained. After a slight advance, Exchange has again weakened.

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THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK

The rumours about changes in the Cabinet were revived again, but no sooner did they find their way into the press than they were emphatically denied on apparently trustworthy authority. The public has again settled down into the belief that the Ministry contemplates no changes for the present. Under existing circumstances, these rumours may be expected to be revived again and again to break the monotony of the political world.

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The apparent inaction of the Cabinet has called forth, during the week, many outspoken comments from the Independent papers and the organs of the National Unionists. The *Fiji Shimpo*, for instance, extremely regrets that the Ministers are losing the confidence of the people in general by their attitude of inaction and hesitation. The Cabinet, says our contemporary, is far from popular, but that does not necessarily mean that it lacks the confidence of the people. Just as it frequently happens in private affairs that men who are not liked by their fellows are still trusted by them, so a Government may be unpopular without losing the confidence of the nation. Between the statesmen now in power and the politicians of the Opposition, everybody, in the *Fiji's* opinion, must acknowledge that the Administration is safer in the hands of the former than it would be in those of the latter. Thus, although the Opposition politicians are very popular with the people, the latter have more trust in the Government. Such being the case, the Cabinet ought to pursue an active and fearless course of policy keeping the interest of the country solely in view. But the fact is otherwise. What can be the reason? In our contemporary's opinion, those in power seem to underestimate their strength and to believe that they do not enjoy the national confidence. If they are really incapable of taking active steps for the promotion of the long neglected interests of the country, they are told that they have no longer any title to remain in office, and that they ought at once to give place to the politicians of the Opposition. Such a step would, in the *Fiji's* opinion, be desirable as tending to the political education of the people. The masses are now dissatisfied because they still cling to the notion that the Government should do everything for them. In fact they have too high a notion of the utility of a government. Were the Administration handed over to the Opposition, it would soon be discovered that under no circumstances can much help be expected from officialdom, or, in other words, that the superiority of any particular Cabinet's claims to public confidence does not consist in the positive good it accomplishes so much as in its evidence of working mischief. Unless this truth be understood by the people, no true progress in politics will be possible.

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The *Choya Shimbun* also refers to the unpopularity of the Cabinet, and ascribes it to the pursuance of a negative policy by the latter. With the sagacity and knowledge of Count Ito, the craftiness of Count Goto, the shrewdness of Mr Mutsu, and the courage of Count Inouye, it is strange that the Cabinet should be incapable of making itself master of the situation. The National Unionist organ attributes this circumstance to the want of a political party openly supporting the Government in the House of Representatives. Those now in office are accused of the crime of holding themselves aloof from the general public. Even the Matsukata Cabinet, which was composed of second rate men, was able to obtain the support of one half of the members of the Lower House. If Count Ito and his friends tried seriously to form a Ministerial party in the Diet, they could easily obtain a working majority there. Our contemporary thinks that an alliance with them would be heartily welcomed by the National Unionists, by the section of the Radical party under Mr. Hoshi's leadership, and by the majority of the Independents and Neutrals. If the Cabinet Ministers, incapable of pursuing much a course of policy, rest contented with their present inaction, they are advised to resign. Unlike the *Fiji*, the *Choya* holds that the present Ministry should give place to the statesmen of the Military section, the supposed patrons of the National Unionists.

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The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun's* series of articles on the political situation, just brought to a close, is interesting as a means of ascertaining the views of the Cabinet, or at least an influential section of it, with reference the course likely to be pursued. As these articles are to be reviewed at some length in another place, we will here only refer to the portion bearing upon the policy of the Government. In the present condition of political parties, our contemporary observes that the Government thinks it unwise to to ally itself with any particular body of politicians. So soon as any of the existing parties obtains a commanding position in the Diet and secures the confidence of the people, the present Ministers will not hesitate to recommend its leaders to the Emperor as their successors in office. But in the present state of things, it is improbable that such a position will be secured for some time by any of the parties. Neither is it conceivable that the younger politicians in the Government camp would be able to conduct the Administration as successors of the present Ministry. Such being the case, the Ito Cabinet will not easily take the unpatriotic course of resigning, whatever method of opposition may be resorted to by the Radicals, Progressionists, and National Unionists. If these parties prove themselve incapable of pursuing a rational course of policy, the Government will not hesitate to adopt a strong line of action and may even resort to a *coup d'état*.

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The *Kokkai* strongly doubts whether the Ito Cabinet will have the courage to pursue such a daring course of action. In order to keep itself in power without the support of any political party, the only course for the Government will be to achieve some military or diplomatic success. At least it must uphold the prestige of the Empire in Korea against China. The Cabinet is, however, pursuing a conciliatory and peaceful policy abroad, and seems incapable of deciding upon any daring line of action. If the Ministers expect to obtain the sympathy of the country by merely amending official organizations and curtailing public expenses, the *Kokkai* thinks that they are labouring under a fatal delusion.

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The question of Treaty Revision has not been forgotten by the vernacular press. It is now understood that the Government will set about the solution of this problem after the close of the next session of the Diet. But some papers are getting impatient at the delay, and insist that an early step should be taken for the resumption of negotiations with the foreign Powers. The *Kokumin Shimbun*, for instance, fails to understand why the Cabinet should be so tardy in taking up the problem in earnest. Now that the majority of the people are agreed as to the manner in which the treaties should be revised, the Government, in our contemporary's opinion, has no excuse for further delay. There are, indeed, people opposed to Mixed Residence, but the Cabinet need not take any notice of them, for they constitute only a small minority of the nation and their arguments are not worth listening to.

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The *Chuó Shimbun* also strongly calls upon the Cabinet to resume negotiations without delay. Those in power are bound to bring the question to an early and successful issue. They owe this duty to the nation in general and to their predecessors in particular, as to the late Saigo, Kido, and Okubo. The revision of the treaties is part of the great work begun at the Restoration. Not only have the present Ministers stood aloof from the question, but they seem, in the National Unionist organ's opinion, to be without any fixed ideas on the subject. How can the prestige of the country be raised abroad under such a Ministry? Our contemporary continues in this strain to censure the Cabinet for its inaction, but while it blames the Government for tardiness, the party it represents, namely, the National Unionists, are apparently devoting their whole energies to prevent the revision of treaties by fomenting a strong agitation against the opening of the interior for Mixed Residence. More irrational and inconsistent conduct it would be difficult to conceive.

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The educational world of Japan is now considerably excited about the opposition which the Minister of Education's scheme of reforms has encountered at the hands of Mr. Tsuji, President of the Japanese Educational Society, and Mr. Isawa, President of the Japanese National Educational Association. The grounds of the opposition are that Mr. Inouye's reforms tend to unduly reduce the scope of the various educational institutions under the control of his Department, and that he is not in favour of employing part of the surplus in the Treasury for the aid of primary education. Such are the principal reasons of dissatisfaction with his policy. But some people allege that the discontent is rather personal than educational. The objectors cannot bear to see the system they laboured to build up ruthlessly demolished or radically modified by the new Minister. Their opposition to Mr. Inouye really dates from the moment their followers in the Department of Education began to be displaced by the confidants of the coming Minister. Such being the case, the press does not upon the whole approve their conduct, although under ordinary circumstances it is always pretty sure to espouse the cause of every person attacking those in power. However, some papers, though not approving the motives of Messrs. Tsuji and Isawa's conduct, are inclined to hail their opposition to the Minister of Education as a sign of the gradual formation of an educational circle independent of the Government. Hitherto, the *Mombusho* has exercised despotic away in the sphere of education, and such a state of things has led to various abuses in connection with the selection of textbooks and in various other respects. The formation of an independent public opinion in the educational world will serve as a means of removing these evils. The *Mainichi Shimbun* and the *Yomiuri Shimbun* are of this opinion It is a curious coincidence that men who while in office were severely attacked as the originators of these very abuses, should now be hailed as instruments for remedying them.

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The position of the Nobles is a subject of considerable journalistic discussion. The *Mainichi Shimbun* accuses them of selfishness. In support of this charge, it points to the fact that, while the rate of interest in the open market has fallen considerably below 5 per cent., their bank is still receiving the extraordinary rate of 7 per cent. on its loan of. 10,000,000 *yen* to the Government. If they had a particle of public spirit, they ought, says our contemporary, to lower the rate of interest on that loan. Another instance of their selfishness is the circumstance that, while deriving such profits from their transaction with the Government, they are now endeavouring to obtain from the *Nippon Ginko* a loan of 2,000,000 *yen* without interest, for the purpose of redeeming the paper money issued by their bank. Yet another blameworthy action on their part is said to have been the share they took in causing the recent disastrous fluctuations in the price of the shares of the Hokkaido Mining and Railway Company. They are advised to reflect on the high position they occupy in society and to shape their conduct accordingly.

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The *Kokkai*, alluding to the unenviable reputation the Nobles enjoy of being generally weak both intellectually and physically, reminds them of the unwholesome conditions of their life, and advises them to break up their establishments in the capital and retire into the country. Various advantages would attend such a measure.

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First, they could live more economically in the country; secondly, while they are nobody in the capital, they are sure to be he d in unaffected reverence by their former vassals in the country; thirdly, a rustic mode of life will favour the physical and moral development of their children; and fourthly, their retirement into the country with their property would conduce to the industrial development of the respective localities Unless they take an early opportunity to break up their city establishments, they are told that their property is in danger of being squandered away or appropriated by their crafty stewards, as has already happened in several families. If they retire to the country, there would be less temptation for their retainers to practice frauds upon them, and moreover their children would become capable of taking care of themselves.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

COUNT OKUMA AND COUNT ITO.

THE *Ajiya* has an interesting article analyzing the respective characters and positions of Count Ito and Count Okuma. Different persons have enjoyed popularity at different times; Count Goto, Mr. Mutsu, Mr. Hoshi and others having had their turn. But all things considered, the *Ajiya* recognises Count Ito and Count Okuma as the two greatest statesmen of Japan at the present moment. These two men, says our contemporary, differ from each other as much in character as in physical constitution. Count Okuma is angular and thin, and his character correspondingly firm and strong. Count Ito is, on the other hand, round and rather plump, while he is versatile in character. Though dissimilar in character, they are almost equally conspicuous for talent, knowledge, judgment, and powers of conversation. Count Ito—continues the *Ajiya*—has twice been Minister President of State. But he is not open to the charge of being greedy of power; on the contrary, he is ready to let others exercise actual power, while himself retaining only a nominal title to it. Under his Premiership, the elder statesmen are contented to have harmonious relations with him, but it does not follow that he is able to keep them under his control. the fact being that he merely associates with them. He is able to occupy the post of Premiership, because he is given to temporizing and inaction. So long as the elder statesmen of the Sat-Cho clans continue to monopolise political power, a statesman of his qualifications is peculiarly fitted to be the Minister President of State, especially at a time like the present, when intense party strife distracts public attention, and his unequalled capacity for compromise is in great request. As to Count Okuma, he has not been able to obtain the post of Minister President of State, but while he was in the Cabinet he always regarded himself as its real chief. He is not a man to be satisfied with a nominal title. As Premier he would control his colleagues with that absolute freedom with which one moves one's own fingers. He is not unwilling to follow the lead of another person if he is convinced of that person's superiority to himself, as he did in the case of Saigo and Okubo. After the death of these great men, he recognised no other man's superiority. He holds Count Kuroda in some sort of veneration, and once under the latter's Premiership he accepted the portfolio of Foreign Affairs. But then Count Kuroda simply carried out the views of Count Okuma. Count Okuma no doubt regards Count Ito, Count Inouye, or even Count Saigo as able men, but the thought of being compelled to consult their opinions is distasteful to him. Neither would these men be willing to follow his leadership, so Count Okuma can never attain the position of Premier in a Cabinet composed of the present members. Not until the time comes for the promotion of men like Messrs. Ozaki and Inukai to the highest offices under the State will he be able to attain that cherished position. Under these circumstances, he has little hope of ever realising the object of his ambition. If these two statesmen, Count Ito and Count Okuma, could become allies, a splendid Cabinet might be found, but such an event is a mere chimera. However, the antagonism between them may, in the *Ajiya's* opinion, prove in the end a means of accelerating the political progress of the Empire.

THE MATSUDAIRA TROUBLE

ALLUSION has already been made in these columns to the domestic troubles in the Matsudaira family owing to alleged embezzlement or fraudulent appropriation of funds on the part of one of the Viscount's retainers. We now read in the *Kokkai* that the affair, so far from being satisfactorily arranged, has developed such proportions as to reach the ears of the Emperor, and that His Majesty is much concerned about these repeated evidences of serious mismanagement in the houses of the Peers, who enjoy the proud title of being the bulwarks of the Throne. Doubtless in obedience to some indication from the Sovereign, the Minister of the Imperial Household—we quote always from the *Kokkai*—addressed to Viscount Matsudaira, on the 28th ultimo, a private injunction to settle the affair as quickly as possible in conference with his principal relatives and retainers. The issue of this injunction was supposed to be kept secret until the last moment, but in some unexplained manner the fact became known to Viscount Matsudaira the evening previous to the despatch of the document, and he left his home with, it is said, the knowledge, or at the peremptory suggestion, of some of his retainers. At all events, when the principal relatives of the house, to whom a similar intimation was sent simultaneously with the one to the Viscount, repaired to his house, they found that he had taken his departure the preceding evening. For four or five days nothing was heard of his whereabouts, though special messengers were sent to seek him in all likely directions. Finally intelligence reached the family that he was staying in Kyoto, but when steps were taken to communicate with him there, he was again found to have left his place of sojourn. On the 13th instant a letter was received by the family in Tokyo, intimating that he was staying in Kyoto, but that he was not accessible to any one. The *Kokkai* adds that the Viscount's old retainers are much incensed against the friends of Komida, the steward now in custody on a charge of embezzlement. They suspect these people of having induced the Viscount to leave Tokyo, and of preventing him from returning. Being, however, without authority, they are unable to take any decisive step.

THE "CHOYA SHIMBUN."

THE *Choya Shimbun* published its six thousandth number on the 16th instant, and celebrated the occasion by issuing some extra sheets containing interesting notes on episodes in the career of the paper. It was on November 5, 1876, that the first number of the *Choya* was issued under the editorship of the late Mr. Narishima Ryuhoku. But the paper itself had existed under a different name for about three years and a half. Its first name was the *Kōbun Tzushi* (A journal of Official Documents), and it contained official notifications, and a few items of news. It was first established in the beginning of February, 1873, being then published at Shitaya, but in 1876 the office was removed to Ginza and the newspaper at the same time entered upon a prosperous career under the subsequently well known title of *Choya Shimbun* (The Court and the People). It is an interesting fact that the premises where the *Choya* commenced its new career of journalistic success had, until a short time previously, served as the office of the *Nishin Shinji shi*, a Japanese newspaper edited by the late Mr Black. Mr. Narishima, alluding to this fact in the first number of the paper, observed that the example of the distinguished Englishman constituted a good warning to other journalists in Japan. Mr. Black had been at first very industrious and his paper deservedly acquired wide popularity, but he had gradually begun to slacken his zeal, and his paper consequently entered a downward grade, until finally it had to be given up altogether. (That is not our (*Japan Mail*) idea of the fate of the *Nishin Shinji-shi*, but we merely quote.) Mr. Narishima resolved to profit by such a conspicuous example of the value of industry in a journalist. Under his editorship, the *Choya* steadily improved in style and quantity of news, until it attained a position of unprecedented popularity, from which it never fell during the several years of Mr. Narishima's connection with it. In this editorial work he was fortunate in the valuable assistance of Mr. Suyehiro Shigeyasu, the present editor of the *Kokkai*. Since Mr. Narishima's death, the *Choya* has undergone some vicissitudes of fortune, at one time its demise being thought a question of days. Of late, however, it has rallied a little and seems to be now in a fair way towards recovery. The politics of the paper have generally been opposition to the Government, with the exception of a short interval under the Matsukata Cabinet, when it was a recognized official organ. At present it is generally regarded as an organ of the National Unionists. The principal attraction of the *Choya* at present consists in interesting descriptions of the institutions as well as the customs and manners of Tokugawa days.

THE NOBLES' BANK AND RAILWAYS.

WE have already explained that the charter of the Nobles' Bank (XVth National) expires in 1897, and that, in view of the Government's generally understood resolve not to renew the deed, the shareholders of the Bank are now considering the advisability of continuing the business on a private basis. Some of them are said to be in favour of dissolving the concern altogether and dividing its property among the shareholders, but many seem to desire its continuance as a private bank with a reduced capital. With regard to the third project, said to be gaining ground among the shareholders, namely, the scheme of employing the greater part of the Bank's capital for the construction of what is usually termed the Central Line connecting Tokyo and Kyoto through the Nakasendo, we read that the line is to be of a wider gauge than that employed elsewhere throughout the empire, and that Mr. Amenomiya is the originator of this plan. Indeed, he is said to have entertained the idea for several years past, having first disclosed it to Viscount Aoki in 1888, when the latter was Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs. The Viscount was recommended by the sanguine promoter to resign office and devote himself entirely to the undertaking in question, but while approving the enterprise, he did not see fit to adopt such a radical attitude towards it. The project was then brought to the notice of Mr. Watanabe Hiromoto and Mr. Kashiwamura of the Nobles' Bank, but little progress was made until recently when the scheme was enthusiastically taken up by Viscount Tani, Mr. Miura Yasushi and other shareholders of the Bank. Their programme does not exclude the idea of continuing the Bank as a private concern. For the latter purpose, they deem a capital of five or six million *yen* sufficient, and their plan is to devote the remaining capital of the Bank—about thirty million *yen*—to the construction of the Nakasendo road. The question of what to do with the Nobles' Bank is to be settled next December.

THE ANTI-MIXED RESIDENCE MOVEMENT.

THE promoters of the anti-mixed residence movement are beginning once more to bestir themselves. Their head-quarters, the *Naichi Zakkyo Kokyu-kai* (Association for the Investigation of the Question of Mixed Residence) is to be shortly re-constituted under the imposing name of *Dai Nippon Kyokai* (Great Japan Association). The particulars about the contemplated change are to be arranged at a provisionary conference held on the 1st of next month, and it seems that the principal promoters, are Messrs. Oi Kentaro, Abei Iwane, Sassa Tomofusa, Furusho Kamon, Wada Hikojiro, Kōmuchi Tomotsune, and a few others, will then leave the capital to make lecture tours throughout the country, dividing themselves into six separate parties Their plan is to spend about a month in the campaign, so as

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to be back in town a few weeks before the opening of the fifth session of the Diet, by which time they profess confidence that the formal organization of the Great Japan Association will see at least four thousand members united for the purpose of opposing Mixed Residence.

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It will be noticed that what has been apprehended from the beginning is not unlikely at last to come to pass, namely, the fusion of the National Unionists, the Oriental Radicals, and several local Conservatives into one political body on the platform of anti-mixed residence. The recent meeting of the National Unionists at Oita was attended by members of the various local Conservative factions, and the principal business of the conference was to put on record the opposition of the assembly to the opening of the interior for mixed residence. It is conceivable that the National Unionists and their sympathizers on the subject of anti-mixed residence may be able in their proposed tours to make such a powerful appeal to the simple-minded country folk that at the next general election they will be returned to the Diet in formidable numbers. At all events, the present anti-mixed-residence agitation seems destined to lead to the formation of a solid Conservative party. Simultaneously with the rise of such a party, the organization of a great Progressive party by the union of the Liberals and some of the statesmen in power, might prove the ultimate solution of the constitutional problem now engaging the serious attention of Japanese politicians of every school.

PRISON REFORM.

REFORM of the prison system is now one of the prominent questions in Japan. According to the present arrangement, the expenses of prisons are paid out of the local taxes, except in the case of the Central Prisons. With the view of changing that method, the Matsukata Cabinet laid before the Diet in the second session a Bill for transferring the expenditures from local charges to those of the Central Government Treasury, but for several reasons, with most of which our readers are doubtless familiar, the representatives rejected the proposal. We do not know, of course, whether the Ito Cabinet will again submit a similar Bill to the Diet next session, but it is said that, among Government officials and members of the *Kokumin Kyokwai* (National Unionists) there are many persons of opinion that the disbursement of the expenses of such institutions as prisons should be a charge of the Central Government Treasury. Taking advantage of an opportunity afforded by the late summer vacation, Mr. Magaki, of the Department of Justice, an enthusiastic advocate of prison reform, visited almost all the prisons in the Western provinces. He found that prison management had recently made much progress. In many prisons the buildings had been remodelled and other improvements effected. The treatment of prisoners is now never so severe as in former times. They are retained in custody only a short time before being brought up for final trial, abuses of that nature having greatly decreased during the past few years. At present, the system of separate cells is about to be put into tentative operation in some localities. The favourable results recently obtained under that system suggest the inference that it will be successful hereafter in so far as concerns a certain class of prisoners. But the method can not yet be pursued fully throughout the empire, inasmuch as it requires a large amount of money. In a word, by the diligent efforts of the Authorities, the prisons of Japan may be said to have undergone a radical change in all vital respects as compared with the old state of affairs. In every province there are now-a-days found a number of prisoners of whom several have been guilty of repeated commission of the same offence. Hence any plan for decreasing the number of criminals is earnestly considered. Mr. Magaki says that, in addition to the improvement of prisons, some better scheme is necessary in the case of prisoners released from confinement. In Kyoto, Osaka, and other places, there have already been instituted asylums for the protection of liberated prisoners, and by virtue of the aid and instruction received at these institutions many malefactors are said to have become reformed characters, and to have applied themselves diligently to their respective occupations. It is said that, in Tokyo, also, Mr. Magaki has the intention of seeking to enlist the cōoperation of public-minded persons for the inauguration of a programme on similar lines.

KOREAN NEWS.

THE principal political factions in Korea are said to be the *Kaika-to* (pro-Japanese), the *Jidai-to* (pro-Chinese), the *Rokoku-to* (pro-Russian), the *Chōsen-to*, and the *Togaku-to*. The Japanese party was very powerful before the disastrous disturbance of 1884, but since then it has lost ground, and although it is not yet entirely dead, its influence is now scarcely felt in the conduct of the administration. Mr. Boku Teiyo, Korean Finance Minister, and Mr. Kin Kachin, former Korean Minister to Japan, are said to be the present leaders of the party. The Chinese party, though not so powerful as it was a few years ago, is still the most influential of all. Its recognized leaders are the Tai Won-kun and Mr. Bin Oshoku, Minister of the Navy, and its members act in concert with the Chinese Resident, Mr. Yuen The Russian party is stated to have had its origin in opposition to the Chinese party, and to be composed of Koreans who resent the Chinese Resident's interference in the domestic affairs of their country. This party had great influence while M. Weber was Russian Minister at Sōul, but since his departure, it has lost much of its weight. The Korean party, strange to say, is the least important of all. Its leader is Bin Eiyokn, now sojourning in Hongkong. Finally, as to the *Togaku-to*, it has little influence in Government circles, its stronghold being in the country districts. It is composed of men opposed to the reigning dynasty. Rumour alleges that the members of this party are beginning again to assemble at Chiisan in Genrado

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The *Mainichi Shimbun's* Sōul correspondent states that the Korean Government objects in to the redemption of the promissory notes given payment of the indemnity to Japan, on the ground that the Japanese merchants concerned practised bribery to secure the good offices of Korean officials. The story of this charge of corruption has been already alluded to in these columns more than once. The correspondent in question opines that the Korean Government has been misled by the interested advice of some of its foreign employés.

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The coinage question is stated to be in as unsatisfactory a state as could well be imagined, The quarrel between Mr. Omiwa and Mr. An Shiju going on as bitterly as ever. Considering that the sentiments of the Koreans are generally unfriendly towards the Japanese, Mr. Omiwa has little chance of receiving fair play at the hands of his superiors. According to the *Chosen Shimpo* (Nimsen), he was expected to present a memorial to the Korean King on or about the 10th instant, and in the event of his counsels being rejected, he had declared his resolve to resign his position and return to Japan.

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The Korean Government is said to have under contemplation the establishment of a big trading company for the purpose of obtaining a new source of revenue. The business of the projected company being connected with Shanghai, there is talk of appointing a Korean Consul at that place. As to the capital of the company, 4 000,000 *ryo* (800,000 Japanese *yen*) is to be supplied from the royal coffers, while the Ministers of State and other high functionaries are to contribute sums of 10,000 *ryo* each.

KAWASAKI DOCKYARD FIRE.

THE fire which broke out at the Kawasaki shipbuilding yard on Friday week says the *Kobe Chronicle*, did a considerable amount of damage, and as the works are not insured the loss will fall upon the proprietor. How the fire originated is a mystery. The men were working up till 2 o'clock in the morning, and left everything as usual, yet the fire when discovered within an hour of their departure had already got such hold that all efforts at extinguishing it were fruitless. Only three buildings have been saved intact, these being the office, the storage godown, and the pumping house. Five buildings, including the boiler-making and casting sheds, were destroyed and the machinery therein rendered useless—at least for the time, but it is thought that when the *débris* is cleared away some of the machinery will be found comparatively uninjured and may be re-erected without difficulty. Fortunately there was no vessel on the slip, or there would have been great danger of the flying sparks setting fire to the rigging and perhaps adding the loss of a vessel to the serious damage done by the fire. Though the slip is undamaged, a large quantity of the materials for the alteration or construction of vessels has been consumed. Energetic efforts are already being made at removing the *débris* and re-erecting the machinery, but it will naturally be some considerable time before the dockyard will be in full working order again. It is feared that a large number of persons will be temporarily thrown out of employment by the disaster. The dockyard employs about a hundred and fifty workmen regularly, and as many as four or five hundred are frequently engaged when there is a press of work. The services of many of these persons will probably have to be dispensed with for a while, and it is feared that great distress may ensue, the number of unemployed in Kobe and Hyogo being already very large.

DISCOVERY OF OLD BURIAL MOUNDS IN SHIBA PARK.

PROFESSOR TSUBOI of the College of Science of the Imperial University, says the vernacular press, has discovered one large burial mound and two smaller ones on Maruyama, the eminence behind the Mausolea of the Shoguns in Shiba Park. The mound in question is that on which stands the bronze monument erected near the pagoda to Ino Tada, the cartographist. Of the small tumuli, one is situated west of the pagoda and to the south of the tomb of the second Shogun, while the other is found close by the south-western corner of the outer railing of the tomb. The large mound is shaped like a gourd (*hyotan*), the fact that first led to the professor's investigations—and from 150 to 180 yards in length. The Southern half of the neck of the gourd is small and not specially elevated, while the northern half is large and much raised, a form similar to many tumuli found in other places. Its artificial character might strike the most casual observer. Pieces of broken clay pipes such as were formerly used for a sort of railing placed round tombs have been discovered, proving, beyond doubt, the correctness of the Professor's surmise. His opinion is that the existence of the mound was known at the time of the erection of the pagoda, and to that fact may be ascribed the building of the pagoda on its present site instead of on the mound. From the relics obtained, he believes the tumulus must be more than a thousand years old. He invites those interested in antiquarian research to pay a visit to the spot.

ELECTION IN YAMAGUCHI PREFECTURE.

A TELEGRAM despatched from Yamaguchi on the 20th inst., and received by the *Asahi Shimbun*, states the election of a representative in the Lower House for the Fourth District of Yamaguchi Prefecture has resulted in the return of Mr. Ogura Jinkichi, who obtained 570 votes, against Messrs. Horiye and Isobe. Thirty-one votes were cast for each of the latter gentlemen.

THE FUNERAL OF THE LATE COUNTESS YAMAGATA.

THE funeral of the late Countess Yamagata took place yesterday, at the Gokokuji-temple, Otoba, Tokyo. The procession left the Count's house at Mejiro at 2 p.m. The chief officiating priest was Mr. Hino Takui, brother of the High Priest of the Western Hongwanji, and the assistant officiating priest, Mr. Shimaji Makurai.

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The hearse was preceded by an exceptionally large number of bouquets sent by Princes of the Blood, Ministers of State and distinguished officials and private persons. Count Yamagata, the deceased's husband, acted as chief mourner, and immediately behind the hearse walked Mr. Yamagata Isaburo, adopted son of the Count, Lieut.-Colonel Fukushima, and Mr. Kagawa Hikaru. After them came in carriages Miss Yamagata, the deceased's daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Ishimakawa, parents of the late Countess, and other relatives, such as Viscount and Viscountess Shinagawa, Viscount and Viscountess Miyoshi, and so forth. Among other mourners, we may mention Their Excellencies Count and Countess Ito, Count Inouye, Count Saigo, Count Oyama, Count Goto, Mr. Mutsu, Mr. Yoshikawa, Mr. Watanabe, Mr. Inouye Ki, Viscount Hijikata, Count Higashikuze, and so forth. Most of the members of the diplomatic corps were also present. The total number of mourners must have been several thousand. The procession reached the Gokokuji at 3 p.m. and the service was over at 4.

* * *

Yesterday at 10 a m. the Emperor sent Viscount Ayanokoji, a Chamberlain, to Count Yamagata with a message of condolence and with a funeral present.

THE REV. MR. TAMURA IN TROUBLE.

THE Rev. Mr. Tamura's "The Japanese Bride" is causing him endless troubles. We have already reproduced the unfavourable criticisms of the principal magazines in Tokyo upon the book and its author. But it appears that the Christians of the capital are not contented with mere journalistic denunciations of the work. On the 15th instant, the members of the *Kyogi* Club, an association composed of the principal Christians of the capital without distinction of sect or denomination, held a special conference for the discussion of the matter. The chair was taken Rev. Togawa, Mr. Yokoi, editor of the *Rikugo Zasshi*, and Mr. Uyemura, pastor of the Ichibancho Church and editor of the *Nippon Hyoran*, expressed their opinion of the book in terms very unfavourable to it. Upon the motion of Mr. Iwamoto Zenji, Principal of the Meiji Jo-Gakko and editor of the *Jo-Gaku Zasshi*, the conference adopted the following resolution:—"That whereas Mr. Tamura's book has caused no small injury to Christian work on account of the unfavourable criticism it has evoked, and whereas the matter contained in the book is such as ought not to have been penned by a Christian pastor, therefore, Mr. Tamura be advised to resign his present position." Mr. Honda Yôichi and Mr. Iwamoto Zenji are to visit Mr. Tamura and counsel him to resign. Should their friendly advice be disregarded by its recipient, the matter is to be brought before the local synod of the Japanese Church of Christ.

MR OTORI INTERVIEWED.

THE following conversation is said to have taken place between Mr. Otori, Japanese Minister to China and Korea, and a representative of the *Yomiuri Shimbun*:—

May I ask you if you intend to spend half of your time at Sôul?

I will go first to Korea where I intend to stay three or four months, after which I may return again to Japan. But that being almost unnecessary, I may remain at Sôul until the opening of the Pekin in spring. After staying five or six months in Peking, I shall again turn towards Korea, thus dividing my time between the two places

Will the system of appointing one Minister to China and Korea remain permanent?

I don't think it will remain permanent. While events march in Korea, everything is very quiet in China; so the new system of double appointment may not be practically inconvenient. But China being a great Power, I think it is not altogether advisable that the Japanese Legation there should be left for a time without its chief. However, although at present much has to be done at Sôul, it will not be impossible with proper management to make the office of Minister there one of perfect ease.

I am informed that the negotiations on the indemnity question have greatly injured the feelings of the Koreans. May I ask you as to the policy you intend to pursue under the circumstance?

I do not know the actual condition of Korean feeling But I hear that things have been made exceedingly unpleasant there by much fuss over trivial matters and high-handed methods for recovering a paltry sum of money I will pursue in Korea the same policy which I followed in China. I deem it the best policy in time of peace to devote my attention principally to the promotion of the commercial interests of our countrymen Properly speaking, it is not the office of a Minister but that of a Consul to look after the commercial interests of his nationals. But a Minister may, I think in time of peace, do so with advantage.

What is your opinion about the coinage question in Korea?

I have had no direct connection with this work of coinage. It may be rather premature to commence such an undertaking.

May I take the liberty of asking the reason of your sudden departure for Korea?

There is no hurry about it at all; I might delay my departure two or three months more, if I felt so disposed But lately some troubles have arisen concerning the murder of Japanese by Koreans. There is no necessity to make a diplomatic matter of it, but being desirous of arranging this personally at Sôul, I have decided to leave at once. The Koreans alone are not to blame for the recurrence of these troubles. The Japanese residents at Fusan are not badly disposed, but it is well-known that at Ninsen and Gensan they are of a rougher sort. It is not to be wondered at that quarrels take place between them and the Koreans.

What is the state of Chinese officialdom?

The Chinese are not naturally given to suspicion and the officials are all good men Difficulties are, consequently seldom encountered in the course of diplomatic relations with them, the only cause for complaint is their slowness. Li Hung Chang is seventy two years of age but he is hale and hearty. When I saw him last, he was saying that he expected to live thirty years more. So long as he remains strong, there will be exceptional advantages for the maintenance of friendly relations between Japan and China.

What are the mutual relations of the foreign Ministers at Peking?

There are now factions among them. The relations between the Ministers of England and Germany, on the one side, and those of Russia and France, on the other, are not at all satisfactory.

SOME TRUE WORDS ABOUT JAPAN.

IT is a pleasure to find such sensible and discriminating words spoken about Japan as those of Professor Clay McCauley, published in the *Minneapolis Journal* and reproduced below. Professor McCauley is one of the unhappily rare men who look at a nation with unprejudiced eyes and speak of it with entire impartiality:—

Prof Clay McCauley, well known in Minneapolis a few years ago now resident in Japan as lecturer in the Keiogijuku University, and president of the School of Liberal Theology, of Tokyo, is making a short stay in this city at his old home, the Judd House. Prof. McCauley was seen by a representative of *The Journal* this morning.

"I am glad to be back in my American home," said Mr. McCauley. "Minneapolis has changed greatly in the past four years, but it has not yet wholly grown out of pleasant recollection I am impressed chiefly by the wonderful rapid transit system which has been established in your streets and over the interurban district. I have seen most of the Northern cities since my return to America, but in none of them have I found such comfortable and swift street car conveniences as here and in St Paul. It is simply wonderful and must be of incalculable value to the Twin Cities in their future'

In answer to questions about Japan, Mr. McCauley said, "Yes, Japan is an interesting country and is entitled to a great amount of writing up among Western peoples. The country itself is so unlike European and American countries topographically, the people are so different from us socially, the effort of the government to bring Japan into vital and fraternal relations with the nations of the West demands so strongly our attention, that it is not strange we should see more books and newspaper notes about Japan than about any other far off land. And yet, to one long resident and really observant in Japan, most of the writing about the people there is stuff that would far better never have been made public. There are very few books on this subject that are worth reading by one who is seeking real information or just fied opinion. Well intending writers are constantly misled through their inability to understand people and things, into gross and often cruel misrepresentation. Others, meaning no harm, so put what they have to say, that even their truths became falsehoods Japan is neither Paradise nor Hades It is peopled with human beings who are like all other human beings, and who have wrought out a social system which is as a whole neither worse nor better than other social creations, differ as it may in its workings from them. I often am impatient, almost beyond measure, at the judgments of the western peoples, made foolish by the shallowness, sentimentalism, race prejudice vanity and often worse, of such books as 'The Japs at Home,' 'Japonica,' and 'Over Seas and Lands.' 'Three Years in Japan,' 'Madame Chrysanthème' and 'Unjapanned Japan.' It is practically a social crime for men to turn their special, partial and necessarily superficial observations into generalizations which shall label as a whole a social character. And when a person says, as I saw reported of one in a Minneapolis paper a few days ago, that the distinguishing characteristics of the Japanese are licentiousness and mendacity he speaks the truth just about as much as if I were to say that the distinguishing characteristics of the people of the United States are voluptuousness and fraud. The grain of truth he has, becomes thereby a pound of mistake, and it may be, libel. The European and American pot is only ridiculous in calling the Japan kettle black

"The distinguishing characteristics of the Japanese people are"—well, I don't know what, and I don't think any man from the West does or can know what To Clement Scott, the worst of the whole company of literary showmen who profess to exhibit Japan to the world, a few hours in the slums of the sea-ports, where what is bad in any country is seen at its worst, and a jaunt or two to the show places made for the pleasure of foreigners, sufficed for him to write down a base judgment of the Japanese nation as a whole, with which an American magazine has within the last few months been poisoning public opinion concerning this much noticed people.

"Sir Edwin Arnold, word master and genius with poetic imaginings, has deeply wronged the Japanese by parading them before the world in undesired, gorgeous garments of his own and others' weaving, the latter often unacknowledged appropriations of others property. Indeed, there are probably no books really more hurtful to Japan than Sir Edwin Arnold's published letters and Pierre Loti's Madame Chrysanthème.' In Sir Edwin's letters we see a nation composed mostly of mere pleasure-loving, care free, physically aromatic, lotus eating children of nature, whose existence is dreamlike and emancipated from the vulgar, work-a-day earth. It is a fact, I am told, that those letters sent hundreds of young men half way 'round the world for a repetition of Sir Edwin's enjoyments. The reality they found, indeed, was as all know, only Dead Sea fruit—dust and ashes. The same genius working on Paris and Vienna could far more fascinate the youth of the nations than it does with the phantasmagoria it elaborated from the material of Tokio and Atami. In Pierre Loti's book, the truth told is made a flaunting lie. As well might one cover social France with a story from the Latin quater as inclose Japan in the French lieutenant's record of the summer marriage at Nagasaki. Foreign writers have been generally unjust to Japan. As story-tellers they are not so very objectionable, but as interpreters of a people they are, as a rule, grossly unfair or ignorant." Mr. McCauley added that only in a few books, Rein's "Japan," and Griffis' "Mikado's Empire," which two are generally accepted as standard, is there much that shows Japan as it is. There is much excellent description of places, arts, industries, manufactures and customs in special articles such as are published by the Asiatic Society of Japan and in the writings of several lecturers and essayists and some travellers, but the books really worthy of Japan are not yet written, and those who might write them hesitate to make the attempt. American readers, therefore, ought to read with a big margin of allowance the much they now see in new books, and in magazines, about that interesting people of the Far East"

"Japan is rapidly becoming a nation after the models set in Western civilization. Whatever we have that adds to national power and wealth that Japan is appropriating as fast as safe revolution allows. Much of Japanese life is almost like our own in consequence. Old Japan exists, but New Japan is in power, and is rapidly making a society which will before long be classed with that of the West. Constitutional monarchy, parliament, the newspaper, systematic and general public school education, universally applied modern science, international commerce, railways, electric power, coats and trousers, and meat and milk, and much else familiar in American life, are bringing this result about. In Japan we can even have ward primaries and fights at the polls, just the same as here. In that island empire lies the pioneer and in large measure the dictator of Asiatic progress in the way of occidental civilization. Be kind enough to tell *The Journal's* readers that the Japanese are not the fantastic, comical, unpractical, licentious, vain, butterfly-like men and women who have been forced into their imaginations, but that, as a people, curiously different from us in many ways though they may be, they are leading a serious, earnest life, having like joys and sorrows, struggles, disappointments, loves and hates, moral aspirations, and failures, loyalties and betrayals, diseases and deaths, with those that gladden or distress us. They are not freaks for a museum, they are men and women in all things essentially like those we meet in Minneapolis every day"

Mr. McCauley expects to spend a fortnight in Minneapolis. He returns to Japan, sailing Sept. 12, on the steamer *China*, to resume his work at the opening of the autumn terms of the important schools with which he is connected.

DIVINATION

THE ancient and at one time highly respectable craft of divination has not entirely fallen into disrepute in Japan, if our vernacular contem-

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poraries are to be credited. A few nights ago, Takagi Kinjiro, a well-to-do grain-dealer, living in Nihonbashi, Tokyo, discovered his house locked-up upon returning home from business. After a while he was admitted by one of the employés, named Umejiro. Next morning it was discovered that money to the amount of 418 *yen*, which had been placed in a drawer of the money chest, was missing, but there was no trace of robbers having broken into the house. The matter having been communicated to the police, suspicion fell upon the employé who happened to open the door and admit his master on the night the robbery was committed. He was accordingly hailed before a magistrate. Meanwhile, Mr. Takagi consulted an adjacent augur upon the matter. The fortune-teller, after the prescribed formalities had been gone through, declared that the money had not yet left the grain-dealer's house, in fact, was merely placed on a beam or rafter in some out-of-the-way place inside the house. Takagi, much pleased at hearing this, hastened back to his house. The police in the meantime arrived with the information that the man had confessed to having stolen the money and hidden it behind a beam. Search being made the money was found in the place indicated by the augur's forecast.

FOREIGN POST OFFICE ORDERS.

THE *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* reports that in view of the great inconvenience now experienced by both foreigners and Japanese in sending postal money-orders from Japan to foreign countries, the Authorities are planning measures to introduce reforms. There are only seven places at present in this empire where postal orders on foreign countries can be purchased or cashed, namely, Tokyo, Osaka, Kyoto, Yokohama, Kobe, Nagasaki, and Hakodate. Even this limited service is subject to further restrictions, inasmuch as money orders cannot be sent to every country in Europe or America, the existence of separate treaties with certain states necessitating the intervention of the Central Post Office. Only the orders of the Postal Union and of Germany can be directly dealt with by local post-offices in the above seven places. The programme ascribed to the Authorities by the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* is to extend to any post-office of the first class the same competence as that now exercised by the offices in Tokyo, Osaka, and so forth.

THE CABINET.

AFTER an interval of a few days, rumour is again rife in Tokyo to the effect that some changes are imminent in the Cabinet. Count Matsukata, it is stated, in deference to the repeated representations of Count Ito, Count Inouye, and Mr Mutsu, has consented to enter the Cabinet as Minister of Finance. At the same time Count Goto will leave the Ministry, his place being taken by Mr. Watanabe, now Minister of Finance, and the retiring Minister will be given a place in the Privy Council. This story is now circulated in certain quarters with an air of absolute confidence. It would be a great gain for the Cabinet, could Count Matsukata be persuaded to rejoin it. There is no denying that the ex-Premier's natural place is among the distinguished statesmen now in power. A man of a remarkable tenacity of purpose and of unquestioned integrity, he enjoys the confidence of the public as a thoroughly sound and practical financier.

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With regard to Count Goto, he has of late been the object of unsparing attack in the vernacular press. It has been observed that of whatever Department of State he assumes control, he is inevitably followed by a troop of astute persons who appear to be eagerly watching for opportunities of battening on unlawful gains obtained through the protection of their alleged patron. By the vernacular press these clever folks are now termed *sei-shō* (politico-merchants), from the fact that they are supposed to be half politicians and half merchants. Messrs Oye Taku, Hayashishi Yuzo, and a number of men less well known are usually included in the category. When Count Goto was Minister of Communications, the public complained of his proneness to show partiality towards these persons, and the complaints have become louder since he assumed the portfolio of Agriculture and Commerce. According to the press, the Premier, in view of this universal journalistic attack upon Count Goto, recently instructed Mr. Ito Miyoji, Chief Secretary of the Cabinet, to investigate the matter, the issue of the inquiry being far from favourable to the impugned Minister. We ourselves are strongly disposed to believe that the charges of irregularity and partiality brought against Count Goto are exaggerations assiduously circulated by his numerous political enemies. It is, moreover, conceivable that the politicians opposed to the Government desire, out of pure mischievousness, to see the Cabinet troubled first by a dissension among its members, and afterwards by the vigorous opposition of Count Goto, who, upon leaving office, is pretty sure to cause considerable embarrassment to those in power. These considerations combined make metropolitan papers of all sections rejoice at the rumour of his resignation.

COUNT OKUMA ON THE SITUATION.

ACCORDING to the report of an interview which a representative of the *Kokumin Shimbun* recently had with Count Okuma, the latter seems to be confident that the Radicals and Progressionists, unfriendly as they appear to be, will, at the supreme moment, be capable of working in concert. As to the rumours that the rupture between the two parties is the work of certain politicians in the Government, the Count is not inclined to believe it, but at the same time he cannot say that such a thing is wholly improbable. He significantly reminds his visitor of the cause of the bitter animosity between the same parties in 1883-1884. But, he goes on, the march of events can not be arrested by the petty schemes of politicians. The history of the connection between the two parties has unfortunately been such that opportunities are not infrequently afforded for wary politicians to revive the ancient feeling of antagonism between them. However, the experience of the past conclusively proves, in Count Okuma's opinion, that the two great sections of the Opposition are always capable of uniting whenever a necessity for union presents itself. Political parties are living things, and their occasional strifes and animosities are nothing more than a proof of their unfailing vitality. The one desideratum is that their leaders should be cool enough to take a large view of things and to avoid the danger of being drawn into the paltry quarrels of their followers. In conclusion, Count Okuma laughs at those who entertain fears that the Opposition may be disorganized and powerless in the fifth session of the Diet. He can not believe that the Popular Party will ever forsake the standard it has hitherto upheld with such signal success. Even should there be some base enough to adopt such a course their defection will be more than compensated by the rise of men worthier of the great cause.

JAPANESE EMIGRANTS TO BRITISH COLUMBIA.

REFERENCE is again made by the vernacular press to the case of the Japanese labourers who emigrated to British Columbia and there fared so unfortunately. According to the account now published, it would seem that eighty-four labourers, belonging to the prefectures of Kumamoto, Hiroshima, Okayama, and Wakayama, sailed for Victoria on the 29th of July. They placed implicit confidence in the story told them by the agents that immediately on landing in Columbia they would find employment at a minimum rate of a dollar and a half per diem, but they found, on reaching Victoria, that work was exceedingly difficult to procure. Finally it was decided that 33 of the number should go to Portland and the remainder to San Francisco, but when the latter batch attempted to land in San Francisco, they were restrained by the local authorities. Forced to return to Victoria, they were joined there by eight of their former comrades whose attempt to procure employment in Portland had been wholly unsuccessful. Without work and without money, starvation stared them in the face. They had to try to keep body and soul together with a mere handful of rice daily. At last they resolved to sacrifice everything for the purpose of returning to Japan. With the object they put together all the money in their possession, and devoted it to procuring a homeward passage for one of their number, who was instructed to arrange for the sale of everything convertible into coin which they owned in their native villages. This man reached Kobe on the 13th instant, and his tale having become known to the Hyogo Prefectural Authorities, he was sent for and asked many questions, but as three weeks had elapsed since he left his destitute comrades in Victoria, he was unable to give any definite account of their condition, and entertained fears that some of them might have died of starvation in the interval.

SILK CULTURE IN NEW SOUTH WALES.

ABOUT the year 1820 and onwards, says "H.C.F.," in the *Field*, attempts were made to induce Australian colonists to take up the industry of sericulture. The New South Wales Government a few months ago commissioned Mr. Walter Scott Campbell, of the Sydney department of mines, to inquire into the question of sericulture, and to issue a report on the present state of the industry there. Mr. Campbell, having completed his investigations, has just issued his report. It is by no means improbable that silk culture will be found sufficiently profitable to induce settlers to take it up, men who at present find but little, if any profit in the one or two farm crops they produce. The present producers of wool, says Mr. Campbell, would do well to add to their bow a silken—in addition to their present somewhat weakening woollen—string. In the United States there is a strong desire that the Government should provide knowledge and adequate means to enable its own agriculturists to profit by the local demand by its own manufacturers for raw silk. The supply at present is drawn wholly from foreign sources, Italy, France, China, and Japan being the only countries of supply. The conclusions to be drawn from the report are that, the mulberry tree growing with great luxuriance in many parts of the colony, settlers or farmers would be well advised to set apart a few acres of their farms for the cultivation of mulberry trees. It may be added, as an additional reason for this course of action, that the mulberry is a profitable food on occasions of the failure of national pasture for all kinds of stock. Women and children are quite capable of attending to the pruning of the trees and the gathering of the leaves. During the last few days of the rearing of the worms, the services of the men of the household will have to be called in, but there is no reason why the women of Australia should not, in a short time, be as expert silk raisers as their sisters in Europe. The Government is urged to start the industry in two or three centres, in which there should be an establishment where information of the very best sort may be available for everyone, and where instruction can be given. "To raise cocoons successfully demands very little physical strength, nor does it demand talent or skill of a high order, but it does demand intelligence, patience, perseverance, and system, from which there shall be not the slightest relaxation." The commencement of the sericultural industry can be traced to the time when the Marquis du Ray's New Ireland emigrants settled at "New Italy" in the county of Richmond, New South Wales. The Italian colonists found the rearing of silkworms a much easier matter than they did in their old homes. Here, then, are some practical results on which to go, and the results which these Italians have obtained have convinced many, who formerly ridiculed the whole business, that the Government should continue to assist the Italians, and should encourage others to enter upon the sericultural industry. Mr. Campbell concludes his interesting report with some suggestions as to the methods by which the Government might effectively aid, foster, and encourage sericulture without obtruding on or interfering with private enterprise.

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He thinks it will be necessary for the State to take some action, and afford some preliminary support to sericulture, before it can become an established industry The State will be quite justified, he adds, in its efforts and expenditure by the probability of this industry becoming of very great importance to the colony. Mr. Campbell says: "The more I reflect on the matter of sericulture, the more and more I am surprised that some branches of it have not been established in Australia. We might and should produce in New South Wales alone raw silk to the value of millions of pounds sterling with comparatively little labour."

UNIQUE TABLE DECORATION.

A DINNER was given a few evenings ago in Shanghai, that was certainly novel in its conception, and distinctly unique and pretty as regards the table decorations. It was a dinner given in payment of a wager lost at lawn tennis, and the hostess determined to make it appropriate to the game;—in fact, as she called it, a "tennis dinner." The table was laid out with a miniature tennis-court marked on it, the lines being indicated by red silk ribbons pinned to the cloth, while across the middle of the table a most realistic but diminutive net of white silk was stretched between two polished walnut posts, supported by white silk cords, above one of which waved a white flag bearing the number of the Country Club court in which the eventful game had been fought. A Lilliputian umpire's stand stood on one side, supported on the other by a correspondingly diminutive blackboard, the latter showing the numbers and appropriations of the various courts (written in chalk), from which it was to be noted that eight out of the twelve courts had been reserved for croquet,—a covert satire directed at the recently manifested predilection of many of the Country Clubites, and an allusion highly appreciated by the guests, all of whom, it is hardly necessary to state, were enthusiastic supporters of tennis. A red silk bag, containing miniature tennis-balls, lay near the net, while a narrow ribbon suspended from four little posts enclosed the whole in a manner similar to which match courts are roped off. The menu cards were ornamented with tennis designs while the guest-cards all bore appropriate tennis expressions, one redoubtable player's bearing "Five all, vantage-all," and that of the lucky winner of the wager, "Game and set," while the card inscribed with the name of a legal luminary was seen to read "wrong court."—*Mercury.*

LIEUTENANT GUNJI'S EXPEDITION.

IT is plain that Lieutenant Gunji's expedition continues to be a fiasco. He set out without reckoning the risks of the route chosen and without counting the chances for and against success on arrival at his destination. The result is that having lost two of his boats and a number of his men on the voyage, his remaining followers, instead of founding a flourishing, or at least a self-supporting colony, as was anticipated, are now objects of public charity. We have already alluded to the meeting organized last Sunday at the Koseikan by the *Gakuyen-kai*, for the purpose of raising funds to assist the party. Public sympathy was shown on that occasion by the numerous attendance—about a thousand persons being present—and in addition to the funds thus realized, about a hundred *yen* was subscribed at once, the principal donors being Viscounts Ogasawa, Enomoto, and Tani and Inspector-General Takagi. The officers of the Navy are also said to be interesting themselves on the Lieutenant's behalf Many of them who, under ordinary circumstances, would be disposed to lend aid to any reasonable project, are said to have shown a marked want of sympathy on this occasion from the outset, a frame of mind that does not at all surprise us. In view, however, of the distress that has overtaken the expedition, these officers have resolved to forget their original objections and to render any assistance in their power. It appears that a letter has been received from one of the Lieutenant's party, giving a very dismal account of their condition, and explaining that their fishing operations having proved very unsuccessful and their supply of money having run short, they see no prospect of being able to tide over the winter, and are in great distress as to the means of supporting the old folks and the children. The receipt of this intelligence, says the *Kokumin*, has induced the officers of the Navy to contribute for the purpose of sending a supply of provisions and stores to the party before the winter fairly sets in. There are now 117 persons in the Lieutenant's following—several having joined him at later dates—of whom 67 are men, 24 women, and 26 children. Through the intervention of the Headman of Iterup they were at first enabled to find shelter in sheds belonging to a Mr. Suhara, but they have now built a large hut on their own account, which serves their present purposes well enough, but is by no means secure against destruction by the heavy snow-falls and gales that prevail in that inclement climate during the winter. The food supply now on hand is sufficient for two months only, and there is naturally much anxiety among those directly interested in the fate of the party. A more improvident and ill-managed affair it would be difficult to conceive. Lieutenant Gunji set out amid loud plaudits uttered by the thoughtless multitude, who saw only material for admiration in his useless attempt to travel by a route well known to be dangerous and not calling for any effort of exploration. He and his too trustful followers are now objects of public charity. Truly the whole thing seems more pitiful than creditable.

THE NOBLES' BANK.

STATEMENTS have appeared in the vernacular press to the effect that in view of the expiration of the charter of the Nobles' Bank in 1897, the President sent circulars to the shareholders calling upon them to submit their opinions as to the policy which the Bank should pursue after that date. About twenty of the largest shareholders, each holding shares above *yen* 170,000, held a special meeting at the Rokumeikwan a day or two ago, when they are said to have decided to postpone replying to the circular till December next, and that the drafting of the future policy of the Bank should be entrusted to peers known for their ability and integrity. Whether to continue the present business by re-organizing the system into one of a private bank with the present capital, whether the capital should be reduced to a half or a third of what it now is and the remainder appropriated for other enterprises, or whether by dissolving the Bank altogether, the whole of the capital should be invested in some gigantic undertaking—all these are points now presenting themselves for the consideration of the influential shareholders of the Bank. One of the many enterprises attracting their attention is, according to the *Jiji*, that of applying to the Government for permission to let the Bank, or rather its shareholders, undertake the construction of the so-called Central Railway Route on the broad gauge system, as approved in the last session of the Diet.

TURKISH BATHS FOR YOKOHAMA.

INVITATIONS were issued to the public to inspect the new Turkish Baths, which are situated at 37, Water Street, opposite the Grand Hotel, and notwithstanding the heavy rain Wednesday afternoon a large number of persons availed themselves of the opportunity. The baths have been arranged under the superintendence of Mr. J. Smedley, architect, and the various rooms contain all the usual appliances of similar establishments at home, and include ordinary hot and cold water, douche, needle, and plunge baths. The cooling-room, which is upstairs, is comfortably furnished and prettily decorated, while ample ventilation is provided. The principal feature of the Turkish bath, and one of the factors of success in any establishment of the kind, is the quality of the massage to be obtained, and though we imagine that Japanese will make good shampooers when properly instructed in the work, *habitués* of the *bain Turc* will not be satisfied with the performance of the ordinary *amma*. We must point out to the management that a mistake has been made by putting down matting in the hot rooms, which, beside the wooden pillows, should contain nothing but the gas bracket and a thermometer, and the reason for this will soon make itself apparent. For obvious reasons also, the benches should be perfectly smooth with a slight fall towards the outer edge. The shampooing slabs appear to be too high for a Japanese of ordinary stature to do his work effectively at, but in all other respects the baths ought to satisfy an Agrippa, or Augustus himself. To the ordinary individual the Turkish bath is a luxury, but after a hard day's cricket or shooting, or any violent exercise, it is a great boon. It is more than 30 years ago that, through strong advocacy by a celebrated London physician, the opening of Turkish baths in several parts of London received a great impetus, and their institution in the provinces has since been continually on the increase. The baths are of undoubted value in gout and rheumatism, and a certain relief to persons with "liver," while as a cleansing process those who take the Turkish bath for the first time will be somewhat astonished at the result. The baths are to be opened shortly, and Mr. Culty is to be the manager.

HYPNOTIC EXPERIMENT

THE first hypnotic experiment ever publicly recorded in Japan, so far as we know, was conducted at the Tetsugaku-kan, Hongo, Tokyo, on the 16th instant, on the occasion of the resumption of studies after the summer vacation. After appropriate speeches had been delivered—says the *Mainichi Shimbun*—by Count Soyejima, Mr. Kato Hiroyuki, and Professor Inouye Tetsujiro, the Director of the institution, Mr. Inouye Enryo, made the experiment, a middle-aged farmer of robust frame being the subject The process pursued, apparently, was to walk slowly towards the man, gaze fixedly in his eyes for a time, move a pencil to and fro at a short distance from his face and stroke the backs of his hands gently. He was then observed to have lost command of his senses and fallen into a state of stupor. In that condition he was led to a platform. His eyes remained open, but he seemed like one walking in sleep and he uttered inconsequential speeches. Being handed a cup of water and told it was *saké*, he made a wry face and declared the liquor to be very strong. Cold objects became hot to him according to the statements of the hypnotizer, and he described the shapes of things which the latter had in his mind. We read, however, that a similar experiment had failed in the case of several pupils of the Institution who had previously submitted to a trial

POLITICAL AND PERSONAL.

BESIDES Count Goto, Mr. Yoshikawa, Minister of Justice, is reported to be about to tender his resignation. This is nothing but the revival of a rumour current in the capital some time ago. His efforts to induce some of the older Judges to resign have, it is said, evoked a loud clamour in the Judiciary. If he goes out, Mr. Kiyoura, Vice-Minister of Justice, may also resign. We reproduce the story for what is worth.

* * *

Particulars of the Radical campaign in Kyushu have not yet been published, but it seems that Mr. Hoshi's reception at Kumamoto was all that could be desired. He addressed a large meeting—several thousands of eager listeners are said to have been present,—and although a strong body of his opponents were prepared to obstruct his speech, he is reported to have completed his address without interruption.

* * *

The Progressionists received a sharp rebuff at a place in the Prefecture of Niigata. Mr. Ozaki had to leave the platform in the midst of his address. He was followed by Mr. Tanaka Shozo, who soon lost control of himself and cried out "You maggots," which caused such wild confusion that the meeting had to be dissolved. When Mr. Ozaki was leaving the place of meeting, he was attacked by a large

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number of *soshi*, who dealt him such violent blows that he is said to have lain senseless for some time.

* * *

The National Unionists, according to their organ in Tokyo, are making a successful tour in Kyushu. They are said to have received a most cordial welcome at Tsurusaki, Beppu, and Fukuoka.

* * *

The Tokyo News Agency, on the strength of information which it alleges to be perfectly trustworthy, declares that the rumours rife for the past few days as to Cabinet changes, are entirely groundless. The present Cabinet Ministers, we are told, accepted a grave responsibility towards the Emperor and the Diet last session when they undertook to put the Administration in order, and until they have discharged that responsibility there is not the least likelihood of their going out of office.

SUSPENSION OF A RELIGIOUS WORK.

THE public is unfortunately only too familiar with the suspension of newspapers and periodicals in Japan, but we believe that the law has now for the first time been put into operation against a religious work. The book which has the unhappiness to be thus distinguished is entitled *Shukyo to Kokka* (Religion and State). It is alleged by the *Nippon* to be a lecture delivered by a French missionary and annotated by a follower of his named Mr. Mayeda Chota. The lecture was delivered for the purpose of refuting Professor Inouye's recent pamphlet, *Shukyo to Kyoiku no Shototsu* (the Collision between Religion and Education). We do not learn whether it has been successful in that respect, but being deemed injurious to the maintenance of public peace, its sale was suspended on the 14th instant by order of the Minister of State for Home Affairs. It is greatly to be regretted that the name of any foreign missionary should be connected with a work which has fallen under the ban of the law.

IRON FOUNDRY INVESTIGATION COMMITTEE.

THE Committee recently appointed by Imperial Ordinance for the purpose of investigating the question of an iron foundry, is to hold its first meeting this morning in the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, the following two points being submitted for its consideration :— (1) A proposal to despatch experts to China for the purpose of inspecting the iron mines and works in that empire; (2) a proposal to defray out of the appropriation for the investigation the expenses of the report on the Kamaishi iron mine. The second of these propositions being altogether trifling, is not expected to evoke any discussion. The first alone is important, but in respect of it also unanimity of opinion is anticipated, the general view being that before any iron-foundry enterprise is inaugurated in Japan, the state of affairs in China should be ascertained by direct inspection. It is believed that a proposal will also be made relating to the inspection of iron mines in Japan.

THE COMMERCIAL TROUBLE IN AMERICA.

MR. JAMES E. WRIGHT, in an interesting essay published by *Donohoe's Magazine* for August, writes thus about the present commercial depression in the United States :—

Almost everybody agrees that the trouble has been brought about by the shipment of a certain quantity of gold metal to Europe not equal in value to one-tenth of any one of our chief agricultural products. We must now suffer dire distress until that gold returns. If it doesn't come back soon, the working people, thrown out of employment, must go hungry in the midst of the most abundant grain crops ever raised and go naked with plenty of textile fabrics in our warehouses.

The financiers of the money-lending centres tell us that when gold, which serves as a basis of our paper currency, is exported to a considerable extent, they are obliged to shorten sail to save themselves from shipwreck by locking up the paper currency, thereby contracting its volume and withholding it from the channels of trade. By their refusal to give the usual accommodations to merchants and manufacturers, the latter are forced into insolvency oftentimes with a surplus of assets over liabilities. Confidence is lost in the ability of the money-centres to pay the three or four dollars in paper with one in gold. A portion of the gold base has been removed by exportation or hoarding, and the paper superstructure must be hurriedly adjusted to the quantity of metal reserve remaining, or specie payments are entirely suspended, and a financial panic ensues, bringing wreck and ruin among the homes of the people. We know that gold has failed us in every crisis, deserted us in every emergency. "A government of the people, by the people, and for the people" would have perished from the face of the earth if gold had been relied upon to save it in 1861.

Must we continue helpless in our misery, whenever this metal to any extent takes its departure to foreign lands? Must 65,000,000 people, educated, energetic, self-governing, go hungry and naked in the very midst of the abundance which they have produced, because a small quantity of any metal taken from their mines has been shipped to Europe? Is there no way out?

This bottom which from time to time drops out, is said by the metal-basis people to be the only safe bottom. They say, gold is the only honest money—it is the money of the world, good everywhere at all times.

Now, money must possess the power to finally discharge debts. Yet the moment a gold dollar passes outside the United States, it is simply a piece of metal of a certain weight. Its legal-tender character, or power to discharge debts, has vanished. You can sell it by weight in a foreign country just as you can sell wheat, or corn, or iron or any other commodity.

In fixing a standard of value it is essential to select something that is as nearly as possible invariable. It should have the same purchasing power next week and the week after that it has now. But just here we are met by a singular peculiarity in the unit-of-value measure. A metal money-measure is itself a commodity.

There is no money of the world, gold or otherwise, and there never will be until it is declared by an international congress or the federation of the world. Whatever is declared to be money by the laws of a country is the money of that country. Any money material of commodity value is not only liable to exportation, but is sure to be exported at certain times and bring on a crisis.

Is it possible that human ingenuity, in this age of fertile resource, can devise no more accurate measure of value than one which condemns us for all time to the fate of Sisyphus? Must the toiling millions continue ever to roll the stone of industry to the top of the hill, only to find that it there escapes from them and crashes to the bottom, where they must begin again?

It seems to me that we can at least embody the following characteristics much more fully in the money of the future than has been the case in any money of the past:—

1. A money of uniform value throughout the country.
2. A money of possible volume to effect all the exchanges of commerce.
3. A money not liable to such expansion and contraction of volume as to cause perpetual fluctuations of values.
4. A national money not affected by convulsions and disasters abroad.

The above characteristics partly involve one another. Many acute thinkers believe them to be embodied to a considerable extent in the treasury note of the United States. These notes are of uniform value. Substitute greenbacks for the whole volume of paper notes now extant as currency but locked up and we get the second characteristic sought for. Greenbacks would not be locked up when gold fled the country, but would remain in the channels of trade. They would not be carried abroad to any extent, and consequently our volume of money, our measure of values, would remain just where it should be, at home. They would not be materially affected by disasters abroad. The treasury note is the whole people, not the money of the bankers with its metal-base delusion.

Under this system our debts abroad would be paid exactly as now. The wheat, beef, cotton, petroleum, and other commodities we export pay things we import, and if they don't balance we send them so many ounces or pounds of gold metal, not dollars. Gold and silver will be purchasable then as now; the only difference being that its export will make no difference with the volume of our circulating medium, and produce no fluctuation in prices and no such wide-spread and frightfully disastrous results as now prevail.

THE BEHRING SEA ARBITRATION.

IT is a point of very great interest to know the manner in which the American public regards the result of the Behring Sea Arbitration. We therefore reproduce the gist of the leading American journals' views, as collected in the *Literary Digest*:—

The *Herald* (Ind.), New York.—There should never been any dispute over Behring Sea, and hence never any occasion for arbitration. It was perfectly clear that the United States had no exclusive domain over that body of water and no right to control seal catching beyond the three-mile limit. It was equally clear that the only way to regulate sealing and protect the seals was by international agreement. Had these plain facts been recognized by our Government the matter would have been easily settled without serious dispute or any occasion for arbitration. But when Republican jingoism put in a claim to the whole sea, asserted the "absolute right" of the United States and insisted that England must recognize that right, a dispute, groundless but mischievous, was fomented which called for arbitration, and now has happily been settled by arbitration. As the *Herald* has already explained, the right claimed by the United States is denied on every point, but the protection of the seals, which is the chief end in view, has been secured. This substantial benefit has been gained by arbitration, though it might just as well have been secured by diplomacy, without raising a needless dispute.

The *Tribune* (Rep.), New York.—The Behring Sea decision has been received with satisfaction on both sides of the Atlantic. This is an unerring indication that the arbitration has been a drawn game in which each contestant has practically won the case. The main issue with Great Britain as a maritime Power was the freedom of large bodies of water. The arbitrators have ruled against the principle of exclusive jurisdiction, whether grounded upon the Russian cession or property rights in a seal-herd whose breeding-places were American jungles of beach. England secures her main contention, and her counsel have the satisfaction of knowing that they made out their case. The United States, on the other hand, have obtained their chief objective point in the protection of the herd, which was menaced with destruction. They were not successful in obtaining a decision in their favour on the abstract questions of jurisdiction or property rights involved in Article VI. But they have secured a substantial victory in the regulations which are established for the preservation of the seal. . . . The moral effect of international arbitration must not be overlooked. It is a distinct gain for civilization to have matters at issue between great nations submitted to a court of this high character. It is an object-lesson for Europe, with its circle of military camps and its impoverished populations staggering under the burdens of war taxation in a time of profound peace. England and the United States can well afford to pay the costs of an arbitration which exerts a beneficial educational effect in promoting the ends of peace and good will among nations. If the results of the arbitration are equally satisfactory to England and the United States, the object-lesson is the more valuable for the humane ends of civilization.

The *Public Ledger* (Ind. Rep.), Philadelphia.—Although the finding of the Behring Sea Arbitration Tribunal is wholly in favour of Great Britain with respect to the claim made by the United States as to the jurisdiction and the history of such claims, the regulations agreed upon by the Tribunal are wholly in favour of the United States. Great Britain has won a technical victory, while United States get the substantial fruits of arbitration. The result was not unexpected. This country had a very good case, which did not fail within the lines drawn by international law. The Tribunal has refused to strain or stretch general international law in order to provide protection for the seal industry, but it has reached the result aimed at by providing liberal regulations, binding upon both nations, for the protection of the seals. The jurisdiction of the United States over the waters of the Behring Sea, so far as the hunting of seals is concerned, is extended far beyond the usual three-mile limit, but only as a matter of agreement, and this agreement binds, of course, only the contracting parties, who however, are "to coöperate in securing the adhesion of other powers to such regulations."

The *Patriot* (Dem.), Harrisburgh.—The results now achieved could have been obtained four years ago were the late Administration not a jingo one. Points of difference were about to be settled amicably when the jingoists accused the Cleveland Administration of playing into the hands of England because it did not claim exclusive jurisdiction of the Behring Sea, and the recent Administration at once set up the claim of ownership.

The *Times* (Ind.), Philadelphia.—It is needless to discuss whose fault this was. It was the fault of every one who was willing to see the dignity of the nation subordinated to domestic politics. As a matter of fact, it was the rejection by the Senate of the Canadian fisheries treaty, for purely partisan reasons, that ended the negotiations concerning the seal-interests which promised a result almost identical with that just reached.

The *Times* (Dem.), New York.—It seems to us that the most amicable and just settlement of this question of damages would be by a "stand off" of the claims of one side against those of the other. The decision of the arbitrators on the questions of jurisdiction leaves no warrant in international law for the seizures, and makes us technically liable for the damage done by them. They were made under an interpretation of our own laws which construed "the waters of Alaska" as extending far beyond the line of our jurisdiction as defined by the Paris tribunal. But, on the other hand, the decision of the arbitrators carries an admission that the pelagic sealing worked a serious injury to our undoubted rights and property interests at the Pribyloff Islands, and was a national and international wrong. The money-loss to American citizens and to the United States Government through the depletion of the seal herds by this wrongful slaughter was undoubtedly much greater than that of British subjects through the seizure of the marauding vessels. Why not let each Government settle the matter with its own citizens and call it square as between themselves.

The *Nation* (Ind.), New York.—It is clear to any one who will read the official correspondence that the Paris arbitrators have simply put us back

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where we were in 1890, and have given us, after three years of tremendous shedding of ink and discharge of argument and a costly arbitration, only what we might have had then for the asking. From the very beginning, the British Government showed itself willing to come to an amicable agreement about a close season. Mr. Bayard was in a fair way to secure from Lord Salisbury in 1888 all that was needed, with the additional advantages of having Russia a party to the agreement, when the Presidential election and the request of Canada for delay broke off the negotiations.

The *Evening Star* (Ind.) Washington.—That such a controversy should be settled by arbitration with a verdict in which both nations acquiesce without a protest, is in itself a most satisfactory thing. . . . . Exactly all that the United States gains by the decision may not be definitely known until the experts, having knowledge of the natural conditions prevailing about the seal islands, have weighed all the provisions of the decree, but it seems at least to be a substantial gain to have the fisheries protected against the ravages of Canadian and other poachers, by a law which all nations will recognize and which will require no gunboats to enforce.

The *Eagle* (Dem.), Brooklyn.—The American arbitrators are reported to say that the decision will put an end to pelagic sealing. That is the whole is practical subject of contention. If this offence, by whomsoever committed, is effectually stopped, a *modus vivendi* will be established for all concerned, and a manner of living for the seals themselves. That is what the United States contended for. It is all the United States asked for. It is what the United States has secured.

The *Press* (Rep.), Philadelphia. The United States has lost its argument and won its cause. The primary contention of the United States has been that its property rights in the seals breeding on the Pribyloff Islands had or needed to have a special protection under international law. The finding made yesterday denies that the seals have such a protection, admits that they need it, and prescribes regulations giving it, which are considerably in advance of those the United States once stood ready to accept, and far more stringent than any ever proposed by Great Britain.

The *Mail and Express* (Rep.), New York.—It is a significant fact that the point on which the United States has won is the "public good" end of the controversy which Mr. Blaine put forward so effectively early in the correspondence between the United States and Great Britain, and it was on this ground that the close season was instituted both in the Pacific Ocean and in Behring Sea.

The *Times* (Dem.), Richmond.—Readers of the *Times* will not be at all surprised that the decision of the arbitrative tribunal is against the United States. We always told our readers that it was preposterous in Messrs. Blaine and Harrison to assert rights in Behring Sea for the United States different from those belonging to other nations. Behring Sea is part of the Pacific Ocean, open to all men, as we have always told our readers, and the arbitrative tribunal has now authoritatively settled that to be the law.

The *Daily Picayune* (Dem.), New Orleans.—A more complete diplomatic defeat and loss of international prestige it would be difficult to conceive. It was true that we did not agree to any of the preliminaries without a protest, but the very firmness of our early claims makes the later yielding the more humiliating. As a result of the decision, the United States not only ceases to have any special jurisdiction in Behring Sea, but is actually committed by previous pledge to reimburse the Canadian sealers for the losses they suffered through the efforts of our cruisers to enforce our pretensions in the disputed waters.

The *Herald* (Ind.), Chicago.—The decision of the court of arbitration on the subject of dispute between the United States and Great Britain as to the rights of seal fishing in Behring Sea was rendered yesterday at Paris, and is in favour of Great Britain on every point of real dispute.

THE SOMA CASE

CONTRARY to rumour, the preliminary investigations in the Soma case do not seem to be nearly finished. The examination of the prisoners and witnesses is still going on as before. Recently Mr. Nishigori was confronted with Marquis Asano, Viscount Hojo, and Shinoume Shige. The last named is believed to have given satisfactory replies to Mr. Nishigori's questions. The analysis of the internal organs of the late Viscount Soma has not yet been completed.

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The most recent story about the affair is that the late Viscount Soma's wife did not suffer from the physical disabilities attributed to her by Mr. Nishigori and his supporters. According to the *Fukushima Minpo*, she is reported to have been guilty of infidelity to her lord during his confinement in the family prison, her paramour being a man named Tomita Fukuzo, an assistant steward of the family. Finally she became *enceinte*, and in order to conceal her disgrace she committed suicide. Her husband, it is added, obtained intelligence of the unlawful relation between her and Tomita, and his alleged acts of violence were for the most part perpetrated against the guilty retainer.

* * *

Mr. Idogawa Chû, justly regarded as the originator of the Soma question, has brought against the prisoners in the present case of murder by poison a fresh and independent charge of unlawfully confining the late Viscount Soma and thereby causing his death.

ALLEGED POACHING IN JAPANESE WATERS.

PROMINENCE is again given to the question of alleged poaching in Japanese waters by foreign vessels. The *Fiji Shimpo* declares that within the short period of four months from April to August of the present year, scores of "poaching vessels" entered Hakodate harbour, laden with the skins of some 38,000 seals and otters. So successful were these illegal operations that the poachers indulged in extensive carousing and drank up all the alcoholic beverages to be found in Hakodate. The Chief of Customs at the port could not refrain from sending in an account of the matter, though it lay outside his province. The *Fiji* adds that even the women of Hakodate were indignant at the thought of such great gains being secured by foreigners, to Japan's detriment, and goes on to urge that the authorities should adopt stringent measures to check the depredations of the strangers. We learn from the same source that Mr. Murata Tamotsu, a well known member of the House of Peers and President of the Japan Fishery Society, is zealously seeking to remedy this evil state of affairs. His idea is that while, on the one hand, suitable measures of restraint must be taken by the Government, the people themselves should show some energy in securing the gains now monopolized by foreigners. In pursuance of the latter programme, he purposes organizing a company for engaging in the sealing business on a large scale, and it is not improbable that the association thus formed will be amalgamated with the Imperial Fishery Company. Mr. Murata has visited the Ministers of State and urged upon them the necessity of a really active policy of protection. Last year three men-of-war were sent for the purpose, but they made no captures, and apparently some Japanese imagine that their abortive effort encouraged the poachers to resume operations this year in still greater numbers.

* * *

We wonder on what authority the *Fiji Shimpo* and apparently the Chief of Hakodate give the name of poachers to all the foreign sealing vessels that put into that port. Our contemporary must surely be aware that pelagic sealing having been carried on last year with remarkable success, numerous vessels were this year equipped for the same enterprise—a perfectly lawful enterprise, which disturbs no rights of property and is carried on by men of strict integrity. How are vessels that have been engaged in that trade to be distinguished, after they enter a port, from schooners that have really been poaching? We are disposed to think that the Japanese give themselves a great deal of needless trouble about this question of sealing. The fact that men-of-war fail to seize any trespassing schooners is most probably because there are no trespassing schooners to be seized. At any rate, instead of so vehemently attacking the Government's alleged failure to prevent these supposed depredations, the true course is for the Japanese themselves to organise means of capturing the valuable products of their own waters, instead of abandoning them to strangers. Is it not farcical to find vernacular newspapers recording, one week, that a Japanese Fishing Company's operations for a whole year are represented by a few hundred skins, and then announcing the next week, that foreign schooners have put into a Japanese port with tens of thousands of skins obtained in Japanese waters? The Japanese ought to be able to exploit their own waters better than outsiders coming from a distance of thousands of miles can exploit them.

* * *

And yet the Japanese show, by their successful fishing operations on the coast of Korea, that they also are capable of carrying their enterprise into foreign waters. There is, of course, nothing illegal in these operations. The Trade Regulations of 1883 between Japan and Korea provide that in for exchange fishing privileges conceded to the Koreans along the coast of Hizen, Chikuzen, Nagato, Iwami, Izumo, and Tsushima, the Japanese shall be free to fish along the coast of Zenra, Keishyo, Kankyo, and Kogen. The Koreans indeed do not seem to have derived any benefit from the opportunities accorded to them by this convention; we have never heard that any of their fishermen show themselves in Japanese waters. But numbers of Japanese from Yamaguchi, Hiroshima, Fukuoka, and Nagasaki proceed annually to the Korean coasts, and there—we quote from the *Nippon*—organize companies, the boats of which work together, some carrying the fish captured to Shimonoseki, while the rest remain working at the fishing grounds. Sales are effected in Shimonoseki and the proceeds are sent by post to the families of the fisher-folk. Sometimes, however, it is found more convenient to sell the fish to the Koreans in exchange for rice, inasmuch as the boats carry only *miso* (sauce) and salt from Japan. As to the number of fishermen and boats employed in the business, the latter are estimated by a competent authority at 2,500, and the former at 10,000.

THE ALLEGED CORRUPTION OF A KOREAN OFFICIAL BY JAPANESE MERCHANTS.

CONCERNING the alleged corruption of a Korean official by Japanese merchants in connection with the indemnity question, Mr. Kajiyama Shinsuke, one of the impugned merchants, emphatically denies the truth of the story. When Nin Okô, the Korean official in question, was despatched to Gensan to make investigations *in loco*, the Japanese merchants residing at that place daily awaited direct queries from him. Instead of putting such queries, he made it his sole business to arrest all Koreans who had traded with Japanese and to extort bribes from them. His unlawful extortions made the people of the locality ascribe their misfortunes not to the capacity of their own officials but to the presence of Japanese in their country. The news of the Korean official's injustice and cruelties having reached the ears of the Japanese merchants at Gensan, the Chamber of Commerce there at once sent an agent to ascertain the truth of the alleged acts of extortion. The agent soon returned confirming the story in all its essential points. Immediately, the matter was brought to the notice of the Japanese Consul, Nin reported to his superiors that the amount of damage inflicted on the Japanese merchants was 73,000 *yen*. If he had been bribed by the Japanese, he would have put the figures at a sum satisfactory to them. Moreover, the Japanese merchants in question were at the time so poor that even had they been willing to bribe, they would have been at a loss to raise one-tenth of the amount said to have been given to the Korean official. The allegation is a pure fabrication. Such, in brief, is the gist of the story told by Mr. Kajiyama. He imagines that General Le Gendre and Mr. Greathouse have something to do with the inception of this absurd story, but we cannot credit anything of the kind.

VISCOUNT ENOMOTO ON EMIGRATION.

A REPRESENTATIVE of the *Choya Shimbun* has interviewed Viscount Enomoto on the subject of emigration. The Viscount did not, so far as we can discern, propound any new views. Having explained that the population of the empire is increasing at the rate of two hundred thousand annually, and that unless some means of relev-

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ing the inevitable congestion be provided, great distress must ultimately ensue, His Excellency went on to declare that in his opinion emigration for the purpose of forming colonies is the only resource. He dwelt upon the remarkable success achieved by Chinese colonists in various places, and spoke with satisfaction of the Japanese immigrants in Hawaii, though their condition as contract labourers left, in his opinion, something to be desired. He did not underestimate the advantages offered by Hokkaido, but he maintained that where a choice was possible between a hot and cold climate, the former should be selected, since the return obtainable there by labour was so much larger than in a cold climate. On the whole, he considered Mexico to be the most promising field for Japanese colonization, inasmuch as marked physical differences were not observable between its people and the Japanese, and there was a great want of labour, and capital, so great, indeed, that large tracts of land were left uncultivated and could be purchased on very easy terms. As to the manner of managing colonization, the Viscount thought that a company should be formed with a capital of from 1½ to 3 million *yen*, the objects to be pursued by the Company being the acquisition and distribution of land, the conveyance of emigrants, the purchase of food stuffs and other necessaries, the building of houses, and the business of general administration. He believed that a profit of 20 per cent. might ultimately be realised on the capital, but inasmuch as nothing of the kind could be expected at the outset, the Government should be asked to guarantee five per cent on the paid-up capital for a period of from three to five years.

NAGASAKI ANNALS.

THE Governor of Nagasaki, we read in a vernacular paper, is engaged collecting the annals of Nagasaki with the intention of printing them, in view of their bearing upon the foreign relations of Japan. From the earliest days of the country's intercourse with the outside world Nagasaki has been the principal scene of that intercourse, and its annals comprise innumerable facts of the greatest importance to the historian. It does not appear, however, that any attempt has hitherto been made to save from destruction or effacement the various documents now existing in manuscript only, as for example the *Nagasaki Yobanashi-gusa* (Nagasaki Night Talk), the *Nagasaki Minato-gusa* (Talk of Nagasaki Harbour), the *Nagasaki-Ki* (Annals of Nagasaki), and so forth. The *Mainichi Shimbun* says that the Mayor of Nagasaki and other persons of influence in the locality are much interested in the project of Governor Omori, and are disposed to give him every possible assistance. The idea is excellent, and will be applauded by all students of history.

ALCOHOL AND ITS CONSEQUENCES.

THE Venerable Archdeacon Farrar, writing in the *Humanitarian*, speaks about the curse of drunkenness in words that deserve to be universally circulated. We quote a condensation of his admirable essay:—

Let us consider the facts. Let us first observe that the number of drunk and disorderly cases for twenty five years is no fewer than 4,268,022. We often repeat facts and figures, but this comes with terrible force when we remember that not one in twenty of the drunkards is arrested.

Pauperism has extended enormously. The Chairman of the Coventry Board of Guardians has said that he has never seen an abstainer come to the workhouse for relief, and this is true concerning fifteen other workhouses. With regard to crime, Lord Chief Justice Coleridge once said that nine gaols out of every ten in England would be shut but for drink, and Mr. Justice Fitzgerald has stated that drunkenness is a crime which we might well say leads to nineteen-twentieths of the crime of this country. With regard to lunacy Mr. Mulhall, a high authority, tells us that forty-eight per cent. of the idiocy in England arises from the drunkenness of parents, and that one-third of all the insanity in the United Kingdom is the effect of drink. With regard to divorce, Sir James Hannen told us that seventy-five out of every hundred divorce-cases are brought about by drink.

The *Black Record*, published by the United Kingdom Alliance, consisting merely of cuttings from newspapers, shows from the reports of the common courts of justice, that in a single fortnight 406 cases of crime arising out of drink were dealt with. This waste of souls through drink is nothing less than infamous. In spite of all that has been said and done, scarcely one effective measure has been passed for the protection of society, the assistance of the weak and defenceless, and the sensible curtailment—not to say repression—of sources of moral demoralization which may be brought under the control of law.

The subject has direct bearing upon those great social problems of the future. I am convinced that the Church can do nothing more directly calculated to assist the solving of our social problems than by using the force of its influence, legislatively and non-legislatively, so as to drive the curse of intemperance from the land.

The first of the non-legislative remedies suggested is the spread of education, but especially the warning against the dangers likely to occur through the use of stimulants. The second is the increase of the Bands of Hope. Cardinal Wiseman once said, "Give us the children, and in twenty years the Nation will be Catholic." The advocates of temperance can say, "Give us the children, and in twenty years the Nation will be, if not altogether temperate, yet far more temperate than it is." The third of these remedies is increased action of temperance societies. As to the use of these societies, I have only to quote the words of that great and good man, Lord Shaftesbury:—

"As I go up and down through the length and breadth of England, I am more and more convinced of the indispensable necessity for these associations. I am satisfied that, unless they existed, we should be immersed in such an ocean of immorality, violence, and sin as would make this country uninhabitable."

As to total abstinence, I have never said that it was the individual duty of any man to be a total abstainer. I have always said that it is a question for individual freedom, for the dictates of the individual conscience, and the lessons of ordinary wisdom dictated by the circumstances in which the individual finds himself placed. But natural propensity is in the direction of license rather than of noble self control. It is as much my right to say that I never intend to touch alcohol as it is my right to say that I will not touch *pâté de foie gras*. Alcohol is a lethal agent which creates a craving for itself. When chloral was shown to be a lethal agent, the law controlled its sale. Yet for the infinitesimal amount of injury done by chloral a millionfold more damage is caused by alcohol.

This brings me to the legislative remedies, and to the words of the heir to the throne, when he said "If evils are preventable, why not prevented?"

How any one can say that legislation is not essential, passes my power of understanding.

Is the Church awake? I must, if I will be truthful, and not flattering, give an emphatic answer in the negative. In one sense the Church is awake; but we are now speaking of the united efforts to annul the interminable and intolerable evil which is the root of crime and the conception of soul, and which, as Mr. Gladstone said, has inflicted greater calamities than the three great historical scourages—war, famine, and pestilence—combined. As a corporate body the Church has never done that which she could have done, and what she ought to have done.

Daniel Webster once said:—"If I thought there was a stain on the remotest hem of the garment of my country, I would use my utmost labour to wipe it off." We have something more than stain on the remotest hem of the garment of our country, and it is the duty of every one of us to use his utmost efforts to wipe it off. If we have any pity for the numberless souls suffering under the curse of drink, if our prayer "Thy Kingdom Come," be anything but a deplorable hypocrisy, it is our duty to do all we can to minimize and mitigate, if we cannot entirely put down, this intolerable and interminable curse.

THE WEAVERS STRIKE AT NISHIJIN

IT seems, according to the *Nippon* and *Shogyo Shimpo*, that a strike of the orthodox type is now going on amongst the weavers of cotton flannel at Nishijin. Taking advantage of the present season when most of the orders from traders come in, the weavers demanded that the rate received by them of 5 *sen* per *tan* should be raised to 7 *sen*. This meant an increased payment of *yen* 160 on the present daily average turn-out of 8,000 *tan*. The operatives were informed that their request could not be granted and they were advised so resume work. But they were stubborn and, failing to have the matter settled to their satisfaction, more than 300 stopped work on the 11th inst. Many are said to be willing to continue as before, but are afraid of intimidation by the ringleaders who keep moving round to see that the agreement to abstain from work is adhered to. Naturally there is much distress amongst them.

THE NIPPON RACE CLUB.

THE forthcoming Autumn Meeting bids fair to be a great success, as probably each of the three classes of animals used for racing purposes by the Club will be represented by a batch of subscription griffins, though there will be but little time to prepare the Japan ponies and half-breds. Viscount Fujinami's offer of Shimosa half-breds at $80 was at once accepted, the list filling in a few days, and a man has also been sent to select a number of Nambu ponies. The training of the China sub. griffins is in active progress, and if the other mobs arrive in time there will be about sixty animals available, an amount of material far surpassing that of any recent year.

* * *

Since the above was in type we learn that the half-breds are expected to arrive from Tokyo this afternoon, and will be drawn in Mr Durand's yard about half past four. The Japanese ponies from Nambu are expected to reach Yokohama on the 24th inst., but on receipt of more definite information by the Committee subscribers will be duly notified.

A LADY'S BACK-HAIR.

MR. LABOUCHERE asks:—"Can any reader of *Truth* tell me where to find a young lady with (natural) hair more than 6ft. 9in. in length? A member of the Reform Club (belonging, I take it, to one of the old Whig families) has a relative whose hair reaches the aforesaid length, and he has asked me to try and find out whether this is, in the language of sport, "a record." I feel a delicacy myself about asking my lady friends to let me measure their back-hair; but I am confident that in the event of any lady possessing locks measuring 6ft. 9in. her friends will have heard about it, and be willing to divulge the secret. I don't know whether my friend at the Reform Club intends to offer a prize to any one who can beat his record; but I would suggest that, if the Committee would allow him to get up a show of back-hair at the Club, it would be a new and attractive feature in that institution."

THE QUEEN'S VISIT TO GERMANY.

"ATLAS," in the *World*, says:—The Emperor William's real object in coming to England this year was to obtain a pledge from the Queen that, all being well, she will visit the German Court next spring. A vague promise was given when the Emperor and Empress were at Windsor in 1891 that the Queen would return their visit soon, but it has not yet been fulfilled, and the Emperor is getting feverishly anxious to have the time and place positively fixed. The Queen will not go to Berlin or to Potsdam, so it is probable that it will be arranged for the Emperor and Empress to entertain her Majesty at Coblentz, either at the Electoral Palace, which was for many years the favourite residence of the Empress Augusta, or at the well-known Castle of Stolzenfels, on the Rhine, where the Queen and Prince Albert were the guests of King Frederick William IV. of Prussia in August 1845.

KOREAN NEWS.

A CORRESPONDENT at Fusan writes:—On the 3rd inst. there was great atmospheric disturbance all over Korea, extending, in fact, to Vladivostock. At Fusan and Vladivostock the gale was very severe. The barometer at Fusan fell to 29 5 with a rainfall of 1½ inch. At Chemulpo and Gensan the wind was of less force, but at the latter place, a rainfall of 16 inches did much damage. Apart from heavy losses among Korean junks, the rice and bean crops have suffered terribly. In the two southern provinces the force of the wind blighted the rice-fields, causing a panic in the rice market, where the prices rose $2 per *koku*. Shipments in that staple have been recalled from Japan, and Japanese rice is now being imported. The outlook for the coming year is therefore very gloomy.

MORE SHIPPING FACILITIES.

ACCORDING to an American paper, "a traffic contract has been the result of the negotiations of F. C. Davidge, of the firm of Messrs. Samuel Samuel & Co., of London, with the Great Northern line and the Seattle Chamber of Commerce, and the arrangement is regarded as of great importance. A line of steamers will be put on the run between China and Japan, Victoria,

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and Seattle. It is conceded that the new line will add immensely to the commercial value of Seattle and its surroundings. The service is in direct competition with existing lines."

THE JAPANESE REPRESENTATIVE IN ROME.

THE *Mainichi Shimbun* has a peculiar article on the subject of the Representative of Japan at the Court of Rome. No special diplomatic aptitude is required, says our contemporary, to discharge the duties of the post. The one essential is that its occupant shall have money. The Japanese Ministers in Peking and Sŏul have arduous duties to perform and are often required to deal with more or less serious complications, but the Representative in Rome has only to entertain and make himself agreeable to the fashionable society of that city. To do that, however, he must have ample means and must be prepared to spend freely. When Marquis Nabeshima was in Rome, he made a great success, not on account of any special ability displayed by him, but because he spent two hundred thousand dollars of his own fortune on entertainments, and thus acquired the reputation of being one of the most hospitable and genial hosts in Rome. Marquis Asano succeeded to the post simply an account of his wealth. Before he went to Rome, he learned that the best way to ingratiate himself with society was to make presents to the peers of limited fortunes whom he should meet in the Imperial City, and for that purpose he carried to Italy a quantity of objects of art which he distributed freely, thus winning universal favour in a short time. Among the articles thus distributed by the Marquis some of the most esteemed are said to have been *hina ningyo*. It now seems that Mr. Nakashima Nobuyuki has obtained leave to return from Rome, nominally for the benefit of his wife's health, but probably in reality because he finds the scale of expenditure too great for his purse. The fact is that the one requisite in a Japanese who proceeds to Rome as Minister is money. He need not know French; he need not know Italian; he must simply have money and be prepared to spend it.

* * *

Such are the views of the *Mainichi Shimbun*. We quote them because it is interesting to note the curious ideas entertained by certain classes of Japanese about foreign affairs. It would be as reasonable to say that the Italian Representative in Tokyo has no diplomatic duties as it is to make that assertion of the Japanese Representative in Rome. At all events, to represent his Sovereign in society is one of the chief functions of every Ambassador or Minister everywhere. In the fact that the *Mainichi Shimbun* finds such a function extraordinary, and is sarcastic about the expense involved in its discharge, we see nothing except a proof of the *Mainichi Shimbun's* inexperience. If among her nobility Japan can find men wealthy enough, ambitious enough, and patriotic enough to accept diplomatic missions to great European capitals, and to devote a portion of their own fortune to maintaining the honour and reputation of their country at the courts to which they are accredited, so much the better for Japan.

THE LOSS OF THE "FLORENCE TREAT."

THE Douglas steamer *Fokien*, says the *Hongkong Daily Press* of the 13th inst., yesterday brought news of the wreck of the British barque *Florence Treat* at Breaker Point on Friday night last. The vessel was on a voyage from Singapore to Shanghai laden with timber, and during the night of the 8th was driven helplessly on to the rocks by the high wind and soon became a total wreck. Only three lives were saved out of the twenty-three souls on board, and these only by a miracle. The captain's son, a Chinaman, and a Malay were cast ashore by the waves comparatively unhurt, and proceeded on foot to Swatow, forty miles distant. They arrived there at 10 a.m. on Monday and were immediately taken before Mr. Simpson, the Commissioner of Customs, and their wants attended to. The captain of the *Florence Treat*, his wife, four children and fourteen of the crew (Chinese and Malays) were drowned. The little boy whose life was saved says that he saw the body of his mother on the shore the morning after the disaster. The *Florence Treat* was a British barque of 724 tons register, built in 1865 at Brewer, U.S.A., and owned by Mr. A. C. Lamanne. She belonged to Sydney, N.S.W. Her length was 152ft. 4in., beam 33ft. 3in. and depth 20ft. 5in. She was commanded by Captain A. C. Poulson.

CUSTOMS RETURNS.

THE following is a summary of the Customs Returns for August, showing the foreign trade of the empire for the month :—

	1892 SILVER YEN.	1893 SILVER YEN.
Exports	8,485,662 240	7,635,764 500
Imports	5,925 564,530	8,000,046 130
Total exports and imports		15,635,811,630
Excess of imports		364,281 630

CUSTOMS DUTIES.	SILVER YEN.
Exports	180,122 570
Imports	270 362 567
Miscellaneous	10,231 527
Total	460,716,664

TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS TO AND IMPORTS FROM VARIOUS FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

	Exports. Silver Yen.	Imports. Silver Yen.	Total. Silver Yen.
Great Britain	398,976,090	2,465,309 760	2,864,285,850
France	2,005,306,070	420,719 820	2,426,025,890
United States of America	1,779,480,540	426,066,030	2,205,516,570
Hongkong	1,209,327 150	957,641 050	2,156,968 200
China	878,454,470	1,116,294,380	2,994,748,150
British India	221,884,070	839,073,270	1,060,957,270
Germany	98,267,580	853,853,970	952,120,890
Canada & other British America	354,540,410	259,000	354 607,410
Korea	180,210,700	147,227,380	327,438,080
Russia	79,005 600	287 363,620	366,569,220
Italy	175,017,380	5,695 580	180,712,940
Belgium	3,465 540	124,806,060	128,271,600
Philippine Islands	25,600,860	95,878,200	121,539,060
Australia	78,285,480	9,320,450	88,505,870
Switzerland	17,027,000	42,731 770	59,758,770
Holland	4,393 500	8,423 820	12,817 320
Austria	11,890,000	1,954,360	13,345 360
Hawaii	6,628,740	—	6,628 740
Spain	372,000	3,959,680	4,331 680
Turkey	578 000	10,000	588,000
Portugal	85 600	371 540	457 140
Peru	—	283 160	283,160
Sweden & Norway	—	59,480	59 480
Other Countries	57 281,580	324,811,030	382,092 550
Total	7,504,429,970	8,000,046 130	15,504,476,100

TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS AND IMPORTS FROM AND TO EACH PORT.

	Exports. Silver Yen	Imports. Silver Yen.	Totals. Silver Yen.
Yokohama	4,868,637,160	3,629,536,830	8,498,173,830
Kobe	2,064,823,690	3,665,388 220	5,730,422,860
Osaka	214,778 580	389,853,940	604 630 520
Nagasaki	288,405,890	805,719 600	554,125,490
Hakodate	82,705,320	5,830,200	88,805 420
Niigata	634,470	—	634 470
Shimonoseki	29,754,490	39,961 490	69,715,780
Moji	63,882,000	—	65,882,000
Kakata	1,216 500	282,930	1,399 430
Kamtsu	18,736 000	—	18,736 000
Kuchinotsu	242,564 400	—	242,564 400
Idzugahara	277 320	2,247,080	2,524,400
Shishimi	366 260	1,178 050	1,544,120
Sasuna	880,020	249,200	1,130,220
Otaru	28,062,500	—	28,062 500
Specie and Bullion Exports			1,767,164 580
Specie and Bullion Imports			466,857,710
Total			2,234,022 290
Excess of exports			1 300,306 870

VALUE OF EXPORTS AND IMPORTS BY JAPANESE MERCHANTS AND GOVERNMENT.

By Japanese Merchants	Exports	1,185,068,210
	Imports	1,448,182,130
Imported by Government		30 870 740

A PLAGUE OF WASPS.

THE plague of wasps in the southern counties of England, says the *Chronicle* of the 3rd ult., is assuming really serious dimensions. Grocers' and butchers' shops can hardly be entered, and in the latter the meat exposed is covered with thousands of the insects and is literally eaten away in large patches. Already we have heard of sheep being attacked by clouds of wasps and stung to death, and now a correspondent informs us that a driving tour through Surrey had to be abandoned because the horses were so severely stung that they are unable to proceed.

MR. MISAKI MICHIYASU.

THE *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* says that Mr. Misaki, Chief of the Yokohama Foreign Settlement Police, was removed to Nagasaki on the 18th inst., his position being taken by Mr. Udaka in conjunction with his post of Chief of the Police Section on the Kanagawa Prefectural Police.

PROMENADE CONCERT.

THE promenade concert in aid of the Convent Orphanage on Monday afternoon must have added considerably to the funds of the institution. The Bluff Gardens were well filled from the early afternoon by visitors to listen to the strains of the fine band of the *Kaiserin Elisabeth*, while a booth for refreshments, attended by ladies of Yokohama, was well patronised. Altogether the affair was a most successful one, and thanks are due to the ladies who undertook the care of the refreshment stall and the Captain and officers of the Austrian man-of-war.

MR. J. R. POLLEY RELEASED.

MR. J. R. POLLEY, who was, it will be remembered, fined $50 for Contempt of Court by the U.S. Consul-General, W. D. Tillotson, Esq., last Saturday week, and ordered to be kept in gaol until the fine was paid, was released from prison by the U.S. Consul-General on Monday morning, but he is still subject to the action of the Court if necessary.

ADDITIONS TO THE CORPS DIPLOMATIQUE IN TOKYO.

THE staff of the Imperial Russian Legation in Tokyo lately received two additions in the person of Colonel C. de Wogack, of the Russian *Etat Major*, who comes to the East in the capacity of *Agent Militaire de Russie en Chine et au Japon*, and Mr. G. A. Kozakow, *Jeune de Langues*.

"CROWN OF ENGLAND" ASHORE.

IT is reported by Captain Anderson of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha steamer *Miike Maru*, that the Northern Pacific Railway Co.'s steamer *Crown of England*, which left here for Seattle at 6.20 a.m. on the 21st inst., ran on a shoal near Futtsu, Soshu. The Agents, Messrs. Samuel Samuel and Co., immediately took steps to render the vessel assistance, but before aid arrived on the spot she had got off and proceeded.

LIEUTENANT GUNJI.

A TELEGRAM from Nemuro received by the *Asahi Shimbun* states that Lieutenant Gunji's party arrived there on the 16th instant in the *Taiyo Maru*. Lieutenant Gunji and seven of his followers left for Shimushu in the *Iwaki Kan* the same day.

A COMPROMISE.

A KOBE telegram received by the *Jiji Shimpo* states that the trouble between Messrs. H. C. Morf & Co., of Kobe, and the owner of the Ichinokawa Antimony mine in Iyo Province, was compromised on the 21st inst., on condition that the Japanese pay 39,000 *yen* to the foreign firm.

IMPERIAL NOMINEES TO THE HOUSE OF PEERS.

RUMOUR has it that Lieutenant-General Nozaki, Major-General Horiye, Vice-Admirals Matsumura and Akamatsu, and Mr. Nishimura Suezo will be nominated as members of the Upper House.

THE "SAKATA MARU."

THE *Jiji Shimpo* says that the *Sakata Maru*, ashore off Inuboye-saki, in Shimosa Province, was shifted into a more favourable position by the recent northerly winds. She is expected to be soon towed off the sand.

MR. OTORI.

A TELEGRAPHIC message from Kobe, received by the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, states that Mr. Otori, Japanese Minister to China and Korea, left there on the 19th inst. for Jinsen, Korea, in the *Genkai Maru*.

DUELLING IN RUSSIA.

A NEW Russian law against duelling enacts that any person killing another in a duel shall be liable to six years' imprisonment; in the event of one of the principals being wounded, three years is the limit.

QUEEN VICTORIA.

THE *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* states that a telegram has been received in the capital to the effect that the Queen, who has been badly suffering from neuralgia, is now much better, as she is able to walk about her Palace.

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MILITARY REMOUNTS IN JAPAN.

IT has always been held that owing to the mountainous character of Japan and the difficulty of traversing the large tracts of low-land devoted to the culture of rice, both cavalry and field artillery must play a comparatively insignificant rôle in military operations. Acting upon that principle, the Authorities have never made any attempt to organize a considerable force of cavalry, but have contented themselves with a few squadrons, just sufficient—if sufficient—for vidette and reconnoitering purposes, while batteries of artillery for service with the *corps d'armée* have been equipped with light pieces of the nature of mountain guns rather than field artillery. For the traction of such guns the small Japanese pony is not unsuited. A battery drawn by the little rough nags is not a very imposing spectacle, indeed. It suggests nothing of the stubborn vigour and solid reserve of power that distinguish the European battery with its strongly thewed massive horses and big stalwart gunners and drivers. But the Japanese mountain piece, diminutive though everything connected with it is, looks compact and serviceable, and is at the same time in better consonance with the topography of the country than a gun of larger dimensions and correspondingly heavier equipage could be. The Japanese, however, have never been contented with their liliputian cattle. It was not to be supposed that a nation bent upon reaching at least the same level as the West in all directions, would be satisfied with marked inferiority in the matter of horses. There have been numerous and more or less persistent efforts to improve the breed by introducing strains of foreign blood and by other means, but it must be confessed that no very striking results have yet been obtained. The half-breed is a weak, weedy animal, of uncertain temper and little endurance, inferior to either the pure Chinese or pure Japanese pony for military purposes though slightly superior in turn of speed. It has never, apparently, been deemed worth while to substitute the semi-foreign horse for the Japanese in the Army. The guns continue to be drawn and the troops to be carried by the same class of steeds as those used twenty years ago, though if it be desired that the cavalry should make any figure in a charge against Western troopers, a steed of far greater weight is undoubtedly essential. Moreover, we now learn from the *Nippon* that the Japanese-bred pony is deteriorating, and that the supply of animals fit to draw even the light guns of the artillery is gradually becoming less. Why this should be the case we can not clearly gather from our contemporary's article. An explanation is offered, indeed, but if it satisfies the *Nippon*, it certainly will not satisfy everybody. The reasons advanced are that, in the closing years of the Tokugawa administration, the *Samurai* regarded their steeds, not as an essential part of their warlike equipment, but as mere toys, diminutive proportions and glossiness of coat being prized far above the vulgar qualities of strength and endurance. Further, it was counted imperative that a riding steed should be able to "pace" and to go "disunited," a maximum of show with a minimum of progress being regarded as the features that ought to distinguish a gentleman's goings abroad. Apparently the special training required to educate this abnormal gait is held not only to have checked the improvement of the breed of horses, but also to have produced a marked deterioration. It is scarcely conceivable, however, that even the most enthusiastic disciple of the doctrine of heredity could believe in the possibility of radical changes being effected in a breed of horses by fifty or sixty years of abnormal treatment applied to only a small fraction of the animals, for of course the horses used by the *Samurai* constituted merely an insignificant part of the whole number in the empire. No such trivial explanation seems tenable. The plain fact is that the Japanese pony is, and always has been, a stunted, misshapen, and comparatively valueless animal. In certain localities, especially Nambu, hardy little nags, of sound constitution and capable of tolerably hard work, are to be found. But they are the exception. As a rule this country possesses no horses worthy of the name. The Japanese troopers and drivers have excellent seats and give proof of the goodness of their hands by the ease and precision with which they control their mounts. But a squadron of Japanese cavalry conveys the impression of a military toy rather than of a serious engine of war. It would go down like mowed grass at the shock of impact with a body of English or German troopers. So far as the men are concerned, we believe that they possess all the qualities necessary to make light hussars of the most serviceable and dashing description. But their mounts are simply miserable, so wanting in weight and sinew as to be incapable of delivering or resisting an effective charge. Artillery, too, horsed with such puny cattle, can never move quickly across a rough country or be taken smartly into and out of action, especially in cases where field artillery is most useful, namely, in occupying positions of vantage more or less difficult of access. The *Nippon* says that the question is occupying the serious attention of the War Office and the Department of Agriculture and Commerce. Both are agreed that some effort should be made to effect reforms, but a difference of opinion is said to exist with regard to the scope of the effort, the Department of Agriculture and Commerce naturally desiring to make it general, whereas the War Office folks believe that the resources at present available are insufficient for anything more ambitious than a scheme to provide good horses for the use of the army. How this divergence of views is likely to be adopted, we do not learn, but in the meanwhile there is talk of a Committee of Investigation consisting of Messrs. MAYEDA MASANA, ex-Vice-Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, TSUZUMI KANETAKE, HIDA RYOICHI, SATO SATOHARU, KUDO YUKIMOTO, and ATSUCHI MASATOSHI, all members of the Diet and more or less publicly known in connection with the question. We do not, for our own part, place any faith in the possibility of developing a good breed of horses by using Japanese stock as a basis, but of course our scepticism may be unfounded.

THE FRENCH ACADEMY ON THE WAR-PATH.

BAD times are brewing for school-boys and girls who are half through their French course. The Academy in one of its idle hours—and it has a good many—has determined to change French spelling, and not only French spelling but French genders also. Thus in future we are to drop our H's in *rododendron ictyologie, ictyophagie, astme*, and many other words; and we *may* drop them (observe the delicate distinction) in *crysantème, psycologie, catécumène*, and *baccanale. Ph* is to become *f* in current colloquial words like *blasfème* and *orfelin*, but to be retained in scientific terms such as *ictyophagie* above quoted. Where the line is to be drawn between colloquial and scientific, does not clearly appear. For instance, may we continue to write *photographie*, as we have done ever since we were born, or must it now be *fotografie?* Photography is a science no doubt, but a science so widespread and colloquial, if one may so phrase it, that non-photographic, Kodak-less persons are nowadays phenomena (or fenomena?) almost as unique as the proverbial pelican in the wilderness. It would therefore surely be little short of misanthropy and libel on the human race to intimate, by our mode of spelling, that we consider blasphemers to be more numerous than photographers. Hitherto the word *amour* has been masculine in the singular, and indifferently masculine or feminine in the plural; and so, it seems, it is to be allowed to remain. Prosody demands this, for poems are extant in which the feminine form is used, such as:—

Dormez, dormez, chères amours,
Sur vous je veillerai toujours.—

and to alter *chères* to *chers* would make a syllable too few in the metre. There are other similar words, however, whose liberty is not respected: the word "organ," for instance. People have hitherto said "*un bel orgue*," but *de belles orgues*." Henceforth "*de beaux orgues*" will be the order of the day. What is to be done with

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the word *gens*, we are not told. Every schoolboy knows—probably he doesn't, but he ought to—that this word takes feminine adjectives before, and masculine adjectives or participles, after it; as *de vieilles gens, des gens excellents*. Is this curious usage to remain, or is it not? The *Temps* newspaper, from which we take most of these details, makes merry over both what the Academy does, and what it leaves undone. It is indeed a sorry bit of tinkering, on a par with those irritating changes ("bridegoom" for "bridegroom," etc) with which WEBSTER, in the first edition of his dictionary, endeavoured to afflict the English language, but which the common sense of the English and American public alike rejected. Of all WEBSTER'S revolutionary changes, scarcely any has found lasting acceptance (and that only in the United States) except the dropping of the *u* in such words as "favor," "honor," "labor;"—and even this change was an exhibition of ignorance, for it transgressed alike against etymology and against pronunciation, "favour" coming from French *faveur*, "honour" from *honneur*, and so on, so that if anything were dropped it should have been the *o*, not the *u*. The truth is that all pettifogging tinkerings with spelling do more harm than they can possibly do good, for the reason that we think in spelling, not in sounds, the eye being a much keener observer and much readier to take offence than the ear. In very few languages is phonetic spelling feasible in practice. There is not, and probably, never has been, any language spelt exactly as orthoepists pronounce it. Even Italian and Spanish only approximate to phonetic spelling, without actually attaining to it. German approximates even less closely, notwithstanding recent official alterations of the same calibre as those now proposed by the Paris literati. French and English lend themselves worse still to such a doctrinaire system, while, on the other hand, small changes create difficulties instead of removing them. As the *Temps* truly observes, "It is not such minor modifications that will ever facilitate the study of orthography to our own children, or the acquisition of our language by foreigners."

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE JAPANESE CHURCH DISPUTE

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

SIR,—With reference to a Church dispute taking place in your columns and to the Rev. Saiori Kato's quotations in his last letter to the *Mail*, which was asked to correct them by a letter of the Rev. Y. Ishiwara issued in your paper, yesterday, let me be allowed to mention my opinion on this subject with impartiality.

So far as it was within my apprehension, the Rev. Mr. Ibuka's statement was precisely in his native tongue: *Kore wa donata desuka*. Mr. Kato literally translated it into English: "Who is this man?" and Mr. Ishiwara laxly interprets "Is he (Mr. Kato) a minister in the Church of Christ in Japan?" But this difference is worth nothing. Mr. Ishiwara's letter used a *pseudo* language, and however their expressions in both were approximate in the very spirit of the affair. I should not say, nevertheless, there are *suggestio falsi* between them. Mr. Kato would be obliged to the letter for that he obtained an evidence to his vindication as to prove Mr. Ibuka's blunder in disqualifing his clerical privilege, irrespectively of two styles of translations. "Why Mr. Ibuka asked this, knowing the affair?" is the question.

Certainly, Mr. Ibuka had not give utterance to, "I don't know of this fellow publicly." But there are two modes of quotations in English language; namely, confo mably and to that effect in unconformable words. Mr. Kato nothing else but stretched out a point from the statement made by Mr. Ibuka. And it is usually allowed in English literature, especially in case to represent the idea in short.

Mr. Kato's letter was an impressive sort but no violence. I am surprised at his extensive knowledge of the details in the church. Mr. Ishiwara's communication was artfully written to make every reader perceive that Mr. Kato was not readmitted to the Church since he left. He did not apply his reconnection to the First Presbytery of Tokyo since he has given up his Unitarian view of theology; but there was a motion made by the Revs. M Okuno, I M. McNair, and K. Kimura in regard to Mr. Kato's matter to open the door for him He was therefore not refused, but the consideration was laid on the table. Mr. Ishiwara was the stated clerk during that time and he unfairly describes at present on the same subject. Mr. Kato's conversion to Unitarianism and his restoration to Orthodoxy expanded throughout the native churches and missionaries residing in this country, and also the news was known abroad to some extent. On his coming back to the previous belief, they ought to have greeted Mr. Kato as enlightened by the Divine blessing. There are several native ministers who hold Heterodoxy and sophisticated their views in that body. Then M. Kato is in advance of them in honesty and sincerity.

As M. Kato is an able propagandist and enthusiastically endeavours to do his duty, the other persons set snares for his success. You will easily find, for instance, in the letter that Mr Kato is not recognized as the cloth. The writer intentionally omitted a clerical title to the Reverend Saiori Kato while the others are properly entitled. It really is mean trickery of the two men toward Mr. Kato in inviting him to his privilege and then kicking him out. The treatment *id est* was insulting umbrage. Many men in the church have of late years experienced this petty and very irritating tendency through the efforts of Mr. Ibuka. It is not a trifle esoteric for the latter as he stammers, it is said, to his fellow students, during nine weeks if he dislikes him or them. Mr. Kato at the very form attacked Mr. Ibuka's personality, but I hold the former has the ground to commit upon Mr. Ishiwara threw a tub to a whale.

I regret very much that this kind of dispute took place in the pale of the primitive church of Japan. I beg to state this frankly to either parties. They ought to apologize their mistake to Mr. Kato in a proper way; the latter should overlook their weakness if an apology was performed. And the missionaries are in duty to harmonize between the two parties existing in the church. The native ministers are scornful, but it must be remembered that they are heathen by birth although Christians by conversion.

Mr. Ishiwara already confessed to the Rev. Mr. Tamura and others as he acknowledges his mistake the other night in connection with Mr. Kato's affair. The letter was not written by himself. He was in truth enforced to hire his name.

Moreover, I blame that there is a project amongst them to incommode Mr. Kato inquisitorially to set fire on his publications.

Doubtless, it is awful to have such spirit in the church, I presume. In reality, *soshi* character exists among them. Do they enthusiastically proclaim the Gospel of our Saviour to the public? On the contrary, there are nearly twenty churches of their own denomination in Tokyo, yet the attendance in every parish is scarcely over 30 in average and the Meiji Gakuin has only 50 pupils. The expenditure involves of that institution great amount. Indeed, some estimates that it costs 300 *yen* per pupil while he pays a tuition 15 *yen* for a year. The missions are droping a bucket into an empty well according to exaggerations of the men. The orthodox boards assist with means a native press which holds out of their line and antagonizes to the mission appropriate. It is worse than waste.

These circumstances are largely the causes of the recent dispute in order to continue their influence in the pale. If the new problem of the missionary enterprise endeavoured by Mr. Kato and others are fortunately succeeded, the exaggerators are not still in the same stand.

I am, Sir, yours, &c.,

A FEMALE CHRISTIAN.

Tokyo, September 7th, 1893.

THE TREND OF MODERN THOUGHT.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

SIR,—It is related of the present Master of Balliol that on a certain occasion, prompted by curiosity, he was present at a Positivist meeting, which happened to be very sparsely attended. The next day a friend asked him what it was like. "It consisted," replied Mr. Jowett, "of three persons and no God."

I have been reminded of this incident by the unmistakeably atheotic, if not atheistic, tenor of certain "communicated" articles which have recently appeared in your columns. As a reaction against the diabolomorphic conceptions of the Supreme Being which once prevailed, and the anthropomorphic conceptions which still linger and may perhaps never wholly disappear, the views of your contributor may be defensible; but the fact remains that according to ninety-nine hundredths of all the greatest thinkers who have ever lived, atheism is bad metaphysics. A disciple is seldom greater than his master, but is often very much more audacious. Putting aside the fact that many of our most brilliant physicists have been and are pronounced theists, it is sufficient to remember that Darwin and Tyndall have in set terms repudiated the atheistic theory. Herbert Spencer shows that it lands the enquirer in unthinkabilities; Mill, who was brought up on it, revolted against it as he grew older; Wallace, Darwin's compeer, is a fervent believer in God. It is the disciples of these great men who talk about the evolution of consciousness from the Unconscious, of intelligence and order from the Unintelligent and the Chaotic. Their creed appears to be that there is no God, and Romanes is his prophet.

But, repudiate such teaching as we may, the fact remains that it is there, and forces itself upon the attention of every man who either reads or thinks. The one class who ignore it, who shut their eyes to it, who never give it a moment's consideration, and who imagine probably that nobody else does, are the clergy. This is the reason why, when the intelligent laity are eagerly, perhaps painfully, wrestling with problems of the very deepest significance to the faith they cherish, when their eyes have been opened to the human origin of much they had previously regarded as supernatural, and they are beginning to find that their entire theology must be recast, the clergy content themselves with uttering the worn-out platitudes of fifty years ago, and reiterating ancient dogmas which not one man in twenty now believes. The Mosaic account of Creation is still preached as complacently as if Darwin and the geologists had never lived; inspiration is claimed for the crudest speculations of an unenlightened age; impossible positions are defended with a dialectic that would scarcely impose upon a child. In a word, the clergy, with a few great exceptions, are years behind the times, and preach to us as though we, too, had no ideas beyond trivialities to which they themselves adhere. This is a woeful error. Let the clergy look to it, if they wish to acquire influence. The days are past when results could be obtained from the "foolishness of preaching."

I am, Sir, your obediently, ECLECTIC.

September 16th, 1893.

A LOST MONEY ORDER.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

SIR,—I have just learned that some one sent me last June from Surugadai, a money order for $30 or more. I fear the letter was lost in the mails. Will the sender be kind enough to communicate with me at once?

Presumably the money was intended for Mr. Ishi's Orphanage, but it lies undrawn in the Okayama Post Office. It seems a shame to have the Asylum lose this gift especially in their present straits, hence this open letter to the public.

Very truly your, JAMES H. PETTEE.

Okayama, September 15th.

PROMENADE CONCERT.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

SIR,—Kindly accept our most sincere thanks for your kindness with regard to the Concert of yesterday.

May I also at the same time beg of you the new favour to offer, in my name, the expression of our heartfelt gratitude to all the Ladies who have been so kind as to contribute to the Concert.

Believe me, dear Sir, yours sincerly,

MOTHER ST. MATHILDE.

Yokohama, September 19th, 1893.

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YOKOHAMA CO-OPERATIVE ASSOCIATION, LIMITED.

The annual general meeting of the shareholders in the Yokohama Co-operative Association, Ltd., was held in the Chamber of Commerce Rooms on Monday, Mr. E. Whittall presiding. There were also present Capt. Allen, Messrs. J. C. Hartland, A. Brent, A. H. Groom, H Steele, W. D S. Edwards, D. Fraser, C. W. Arnould, B. C Howard, M. H. R Harris, J T Boag, H. R. Campbell, J. Dodds, Geo. Philip, E. W Tilden, and T. Brewer (secretary).

The CHAIRMAN first called upon the Secretary to the read the report of the last general meeting of shareholders.

Mr. T. BREWER having complied, the minutes were passed.

The CHAIRMAN then introduced the Report and Accounts, and in so doing said that as both had been in the hands of shareholders for some considerable time, it was not necessary for him to make any comment upon them. He therefore asked for some gentleman present to move the adoption of the report and balance sheet.

Mr. B. C. HOWARD proposed and Capt. ALLEN seconded the adoption of the report and accounts.

The CHAIRMAN before putting the resolution to the meeting said that the business for the first year had been decidedly encouraging considering the bad times through which they were passing.

The resolution was then put and carried.

REPORT

GENTLEMEN,—We have now the pleasure to submit to you the Accounts and Balance Sheet for our first year's working, and we think you will agree with the view your Directors take of the position, which is that it is decidedly encouraging Naturally in our first year we had a good many drawbacks, and owing to the delay in establishing our supplies we were really not in full swing until the end of December

The nett profits as the accounts show were $1,964 96 and your Directors propose that a dividend for 10 per cent, per annum be declared upon the shares, and that a bonus of 10 per cent be distributed to Shareholders and Ticket holders alike on imported goods This will absorb $1,138 32. It is further proposed to write off from the preliminary expenses which amounted to $834.90, the sum of $500 00, carrying forward the balance of $326 64.

9th September, 1893

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

June 30th, 1893.

By Trade Account gross profit		$ 4,420.94
By Commission		36.12
By Furniture and Plant, depreciation	$ 22.26	
By Rent and Taxes	505.00	
By Interest	252.62	
By Fire Insurance	54.38	
By Charges	1,752 49	
By Bad Debt	5 35	
By Balance	1,964 96	
	$ 4,447.05	$ 4,447.05
July 1st, 1893		
By Balance		$ 1,964.96

BALANCE SHEET—30TH JUNE, 1893.

LIABILITIES.—DR.

Capital—Paid up	$5,750 00	
Rent—Due this day	83 50	
Sundry creditors—Due this day	9,030.27	
Chartered Bank I. A. & China—Overdraft	5,470 23	
		15,334 80
Profit and Loss Account—Balance at credit		2,964.96
		$18,299.76

ASSETS.—CR.

Stock in Trade—Per Inventory	$10,284 17
Trade Debtors—Per list	2,0 8.52
Furniture and Plant—Valued at	200.34
Fire Insurance—Prems. on unexpired policies	71.18
Preliminary Expenses—Amount at debit	834.90
Cash—On hand	90.71
	$18,299 76

(Signed) E. WHITTALL, Chairman

I have compared the above statement with the Books and Vouchers of the Company and found the same correct.

(Signed) W. D. STUART EDWARDS, Auditor

The CHAIRMAN—I have but a few remarks to add, gentlemen, in addition to what appears in the report. The stock of wines and stores has been very carefully made up, and has been carried forward at rather below the cost of importation apart from any favourable showing in exchange that a comparison with importation would make at the present time. The business is in every sense prospering, and there is a steady increase to the list of ticket-holders and constituents. Your Directors also hope to materially augment the commission account during the present year. If any of you, gentlemen, have any questions to ask about the business I shall be happy to reply to them.

The next business before the meeting was the election of two Directors in place of those retiring.

The CHAIRMAN said that Mr. Dodds and himself retired from the Board in accordance with the rules of their Articles of Association, but both of them would be happy to serve again.

Mr. B. C. HOWARD proposed and Mr. TILDEN seconded the reëlection of the retiring directors.—Carried.

The CHAIRMAN—Then that concludes the business before the meeting.

Mr. B. C. HOWARD proposed a vote of thanks to the Directors and the Chairman, and this being carried the meeting separated.

YOKOHAMA GENERAL HOSPITAL.

The general meeting of the above took place in the Chamber of Commerce buildings on Wednesday afternoon. There were present Messrs. A. O Gay (in the chair), O Keil, A. Dimelin, J. Ph. von Hemert, J. H. Brooke, A. J. Wilkin, and James Troup.

The CHAIRMAN, on opening the meeting, announced that there were present the Committee and Messrs Wilkin and Troup. The accounts were before them, and if they had any questions to ask or comments to make he was ready to answer them.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS FROM JANUARY 1ST, 1892, TO AUGUST 31ST, 1893

RECEIPTS.

Cash Balance on January, 1st, 1892		$ 271.35
Subscriptions for Infectious Disease Ward		1,070.00
Receipts from Patients in ditto		332.00
Interest on Deposit in H. & S. Bank		10.42
Donations:—1892. H.B.M. ships *Mercury* and *Pallas*	$120.00	
1893. W. F. Henderson, Esq., of Winnipeg	100.00	220.00
		$1,903.76
Balance overdrawn in H. & S. Bank		728 51
		$2,632 27

DISBURSEMENTS.

Payments for Buildings, Disinfecting Apparatus and Improvements in Infectious Disease Ward	$2,763.89
Payments for Wages, Victuals and Sundries	607 22
Payments for Patients in General Ward, Burials, and Medicines	497 85
Payments for Medical Attendance in I. D. Ward	184.00
Payments for Furniture in I. D. Ward	280.82
Payments for Fire Insurance in I. D. Ward	27 50
	$2,232.27

E & O. E.

Yokohama, August 31st, 1893.

A. O. GAY, Hon. Treasurer.
O. KEIL, Hon. Secretary.

Examined and found correct.

Yokohama, September 5th, 1893

M. ENGERT,
A. S. GARFIT, } Auditors.

SPECIFICATION OF DISTRIBUTION OF THE FUNDS SUBSCRIBED ($3,670.00) FOR REMODELLING THE INFECTIOUS DISEASE WARD.

Old Buildings—		
Repairs of third class ward	$ 527 60	
Moving all old buildings and repairs	202.97	
Repairs servants' quarters	48 69	$ 778.56
New Buildings—		
Contract P. Sarda for two new first class Wards	$2,200 00	
Purchase of an old house for servants' quarters	60.00	
Disinfecting Apparatus, and House for same	595 63	$2,855.63
Grounds—		
Water casks	$ 34.00	
Grass and gravel	63.48	
Fences and paint	33.00	
Drains	28.82	$ 159.30
		$3,793 89

Yokohama, August 31st, 1893.

A. O. GAY, Hon. Treasurer.
O. KEIL, Hon. Secretary.

Mr. WILKIN asked whether he was to understand that the disbursement for patients in the General Hospital was included in the $497 for charity patients and those who were given out-door relief.

This was answered in the affirmative.

Mr. BROOKE supposed that the term of the present committee had lapsed by the effluction of time, and that it was the duty of the present meeting to appoint a new committee.

Mr. WILKIN suggested that the present committee be re elected if willing to continue in office. He would move that they be requested to remain in office.

Mr. TROUP seconded.

The CHAIRMAN intimated that there was no doubt the committee would be glad to be relieved.

Mr. BROOKE was of the opinion that fresh blood should be introduced; he would be glad to retire He thought that there should be an alteration every year.

Mr WILKIN asked him to suggest some one.

Mr. BROOKE declined doing so, unless he had first obtained permission so to do, unless Mr. Wilkin himself would consent.

Mr. WILKIN suggested that would be old blood —he had been on the committee before.

The old committee was here unanimously re-elected.

The CHAIRMAN asked what they intended to do with the accounts. They would see they had been audited, and would observe that the new buildings and improvements to the old had necessitated a disbursement of $3,760, while the subscriptions amounted to $3,670. The remainder of the outlay were for disbursements and current expenses in connection with the infectious wards and outside patients.

In answer to Mr. TROUP, the CHAIRMAN said the charity patients were supported out of the general funds of the hospital, which was included in the sum paid Dr. Mècre.

Mr. KEIL pointed out that the sum paid Dr. Mècre from the 1st January, 1892, to the 31st August, 1893, was $391 for 390 days for charity patients, two burials at $25 each, making $50 to Hellendale, while the balance was disbursed in payments to Brett and Co, and other items for out-door relief; the doctor's attendance being free, the hospital only furnishing the medicine. The Chairman here read a list of the patients, etc., of which the following are the particulars:—

STATEMENT OF PATIENTS ADMITTED IN GENERAL HOSPITAL FROM JANUARY 1ST, 1892, TO AUGUST 31ST, 1893.

	Admitted.	Died.	Discharg'd.	In H'tal.	Days of Treatment.
General ward	13	2	10	1	309
Infectious disease ward	14	—	14	—	256

SPECIFICATION OF PAYMENTS FOR PATIENTS, BURIALS AND MEDICINES FOR OUT-DOOR PATIENTS.

Patients (Dr. Mecre for 17 patients 391 days at $1)	$391.00
Burials 2 at $25	50.00
Medicines for out-door patients	56.85
	$497.85

Mr. BROOKE pointed out that it was not the custom formerly to give outdoor relief.

The CHAIRMAN said the scheme was decided upon some time ago; that outdoor assistance be given and the hospital be paid.

Mr. BROOKE believed this must have been a relief to the funds as it saved the supply of medicine, attendance, food, and what not.

Mr TROUP—Is there no subscription collected except for the infectious diseases ward?

The CHAIRMAN—No.

Mr. TROUP—Is there no annual subscription?

The CHAIRMAN—No, but I have a list to cover the present deficit and the current expenses for a year which will reach the sum of $1,500

Mr. TROUP—I observe the committee have gone about $1,000 to the bad.

The CHAIRMAN—Yes

Mr. TROUP saw there was a deficit of $738, which made a shortage of $1,000. He thought a system of annual subscription was better in order to keep the committee out of debt.

The CHAIRMAN replied that a sum of $1,500 would cover it.

Mr. TROUP then proposed and Mr. WILKIN seconded the adoption of the accounts.

The CHAIRMAN explained, in connection with the extra donation of $100 from Mr. Henderson, that a lady suffering from the small-pox had to be removed from her hotel. She was sent to the hospital, being accompanied by her husband, servant, and maid, where she remained for weeks and was taken care of. She recovered and returned home whence her husband in thankfulness for the care and attention his wife had received presented the hospital with a gratuity of $100, adding that they had spent a happy time there—as well as they could have received at their own home.

Mr. WILKIN remarked that was very good

The CHAIRMAN then referred to the disinfecting apparatus with which the hospital was now supplied. This was covered up with brick work and was throughly efficient. There was no doubt of its being a very useful appendage to the hospital. In it not only patients could be thoroughly disinfected, but all their clothes, which was an expensive matter, and all the bedding of the hospital itself, so that what before had to be destroyed was now saved. As a matter of fact everything could be disinfected there as perfectly as could be done elsewhere.

Mr. WILKIN understood it was by heat.

The CHAIRMAN replied that it was by a boiler which gave 250 degrees of heat, which acted perfectly.

Mr. TROUP asked whether it was proposed to make the financial year of the hospital from August 31st.

The CHAIRMAN remarked that the plan was feasible, but the report had been postponed on account of the heat and owing to everything not being completed, but as it had been mentioned it was just as well to make it from the 1st of September.

Mr. WILKIN understood $950 was the deficiency.

Mr. KEIL explained that the hospital was taken over from Dr. Mècre in November last year, and they had to pay the wages of the cook, the *munshi*, and servants to the end of December, 1892.

Mr. TROUP gathered from this that before Dr. Mècre paid it himself.

Mr. BROOKE understood the accounts practically covered 20 months, and that whatever deficiency

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there was was due to the charity patients and others who obtained help from the hospital.

After some desultory conversation on this point, Mr. BROOKE pointed out that the hospital used to cost the community about $4,000 a year, whereas now it was not more than $1,500

Mr. KEIL—$1,000 perhaps ess.

Mr. BROOKE—So that more relief was being given at less cost.

Mr. WILKIN—Practically, it costs $950. He had had an opportunity of viewing the buildings and must compliment the committee on the excellence of the buildings and the efficiency of the attendance.

The CHAIRMAN pointed out that besides the rooms for first class patients, the third class and charity wards had been much improved and were more comfortable.

Mr. BROOKE then drew attention to the fact of the young men of the community not subscribing to the institution as they should, as they generally left it to the family people and the older residents to do so. Most of these young men were away from home, and in the case of infectious diseases there they would always find efficient care and a good place for them. Most of the young men gave nothing towards the hospital's support. He did not think that $1 a month was too much, as he had seen a list for the support of a town band to which they were willing to give $1. It was no doubt a burden, a light burden to them, nevertheless it would help.

The CHAIRMAN was in favour of such a scheme.

Mr. WILKIN pointed out that it would require a personal canvas.

Mr. BROOKE said it must be through want of asking, not from hardness of heart, if he might use the expression.

The CHAIRMAN said there was another matter to which he had to refer, and that was the buildings and the work done, which was due to the thorough manner in which the work had been supervised by Mr Sarda, and he proposed a vote of thanks to Mr Sarda in words like the following:—"That the thanks of the subscribers are due to Mr. Sarda for the valuable assistance he has rendered gratuitously in making plans and specifications and contracting for the buildings at Aizawa for the Infectious Wards, and for the personal superintendence he has also given. The customary fees for such service would amount to a considerable sum of money, and this constitutes Mr. Sarda's contribution to the hospital. The committee can bear witness to the thorough and efficient manner in which the work has been done and to the convenience of the plans adopted." It was a large sum if added to the work and commission, and he could personally testify to the thorough manner in which everything had been carried out.

Mr. BROOKE suggested that before this was passed, the services of the other architects who had drawn plans and offered to do the work free of charge should be recorded.

The CHAIRMAN did not think this necessary.

Mr. BROOKE thought it only fair, as they took the trouble of making plans—although not used—that they also should be thanked for their work. If they were doing a graceful act they might do it thoroughly. He would propose that they add the words "That the thanks of the committee are due to the other architects who submitted plans for the buildings." This was agreed to and added to the record. Also that the thanks of the committee are due to their very efficient secretary for the use of the rooms of the building without charge.

This was duly accorded, Mr. KEIL returning thanks.

Mr. WILKIN then moved the adoption of the Chairman's resolution.

Mr. TROUP seconded, adding that it was a very handsome contribution on the part of Mr. Sarda.

This was passed, as was also the vote of thanks to Mr. Keil.

The usual vote to the Chair and Committee having been accorded, the meeting separated.

The official census in India has led to some amusing returns. Leaflets were distributed asking the natives to fill in certain spaces with their state, profession, &c. Many Hindoos acquitted themselves of this in a manner as unique as unexpected. Many declared that they were "debtors" others "borrowers" or "men of hidden resources." Others again boldly stated that they were "thieves," and "brigands." The more modest declared themselves to be "hosts," "visitors," "story tellers" "kept by their sons-in-law" or simply "loafers." One described himself as "a fool without work." Among other occupations noted were sorcerers, tomtom players, prophets of storms and casualties, buffalo barbers, and what ought to prove very remunerative—hired witnesses.

CRICKET.

The opening of the autumn cricket season took place on Saturday afternoon when a match was played between an "Eleven" captained by Mr Walford and a "Fourteen" captained by Mr. J. P. Mollison,—the original "Twenty" being represented by only fourteen players. The "Eleven" first went to the wickets and were disposed of for 110 runs, of which Dickinson compiled a very useful 40, but the others were unable to collar Edwards' bowling, five being bowled and two caught off him, Fenton accounting for two and Markham the remaining man. The "Fourteen" then went in, Dr. Wheeler and Fenton facing the bowling of Meaden and Ross. After 23 had been compiled the Doctor succumbed to Lias, and Markham joined Fenton, but had only added 3 when Fenton was run out. Duff then joined Markham and runs were coming quickly when he unfortunately shared the same fate. Edwards was the next man, and the pair collaring the bowling soon ran the score up to 145 before Duff was smartly held at the wickets by Dickinson, Edwards in the next over also giving him an easy catch, which Walford secured out of Dickinson's hands. After this the game was one against time, the fourteen compiling 178 for 7 crickets. The fielding was up to the usual average, but during the latter part of the game some wild throwing was indulged in by the Eleven, which gave their opponents a number of unnecessary runs. Now that the hot weather has broken, it is to be hoped the game will be kept up with zest, if Yokohama desires to maintain her prestige in this game over Kobe and retain her laurels against a combined team from Hongkong and Shanghai. Below are the scores and analysis:—

THE "ELEVEN."

Mr. E. W. Tate, c substitute, b. Edwards	3
Dr. Meaden, b. Edwards	3
Mr. F. E. White, b. Edwards	26
Mr. H. V. Dickinson, c. substitute, b. Edwards	40
Mr. H. R. Mair, b. Edwards	0
Mr. A. B. Walford, b. Fenton	7
Mr. G. J. Melmish, b. Edwards	11
Mr. F. J. Lias, c Mollison, b. Fenton	11
Mr. G. S. Garfit, c. substitute, b. Markham	8
Mr. T. J. Healing, not out	10
Mr. W. W. Ross, b Edwards	1
	110

THE "TWENTY."

Dr. Wheeler, b. Lias	8
Mr. G. F. Fenton, run out	39
Lieut. Markham, run out	5
Mr. C. M. Duff, c Dickinson, b. Walford	54
Mr. W. D. S. Edwards, c. Walford, b. Ross	44
Mr. H. C. Litchfield, c Ross, b. Lias	9
Mr. J. P. Mollison, c. Lias, b Ross	3
Mr. E. R. Morriss, not out	16
Mr. Geo. Allcock, not out	1
Mr. J. Lebeaud, Mr. H. R. Campbell, Mr. Mr. E. W. Tilden, Mr. Mr. H. L. Fardel, Mr. A. R. Lamb, } did not bat.	
Extras, b. 1, l. b. 1	2
	178

THE "ELEVEN."

	Balls.	Runs.	Maidens.	Wickets.
Mr. W. D. S. Edwards	97	39	6	7
Mr. G. F. Fenton	71	46	—	2
Mr. Lebeaud	35	23	—	—
Lieut. Markham	11	2	1	1

THE "TWENTY."

	Balls.	Runs.	Maidens.	Wickets.
Dr. Meaden	35	33	—	—
Mr. W. W. Ross	70	43	1	2
Mr. F. J. Lias	50	34	—	3
Mr. A. B. Walford	45	25	2	1
Mr. F. E. White	20	19	—	—
Mr. E. W. Tate	25	21	—	—

CHRISTIANITY—WHAT IS IT?

A QUESTION IN THE FAR EAST.

By J. T. YOKOI.

The following is the address that was to have been read by Mr. Yoko in person, at the request of the Committee, before the Religious Congress in Chicago. Mr. Yokoi having, however, been unavoidably prevented from going to Chicago, the address has been forwarded and will be read by a proxy:—

It will seem not a little odd to many of you that a native of the non-Christian East should stand up with such a question before this august body, composed so largely of the leading Christian teachers of the Christian West. Are there not the creeds and confessions, and the standard works on theology, and are there not also the accredited teachers of Christianity? Surely it seems the height of presumption and thoughtless boldness for an Eastern people to raise such a quest on and to seek to find an answer by themselves.

Yet I may perhaps be allowed to say that the Christian churches of Europe and America should not so entirely blame us if we presume to question their authorized teachings. For how can we but be puzzled when we see Christianity represented to us in such a variety of aspects. The Roman and the Greek Catholic Churches come to us, one with its hierachical priesthood, the other with its crystallized theology, each claiming to be the only authoritative messenger of the religion of Jesus. The Unitarians come to us with their rationalistic theism and philosophical humanitarianism as representing the newest and truest form of Christianity. And between these two representatives of extreme conservatism on one hand and of extreme liberalism on the other, are found the full quota of sectarian representation; the Presbyterians with their Calvinism, the Congregationalists with their independency, the Methodists with their Armenianism, the Episcopalians with their Apostolic succession, the Baptists with their immersion, the Friends, the Christians, the Plymouth Brethren, and what not, with all their subdivisions, each holding forth its own peculiarities and shouting its own praises. Imagine yourselves in our place. How can we but be sorely puzzed?

It may, however, be told us that these divisions and differences are but the foam-flakes which appear on the surface of the waters, and that down deep in the current of Christian thought and life there exists an underlying unity which is the fundamental principle of Christianity. But if the Christian Churches are really agreed on fundamental points, why not come to us with a united front? If the things which divide them are but mere non-essentials, why not throw those things away? What wisdom is there in displaying before all the world their sectarian quarrels and missionary jealousies? To these simple questions I know not what answer can be given. Be it what it may, you will not wholly blame us if we venture to search out for ourselves what Christianity is.

This is not the only reason for raising this question. When many of the present leaders of Christian thought in Japan first accepted the faith, it was the sublimity of the Christian ideal of life which first called their attention and finally won their hearts. In this sublime ideal of life they saw the characteristic which distinguished the religion of Jesus from the dead scholasticism of the Confucianist teachers, or the gorgeous rites and unintelligible ceremonies of the Buddhist priests. The superiority of Christianity, as it was seen in the simple sayings of Jesus and the noble lives of a few consecrated teachers—the superiority which may be best characterized as life and light—was to them wonderfully striking. They were throughly captivated. The enthusiasm of the first Galilean disciples could have been no greater. No peculiar doctrines, no complicated ritual, no set system of church polity, were presented for their acceptance. Those were the halcyon days of supreme happiness, of perfect innocence, and of simple faith. All around them reigned dense darkness which showed itself in violent hatred of Christianity. Terrible persecutions daily threatened them, yet none of these things moved them, for theirs was the eagerness of first love. But far different experiences were in store for them, after they entered the missionary training schools. They were then introduced into the world of theological questionings. The problem of sin, the doctrines of the atonement, and of the Trinity, the theories of predestination and freewill, and the questions of eschatology were explained to them. They were at first surprised and puzzled, yet gradually their interest in theology deepened, until all their mental energies were absorbed in the difficult attempt to solve those problems. They did not, however, entirely lose their enthusiasm for Christ and humanity. The first vision of the ideal life, so free and joyous, never wholly left them. But after ten or fifteen years of hard, and in a sense very successful labours, when some of them began to question themselves, they were surprised to find that their ideas of religion were so limited and their lives so artificial. They were sailing along on one narrow current of humanity, as for the "wide, wide sea," their ship was not fit to sail on it and their charts did not show it. They could discuss questions confined within a circumscribed sphere of theology, but not problems relating to the great and complex life of humanity. In other words, they were theologians and sectarians more than they were Christians and men. They followed man-made theologies and traditional usages, more than they followed Christ and his truths. One was a zealous Methodist, another a staunch Presbyterian, another a High Church Episcopalian, still another a radical Congregationalist. They were in bondage to rites and ceremonies, to creeds and commandments of men; the freedom which came to them when they first became Christians had well nigh left them. How could their consciences and hearts help rebelling against this new form of Christian thraldom? They heard a voice in the innermost recesses of their souls, saying "If this be Christianity, we do not want it." And out of this conflict between the Christianity of life and that of theology arose again the problem, What is Christianity?

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But the question does not belong to the people of the Orient alone. See how from all quarters in the Occident the voices of complaint are heard, in reference to sectarian rivalries and religious quarrels, while the negative criticism like the army of the Goths surrounds the theological strongholds, threatening to storm and take, not only the non-essential outposts, but the very centre of Christianity itself. Is it not high time now that all these divisions and quarrels should cease, and that the gathering together of the people of God under some simple ensign of the Gospel of Christ should take place? Those persons who would object to such a movement must have missed the chief lesson of the three hundred years of Protestantism. For consider when the different denominations first arose, did not each think that it was the only true Church of Christ—that it alone was destined to grow—and that the rest were all doomed to death? But what has been the verdict of history? Not one denomination has received divine blessings but that the rest were all gainers by it. Not one sect has suffered from spiritual decadence but that the rest were all losers with it. And every good and great man, wherever found, be he a George Fox, a William Penn, a Whittier, or a John Bright among the Friends; be he a Bushnell, a Beecher, or a Mark Hopkins among the Congregationalists; a John Wesley or a George Whitefield among the Methodists; a Chalmers or a Guthrie among the Presbyterians; a Thomas Arnold, a Maurice, or a Robertson among the Episcopalians; a Channing, a Lowell, a Garrison, or a Phillip among the Unitarians; or indeed be he one outside the pale of denominationalism like Emerson or Carlyle; any one of these good and great men can not but be regarded as the chosen and blessed of God. It can not be denied that they were the true children of God. A Christian Church which cannot admit any or all of them must be wrong somewhere. Hence once more our question. What is Christianity?

But instead of lingering too long in these preliminary remarks we will take up our problem. As an attempt at its solution, I submit the following considerations:—

I.—Christianity is the religion of its founder. His life and teachings are to be the norm and the criteria for all ages to come. The merit of Christianity should be ultimately judged, not by the self-accredited expositions of later ages, but by the life and teachings of Jesus himself. Paul was certainly a great character. He did probably more than all other apostles put together in laying the foundations of the Christian Church. Yet he was not the creator of Christianity. He and his teachings should be judged by the life and teachings of Jesus. Paulinism is no more than a Pauline exposition of Christianity. Its object was to convince the men of Paul's time, especially the Jews and Jewish proselytes, of the truths of Jesus. Hence his arguments and conclusions do not always fit in with the mode of thought of our own age. The Epistles of Paul, which form so large a portion of the New Testament, contain many priceless pages of religious and ethical instruction, which are besides filled with the exalted and inspiring faith in Christ which conquered the world. But as to those other portions in them which relate to theological and philosophical expositions, we cannot regard them as constituting the absolute representation of Christianity. They are useful chiefly in showing us the way in which Christianity was applied to the need of the first age. For while the truths of Christ always remain the same, the conditions under which they are to germinate and bear fruit are constantly changing; so that in every age and in every land, men must arise who will in the spirit of Paul apply and expound the Gospel of Jesus Christ. If then we are not to look upon the Epistles of Paul as our authoritative guide in the study of Christianity, whither shall we turn? Unquestionably to the Gospels, especially to the synoptics. Incomplete as these records are when considered as accurate biographies of Jesus, yet no unprejudiced critic will deny that in them pages we have the earliest impressions of the life of Jesus and the chief sayings which fell from his lips. They are like paintings by an old master. If you draw near too closely and examine them with a microscope, you will see in them nothing of inspiration and life. But look upon them from a proper distance and you will find that the living features grow upon your vision, and finally stand out in amazing distinctness. Those critics therefore who concern themselves too much with the jot and iota of the text miss too often the total effect of the whole. Grant that there are contradictions between the different records of the same events, grant that there are some legendary elements in these narratives; grant that even in the cases of the unique sayings of Jesus we can not ascertain with exactness what shape the words originally took; yet granting all this, the candid and humble students of the Gospels will be sure to receive such impressions of that exalted life and of those peerless sayings, that it will not take long before they recognize in Christ their Lord and Master, their way, the truth and the life.

II.—One of the first things that strikes us on reading the Gospels is the absence of accidental and unessential elements from the ethico religious teachings of Jesus. There have been men, founders of great religions, some of them intellectual giants, whose lives and teachings are worthy of our highest respect. Yet there is so much in their systems which was true only in respect to one age or one land and hence temporary, and so much besides which is not concerned with the essentials of religion, that it is difficult to make any one of them the ethico-religious ideal of humanity. They are the ores which contain much gold, but they need to be first smelted in fire before they can be used. In the case of Jesus, however, everything is either pure gold or pure silver. As we go through his ethical and religious teachings, they give us the sense of joy and gratitude uninterrupted. His acts are of universal significance. In his life and teachings we have all the essential elements of ethico-religious life, and no more. They can become therefore the life and inspiration not of one class of people or of one age, but of all lands and of all times; both the great and the small, the learned and the ignorant, the civilized and the uncivilized, all will confess that in Jesus they find the eternal way of life.

III.—The teachings of Christ seem to us to be capable of being classed under a few simple heads. Perhaps there are no better headings than the famous trinity of Paul,—Faith, Hope, and Love—Faith in the righteous government of the world, Hope in the future of humanity, and Love to God to men.

So much mischief has been done through the misuse of the term faith by theologians that some persons would rather dispense with the use of it altogether. But no sensible person will object to the sense in which Jesus used the term. "Have faith in God." "If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed." "Why are ye fearful, O ye of little faith." Jesus believed in the righteous God and in the righteous government of the world. He believed in the almightiness of righteousness. He never doubted that righteousness would conquer all. It was this faith, and his confidence in the righteousness of his cause and of his own person, which carried him through every wave of vicissitude, sustained him through all disappointments, and on the very cross itself. He knew that the righteous God was with him, and that he was a God. Hence he said, "All things have been delivered into me of my Father; and no one knoweth the Son, save the Father; neither doth any one know the Father, save the Son, and he to whomsoever the Son willeth to reveal Him." It was this oneness with God and almighty righteousness, which gave to his life and sayings such supreme authority, and universal significance. And this is the ideal and the gift he holds out for the humblest of his disciples.

Christ's Hope in Humanity.—No faithful student of the Gospels can fail to be deeply impressed with the healthiness of his social ideas. According to him, the human existence down to its minutest details, was invested with the most sacred meaning. Inasmuch as this existence was regarded as sacred, there was no room for pessimism of any sort. His holy enjoyment of God and his enthusiasm for humanity made it impossible that he should be an ascetic or a recluse. He came eating and drinking. He did not hesitate to sit at meat with the publicans. In him was witnessed the rare example of the deepest religious life which was at the same time unreservedly social. So he was *with* men on the earth and also in heaven with his Father at the same time. He alone of all the founders of great religions enunciated the eternal principle of marriage, thus placing human society on a new and sacred basis. He honoured womanhood. He blessed childhood. He came bringing the Kingdom of God, which is to grow on the earth as a mustard seed grows, and expand in the world as the leaven leaveneth the whole lump. Humanity is to be cured of all its ills. Sin is to be vanquished through the power of goodness. The nations of the earth are to be brought together within one bond of brotherhood. Righteousness and joy are to reign over all the earth.

Then in regard to the Love of God to men, it is the most apparent feature of Christ's life and teachings. He loved his disciples "even unto the end," "seventy times seven" they are to forgive one another. When the multitude gathered in his presence as sheep without a shepherd, "he was moved with compassion." The demoniacs, the lepers, the blind, the lame, all drew out of him the strong sense of sympathy which cured them of all their ills. The widow sorrowing over the death of her only son; the mother beside herself for the sake of her insane daughter; the sisters weeping over their dead brother; all called forth his strongest sympathy. A woman who was "a sinner," bathing the outstretched feet of Jesus with her tears of repentance; a wife taken in adultery and most heartlessly condemned in public, both received his forgiveness. Whosoever readeth that most wonderful of Christ's parables, in which he setteth forth the eternal principle of judgment, will surely not fail to be deeply struck with his love which causes him to identify himself and all his interests with suffering humanity. When those on the right hand, wonderstruck at hearing themselves credited with having helped the August Judge himself, ask him saying, "Lord, when saw we thee an hungered and fed thee, or athirst and gave thee drink? &c., &c.," we note that answer which endears him to all mankind, "Verily I say unto you, inasmuch as ye did it unto one of these my brethren, even these least, ye did it unto me." But the love of Christ for men was not mere pity or sympathy for their sufferings. His love for men was based on the highest respect for humanity. It was the love of God to humanity. Jesus believed that in all men, even in the most degraded, there was the latent possibility of the highest and noblest development. He loved God who was in each human soul. He said, taking hold of the outcast and the despised of the earth, ye also are the children of God. "He came to seek and save that which was lost,"—lost in selfishness, worldliness, and misery—and all those who heard the voice of the son of man revived into the life of righteousness and truth. So "he went about doing good"—the very highest good—by revealing the lost ideal to men, by unveiling God in the sanctuary of each human soul, by opening up that light which is "in every one that cometh into the world."

IV.—Furthermore, as we consider the method employed by Jesus in revealing his truths and in teaching his disciples, we find it unlike the method of every other great teacher. Jesus Christ revealed the eternal truths of religion and morality, not so much by words as by life. He lived and acted them. *He* was the word and revelation of God. As he revealed, so would he have his disciples apprehend,—not through observation and philosophizing, but through life. Great scholars and thousands of people heard Jesus and discussed his work, but the revelation of the eternal life came only to the meek and humble in spirit. God was seen only by the pure in heart. The Kingdom was possessed only by those who hungered and thirsted after righteousness. Hence he said "If any man willeth to do His will he shall know of the teaching whether it be of God or whether I speak from myself."

A remarkable thing about Jesus as a teacher was his supreme respect for the ethico-religious intelligence in each individual. He made no distinction of education, training, or gifts. He neither sought the most gifted nor shunned the least talented. Not teaching in learned periods as a great scholar would, or in logical syllogisms as a great philosopher would, but teaching in aphorisms and parables, he reached all classes. He was the most democratic of teachers. While the great scholars of the day were astonished at his teachings, the common people heard him gladly.

In his teachings we do not meet with any discussions of the question of Divine existence, or of the nature of the Godhead, or of the origin of sin, or of the immortality of the soul. He was not a teacher of theology, but a revealer of life. His whole effort seemed to be to attract men, to bring them into touch with himself, to make them concentrate their gaze and attention on himself. Why? That he might bring them too see the ideal of their lives, draw them into union with God and righteousness, and save them from the lives of sin and of death. It is for this reason probably that Jesus has not left a book, or a system of theology, or an institution, or priesthood, or a mystic sacrament. He has left *himself*. The grace of God is contained in the sanctuary of the soul of Jesus. He is the true temple of God. In oneness with him and in living his life, we offer God our worship, realize our sonship, and obtain the assurance of our salvation.

The theologians commonly say that the death of Christ brought a new element into the religion of Jesus which could not have been revealed before, viz., the expiatory merit of that death; that all the teachings of Christ had been in a sense preparatory to the great expiatory act of his life; that we must go to the teachings of the disciples if we would learn about the nature of Christian Faith; and that it was by the blood and sufferings of Christ on the cross that our redemption was bought. We, however, are compelled to contest this position. If we understand the Cross and its significance rightly, we are unable to see in it any new teaching, but rather the most powerful expression of the old

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teaching of Jesus, viz., that to die to self and to live for others and for God, is to enter into eternal live; and Jesus by shedding his blood and dying on the Cross gave to this great truth the most powerful expression. The important thing was not that he should suffer and die merely, for a great many besides have similarly suffered and died, but that he should suffer and die *in faith and joy*, blessing his crucifiers and hoping in God, and thus teaching all ages to come that self sacrifice and not selfishness was the true and normal way of life. This is what makes the Cross of Christ such an all important factor in Christian faith.

Such then we conceive to be the true nature of Christianity as it was first preached by Jesus Christ. It was the ethico-religious life in God and with men. It was faith in the righteous order and government of the world. It was hope in humanity of its highest development. It was love, self sacrifice and enthusiasm in our service to men. It was not philosophy and dogma, but life and spirit. It was not rites and Sacraments but personality and freedom. It was not asceticism and pessimism but the idealization of human existence. It was not planting of an institution and organization but starting of the great ethico religious regeneration whose end will be the complete establishment of the Kingdom of God. Now, compared with this conception of Christianity, what resemblance is there in its common representation put forth by authorities in the Churches. Think of the hierarchical system, each claiming its peculiar notions to be the essentials of Christianity. Think again of the cold philosophizing and rationalizing attitude which pervades a class of so-called advanced thinkers, making it their chief business to attack orthodoxy and sneer at its superstitions. Both orthodoxy and liberalism, both supernaturalism and rationalism, both high churchism and low churchism, how different are all they from what was preached on the hill-tops and lake shores of Galilee eighteen centuries ago! The one is the reality; the others are its caricatures. In the case of one we breathe the pure and invigorating atmosphere of a mountain top, while in cases of the others we inhale the foul air of a crowded theatre. Should Jesus Christ again appear on the earth preaching the Gospel of the Kingdom, would the theologians be satisfied with his orthodoxy or the common people recognize in his simple life their Lord and Master? Would he on his part willingly subscribe to the creeds and confessions or recognize in the gorgeous ceremonies and mystic sacraments his Gospel of spirit and life? It may be said that it is the historical development of doctrines which has made Christianity of to day so different from the sermon on the mount. But development is not always an improvement. Sometimes there is a retrogression; and the cases of malformation are not few in the natural world. At any rate the contrast between the Christianity of Jesus Christ and that of to-day is, to say the least, certainly striking.

The service of science to religion has been largely in pointing out the errors and superstitions of the existing forms of Christianity. If to some persons science seemed at one time to be the enemy of religion and of Christianity, it does not seem so now. All thanks to science and to scientific men, biologists, physicists, philosophers, and historians, for performing this unwelcome but necessary task of removing excrescences which disfigured Christianity. The nineteenth century science is the second renaissance, which as the first prepared the way for the Protestant Reformation, is now preparing the way for the coming neo-reformation. As the former stopped half way and remained "protestant," the latter will be the all-comprehensive and world-wide ethico religious regeneration. Its aim will be not to protest but to proclaim. Its result will be not division, but union. The sixteenth century reformation called men to return to St. Paul. The twentieth century reformation will call men and the churches to return to Christ. Back to Christ, to the source of all life and light, will be the voice heard all the world over. Louder and louder will its echoes rise until the "kingdoms of this world shall learn the kingdom of our Lord and his anointed."

If we look back on the religious condition of Palestine when Christianity was first preached, we shall see that it was very similar to the condition of things to-day. There were the Pharisees with their casuisty, ceremonies, and theology, and with their street observance of the minute duties of religion. There were also the Essenes with their pessimistic seclusion, their celibacy and asceticism, and their scepticism of the value of human life. In the midst of these men and these teachings, Jesus appeared with the Gospel of the Kingdom of God. There are modern pharisees and modern essenes all the world over, in Christian countries as well as in non-Christian lands. We feel therefore the same, yea by far the greater need, on by far a greater scale, of the preaching of the Gospel of the Kingdom. The time calls for it. All dissatisfactions and strifes, all groanings and travails which are found wherever human society exists are the strongest call for the coming of the Kingdom. This sin-laden and sorrow stricken world will not find rest till the Kingdom be established. May we not believe that the time for the fulfillment of the promised spiritual coming of Christ in all its grandeur and glory is drawing near?

There is something exceedingly pathetic and pitiful in the way in which men in different ages have sought after salvation. One class of men would give themselves up to chastising the flesh, imagining the body to be the source of all evil. Another class of men would give themselves up to speculation and the study of theology, intending thus to fathom the mystery of human life. Still another class would commit themselves to the performance of "religious" duties believing thus to buy their seats in the Heavenly Kingdom. So they have laboured hard and patiently, sparing no pains to attain the end in view, but we must regretfully admit that they have miserably blundered. They seem to have done everything else but the one thing needful, viz., the seeking after the ethico-religious life as idealized in the person of Jesus Christ.

The Christian thought to day is divided into three great camps. In the first place there are the two old camps of supernaturalism and of rationalism. As the Newmans and the Froude brothers separated going into these opposite extremes, so many a person to-day thinks that he must take shelter either in the one or in the other. He would either be a blind believer in supernaturalism, thus making his nineteenth century intelligence a dumb slave, or be a thoroughgoing rationalist, thus making cold logic his supreme master. And in the meantime the sanctuary of his soul is left unillumined by the celestial fire of the ethico-religious life. There is another class of persons occupying the third camp who stand midway between the two—those treading the *via media*—who look right and left so that they may steer clear of the threatening rocks on either side. These persons naturally think this to be the wisest and truest course to take, but others doubtless regard it as too unsatisfactory to command their consent. These *via media* men use orthodox phraseology, and yet hesitate to give to it new meanings. Their positions are constantly shifting, and they seem to their critics to be purposely ambiguous in their deliverances. Hence they are open to attack from both sides. Thus these three classes of theologians keep up discussion and fight and no one can predict when peace shall be restored. The more they discuss and the more they fight, the further they seem to be from concord. They will probably go on fighting and keep up their separation to the end of time, unless the churches of Christ learn "a more excellent way," the way of escape from their Babel of theological discussions. This way of escape will be reached, it seems to us, when they come to understand fully the essential nature of Christianity, not as dogmas but as the ethico-religious life in each individual soul and in humanity at large. Such a time shall certainly come, and it is we trust, not very far off, when all our religious efforts will be concentrated in living again the life and working anew the work of Jesus Christ, or that the reign of dogmas shall be for ever at an end. The orthodoxy of dogma shall give place to the orthodoxy of life and work. Theological speculations will doubtless still flourish, for men will philosophize and speculate to the end of time, but merely as individual explanations of the great common fact of religious life. Then, when such a time shall come, the Light of the World will shine with the full splendour of a noonday, and all theological quarrelings and all sectarian divisions shall cease, and there shall be one fold and one shepherd not only in Christendom, but in all the nations of the earth.

There was a Chinaman once who set fire to his house in order to roast a pig. An old French lady who wanted to reduce the Norfolk Howard population in her domicile has just emulated this feat. She lived in the Rue Geoffroy D'Asnier, in Paris. The B flats and the F sharps went on increasing. All ordinary methods of extermination failed. Finally the occupier decided to attack the pest with fire and brimstone. She placed sulphur on an iron plate, set fire to it and then went out. When she came back from her walk the firemen were hard at it before the house. A steam engine was in full work and the hose was sending a stream of water in at the windows. The building itself was saved from "the devouring element," but the furniture was all destroyed. So it might be added were the Norfolk Howards. But desperate evils need desperate remedies. The new cure may be heartily recommended to the metropolitan lodging-house keeper.

THE GOLD QUESTION.

We reproduce below an article from the pen of a writer whose reviews of the great currency question strike us as comprehensive and interesting. The article has already been published in Colorado.

The present currency problem, or silver question, as those in the Western States call it, is really a gold question. The whole currency question has arisen through gold being unequal to the task, now imposed upon it, of alone performing the function of money for America, England, and Europe; there is not enough gold to do so, nor is it produced in sufficient quantities to supply that deficit; consequently, as in other cases where the supply is short of the demand, gold's price has risen and is rising continuously when measured by the other commodities of the world, *i.e.*, its purchasing power of the other commodities continues to become greater; and owing to the evils attending this appreciation of gold and fall of general prices, it behooves the civilized world to ease the strain now imposed upon gold, and thus steady its purchasing power and so arrest the fall in general prices. This is the kernel of the whole currency question that will be now dealt with under the following four separate headings:—

How gold was placed in its present position.
The evils attending gold's appreciation.
How to assist gold and steady general prices.
General remarks.

HOW GOLD WAS PLACED IN ITS PRESENT POSITION.

Up to 1817 the moneys of America, England, and Europe were equally gold and silver, each metal was full legal tender as gold alone is now, their monetary systems were therefore bimetallic, but differed in ratios from 14 times the weight of silver being equal to 1 of gold to 16 to 1. In 1817 England made gold her sole money, only retaining silver in her currency for supplementary coins, which are legal tender to a limited amount, thus changing her hereto bimetallic system to a gold monometallic one.

In 1873 America and Germany practically followed suit, and in the same year France was obliged to close her mints to the coinage of silver brought by the public; while lately Roumania and then Austria have also become gold monometallic in their monetary systems. It will be at once seen that, by this general demonetization of silver, gold has been called upon to perform silver's former share of duty as money in these countries in addition to her own former share, and owing to the gold supply not proving equal to this increased call upon it, its value has advanced, and as gold is still proving unequal to the task thus imposed upon it, its value is continuing to increase, causing its purchasing power of the world's other commodities to become greater and greater. This appreciation of gold has been somewhat increased by the action of the European governments in withdrawing some from circulation and hoarding the same against possibly nearing war expenses. Russia alone is said to have thus stored $42 000,000 worth of gold: further, India, during the last thirty years, has imported gold to the value of $574,000,000, which has probably been made mostly into ornaments, but certainly lost to the world's circulation. Thus has gold been placed in its present position: it is unnecessary to here discuss the reasons that prompted America and Europe to demonetize silver—it was a gigantic blunder—sufficient their action has caused the appreciation of gold, the monetary standard by which all values are now measured in those countries.

THE EVILS ATTENDING GOLD'S APPRECIATION.

How great the actual appreciation of gold has been is not easy to exactly determine, but judged by the general fall in prices, or gold's increased purchasing power, it has been 30 per cent. since 1873, say averaging 1½ per cent. rise of gold a year for the last 20 years; so that to day $70 of gold will buy as much of the world's commodities as $100 did in 1873. Thus has business man's stock depreciated while on his hands in addition to any depreciation from other causes, causing deep and widespread depression wherever the gold standard rules. Borrowers, or the world's working bees, practically owe their creditors $130 for every $100 borrowed in 1873, or proportionately as they have borowed later. Doubtless the price of some products has lessened owing to cheapened methods in their production, but the fall in prices has been too general to thus account for gold's increased purchasing power. What an injustice this appreciation is to the debtor class—increasing their burden as it does, while perceptibly augmenting the wealth of the creditor class during a life-time—is too apparent to need comment: by the sufficient continuance of such a vicious process the world's enterprise would be stifled:—already, loaning by gold standard countries to silver stand-

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ard countries is interfered with. By this vast demonetization of silver and reducing that metal to the level of iron or copper, a great steadying force was withdrawn from such fluctuations in price since as to reduce trading between gold and silver standard countries to a gamble, cruelly dividing the world into two hemispheres to the detriment of honest commerce.

Why America has so long suffered the evils of the present monetary system is a mystery, as besides suffering from the general evils of the system, it injures so important an industry as her silver production, which rightly should realize about $60,000,000 annually. No wonder the Bland and then the Sherman bill were tried and that the West kicks.

Lastly, but by no means of least importance, are the difficulties of returning to a better monetary system without the evil of the injustice to creditor class that would be caused by raising prices or lowering the monetary standard by which debts are measured, and how to avoid the evil of upsetting business by any sudden change in prices.

HOW TO ASSIST GOLD AND STEADY GENERAL PRICES.

What is wanted is a steady monetary standard of measure by which prices shall be gauged. Because our present standard has caused trouble through its appreciation, it does not follow that a depreciating standard will bring prosperity—it will not—a falling standard would make loaning difficult and hurt both the wealthy and industrial classes; what is wanted alike by all is a fair gauge, namely, a steady standard by which prices shall be measured. Gold alone has proved an unsteady standard; will a double standard, say of gold and silver, prove a steadier one? Yes, for the reasons to be presently given, but first it will be as well to touch upon what has not, and that which will not, bring about the desired end, a steadier monetary standard.

Foremost is the tried remedy and rightly much abused Sherman Act, wrong in principle and unwisely administered, more need not be said than that the monthly purchases of silver, made under this Act, have not steadied prices, put more silver into circulation, maintained the price of silver, nor aided prosperity. While unrepealed it imparts a standing element of uncertainty to America's currency; and if persisted in would surely drain the United States treasury of gold; for, as worked, the treasury pays out gold for the silver received. Some think the government can go on doing this indefinitely; any nation possessing such a government would be able to achieve the feat, commonly supposed to be impossible for individuals, of lifting itself off the ground by its middle. A government does not support a nation financially, it is so supported by the nation.

Bimetallism by America alone on a basis of 16 to 1, combined with free coinage of gold and silver, as some suggest, would place her currency where that of Mexico and Japan now are. Both these countries have such a monetary system, and through it have not a gold coin circulating in their currencies; they therefore form object lessons for those advocating this system. Gold is to each at a heavy premium, and owing to their governments being unable to maintain the 16 to 1 ratio, their currencies are practically reduced to a silver basis and consequently greatly cheapened. Again, as France alone was unable after 1872, to maintain the ratio of 15½ to 1, therefore America alone would now be unable to maintain that of 16 to 1, as three important factors have since entered the arena against silver, namely, the present scramble for gold now going on in Europe; the cheapened cost at which silver can now be produced, owing partly to its being a by product of lead, copper, and gold; and the increase of 127 per cent. in silver's production since 1873; all of which operate against the possibility of silver being maintained at the former French ratio to gold, or the slightly lower one of 16 to 1. Were, through the adoption of bimetallism at 16 to 1, the currency reduced to a silver basis by that process, prices would not be steadied, but would rise; one would have more but cheaper dollars, which would go no farther than the former fewer and dearer, and no one would be the better off, while loaning would largely cease; much capital lie idle; savings' bank depositors and debenture holders lose heavily through the depreciated purchasing power of their fixed incomes; lastly, the large wage earning class would, with a cheapening currency, find it necessary to continually demand an increase of wages to bring their pay up to its former purchasing level, and even if they always got such an advance, they would still be the losers, as prices would continue to go higher, so that there would be two periods of adjustment, and the wage earners would find their wages in the second period, or always behind prices in purchasing power.

Once upon a silver basis, would the currency be allowed to remain there, and would the getting there be counterbalanced by the after benefits? The majority of thinking men in the great business centres of the East think not; and can it be supposed for one moment that the business men of the East are opposed to America reaching a silver basis, through this country adopting bimetallism alone, because they wish to squeeze or injure the South and West, in fact keep America unprosperous when the country's prosperity is necessary to them? Is it not more rational to suppose that they see greater disadvantages to America in adopting this course? Why should the East be supposed to be less patriotic then the South or West? A reason given for going to a silver basis is the supposed great stimulus America's manufactured goods would revive in the markets of silver standard countries, but the East, or manufacturing section, is opposed to a silver basis: it at least might be supposed to know what is best for itself.

Were America to reap solid advantages in supplying the demand for manufactured goods in the markets of silver standard countries, through being herself upon a silver basis, and England and Europe found they suffered in consequence, they would only have to adopt bimetallism on a true basis to trade as advantageously as America, who would have gone through much for nothing. Even her industries at home would not be protected against foreign competition were the competitors bimetallic countries.

Steady money on a sound basis is wished for by the Eastern bankers: bankers borrow as well as lend, and business on a sound basis is best for them as for others. Everything that hampers trade and the general well being of the country, and this includes an appreciating or depreciating currency, is alike bad for East, West, and South. What makes the Eastern men throw their weight against such an experiment as bimetallism by America alone, at 16 to 1, is that it would be exchanging the present evil of an appreciating currency for that of a more rapidly depreciating one, the evils of which have been pointed out. The soundness of this judgment is further borne out by the fact that production of silver as against that of gold is at a greater ratio than 16 to 1, the one advocated; it is about 20 ounces of silver to 1 ounce of gold at present, and the production of silver would still further increase as soon as America adopted bimetallism, as such an action would raise the price of silver, through giving it greater employment, and more of it could be profitably produced. But it could not raise silver to $1.29 an ounce, the price before 1873, for the reason already stated, and, as will be presently shown, until the intrinsic value of silver were raised to that figure—that is, made equal to gold at 16 to 1—gold would leave the country or be held at a premium, for it could find a better market than circulating on a forced par with the silver dollar of less intrinsic value. For this reason, no man would buy gold to take to the United States mints for coinage when silver, costing less, would coin into as much currency; and just as soon as gold left the currency and the government were unable to meet its obligations in gold dollars would the currency commence to cheapen down to the level of the intrinsic value of the silver dollar.

It is true that the total ounces of silver and gold in the world is supposed to be at the proportion of 15½ to 1, but this has all been placed as it were, whereas the annual production of both metals which has to be placed, or marketed really exercises a greater influence in determining the values of these precious metals than that already held; in fact their market price constitutes their value, and the difference in their production or market seeking ratio is much greater than 16 to 1.

Free coinage by the United States alone at 16 to 1 would not make the currency bimetallic, but prove a quick road to monometallism on a silver basis, and this is what the majority of the country does not want.

Now for the remedy to be applied, and how; this must be treated at length:

First, is a double standard, or bimetallism, preferable to a single standard, or monometallism, and why? Yes, when connected by a fair fixed ratio, as the likelihood of a double standard fluctuating is only half that of a single standard. With a single standard, whether of gold or silver, if the standard metal advance or fall in price, so will the standard fluctuate; if, on the other hand, there be a double standard, say of gold and silver, both metals must advance or fall in value at the same time to cause an alteration of the standard. For if they be joined by a given ratio, as for example by the fixed ratio of 20 to 1, that is with silver at $1.03 an ounce, to that of gold at $20.67 an ounce, should the market price of silver advance to $1.08, or a relative value of 19 to 1, then it is obvious that the proportionately cheaper market metal, as judged by the *fixed* ratio of 20 to 1, gold in this case, would only be taken to the mints for coinage; and, *vice versa*, should silver fall to a market value of 98 cents an ounce, through the appreciation of gold, or either causes, that is, to a market proportion of 21 to 1, then would gold be neglected and silver only be taken by the public for coinage. Anyone wanting $1,000 of currency would naturally pay as little as possible for such, that is, take to the mint whichever metal would give $1,000 of currency at the cheaper rate. Were the fixed ratio settled near the natural relative values of the two metals, this simple action by the public would come into play and readjust the actual values of the two metals to that of the fixed ratio, or either of them fluctuating; also help to keep the monetary standard of general prices steady.

As to the best metal to receive into the monetary system to run with gold were bimetallism adopted, as none have yet questioned the prior suitability of silver, therefore there is no need to here advocate that metal, but it is difficult to resist pointing out the great benefit that will accrue to international trade with silver standard countries when that metal's price has been steadied by its full readmission to the currencies of the civilized world.

Naturally the important question arises, what is the proper ratio to fix with a general return to bimetallism? Were a much higher ratio adopted for silver to gold than the present market price of the former metal, and it be proposed that on a given day bimetallism should come in force with that ratio, even although the fixed ratio should subsequently prove about the natural relative value of silver to gold (after this greater call for silver fully operated) such a proceeding would be injudicious, as money would be weakened in purchasing power until silver had risen to the level of the gold at the fixed ratio. Every creditor who could get in his debts immediately would do so, and buy silver or other commodities to be held for the rise that would temporarily take place in general prices through the sudden lowering of the monetary standard, which rush would cause widespread confusion and then probably disaster. For no matter what the intrinsic value of part of a country's circulating currency may be, such as its notes, token money, or subsidiary coinage, its monetary standard must and will always stand at its true intrinsic value, this portion alone is its money, the rest is but currency. And were the present gold standard countries to suddenly adopt bimetallism with silver at a much higher ratio than its market, or buying values, there would be a corresponding cheapening of their moneys to the market value of the new metal, received into their monetary systems, and prices only resume their former level when the newly admitted metal rose in market value to equal gold at the fixed ratio. Were a ratio fixed too high for silver to presently intrinsically reach it in value, the currencies would remain debased, and general prices not resume their old level. Some have it that any ratio can be adopted and maintained without change to the purchasing power of a standard. Were this so, why not at once adopt a ratio of 1 to 1, or silver at a par with gold? No, the ratio with bimetallism can be fixed too high, and a cheapening of the monetary standard, follow, even to the cheaper metal entirely taking the place of the dearer, and placing the currency on a monometallic basis with the cheaper metal as standard. If contrariwise, bimetallism were adopted at too low a ratio, as the one represented by silver's present market value to gold, that ratio would not be a natural or beneficial one and would only tend to nail the price of silver to its low level; for as we have previously shown, if silver rose higher in market value than equivalent to the fixed ratio it would not be minted. Silver is at present neglected and consequently depressed in price, but a return to bimetallism would tend to raise its price through giving it more employment, and the ratio should therefore be fixed higher than equal to its present market price. Then if the old basis 16 to 1, is too high and the present market ratio too low, what is the correct ratio to be decided upon? This can best be decided by the natural law of supply and demand, by the same means can the price of silver be raised to about its natural relative value to gold, and during the time of transition and after general prices remain undisturbed.

Let bimetallism be at first introduced with no fixed ratio, and so continued until it be considered that silver has advanced to the equivalent of the true ratio, then let that ratio be fixed for all time. In this way there would be no disturbance in general prices, as the monetary standard would remain steady. The working would be simple: open the mints to free coinage of both metals and merely put into the full tender silver dollar silver equal in market value to the present gold dollar, so that both dollars intrinsically equalled one another, and this continue from time to time to lessen the

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amount of silver in that dollar as the price of silver rose until it reached a level considered to be its natural ratio to gold.

There would be no occasion to follow silver's daily price with such a system; it would be sufficient to periodically settle temporarily the amount of silver which the new silver dollars should contain.

The silver dollars at first coined under this system would be clumsy, nearly double in size to that of the present token coin, but their inconvenient size would soon decrease to handier proportions, and the first issues then disappear into melting pots, as their bullion value would have become greater than their face value. The clumsiness of the first issues would be as nothing in inconvenience as compared to that of upsetting prices through causes as stated.

Now comes the final question: Should America alone try bimetallism at any ratio, even one arrived at by the means just referred to? After careful consideration, the answer appears to be in the negative, both for America's interest and that of silver, while the present scramble for gold continues. The ratio would have to be a comparatively low one, if she wished to retain gold in her monetary system, and at such a ratio her silver coinage would be inconveniently bulky, also silver not be benefited, as it would be nailed down to a low price by the low ratio necessarily adopted. Europe would be glad to see this steadying influence exercised in silver's favour and probably let silver alone for a long time to come instead soon of taking measures in its favour, as must be done if America declines to move to this metal's support unless in concert with Europe. When the benefit to silver will be more lasting and greater, owing to the much larger field that would be opened to its employment. Therefore by waiting a little the silver mine owners will get a higher permanent price for their metal and America benefit as a producer of that metal! while going for bimetallism *with Europe* she will avoid all risk of future disturbance to her currency.

England must do something before long to steady silver, as the injury to her vast trade with silver standard countries, caused by its violent fluctuations, is proving disastrous to her traders; but if any other nation will steady silver she will not have as much occasion to move.

India cannot maintain the rupee at 16 pence if silver much further decline; shall America stay that decline or leave it to England, who must do so if America does not act?

The Latin League in Europe have $950,000,000 worth of silver coins whose face value they will find it very difficult to maintain unless the fall of silver be stopped, and must do something for silver if America does not.

When it be seen that America will not support silver alone, then will the Old World move for its support, and seek America's cöoperation, who can come in without risk to her monetary system and with greater weight than if she herself sought Europe's cöoperation.

Gold's appreciation is as much felt by the working bees of Europe and England as those here.

GENERAL REMARKS.

The wealth and populat on of the world is growing, and the output of its principal monetary standard of measure must so increase as to keep pace with that growth, or fall behind, and appreciate; this is exactly gold's position, while the output of silver is keeping abreast of our growth; and if the civilized world would have steady money it must remonetize silver and lessen the employment of gold.

Everyone is entitled to his or her opinion upon this question, and to express the same if they wish: there is no occasion to abuse those holding different opinions to ourselves.

It has been hinted that the West would like a cheapened currency in which to repay her debenture bonds for water-works, irrigation ditches, etc., but this is untrue. The people of the western silver producing States are feeling the pinch most acutely, and are loudest in their demand for speedy justice, which is all they seek; but whether they suggest the best remedy, or are in the best position to do so, other honest men must be allowed to question. There is no need for distrust on either side, and the less there is the easier and sooner will the proper settlement of this important currency problem be arranged.

WARDLEY.

Colorado Springs, Colo., U.S.A.
July 21st, 1893.

ECZEMA.—Book on "Skin Trouble," sent free for One Stamp by Messrs. NORTH & RAE, Limited, Yokohama.

LETTER FROM AUSTRALIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Healsville, Victoria, July 21st.

The mind of the public during the past two months has been centred on Bank reconstruction schemes. Most of the leading banks have started afresh. The principles of reconstruction are very much the same with all the banks. This is accounted for by the fact that, before receiving permission to reopen, each of the failing banks has been required to submit its scheme of reconstruction to the court. In some cases the court has, in the interests of creditors, ordered important modifications in the proposed arrangements. The leading features of reconstruction are as follow:—The present shareholders are to continue liable for the full amount of their present liability until the maturity or payment by the banks of the amounts now due to the present creditors of the banks. No dividend to the holder of ordinary shares at higher rate than 5 per cent. per annum shall be paid until maturity or payment by the banks of their present liabilities. No dividend shall be paid to the holders of ordinary shares out of the reserve fund until the maturity or payment by the banks of the amounts now due to their creditors. In the case of shares changing hands after the suspension of the bank, in the event of the new shareholder being unable to pay the bank's calls, the original shareholder shall be held responsible for the amount called for. Creditors to be allowed to take preference shares covering the amounts due to them, and until a dividend of 5 per cent. per annum has been paid on these preference shares no dividend shall be paid on ordinary shares. In the event of creditors objecting to become shareholders deposit receipts shall be given to them for the amounts due, payable is five, six, and seven years from the incorporation of the new banks. Creditors to be allowed to draw on their current accounts up to £100. Thus it will be seen that a general lock up of money temporarily lodged in the banks has taken place. The inconvenience, and in the case of business men the ruin, caused by this measure can well be imagined. Trade is paralysed. Written contracts are not worth the paper on which they were penned. Tradespeople are loth to refuse credit to old customers whose payments have hitherto been punctual, yet to grant it means that before long they will be without the ready cash necessary for carrying on their businesses. The only section of the community which is not affected by the bank failure consists of large capitalists who have been living on the interest of their money hitherto, and will still continue to do so. There has been a great outcry throughout the colony against the locking up of current accounts, and the Victorian Government has been urged to follow the lead of New South Wales and devise measures for the relief of current account holders. The *Argus* has warmly advocated this course. But in vain; Mr. Tatterson and his colleagues hold that the Government of Victoria is already sufficiently weighted with responsibilities, and that it is under no obligation to help the banks out of the slough into which they have fallen. Be this as it may, the Government has profited by the financial disasters which have followed each other in such quick succession in one important particular. It has discovered that the Banking Laws of the colony are most defective; that banks in this country have far more liberty granted to them than they enjoy in most countries, and that from the use, or, we might say, the abuse of this liberty the public ought to be protected. As a result of this discovery we find among the bills to be laid before the parliament now in session one for the amendment of the Banking Laws. It is at length admitted on all hands that the order issued by the Government for the temporary closing of all banks in the colony, to which I alluded in my last letter, was a most ill advised measure, and that it hastened the calamity which it was intended to avert. Curious to say, the banks which were the first to disobey that order, the Union, the Bank of New South Wales, and the Bank of Australasia, have all survived the flood of distrust by which all banking institutions were surrounded and almost submerged. It was the vacillation shown by the banks which closed their doors for the prescribed time that hastened their ruin. There must be something wrong, said the public, when a bank is glad to be released from the responsibility of paying its creditors as promptly as they have a right to demand payment. The crisis is past, but its effects cannot but be felt in every branch of business and by the majority of the population of the colony for many a long year to come. It has already involved in almost every private family a curtailment of expenses and a determination to do without luxuries and comforts which have hitherto been enjoyed. If there is one characteristic that is more marked in the Australian than any other it is improvidence. It is the custom of the colonial to spend as he gets. When in the past he has made money rapidly he has by indulging in all sorts of pleasures, gambling being one of the chief, soon furnished an apt illustration of the saying that riches take to themselves wings. Pleasure has been the God of the nation, and money has only been valued as furnishing the means for enjoyment. To be so pinched for money as not to know how to maintain his wife and children is a new experience to the colonial. It may tend to steady him and lead him no longer to regard life as all beer and skittles. There is no denying that the general upheaval that has taken place has revealed some very rotten financial foundations. Since the land boom period banking and kindred lines of business have been conducted on a total unsound basis. The crash was bound to come sooner or later. The fictitious prices which were placed on property during the existence of the well known craze were in many instances made the basis of loans issued by the banks. From that time down to the present day the banks have foreseen that to attempt to realise their assets would mean ruin. They have held on, hoping in vain for another land boom. The colony is in great straits, but it will soon recover. Now that the enchanted palace has fallen about its ears, it will begin again, and build next time more slowly and more surely. "There is a tendency in things to right themselves," says Emerson, "and the war or revolution or bankruptcy that shatters a rotten system, allows things to take a new and natural order."

The *Sydney Morning Herald*, the oldest existing newspaper in Australia, has announced the reduction of its price to one penny per copy. The first number of the *Herald* was published on April 18th, 1831. It became a daily on October 1st, 1840. The *Herald* has been a 2d. paper for nearly 30 years.

The recent opening of parliament has been made the occasion for expressing the public sentiment as regards the character and qualifications of our local politicians. An occasional contributor to the *Argus* pours out his vials of satire on the 95 members in the following manner:—

THE PASSING SHOW.

BY ONEL.

As usual the opening of Parliament was a glorious and inspiring function. It is not alone the pomp and circumstance, although that figures in picturesque contrast to the murkiness of the surrounding depression. The ennobling element of the scene lies rather in the reflection that, however desperate the affairs of the country may be, we have these 95 men sworn to save her or draw £300 in the attempt. When we see the one hundred and ninety trotters (departmental) of these hon members pattering once more up the steps and along the flags of Parliament-house the feeling comes over us that all is not yet lost; that these men, like a serried phalanx strong in high-mindedness, rectitude, and patriotism, will stand impregnable between us and the ultimate onslaught of disaster. We can see it in their men; we can read it in the records of their past:—

Fling back the portals proudly, sweep clear the staircase wide,
From the gaping hundreds gathered to view the country's pride.
Four score and fifteen members marked by the hand of fate,
Sealed from a million others to buttress up the State.
Some they are come from the forests and the paddocks and pastures near,
Watered by groan ng settlers with the sweat of the load they bear;
And some from the sordid city, where the cry goes up aloud
That the garment woven in Spring-street is a starving beggar's shroud.
Four score and fifteen members, walk ng the white-washed ways,
Careful the course of duty, spurning the path that pays.
The pillars are gleaming stainless, and the cushions on which they lean
At sight of their spotless virtue are blushing an envious green.
Who says the search light shadows on lips or liver one stain?
That ever we scrambled for pride of place or pattered for greed of gain?
Clean from the taint of traffic, we're held this tenet tight
That our vote is for our country, our country for the right.
There may be hands foul smeared and breath that reeks of the Judas kiss
But that's in a country across the way, in a land very far from this.
It's only beyond our borders that ever men stooped to job
Or echoed the bray of the foolish, or lied to the moonstruck snob.
That's why when the Houses open and roll of the salute drum,
There's a blessing breathed to heaven for the fact that we have come;
And when from wall and windows the cold white rays are flashed,
We can lift our heads in the lamplight—gentlemen unabashed

A sensitive paint has been invented which should prove useful for detecting hot bearings in machinery. It is always bright yellow when cold, but gradually changes colour on being heated, and at 220 deg. becomes bright red.

The *Daily Telegraph* says:—Earl Spencer has refused the Viceroyalty of India, and it is known that Lord Herschell would decline the post. It is understood that the appointment has now been offered to Lord Roberts, and it is quite possible that he will accept it.

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UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA CHAMPAIGN

IN H.B.M. COURT FOR JAPAN.

Before JAMES TROUP, Esq., Assistant Judge.
THURSDAY, September 21st, 1893.

THE ORIENTAL HOTEL, KOBE, *v.* STEPHEN GIFFARD HART.

This was a judgment summons in pursuance of a judgment rendered in Kobe by H.B.M.'s Court for the sum of $81.73, exclusive of costs, which amounts to $8.

Mr. Duncan McNeill represented the Hotel, the defendant appearing personally.

The case was called on the 19th inst., but was adjourned until to-day in order to permit defendant making an arrangement for the payment of the money due by him. As he was unable to do this, Mr. McNeill desired to put some questions to him relative to his means.

The defendant was duly sworn.

Mr. McNeill—I believe, Mr. Hart, judgment was recorded against you in the Kobe Court for $81.73?—Yes.

And that judgment has not been satisfied?—No.

Why is that?—I have no funds.

The judgment is for money due for board and lodging in the Oriental Hotel, Kobe, for about three weeks or two weeks and a half?—Yes.

From what date—14th of August was it not?—No, but I cannot tell the exact time.

Was it not that date?—I think I went to Kobe on the 7th.

His Honour—For what period was the judgment rendered.

Mr. McNeil replied for three weeks, more or less.

Defendant—I went to Kobe first on the 7th August and stayed at the Oriental Hotel. The bills were presented weekly.

Did you pay your first bill?—Yes. It was not for a week, only for three or four days, after which I went to the Hiogo.

For how long?—For three days. The bill from there is dated the 14th, but I think this is wrong, as I stayed there on a Saturday, Sunday, and Monday.

Did you pay your bill at the Hiogo Hotel?—Yes. After that I went back to the Oriental.

Why was that?—Because I preferred it.

Had you any employment in Kobe?—No, not in Kobe itself, but I had some business there, although my business is in Yokohama.

What was your business?—Selling oil.

His Honour—I don't understand you.

Defendant—I was selling oil from Yokohama on commission.

Mr. McNeill—On behalf of persons in Yokohama?—Yes.

On whose account may I ask?—Mr. E. Kildoyle.

Had he engaged you as his agent for that purpose?—Certainly.

Upon what terms?—Commission. That is to say I received no regular salary, but was given a commission on the oil sold. I sold some in Kobe, about seven or eight hundred gallons, I think, and worth about *yen* 500.

Did you receive any commission on that amount?—No.

What was to be the amount of your commission?—That was to depend upon the price obtained. I received some money from Mr. Kildoyle before I left. I was to receive half the amount obtained above cost price.

What did this amount to in the case of the 700 gallons?—Perhaps $45 or $50, but I couldn't say without looking at my prices. This was my share of the sale; the total profit was about $90.

When did you make this sale?—On various dates. I am afraid I cannot give the dates, but think on the 16th I sold 100 gallons.

Can't you tell us the cost price of those 100 gallons?—About $55 to $60. Some of it was cheap oil.

And you sold it for how much?—About $76.

So that you earned about $10 on that transaction?—Yes.

How much did Mr. Kildoyle give you for your expenses?—$200.

That was for your expenses in Kobe?—No, I had been in Tokyo for some days before going to Kobe.

How much of this did you take to Kobe?—About $80

So that in the course of your short visit to Tokyo you spent $120?—No, in Yokohama as well as other places. I got the money about the 1st of August, but the arrangement was come to at the end of July. I left for Kobe on the 7th.

Between the 1st and the 7th you spent $120?—Yes.

Then you took your passage?—Yes, and arrived with nearly $70. The bill of the Oriental Hotel during the few days I stayed there was $18 86, which would leave me, if I had no other expenses, about $50. I then went to the Hiogo Hotel. My bill there was $14.25, which would leave me, apart from other expenses, $35 or $36. I spent other money on *jinrikisha* and railway fares, so that when I went to the Oriental Hotel a second time I had about $20 to $25. I had no other employment besides the selling of this oil. I was to sell as much as I could, not only $700. I sold about 100 gallons on the 6th, and had no difficulty in disposing of it. I have not received payment for them, as they have not yet been delivered. I was only selling from samples.

When was your commission to be paid?—It was paid to me in advance on account of the gross commission that was due me.

May I take it then that you are indebted to Mr. Kildoyle for commission on oil not yet delivered?—Yes. The sales in Kobe did not yield above $200. Such amount would depend very much on the quality of the oil and the prices for which it was sold. I would have had to sell a lot of oil for my commission to reach the amount advanced. The oils were of different qualities. To sell oil at all one would have to work very hard, as it is a very difficult business. If I had remained in Kobe I would have sold three times the amount I did, as I could have disposed of a large quantity at Osaka, seeing that I had not yet exhausted all the places round about. The reason why I did not go was because I was waiting for a party who just at that time went to Moji. The first week of my stay after my return my bill was presented to me. This is the bill; it is for $50.63.

This was for your first week?—Yes.

You didn't pay?—No.

Why?—I had no funds.

Did you explain this to the Manager?—I told him to leave it for a few days

With what object?—To enable me to get some money.

You did not explain that you had no money and was unable to discharge it?—No, I did not.

Why?—I proposed getting some money from Mr. Kildoyle as a further advance against commission. By the 21st I had altogether sold 2,000 gallons, of which 1,000 gallons were disposed of in Yokohama before I left for Kobe. I had no definite arrangement with Mr. Kildoyle; I was to get half the commission on sales. The first orders that I received from the travelling agent were to be treated as if made in the future and I was to get commission on it. The orders I had were from the travelling agent of the house which were handed over to Mr. Kildoyle. He was empowered to give me a commission. The agent undertook to give me it if he could make no other arrangement with a local house. I obtained orders for the travelling agent on his samples.

On what terms?—On commission.

He definitely promised you commission?—Yes, on the prices obtained. He gave me the selling price and cost price, and the price above that I was receive.

You were to get the profits above what would satisfy him?—He quoted me the cost price f.o.b. New York and I was to obtain full prices. The cost price does not necessarily mean the selling price. Then the arrangement was come to with Mr. Kildoyle from the 1st August. I obtained orders for 16 barrels, which would be about equal to a 1,000 gallons.

At this stage the Court adjourned till 2 p.m.

On resuming, the examination of defendant was continued.

In answer to Mr. McNeill, he said—After I asked the Manager to let the bill stand over, I wrote to Mr. Kildoyle asking him to come to Kobe, saying I wanted to see him on business, and at the same time to get some more money from him. I cannot say whether I wrote that I wanted more money from him; I think not. After the two or three days were over the bill was again presented, when I asked the Manager to wait until I had heard from Yokohama; that I could not discharge it until I had so heard. I did not give him to understand that I was expecting money from Yokohama. He seemed to be content to wait without knowing the contents of my letter. Mr. Kildoyle came and saw me in Kobe. I asked him for a further advance, but he would not give it to me, and put an end to my agency. This was about the 24th or 25th of August. I fix that date by the bill being presented to me a few days before, about the middle of the second week of my stay. I did not tell the Manager my relations with Mr. Kildoyle had been terminated. Don't suppose he knew of our relations. I told the Manager, after Mr. Kildoyle's departure, that I had no money to meet the bill, and he immediately took out a summons against him. Mr. Kildoyle only stayed a day. I told the manager that perhaps I would be able to get some money in Yokohama—expected some of my friends to help me. I stayed to the end of the week, but he had already taken out the summons against me. I don't know the date of the summons, I think the 27th or 28th, but can't say positively. I think the summons was taken out the day after Kildoyle left, when I said I couldn't meet my bill. I think I told the manager the day after Kildoyle left. He left the middle of one day, and I told the Manager the next day.

Mr. McNeill pointed out that there was something in defendant's bill which required a certain amount of explanation. He saw that the amount for his board totalled $24.50, while for refreshments, etc., there was a further amount of $25.80, which made the bill more than double what it should be.

To defendant—Can you give any explanation of why this should have been so? No.

Having only $20 or $22 in your possession and already getting more commission than you had earned, how was it, that you, without any prospect of paying it, doubled your board bill to such an extent?—It was understood Mr. Kildoyle would not deduct the money he had first advanced me. I considered the money was due me as the orders were procured by me. My commission was earned as soon as orders are produced. The only thing I had to do was to get the orders. I had nothing to do with receiving money or giving delivery of the goods. It was arranged that Mr. Kildoyle was to advance me money for payment of my expenses and allow me commission until the gross commission was earned by me. The firm had advanced him money for a traveller to push the sale of the oil, of which a certain portion was to come to me besides commission. Mr. Kildoyle advanced me some money besides what the firm allowed, but it was advanced me for expenses and commission. I was to have all except the expense of an office. I was to have $240 besides commission. This was arranged in August.

Why did you not tell us this before?—I don't think I concealed it. I thought it was Mr. Kildoyle's private business and had nothing to do with the case. The contract made between Mr. Kildoyle and the agent was sent on for signature, and it was arranged that compliance be wired out. I saw a draft of the agreement and believe it has now been consummated. Mr. Kildoyle was to get a certain sum for office expenses, and of the balance he was to take his share and give me the remainder. As far as I know, the agreement was sent to New York to be ratified. I saw the draft, but after that know nothing more about it. I know nothing more about the draft than that it had been sent to New York to be ratified.

When did you last leave Kobe?—On August 30th for Yokohama.

Why?—Because I had nothing further to do there.

How did you come up, by steamer?—Yes.

Did you pay your own passage up?—Yes.

Out of what money?—My own.

Out of the balance you got for commission?—No, from a man in Kobe to enable me to come here.

Did you leave any other debts at Kobe?—There might have been something at the Club.

How much?—I don't know.

Did not think it worth while to enquire?—I did enquire, but as the Manager wasn't in the men could not tell me. They didn't know, and I don't know now how much it is.

When did you first come to Japan?—I came to Japan in May. I came here in order to engage in business. I have been in the Straits Settlements, but came last from Java. I had no employment in Java, but was employed in the Straits on business for myself. Business was bad and I lost. Tried to do business in Java but failed, and then came to Japan with $400 odd. Stayed at the Grand Hotel about one month—early in May to the 4th or 5th of June. Then I took a house on the Bluff and stayed till the 1st of August. On the 7th I left for Kobe. I may have left some small debts—Yes, I did—here, something at the Club, about $23, nothing in the Boat Club as I paid before going to Tokyo, but cannot remember the amount. I did nothing here before the oil business.

Since coming here have you earned nothing besides the $200 from Mr. Kildoyle, and have been residing here since the 6th or 8th of May?—Yes.

What funds have you now?—None whatever. I am not paying for my board and lodging at present.

What do you mean by "at present," have you made any arrangement as to payment?—No, I will pay when I get cash

Do you mean to say you are living on others' hospitality or charity?—Yes.

Mr. Hart, it appears that you came here with $400 and have been living here until August without receiving money in any way, and you then left for Kobe with $70 in your pocket. At Kobe you stayed at first class hotels, at the Oriental and at the Hiogo and on your second visit to the former you had only $20 in pocket and have lived there for two weeks without any means of payment. Now I want you to explain to His Honour how you incurred such a debt without having a reasonable expectation of being able to discharge it. If not, I

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shall ask His Honour to commit you to prison. Explain in your own words to the Court your position.

His Honour, to defendant—What expectations had you?—I had an expectation of making money at the oil business as well as in other goods. When I left Java I had arranged with a firm there to send samples of Japanese goods and have since shipped samples and prices. I have received a reply that my letter was received, but that the samples had not yet arrived. I expect them to give me an order out of which I could have made something. (Letter produced and handed in.) I knew what they wanted, as I saw the principal of the firm in Batavia and, I know that they want it. Had almost concluded arrangements if I could supply at a certain price. Have nothing else to say but that I am justified by the letter from Java.

Mr. McNeill—If this is all the explanation Mr. Hart has to offer, for incurring the bill at the Oriental Hotel, I shall have to ask your Honour under sub section 5 of Rule 131 to say that this liability was wilfully contracted or incurred by the defendant without his having at the same time a reasonable expectation of being able to pay or discharge it, and so holding I must ask your Honour to commit the defendant to prison for such time as your Honour thinks fit, so as to make defendant more careful in the future to make certain of his means before incurring such expenses.

His Honour then read the defendant's evidence which was certified as correct and signed by defendant.

His Honour stated that it was extremely painful for him to say that the conviction had been forced upon him that defendant knew he was without any reasonable expectation of paying the bill he had incurred. He must have been well aware that the commission he was then earning could never pay and cover his expensive way of living, which he must also point out was at an unreasonable rate. The item for refreshments covered a large amount. Commenting on defendant's evidence, His Honour remarked that it was far from satisfactory regarding the arrangement he said existed for pushing the sale of the oil. His evidence on the point was very conflicting. His Honour could see nothing in the letter which could be construed as holding forth reasonable expectations, reasonable expectation of funds to pay the Oriental Hotel. It was extremely painful for him to take the view forced on him, but under the circumstances, it being forced on him, he would convict defendant to prison for three days. He trusted it would be a warning to him in his dealings with other men. He must point out to the prosecution that under section 133 the expenses connected with the imprisonment must be defrayed by the prosecution.

Mr. McNeill said he understood.

The Court then rose

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[Reuter "Special" to "Japan Mail."]

London, September 16.

Parliament adjourns on the 23rd instant till the 2nd of November.

London, September 18.

The Times says it is rumoured that the Indian Government is about to issue Treasury Bills for five millions sterling, running for five years at three and a half per cent.

Later.

The *Standard's* Berlin correspondent says that Russia is going to acquire a naval station in Eastern Asia, and that France has offered either Obok or Saigon, but Russia desires to make her own selection.

[Obok would not be a "naval station in Eastern Asia," being as it is on the African coast just outside the Straits of Bab el Mandeb, and the alleged offer by France to give up Saigon is open to doubt.—Ed. *J.M.*]

London, September 20.

It has been ascertained that the India Office intends to re-issue a certain amount of Government Debentures which were declined at 91. The amount depends on the sale of Council Drafts, only a small amount of which has been issued hitherto. Nothing like five millions sterling is contemplated.

[Specially telegraphed to the "Japan Daily Mail."]
(From the "N.-C. Daily News.")

Shanghai, September 12.

The sailing vessel *Florence Treat*, from Singapore bound to Shanghai, has been totally lost on Breaker Point together with nearly all her crew.

Paris, September 13.

The Russian Fleet has arrived at Toulon; the return visit of the French fleet to Cronstadt is fixed for the 13th of October.

London, September 12.

The disturbances in Yorkshire are quieting down; nevertheless further squadrons of cavalry have been dispatched to the disturbed districts.

Prince Bismarck is lying seriously ill with an attack of gout.

Cholera is decreasing at Hull and Grimsby, but has appeared in London.

London, September 14.

Reports from the Congo confirm the news of the death of Emin Pasha.

Lieut. Parke, a member of Stanley's last expedition to Africa, is dead.

London, September 15.

Rear-Admiral di Mello, with a part of the Brazilian Navy, was lying off Rio de Janeiro when the city revolted. He made several attempts to land, but all were repulsed with heavy slaughter.

Senator Faulkner, of Virginia, has given notice of an amendment in the Senate to the Repeal Bill, proposing to purchase for the purposes of coinage three million dollars' worth of silver monthly, until the silver circulation amounts to eight hundred million dollars, and to retire all paper currency below twenty dollars face value.

London, September 16.

The British Mediterranean Squadron has been fêted at all the Italian ports, where the ships will remain till the reception festivities accorded to the Russian Squadron at Toulon are over.

Owing to the Home Rule agitation in Bohemia, a state of siege has been proclaimed at Prague and the surrounding district.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

Solution of Problem No. 87.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—B to Q 2	1—Any.
2—Mates accc.	

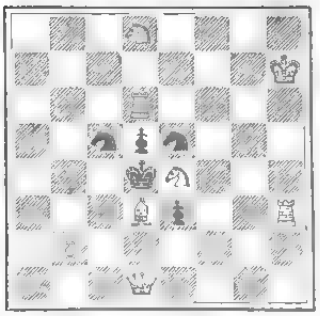
Correct solutions received from Omega, J.D., J.W.E., and O. Balk.

J.W.E. is also credited with correct solution of No. 86.

Problem No. 89.

By T. Taverner.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in two moves.

We regret to see that the Chess column of the *New York Tribune*, under the able control of Mr. Steinitz, was discontinued on the 9th ult., through the veteran's inability to give it the requisite attention. The problem department was not strong, but the annotation of the games by Mr. Steinitz was a feature which will be much missed by Chess readers.

There is not much interest in Chess circles this week. The autumnal rains are driving the country sojourners back to town and the Yokohama Chess Club holds it Annual Meeting on Monday, 2nd October.

The correspondence games between Nagasaki and Yokohama work along slowly. As the combatants get well into the middle game some interesting positions may be expected.

The home journals contain nothing new. They continue publishing the lives of Chess notabilities now deceased. In the *British Chess Magazine* is an interesting account of a promising youth named Derrickson, born in Philadelphia about fifty years ago: and who promised to become a second Morphy. Unfortunately he was cut off before manhood came to ripen his powers. We reprint one of his games played when he was quite a boy: the expert Cunningham says of it:—"Rarely has such a beautiful Knight mate been brought about in actual over-the-board play, and the game all through is a gem of the first water, not unworthy even of the great Morphy himself, when in the most brilliant mood."

Bishop's Opening.

WHITE. Amateur.	BLACK Master Derrickson.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—B to B 4	2—Kt to K B 3
3—Kt to K B 3	3—Kt to B 3
4—Castles.	4—B to B 4
5—P to Q 3	5—P to Q 3
6—B to K Kt 5	6—B to K Kt 5
7—P to K R 3	7—P to K R 4
8—P × B	8—P × P
9—Kt to R 2	9—P to Kt 6
10—Kt to B 3	10—Kt to K Kt 5
11—B × Q	11—B × P ch.
12—R × B	12—P × R ch.
13—K to B sq.	13 R to R 8 ch.
14—K to K 2	14—R × Q
15—K Kt to Q 2	15—Kt to Q 5 ch.
16—K × R	16—Kt to K 6 ch.
17—K to B sq.	17—Kt to K 7 mate.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, Nagasaki, and Kobe ...	per N. Y. K.	Friday, Sept. 29th.
From America	per P. M. Co.	Saturday, Sept. 30th.*
From Hongkong	per P. M. Co.	Thursday, Sept. 28th.†
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Sept. 24th.‡
From Canada, &c. ...	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Oct. 2nd §
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Friday, Sept 29th.‖
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Wednesday, Oct. 4th.
From America	per O. & O. Co.	Sunday, Oct. 8th.
From Hongkong ...	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, Oct. 12th.

* *China* left San Francisco viâ Honolulu on September 12th † *City of New York* left Hongkong on September 21st. ‡ *Persia* left Nagasaki on September 20th § *Empress of China* left Vancouver on September 19th. ‖ *Saghalien* (with French mail) left Hongkong on September 21st.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For America	per P. M. Co.	Saturday, Sept. 23rd.
For Europe, viâ Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Sept. 24th.
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki..... ..	per N. Y. K.	Tuesday, Sept. 26th.
For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, Sept 30th.
For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Oct. 2nd.
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Thursday, Oct. 5th.
For Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, Oct. 6th.
For Victoria, B.C., and Tacoma, Wash.... ..	per N. P. Co.	Monday, Oct. 9th.
For Canada, &c	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, Oct. 13th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Daphne (4), gunboat, Captain MacArthur, 16th September,—Hongkong viâ ports, 31st August.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Thompson, 16th September,—Kobe 15th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, R. R. Searle, 18th September,—San Francisco 2nd September, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Pentier, 18th September,—Otaru viâ ports 14th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. M. Young, 18th September, Kobe 17th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nestor, British steamer, 1,263, Pottinger, 19th September,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Ixion, British steamer, 2,299, Nish, 20th September,—Liverpool viâ ports, and Shanghai 16th September, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Marion (7), U.S. corvette, Captain C. V. Gridley, 20th September,—Target Practice.

Mitke Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,053, C. A. Anderson, 21st September,—Miyako 20th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Moyune, British steamer, 1,714, C. de la Perrelle, 21st September,—London viâ ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Lawang, German steamer, 1,578, Von Binzer, 21st September,—Hamburg viâ ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, R. Tipple, 21st September,—Otaru viâ ports 16th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

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Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,358, Haswell, 22nd September,—Shanghai and ports 16th September, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,246, J. T. Smith, 22nd September,—Hongkong viâ ports, 15th September, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,034, Walter, 22nd September,—Kobe 21st September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES

Daphne (4), gunboat, Captain MacArthur, 17th September,—Hakodate.

Elax, British steamer, 4,200, Carmichael, 17th September,—Havre viâ ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,034, Walter, 17th September,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Thompson, 17th September,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Marion (7), U S. corvette, Captain C. V. Gridley, 18th September,—Target Practice.

Yokohama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,298, J. W. Ekstrand, 19th September,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, R. R. Searle, 20th September,—Hongkong, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Crown of England, British steamer, 1,940, Gibson, 20th September,—Seattle, Wash., General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Pender, 20th September,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. M. Young, 20th September,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Glenfruin, British steamer, 1,918, E. Norman, 21st September,—New York viâ ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Porpoise (6), cruiser, Captain C. L. Burr, 21st September.—Hakodate.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Omi Maru*, from Kobe:—Mr., and Mrs. Cain and child, Miss Naughton, Mr. W. H. Stone, and Mr. M. Dithlefsen in cabin; 11 Europeans in second class, and 16 Japanese in steerage.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, from San Francisco:—Mr. Alfred Schmidt, Mr. Von Alfthen, Mr. and Mrs. G Rosengart, Mr. Edw Spencer Pratt, Mr. Rorello Achille, Miss K. Bonde, Miss A. T. Graves, Miss E. K. Talbot, Miss Sara Evans, Rev J. Y. McGuines, Mr. and Mrs. Hiles and child, Mr. A. Helbing, Mrs. H. Sykes, Mrs. M. E. McGuines, Miss Julia McGuines, Dr. W. H. Venables, Miss B. Smith, and Miss S. E. Fleming in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, from Otaru viâ ports:—Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Mashall and Mr. J R. Moore in cabin; 3 passengers in second class, and 81 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, from Kobe:—Miss Hanna Anderson, Miss Annie Danielson, Mr. O. A. Seaholm, Mr. and Mrs. Hedberg, Mr. Okada Sengen, and Mr. Hiraoka Tenchin cabin; 18 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Mrs. Gordon How, Miss Edith Stewart, Mr. Chas. E. Bigmore, Mr. and Mrs. Cooper, Mrs. Wm. Thompson and 2 children, Mr. G. Melchers, Mr. J. T. How, Mr. Lo Wing Bun, Mr. H. G. Dowler, Mr. R. J. Kirby, Mrs. and Miss Mino, Mr. N. Mino, Mr. W. E. Whymark, Mr. H. Nishimura, Mr. J. C. Wilkinson, and Mrs Graham and 2 children in cabin; Mr. Kimura in second class, and 44 passengers in steerage.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. Geo. N. Macondray, Rev. J. R. Taylor and infant, Mr. A. Cano, Mr. J. R. Stuart, Mrs. T. C. Rainford, Mr. Peter Sharp, Mr. D. Fraser, and Mr. A. W. Powell in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru*, from Kobe:—1 passenger in second class and 1 passenger in steerage.

DEPARTED

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Gardner, 3 children, and governess, Mr. and Mrs. Huntington, Mr. and Mrs. Swann, child, and governess, Miss Bonde, Mrs. Sykes, Mr. and Mrs. McGinnis, Miss McGinnis, Miss Smith, Miss Fleming, Miss Graves, Miss Talbot, Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Page and 3 children, Dr. Venable, Rev. R. A. Haden, Colonel Mulcahy, Messrs. W. H. Peech, P. de Bure, J. Helling, and S. Kimura in cabin, Mr. and Mrs. Iida and daughter, Messrs. A. E. Roggers, Kawamoto Toshiro, Shimokawa, and Mr. Swann's servant in second class, and 54 passengers in steerage.

CARGOES

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, $200 000.00.

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, $50,900.00.

REPORTS.

The American steamer *City of Peking*, Captain R. R. Searle, reports:—Left San Francisco the 2nd September at 4.12 p.m.; to Meridian had moderate westerly to W S.W. winds; thence to port light westerly and N N.W. winds and smooth sea; crossed the 180°.00' in lat. 45°.35' N.; Fred Raker, oiler, died at 8.00 p.m. on the 13th and was buried at sea the 14th in lat. 41°.46' N., long. 162°.28' E. Time, 15 days, 3 hours, 23 minutes.

The Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, Captain Pender, reports: Left Otaru the 14th September at noon; had fresh S.W. winds with clear weather to Hakodate, where arrived the 15th at 6.45 a.m. and left the 16th at noon; had moderate W.S.W. and W.N.W. winds, with fine, clear weather throughout the passage to Oginohama, arrived the 17th at 9.30 a.m. and left at 1.43 p.m.; had gentle variable winds with continuing fine weather to Inuboye-saki; thence to port fresh N N.W winds with cloudy weather. Arrived at Yokohama the 18th September at 2 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, Captain E. W. Haswel., reports:—Left Shanghai the 16th September at 2 p.m. and arrived at Nagasaki the 18th at 8 a.m. Left the same day and arrived at Kobe the 20th at 9 a.m. Left Kobe the following day at noon and arrived at Yokohama the 22nd September at 2.45 p.m.; experienced fresh north-east winds and cloudy, squally weather to Nagasaki; thence dull, cloudy weather to Moji and light variable winds with thick rainy weather, through Island Sea to Kobe; had dull, cloudy weather and moderate head winds along the coast to Yokohama.

The American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, Captain J Tremaine Smith, reports:—Left Hongkong viâ Macao the 15th September at 5.55 a.m., Nagasaki the 19th at 5.15 p.m., and Kobe the 21st at 12.15 p.m. Arrived at Yokohama the 22nd September at 4.12 p.m. Passage, 7 days, 8 hours, 35 minutes

The Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru*, Captain Walter, reports:—Left Kobe the 21st September at 6.40 a.m.; passed Oshima at 4.50 p.m.; had light south-westerly breeze and cloudy weather; at midnight light north-easterly airs and fine, clear weather; on the 22nd a. noon light north-easterly breeze and cloudy weather. Arrived at Yokohama at 5 p.m.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The slight improvement in the Import Trade reported in our last has been poorly sustained during the past week. Yarns both Single and Double continue to move off in but very small lots. Grey Shirtings are in light demand while T.-Cloths are almost entirely neglected. Fancy Cottons show signs of firmness—in spite of the small business doing—Turkey Reds being to the front. In Woollens there is a fair demand for Italian and other Cloths, but Flannels are weaker.

COTTON PIECE GOODS

	PER PIECE.	
Grey Shirtings—8¼ lb, 38½ yds 39 inches	$2 05	to 2 50
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 38½ yds 45 inches	2 30	to 3 00
T. Cloth—7lb, 21 yards, 32 inches	1 50	to 1 85
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches	1 50	to 1 90
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	1 75	to 2 75
Cotton—Italian and Satteen Black, 34 inches	PER YARD. 0 15	to 0 20
Velvets—Black, 15 yards, 22 inches	6.25	to 8.75
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 12 ¾ inches	0 62½	to 0 77½
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2 4lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	PER PIECE. 1 40	to 1 47½
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	1.57½	to 1.77½
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.00	to 2.37½
Turkey Reds—4 8 to 5lb, 24, 25 yards, 32 inches	2 47½	to 2.67½

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.	
Flannel	$0.30	to 0 45
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.35	to 0.40
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0 28	to 0.35
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0 20	to 0.28
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 32 inches	0 13	to 0 19
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0 35	to 0 50
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0 60	to 0 65
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0 40	to 0 70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 4 to 3½ lb. per lb.	0 43	to 0 57½

COTTON YARNS

	PER PICUL.
Nos 16/24, Ordinary	—
Nos. 16/24, Medium	—
Nos 16 24, Good to Best	—
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	—
Nos 28/32, Ordinary	—
Nos 28 32, Medium	—
Nos 28 32, Good to Best	—
Nos 38/42, Medium to Best	—
No 32s, Two-fold	—
No 42s, Two-fold	—
	PER BALE.
No 10s, Bombay	Nom. —
No. 16s, Bombay	Nom. —

METALS.

The promise of revival reported in our last has not yet reached fulfilment. The situation is practically unchanged. Wire Nails of short lengths continue to move off at a fair pace and there is some little demand for Pig Iron. Other lines are dull but prices remain firm.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ¾ inch	$3 60 to 3 70
Flat Bars, ¾ inch	3 70 to 3 80
Round and square up to ¾ inch	3.15 to 3 30
Iron Plates, assorted	3 10 to 3.20
Sheet Iron	4.20 to 4 25
Galvanized Iron sheets	7 25 to 7 52
Wire Nails, assorted	5 30 to 5 65
Tin Plates, per box	0 00 to 6 25
Pig Iron, No 1	1 40 to 1 42½

KEROSENE.

No change in this market. The large arrivals reported last week have had no effect upon prices, which remain firm. About 85,000 cases of the Russian shipment is to be forwarded to Kobe, demand being good at that port.

Chester	$1.70 to 1.72½
Comet	1 67½ to 1 70
Devoe	—
Russian Anchor	1 67½ to 1 70
Russian Moon	1.62½ to 1.65

SUGAR.

The week has seen a sharp fall in Browns—Takao showing a reduction of 50 cents per picul, while Manila and China grades are down 5 to 10 cents. About 12,000 piculs of Takao are reported to have changed hands at $4.00 to $4 45. In Whites there is little doing, but holders remain firm and prices are unchanged.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	$4 10 to 4.50
Brown Manila	5.05 to 5.15
Brown Datong	4.00 to 4.03
Brown Canton	4 00 to 4 30
White Java and Penang	6.00 to 6.10
White Refined	7.55 to 9 10

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last issue was of the 15th instant, since which date settlements on this market are 562 piculs, divided thus:—*Hanks*, 2 piculs; *Filatures*, 321 piculs; *Reeels*, 214 piculs; *Kakeda*, 10 piculs; *Hamatsuki*, 15 piculs. Direct shipments have been 8 bales, making the total business of the week 570 piculs.

Since our last advices business has fallen away; at the same time values are irregular, fine-sized *Filatures* being distinctly lower, while a strong attempt has been made to push up prices of full-sizes, on account of their temporary scarcity. We do not think that this policy can be maintained, for intelligence from consuming markets is not at all good. Our stock here is large, with plenty more silk close at hand when this present stock begins to move.

Exchange has been a little dearer *ad interim*, but has now declined again to about last week's quotations.

There have been three shipping opportunities since we last wrote. The Canadian mail, *Empress of India*, 15th instant, took 83 bales for New York; the *Oceanic*, which left the same day, had 50 bales for the same destination and the English mail *Ancona*, 16th instant, took 433 bales for Europe. These departures make the present export figures 6,379 piculs against 13.845 piculs last year, and 12,560 piculs on the 22nd September, 1891.

Hanks.—There has been no business since, the sales mentioned in our last and prices are more or less nominal.

Filatures.—About one half the settlements have been in this class; prices irregular. Good, fine-sized Filatures can be bought at from $780 to $800, while holders now ask the same prices for full sizes, Rokkosha being reported at $790. This state of affairs will probably cause producers to start in again on full sizes and in about two months time we shall find that full sizes are in excessive supply and fine size scarce. Probably it would be more to their advantage to divide their production about equally between the two markets.

Reeels.—These are rumoured to be scarce at present and prices have accordingly been pushed up until $705 has been paid for *Five Girl* and $700 for Tortoise chop. At these prices, however,

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there does not seem much inclination to buy, those shippers who have taken a few holding back from further purchases.

Kakeda.—A very dull week; only one purchase in *Daruma* chop at $730. Transactions in other grades are said to be pending, but prices in this class look weaker.

Oshu.—Some further purchases in *Hamatsuki, Katsuhama,* at $645.

In other sorts, nothing done.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK.)

Hanks—No. 1½		—
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)		—
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	Nom	$610 to 620
Hanks—No. 2½ (Shinshu)	Nom	600 to 605
Hanks—No. 2½ (Joshu)	Nom.	580 to 590
Hanks—No. 2½ to 3	Nom.	570 to 575
Hanks—No. 3	Nom.	560 to 565
Hanks—No. 3½	Nom.	550 to 555
Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers		Nom.
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers		780 to 800
Filatures—No. 1, 10 13 deniers		810 to 820
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den		760 to 770
Filatures—No. 1½, 10/14 deniers		780 to 790
Filatures—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 den		740 to 750
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers		750 to 760
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers		720 to 730
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers		—
Re-reels—Extra		—
Re-reels—(Oshu) Best No. 1		—
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers		700 to 710
Re-reels—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 deniers		690 to 695
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers		650 to 660
Re-reels—No 2½, 14/18 deniers		630 to 640
Re reels—No. 3, 16/20 deniers		—
Kakedas—Extra		—
Kakedas—No 1		720 to 730
Kakedas—No 1½		680 to 690
Kakedas—No 2		650 to 660
Kakedas—No 2½		610 to 620
Kakedas—No 3		580 to 590
Kakedas—No 3½		—
Kakedas—No 4		—
Oshu Sendai—No. 2½		—
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2		—
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4		—
Sodai—No. 2½		—

Export Raw Silk Tables to 22nd Sept., 1893:—

		Season 1893-1894. Bales	1892-93. Bales	1891-92. Bales.
Europe		4,910	5,893	4,825
America		1,339	7,673	7,357
Total	Bales	6,249	13,566	12,182
	Piculs	6,379	13,815	12,560
Settlements and Direct Export from 1st July		Piculs. 7,800	Piculs. 16,900	Piculs. 13,400
Stock, 22nd September		11,400	6,200	10,500
Available supplies to date		19,200	23,100	23,900

WASTE SILK.

Settlements in this branch are 850 piculs, divided thus: *Pierced Cocoons,* 474 piculs; *Noshi,* 186 piculs; *Kibiso,* 134 piculs; *Boseki wata,* 56 piculs. No direct export this week.

As before, *Pierced Cocoons* form the bulk of the trade, the sellers standing in their own light by refusing the offers which buyers can make for *Noshi* and *Kibiso.* Arrivals are large; stock heavy and everything tends to lower prices.

There have been three shipping opportunities since we last wrote. The *Oceanic,* 15th instant, had 23 bales of *Cocoons* for New York; the *Ancona,* 16th instant, 112 bales *Waste* and *Cocoons* for Europe and the Canal steamer *Glenfruin,* which left port yesterday morning, had 100 bales *Cocoons* for Hartford. These departures make the present export figures 2,647 piculs against 2,900 piculs last year and 3,262 piculs at the same date in 1891.

Pierced Cocoons.—Business has gone on; quotations unchanged, and the stock of good quality is now reduced to small proportions.

Noshi.—Some purchases of *Bushu* were made at $135 and of *Joshu* at prices ranging from $72 to $85; *Filature,* $157½; *Oshu* sorts are more freely offered and could probably be done at $5 less than a week ago.

Kibiso.—A small business in *Filature,* prices ranging from $110 to $120, according to quality. In *Hira* sorts, a small business only, Low Curlies bringing $30.

Sundries.—The only purchase has been *Boseki-wata* at $24. In other sorts, nothing done.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW WASTE).

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	$125 to 135
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	155 to 160
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	145 to 150
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	135 to 140
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	145 to 150
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	120 to 125
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	110 to 115
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	100 to 105
Noshi-ito—Bushu, Good to Best	135 to 145
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	90 to 95
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	80 to 85
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	70 to 75
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	120 to 125
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	110 to 115
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Good to Fair	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Middling to Common	—
Kibiso—Hachoji, Good	—
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	—
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	—
Mawata—Good to Best	—

Export Table Waste Silk to 22nd Sept., 1893:—

	Season 1893-94. Piculs	1892-93. Piculs.	1891-92. Piculs
Waste Silk	2,052	2,899	3,262
Pierced Cocoons	595	1	—
	2,647	2,900	3,262
Settlements and Direct Export from 1st July	Piculs. 5,000	Piculs. 6,300	Piculs. 4,500
Stock, 15th September	13,700	13,700	14,000
Available supplies to date	20,700	20,000	18,500

Exchange has weakened once more to the following rates after making some advance in sympathy with the London silver market. We quote:—London, 4m/s. Credits, 2/6; Documents, 2/6½; 6m/s. Credits, 2/6½. New York, 30d/s. U.S. $60½; 4m/s. U.S. $61½. Paris, or Lyons, 4m/s. fcs. 3.16.

Estimated Silk Stock, 22nd Sept., 1893.—

Raw.	Piculs.	Waste.	Piculs.
Hanks	145	Cocoons	1,435
Filatures	6,635	Noshi-ito	1,175
Re-reels	3,250	Kibiso	6,565
Kakeda	1,286	Mawata	85
Oshu	53	Sundries	440
Taysaam Kinds	31		
Total piculs	11,400	Total piculs	15,700

TEA.

The improved demand reported in our last has strengthened, and a fair business has been transacted during the past week at somewhat higher prices.

	Per Picul.
Common	$12 to 13
Good Common	14 to 15
Medium	16 to 17
Good Medium	18 to 19
Fine	20 to 22
Finest	23 to 25
Choice	26 to 28
Choicest	30 to 33

EXCHANGE.

Exchange rallied slightly, but has again declined.

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	2/5½
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	2/5½
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	2/5½
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	2 0½
On Paris—Bank sight	3 07
On Paris—Private 4 months' sight	3.15
On Hongkong—Bank sight	Par.
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	½% dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72½
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	73
On America—Bank Bills on demand	58½
On America—Private 30 days' sight	60
On America—Private 4 months' sight	61
On India—Bank sight	193
Silver	34

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Apartments may be secured by Letter or Telegram, and Special arrangements made for the conveyance of Visitors and Baggage from the Tramway Terminus at Yumoto, by addressing

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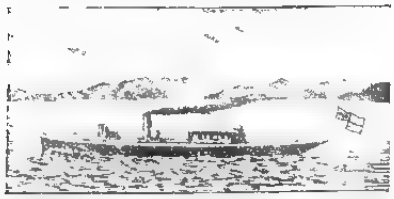

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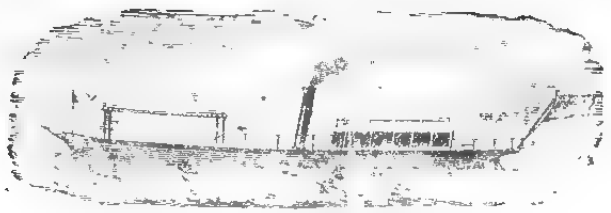

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April 23rd, 1893.

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The Japan Weekly Mail:

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same: and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, SEPT. 30TH, 1893.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

H.M.S. *Peacock* arrived here on the 27th inst. from Hakodate.

THE loss is reported by telegraph of the Russian man-of-war *Rusalka*.

A NAGASAKI telegram states that heavy rain, accompanied by thunder, was experienced there on the 24th inst.

JUDGE NORIMOTO YOSHISADA, of the Kyoto Local Court, has been promoted to be President of the Wakayama Local Court.

A CRICKET MATCH on Wednesday "Tea" v. "The World" ended in favour of the former on a single innings by 34 runs.

A STEAMER of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha will leave Yokohama on the 10th or 12th of October next on her maiden trip to Bombay.

THE annual meeting of the Yokohama Chess Club is announced for Monday next, at 5 30 p.m., at the Club Rooms, 88, Main-street.

THE ordinary half-yearly meeting of the Hongkong Hotel Company, Limited, was held on the 15th inst., but no dividend was declared.

A PROJECT is in progress for the establishment at Vladivostock of a match factory, and application for work people has been made to match-makers in Kobe.

THE Yokohama Emigration Company proposes sending Mr. Shirabe, of the firm, to Canada in order to inquire into the condition of labourers in that country.

THE tenth ordinary general meeting of the Douglas Steamship Company, Limited, was held at Hongkong on the 23rd inst., when a dividend of 8 per cent. on the capital of the company was declared, and the sum of $35,296.46 carried to the next account.

A RACE was sailed last Saturday for the Daimyo Cup, which was won by *Mary*, a second prize going to *Maid Marion*, and a third to *Princess Maud*.

MR. KOIZUMI, Governor of Kanagawa Prison, has been placed on the Retired List, his position being given to Mr. Ogawa Jijiro, of the Home Office.

AT H.B.M. Court for Japan, Stephen Giffard Hart was sentenced to a term of imprisonment for incurring a hotel bill at Kobe with no definite prospect of paying it.

THE Bank of China, Japan, and the Straits has announced a call of one pound per share payable by five-shilling installments in November, February, April, and June.

DURING the ten days ended the 10th inst., the receipts of the Chikubu Railway Co. amounted to *yen* 7,022.302, showing a daily average income of *yen* 22 053 per mile.

THE *Sakata Maru* has been successfully hauled off the beach at Inuboye, where she had lain nearly a month, during which fortunately there had been no very heavy weather.

A NAGOYA telegram dated the 25th inst. states that a spinning company called the Tsushima Boseki Kaisha has been established with a capital of three hundred thousand *yen*.

THERE is a talk among the residents of Hakodate of establishing a commercial exchange in that port. A committee of five has been chosen to investigate and report on the matter.

A STRIKE, after the orthodox foreign fashion, has occurred among the weavers at Nishijin, where 300 operatives have turned out. Distress has already made its appearance among them.

THE Government has granted a charter to the promoters of the Eastern Tea Joint Stock Co., which was lately established by Mr. Otani Kahei and other leading Japanese tea merchants of Yokohama.

THE shareholders of the Japan Silk and Cotton Spinning Co., Yokohama, propose increasing the capital of the firm, now fixed at *yen* 250,000, to double that sum, in order to extend the business.

A MEETING of tea merchants, which was largely attended, was held in Yokohama on the 19th inst., when an interesting address embracing many important subjects in connection with the tea industry was delivered by Mr. Mayeda.

THE half-breed ponies arrived on Saturday from Shimosa for the Nippon Race Club, and eighteen Japan ponies from Nambu the following day. The former were laid down in Yokohama for $80 a head and the latter for $65.

AN extraordinary meeting of the Central Board of Health took place on the 27th inst. at the Home Office, in order to discuss methods for stamping out the dysentery which is now almost epidemic in several parts of the country.

A MEETING attended by all the Ministers of State with the exception of Count Kuroda, was held at the residence of the Premier on the 25th inst. The conference lasted from about ten o'clock in the forenoon until very late in the afternoon.

THE public have expressed much regret at the death of Mr. Shima Seisuke, a sculptor of Osaka, which took place on the 21st inst. The deceased was one of the leaders in that branch of art in the city, and a statue of the late Regent Ii, carved by him, is now displayed at the World's Fair.

THE total value of matting sold at Kobe during the month of August last was *yen* 24,713.60. The market is somewhat dull at present, the foreign firms offering lower prices as the new rush season is at hand, while the manufacturers refrain from selling at quotations.

THE work of constructing a railroad between Kuwana and Yokkaichi, on the Kansai Railroad, is expected to be completed in February next, and the lying of rails between Kuwana and Nagoya will be commenced the following month. The tenders for the two big iron bridges to span the Kisogawa and Kaigawa will be received in October next, and the work is to be completed in April next.

THE Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs have issued a notice to mariners, which announces the discovery of a sunken rock in Korean waters, as follows:—A sunken rock with 6 feet of water at Low Water Spring tides, lies in latitude 34° 36′ 15″ N., longitude 126° 12′ 45″ E. The rock is of an oval shape, 150 yards long by 50 yards broad, lying S.E. and N.W. about one mile from a small conical island (name unknown) bearing W.S.W. from the rock. The Channel in which this danger lies is not recommended as an approach to Mokpho.

THE *Seiki Maru*, which lately returned to Shinagawa from an exploration of marine products in the sea off Iwate Prefecture, has brought an exceedingly good report. She reports that the water to the north of Kinkazan abounds with fish. She is said to have met there with several shoals of sardines, mackerel, and *katsuo* (bonito) daily; also whales, consisting mainly of *iwashi-kujira*, *nagasu-kujira*, and *tsuchi kujira*. The fishing industry in the district shows promise.

THERE is little alteration in the Import trade, the principal markets being still affected by the condition of exchange and the uncertainty in silver. Double Yarns have moved fairly, though there is but a small business in Singles; and while Turkey Reds continue to be freely taken, and Grey Shirtings are in some demand, other Piece Goods meet with little attention. Woollens are generally dull, though Flannels are in some request at rather low prices. The tone of the Metal market has slightly improved, Pig, Sheet, and Galvanized Iron being fairly active, but other lines evoke but little interest. Only a small business has been done in Kerosene, and holders are firm, notwithstanding arrivals of both Russian and American oil. Recent offers of Sugar at lower rates have induced some purchases of Browns, and there are further enquiries, but holders are firm now and decline to make any larger concessions. In Whites there has been but little done, and values are unaltered. The Silk trade continues comparatively inactive, though holders moderate their demands somewhat and have thus enabled some buyers to operate. The stock is large and accumulating, with plenty more in sight if trade should expand. Waste Silk has not been active, though prices are a shade lower, and buyers say they cannot go on at the present rates demanded. The Tea trade has not been large, though moderate daily transactions have been put through at slightly higher figures, the grades dealt in being almost entirely Medium and Common. Arrivals are plentiful, and prices at the close are firm. Exchange has declined here, though silver in London is reported the shade higher.

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THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

Rumours about probable changes in the Cabinet have ceased to be circulated, but a recent article in the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, under the heading, "Responsibility of the All Talents Cabinet," has given rise to suspicions about the solidity and harmony of the Ministry. It is true that the special emphasis which our contemporary placed upon the responsibility of the present Ministers of State to remain in office for many years to come, as well as the warmth with which it deprecated the notion of the resignation of any one of them because of views divergent from those entertained by the rest of his colleagues, do certainly furnish the Opposition papers with plausible grounds for casting unfavourable reflections upon the stability of the Government. But there is no reason to believe that the *Nichi Nichi* gives the above mentioned advice to the Cabinet in view of any existing facts threatening its unity. What seems more probable is that our contemporary has in its mind some condition of things that may be developed in the future. At all events, we are not warranted in supposing that the Cabinet is now threatened by any serious conflict of opinion among its members.

* * *

The apparent inaction of the Ministry continues to provoke unfavourable criticism in the columns of certain newspapers. The *Nippon* ascribes their slowness to excessive anxiety to conciliate the Diet. A Cabinet, it says, so much afraid of offending the Diet as to neglect the duties it owes to the Sovereign as well as to the people, has no right to remain in power. If things move at the present rate, our contemporary fears that the inevitable result will be the establishment of a pernicious supremacy on the part of the Diet. The present Diet has not prestige enough to control the Cabinet; neither is the Cabinet willing to submit to the dictation of the Diet. But the *Nippon* thinks that as a matter of fact the Cabinet is unduly desirous of conciliating the Diet, and in support of that view, it points to the Government's line of policy since last session. The Cabinet Ministers may not be aware, though the *Nippon* assures them, that the course they are pursuing is destined to lead to a most regrettable issue, namely, the political supremacy of the Diet. It is strange, we are told, that the Cabinet should be so afraid of the Diet, when in point of fact the Diet has not enough influence to control the Cabinet. The Ministers are strongly urged to pursue an energetic and independent line of their own, having the interest and the dignity of the country always in view, and they are reminded of the disadvantages entailed by their excessive dread of the Diet. Our contemporary is strongly opposed to the introduction of Government by party into Japan, and loses no opportunity of insisting that such a system is alien to the spirit and letter of the Japanese constitution.

* * *

It is natural that independent papers like the *Nippon* and others should complain of the conciliatory attitude of the Government towards the Oppposition. But we were not prepared for the adoption of a similar line of criticism by the organs of the Opposition, especially those of the Progressionist Party. Such, however, is the fact. The *Hochi Shimbun*, which has always hitherto complained that the Government turns a deaf ear to the wishes of the people, now severely censures the Ministers of the Crown for their tendency to conciliate the people by adopting the view of their parliamentary representatives. A responsible Ministry, says our contemporary, ought to have courage to pursue an independent course of policy, and when that policy is not approved by the country it ought to manfully resign its position. The Progressionists being bent upon pulling down every Cabinet until they are themselves called to office, can never be pleased with Ministers who show a disposition to pursue a popular policy, since such a policy indefinitely defers the contingency of a change of Government.

* * *

It is now understood that the long talked of administrative reforms will be carried out in less than a fortnight. According to an apparently trustworthy report, the reductions to be effected in public expenditure exceed the amount hitherto demanded by the Diet. On this score, therefore, the Opposition will not be able to make any complaint. But the Diet will have no difficulty in finding grounds to criticise the reforms, for apart from the question of economy, there is plenty of room for discussion about the removal of the alleged evils of personal and clan administration. That the Opposition intends to attack the Ministers of the Crown on the ground of their inability to effect the latter kind of reforms, is evident from the fact that even independent papers like the *Kokkai* are strongly disposed to doubt the Cabinet's competence to satisfy the popular demand for a thorough expurgation of the Administration. It is all very well, says our contemporary, to reduce the number of officials and lower their salaries, but the object of reform can not be attained unless the various administrative branches are thoroughly cleansed of the evils and abuses that have accumulated during the past twenty-five years of clan Government. Mere reduction of expenses can be accomplished by any commonplace politicians; what the public expects of Count Ito is that he will remove once and for all the principal cause of conflict between the Government and the Diet, by taking decisive steps for the purification of the whole service. Such being the attitude of even independent papers it is a foregone conclusion that the Opposition will never approve the reforms which the Cabinet is about to effect.

* * *

Although the members of the *Domei* Club are reported to be considering means of effecting temporary cöoperation between the Radicals and the Progressionists in the coming session of the Diet, their efforts seem to have little chance of meeting with success. As had been anticipated, the Radical campaign in Kyushu has made the antipathy between the two parties more bitter than before. The Progressionist papers in the capital are daily devoting the most conspicuous portion of their columns to attacks upon the conduct and speeches of the Radical leaders in Kyushu. In their eagerness to strike at their political opponents, these papers do not show much regard for the truth of the facts on the strength of which they prefer most serious charges of inconsistency and cowardice against the distinguished members of the *Jiyu-to* now lecturing in various parts of the Western island. These Radicals are accused of cowardice, because, contrary to public expectation, they have not compelled the equivocal members of their Party in Kiushu to declare their allegiance definitely for either the *Jiyu-to* or the *Kaishin-to*. They are blamed for inconsistency, because, forgetful of what they once said in the capital, they have repeatedly used the term Popular Party to designate the Opposition in general as distinguished from the Government. They are further severely criticised for admitting into their party Mr. Yezoye, an influential local politician of Saga, who has hitherto been considered the leader of an official faction in his city. From these recriminations by the Progressionist organs, it is evident that Messrs Hoshi, Kono, and Matsuda are conducting themselves in a cautious manner, and that they succeeded in obtaining the sympathy of moderate politicians in Kyushu without provoking the murmurs of the original members of their Party. However, it is still too early to attempt any definite summary of the results of their important campaign.

* * *

Such being the condition of feeling between the Radicals and the Progressionists, the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* thinks that there is no longer any chance of their concerted movement, unless, indeed, the *Kaishin-to* be servile enough to follow the dictations of the *Jiyu-to*. As to the Radicals, our contemporary admits that they have made positive progress in their history by substituting for their former policy of sentimental opposition to clan Government the constructive programme of demanding concrete and practical reforms in the Administration. They deserve, says the *Nichi Nichi*, all praise for their resolution to carry out their new policy without the aid of any other party. It is true that they lack knowledge and credit, but they are to be complimented on their manly and independent course of procedure. With regard to the Progressionists, they are pronounced to be without any fixed policy except that of opposition to the Government, and in that respect they almost lack the essentials of a political party. Lastly, with respect to the National Unionists, they are characterized as rustic orators, and are said to have forfeited the confidence of the better classes of the people. Certain extinction is predicted for them unless they take an early opportunity of reform.

* * *

It may be true that the National Unionists have forfeited the confidence of the better classes of the people; but it is a fact that the war cry raised by them, in concert with various conservative factions, on the question of Mixed Residence, threatens to swell to inconvenient dimensions. There is no fear of such agitation gaining the sympathy of the majority of the educated classes; but it is possible that it may cause no small amount of trouble to the Authorities by securing the cöoperation of the ignorant masses. The *Jiji Shimpo* raises its powerful voice in denunciation of the absurd agitation. Our contemporary fails to understand how any man of education and common sense can conscientiously oppose the opening of the interior for Mixed Residence. The progress which Japan has achieved since she commenced to have intercourse with foreign countries is, in the *Jiji's* opinion, a standing proof that the increased contact with the peoples of the West which would result from granting them freedom to reside in the interior must be beneficial to the progress of the country. The promoters of the anti Mixed Residence movement pretend to fear that superior knowledge and more abundant capital of foreigners would enable them to become masters in the field of industry and commerce. The *Jiji* unhesitatingly declares that such fears are entirely without foundation. That the Japanese are capable of successfully competing with foreigners admits of no doubt, for otherwise how are we to account for the prosperity of Japanese merchants at all the open ports? There have been cases of failure among them, but our contemporary observes that there have been a greater number of such cases among the foreign residents. The *Jiji* alludes to the activity and intelligence shown by the Japanese merchants at the open ports, and remarks that similar qualities can be easily developed in the merchants and manufacturers in the interior by bringing them into direct contact with foreigners. As to the objection that it is as yet too early to open the country, our contemporary replies that it is always a difficult question to decide whether the time is ripe for a given purpose. The determination of such a question is more or less a matter of opinion. Conservatives always cry out that the time is not mature. They said so about the grant of a constitution, but what has been the result? Blunders and mistakes have not been absent from the first stages of constitutional Government in this country, but upon the whole the system has, in the *Jiji's* opinion, worked admirably well. So well that our contemporary is even inclined to believe that the experiment might have been tried with equal success ten years earlier.

* * *

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* strongly recommends the Minister of Finance and his colleagues to have no hesitation about carrying out reforms in the Judiciary. It is not inconsistent with law to give to Judges deemed incapable of properly discharging their duties hints that their resignations will be accepted. The recipients of these hints are at liberty to reject the advice, if they are so disposed; but with such Judges, their superiors have ample

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means to deal in accordance with the provisions of the Law of the Constitution of the Courts of Law. There is a rumour that a certain Judge who has received such advice intends to bring the matter before the Diet. Our contemporary cannot believe that the story has any foundation, for such a step would plainly show that the Judge has a very mistaken idea about the independence of the Judiciary. If he attempt anything of the kind he will expose himself to be arraigned before a Disciplinary Court for impairing the dignity of the service.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

MR. KANEKO KENTARO ON THE NOBLES' BANK.

Now that the attention of mercantile men, says the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, is directed to the question of the policy to be pursued when the period for the charter of the Nobles' Bank expires, in 1897, it is interesting to learn the opinion entertained on the subject by such a distinguished person as Mr. Kaneko Kentaro, Chief Secretary of the House of Peers. Mr. Kaneko says that he has been caused much concern by a recent resolution of the Bank allowing either *Shizoku* or *Heimin* (commoners) to become shareholders; in other words, sanctioning the sale of a peer's shares to any one desirous of purchasing them. In order to appreciate the dangerous contingencies of such a change, it is only necessary to recall the history of the *Shizoku's* Pension Bonds. These Bonds were issued in 1875, in commutation of the revenues hitherto enjoyed by the *Shizoku* prior to the Restoration. The following year an Imperial Proclamation authorized the sale and purchase of the Bonds, and forthwith their owners, seduced by crafty tradesmen, raised money on the Bonds for the purpose of commencing various businesses of which they had no knowledge, and in carrying on which they were robbed right and left. A few years sufficed to dissipate all the fortune of the *Shizoku*, the final result being that a class of men who had previously occupied honoured positions in the social scale saw themselves suddenly precipitated from ease and consideration to want and contumely, many being compelled to earn their daily bread by recourse to such miserable trades as *jinrikisha* drawing, tobacco-pipe cleaning, and so forth. A similar catastrophe is only too likely to overtake some of the peers unless something be done to check the consequences of the recently granted liberty. The peers have even less knowledge of affairs than the *Shizoku*, and are more likely to fall victims to cunning sharpers, while the resulting disaster would in their case be even more severely felt by its victims. The former lords of Satsuma, Choshu, Tosa, and Hizen are so well off, and their ex-feudal retainers occupy such, that there is little danger in their cases. But other nobles are not so favourably circumstanced. Their stewards not unfrequently are rapacious and unscrupulous persons, and their loyal retainers are seldom able to exercise any effective control over the family affairs. So far as the individual peers are concerned, it does not greatly matter how they fare, but from the point of view that class distinctions are a necessity of the social organization, that the peers in Japan are one of the chief bulwarks of the Throne, Mr. Kaneko is very justly uneasy at the prospect now unfolding itself.

THE TOKYO FINE ARTS EXHIBITION.

It has been settled that the Tokyo Fine Arts Exhibition, in aid of the funds of the Tokyo Charity Hospital, will be opened on the 23rd of October and will remain open for a week, which period may possibly be extended should public support be forthcoming. The original idea was to hold the Exhibition in the rooms of the Japan Fine Arts Society in Uyeno Park, one reason for the selection of that position being that although somewhat removed from the centre of the capital, all the necessary provision of show-cases and other paraphernalia is there immediately available. But these considerations have yielded to others with which we are not clearly acquainted, and the promoters have now resolved that the place shall be the Charity Hospital itself. That building, as most of our readers are doubtless aware, stands in a very convenient position, being within ten minutes' drive of Shimbashi station as well as of the official quarter of the city. Two very spacious and well-lit rooms—the rooms in one of which Mr. John Varley's pictures were displayed—are available, besides several other apartments for contingent purposes. With regard to show-cases, not only has a considerable sum been expended by the managers, but the cases of the Fine Art Society have also been placed at the disposal of the Committee. There will therefore be no lack in this important respect, and collectors may be sure that their objects of art will be shown to full advantage and without any risk of injury. The promoters, especially Inspector-General Dr. Takagi, are working earnestly to secure success, and as Mr. Kuki, Director of the Imperial Museum, has given his hearty cooperation, and many private collectors have promised to contribute specimens, it seems likely that the public will have an opportunity of witnessing such a display of art objects as has not previously been seen in Japan. We learn that first-class tickets, giving admission for one day but available for any day of the seven during which the Exhibition is to remain open, will cost one *yen*, and that second-class tickets, available for any one of the last four days, will cost thirty *sen*. Holders of second-class tickets will not be admitted during the first three days, so that it will be possible for those who are willing to spend a *yen*, to view the specimens at leisure and without inconvenient crushing.

MR. HOSHI TORU.

The name of the distinguished President of the House of Representatives has been a little too much before the public of late. It is not good to be perpetually talked of. Success of that kind is certain to beget envy at least, and to provoke the sentiment of opposition that small-minded people always feel when they find themselves in any kind of shadow. At the time of Mr. Hoshi's election to the important post the duties of which he discharged so admirably last session, Count Itagaki, addressing him in a congratulatory speech, gave him advice similar to that of a great diplomat, "*pas trop de zèle.*" Count Itagaki probably knew his man, for it would certainly seem that Mr. Hoshi has managed to be overmuch *en evidence*. The upshot of it all to those that have watched his career carefully, is increased admiration of his courage and ability. But to his enemies he has furnished handles, especially in connection with the Soma affair, and of late there has been talk of inviting the House of Representatives to pass a vote of want of confidence in him at the beginning of next session. The Tokyo News Agency now informs us, however, that the persons who agitate in that sense are the Progressionists and the National Unionists, who command at most only a hundred votes in the House, and that the Radicals and the Independents, numbering some two hundred, will certainly vote for the President should such a motion be brought forward. "There has been," says the Agency's informant, "a great deal of hostile criticism in the press, but its authors are irresponsible persons possessing no influence and not listened to by any party. To reply to them would be a bootless task and they are therefore suffered to ventilate their views unchecked and unheeded. But it would be a great error to imagine that any inference as to the feeling in political circles may be drawn from such clamour."

* * *

We trust that the News Agency is well informed. Mr. Hoshi's conduct since the termination of the Diet's last session has been well within the strictest lines of political propriety, though, from an English point of view, it would certainly seem desirable that he should remember his position as President more and his party leadership less. The only point about which there can be any question is his action with reference to the Soma case. We do not ourselves believe for one instant that his procedure in that matter has been open to censure. On the contrary, we hold it to be acme of political hysteria to imagine that a barrister in the discharge of his barrister's functions should be influenced by party considerations. Such a notion shows how perverted are the ideas of some persons in this country. It is alleged, however, with apparent truth, that no responsible politician criticises Mr. Hoshi's conduct under that aspect, and that the only query is whether he has acted with entire propriety towards both parties in the suit. That, we should think, is a question to be decided by the legal tribunal to which it has been referred, and not by the House of Representatives. Mr. Hoshi Toru is probably much better acquainted with the rules of his profession's etiquette than are the men who carp at his conduct. If the House of Representatives is betrayed into meddling with such a business, it will only add another to the fiascos already on record against it, fiascos for which the party leaders are primarily responsible.

DISTURBANCE OF A RELIGIOUS MEETING.

A correspondent informs us that on the evening of the 25th inst., while a native Christian Minister was addressing an attentive audience at Sakagawa, a town on the Nippon Railway, 130 miles north of Tokyo, a lot of Buddhist *soshi* entered and at once began to interrupt the speaker. He begged them to keep quiet and allow him to continue his discourse, but they would not; on the contrary, they began to create an uproar, and finally smashed some lanterns and threatened to set the house on fire. In consequence the meeting had to be closed at once. It is believed by some that these youngsters, who had previously given trouble, are instigated by the Buddhist priests of the place.

FIVE THOUSAND CHINAMEN WANTED.

A telegram dated Panama on Sept. 7, says: — "The Legislature of British Guiana offers a bounty of $75 a head for 5,000 Chinamen from the United States. They are wanted to work, under contract, on sugar plantations and in gold mines."

THE COLLEGE OF MUSIC

Our readers are aware that the College of Music has been abolished as an independent institution and attached to the Higher Normal School, of which it now constitutes a part. The *Nippon* asserts, but with how much truth we can not pretend to determine, that this is one of the so-called reforms on account of which the party of Messrs. Tsuji and Izawa oppose the policy of the new Minister of State for Education. The same paper alleges that economical considerations did not dictate the transfer of the College of Music to the Upper Normal School, but that the Minister was influenced by considerations connected with the relative importance of the institution. The music taught at the College, says our contemporary, is not Japanese music, but Western. The words of the songs sung by the students may be in Japanese, but the tunes are entirely foreign. Hence foreign teachers, who can barely pronounce a few words of Japanese, have to be employed at high salaries, a state of affairs inconsistent with the aims for which the College was established. Should the great object with which the School was originally organized—namely, the improvement of the national music—be still considered attainable, it might be most advisable to place the College under the control of the Imperial Household Department, and to raise its instructors to the rank of *Chokunin*. A serious obstacle, however, to any attempted reform of Japanese music is that the basis hitherto employed in this country requires entire reconstruction and that would involve complete abandonment of the music now familiar to the people. Radical treatment of that kind might be tolerated from a scientific point of view, but could not be endured by the people at large, to whom the music of their country, endeared by a thousand associations, is a constant source of pleasure. It is therefore the opinion of the Authorities that no necessity exists for the independence of the College of Music; that the teaching of music

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may well be included in the curriculum of common education, and that the College of Music may consequently become a branch of the Higher Normal School.

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This, as we have said, is the *Nippon's* account of the affair. We do not believe it to be correct. Certainly we hope that it is not. For it means simply that the College of Music has been attached to the Upper Normal School because all serious hope of improving, without sacrificing, Japanese national music has been abandoned.

THE BRIDGE AND THE ENGINE-ROOM.

LORD BRASSEY, in his "Naval Annual for 1893," writing on the subject of communication between the bridge and the engine-room and other parts of a ship, remarks:—"The telephone is out of the question for service afloat, and the electric contrivance adopted, even when the wires were duplicated, has constantly broken down. Whoever improves voice-tubes, so that the words of the captain on the bridge shall intelligibly reach the ear of the engineer on the platform will be a public benefactor." All who have to deal with communication between various parts of our large steamships, says a home paper, will fully endorse his lordship's remarks. There is no more vital necessity on board ship than that of being able to convey the captain's orders definitely, distinctly, and without possibility of failure—such as seems to be inherent to all electrical and mechanical appliances and speaking tubes heretofore in use, appliances which are frequently breaking down or uncertain in action. This desideratum seems to have been attained, according to the special correspondent of the *Daily Chronicle*, on board H.M.S. *Rodney* during the naval manœuvres. In his report, appearing in the issue of the *Chronicle* of the 7th ult., he remarks:—"In our conning-tower the value of Captain Rose's new speaking-tube became at once apparent. In spite of the roar of the 67-ton guns, the crash of the 6-in. guns, and the rattle of the three and one pounders and the machine-guns, as well as the noise in the engine-room, every whisper and the reply to it was perfectly audible in the conning-tower. This simple invention properly fitted . . . . is evidently an immense boon to the service." This report bears out the opinions expressed by Mr. Walter Wright, Lieut. R.N.R., of the *Campania*, and Mr. Percy Cullen, Lieut. R.N.R., of the P. & O. Company's service, besides those of many others, who, during the last twelve months, have had opportunities of testing it under the most trying circumstances. They are unanimous as to its absolute efficiency. It is evident that the new speaking-tube is also applicable to other places, such as factories and workshops where there is great noise and vibration. Like most other useful things it is very simple, consisting of a perfectly insulated speaking-tube, so as to cut off all external sounds and the vibration of the structure to which it is attached, and a special mouthpiece to exclude external sounds. A number of H.M. ships have already been fitted.

THE LOSS OF THE "FLORENCE TREAT."

THE following has been communicated to the *Hongkong Daily Press*:—A memorial service for those who lost their lives on board the *Florence Treat*, which was driven on to the rocks near Breaker Point at 2 a.m. on Friday morning, 8th inst., was held on Thursday evening in St. Peter's Seamens' Church. A considerable number of seamen assembled to show their respect to the memory of their brother seamen who were so suddenly hurried into eternity. Captain Paulson and his wife and family had many personal friends both afloat and ashore in Hongkong. He was universally respected as a true specimen of a British sailor and a Christian man. Since May 22nd, 1887, he had been connected with the "Missions to Seamen" as an honorary helper to promote Divine Worship on board ship, and encourage godly living amongst seamen. The service consisted of a portion of the Burial Service, with the hymns, "A few more years shall roll," "Fierce raged the tempest o'er the deep," and "Days and moments quickly flying." The latter hymn was sung kneeling at the conclusion of the service. The Chaplain (Rev. A. G. Goldsmith) gave a short address from the text. "Here we have no continuing city, but we seek one to come." As has already been reported in the newspapers, Captain Paulson's second son Daniel, aged 10 years, was saved, together with two of the native crew. There can be no doubt, supposing any pecuniary help is needed, that sympathizing friends will be found ready and willing to help this little orphan lad. Our correspondent addeds:—I have heard from H.B.M. Consul in Swatow and he will send little Daniel Paulson to Hongkong, pending communication with the boy's relatives in Australia. I understand that as he was not on the ship's articles as a seamen, he does not come under the Board of Trade regulations, so he will probably be dependent upon the charity of friends to send him home to Australia.

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND HIS POLICY.

THE attitude of educationalists not in Government employment towards the Minister of the Department of Education appears to be growing more and more unfriendly. We gave in a late issue the gist of what Mr. Tsuji, President of the Educational Society, said at a meeting of its leading members on the policy pursued by the Department. There is another Educational body in Tokyo, presided over by Mr. Izawa Shuji, formerly Chief of the Compilation Bureau of the Department of Education, which was organised a year or two ago with the special object of having common school education carried on at the nation's expense,—a policy diametrically opposed to that of the present Minister of Education. A rather long article appeared in the same paper a few days ago, avowedly embodying the views of the Minister on the subject of primary education, and as these views, according to Mr. Izawa, have undergone a complete change, the leading members of the Educational Association to which he belongs are said to have interviewed the Minister on the 13th inst. But the *Kokkai*, from which we take this note, does not report the result.

THE FINDING OF A DISCIPLINARY TRIBUNAL.

THE investigation of the Disciplinary Court into the case of Mr Hattori Kashizo, Judge in the Yokohama Local Court, held in the Tokyo Koto Saibansho, was concluded, and judgment delivered, on the 16th instant. The culprit's conduct is held to have been a disgrace not only to the bench, but also to the Imperial University, for he was a graduate of the College of Law of the Teikoku Daigaku. His first misdemeanor was committed in July of this year, when, in his capacity of preliminary judge, he was required to investigate the circumstances of repeated quarrels that had taken place between *soshi* of the Radical and Progressionist parties in Kanagawa Prefecture in connection with a keenly contested election for membership of the local assembly. On the 13th instant, in the Police-office of Takaza District, when Messrs. Ishizaka Masataka, Yamada Toji, and Suzuki Inenosuke presented themselves on behalf of the Radical Party, with reference to the scuffle, as Mr. Ozaki, Chief Prosecutor of the Yokohama Court, was hearing their statements, the Preliminary Judge entered in a semi-drunken condition. He sat between Messrs. Ishizaka and Yamada and said, in a loud and somewhat violent voice, staring full at the three politicians, "On what business have these men come here, I wonder. I have heard their statements from the middle, but I cannot understand what they say. Let them repeat the whole from the beginning." He next asked Messrs. Ishizaka and Yamada for their names, and having heard them, he clapped the back of the former, and in a sneering tone, said:—"You who are prominent members in the Radical party, should know better than to let such a row occur. Is it not a nuisance to subject the Police and us to such trouble? Is it not a thoroughly stupid thing?" The result was that a controversy began between him and Mr. Yamada, and assumed unseemly dimensions. At 2 p.m. on the following day, he examined in the same office, one Kaneko, charged with assault and battery. After having finished the examination he addressed the defendant thus:—"You are simply an ignorant peasant though you have money enough to possess the franchise. It is outrageous that you should create such a disturbance contesting an election?" On this occasion also the judge was plainly under the influence of liquor. Later on the same day, in company with Prosecutor Ozak and clerk Tomaki, he went to Kamimizomura in the same district, in consequence of the receipt of intelligence that a disturbance had occurred in the vicinity. *En route* he refreshed himself with two *go* of *shochu*. Arriving at the hotel then used as an office by the Progressionists Party, he at once engaged into a violent altercation with a *soshi* at the foot of the stairs, seized a sword-cane which the *soshi* carried, drew the blade and flourished it two or three time in its owner's face, saying to the clerk with a smile; "The blade appears pretty sharp." He then sheathed it and handed it to a constable in attendance, with an injunction to collect all weapons of the kind carried by the people. Seated in the middle of a room, he called for his usual beverage, and while drinking it, uttered a sort of challenge to the *soshi* saying:—"I came contented to swallow one or two pistol balls, but it seems you can neither shoot nor cut. Shoot or cut if you can. I don't care for either." The fourth and last case happened at 11 p.m. on the same day in the Police Station of the same village, when Judge Tanaka and Prosecutor Imamura, of the Hachioji Court, were examining persons suspected of using violence in some of the disturbances that had happened in the neighbourhood. He entered the judges' room while the examination was in progress, and talked on various topics entirely alien to the business in hand, finally abusing the Judge and Prosecutor as "stupid fools" (*norokkoi baka*), and employing equally opprobrious language to the Prosecutor independently, whom he called a "good for nothing fellow" (*shikataga nai yatsu*); a "fellow that is of no service to his country" (*kuni no tame ni naranu yatsu*); and a "fellow that is not competent to discharge his duty." All these facts were considered fully proved by the affidavits of the persons concerned, and the Court decided that the offender's case fell under the provisions of Arts. I. and II. of the Criminal Disciplinary Law, and sentenced him to be removed to another district.

MR. SHIBUSAWA EIICHI.

MR. SHIBUSAWA, President of the First National Bank, occupies in the Japanese commercial field a position sufficiently conspicuous to make it unnecessary for us to apologize for reproducing an account of an interview which a writer on the staff of the *Hochi Shimbun* recently had with him. According to this writer, Mr. Shibusawa is now an enigma among the business men of Japan. Until a few years ago, no undertaking of any magnitude was ever announced without his name being in some way connected with it. He was, in fact omnipresent in the business world, being at one time closely connected with no less than twenty companies. But of late he has given indications that he intends to narrow the sphere of his activity as much as possible. Recently he resigned his position on the council of the Tanko Railway Company. His name is also conspicuous by its absence from the lists of promoters of the proposed iron foundries. What has induced him to adopt such a conservative line of action? If was to solve this question that the *Hochi's* representative recently waited upon him at his residence at Yoroibashi. Mr. Shibusawa told the visitor that there was nothing mysterious in his resignation of membership of the council of the Tanko Railway Company. The Company's affairs being in the hands of such able men as Mr. Takashima and Mr. Amenomiya, he did not think it necessary for him to retain the above mentioned position. Moreover, his views being entirely different from those of Messrs. Taka-

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shima and Amenomiya, he had thought it expedient to resign. As to the steel or iron foundry, he had not joined any of the schemes announced because he was as yet unable to convince himself of the hopefulness of the enterprise. The only experiment of the kind made in Japan had ended in failure, and he could not pursuade himself that it was a wise thing to commence such a doubtful undertaking with so large a capital as 6 to 10 million *yen*. Concerning the silver question, he did not doubt that, if the United States Senate ever consented to the repeal of the Sherman Act, it would do so conditionally. As to the policy to be followed by Japan on the subject of currency, he was opposed to any change of her present system. Being now engaged studying the silver question, he could not say anything definite about the future of the white metal, but so far as the present juncture was concerned, he saw no reason to doubt that Japan ought by all means to take the fullest advantage of the unique position she found herself placed in. Now that the increasing prosperity of her foreign trade had begun to exercise a revivifying effect on her long dormant domestic trade, it was desirable above all things that her business men should turn their attention to the task of making firm the basis of their various industries. There were doubtless many new enterprises that should be started, but in Mr. Shibusawa's opinion, it was more important to consolidate and further develop those already existing than to originate new ones. Among the measures he thought of urgent importance, mention may be made of the development of the spinning industry, the improvement of fisheries, the development of sugar manufacture, the extension of commercial navigation, and so forth.

THE AMEER OF AFGHANISTAN.

Among the Editorial Notes in the *Statesman* we find the following:—Few men have been more misunderstood and more misrepresented than the Ameer of Afghanistan. Wielding immense power, and ruling over a great nation of semi-civilised people, Abdur Rahman's position is an exceedingly trying one. He has to deal with men who grovel before him, who swear that they will always be faithful to his rule, and who yet, an hour afterwards, are busily plotting against his life. The chief officers in his realm are of course men who possess a certain amount of common-sense; but the lower classes are drawn from the dregs of humanity. When the Ameer refused to see Lord Roberts, on the plea of ill-health, there were Indian journals that did not hesitate to ascribe the refusal to any but the true cause. As a matter of fact, at the time, his life was almost despaired of. In spite of the constant and heartless criticisms of some leading newspapers, Lord Roberts left India fully convinced of the loyalty and good will of his Majesty. Few of these writers considered why it was that the Ameer refused to see his Excellency: his refusal was alone sufficient to lead them to inveigh against his rule in the most shameful manner, no doubt in the belief that it would gratify a few Government authorities in India. Happily, Mr. Pyne, the Ameer's Agent, has been able to describe to the Government the real sentiments of his Highness regarding the alliance with India; and, whatever unfriendly critics may urge against him, they will, if they are candid, at least recognise the exceeding difficulty of the Ameer's position, while a little closer acquaintance with the facts will probably lead them to admit that he has done everything that it was in his power to do for the good of his country and for the ultimate benefit of the Indian Government.

DEATH OF COUNT C. M. DE BYLANDT.

The numerous friends of H.E. Count Bylandt, Representative of the Netherlands in Japan, learn with much regret and sincere sympathy that this Excellency's father, Count Charles M. de Bylandt, died at Aix-les-bains on the 21st instant. The deceased statesman entered the Netherlands Army in 1836 and served in one of the regiments of Guards until 1839, when the Belgian secession had become a recognised fact. In that year he entered the Foreign Office, and was sent in 1842 as Secretary of Legation to St Petersburg, where he remained until 1885, when he was appointed Minister to Denmark. In 1857 he was transferred to Stockholm, in 1862 to Constantinople, in 1863 to Berlin, and in 1871 to London, where he continued to represent his country until the time of his death. It will be seen from this brief record that the deceased nobleman's diplomatic career extended over a period of more than fifty years, and embraced the most eventful era of modern European history. His Excellency was one of the best known and most highly esteemed of all the Foreign Ministers in London, where his exceptionally long service and high qualities won for him a wide circle of sincere friends.

MEETINGS.

A meeting of the Councillors of the Oriental Association (*Toyo Kyo-kai*), was held on the evening of the 20th instant in the society's office, Count Soyejima presiding, and Viscounts Soga, and Matsudaira, Nobumasa, and Messrs. Miura Yasu, Kaneko Kentaro, Kimotsuki Kenko, and others being present. The first matter of discussion was a letter from Mr. Iwamoto Chitsuma, now in Siam, containing his observations and views about the prospects of Japanese emigration to that country. It was decided that, in view of the importance of the subject, Count Soyejima, in his capacity of President of the Association, should consult the heads of the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, and that Mr. Iwamoto should be asked to furnish more detailed information. The question of codifying regulations for exercising effective control in the Inland Sea was then considered, and the meeting resolved that a representative of the Association be sent to the next session of the Diet in connection with the matter. Mr. Inagaki next brought forward the problem of codifying fishery regulations for the North Pacific, and it was decided to call the attention of the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs to the subject, and, if necessary, to introduce it in the next session of the Diet, seeing that great depredations are now committed by foreign poachers.

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The managers of the Japan Commercial Association held a meeting on the evening of the 20th instant in the residence of Mr. Mayeda Masana, President of the Association. After having nominated a chief of the Kwansei and Kiushu Tea Guilds, respectively—which form a part of the Association—it was decided to hold in Kyoto, during ten days from the 18th of next April, a general meeting of persons engaged in the five occupations of pottery, lacquer, bronze, textile fabrics and paper. The managers of the Association are not to be present at the meeting, and will confer with the representatives of the above industries as to the best means of extending the foreign trade in their staples of production. It was further resolved that experts and merchants skilled in these industries should be appointed to investigate the question of extending the foreign markets. A proviso was added, however, that further deliberation at a general meeting should be held before any definite arrangements were made about these points.

* * *

A meeting of the Yokohama tea merchants was held in the Chitose-ro at 2 p.m. on the 19th instant. Mr. Hanaoka, Vice-Minister of the Imperial Household, Mr. Mayeda, ex-Vice-Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, Messrs. Murayama Chinichi Okada Nuichi, and Horikoshi Zenjuro were present as guests, and Mr. Otani Kahei, President of the Yokohama Tea Merchants Association, presided. He opened the meeting with a brief speech referring in eulogistic terms to the services rendered by Mr. Mayeda towards the development of this important Japanese industry, and conveying to him the cordial thanks of the Association. Mr. Mayeda, whose address constituted the chief business of the meeting, spoke at considerable length with reference to the new tea guilds organized under his direction, and to the tea trade in general. He divided his address under the following headings;—Past, present and future of the tea trade; comparative development of the tea-growing industry during recent years; comparative prices of tea; acreage of tea plantations in Japan, as well as in Kwanto, Kwansei, and Kiushu; the relation between green tea and re-fired tea; the commercial condition of the tea industry in Japan and other countries; causes why tea is such a universally favourite beverage, and the affairs of the tea guilds. He used diagrams to illustrate his lecture, which lasted over two hours. One specially interesting comment which he made had reference to the Columbian Exhibition. He said that he was disposed to anticipate most important results from it. Hitherto the American public had been acquainted with the Japanese re-fired tea only, and had no knowledge of the taste of pure Japanese tea, which had not passed through the pans at the open ports or received any colouring matter. It might be expected that the experience acquired at the Exhibition would tend to revolutionize American taste. In conclusion, he alluded to the relations between the tea-merchants at the open ports and the tea-growers in the interior, and declared that unless the two parties worked in unison, no satisfactory development of the industry could be anticipated.

ALWAYS THE CHINESE.

"With regard to the antiquity of the lens," says Mr. Edward Fourdringnier, in the *Photo Club de Paris*, "if we are to believe C. P. Gaubil, quoted by M. De Paravay in his 'Chronologic Chinois,' the Emperor Chan, who reigned 2283 B.C., used enlarging lenses in the form of a telescope in order to be able to get a better view of the planets." The use of lenses has also been traced to the Chinese moralist Confucius, 748 B.C. A glass case in the Assyrian section of the British Museum contains a piece of rock crystal formed into the shape of a plano-convex lens, 1½ inches in diameter and $\frac{7}{16}$ inch thick. This was discovered in the ruin called Nimroud. It gives a focus of 4½ inches. According to Sir David Brewster, this lens was designed for magnifying purposes. The date is about 700 B.C. Baptista Potta (1560), the inventor of the camera obscura, states:—"If you know how to combine a convex and a concave glass, one of each sort, you will see far and near objects larger and clearer."

COMPANIES.

The Nippon Kombu Company held an extraordinary general meeting a few days ago in the Clearing House, Sakamoto-cho, Tokyo. Mr. Shimomura, a director of the Company, being in the chair. The meeting was for the purpose of filling a vacancy in one of the chairs of directorship, of effecting some alterations in the provisions of the regulations, and of electing two new auditors. The most important amendment of the regulations was to eliminate the provision permitting the Company to engage in the lumber trade as well as in that in seaweed, and to change the settlement of accounts to one annual operation instead of two, as heretofore. The business was all conducted without friction.

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The Imperial Fishery Company held an extraordinary general meeting in the Koseikan, Kobikicho, Tokyo, on the 19th instant, Mr. Murakami, a director of the Company, being in the chair. The object was to discuss a proposed increase of the capital from 250,000 *yen* to 1,000,000 *yen*, one-third of the increase to be taken by the present shareholders, the remainder by the general public, and the method of issue to be entrusted to Mr. Murata Taihoisu, who was elected the new President of the Company. Mr. Murata, before accepting the nomination of President, inquired whether any of the shareholders had objections to offer, and being answered in the negative, consented to serve, explaining, however, that since his sole object was to promote public welfare by developing the fishery in the northern sea and putting an end to the depredations of foreign poachers, he should not take any salary. At the same time, he did not wish his attitude to be construed as one of coolness towards the company, for he

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had resolved to purchase some three or four hundred shares, so confident was he of its success. He further urged that in issuing the new shares it would be desirable to keep them as far as possible out of the hands of the general public so that they might not become objects of speculation in the stock market, as was the case with the majority of shares now-a-days. He thought that there might be little difficulty in getting the shares taken up by peers and other substantial persons. Mr. Ito Kazutaka, an expert of the Company, then spoke with reference to the programme for future operations. He said that the plan was to engage at first in the Hokkaido fishery along the coast only, and subsequently to conduct pelagic operations also The Hokkaido fisheries were enormously valuable. The coast line extended 800 *ri*, and the annual yield from it was 8 million *yen*, or 10,000 *yen* per *ri*, a yield incomparably greater than that from any other part of the empire's coast. The Company's intention of confining itself to coastwise fishery at first was due chiefly to its unpreparedness for pelagic operations, profitable as these might be. He farther explained that the objects of capture would be sea-otters, seals, and cuttlefish, the last of which abounded in the neighbourhood of Hakodate, and the programme would also include the curing of cod-fish and tinning of oysters at Akeshi, and the capture of whales and and big flat fish in the waters of the Kuriles.

THE SONG OF SONGS.

MR. F. H. BALFOUR, well known in the East as the sometime editor of the *North China Daily News*—which paper he conducted with conspicuous ability—and in the West as the author of several very striking works of fiction published under the *nom de plume* of "Ross George Dering,' has taken a great liberty for which he will doutless be strongly condemned by many orthodox folks. He has arranged the "Song of Songs," King Solomon's song, in a dramatic form, robbing it of all its allegorical and religious features and affinities, and reducing it to the level of a rythmical dialogue between the amorous Sovereign, a peasant girl whom he has captured or cajoled for his harem, the King's jealous wife, the true lover of the Shulamite, and sundry other personages. In this new form the immortal song becomes a common-place affair enough, and the rôle played by the wisest of monarchs betrays neither the divine afflatus of the poet nor the fine wit of the polished courtier. We cannot pretend to think, however, that Mr. Balfour has established the incontestible justice of his rendering. To suppose that the faithful Shulamite apostrophises a shepherd lover when she declares that his 'name is as incense poured forth," that "all the upright love him," and that "he has gone down to his garden to the beds of spices," is to form an unwonted idea of shepherds in the days of Solomon or to attribute much poetic license to the fair Shulamite But these, perhaps, are trifling objections What is certain is that Mr. Balfour's re-casting of the superlative Song has great interest; so much interest that we venture to quote at full length his introductory remarks, with a strong recommendation to our readers to procure the little volume and peruse the re-cast poem, which presumably they can find at the Shueisha Printing Office where it has been excellently done into type :—

In the following pages I have dealt with the 'Song of Songs' as a poetical composition, something in the form of what we should call a cantata embodying a legend of the reign of Solomon. There have been, and probably still are, those who regard it as a spiritual allegory or religious myth Some see in it a sort of love-duet between Christ and the Church, the Chaldee Targum claims it for "God's ancient people," and asserts that it represents Jehovah's courtship of the Jewish race A pious Catholic might with equal reason claim it as a mystical prefigurement of God's condescension to the Virgin Such conceptions are vain things, foolishly invented It is difficult to say which is the profaner and more grotesque idea—that which represents Christ as exchanging love-songs with the redeemer or the notion of the First Person of the Trinity extatiating upon the charms of a handsome Jewess—a compliment, be it remembered, which she returns. It is true that nearly every line in the poem is more or less metaphorical; but I see no reason for travelling outside the natural poetry of the language in search of a doctrinal plot

According to the view I have adopted, the heroine of the piece is a village girl, who is called, from the name of her native place, the Shulamite. With this girl, King Solomon, already married to an Egyptian Princess, falls ardently in love, He obtains possession of her person —less, apparently, by force than by persuasion or intrigue —and strives to win her affections; she is, however, betrothed to a young shepherd, and successfully resists the royal overtures. That is the whole thing. If any one chooses to regard the Shulamite as an *emblem* of the Church, or of some human soul tempted by worldly or carnal allurements, but remaining faithful to its first love, it is open to him, of course, to do so; but the parallel should not be pushed too far, nor is it for one moment permissible to attribute any intention of the sort to the author of the poem himself. Probably many of the great Greek tragedies are equally susceptible to such an exercise of the fancy—the 'Œdipus at Colonus,' or the 'Antigone'

In the First Scene, then, we find the Shulamite already within the precincts of the Palace in company with the ladies of the Court. As she bewails the lover from whom she is separated, they attempt to condole with her; they treat her not unkindly, though they make no effort to hide their observation of her sunburnt face, which contrast so strikingly with their own more delicate complexions This she explains by saying that her stepbrothers treated her harshly, giving her more than her fair share of field-work; 'they forced me to keep their vineyards," she says; then adds, as a consciousness of her equivocal position comes over her—"but mine own vineyard have I not kept!" The lover was absent when she was enticed, for she does not know whither he has gone with his flock; and at length, turning from Court ladies, she breaks out into an impassioned apostrophe of the youth she loves. At this moment, while she is dwelling upon her own insignificance "I am but as a crocus, a common flower, of the plain"*—the lover himself approaches from without, and, overhearing her, prettily turns her self-depreciation into a compliment† Unconscious of his presence, the Shulamite continues her soliloquy; and now a charming episode occurs The lover enters behind her as she falls asleep, and his voice mingles with her dreams She immediately starts up, crying out that he is there—she hears him—though no one is yet seen. Then the lover comes forward singing the exquisite Spring Song of the 2nd chapter, and urges her to flee with him. The ladies, however interfere, and the Shulamite bids him retire for the time being

The second Scene is laid in the neighbourhood of the King's country villa, the House of the Forest of Lebanon, where the Shulamite is still in the care of the Court ladies She now recounts a strange adventure that had once befallen her; how, one night, she awoke and found her lover gone; how she started up and rushed into the streets in search of him, how she made enquiries of the night watchmen, and how, when she left them she found him and clutched him and brought him home again. No explanation is given of this curious incident. But no sooner has she finished its recital than King Solomon himself approaches. A fine chant of welcome is sung by the Chorus, descriptive of his pomp and majesty, at the conclusion of which the King begins to court the Shulamite in earnest He apparently resents her prudery in veiling herself—referring again and again to the beauties which she thus hides from him; he implores her to accompany him from Lebanon, and expatiates upon her charms in language which leaves something to be desired on the score of originality His metaphors, in truth, are somewhat limited; and in the two scenes where Solomon appears it will be noticed that he repeats himself a good deal The Shulamite again resists the royal blandishments, and the King, forbearing to press his suit any further at the moment, invites all present to an *al fresco* banquet

In the Third Scene, we find the Shulamite gradually awaking from sleep She has had a painfully distressing dream, suggested no doubt by the incident above mentioned, and this she proceeds to relate. She thought she was asleep in bed one wet or stormy night, when her lover, drenched to the skin, was heard knocking at her cottage door and entreating admission from the rain. She, on a trifling and selfish pretext, refused to disturb herself; then, struck with the tenderest remorse, she leaped from her couch to open the door, only to find that he had gone away In her dream, she did just what she had done actually before. She forthwith rushed into the streets to seek him; made enquiries of the night watchmen, at whose hands she received nothing but insults and maltreatment; and eventually had to retrace her steps unsuccessful. Such was her dream, rendered all the more painful because of her continued separation from her lover. The Court ladies console her to the best of their ability; the Shulamite breaks out into an impassioned description of his charms, and then, in the midst of it, her distress is added to by another visit from the King, who comes to renew his importunities His present speech is ardent and amorous enough, but disfigured by repetition; again he harps upon the veil that hides her from his gaze, again he compares her hair to a flock of goats and her temples to a slice of pomegranate, yet there are some fine natural touches in it too, as when he says—"Turn away thine eyes from me, for they have conquered me!" and avows her unique superiority to all the other ladies of his Court—a superiority acknowledged even by themselves. But now an unexpected event happens. This is nothing less than the sudden arrival of the Queen, incensed at her husband's amours She opens the campaign by a few significant remarks, spoken quietly; then, irritated by an ill-advised utterance on the part of the Chorus, loses her temper and openly insults the Shulamite, who takes the opportunity of escaping. Thereupon the Court ladies join in a rather sycophantic chant, recapitulating all the personal charms of the Queen in minute detail, while Solomon makes his peace by a few timely protestations and a little coarse flattery. The Queen is pacified, and the King's courtship of the Shulamite appears to cease from this point

In the Fourth Scene we have a glimpse of the re-united lovers wandering in the country by themselves The intense happiness of the Shulamite is charmingly expressed; perfect content and most consummate love appear in every word she utters The phrases in lines 8 and 9 are peculiarly significant of the completeness of her self-surrender

The Fifth Scene represents the public triumph of the lovers, the celebration, in fact, of their espousals They are seen returning from the fields and woods where they have been in retirement, and are now welcomed by the entire countryside. No secret is made of the discomfiture of the King, and the ecstacy of the Shulamite receives its full meed of approbation and reward. Here the Brothers appear for the first and only time She adjures them to care for their little sister (who is still unmarriageable) when the time shall come, and they solemnly swear to protect her loyally. Finally the Lover asks the Shulamite to sing, and she responds with the invitation which is now familiar to us.

I may add that I am not unacquainted with the views of Delitsch, Renan, Ewald, Driver, Griffis, Adam Clarke, Ginsburg, Bruston, and others upon this poem; but I have adopted none of them. That my own version is, no doubt, open to serious criticism is not a sufficient reason in my eyes for selecting as final any one out of so many conflicting commentaries The original intent and form will probably never be discovered

* The prevalent misconception of this passage—"I am the rose of Sharon," in the Authorised Version—is very curious, and not a little amusing. There is even a hymn somewhere, in which Christ (who is apparently supposed to have used the expression) is termed, "The Rose of Sharon"—as though it were an honorific epithet. The exact reverse is the case. Sharon was a great plain, covered with the commonest wild-flowers; and the Shulamite in her modesty, compares herself with one of these. It is as though she said, "I am nothing but an insignificant field-daisy, a rustic village girl unworthy of my lover's choice"

† The couplet here put into the mouth of the Chorus is metaphorical. The lover is referred to under the guise of a young fox, who seeks to steal the fruit from the 'vineyards of Solomon—to wit, his *harem*. Refer Scene V.

MEXICO.

WHILE the old world disquiets itself about its prospects and wonders whether the time is not approaching rapidly when its population must overstep the limits of sustenance, it is pleasant to read such writings as those of Claudio Jannot in the *Révue des Deux Mondes*, who describes the state of affairs in Mexico as offering a large field for enterprise and industry. "Mexico," he writes, "offers to European capitalists and enterprising men fields of varied character, sure to be fertile in results. Few new countries offer so many. It is necessary only to choose them judiciously and to take into consideration the climate and social conditions, different from the United States, which now seeks to restrain the immigration of manual labourers, and where, in many of the Western states, the acquisition of land is shackeled by the pressure of a blind rural democracy, Mexico offers conditions singularly favourable to manufacturers, merchants, and foreign speculators. Its civil legislation makes no difference between natives and foreigners. As military service does not exist for decent people, these do not fear to become nationalized or to allow their sons so to become. Small and moderate-sized fortunes in some parts of Mexico do not exist at all. Trades up to the present time give occupation to but a small number of artisans, sometimes very skilful, but nevertheless little fitted to deviate from the beaten track and raise themselves above their condition Large industries are absolutely unknown, and commerce, except in its lowest degree, is in the hands of foreigners. The current rates of interest are from nine to ten per cent. for mortgages and twelve per cent. for commercial loans. In places where loans are usurious, these rates are largely exceeded. The natural wealth of the country is so great that many agricultural and industrial enterprises can support such burdens; but they show the rarity of capital All the institutions which, in our country, encourage saving and self-help can hardly be said to be represented by three or four savings-banks. Yet, the field for them is immense, and the high rate of interest would yield good results very rapidly, as well as for all institutions which develop thrift. Some mutual-aid societies have been recently formed in the City of Mexico and other large towns, composed of men following the same trade, and admitting those of all races. They appear to be the outcome of old recollections of the Aztec civilization, in which trade corporations existed They are already a political force which Profirio Diaz utilizes, just as Napoleon III. utilized such in his best days. Although these corporations are not animated by a spirit of antagonism to capital, they exercise a good influence by raising wages. The great obstacles in the way of saving and of institutions which encourage it, are drunkenness and gambling. The latter manifests itself in all forms. The Government has an organized public lottery, and, in most of the States, gambling-houses are authorized and opened publicly, on condition of paying certain rents. Where they

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are forbidden by law, the connivance of the public authorities makes them still more dangerous. The middle class is composed wholly of men of the liberal professions. Among these are some very distinguished individuals; but, as in Latin countries, the great number of young men who disdain commerce and manufactures, and enter these professions, as well as Government employment, causes such careers to be much overcrowded, and the large majority of those who enter them are unable to bring up families in comfort. There is in Mexico a superabundance of establishments of secondary instruction, considering the amount of population fit to take advantage of them, and the half-educated, starving men, who cannot live without public employment, keep multiplying in each generation."

MR. KUKI'S SPEECH AT THE EIGHTH GLYPTIC EXHIBITION, UYENO.

A VERY interesting speech was delivered by H.E. Mr. R. Kuki, on the occasion of the Autumn Exhibition of Glyptic Art recently held in Uyeno Park. He commenced by setting forth the improvement which the exhibition of this year displayed as compared with that of last year, and the then entered into the history of the glyptic art in Japan in his usual scholarly and lucid manner. The glyptic art of Japan, he said, passed through three stages of development in former times. The first stage dated from the reign of the Empress Suiko and attained its highest point during the period when the Court was at Nara. It maintained its influence for about 250 years. The founder of the art during this first period was Cho Busshi (that is to say, an artist named Cho whose trade was the carving of Buddhist images). At the time when Buddhism began to obtain a firm hold in Japan, when it had been imported from Korea, the art of carving Buddhist images naturally came into vogue. That Cho was highly gifted not only technically but also morally, and that he possessed a severe and dignified taste, may be confidently inferred by examining the Buddhist images from his chisel in Horyuji and two or three other temples. During the era of *Tenpei* (724-748 A.D.) great elegance was imparted to the glyptic art, and the improvement was carried still further in the era of Konin (810-823 A.D.); but no radical change of style took place, the work of Cho being still regarded as the best standard. The second stage was inaugurated by Sadatomo, during the ascendency of the Fujiwara Family. It was in Sadatomo's hands that the chaste Japanese style for the first time received development, and thoroughly original modifications were effected in the foreign style hitherto prevalent, just as the pictorial art was modified by Kanaoka. The third stage belongs to the Kamakura period. Its chief characteristic is great vigour, as compared with the refined and elaborate style of the Sadatomo School. This change was effected by adopting some elements of the style practised by Chinese artists under the *Sung* dynasty. Keiun must be regarded as the originator of the new school. It maintained its activity for more than a decade after his death, but it then gradually began to lose its elegance, especially in the first part of the Ashikaga period when the field of art in general was pervaded by the ascetic influence of the Zenshu Sect, whose votaries, despised shape and revered spirit only. These three stages of development were inaugurated by the great men mentioned above, in accordance with the general tendency of the times in which they lived and in obedience to the spirit of the age. The foundation of the art by Cho at the rise of Buddhism, its prosperous pursuit by Sadatomo during the refined period of the Fujimasa ascendency, and its vigorous productions in the form of warriors and battle gods during the period of the Kamakura Regency, are easily distinguished stages in its history. After the death of Keiun there did not appear any artist capable of striking out an original line and freeing himself from the styles of Sadatomo and Keiun, though very great changes came over the general tendencies of the times. If we consult biographies, we find among Keiun's immediate successors notable artists as Kaikei, Tankei, Koun, Koben, and Kosho, while, during the Tokugawa period, there flourished the not less celebrated Takarayama Tankai, Takarayama Shoun, Kozan, and Houn. But they all copied old models, and though they made remarkable progress in the art of carving miniature pictures on *netsuke*, and so forth, they were very decidedly deficient in the qualities of grasp and power that distinguished glyptic products of the highest type. Consequently great as were the vicissitudes which overtook this country from the death of Keiun to the period of *Meiji*, a space of more than 650 years, the glyptic art of Japan may be said to have slept a long and uneventful sleep. Mr. Kuki then drew the attention of artists to the special necessity of adapting themselves to the spirit of the present time, when a radical change has taken place in the political and social spheres, and to the vital need of developing originality and strength. He said, at the same time, that the general tendency of contemporary taste has much to do with the appearance of artists of real worth, for so long as public taste adopts false standards, which Mr. Kuki strongly suspects to be the case at present, it is well-nigh hopeless to look for the rise of artists of ability. The negligence with which this topic is regarded in the present curriculum of education, and the cognate treatment accorded to artists in general by the public, were then dwelt upon. Coming to speak on the remuneration now generally paid to artists, he regretted very much the want of proportion between that remuneration and the talent of the artists, but he consoled himself with the reflection that, even though the liberal allowances which celebrated artists enjoyed in olden times may not be hoped for again, still with a gradual increase in the demand of the public, and especially in view of the fact that the arts products of native artists are now brought within reach of foreign connoisseurs, a time may not be distant when the remuneration of artists will come up to the proper level. One thing on which Mr. Kuki insisted in this connection is worthy of reproduction, namely, the desirability of direct relations between purchasers and artists, without the intervention of an agent. He fully admitted the great service which agents had done to both parties and the still greater convenience derived from the employment of such a medium, but he was not sure, to speak without reserve, whether there were not cases when the artists were abused by the middlemen. Another evil was that so long as an artist was not directly before the public, his fame remained unknown, as well as his personality, fact which lead to the want of responsibility and self-respect in him, and ultimately ended in degrading himself to the level of a common mechanic. In this respect painters were somewhat different from their fellow artists, for it was quite common for any one who wished to have a painting to go directly to the painter he admired, and to ask him to draw one for him. The personalities of painters were therefore well known to the public. But the case was entirely different with glyptic and other artists. How many persons knew where the famous artists in those branches were living? How few had ever gone to their houses to obtain their arts products? It was far from Mr Kuki's intention to have the artist vulgarized: he must rather be looked at as a saint beyond the reach of ordinary the wear and tear of life Still being nothing more or less than human he had to devise means for his livelihood. To create a direct relation between supply and demand, Mr. Kuki considered, the opening of an exhibition of one kind or another the best way.

THE JIYU TO'S FUNDS

A RUMOUR recently circulated with diligence in political circles is now confirmed by the *Kokkai* with much show of confidence. It is to the effect that the Radical Party purposes raising a sum of one hundred thousand *yen* for political purposes—the election campaign presumably. At present the Party's annual expenditure, by prudent if not parsimonious management, is kept down to the very pretty sum of ten thousand *yen*, but it is alleged that recent endeavours to obtain even that trifling amount produced only six thousand. Hence the possibility of collecting a sum of one hundred thousand is seriously doubted. However, the *Jiyu-to* intend to devote three years to the task, and to ask each of their representatives in the Diet to subscribe from 300 to 1,000 *yen*, the various local organizations being invited to put up a similar amount in proportion to their importance. Twelve thousand pounds sterling is not a stupendous sum for a great political party to collect, but circumstances alter standards.

THE JOHANNESBURG GOLDFIELD

AN experimental boring, 2,500ft. in depth, was recently made in the Witwatersrand goldfield, with a view to testing the lie of the auriferous deposits. The result was of the most satisfactory character, and the "strike" has led to calculations of the hidden wealth of these fields, and probably (says the Johannesburg correspondent of *South Africa*) the following by Mr. Scott Alexander may be interesting as showing the rich possibilities of the future:—Circumference of basin, 400 miles; diameter, 127 miles; area, 12,500 square miles, or 360,710,272,000 square feet. Taking average thickness of eight series of banket beds at 6ft. (equal to 48ft.), equals 16,834,093,056 000 cubic feet of reef, or, at 15 cubic feet to the ton, 10,521,433,160,000 tons. A. 30s per ton (very low), value of gold equal to £1 578,196,224,000., or one billion five hundred and seventy-eight thousand one hundred and ninety-six millions two hundred and twenty-four thousand pounds sterling. Taking the population of Witwatersrand at 40,000 souls, this allows each £30,454,905. 12s. 6d.

CHINA TRADERS' INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED

THE following is the report presented to the Shareholders at the twenty-seventh ordinary meeting, held on Friday, the 15th September:—The directors have now the pleasure to lay before the shareholders a statement of the Company's accounts for the year ended April 30th last. The net premia earned amount to $703,363 06, and the working account shows a balance at credit of $395,615.28, which sum the directors recommend be appropriated in the following manner:—A dividend of 18 per cent. to shareholders, $108,000 00; a dividend of 15 per cent. on contributions, payable to all contributors of business whether Shareholders or not, $80 000 00; to be carried to new account, $207,615.28: total $395,615.28. Directors:—Messrs. P. Sachse and J. Kramer retire by rotation and offer themselves for re-election.

TROUBLES ABOUT ROADS IN AOMORI.

FUNDS for constructing roads in Aomori Prefecture appear to have been voted at a wrong moment and injudiciously employed, if the following account from the vernacular press represent the true state of the matter. It would seem that a sum of 300 000 *yen* for re-constructing roads was carried through the Local Assembly in a rather hasty manner a year or two ago. The grant proved insufficient, however, for completing the roads as contemplated in the programme, and the result was that though some of the roads were thoroughly built and finished from end to end, others are still in a half complete state. The inconvenience said to be felt in consequence of this state of things, is so great that even on one road stretching from Aomori to Ikariseki via Hiroseki, a distance of about 50 English miles, the loss entailed in connection with waggon traffic alone is estimated at 500 *yen* per diem, or 180,000 *yen* a year. Moreover, even the roads completed are far from giving satisfaction to the people, who complain that, being covered with broken stone and large gravel, they are virtually closed to waggon traffic, for it is estimated that the toil of traction is more than tripled by the presence of these obstacles, so that the rough, old-fashioned roads were much better. It is believed that at least two or three years must elapse, before the new roads become adapted for waggon traffic. On the other hand, it is pretty certain that, in the case of some of the roads, even when they

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reach a smooth condition, they are hardly likely to be used for traffic purposes, inasmuch as railways will be completed by that time. In short, the roads of Aomori, in all probability, will simply remain as specimens of ill-considered enterprise. Doubtless political capital will be made out of the affair. The Aomori Local Assembly practically consists of Radicals, and the shrewd local Progressionists intend to turn this example of mismanagement to good account. They recently held meetings to direct the attention of the public to the persons with whom the responsibility of the affair rests, and the eagerness with which the speakers pushed their advantage may be inferred from the frequent warnings which their speeches drew from the police on duty.

FOUNDRY INVESTIGATION COMMITTEE.

SUPPLEMENTING our brief note already published on the second meeting of the Iron Foundry Investigation Committee, held on the 26th instant in the Department of Agriculture and Commerce from 1 p.m. to half-past 5, we observe that, before the deliberation commenced, Mr. Asaka proposed to have a short-hand report of the proceedings of the meeting, which was agreed to. Mr. Hadano then questioned Mr. Takahashi, a member of the Committee and Chief of the Mining Bureau of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, with reference to the causes that had led to the failure of the Kamaishi mining enterprise, and announced that, in the event of Mr. Takahashi's not being able to give a satisfactory reply, he should then seek information directly from Count Goto, Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce. Mr. Takahashi replied that it was not possible to give a satisfactory reply forthwith, but that he should furnish full explanation after due investigation. The order of the day was then proceeded to. A motion that direct inspection should be made of the iron mines at Kamaishi, Senmin, and Akadani was carried, despite Mr. Hadano's opposition, and it was decided that the President of the committee should nominate 7 members for the propose. The next proposal, namely, to have the iron ore of the Akadani and Hirodani mines smelted by way of trial was amended in the sense of having the ores analysed; and the next, namely, to ask the Osaka Arsenal and the Yokosuka Docks for information as to the results of using Japanese iron since September of last year, was approved. In the fourth place, a proposal for this experimentable making of fire-proof bricks, and, in the fifth, one for examining the quality of Japanese coke, were referred to experts. A proposal to appoint a special Committee for the purpose of investigating and reporting on the best method of carrying on the foundry business, was carried, the number of the Committee to be seven. Finally it was resolved, with regard to the general question of establishing an iron foundry, that the consideration of the matter should be entrusted to a special Committee nominated by the President of the Investigation Committee. Mr. Asaka moved at the close of the deliberations that matters relating to the supply of fuel should be considered in conjunction with the Engineering Council but it was decided to postpone the deliberation of this important point until the next meeting of the Committee. The Committee were all present except Marquis Kuroda, Messrs. Inouye Kakugoro and Wada Hikojiro

THE CALIFORNIA MIDWINTER INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION

THE preparations for the California Midwinter International Exhibition are, we read, in full progress, though some doubts still exist as to the scope of the enterprise. The Golden Gate Park is to be the site of the affair, and the opening is fixed for January 1st, 1894. Although the term "midwinter" is employed to describe the Exhibition, it has to be noted that January, February and March are in reality spring months in California, and that from January 1st to June 30th, the thermometer in San Francisco usually ranges from 55° to 20° Fahrenheit. In an articles published by the Pacific News Bureau, we find it stated that "the style of architecture on which the designs for the buildings have been prepared are entirely new and uncommon, approaching the early Spanish Mission, the Oriental, the Aztec, and other picturesque types. There are to be five buildings with an area as follows:—Manufacturers' and Liberal Arts, 450x200 feet; Fine Arts, 120x60 feet; Agriculture and Horticultural Hall, 300x125 feet; Mechanical Arts, 275x175 feet, and Administration Building, 60x40 feet. These buildings are to be as nearly fireproof as possible, their roofs partially covered with skylights; they will be embellished with ornaments of staff. Besides this official complement of structures which will be grouped around Concert Valley with its ornamental electric light tower, its fountains, cascades and rockeries, its winding walks and ornamental flower beds, its restaurants and thousand-and-one picturesque attractions, there will be hundreds of other buildings of a semi-official or private character, leaving alone the many bewitching creations and reproductions of a Midway Plaisance. Particular study has been made as to the most effective way of electric lighting of buildings, grounds, and approaches. An extension of San Francisco's most elaborate cable car system is under preparation for the accomodation of intending visitors, and all previously gained experience of the directorate and its employés is concentrated upon the one sole object—success of the Midwinter Exposition.

PROFESSOR INOUYE ON MIXED RESIDENCE.

PROFESSOR INOUYE of the Imperial University, who is probably known to our readers as an inveterate antagonist to Christianity, is an enthusiastic, and, we may also say, bigoted opponent of the opening of the country for mixed residence. When Count Okuma's scheme of Treaty Revision constituted a subject of strong political agitation in 1889, Professor Inouye was in Berlin. It was then that he caused to be published in Tokyo a little pamphlet on the subject of Mixed Residence, in which he took much pains to prove the inferiority of his nationals to the peoples of the Occident. His treatise was not well spoken of even by the bitterest opponents of Mixed Residence. But the author himself seems to be very well satisfied with his ethnological researches, and is about to issue a revised edition of the brochure. The editor of the *Tensoku* has obtained his permission to publish in advance in his journal an essay on the same subject which is to appear as a sort of a supplement This essay may be regarded as a resumé of the elaborate arguments contained in the general body of the pamphlet. In the first place, we read, it must be regarded as most lamentable if the Japanese whose nationality has hitherto been remarkably uniform and harmonious, were to have discordant elements incorporated by the admission of foreigners into the interior The writer is confident that, if Mixed Residence be granted, foreigners will pour into the country in vast numbers. Secondly, he thinks that that settlement of aliens in the interior would be dangerous to the peace and good order of the country. Even at present, when the privilege of Mixed Residence is not granted, foreigners cause no small annoyance to the Japanese by the purchase of land and by encroaching upon territorial waters As to the objection that foreigners will not come in so large numbers as he anticipates, he replies that is safer to assume the worst than to live in a fool's paradise. Thirdly, he characterizes the advocates of Mixed Residence as ignorant of the true condition of things in the West. These persons, he says, allege that because a thing is practised without inconvenience in the West, it may be followed in this country. But they forget that their countrymen are inferior to the races of Europe and America and fall into the mistake of applying the same standard to two conditions of things fundamentally different. In the case of the strong countries of the West, they have little to fear from the inroad of inferior races But the case is entirely different when an inferior race is threatened with the pouring in of superior races. Fourthly, since he assumes that his own countrymen belong to an inferior race, he finds no difficulty in believing that, if foreigners were admitted to live among the Japanese, the latter would be converted to the ways and customs of the former. He would not oppose the Europeanization of the Japanese, but he fears that, in the process, they might lose their national individuality. Fifthly, he states that Prince Bismarck once, in conversation with a certain Japanese, spoke to the effect that it was premature to throw open Japan for foreign nations, and that at least fifty years should elapse before such a step could be safely taken. The various foreign Representatives persuade Japan to open the interior, but they have their own private reasons for it, and the Japanese are told that they need not care a straw about what these persons say on the subject. The foreign papers in Yokohama, the Professor goes on, contemptuously refer to the opponents of Mixed Residence, partly because they are ignorant of the condition of the country, and partly because they have an interest in the opening of the interior. Sixthly, should Mixed Residence be granted at once, Professor Inouye fears that it will lead to a disastrous revolution in the life of the nation. He thinks that Mixed Residence should be granted after a long interval of preparation and then only by degrees and tentatively. In his opinion the experiment should be tried in the three Cities of Tokyo, Osaka, and Kyoto, and the five Prefectures in which the present treaty ports are situated. He thinks that it would be extremely dangerous to throw open Hokkaido for Mixed Residence. Seventhly and lastly, he tries to refute the argument of those who say that Mixed Residence will benefit the country by introducing cheap capital from abroad. Since he assumes the inferiority of his countrymen to the Occidentals, he cannot believe that the Japanese would ever remain masters in their own country, if they were left to compete with races from beyond the sea. The presence of Englishmen in India may have increased the material prosperity of the country, but the people of India themselves are to-day no better off than they were before the advent of their conquerors. Such are the grounds on which the Professor opposes the opening of the interior for Mixed Residence. He advises, or rather orders his readers—such is the boastful tone of his writing—to disseminate his valuable arguments among their friends and acquaintances so that a fatal calamity impending over the nation may be averted in time.

THE NIPPON RACE CLUB.

A MEMBER of the Club and an owner of horses complains that we have not published the race programme. Of course we could not do so without having it sent us and the treatment of members of the Club in this respect is not what it should be. The principal supporters of racing are the owners of horses who naturally expect to find racing information published in all the papers; but they do not, and the *sans souci* methods of the Committee—particularly in this matter of information—causes a great deal of grumbling. This is nothing new, however. A case in point occurred less than a week ago. It was intended to publish a statement and analysis of the pedigrees of the new half-breds, which would have been of general interest, particularly to the subscribers, because although each owner had the pedigree of his own animal he knew nothing about those of his neighbours. The official who had the necessary document from which the information could be compiled was asked to lend it, and he agreed to do so, but he did not, consequently the owners were deprived of a statement that would have been both interesting and instructive.

THE "JAPANESE GENERAL" IN MEXICO.

IF the story related in the *Jiji Shimpo* under this title can be credited, there is in Mexico a Governor named Talentram (?) who is nicknamed the "Japanese General." He is said to be a gentleman of more than local renown, indeed his name is known and respected in the next parish,—we mean the United States of

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America. When Mr. Chinda, Japanese Consul at San Francisco, visited Mexico on officia business, curiosity led him to make a call on the "General," whom he found to be endowed with markedly Japanese features and manners. But nothing was said on that score at the interview, for, according to the Mexican Constitution, no foreigner can hold the position of Governor in that country. The most trustworthy story of the General's origin would appear to be that his father was shipwrecked on the Mexican Coast with his child, the Governor, who was then bu. three years old. The stranded mariner then became a barber in Mexico where he died many years ago, the son himself being now a venerable old gentleman. He speaks no Japanese nor does he call himself such. His name is said to have been an accidental gift. This tale is an old friend. We have made its acquaintance before. But of course that fact does not of necessity discredit it.

POLITICAL PARTIES.

THE National Unionists from the twenty-four provinces of the North East, held a grand conference at Sendai on the 25th instant. Before opening the formal proceedings of the conference, they organized a lecture meeting, at which the principal speakers were Messrs. Imai Isoichiro, M.P., Wada Hikojiro, M.P., Yumoto Yoshinori, M.P., Tsubota Shigeru, M.P., and so forth. They attacked the Government and denounced the Radicals as a new official party. Another noteworthy feature of their speeches was the importance attached by all to the question of Anti-Mixed Residence. They repeated the plausible arguments which have been repeated again and again by the leading newspapers in the capital. The lecture meeting was a failure. When Mr. Imai Isoichiro ascended the platform and began to address the audience on the subject of Treaty Revision, the opponents of the National Unionists created such confusion that the police inspectors had to dissolve the meeting. In the evening of the same day, the National Unionists held their conference at the Yusui-kan, the principal members present being Viscount Shinagawa, and Messrs. Yasuba Yasukazu, Masuda Shigeyuki, Ooka Ikuzo, Furusho Kamon, Motoda Hajime, Imai Isoichiro, and so forth. Mr. Masuda was in the chair. The assembly adopted by acclamation a resolution declaring their intention first to reform evils of the "Government of Persons" and to uphold the constitution; secondly, to encourage industries and promote the prosperity and happiness of the people; and thirdly, to nourish nationalistic ideas and study the method of maintaining Japan's place among the Powers of the world. In pursuance of, and based upon, the principles expressed by this resolution, the assembly adopted another resolution in which the platform of the Party was expressed in a concrete form. Among the more important of the items we find, first, that it is too early to grant Mixed Residence; secondly, that efforts should be made to complete preparations for Treaty Revision; thirdly, that prison expenses should be transferred to the charge of the Treasury; fourthly, that State aid should be given to primary schools; fifthly, that questions should be put to the Cabinet about the actual enforcement of the existing treaties and that, at the same time, their strict observance be insisted on; sixthly, that increase of the Navy and completion of the national defences should be insisted on; seventhly, that permanent engineering works should be undertaken; eighthly, that direct trade with foreign countries should be encouraged, and ninthly, that steamship lines to foreign countries should be extended. There are a few other items concerning reforms in agriculture, forestry, and fisheries. Three cheers for the Emperor, the Empress, and the Empress-Dowager brought the grand conference to an end. The assembly, before dispersing, went through the formalities for the establishment of a branch office of the National Unionist party in Senda..

* * *

As far as can be judged from telegraphic intelligence, the lecture tours of the three Radical leaders in Kyushu seem to have met with better success than was at first anticipated by their friends. With the exception of a few places, Messrs. Hoshi, Kono, and Matsuda have been enthusiastically welcomed by local sympathizers. The lecture meetings opened by them have always drawn exceptionally large audiences, and they seem to have encountered few obstructions It is regrettable that detailed reports of the speeches delivered by these distinguished Radicals have not yet been published by their organ in Tokyo. According to rumour they refrained from attacking the Progressionists, their criticisms being chiefly directed against the Cabinet.

* * *

The *Chinsei Nippo* of Nagasaki alludes to the hearty welcome extended to Mr. Hoshi by the inhabitants of the Provinces of Hizen and Higo. This circumstance is at first sight inexplicable, because in these localities the Progressionists are in much greater strength than the Radicals. Our contemporary, however, on careful reflection, finds no difficulty in explaining the mystery. It recalls the fact that in the above regions the Progressionists and the Radicals are on intimate terms, union and cöoperation being forced upon them by the necessity of fighting the National Unionists. Hence the enthusiastic welcome received by Mr. Hoshi is not to be taken as a proof of any increasing popularity of the Radical Party in that section of the country.

* * *

The Progressionist campaign in Niigata Prefecture is said to have been on the whole a success, notwithstanding the rough treatment which Messrs. Ozaki and Tanaka received at one of their lecture meetings. Formerly, the Prefecture was one of the strongholds of the Radical Party, but of late some disclosures of blameworthy conduct on the part of the Radical members of the Local Assembly led to a sudden fall of the Party's prestige, and the opportunity has been skilfully taken advantage of by the Progressionists.

THE GREAT EARTHQUAKE OF 1891.

THE recently published volume of the College of Science of the Imperial University, contains a most interesting and exhaustively compiled essay, by Professor B. Koto, on the "Cause of the Great Earthquake in Central Japan in 1891." We quote the Professor's "Concluding Remarks" in full:—

Speaking generally, it may be said that all large earthquakes are accompanied by the formation of fissures. The cracks, fissures, and slips formed at the time of earthquakes are of *various natures*, and of *different dimensions*. Some occur along a road, or run near the upper edge of a cliff. The reason that cracks should have occurred in such a position as the latter rather than in others is probably owing to the greater motion at such a place, due to the face of the cliff being unsupported and with nothing opposed to its outward motion. Similar remarks may be applied to the banks of rivers and to all depressions whether natural or artificial, which have a steep slope. At such places the waves of the shocking emerge on a free surface, tending to project the superficial parts away from those behind, and thus form a fissure parallel to the free surface.

Moreover, slips and fissures depend upon the *structure of rocks*, and occur on a particularly grand scale where the strata dip into or against the slope of the walls of a valley. We have numerous examples of this in all the side-valleys of the Neo river, which run parallel to the strike of a complex of clay-slates, sandstones, horn stone-slates, the main course of the river, as already stated, being directed against the strike of the Palæozoic formations. This often misled observers to see in the side valleys the seat of the origin of the earthquake, because the shocks were far more destructive there than in other places. *However great the destruction was it was nothing more than the superficial effects of the earthquake, but not the cause of it.*

There are other fissures, slips, and cracks of great geological importance, and of quite different origin, which should by no means be confounded with those already mentioned; as has unfortunately been often done. They are really connected with the underground structure and are due to displacement of the rock-masses which constitute the external crust of the earth. They therefore occur where there exists a discontinuity of rocks, and the earth rent which we have described, and which is the main point in the present paper, must be regarded as an example.

This rent at the surface took multifarious forms When traversing a ridge of mountains or a spur of hills, it caused extensive landslips, one side of it descending considerably in level, carrying the forest with it, but with the trees complicatedly interlocked or prostrate on the ground, as on the ridge of Haku-san. On flat ground it sometimes created a terrace of about 6 metres in height, as in Midori, somewhat like a railway embankment seen from afar. When the vertical displacement was not very considerable, the earth-rent left a mark on the ground, *resembling very much the pathway of a gigantic mole or the track of a plough-share.*

The manner in which this peculiar low mound was formed may be explained by reference to a monoclinal flexure—a geological structure well exhibited on a grand scale in the Plateau of Wahsatch. Suppose the flat bottom of a valley like the Neo, filled up with soil and gravel which rest unconformably upon the hard mass of the older rocks, and form their "cover," and that the basement should give way by faulting along the vertical thrust-plane; there a certain portion of the uncompressed "cover" will thereby be uplifted, so as to form a rounded ridge of earth by the lateral compression of a subjacent mass along the line of discontinuity. In this way a monoclinal flexure in the loose superficial covering, which appears in section as flexure connecting two horizontal bars of strata, would be produced by direct lateral pressure exerted at the ends of the bars. Besides the vertical movement, horizontal shifting of either side would take place along the same plane of fault, and the raised ridge would be much disturbed and become a confused mass of clods of earth. The flexure in this case had better be called the *monoclinic diagonal flexure*. The peculiar soft mound of earth, of which we have often spoken, belongs to such a flexure.

This unique track, though at the first sight it seemed quite insignificant and was consequently usually overlooked by casual observers, is of great geological bearing. Unlike other accidental fissures it is characterised by constancy of direction and regularity of course. Starting from Katabira near the Kisogawa, it runs up its length through the Neo valley to Hakusan (a distance of 64 kilometres), and then seems to proceed north-west up to the city of Fukui, for the extraordinary distance of 112 kilometres, or 28 *ri*. The one with which we are most concerned, is the line of fault or displacement of rock-complexes, along which, as I have repeatedly pointed out, the ground on the *left side had subsided from 1½ to 6 metres, and at the same time been horizontally shifted for 1½ to 2 metres in a north-westerly direction.* The only exception to the general rule was the fault in Midori, where the land was lower on the west than on the east; the manner in which this special condition may be supposed to have been brought about, has been already stated, namely, that it was the east half, which was *elevated* through some local circumstances and not the west side depressed.

In regard to alterations of relative level, none of my observations, however, establish which side it was that moved, or whether both moved, or whether both moved but-in a different manner. It must always be remembered that to ascertain a change of level is a subject of considerable difficulty almost incapable of determination, except where the sea-coast happens to have participated in the principal movement. In the last earthquake we had no opportunity of observing such phenomena on the sea-coast, either of the Pacific Ocean or of the Japan Sea probably because of the line of the principal fissure being entirely confined to the interior. Had it been possible to observe the fissure on the shore, it might even then have been impossible to determine whether an elevation or a depress on even of several metres, had occurred, because there would be usually nothing at that point to mark the mean sea-level.

As data on which I could rely, in ascertaining the actual instead of the relative change of level of the ground, were not at my disposal, it seems to me very natural to suppose that it was subsidence rather than upheaval which took place along the line of the shift; and it is the eastern wing which stands usually at the lower level. But it is another problem to be solved how far this depression extends easterly, whether the whole of Eastern Japan participated in the downward movement, as in the "sunk country" of New Madrid, created at the time of the great earthquake of 1811-12, or the "sag" or *Groben* of the Lake of Baikal, at the mouth of the Senega river, or whether the movement was limited to only a few kilometres to the east. So far as my local knowledge extends, there seems to exist only one regular line of shift in the convulsed district, from which we may fairly conclude that the subsidence attending it, is not of the kind called "sag;" and I do not believe that the half of Japan sunk down, but that only the land near the line of fault became slightly depressed.

Of every large earthquake, we find the accounts full of the mutations which the earth underwent through the agency of subterranean movements, for instance, the formation of cracks and fissures, besides permanent upheavals and depressions, accompanied usually by spirting up of the squeezed groundwater and sliding of detached portions of the mountain-sides. Of movements like these, that of the *Ullah Bund*, in the delta of the Indus, is the most remarkable. The real occurrence of the much talked of rhapsodic movements along the western shore of South America, is not entirely free from doubt. Immediately after the convulsion of 1819, the inhabitants of Sindree, in the Runn of Cutch, saw at a distance a long elevated mound, where previously there had been a low and

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perfectly level plain To this terraced tract they gave the name of 'Ullah Bund,' or the 'Mound of God,' to distinguish it from several artificial dams previously thrown across the eastern arm of the Indus

This "Ullah Bund" seems from its descript on to have a close resemblance in its outward respect, to the fault at Midori, in the Neo valley. As to the manner in which the 'Mound of God" formed, the views of geologists are divided. Lyell saw in this newly created dam a true upheaving of the ground, while Suess considers it in another point of view Suess says, "*Es handelt sich hier weder um Erhebung von Land, noch, wie ich selbst einmal, irregefuehrt durch andere Darstellungen, vermuthet habe, um Faltenbildung an der Oberfläche, sondern nur um das Hervordringen von Grundwasser und des Nachsitzen eines scharf abgegrenzten Theiles des schlammigen Bodens.*" Suess explains in similar manner the formation of the "*sunk country*" of New Madrid, the depression of Baikal Lake, and those subsidences at the mouths of the Ganges and the Brahmaputra, at the time of violent earthquakes. *They were not, according to him, connected with the deep-seated movements altering the relative level of sea and land.*

The great fault of Neo, by which I mean that long line of earth-rent which traverses a distance of 112 kilometres from the Kisogawa to the city of Fukui, cutt ng the hills, mountains, and plains alike with remarkable regularity and sharpness, is clearly not like that of the Ullah Bund, caused by the mere settling of superficial alluvial soil.

The sudden elevations, depressions, or lateral shiftings of large tracts of country which take place at the time of destructive earthquakes are *usually considered as the effects rather than the cause* of subterranean commotions; *but in my opinion, it can be consistently asserted that the sudden formation of the "great fault of Neo" was the actual cause of the great earthquake of the 28th of October, 1891, which shook an area comprising 243 055 square kilometres, or more than 60% of the whole extent of the Empire of Japan;* that is to say, an area equal to those of the British Isles, Holland, and Denmark put together

It is an established tenet of geology that a sudden faulting of the earth's crust will cause a shaking which is designated by the general term of *tectonic earthquake.* The faults resulting from tangential movements are of two classes, those running parallel to the strike of rock-complexes, across the axis of mountain-ranges. All kinds of tectonic earthquake are usually considered destructive and extensive, as compared with those caused by a depression or by a volcanic explosion; and of all the tectonic earthquakes a sudden faulting of the sol d crust *across* the strike of strata are said to produce the most fearful kind of earth-movements, as is evinced by the Spanish earthquake of 1884, along the transverse fractures of Malaga, Motril, and Guadix across the Betic chain of Andalusia (Suess' *Blätt-rbeben*). One of the characteristics of the transverse faulting is the simultaneous occurrence of the horizontal "carriage" of a thick mass along the vertical thrust plane, which is very rarely observed, if ever, in longitudinal fissures.

The backbone of South Japan—the cordilleras of the Sin cal system, traverses the boundary of the two provinces of Mino and Echizen, in the east-west direction, w th the prevailing dips of the Palæozoic formations towards the north. A system of parallel, transverse valleys intersects the axis of the mountains in an oblique direction from north-west to south-east, and the Neo valley, along which the "great earth-rent of Neo" going deep into the rocky crust was produced, is one of these. *A sudden faling of the Palæozoic strata on the right wing along the line of the "fault of Neo," accompanied by lateral shifting toward the north-west, casued the shaking which constituted the late dreadful catatrophe of Mino, Owari, and Echizen.*

THE "SAKATA MARU."

THE Nippon Yusen Kaisha's steamer *Sakata Maru*, after lying no less than 28 days on the sand at Inuboye Point, was successfully hauled off on the morning of the 23rd instant, and arrived safely at Yokosuka early the next day, in tow of the same Company's steamer *Sendai Maru*. The *Sakata Maru*, a steamer of 1,954 tons burden, under the command of Captain Giese, was on a voyage from Akishi, in Yezo, to Yokohama, with a full cargo, when the accident happened. She had sighted Kinkazan, and taken a departure thence on the 25th of August, shaping a course to pass some miles off Inuboye. But at 9 a.m., when the Captain expected the ship to be north-east of Inuboye and well away from the land, she suddenly grounded, foggy weather having concealed the proximity of the shore. Attempts were at once made to lighten the ship and float her off, but they proved of no avail, and on the 27th, a strong east wind and sea setting in, she was soon thrown up on the beach, broadside on and heading north, a position from which only elaborate salvage operations could extricate her. The place of the occurrence was 15 miles north of Inuboye and 7 miles from the spot where the *Harima Maru* experienced a similar accident in November, 1890. Fortunately the ground consisted entirely of soft sand, and beyond the carrying away of the lower portion of the stern frame and rudder, the vessel sustained no serious damage, and there was lit.le leakage. A strong salvage party with appliances, quickly despatched by the Company's steamer *Takasago Maru*, reached the scene on the 28th of August, and under the able direction of Captain Forbes, the Company's Superintendent Captain, operations were at once begun by laying out a large number of heavy anchors in deep water and connecting them to the ship with chain cables and steel-wire hawsers — an undertaking of no little difficulty considering the defective appliances available in the shape of boats, and the nature of the coast with its two or three lines of breakers. The work was completed in fourteen days, by strenuous exertions, and the ship might have been hauled off at once had it not been deemed advisable, in view of the favorable occasion, to attempt the salvage of the valuable cargo. Owing to lack of experienced coolies, this proved a very tedious operation, and not until the 22nd of September were the cargo and stone ballast discharged. A fresh north-east wind was then blowing and this, with a high sea, required the exercise of very great skill and care when strain was brought upon the hauling-off ropes. Within a few hours, however, the ship, though she had been firmly embedded in the sand above low-water mark, was hauled out into deep water without a check, a conclusive proof of the ability and thoroughness exercised in making the various arrangements. After a little time had been devoted to recovering some of the anchors, the *Sendai Maru*, arriving upon the scene, took the *Sakata* in tow, and both vessels reached Yokosuka safely at 5 a.m. on the 24th instant. Exactly to what extent the ship is damaged can not be ascertained until she is docked, which, we understand, was to have been effected on the 25th instant. Captain W. H. Forbes is to be congratulated on having added another to his list of successful salvage operations on the Japanese coast, which already inc uded the *Harima Maru*, the *Tokyo Maru*, and the *Shinagawa Maru*. He was most ably seconded in his efforts by Mr. Hardy, the Company's D ver. The Nippon Yusen Kaisha is also to be sincerely congratulated on the salvage of a valuable vessel and her cargo, under circumstances that might easily have involved the total loss of both.

POLITICAL AND PERSONAL

IT is rumoured that Count Goto and Count Itagaki recently held several recret conferences. But .his report is doubtless a publication of men harbouring enmity towards the Radicals. The Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, as we have already noted, is not popular with a certain class of the metropolitan press, and there is corresponding readiness on the part of the Radicals' enemies to seize the opportunity of inpairing the reputation of the latter by disseminating a rumour that their leader secretly associates with the unpopular Minister.

* * *

A likely story is told about the notorious Mr. Tanaka Shozo, M.P. Mr. Morimoto Tokichi, another M P., is reported to be resolved to introduce in the coming session a motion for a vote of want of confidence in Mr. Hoshi the President of the House of Representatives. Mr. Tanaka heard of this news while he was on a lecture tour in Niigata, and apostrophizing Mr. Morimoto, cried out furiously:—"Vile wretch. Darest thou encroach upon my sole privilege in the House?"

* * *

Mr. Hosokawa Junjiro, Vice-President of the House of Peers, having been appointed Chief of the Imperial Secretariat, is expected to resign his seat in the Diet. As to his successor in the Vice Presidency of the House, various names are mentioned, the most popular being those of Prince Konoye, Marquis Saionji, and Viscount Tani. The President and Vice President of the House of Peers, it should be noticed, have to be appointed from amongst the members of the House for a term of seven years.

* * *

Count Oki, ex-President of the Privy Council, is beginning to show signs of reviving activity. He has told a certain journalist that he is an enthusiastic advocate of the reassessment of the taxable value of land. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, noticing the account of the interview, asks the Count the significant question whether he ever advocated the reform in question when he was a member of the Cabinet.

HYPNOTIC EXPERIMENT.

THE first hypnotic experiment ever publicly recorded in Japan, so far as we know, was conducted at the Tetsugaku-kan, Hongo, Tokyo, on the 16th instant, on the occasion of the resumption of studies after the summer vacation. After appropriate speeches had been delivered —says the *Mainichi Shimbun*—by Count Soyejima, Mr. Kato Hiroyuki, and Professor Inouye Tetsujiro, the Director of the institution, Mr. Inouye Enryo, made the experiment, a middle-aged farmer of robust frame being the subject. The process pursued, apparently, was to walk slowly towards the man, gaze fixedly in his eyes for a time, move a pencil to and fro at a short distance from his face and stroke the backs of his hands gently. He was then observed to have lost command of his senses and fallen into a state of stupor. In that condition he was led to a platform. His eyes remained open, but he seemed like one walking in sleep and he uttered inconsequential speeches. Being handed a cup of water and told it was *saké*, he made a wry face and declared the liquor to be very strong. Cold objects became hot to him according to the statements of the hypnotizer, and he described the shapes of things which the latter had in his mind. We read, however, that a similar experiment had failed in the case of several pupils of the Institution who had previously submitted to a trial.

THE JAPANESE EXHIBIT AT CHICAGO.

REFERENCE is made by the *Jiji Shimpo* to an article in the New York *Tribune*, the original of which we have not seen, on the subject of the Japanese exhibits at the World's Fair. The American journal writes in a highly eulogistic strain. Japan, it says, in point of area and population is a small country, and it lies at the eastern confines of the world far away from the civilized Occidental States. Yet it has succeeded in sending to Chicago such beautiful exhibits, and in arranging them with such taste, that the section devoted to it is one of the most attractive in the whole Fair. The building, too, erected by Japan is a really charming and novel example of architecture, and the Commissioners did well to place the necessary space at her disposal.

LOCAL SOCIETIES.

THE advent of autumn causes us to think once more of indoor recreations and amusements. Especially pleasant is it when the long evenings come, when the Brokers cease from troubling and the Merchant is at rest, to meet for social instruction and pastime: or both combined. We are therefore glad to learn that the coming week will see the reopening of several of our local Societies. The Choral Society (Sec. Mr. Booth, 178, Bluff), leads the van on 30th instant: The Chess Club (Sec. Mr. Griffin, 26, Settlement), follows on 2nd Oct.; and the Literary Society (Sec. Mr. F. G. Sale, 49, Settlement), holds its first meeting on Friday, 6th Oct. Candidates for membership should communicate with the respective Secretaries without delay.

DESPATCH OF OFFICERS TO INDIA AND AMERICA BY THE BANK OF JAPAN.

WITH the view of inspecting the economic and commercial conditions in India and America, where, in consequence of the instable state of the media of exchange, great fluctuations are taking place in the markets for goods, the Bank of Japan, says the *Shogyo Shimpo*, has decided o despatch two of its officers to each of the above countries. To India Messrs. Hamada

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Ichisuke and Yoshi Ichizo, Vice-managers of the Bank, and to America, Messrs. Nagasaki Gojyuro, and Watanabe Chiyokichi, of the Specie Bank. It is understood that these gentlemen will start on their tour about the middle of next month.

THE "NICHI NICHI SHIMBUN" AND THE CABINET.

THE exact nature of the relations between the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* and the Ministry is not known to the public. Some people seem to believe that our contemporary is in every respect an organ of the Government. But such a state of affairs has always been denied by the *Nichi Nichi*, and its writings on various political subjects indicate that, on the whole, it may be most truly designated an independent supporter of the Cabinet. In general it is friendly to the statesmen in power, but it does not hesitate, whenever occasion arises, to give them extremely outspoken and unpalatable advice. It is, therefore, always safe to receive the *Nichi Nichi's* views as those not of the Cabinet but of a very influential section of the immediate counsellors of the Ministers of State. In an article entitled "The Responsibility of the Cabinet of all Talents" in its issue of the 20th instant, our contemporary strongly advises the elder statesmen now in power to reflect upon the grave responsibility they have taken upon themselves by assuming office at a most important juncture in the history of constitutional Government in Japan, and not to desert their posts until either they believe that they have accomplished their work, or until the younger politicians shall have obtained experience and weight enough to conduct the administration, or lastly, unless they forfeit the confidence of the Sovereign. Our contemporary lays special stress upon the folly and disloyalty of resigning office on account of any minor conflict of views among themselves. The magnanimity of Gladstone in allowing Lord Rosebery to have his own way at the Foreign Office, is cited as a good example to be followed by Japanese Ministers.

* * *

Of course some people will attach undue importance to the *Nichi Nichi's* article, and will infer from its tone that the Cabinet is threatened with serious dissensions. We do not think it at all justifiable to draw such inferences. The article appears to us to be merely a repetition of a portion of the views expressed in the recent remarkable series of essays on the political situation published by the same journal.

MR. HOSHI V. THE "KAISHIN SHIMBUN."

THIS libel case came up for hearing before the Tokyo Local Court on the 25th instant. The court was crowded with a dense mass of curious spectators. The proceedings commenced at 11 a.m., the plaintiff being represented by Mr. Yamada Taizo and three other barristers, while the counsel for the defendants consisted of Mr. Oi Kentaro and seven other barristers. The presiding Judge was Mr. Suyehiro Ganseki, assisted by Judges Kido and Katayama. The case was opened by the Presiding Judge, who examined the editor and publisher of the *Kaishin Shimbun*, questioning them as to their names, addresses, and ages. The Public Procurator, Mr. Miyawaki, then stated the case, and observed that the journalistic allegations contained under the headings "A Bribe of Thirty Thousand *Yen*," "The Bribery Story," and "The Hoshi Affair," published in the *Kaishin Shimbun* of the 2nd, the 3rd and the 13th of August, 1893, respectively, were a defamation of Hoshi Toru, since they affirmed that the latter, as President of the House of Representatives, had received a bribe of 30,000 *yen* for services rendered by him in connection with the passage of the Exchange Bill in the House. The defendants explained that their motives were not to defame Mr. Hoshi, but that their sole object in making the disclosure in question was to serve the interests of the public in general. They were not, it appeared, accustomed to legal affairs, for their statements were very irrelevant and incoherent. They requested the Court to grant them the privelege of proving their allegations. In pressing this request they explained the relations between Mr. Hoshi and Messrs. Okabe Hiromu and Shioda Okuzo, who were concerned in the alleged corruption of the President of the House of Representatives. Mr. Okabe is said to have intimate relations with Mr. Hoshi on account of their being on the Boad of Directors of the Sapporo Sugar Manufacturing Company. As to Mr. Shioda, he is a political follower of Mr. Hoshi, and was nominated by the latter to membership of the Committee in the Lower House charged with the investigation of the Exchange Bill. Continuing their statements, the defendants remarked that, simultaneously with the disbursement of a large sum of money (estimated at about 33,000 *yen*) by the agents of the various Exchanges, Mr. Hoshi's property showed a sudden increase. They also alleged that he and the agents of the Exchanges constantly held secret conferences at various teahouses, especially the Tokiwa-tei, the Hyogoya, the Hisagoya, and the Tomoyeya, and they prayed, through their Counsel, to be allowed to prove these facts. The Public Procurator thought it proper that this request should be rejected, but after retiring for consultation, the Presiding Judge gave a decision in favour of the defendants' application. On the other hand, the Court intimated to the counsel for the plaintiff that they were at liberty to produce evidence in rebuttal of the defendants' allegations. Counsel for the defendants then requested that Messrs. Koike Saichiro, representative of the Tsuruga Exchange, Okabe Hiromu, Mor Kitajima, Saito Shuichiro, Vice-Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, Hayashida Kametaro former Councillor of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, and Yasuda Chubei, President of the 3rd National Bank, should be summoned to give evidence. They also desired to have called the proprietors of the tea houses already alluded to, as well as Messrs. Oye Taku, Ito Kanichi, and Yonekura Ippei. Some discussion took place between the barristers of the two sides as to the right of counsel for the defendants to object to the production of counter proof by counsel for the plaintiff, and the proceedings were closed at noon when the Court adjourned to a date which counsel for the defendants were left to determine, and which they fixed for the 4th of October.

PETITION FOR THE ABOLITION OF TRANSIT DUTY ON "SAKE."

IT was decided at a general meeting of *saké* brewers, held some time ago in Osaka that the Central Government be petitioned to abolish the transit duty imposed on *saké* coming into Tokyo. The chief ground of the agitation is that, in consequence of the impost, which amounts to 50 *sen* per *koku*, the total quantity of *saké* coming into Tokyo, about one half of which is distributed to adjacent localities, is steadily decreasing year after year, to the no small embarrassment of the brewers, as well as to the loss of the Treasury itself. The statistical returns which are adduced in support of this contention are as follow:—

Year.	Number of casks sent to Tokyo
1887	775,785
1888	871,111
1889	818,527
1890	686,169
1891	674,374
1892	648,329

In accordance with a resolution of the meeting, two deputies were sent to the Departments of Home Affairs and Finance to present the petition. But it seems scarcely likely that the applicants will obtain their desire, if they have no better argument to advance than that the transit duty tends to diminish the consumption of alcoholic beverages. It is not the custom of civilized Governments to regulate imposts so as to offer no check to the use of luxuries, especially a deleterious luxury like *saké*. Besides, 50 *sen* per *koku* is a mere bagatelle. A man must be very fond of his tipple and pretty well seasoned to drink a *sho* (3 pints) of mulled *saké* in a day, and since a *koku* contains a hundred *sho*, the impost of 50 *sen* per *koku* means that a confirmed wine-bibber in Tokyo is taxed only five *rin* per diem, or 1½ farthing, for the privilege of tippling. No one should complain of that, and if such an altogether insignificant addition to the cost of *saké* really affects its consumption, the Japanese must be the most penurious people on the face of the earth.

CHOLERA POISON AND JAPANESE RESEARCH.

It is interesting to find the name of a Japanese pathologist associated with those of such specialists as Pettenkofer, Emmerich, and Löw in the most recent history of bacterological research. Professor C. Falkenhorst, writing in the *Gartenlaube* of Leipzic, says:—"When Robert Koch, in 1884, traced cholera to its source in the comma bacillus, he cleared the way for a thorough investigation of the many puzzling problems presented by the dreadful disease. One of the most important questions that presented itself for solution was the mode of action of the dangerous foe. Everything pointed to the conclusion that he generated in the bowels and poison which resulted in the usual attendant symptoms and, only too frequently, in death: attention was consequently directed to the determination of the character of the poison. The direction of research was indicated by previous experience. It was known that numerous bacteria in the exercise of their vital functions generated ptomaines, a class of bodies which have been long known to chemists as alkaloids, and are frequently generated by plants, or in the decomposition of vegetable substances. Morphia is a type of this class of bodies. Such alkaloids were generated in cultures of the cholera bacillus, but their action taken alone was so gentle, that they could hardly be accepted as an adequate cause of the violent symptoms of cholera. Further investigation led to the discovery of toxalbumen, or poison albumen, as the product of numerous bacteria, and an elaborate investion led to the discovery that both diphtheria and lockjaw are attributable to this cause. Coincident with his discovery it naturally suggested itself that the cholera bacillus did probably generate a poison of this class. The presence of toxalbumen was indeed detected in comma bacillus cultures, but neither the quantity nor the special character of the poison was such as to justify its being regarded as in any sense an adequate cause. It was the comparatively mild character and small quantity of the ptomaines and toxalbumen generated by the *comma bacillus*, which led many investigators to doubt whether the comma bacillus is really the sole cause of cholera, and resulted in the establishment of a school of "localists," headed by Professors Pettenkofer and Emmerich, who taught that in the absence of predisposing causes in the system, pure cultures of the comma bacillus might be taken with impunity. These gentlemen demonstrated the thoroughness of their conviction by trying the experiment *in corpore vili*. Professor Emmerich, nevertheless, still clung to the view that the *comma bacillus* was the agent, and that if it did not operate through either ptomaines or toxalbumen, it must be through some other decomposing agent which it generated. He had already observed that this bacillus generated comparatively large quantities of nitric acid, an acid which, in combination with alkalis, metals, and other bases, produces numerous well-known salts known as nitrates, as nitrate of soda, of potash, of silver, etc. Many of these nitrates, as for example, saltpetre, are comparatively innocuous, but the abduction of one item of oxygen from the nitric acid converts the salt from a nitrate into a nitrite, and these nitrites are strongly poisonous, especially to humanity. The symptoms of poison by nitrites, too, are very similar to those of cholera. It would be out of place here to go into the technical details of all Professor Emmerich's investigations in this direction, suffice it to say that they led him to the conclusion that the cholera disease is due to the action of nitrites resulting from the decomposition by the comma bacillus of nitrates, already in the system. It is hence evident that under these conditions our efforts should be directed to hindering the process of nitrite formation, and

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the justice of this view appears already to have some facts in its support. Professor Emmerich, pursuing his investigation in concert with Professor Tsuboi, found that among the numerous pure cultures of comma bacillus which they possessed, some generated nitrites much more energetically than others, and experiment promptly demonstrated that those which produced the most nitrites were the most deadly in their action. To limit the activity of the little enemy in the generation of nitrites, it is, of course, necessary to know with what material it works. This, as already remarked, is the nitrates which it finds in the system, and which are widely distributed through the food substances of the vegetable kingdom varying from say 0.05 per cent. in cereals to as much as 3½ per cent. in turnips. Farmers are generally aware that food very rich in nitrates is liable to generate choleraic symptoms in cattle. For the comma bacillus is only one of many bacteria which possess the faculty of converting nitrates into nitrites, although it is incomparably the most vigorous operator. These views are in entire accord with the teachings of medical experience which are opposed to indulgence in salads, or in any food rich in nitrates during cholera seasons. Another source of nitrates is the water we drink; the soil abounds in nitrates and the rain dissolves and carries them to the subsoil waters in our wells. This discovery of Emmerich's promises to be of enormous practical importance. It serves to broaden the whole science of bacteriology. What Koch taught us stands good as ever: the comma bacillus is the agent; our first efforts must be directed to prevent its ingress into the country, and if that fail, to arrest its spread by the adoption of precautionary sanitary measures. The chief aim should be the maintenance of a supply of water free from nitrates. The people, too, must be taught the enormous danger of using saltpetre for preserving meat in cholera seasons. The advantages during a cholera epidemic of having the stomach free from nitrates is now very evident. Even if we take the cholera germ into the system, its multiplication can do us no serious harm unless it finds nitrates to operate on; under these circumstances it generates organic acids, especially lactic acid, and the disturbance which they create in the system resembles those light cases of cholerine so common during cholera epidemics. This discovery of Professor Emmerich's open up an entirely new field for investigation in the treatment of cholera—a field in which, indeed, Emmerich, Tsuboi, and Lôw are already keenly searching for some means by which the nitrite in the bowels may be rendered innocuous. Which of the sciences will contribute the antidote we know not; it may be chemistry, it may be bacteriology. The wonders of this youngest science are all unfathomed. So much we know: that while the comma bacillus converts nitrates into nitrites, there are other bacteria whose proper function is to reverse the process, converting nitrites into nitrates. In the ordinary process of nitrification the first stage in the process is the conversion of the ammonia of decomposing animal matter into nitrites of the lime, soda, or potash in the soil; a special staff-shaped bacteria then take the nitrites in hand and convert them into nitrates. Is it not, then, possible that among these bacteria one may be found capable of exercising its functions in the human system, and of thus negativing the action of the comma bacillus, by the immediate retransformation of the nitrites into the innocuous nitrates? These are hopes which swell the breasts of investigators and spur them to further activity in research. From all appearances we stand on the eve of important discoveries.

SHANGHAI.

We take the following from the *N.-C. Daily News*:—Nothing further is being done about the Sung-pu enquiry. Yu Taotai, to whom the matter has been confided by the Viceroy, has not started yet from Hankow, and all hands are resting on their oars. . . . . The statement that has been made by a Hongkong contemporary that six cricketers from the colony are going to Kobe "to join the remainder of an eleven to be furnished by Shanghai," is not quite correct. Shanghai is sending a full team which will play a match with Kobe. Arrangements are not yet definitely known here, but in all probability one of the matches will be China (an eleven made up from Shanghai and Hongkong) *v.* Japan (represented by Kobe and Yokohama players). . . . . Capt. Hallstrom, of the *Yoritomo Maru*, from Kutchinotsu, reports the disappearance of his second engineer, Mr. T. Morton, on the voyage across to Shanghai. Mr. Morton only joined the ship on the 10th instant, and while the vessel was off Gotsu, a rock in Hayasaki Channel, at 10.15 p.m. on the 14th instant, he went overboard. Every effort was made to find him, but owing to the darkness, the strong tide running, and the close proximity to the rocks, without success, though the vessel steamed round the place for three-quarters of an hour or so. The vessel then proceeded on her voyage. The missing man had been complaining of want of appetite and insomnia, but had been at work and was apparently in good spirits, and nothing unusual was anticipated. . . . . There were a good number of people present at Chang Su-ho's Garden on Saturday afternoon to witness the Athletic Tournament. The proceedings were opened by a dozen sailors from H.M.S. *Caroline* who went through the cutlass exercise and were followed by ten marines from the same vessel who gave an exhibition of drill with the bayonet. Next came six sailors who delighted the audience with their skill at single-stick, during which some very hard knocks were given. One of the sailors was noticeable for his excellence on the offensive. There was then a single bout between a sailor from the U.S.S. *Monocacy* and another from the *Caroline*, in which the latter was by far the more expert, and his exploits were received with constant rounds of applause. After this a ring was formed for boxing matches of four rounds, each round being limited to one minute and a half. There were three bouts between a sailor from the *Monocacy* and a marine from the *Caroline*, and two others between *Monocacy* men, no local amateurs putting in an appearance. One of the contestants was a coloured man, whose fine figure was much admired. Some of the men showed very good form, and others with not so much science delivered lightning blows. The results of the matches were draws. The entertainment concluded with about between Mr. Waters, "the champion middle-weight boxer of the East," and his opponent whose description appeared on the programme as "the great unknown," and opinions were freely expressed that the latter was a good man, but as the bout only lasted a short time, there was not much chance of coming to a definite conclusion. In deference to a generally expressed wish, Mr. Waters will in all probability give a similar entertainment at a later date, the programme for which will be very carefully arranged.

INVESTIGATION OF THE LABOUR QUESTION.

The Bureau of Commerce and Industry in the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, says the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, appears to be engaged in an undertaking which, when completed, will throw considerable light on the labour question in Japan. The Bureau has already entrusted to the Tokyo Association of Commerce and Industry the work of carrying out investigations as to the progress, development, and changes in new industries since the Restoration, and it has now resolved to inquire into the conditions of the artizans. The localities where this important investigation is to be carried out are Tokyo, Osaka, Kobe, Kyoto, Nagoya, and two or three other places. The investigation in Tokyo is to be conducted by the officials of the Bureau, but that in other places will be intrusted to local officials. The schedule of points to be investigated is said to include the following:—Wages and the modes of paying them, bank deposits, or insurances by employers for the benefit of employés; matters relating to the relief of artizans when they fall sick, are incapacitated by wounds, or meet with death by accident; average number of men not employed during the year, with a statement of causes; education received by artizans of both sexes, especially the youthful class; sanitary measures relating to artizans; number of artizans' places of employment and number of boys or girls employed in works kept going through the night; penalties and rewards on account of deficiency or proficiency in work; estimates showing the monthly expenditure of an artizan on account of food, clothing, and residence.

THE DEATH OF MR. KOMYOJI SABURO.

Many foreigners will have learned with regret the death of Mr. Komyoji Saburo, which took place on the 26th instant, the cause of his premature decease being phthisis, from which he had been suffering for several years. In Mr. Komyoji Japan loses one of her pioneer introducers of the French school of politics and jurisprudence. Born in the family of a Buddhist priest of the *Shin* sect in Choshu, he changed his sacredotal robes for the uniform of a soldier at the time of the Restoration. After the war, he was sent to France, together with Mr. Sone, the present Japanese Minister in Paris, and several others, to study law. Subsequently, he served for a short time as Secretary of the Legation in Paris. But it was in the Department of Justice that he held office longest and applied his legal accomplishments to the most useful purpose. After Count Goto's acceptance of the portfolio of Communications, Mr. Komyoji was appointed a Councillor in that Department. He sat in the first Diet for one of the Election Districts in his native province. At the general election of February, 1892, he lost his seat, and upon the formation of the present Cabinet in the summer of the same year, he had to leave office. He then commenced practice at the Bar, but his failing health prevented him from attending to professional duties. He was a few years short of fifty at the time of his death. His ability and knowledge were recognized by all who came in contact with him, and had he been a little less self-wised and a little more constant to his purposes, he would doubtless have risen very much higher in the Government.

BIG FIRE AT SINGAPORE

Shortly after midnight yesterday, says the *Singapore Free Press* of the 12th inst., it was discovered that premises used in connection with some of the tanneries near the Gas Works in Kallang Road were on fire. An alarm was quickly raised and telephonic messages sent to the Central Station and to Kandang Kerbau Stations, the gun from Fort Canning going about 12.50 p.m. The outbreak was first observed by the sentry at Rochore Police Station. The flames spread quickly, and before the Fire Brigade arrived on the spot, somewhere about one o'clock, it was seen that three of the tanneries in the immediate neighbourhood were doomed. Under the circumstances the Fire Brigade were practically helpless, there being no water supply available for some distance. Ultimately, however, a single jet was got to work from a hydrant at the corner of Craufurd Street and Lavender Street, a distance of some 300 or 400 yds., and this, so far as it went, proved of some use, but, fortunately, owing to the wind being in a unfavourable direction, the flames gradually burnt themselves out. The fire, which covered an area of about 2 acres in extent, involved the destruction of four tanneries, 11 and 12 Kallang Road belonging to Boe Nam Lock, who estimates his damage, in buildings and skins, tanned and untanned, at $4,300; No. 13, Kallang Road, belonging to Bong Ah Soon, who states that he has sustained damage to the amount of $8,030; and 172, Kampong Bugis, owned by Hong Koh Chee, who puts his damages down at $1,500, a total roughly speaking of about $20,000. In addition to this some little damage was done to the adjoining buildings, part of which had to be pulled down with a view to preventing the spread of the flames. One curious feature about the fire was that in the centre was a hut surrounded by pisang trees, in which several men were seen to have taken refuge during the outbreak, which was afterwards found to be

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unaffected by the flames; and so far as is known only one man, who fell into one of the pits during his efforts to pull down a portion of a building, was in any way injured, and he but slightly. The cause of the fire is at present unknown, but the flames were seen to spread from an unoccupied hut at the back of one of the tanneries, and it is supposed that this may have been made use of by beggars as a place of abode, and that they may have, accidentally or otherwise, been the cause of the outbreak.

FATAL ACCIDENT ON BOARD THE "PIGMY"

H.M.S. *Pigmy* left Hongkong on the 18th inst. for target practice, and returned next day with the loss of one of her hands through an accident, of which the *China Mail* gives the following account:—While H.M.S. *Pigmy* was engaged in gunnery practice on the south side of the Island on Friday last, a boy who was serving a Nordenfeldt gun was accidentally shot, sustaining such serious injury that he died in the Naval Hospital on Sunday morning. So far as can be ascertained, it appears that firing was finished, and that the gun was being fastened up when the man in charge of the gun laid hold of the firing lever to turn the gun fore and aft. As the gun veered round, the pressure on the lever caused the discharge of two cartridges which had been left inadvertently in the gun magazine. The boy, who was on the right side of the gun, the direction in which it was turned, was shot through the right lung and stomach. He was attended to by the ship's doctor, and was brought into port in the evening and handed over to the Naval Hospital authorities. He remained in a conscious state till within four hours of his death. Much regret was felt by the ship's company over the sad accident, the deceased, a lad of 17 years of age, having been a favourite with all on board. His remains were buried on Sunday afternoon. An inquiry was held into the affair on board the *Pigmy*, but the result has not transpired.

CURRENT TOPICS.

WHILE the Progressionists and Radicals are at deadly enmity with each other, the members of the *Domei* Club are said to be considering a means of bringing about co-operation between the two parties in the coming session of the Diet. It is to be remembered that the members of the Radical Party who have seats in the Diet belong to a political association named the *Yayoi* Club, while those of the Progressionist Party maintain another association called the *Giin Shukaijo*. The *Domei* Club's object is to effect a temporary understanding between the Radicals and the Progressionists in the Lower House, not in their capacity as members of their respective parties but in that of members of these political associations. Ordinary folk find it difficult to distinguish between the two capacities, but the members of the *Domei* Club evidently know the temper of the respective parties, and have hopes that such a fiction may serve to bring about a temporary understanding.

* * *

At the Grand Conference of the National Unionists in Sendai, Viscount Shinagawa delivered a speech in which he lamented the prevalence of corruption, violence, and other illegal methods at the elections for the Diet and the Local Assemblies. He is reported to have declared that it is the aim of his party to correct these evils and protect the sanctity of the Constitution. He further advised his audience to devote themselves to the promotion of productive industries. Mr. Yasuba also addressed the assembly, and observed that while in political principles his party agreed with the Cabinet, it was entirely opposed to those in power with regard to the practical method of carrying out those principles. He strongly deprecated the doctrine of party Government, and remarked that in this respect his Party could not sympathize with the Radicals and the Progressionists, though prepared to co-operate in some cases with them so far as practical questions of politics were concerned. It is also stated that, after deliberate consideration, the Conference decided that the National Unionists should oppose the policy of the present Cabinet.

* * *

The Railway Bureau is the object of unfavourable comment in the vernacular press. It is stated that some officials in the Bureau complain of want of independence and firmness on the part of their chief, Mr. Matsumoto, who is accused of seeking advice from Viscount Inouye, former chief of the Bureau, on every important question. Another report is that irregularities exist in the financial management of the Bureau, and yet another rumour has it that a certain engineer in the Bureau, on being told that his services were no longer needed, threatened to disclose all he knew about transactions in which Mr. Matsumoto and Viscount Inouye had been concerned, and that his menacing attitude led to the withdrawal of the order of dismissal. We attach no importance whatever to these rumours, but reproduce them to show the nature of the grounds on which some metropolitan papers attack the Railway Bureau.

* * *

It is believed that the labours of the Administrative Reforms Investigation Committee were brought to a conclusion at the meeting on Wednesday last. The reforms mapped out by the Committee are expected to be put into operation in the course of the next fortnight.

FUTURE PRODUCTION OF SILVER.

M. OTTOMAR HAUPT, writing in the *Mexican Financier* of the 26th ult., says: "All things considered, I am of opinion that after the abolition of the Sherman Act the absorption of silver annually will figure out nearly as follows:—

	Kilos fine silver
Industrial consumption.....	600,000
China, figure for 1892 without returns to India	490,000
Japan, half moiety of 1892	115,000
Straits Settlements, rough estimate..	330,000
Balance remaining in Mexico...	50,000
English coinages, figure for 1892 ...	104,000
Other coinages, say	71,000
Total future consumption.....1,760,000	

This estimate still appears to me too high; as it stands, it represents about 40 per cent. of last year's production of the mines of the world, which, consequently, would have to reduce their output by about 60 per cent. Needless to say that an arrangement of that sort is quite an impossibility, and that every mine will adopt the course dictated by its peculiar circumstances. With regard to Mexico, I may even say that, according to information given me by the representative of that country, the effect would be diametrically opposite to that supposed. The Mexican mines would, in point of fact, increase their production, and try to make up for the depreciation in price by an enlarged output. As matters stand, I am of opinion that Mexico alone will furnish nearly all the metal required by the world. The famous Huanchaca mine, in Bolivia, which has nearly 1,000,000 kilos of fine silver in sight, will likewise increase its output, and it figures already for 207,000 kilos in the list for 1892. That the Broken Hill Proprietary Mine can go on and produce silver as low as 16½d. is a known fact. Already the weekly outturns of 1893 show an increase over 1892, and 10 million ounces, or 300,000 kilos, may be counted on in future with silver almost at any price. The position of the American mines is most peculiar, as will be seen from the following figures as to the cost of production issued by Mr. Kimball, Director of the Washington Mint, in 1887: In Arizona the cost was 83.2 cents, in California 51 cents, in Colorado 60.2 cents, in Utah 47.7 cents, and in Montana 43.3 cents. The average comes to 51.1 cents. Professor Roberts-Austen of London has, it may be recollected, given the following prices as the cost of production for the metal in different forms:—Refining of native gold 2½d. desilverisation of lead 2s. desilverisation of copper and cupriferous products is 11d., and treatment of silver ores 1s. 5d. The mean cost of production in 1888 spread over the world's output of 88,354,000 ounces came to about 20d. against 51 cents. or 25d. In all instances not standard but fine ounces are meant. Of course, nobody can forecast the future, but this much can be predicted, that the reign of silver is over, and that the fall of its price will, practically speaking, be only limited by the cost of production. My belief is that the metal will, after some heavy fluctuations during the time the Silver Question is under discussion in the American Congress, settle down at about 25d., with a tendency to fall still lower."

ESCAPED PRISONERS.

THE *Boyeki Shimbun* states that about four o'clock in the morning of the 21st inst. two convicts in the Tobe Prison, Yokohama, named Yoshida Tatsugoro and Chiba Yokichi, the former undergoing major confinement for six years and the latter for three years and five months, escaped from the prison, after having cut through a wooden pillar with a nail. They have not yet been caught. Two men out of a party of over twenty convicts were successful in making their escape, while being taken from the Yokohama Local Court to the Tobe Prison the same afternoon.

AUSTRO HUNGARY AND KOREA.

WE learn that Captain von Becker, Commander of the Austro-Hungarian cruiser *Kaiserin Elisabeth*, is not charged, as has been erroneously stated, to negotiate a treaty with Korea, but proceeds to Söul as bearer of the Austro-Hungarian ratification of the Treaty concluded in Tokyo on June 23rd, 1892, between the Representatives of Austria-Hungary and Korea at this Court, Their Excellencies Baron R. de Biegeleben and Mr. Kwon Chai-Hung. The exchange of ratifications is to take place in Söul

TROUBLE IN WASHINGTON

THE Tokyo News Agency reports the receipt of a telegram in Tokyo stating that, owing to the distress resulting from the depreciation of silver and consequent paralysis of industries, some five or six hundred thousand (*sic*) unemployed labourers and artizans have assembled in Washington and are beseiging the Houses of Congress praying that immediate measures be taken to relieve their distress.

VIOLENT GALE AT CHICAGO.

THE *Official Gazette* publishes a telegram, despatched by the Japanese Commissioner at Chicago on the 23rd inst. at 7 p.m., which reached to Tokyo the following day, to the effect that an exceptionally violent gale swept over the city on the evening of the 21st inst. No damage was done to the Japanese exhibits.

THE OSAKA WATERWORKS.

AN Osaka telegram dated the 27th inst., received by the *Asahi Shimbun*, states that the City Assembly, which has been discussing the advisability of purchasing foreign-made mains or have them manufactured by the Osaka Arsenal, have resolved to use the former. The quantity required is ten thousand tons in weight.

THE MEXICAN LEGATION

AN addition has been made to the staff of the Mexican Legation in Japan in the person of Monsieur Luis G. Panda, who comes to this country in the capacity of Secretary of Legation and Chancelier of the Consulate-General.

DEATH OF MR. KOMYOJI SABURO.

WE read in the *Yiji Shimpo* that Mr. Komyoji, an ex-Councillor in the Communications Department, who once occupied a seat in the House of Representatives for Yamaguchi Prefecture, died in the capital on the 26th inst. of consumption.

LIEUTENANT GUNJI.

THE *Asahi* has a telegram which states that the *Iwaki Kan*, which proceeded to Shumushu with Lieutenant Gunji's party, returned to Nemuro on the 27th inst., and reported that everything is going on well.

MR. KONO TOGAMA.

MR. KONO, a Privy Councillor, is now suffering from a severe attack of brain disease.

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THE POLITICAL SITUATION.

THE *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* has just concluded a long series of interesting articles on the political situation. The position occupied by the paper, as well as the intrinsic value of the articles themselves, entitle them to be reviewed at some length. Our contemporary, while not laying claim to prophetic gifts, believes itself competent to forecast the outcome of the next few months, and ventures to think that its prediction will prove correct in six cases out of ten. Speaking generally, the political arena is now completely occupied by a contest between the different sections of the Opposition. The ITO Cabinet might, if it so desired, have obtained the support of those members of the Diet who were returned under the protection of the MATSUKATA Cabinet. But the present Ministry did not and does not think it desirable to ally itself with any particular party in the Diet, and it may be safely declared that it possesses no political followers whatever there. The growing prosperity of the Radicals has made them objects of envy and suspicion to the National Unionists and the Progressionists, and thus the war hitherto waged between the Ministry and the Opposition has been tranferred to the Radicals on the one side, and the Progressionists and the National Unionists on the other. The latter two parties endeavour assiduously to injure the reputation of the former by calling it an official party. But beyond the bare fact that an intimate friendship exists between Mr. MUTSU and Mr. HOSHI, as well as between Count GOTO and Count ITAGAKI, there is absolutely no ground to suppose any understanding between the Ministry and the *Jiyu-to*. That must be asplain to Count OKUMA and Viscount SHINAGAWA as to anybody else. Deferring fuller consideration of this point, the *Nichi Nichi* proceeds to analyze the position of each political party in turn.

The Progressionists it declares to be "at present the only thorough-going opponents of the Cabinet." This statement has given rise to various erroneous inferences. Other journals are disposed to understand that, with the single exception of the Progressionists, all the political parties are now more or less favourable to the Government. That such is not the meaning originally intended by the *Nichi Nichi* is apparent from its observations about the other parties. Its idea is, not that the other parties are favourably disposed to the Cabinet, but merely that they are not so inveterately hostile to those in power as are Count OKUMA'S followers The Progressionists covet power so much that they are ready to essay any and every means of obtaining it. Once they tried coalition with the Radicals, but in this they failed, and now they rely simply on the intensity and persistence of their purpose to pull down the Sat-Cho Government. Being, however, in a hopeless minority in the Diet, the only rôle now possible for them is that of harrassing the Cabinet. Their course of action is simple enough: they have to condemn and reject each and every official measure, acting singly if alliances do not offer, but accepting any cō-operation that promises to further their destructive aim. With such a programme, it is not to be expected that they will try to conform their actions to any fixed standard of political principle, nor is it at all likely that they will effect any cordial or really practical combination with the National Unionists or the Radicals.

"The Radicals will, in the majority of cases, oppose the Government and, in some cases, most violently." Such is the *Nichi Nichi's* opinion about the attitude of the *Jiyu-to* in the coming session of the Diet. The rupture between the Radicals and the Progressionists is attributed to the latter's want of loyalty towards the former in the fourth session. The Radicals, being now by far the largest party in the Diet, fancy themselves capable of ultimately commanding a plurality there. But the *Nichi Nichi* regards that hope as somewhat chimerical, though there is no difficulty in conceiving that, under certain conditions, such a result might be obtained. The *Jiyu-to's* immediate object is to secure the cō-operation of members of the *Domei* Club and other unattached politicians of progressive principles. As to the rumoured dissension in the Party, the *Nichi Nichi* has no belief in any such danger. Mr. HOSHI entertains a sincere respect for Mr. KONO, whose moral influence in the Party is very remarkable, while Mr. KONO appreciates the disinterestedness of Mr. HOSHI, who is sacrificing the whole of his salary as President of the House of Representatives for Party purposes. Recently a tendency to complain about Mr. HOSHI'S professional connection with the SOMA family manifested itself among the provincial members of the Party, but the firmness with which those at head-quarters acted, has completely restored unanimity in the Party, and there is now no danger of its rank and file giving credence to the artful rumours disseminated by their enemies.

The National Unionists seem incapable of either decisively supporting or decisively attacking the Cabinet. From the time of its formation, the Cabinet never entertained any intention of maintaining special relations with them. They have but a poor party platform, its chief planks being the transfer of prison expenses to the charge of the Treasury, the establishment of a steel factory, the improvement of rivers, and the construction of war-vessels. These questions have long been approved by those now in power, and will be carried out without fail so soon as proper opportunities present themselves. The National Unionists may find grounds to complain of the Government's tardiness in carrying out the reforms recommended by them, but it will never be in their power to accuse the Cabinet of entirely disregarding their views. Neither can they take any united action with reference to the questions of re-assessment of the taxable value of land and reduction of the land tax, as their opinion is divided on these subjects. They have secured a popular war-cry in opposition to Mixed Residence, but our contemporary is confident that the better classes of the nation are not in danger of being misled by such benighted agitation. Finally, the Unionists have no interest in bringing about a violent collision between the Cabinet and the Diet, as a new general election is not likely to enable them to maintain even their present strength.

Besides the three parties mentioned above, there are various other associations, such as the *Domei* Club, the Oriental Radicals, the *Yuraku-Gumi*, the *Shiba Shūkaijo*, and the *Kishu-Gumi*. Of these the first mentioned is alone considered worthy of notice. Its members try to be equally friendly to both the Radicals and the Progressionists. Mr. KUSUMOTO, one of its leaders, is reported to be desirous of bringing it over to the Progressionist party, but the *Nichi Nichi* does not think him capable of effecting such a result. Did the Radicals make a complete *volte face* and support the Cabinet, then the members of the *Domei* Club would doubtless combine with the Progressionists and the National Unionists in attacking the Government. But, if the Progressionists alone persist in reckless and indiscriminate hostility to the Ministry, they will find themselves opposed by the *Domei* Club as well as by the other members of the Diet. Our contemporary is not without hope that out of these minor factions there may grow up an independent political body of moderate principles.

Perhaps the most important portion of the *Nichi Nichi's* series of articles is that which deals with the position of the Government. The present Cabinet does not seem to have ever entertained any idea of relying upon a political party. It could have easily obtained the support of the National Unionists, had it been so disposed. Well aware, however, of the unwisdom of thus challenging the opposition of the rest of the Lower House, it decided, we are told, to adopt the views of any party working on really intelligent and patriotic lines. As to the rumoured existence of an understanding between the Cabinet and the Radicals, it is most emphatically denied by the *Nichi Nichi*. There is not, we read, the least truth in the widely circulated story that Count ITO and Count ITAGAKI met at a certain place to discuss administrative reforms. Count ITO is wont to say that no reliance can be

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placed on a mere majority in the Diet and that attention should be paid only to the sentiments of the nation at large. In an age of small political parties like the present, the Premier considers that the only sagacious plan for the Government is to stand quietly aloof and watch the rivals struggling instead of throwing in its lot with any of them. So long as the Count remains at the head of the Cabinet, the *Nichi Nichi* is sure that there will be no Ministerial party.

Standing aloof from all political parties, the Cabinet hopes to discharge its duties to the SOVEREIGN and to the State by shaping its policy in strict accordance with the dictates of conscience and of the national interests. As a first step towards the accomplishment of that purpose, the Ministry has taken upon itself the task of introducing reforms in the Government. These reforms are stated to be of three kinds; first, revision of the administrative organization and curtailment of State expeditures; secondly, changes in the method of carrying on administrative business; thirdly, more strict enforcement of discipline in the service. With respect to the first point, the Cabinet announced its intention at the opening of the Diet, and its resolution was confirmed by the celebrated Imperial Message of the 10th of February. Since the close of last session, it has assiduously devoted itself to carrying out its purpose. It has already accomplished reforms in the Navy, and schemes of reform in the other Departments of State have also been completed and are now awaiting the sanction of the Emperor. As to the second item of the programme, Count INOUYE'S recent tour in Hokkaido and the visit of Counts ITO and SAIGO to the Naval Stations, were undertaken with a view to carrying out reforms under that heading. Lastly, the enforcement of discipline has been made more strict, as may be seen from the manner in which the Governors who interfered in the elections were dealt with. Our contemporary does not profess to imagine that the Cabinet's efforts in these respects will be favourably received by the Opposition, but the Government itself does not work for the applause of any section of the nation: it will pursue the active policy of improvement bequeathed by IWAKURA, OKUBO, and the other great moulders of Modern Japan. In this respect there will be no difference between the present Cabinet and its predecessors, the only point of variance being in the method of carrying out that policy. To mention some of the more important tasks that will be undertaken by the Ministry, it is resolved to carry out, on extensive scales, the defence of the country, the improvement of river courses, and the development of Hokkaido. With respect to the defence of the country, the Cabinet seems to be determined to leave nothing undone to make Japan entirely independent and self-supplying in matters of armament and equipment. In carrying out these works, the Cabinet will proceed slowly and deliberately, and may sometimes resort to a policy of exchange with the Opposition. In the field of foreign relations, a firm course of action will be followed. It goes without saying that the Ministry does not desire war for war's sake, and that it will never undertake any unnecessary enterprise of a belligerent character. Especially with regard to the Eastern Question, Count ITO and the Viceroy LI will cō-operate for the maintenance of peace, and no ordinary misunderstanding will be suffered to lead to an open rupture between the neighbouring empires. But in the event of a collision between European nations, entailing a definite line of policy on Japan's part, there will be no hesitation or uncertainty as to the course that should be taken. Such is the general policy of the Cabinet. For the rest, its members have no present intention of resigning their portfolios, nor do they consider that they would be discharging their duty to the country did they quit office until they can see *remplacants* better qualified to bear the grave responsibility of safely guiding the State through this crisis of its career. They are prepared to encounter violent opposition from the various parties, but so long as they have the full consciousness of discharging their duty, they will take no notice of any vote of want of confidence which the Opposition may pass, even though it be repeated session after session. While proceeding thus, they will quietly await an opportunity when, by appealing to the nation, they can attain their object. Prince BISMARCK dissolved Parliament only once during the thirty years of his Administration, and that was done when his influence was in its zenith. His conduct furnishes an example that may be advantageously followed by the present Japanese Ministry. Convinced that a sacred duty obliges them to remain at their posts despite the incessant opposition of the Diet, the present Ministers, in the *Nichi Nichi's* opinion, will not shrink even from resorting to a *coup d'état* in order to protect the Constitution. If, however, the Radicals or any other parties advocate moderate measures, the Cabinet will not hesitate to adopt their views. Further, should any of the parties obtain a commanding position in the country, and should its leaders seem to posses the confidence of the nation, the Cabinet will without delay recommend the heads of that party to the EMPEROR as its successors. At the same time, it appears extremely doubtful whether any of the parties now existing will ever attain such a position, or can ever attain it, without much re-casting and re-organization. The *Sat-Cho* statesmen may quarrel among themselves when they are not attacked from without. But so long as they are the object of the Diet's opposition, they will be united and harmonious. Should their candid and disinterested policy fail to obtain the good will of the public in general, it is conceivable that they should avail themselves of the assistance of some of the existing parties, but they will certainly not commit the indiscretion of organizing a new party.

MISSIONARIES IN THE INTERIOR OF CHINA.

THE Sung-pu massacre seems destined to leave an unusually deep impression on the memories of the foreign residents of China. Every one remembers the indignation caused in certain quarters by the action of Consul-General Mr. CARL BOCK immediately after the terrible occurrence. The foreign local press was loud-voiced in its denunciations of his want of resolution, and charges little short of sacrificing the most vital interests of his country to considerations of a personal nature were freely preferred against him. But it is unfortunately beyond question that the foreign local press can seldom be trusted to deliver dispassionate judgments in such matters. Western journalists in the Orient have generally only one key note to which all their music is tuned. An official must be a Jingo to escape their condemnation Of course the spirit that dictates such criticism is easily understood and many must sympathise with it. But its extreme expressions are often very unjust and obviously biassed. We can not pretend to decide whether Mr. CARL BOCK deserved the abuse of which he was the object, but it is certainly a matter of grave doubt whether the procedure attributed to him was not greatly exaggerated. He has now, however, provoked fresh ire by issuing a circular of instructions to the Swedish and Norwegian Missionaries in China. The following is the text of the document, as published by the *North China Daily News*:—

"Too great caution cannot be exercised by all Missionaries residing or journeying inland to avoid difficulties and complications with the people, and especially with the authorities. Every member of the Mission must fully understand that he goes out depending for help and protection on the Living God, and not relying on an arm of flesh. While availing himself of any *privileges* offered by its own or the Chinese Government, he must make no *demand* for help or protection, though in emergencies he may need to ask for it as a favour. Appeals to Consuls or to Chinese Officials to procure the punishment of offenders, or to demand the vindication of real or supposed rights, or indemnification for losses, are to be avoided. Should trouble or persecution arise inland, a *friendly representation* may be made to the local Chinese Officials, failing redress from whom, those suffering must be satisfied to leave their case in God's hands.

"Those engaged in the Lord's work must be prepared to 'take joyfully the spoiling of their goods,' and to 'rejoice that they are counted worthy to suffer shame for His Name.' Let them be imbued with the same spirit as Ezra (Ez. VIII. 21-23).

"In preaching, and selling books, the collection of large crowds in busy throughfares should, as far as possible, be avoided; and where it can be done, any difficulty should be arranged without reference to the local authorities. The carrying about and display of unnecessary property is also to be deprecated; it may lead to robbery and loss, in which case no *demand* for restitution should be made. As little intercourse with local authorities

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as possible should be attempted; and if then help on any occasion become necessary, it should be asked as a favour, and never demanded as a right. On no account should threatening language be used, or the threat of appealing to the Consul be made. Great respect must also be manifested in speaking of them, as is required by the Word of God.

"Where prolonged stay in a city is likely to cause trouble, it is better to journey onward; and where residence cannot be peaceably and safely effected, to retire and give up, or defer the attempt in accordance with the Master's injunction, 'When they persecute you in this city, flee ye into another.' God will open more doors than we can enter and occupy.

"In conclusion, the weapons of our warfare must be *practically* recognised as spiritual and not carnal."

He points below these instructions a notification, of which the following is a translation:—

"To the Swedish and Norwegian Missionaries in China.

"The above regulations, in reference to the China Inland Mission are to be followed until the authorities of Sweden and Norway issue new ones.

"The Swedish and Norwegian Consulate General at Shanghai, 30th Aug., 1893.

"CARL BOCK.
"Consul-General."

The italics employed above are not ours. They appear to have been inserted by our Shanghai contemporary, and from them we infer, among other things, that the *North China Daily News* takes exception to the use of the term "privilege" as applied to the concessions acquired by foreigners under their treaties with China. That is a common objection. Many foreigners regard such concessions as "rights," and would insist on having them so designated. Undoubtedly they are "rights" in respect of the fact that a valid title to enjoy them is conferred by the treaties. But in strict phraseology they are "privileges" and nothing else, since they are peculiar benefits or advantages not enjoyed by the world at large but belonging to those upon whom they have been conferred by international agreement. However, the italics of the Shanghai journal are plainly intended to direct attention to the general mildness of Mr. CARL BOCK'S language. No such complaint can be advanced against the language used by the *North China Daily News* itself in criticising the circular. It accuses Mr. CARL BOCK of "pusillanimity;" says that "in order to save himself trouble, he has ordered his nationals to meekly surrender their rights;" declares that he has done a "direct injury to all foreigners in the interior," and that he has been guilty of "a gross dereliction of duty." Well, we confess ourselves unable to appreciate the justice of such condemnation. To us it seems that Mr. CARL BOCK simply adopts a view now rapidly gaining ground even among men who would be the last in the world to surrender anything to which they were justly entitled, the view, namely, that the very first duty of the foreign missionary who visits the interior of China is to behave with such circumspection and forbearance that no cause of offence, or at any rate, the fewest possible causes of offence, shall be given to the natives; the view that the treaties were not framed for the purpose of facilitating the work of propagandism in opposition to the wishes of the people of the country. We do not endorse that view, but we have nevertheless no difficulty in understanding it. Our own conviction is that no distinction can safely be set up between the missionary and the merchant, so far as concerns the enjoyment of the privileges conferred by the treaties. They must be regarded in precisely the same light. It is true that nine-tenths of the trouble occurring in the interior of China are due to the continued presence of the missionary and to his attempts to proselytise. Still until written discrimination is made against him, he may justly claim the same protection as that accorded to every other foreigner. To admit, above all to proclaim openly, that whatever befalls the Christian propagandist, he must be content to dispense with official protection, were to make a declaration that could not fail to be misconstrued by the Chinese. There can not be any third course in the matter. Either the missionary must receive full protection, just as a merchant would, or else frank concession must be made to the long cherished wish of the Chinese that the sphere of Christian propagandism be limited to a narrow belt along the coast. The missionary, we think, is just as fully entitled as the merchant to carry on his business, and has no less claim upon the protection of his own Authorities. But persons think otherwise. Many persons think that liberty to preach an alien creed in the interior of any country is not included in the privileges guaranteed by a treaty of trade and commerce, and that to avoid international complications facilities for religious propagandism must never be placed in the same category with tradal privileges. Mr. CARL BOCK'S Government apparently take that view, for we can not imagine that in a matter of such grave importance he is acting without instructions from home. He does not tell his missionary nationalists that the State will not protect them, but he warns them, in effect, that official aid must be regarded as absolutely a last resource, never to be employed until every other conceivable means of averting trouble has been exhausted. Put the matter how we may, history tells us in the least equivocal terms that had the interior of China been closed to the missionary during the past ten years, foreign relations with that country would now be on a much more friendly footing. Naturally, therefore, those whose first business is to secure that such relations shall be amicable, regard the missionary as an element to be, if not absolutely eliminated, at any rate thrust as far as possible into the background. We are persuaded that if the missionary is to be discriminated against in the sense indicated by Consul-General BOCK'S circular, it can be safely done only by a convention which shall secure compensatory concessions in the interests of trade. But if certain Governments and certain officials think difficulty, we fail to see why they should immediately become objects of virulent attack.

LYNCH-LAW IN THE UNITED STATES.

IN the last eleven years nearly one thousand men of colour have been murdered in the Southern States by organised mobs of whites, and during the last two years, 1891 and 1892, the number of such lynchings has exceeded three per week. In about one-third of the number the alleged offence was rape, in another third murder, in the remainder of the cases the offences were less serious, ranging from robbery and arson to the crime of "being drunk and saucy to white folks." The lynchers are the representatives of "public opinion" in the South, so it is useless to ask in that quarter for the condemnation of such abominable outrages; but even in the North the existing negro-problem is regarded with much the same aloofness as was evinced before the war towards the slavery question by all except a few "crazy abolitionists." "We've emancipated the niggers, and now we can let them fight their own battle with the whites," has been the general feeling in the North. ["When PILATE saw that he could prevail nothing, but that rather a tumult was made, he took water, and washed his hands before the multitude, saying, I am innocent of the blood of this just person: see ye to it."]

It is not natural, however, to those rare persons who think for themselves and possess individual strength of purpose, to accept with complacency this gospel of the jelly-fish; and among Northerners of a stronger fibre those who do not condemn the race-outrages of the South are usually prepared to offer a plea for the defence. We reproduce the arguments of a cultivated Northerner with whom we recently discussed the question. "As a matter of abstract ethics," he said, "I fully admit the impropriety of lynch-law, but in the work of the world abstract considerations must often yield to those of practical expediency. In certain communities situated on the outskirts of civilization, in which a number of lawless characters are living freely among those who are honestly endeavouring to work their way, the ordinary machinery of justice is no longer efficient. Outbursts of hideous criminality are liable to occur, and will increase in frequency, unless some special measures are taken to meet the peculiar needs of the case. We can imagine that it would be possible by a sufficient army of officials to hold in effective control the most disorderly of communities, and were America Germany we cannot doubt that this would be the method employed; the central authority would if necessary station fifty policemen in a little mining camp. But we Americans have the English inheritance of freedom, and it gives us an instinctive dislike to officialdom and police-domination; we choose therefore another solution of the problem. The orderly citizens of each

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community constitute themselves the judges and the executioners, and, under the name of Regulators or Vigilance-Committee, they arrest the criminal, try him with calmness and deliberation, and mete out to him the punishment he deserves. Where the ordinary machinery of law is inoperative, lynch-law appears to the American mind to be a necessary and most effective substitute. And with regard to the lynching of negroes in the South, in the majority of cases the offence has been the violation of a woman or a child; you will surely admit the enormity and horror of such crimes justify the only means found effective by the whites in checking their increasing frequency."

Putting aside for a moment the last contention, we will show the hollowness of the grounds by which the Southern lynchings are justified. The South is not now, nor has it been for generations, if ever, in the state which is held to justify the Vigilance-Committees of the outskirts of civilization. The plea may hold for the mining camps of the far West; but in the South it is not true, in the sense of the pleader, that the ordinary law is inoperative, nor is it true that a Southern mob infected with negrophobia is likely to try an accused criminal of colour with calmness and deliberation. In one sense, indeed, the ordinary law *is* inoperative, for in cases in which it is perfectly competent to exercise its proper functions with calmness and deliberation (though not, we fear, always with fairness, when a man of colour is the accused and a white man the accuser), the mob steps in and usurps authority. In other cases, again, the ordinary law is truly inoperative, and men are lynched for offences which it would refuse to recognize. During the ten years prior to January 1st, 1892, twenty-seven of the men lynched were charged with race-prejudice, thirteen with quarrelling with white men, ten with making threats, and five with miscegenation. But in the other many hundred cases in which negroes have been lynched during recent years, the law was amply competent to arrest the offender, to try him for the crime, and, *if he were guilty*, to award suitable punishment. Nay more, in many cases men of colour have been taken out of prison and lynched by enraged mobs because it was considered by Judge Lynch that the ordinary law did not provide sufficient punishment. In Memphis, Tenn., last year three men of colour were in gaol charged with firing upon and wounding officers of the law. There is no doubt that the offence had been committed, but it was under circumstances of strong provocation, and the coloured men appear to have mistaken plain-clothed constables for the leaders of a threatened attack on their property. Directly they discovered their mistake they threw down their arms and surrendered themselves. After a day or two it was announced in the papers that there was no doubt the wounded officers would recover. Under these circumstances the death-penalty could not legally have been inflicted on the prisoners, and the enraged white populace would not have been able to satisfy its lust for coloured blood. The same night an organised mob broke into the gaol, dragged out the prisoners, "put them on the yard engine of the railroad which was in waiting just behind the gaol, carried them a mile north of city limits, and horribly shot them to death while the locomotive at a given signal let off steam and blew the whistle to deaden the sound of the firing."

We observed above that in the case of most of the murdered men the law would have been competent to punish the accused if he were proved guilty, and it will be convenient to discuss the proof of guilt in connection with one of the most frequent of the charges, that of violation of white women. The impression seems to have got abroad that the majority of lynchings of coloured men are consequent upon this accusation; but as a matter of fact such cases constitute only about one-third of all the murders perpetrated by the mob during the last eleven years. Now, in connection with these accusations, we have to remember that, race-prejudice apart, the report of so horrible an occurrence is calculated to enrage any community beyond the bounds of reason, and therefore to throw it into a condition in which the calm consideration of evidence is more than usually impossible to the mob. And yet this very charge of rape is one in which the keenest criticism of the evidence is invariably demanded by legal experts. Rape is not in reality a common offence: it is usually the act of a lunatic. On the other hand, charges of rape are not infrequently made by women of unsound mind, and also, occasionally, with the object of extorting money, by women of bad character. Hence it is that such charges, in a civilized law-court, are invariably sifted with more than usual care. It cannot be doubted by any one at all familiar with the facts of mental and moral pathology that if in any community charges of rape become frequent, more especially where, as in the Southern States, such charges are followed by all the pomp and circumstance which attend the hunting and lynching of a "nigger," this fact alone will be sufficient to produce a large number of false charges of rape on the part of women who are mentally or morally unsound. And in such cases there will be no indignant demand for incontestable evidence, as there would be were the accused a white man—one of the "leading citizens" who direct the operations of the mob—and the accuser a woman of colour instead of a white. The temper of the people in this respect is admirably illustrated by a passage we saw extracted from a Southern newspaper not long ago: "A— B—, a coloured man, accused of outraging a white woman in this city, has fled to M—; he is being pursued by the citizens; when caught he will be burned alive." We quote from memory, but this was the substance of the paragraph; it was not stated "when caught, the charge will be investigated," but simply "when caught, he will be burned alive." We do not know what was the fate of this unfortunate, but as a matter of fact in 1891 a man named COY was burned at Texarkana; while the horrible details of the burning of HENRY SMITH at Paris, Texas, in February this year, were reproduced in these columns and will linger in the minds of most of our readers. If the charge brought against SMITH was true, there can be little doubt that he was a lunatic. As regards the former case, Judge TOURGEE, in the Chicago *Inter-Ocean* of recent date, says that investigation has shown that COY had supported the woman who accused him (a woman of bad character) and her drunken husband for over a year previous to the burning. He protested his innocence to the last.

In conclusion, let us ask why it is that in our West Indian Islands, where also are to be found side by side a race of emancipated people of colour and a race of dominant whites, and where the feeling of caste is no whit less strong than in the Southern States of the Union, we do not hear of the violation of white women by men of colour, nor of enraged mobs executing injustice with the shelter and connivance of the authorities? Is there any difference in the conditions which obtain in the respective communities? There are many minor differences, but there is one which is all important in connection with the subject we are discussing. When emancipation came in the West Indian Islands it came after years of peaceful discussion and was attended by a full measure of compensation for the "rights of property;" in the United States, on the other hand, emancipation was the fruit of a four years' war, and the absence of compensation was but a drop in the overflowing cup of bitterness known as the Lost Cause. Hence it is that in the Southern States the history of the thirty years since the war has been a history of a persistent and successful attempt on the part of the dominant whites to wither the fruits of emancipation, to make enfranchisement of the negro a dead letter, and to keep the coloured population of the South in a hopeless condition of social, political and industrial inferiority. In the early years after the war, the means used was the commission of outrages on the negroes by secret organizations such as the Ku Klux Klan and the Knights of the White Liners. But the Spirit of Terror no longer rides masked at night: in the broad day twenty thousand persons assemble to witness the "roasting of a nigger;" and while the representatives of law in the South are in open sympathy with the white mob, the dispassionate

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North takes refuge behind the old formula of "State Rights."

So was it for years with the movement for emancipation, and so will it be again till there arise in America men who are worthy successors of the old abolitionists, men who are determined to make emancipation a reality, and to remove from their country this stain upon nineteenth century civilization.

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE RELIGIOUS PRESS.

It would be difficult to specify any prominent characteristic of the religious press of Japan for the month of September. Toward the close of a hot and dry summer, it would be remarkable if the monthly magazines did not show some languor. Some of them, especially among those devoted to the advocacy of Buddhism, have failed to reach us; and in one instance at least, owing to the illness of the editor, the magazine was not published. Unfavourable climatic conditions, however, are powerless to quench national spirit; and when Japanese writers see, or think they see, any slur cast upon the fame of their land or its people, they write with vigour and pungency. An instance in point is the case of the Rev. Mr. Tamura, whose book "The Japanese Bride," has roused the ire of his fellow-countrymen. Many of the religious papers have attacks upon him and his book, and in other articles are passages which seem to be directed at him. The book in question, which was published in America has raised such a storm of disapproval as would seriously trouble a less resolute man than Mr. Tamura seems to be.

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The editor of *Gokyo* (Methodist) says that the author of "The Japanese Bride" evidently sympathizes with American customs and despises those of his own country. If he had stated that he was relating old customs, now passing away, it would have been better. But he leaves it to be inferred that the barbarous country he describes is the Japan of to-day. Confucius teaches, continues the editor, that children should hide the faults of their parents, and parents those of their children. But here is a man who parades his country's failings before foreigners. He is evidently wholly lacking in patriotism. It may not be a lie that he tells; but no wise man would make such revelations. *Shinko-no-Tomo* (Episcopal) gathers a handful of unfavourable comments upon the book from both religious and secular periodicals. Thus this magazine quotes the *Nihon Shimbun* as saying that the author of the book has gathered up many strange and unworthy customs about Japanese marriages, mixing ancient and modern times in confusion, and treating them all in a satirical manner. He not only prefers a foreign country before his own, but parades the darker side of his own country for the amusement of the lower classes of Americans. Thus, adds *Sinko-no-Tomo*, even non-Christian people feel the shame of this performance. No sensible man would talk openly of his wife's defects. Though such things were true of our country, it is wrong thus to parade them before the world. The editor of *Fukuin Shimpo* "spurns" the book. The editor of *Jogaku Zasshi* found it so little to his taste that he cast it aside half read. *Yorozu Choho* says that the author is like one who sells his country, placing personal gain above the welfare of his people. *Kiristokyo Shimbun* declares that the book is worthless, save as it fills the author's pocket. *Fukuin Shimpo* says that in "The Japanese Bride" are such statements as that the Japanese do not understand true love, confuse love and brutal passion, and arrange marriages without any reference to the happiness of their children. In the preface, also, is the statement that Americans are wholly mistaken when they suppose that in the submission of women, and in the solemnities attending marriage, there is any moral quality. Again, the book is represented as saying that marriages of affection are rare, and when they occur are looked down upon as immoral. All such statements, says *Fukuin Shimpo*, show that the author is ignorant of the subject he assumes to treat. It is true that he denies that his book, fairly construed, makes such representations. But a careful reading compels us to affirm that such are its teachings The book is flippant, unpatriotic, and un-Christian. We cannot understand how it could have been written by a Christian pastor.

* * *

Meantime, what does Mr. Tamura have to say in his own defence? In the *Kiristokyo Shimbun* is a report of an interview between that gentleman and Messrs. Tagawa and Kageyama. In reply to the question, why he had written such a book, Mr. Tamura replied, in substance, as follows:—Foreigners have frequently published the weaker side of Japanese life, giving extremely unfavourable views of it to the world. On the other hand, Sir Edwin Arnold was equally unjust in his indiscriminating praise of everything in our country. I wished to correct both of these wrongs by taking the middle course, in which lies the truth. I do not praise American customs indiscriminately, but point out some of their faults. So, I speak of the virtues as well as of the vices of our own people. There is evidently, he continued, a total misapprehension of what I have done. I do not mean the Japan of to-day in my descriptions, but the Japan which, as all the world knows, is passing away. Americans will not misunderstand me when they read the book. I at first made the distinction in my book very clear; but I was advised to omit the many repetitions of "to-day—to-day," as they injured the style and were not necessary. In a second edition, however, this will be changed, so that no doubt can exist. I do not change my mind, or retract any statement in the book. Let the Synod investigate the matter. If they decide against me I will appeal to the General Assembly; and from them I will appeal to the sensible people of the world. Mr. Tamura's visitors then retired for deliberation. Returning, they stated that a further reading of the book failed to justify the statement of the author that he was, in his strictures, dealing with old Japan; that in the whole work the spirit of esteem for the Japanese people is conspicuously lacking; that the tone of the book is low; that it contains many inaccuracies; and that they feared that its tendency would be to destroy the fair fame of their country. If, therefore, the author adhered to his position taken in the former interview, they would feel called upon to work for his expulsion from his pulpit, and for the suppression of the book.

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The question of the relative value of oriental and occidental ideas of marriage, involved in this discussion, is treated in a review, in *Kiristokyo Shimbun*, of Dr. De Forest's article in *The Andover Review* on "Confucian Morals in Japan." Comparing this article with "The Japanese Bride," the writer says that both view Japanese society from the side regarded with least favour by Americans. The article in the "Review," however, is much more carefully written, and is fairly true. But we must not forget, says the writer, that all that is praiseworthy is not on the side of the foreign ideas and customs. The free marriages of the West, and the equal authority of husband and wife, parents and children, are far from ideal. The writer then draw a pathetic picture of the growing power of the wife, before which the husband's authority decreases until it reaches zero, while he is compelled to take refuge in his study,—the only part of the house in which he can have quiet and peace. With reference to free marriage, he affirms that while it is too much to say that parents and elder brothers are perfect in their judgment as to what is right, it is even more doubtful whether those marriages are wise into which young people, lacking in knowledge, rush while enslaved by their passions. Western peoples are also wrong in wholly disregarding rank and position; they should not treat the President of the United States as thy would a bank-president. We can not base an argument, he says, upon the Bible, for social conditions are constantly changing. And yet the Bible, so far as it may be used in testimony on these points, favours oriental rather than occidental ideas. We are not saying that Orientalism is wholly right; but in it are some things worthy of immitation. To require esteem for elders, to inforce reverence and obedience, to inculcate self-sacrifice, these are the outcome of Orientalism. Let us keep these better things while we adopt along with them the best that the West has to give us. From Occidentals we may learn the wisdom of separate homes for married children, and the great truth that parents have duties toward their children, as well as children toward parents.

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The question of the relation of Christianity to the State, suddenly brought into so great prominence six months ago by the vigorous articles of Prof. Inouye, has been discussed in the magazines and newspapers of the country, religions and secular, to the present time. This month several replies to those articles appear, the most notable of all being, perhaps, that of Rev. Mr. Maruyama in *Shinri* (German Evangelical). This "Apology against Prof. Dr. Inouye," which is the conclusion of an article begun in last month's *Shinri*, is vigorous, not to say severe, in its treatment of the subject. *Shukyo* (Unitarian) in a short editorial article retorts upon those Buddhists who claim that their religion inculcates loyalty and filial piety while Christianity fails to do so. Your doctrine of the unreality of all things, says *Shukyo*, if consistently carried out, makes duty of all kinds as unreal as it makes things. If I do not exist, if parents and emperors only seem to be but in fact are not, then no duties can be owed by me to them. Between unrealities there can be no real relation. In *Daido Shimpo* (Buddhist) Mr. Ouchi, a priest of eminence, writes of Buddhism, Christianity, and the Japanese people, under the figure of a household. In his allegory Japan is the housemaster, Buddhism the true wife, the Japanese people are the children, and Christianity a strange woman, who, by giving candy to the little ones, wins their affection and deceives them into believing that she is their mother. In vain the older and wiser children protest that the new comer is not the true mother. The younger children see that she is kind and attractive, while the one whom she would supplant is sick, and has neglected her family. Further, they reply to their older brothers and sisters that the recent coming of the second woman is no proof that she is not their true mother; for both women came to their father's house from abroad and so neither can claim exclusive right. They will follow the one that is most kind. With these deceived children Mr. Ouchi pleads the cause of her who is thus to be supplanted. Her claim to be the true mother of the Japanese people rests upon these facts:—(1.) The King of Korea, in the beginning, dedicated Buddhism to the Imperial Household, with all the solemnity of a marriage. (2.) Buddhism was formally accepted by Imperial decree. (3.) Ancient Emperors repeatedly expressed the wish that Buddhism and the Imperial Household might long walk hand-in-hand. (4.) In early time and until quite recently, the government protected Buddhism openly, and even yet has a watch-care over special temples. In the same paper is a long quotation from *Kiristokyo Shimbun*, which treats of "The Nature of Christianity." The passage quoted says that before Christ all distinctions vanish. With him none are poor, and none are rich; in his sight all differences of rank and of nature are as nothing; the greatest ruler and the meanest savage breathe one spiritual life. Commenting upon these statements, *Daido Shimpo* says, What strange words are these! If that is the nature of Christianity, then that religion is directly antagonistic to the fundamental principles of our Government, and a source of danger to our people. Differences exist; differences of culture, character, and rank. Our whole national fabric rests upon this fact.

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To ignore it is to do away with the distinction between ruler and subjects, and so to invite anarchy. The same paper comments upon the publication by "a French missionary" of a book in reply to Dr. Inouye, which was of such a nature that the government suppressed it. We can not know the contents of this book, says the writer, but we can only hate the mind of a man who, coming as a missionary to our country, issues a book so harmful to the public welfare that it has to be suppressed by the authorities. Let us watch more closely the progress of this dangerous religion, and pay close attention to the conduct of its followers.

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Meantime, Prof. Inouye has a word to say, by way of rejoinder and explanation, to those who have replied to his articles and his book. In *Bukkyo* (Buddhist) is an article by him, in which he takes up the arguments of his critics, one after another. The substance of his article, is as follows: (1) The apologists for Christianity say that their religion is universal in its nature, and so is suited to any country. But this is mere assumption; there is no proof that it is so. Christian views of God and creation are contrary to science. Further, Christian ideas in general contradict oriental teachings, so that Christianity is not suited to oriental peoples. (2) The theologians say that those who oppose Christianity are conservatives. But modern scientists very generally oppose that religion. Are they conservative? (3) When I said that Christianity is anti-national I only meant that that religion does not lay stress upon the state. In that sense, and not absolutely, it is anti-national. I have been misunderstood, as though I was opposed to individualism and personal freedom. (4.) It has been replied to me that the principles of loyalty and filial piety are prevalent in western countries. I did not say that that was not the case. I said that those countries do not lay so much stress upon those qualities as is done in oriental lands. (5.) It is said that the existence of such patriots as Cromwell and Washington contradict my statements regarding the lack of patriotic teachings in Christianity. I fear, indeed, that the Japanese people are not so patriotic as are the people of Europe. But such patriotism is the resul of conditions, and grows out of the principle of self-preservation, a principle which is directly antagonized by Christianity. (6.) It is urged that Christianity is optimistic. If it is, that is no reason why we should adopt it. Schopenhauer and Hartmann were pessimists. The existence of such philosophers, even among Christian peoples, is enough to show that the pain and sorrow of the world afford a basis for pessimism. (7.) Some orthodox writers, replying to my articles, confuse vice and unbelief, saying that atheism is immoral. One-third of the human race is Buddhist, and all Buddhists are atheists. Are they all immoral? Some are, no doubt; but are all? Even Darwin stopped reading the Bible, and disbelieved in inspiration Was he therefore immoral? In conclusion, I see no reason why we should adopt Christianity. Our country has progressed so far without it; and there is surely little to be hoped from a religion which is contradicted by the established facts of science.

* * *

Among the Buddhist magazines we further note the following articles:—In *Bukkyo* is a continuation of the treatise on "Salvation by Self and Salvation by Others," spoken of a month ago. In *Dento* it is stated that five young men have been selected from the highest schools by the Shingon sect on account of their attainments, and are to be educated as defenders of their faith. These young men have undertaken, respectively, the study of the philosophy underlying the teachings of the Shingon, Kegon, Hosso, Kusha, and Tendai sects. The editor hopes that five more will be selected to study with them, so that death or other cause may not reduce their number below five. He also hopes that they will not confine their study to dogmatics, but will become familiar with science and literature, thus gaining a fine general culture. The *Hansei Zasshi*, writing of the summer school of the Buddhists, hopes that the many local summer schools may be made tributary to the one general assembly, and not harmful to it. This may the more easily be done because the larger school is migratory, and may thus lend its influence to various localities in succession, at the same time that it affords its special advantages to students in various parts of Japan. For many years, says this paper, the sects of Buddhists quarrelled among themselves. Let this Summer School bring us together. Thus it may be the means of the dawning of a new faith. In the same line *Nojin Shimpo* quotes, apparently with approval, an article in *Gokyo* (Methodist) on the policy of consolidation, or at least of cōopertaion, in the mission schools of Japan. That such schools have declined there is no doubt, says *Gokyo*, in this quotation. One remedy would be to make all mission schools preparatory to one large and advanced college. The Doshisha, at Kyoto, would be a suitable school for such a centre. Or, if the various denominations would not consent to this, let each one make one of its own schools a college or university, to which all others should be preparatory. In *Hansei Zasshi* (Buddhist) is an earnest article on temperance among labourers. Such persons, it says, comprise by far the largest part of society, so that it is a matter of grave concern that we do what we can for their welfare in this regard. These labouring people need many things. But most of all they need temperance. A reformation of their habits in this respect would make their lives happier, would increase their value as labourers, and would correct that carelessness, irregularity and dullness which now characterize them, improving and refreshing them in body and in mind. In Europe, we hear, labourers who are total abstainers are preferred, and receive higher wages. It will soon come to that in Japan.

* * *

In *Rikugo Zasshi* is an interesting article by Mr. S. Watanabe on "Unpublished facts in the History of Foreign Intercourse." In the same paper is a treatise by Mr. T. Murata on "Protestantism; its Principles and Nature." True Protestantism he sees in the movement begun by Luther and Zwingli. The work of Calvin and Melancthon, theologians who tried to confine Christianity within narrow dogmatic limits, was in reality a reaction against genuine Protestantism. In our day these two influences exist; there are those who, in the spirit of Calvin, would bind Christianity to a formula, and there are those who, like Luther, would make it free. What the reformation of Luther was to the sixteenth century, the movement known as the New Theology will be to the twentieth. Luther's criticisms on the epistles of Jude and James, and Zwingli's criticisms on the Book of Revelation were, it is true, dogmatic and not historical. But in their spirit they anticipated the modern higher criticism. The spirit of Protestantism is not dead. Out of it will come the second Reformation; and in it is the hope of the future. *Rikugo Zasshi* also publishes an interview with the Rev. Dr. G. W. Knox, held shortly before his departure to America. The subject of the interview was the advantages to be gained from the science of Comparative Religion. Dr. Knox is reported as saying that that science proves religion to be common to all mankind; that it shows the stages of religious development; that by it we learn how the various religions of the world are typical of various forms of civilization; and that it brings to light the beneficent providence of God toward all men. Among the non-Christian religions Buddhism and Mohammedanism are perhaps the most interesting, while India and Greece are, from a religious point of view, the most interesting countries. The various religions contain fragments of the truth. Their best teachings are to be regarded as truth; but it is truth mixed with much that is secular, much that is erroneous. Those teachings are often like the teachings of revealed religion. Yet we must not adopt those ideas too carelessly. That is the mistake made of the Bramo Somaj of India. The welfare of Japanese Christianity depends upon the wisdom with which its adherents act in this regard. Rightly approached, the study of Comparative Religion may strengthen and solidify Christian faith.

* * *

The *Jiyu Kiristokyo* (Universalist) continues the discussion, noted last month, of "Evolution and Christian Doctrine," giving special attention to the Genesis story of the Fall of Man. That story the writer regards as contradicted by science, in its theory of evolution. Before evolution had been announced, however, Universalism had taught that mankind progresses ever from lower to higher things. That the Biblical account of the Fall of Man is not scientifically true does not lessen the value of the Bible as a book of moral and religious truth. It is not science, it is a record of human religious experience. In the same magazine is an article on "The Idea of God," one by Mr. Yoshimura on the "Harmony of Christianity and Society," and a sermon by Mr. Yamada on "The Heart of Christ." In *Shinri* (German Evangelical), besides the article of Mr. Maruyama already noted, is a treatise on "Sectarianism," by Mr. Minami. Japanese Christianity, he thinks, should avoid the sect differences of other lands; should be synthetical, seeking to embody the real essence of Christianity; should aim to spread the new light, and make Christian gentlemen. In *Shukyo*, Mr. Saji criticises the fabulous stories about the life of Buddha, especially those relating to his marvelous powers while yet a babe. Belief in such stories indicates ignorance on the part of priests; and to that ignorance is due the present decline of Buddhism. Moreover, such beliefs are contrary to the essential doctrine of Buddhism, that natural law is fixed, unchangable. Buddha was a man in the truest sense, passing through the regular physiological changes incident to human life, subject at every stage to that unchanging law of which he spoke. To introduce miracles into such a life is to contradict its essential teaching. The real power of Buddha is not in any miracles he performed, but in his enlightened wisdom. In the same magazine is the introduction to a series of articles on "Christ as a Great Man," by Matsui Shoyo. *Kiristokyo Shimbun* has editorials continued though two numbers on "The Universal Character of Christianity," a sermon by Mr. T. Yamada on "The Revelation of Nature," and a treatise on "Manhood." The writer of this last paper regards manhood, more than culture or eloquence, as the need of the time. *Inochi* (Presbyterian) reads a sharp lecture to the Committee appointed at the last general meeting of that church to carry out the changes made in the church's constitution. We pointed out at the time, says *Inochi*, that such changes would be useless unless vigorously carried out by the Committee. But the Committee does nothing. The Japanese members on it say that they do not act because of the opposition made by foreign missionaries to the changes. To whom, then, are these Committee men bound; to the missionaries, or to the church which appointed them? Why are they so timid before the missionaries? And why so regardless of their instructions by the general council of the church?

* * *

The Editor of the *Fukuin Shimpo* discourses on "Monastic Morality," by which he means a morality which strenuously observes forms and occasions, or which insists upon some obvious virtues, and fails to emphasize the importance of living a full, manly, noble life. It is well to observe Sunday with strictness. But Sunday keeping and Christian morality are not synonymous. On all days we should be faithful to duty. Our carefulness of Sunday, together with carelessness on other days as to the common duties of life, constitutes monastic morality. Again, some are constantly preaching against intemperance and the use of tobacco. This is well, for both these are wrong. But let not zeal for these blind us to other sins. A man may be a total abstainer in both these regards, and yet be cowardly. He who stickles at smoking, and yet speaks against his fellowmen, or who refrains from the use of liquors

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and yet is careless of his statements, and recklessly exposes his country to dishonour, is moral after the monastic patterns. And do we see no illustrations of this peculiarity to-day? In another article the same writer discourses on "Church and Conventionalism." In every country, he says, there are conventionalities. For example, here in Japan we have that idea of chivalry, which we call *yamato damashii*. Such formal ideas, while devoid of ethical value, often have a greater force in society than genuine ethical principles. In the recent past Christianity has been opposed in our country because of its supposed antagonism to this spirit. Those who thus oppose our religion prefer a tradition to a living force, and place an old feudal principle before the renovating power of this high faith. People thus enamoured of conventionalism often regard true patriotism as synonymous with the celebration of national festivals. Christianity is directly opposed to conventionalism. It seeks to become the centre of progress. Its characteristic is freedom, not restraint. National customs are valuable because of the truth they embody, not in themselves, as customs. Let not Christianity be corrupted by creeds and by a theology filled and narrowed by conventionalism. Let us not think that there is no prayer outside of certain forms, no piety except among those whose theology is the same as ours.

* * *

At not infrequent intervals some one formulates a plan for the speedy evangelization of Japan. The latest scheme for this purpose is that of the Rev. Mr. Kobayashi, first read before the conference of the Methodist Church in Canada, then communicated by its author to *Gokyo*, and copied in *Kiristokyo Shimbun*. The plan contemplates the reaching of every household in Japan with the gospel in ten years. In brief, that plan is as follows:—There are in Japan eight million houses. That number divided by 120, the number of months in ten years, makes 66,667 houses to be visited each month. Let there be appointed three writers, one treasurer, and fifty distributors of tracts. The three writers will prepare tracts of three kinds, apologetic, Biblical, and those relating to religious experiences. Let the fifty distributors visit each month 66,667 houses and leave at each house four tracts. In ten years they will have gone over the whole of Japan. The author of the plan shows the practical turn of his mind by figuring out the total cost of such an enterprise. The three writers and the treasurer should receive six hundred dollars in gold each per year. The fifty distributors would be paid six dollars a month. Printing, at the average rate of six dollars per thousand, would cost $18,200 per year, or, if the mission could have its own press, a thousand dollars less. Incidental expenses, $3,600, total cost per year, $27,800, and for ten years $278,000. The plan is to be commended for its simplicity.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom]

THE TREND OF MODERN THOUGHT.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—Of theistic theories the name is legion, but to speak of "the atheistic theory" in the manner of "Eclectic" is an ingenious attempt to shift the burden of proof, which in all such cases lies with the theist.

"Eclectic" has perhaps been misled by the crude definition of the term atheist which is found in ordinary dictionaries, "One who denies or disbelieves the existence of a Supreme Being," a definition unwarranted by etymology and inconsonant with experience. The existence of a Supreme Being is what the theist has to prove, and what the atheist denies or disbelieves is the validity of the theist's proof.

It has been well said, "As all philosophy has to deal, first of all, with words, there is no salvation for philosophy except definition, that is, criticism of words." I shall therefore make no excuse for offering the following definition of the term atheist, "One who regards as unproven all theistic theories which he has had the opportunity of examining." If this definition be accepted, it follows that there is no such thing as "the atheistic theory;" and further, it is clear that such formulas as "the evolution of consciousness from the Unconscious, of intelligence and order from the Unintelligent and the Chaotic," are in no sense whatever a necessary part of atheism.

It appears just to infer from the letter of "Eclectic" that he is in possession of the religious truths which the clergy ought to teach in place of the "worn-out platitudes" and "ancient dogmas" he decries, that he is familiar with a conception of God which is not anthropomorphic, and that he knows of evidence to justify belief in an objective Being corresponding to that conception. If he will expound, he will interest the public, confound and perhaps convert many "atheous" persons, and greatly oblige one who has the honour to subscribe himself,

AN ATHEIST.

September 22nd, 1893.

WILD BLACK CURRANTS.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—I think it is probable that Mr. Weston found wild black currants, as *Ribes*, the order to which currants and gooseberries belong has several representatives in Japan, but I have not heard of a black one. *R. Alpinum japonicum* (*Zarikoai*) has fruit cherry red, *R. ambiguum* (*Yashabishaku*) dusky brown colour, *R. rubrum* (*Akasuguri*), as its name denotes, is red. *R. Nigrum* is the black currant of Europe, but *Kuro* does not appear in Japanese lists. If Mr. Weston preserved a small sprig with the leaf it could easily be identified. I have often heard of small round black berries being gathered, and have myself found growing, and gathered and eaten with much gusto, the ripe fruit of *Vaccinium myrtillus* (*Kuro-usugo*), the berry being much like black currants in colour and taste, but the plant is very different. The first time I saw it in Japan was in August, 1872, on the upper forest edges of Fuji, and I also saw between Chuseuji and Yumoto *V. uliginosum* (*Kuro-mamenoki*) which is different only in size, being smaller, and found on swampy ground. In America "Huckleberry" covers this fruit and several others similar; in Scotland it is Blaeberry, in England Whortleberry, but is known as Bilberry on and around the

WREKIN.

Yokohama, September 20th, 1893.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—I cannot imagine that Mr. Weston does not know the difference between a black currant tree and a bilberry bush, as implied in the letter of "Wrekin" in your issue of Saturday, nor would I suggest that "Wrekin," having been from home since 1872, has forgotten what a black currant tree is like. My recollection is that one grows as many feet high as the other is inches—or thereabout. However, this is certain, the whortleberry is not black, but blue—hence bilberry and blaeberry, corruptions of blueberry (German *blaubeere*, Danish *blaabär*, Swedish *blabär*). Besides, one is a *Vaccinium* and the other a *Ribes*, between which no likeness can be found. I have never seen anything like a currant bush in the mountains of Japan, and I have made many journeys in various parts, the principal pleasure afforded being the observation of my surroundings. I have seen bilberries in scores of places at altitudes of from 2,000 to 7,000 feet above sea level; in fact at the moment I cannot remember any plant more extensively distributed, especially in Central and Northern Japan, than this same bilberry. In Hokkaido, in the hills at the back of Mororan, may be found a bush with fruit very much like currants in appearance, but as the berries were not ripe the question whether they were currants or not could not be decided by the taste. The bush had the general characteristics of the *Ribes Oxyacanthoides*, and the leaf on being pressed emitted a similar delicate aromatic perfume. It would be interesting if Mr. Weston could describe the plant which he saw.

Yours, &c., ECHIGO.

Yokohama, September 25th, 1893.

THE NIPPON RACE CLUB.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—I was considerably surprised on opening the *Japan Mail* this morning, to find no mention of the programme of the Nippon Race Club for the Autumn Meeting. It was, however, still more surprising to hear that a copy of the programme had not been sent to you for publication, although it appeared last night in one of the other local papers. I am sure that many of the members will agree with me that the Secretary of the Nippon Race Club has no business to take advantage of the fact that he is employed on the staff of the *Herald* and give that paper alone information of this sort. The Committee perhaps cannot be blamed for not having made up the programme long before training officially commenced, but they certainly should have it *properly published* as soon as it is made up, and the Secretary should not be allowed to hide it in the columns of the one paper.

Yours, &c., &c., I.H.N.

September 27th, 1893.

CONSUL-GENERAL CARL BOCK.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—In you editorial of the 23rd inst., wherein you review the instructions issued by Consul-General Carl Bock to his Missionary Nationals in China, you say: "The Missionary, we think, is as fully entitled as the merchant to carry on his business and has no less claim upon the protection of his own authorities. But many persons think otherwise." Probably the governments represented by Consul-General Bock have given due thought to the scope of their obligations to their nationalities in China, the result being the promulgation of the regulations issued for the consideration of the missionary contingent. I think that the missionary and the merchant are equally entitled to the protection of their respective governments while legitimately carrying on their business in such localities as they are permitted to do by the existing treaties. Merchants do not consider it their duty to intrude themselves into places not open to mercantile operations by express stipulations of the treaties, if they do they know the penalty. The missionary does just the thing that the merchant does not have temerity to do. The circumstances under which the missionary and the merchant do their business are entirely different. The merchant may come to your door and offer to sell his wares, or offer to become a purchaser of such products as you may have to dispose of without creating ill will. The missionary, if he stand before your door telling you that you are altogether wrong in your moral and religious life, threatening you with all the pains and penalties of damnation if you do not forsake your religion and embrace the one he thrusts upon you, you might take offence and tell him to move on and, if he should delay his moving, your anger might get the better of your judgment. Contemplating the results of missionary enterprise, it is a wonder that all the governments having treaties with China have not years since promulgated instructions of like tenor to those which you review. There is a field broad enough and work enough for missionaries to do in the ports and localities opened to foreign residence. There are souls enough in those places to be saved to warrant their remaining where they may work in safety. If they can convert in the treaty ports then converts can exploit the interior of the country better than they can in their own persons.

Missionary enterprise has been detrimental to the material progress of China; it has kept at white heat all the antagonism of prejudice and suspicion entertained against the foreigner, and it is not wonderful that it is so. The Russian persecutes the religion of the Jew; in many Catholic communities a Protestant must keep his protests quiet to live in peace. The Mormon is persecuted in the United States. A new religion is about the worst dose that can be administered to a people. If the missionary would calmly compute the great preponderance of evil he causes over and above the good he accomplishes, evoking devilishness wherever he goes outside of treaty limits in China, while he thinks to save a soul or two to shine in his crown as jewels of priceless ransom, he would hesitate and become an advocate of peace rather than a provoker of riot and rapine, bringing suffering, not only upon himself, but upon the people who are so incautious as to be known as his friends. I am glad that Norway and Sweden have set an example to all other governments whose nationals are roaming over the Eastern world to propagate their particular religions among those who have as much religion now as they can comfortably assimilate. Let the missionary work and preach wherever the people desire him, but when he pushes himself into places where he is not wanted or desired, he should be required to become his own underwriter in event of his coming to grief.

Yours respectfully, X.

Yokohama, September 27th, 1893.

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THE SONG OF SONGS.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—Please allow me space enough to say that I think you rather overstate the case when you identify orthodoxy with the allegorical interpretation of Solomon's Song. For instance, old Dr Adam Clarke, whose orthodoxy none will question, is a literalist, and treats the allegorists with a grave and sober ridicule which is very telling. The ingenious persons who devised the synopsis which heads each chapter of the Song in the Authorised Version must have been strangely lacking in the sense of humour.

You yourself demur to a real Jewish peasant-girl apostrophising her lover in the florid metaphors you quote. But we are not dealing with a real peasant-girl; we are dealing with a peasant-girl in a poem, a stage shepherdess, an idealised character, not the original nymph herself. Whether Colin Clout and Rosalind, Damon and Nisa, Menalcas and Daphnis, represented real personalities may well be doubted; still, they represented types, and both Spenser and Virgil may have had living persons in their minds when they wrote the Eclogues and the Shepherd's Calendar. Would it, then, not be a rather hasty criticism, to object that agricultural labourers and people of that sort are not given to talking in high-flown verse? Of course they are not; but they are made to do so in pastoral poetry, and no one protests against it as unnatural. Besides, when one considers what extravagant and inflated language love-sick persons do use in real life, the picture may not be quite so much overdrawn as you imagine.

I may add that a few copies have been placed at the Shueisha, in Kyobashi, for the convenience of those who may wish for one.

Yours obediently, B.

September 28th, 1893.

PUBLIC BENEVOLENCE IN JAPAN.

By Mr. G. Boissonade.

(Translated for the *Japan Mail* from the *Revue Française.*)

Just as it can be said that the sentiment that stirs an individual to commiseration for the ills of others, denotes in him a certain elevation of heart, independent of the culture of his mind, so the development of benevolent institutions in a country may be looked upon as one of the signs of its true civilization, whatever besides may be the degree of its advancement in science, letters, or the fine arts.

If this remark is correct, new Japan has yet many steps to take in the path of public and private benevolence, in order to reach the rank it aspires to obtain among civilized nations.

It is quite certain, however, and we hasten to say it, that Japan has made great progress in this path within the last ten years, and that she is in this respect, as in many others, well in advance of all the other peoples of the extreme East. But she has higher aims, and it is a matter of astonishment and of regret that, having sent so many missions to Europe and to America to study administrative affairs, jurisprudence and the organization of justice, physical sciences, navigation, military art and the fine arts even, she has not thought of directing study to be made in the same way in foreign lands, of the various organizations of public benevolence, which is itself also an art, for it has to resolve the difficult problem of relieving the numerous ills of humanity, without weakening the bonds of family solidarity, without, too, encouraging idleness and improvidence, by diminishing individual responsibility, which is its sanction of usefulness. Nor is it necessary to cross the seas to find out how the principal countries of the West proceed in matters of benevolence and of public relief: Japan maintains there permanent legations which, were they to receive precise instructions to that effect, might, upon this point as upon many others, get together all the documents desirable.

We have said that praiseworthy efforts have already been begun in the country: the initiation of them has come from the highest quarters, as it has always done whenever there has been question of auspicious reforms: T.M. the Emperor and Empress patronize and contribute to several benevolent and charitable establishments. Their example has been naturally followed by all the high dignitaries and functionaries; but much remains to be done. Very often rich *Kwazoku* and great merchants have been known to give large sums for the creation or for the maintenance of literary societies or of scientific enterprizes calculated to shed lustre upon the country or to promote its material interests; but very few seem to have thought of founding hospitals for the aged, asylums for orphans, establishments for the too varied ills of humanity, of which Japan is far from being exempt. Certain Buddhist temples likewise receive large subsidies from the former lords of the lands; the people, too, especially those of the country, are generous enough towards their temples; but it does not appear that these temples, in their turn, distribute over much in alms: the staff they have to keep up is numerous and the grants from the State are no longer what they received from the former *Daimyos* whose place the State has taken, since the Restoration, in all that relates to expenses, without having succeeded to their enormous revenues otherwise than to what proceeds from the collection of taxes.

The missionaries of the various Christian denominations have founded many benevolent establishments; but their resources are naturally very limited, and it is especially by way of example that they can serve the country in such matters.

If a list were to be drawn up in France, even without statistical details, of the various charitable establishments spread over the whole extent of the land, whether public, that is to say supported by the State, the departments of the communes, or private, either founded and supported by individuals or by local or religious societies, it would certainly make a large volume. We shall revert again to it some day. In Japan a list of them could soon be made out. We will, however, not undertake to do it to-day, being unable to accomplish it by ourselves, and ommissions are the more to be avoided for that the list is already of short length. We will limit ourselves to quoting the administrative acts that have been pointed out to us, touching public relief, together with the statistics of the principal benevolent establishment of Tokyo.

We will leave out of this study: 1st, The Red Cross Society, or the society for the relief of wounded soldiers, which has an entirely special character, the origin of which in Japan and its rules have been given by this Review (see No. 16); 2ndly, Relief organized in times of cholera or of other epidemics, because, by the generality itself thereof, it belongs less to benevolence than to sanitary measures of public interest; 3rdly and finally, general relief distributed by the State in times of public calamity, such as earthquakes, inundations, fires, famine. Whenever individuals join in giving such relief by contributions or by subscriptions, they certainly do perform a work of benevolence or charity for the reason that that work is gratuitous and voluntary; but in the same cases, the State fulfils a true administrative obligation incumbent upon it as being the public power: in fact, it could not be forced to fulfil it by legal means, but when an accumulation of private ills becomes a public calamity, it must relieve them in order to avoid greater ills, were it only in the interest of its own security.

General legislative provisions, that is those for the whole Empire, concerning public benevolence, appear to be not numerous; three only have been pointed out to us[1].

1.—Imperial Ordinance No. 138 of the 6th year of *Meiji* (1872). It binds upon the State the feeding (and doubtless the support) of foundlings (*Sute go*) under 13 full years of age; these receive each year 7 *to* of rice (one *to* is equal to 20 litres); their age is estimated by the Mayor of the locality in which they are found. Relief is distributed and controlled by the Prefecture. For the most part, the children are entrusted to individuals willing to take them and who will care for them in consideration of the fixed amount of relief. A certain superintendence is doubtless exercised over these guardians, to the intent that there shall be no excess in the labour exacted from the children nor any misapplication of the relief furnished.

2.—Imperial Ordinance No. 152 of the 7th year of *Meiji* (1873). It relates to the unfortunate in general (*Himmin*): it imposes upon each Prefecture the obligation of assisting the unfortunate, "under pressure of necessity and according to circumstances." On the subject of these people it lays down a few fundamental rules: distinction is to be made as to whether or not their relatives can assist them, whether or not they are incapable of working, through age or sickness or through some infirmity or other.

The relief shall consist of 1 *koku* and 8 *to* of rice (280 litres) for grown men and of 7 *to* (7 litres) for children of less than 15 years of age and shall be provided in money every month. This mode of relief is not without danger for the faithful employment in food of the relief granted: it has, besides, the inconvenience of entailing upon the relieved poor the profit of the retail rice merchant.

The charitable association styled *Han-on-Ko*, the history and rules of which we give further on, is much more prudent in this respect and at the same time much more liberal (see art. 7).

3.—Ordinance of the Minister for Home Affairs, of the 7th month of the 16th year of *Meiji* (1883). It imposes upon each Prefecture the obligation of taking care of its poor attacked with contagious diseases (*den sen byo*), and found within their jurisdictions. The expression contagious diseases, lacks precision and is of a generality that certainly goes beyond the intention of the ordinance; it evidently did not contemplate small-pox and other eruptive fevers, dyphtheria, typhoid fever, dysentery, the contagious character of which is disputed, among physicians even, and which, already endemic in Japan, very often becomes epidemic there.

That Ordinance, coinciding with a severe epidemic of cholera, seems to have especially had for its object the prevention of propagation. In this respect and within this limit it belongs rather to sanitary measures and to public order than to those of public benevolence properly so called.

Nor does it appear that this Ordinance has been considered as applicable in favour of lepers (*rai-byo-kan-ja*), for they are not assisted in a general way and as such; they ought to be assisted as paupers at least incapable of working; but their hideous infirmity seems to deflect administrative benevolence from them; moreover, they are very numerous in Japan and their lamentable state often terrifies the sight while at the same time it grieves the heart.[2]

1st.—Hospital or Charitable Asylum (*Yo-iku in*) in Honjo-ku. This is a prefectural establishment for the aged, the infirm, and children of both sexes; the sick too are received into it, when that can be done; it places in situations with individuals, such of its pensioners as can render some service or other, and pays for them a slight grant of money, less burdensome than would be the cost of their stay in the asylum and at the same time allowing of there being more vacant places within: but this placing in situations can be done only when there are unengaged funds resulting from gifts or from savings upon revenue.

The average for six years (1886 to 1891) gives for each one the following figures:—

Old patients	141	Gone away	63
New patients	248	Placed in situations	21
	15	Ran away	6
	404	Died	108
		Remaining	206
			404

We pass over distinctions of age, sex, and of malady.

2.—Charity Hospital (*Ji-kei i-in*) in Atagocho. As its name indicates, it provides for the sick only. Different in this from an asylum, it also receives paying patients, whose fees diminish the general expenses of the establishment. We shall allude here only to the sick treated gratuitously. The annual average for the same six years (1886 to 1891) has been:

Old patients	60	Left cured	234
New patients	467	Left partially cured	136
	527	Died	97
		Remaining	60
			527

The hospital gives besides, gratuitous relief in the way of consultations and of medicines, the annual average of out door patients thus treated amounts to 6,020 persons. The number of physicians was, in 1891, 14, and that of male and female nurses 50.

3.—The Insane Hospital (*Futen byo in*) at Sugamo.[3]

Average for each year from 1887 to 1892.

[1] The administrative information that follows has been given us by Mr Kuroda Tsunahiko, Director of the Ministry for Home Affairs: we have been enabled to complete it by means of the Annual General Statistics of the Empire, published in French and in Japanese, under the skilful direction of Mr Shibasaki Shigetomo.

[2] The only establishment, to our knowledge, where lepers are received and treated as such, has been founded during the last few years, at Gotemba, by the Catholic missionaries in Tokyo: but their resources are altogether insufficient to allow them to receive all the unfortunate lepers that implore them; they come in families often after having travelled 50 and up to 100 leagues, to obtain an asylum that it is difficult to grant them and at the same time impossible to refuse them. Leprous patients in that hospital number at this present moment 86.

The maintenance of a leper amounts to 5 *yen* a month or to 60 *yen* a year. Whoever should annually contribute this sum, would have the satisfaction of founding a bed he would obtain the title of "Signal Benefactor."

H. I. and R. Highness the Archduke of Austria, Francis Joseph, in his recent passage through Tokyo, condescended, among other generous offerings towards the operations of the Catholic mission, to bestow 100 *yen* upon the leper hospital at Gotemba.

[3] The absence of administrative regulations as to the regular seclusion of the insane, after medical examination and advice of the family, furnishes occasion in Japan for grave abuses a criminal suit now pending in Tokyo, and making a tremendous noise, due to the standing of the victim and of the inculpated, will certainly contribute towards filling up, of necessity, this regrettable blank in the law.

For the most part the insane to-day, or those that are said to be so, are sequestered in special houses, and one can easily imagine to what dangers are exposed those really deprived of their reason and more so those whom unnatural relations have an interest in having pass as such.

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Old patients.....	230	Left cured or better	245
New patients	397	Left not cured	52
	627	Died	70
		Remaining	260
			627

In 1892 there were 6 physicians and 99 male and female nurses and keepers.

4.—Asylum for Foundlings (*Foukudenkwai Iku-ji-in*) in the Hongo-ku.

This is a private establishment. The annual average for six years (1886 to 1891) is for

Old inmates	47	Left	10
New inmates.....	24	Died	4
	71	Remaining	57
			71

5.—Asylum for Refractory Children (*Kan-kwa-in*) at Akebonocho.

This is also a private establishment. The annual average for the same six years is for

Old inmates	64	Left	22
New inmates.....	29	Dieft	1
	93	Remaining	70
			93

We have said that we lack sufficient information upon private establishments of relief purely Japanese, outside of Tokyo. We must, however, mention three of them that deserve particular notice, especially the third:

1.—The Osaka Hospital, founded in the 21st year of *Meiji* (1888): it has 50 beds. The actual number of patients now therein is 16; there are 75 outside patients, 2 physicians and 4 male and female nurses.

2.—The Nagoya Hospital, founded by Buddhist priests this present year; it has 7 beds, 4 patients, and 15 outside patients.

3.—The Akita Aenevolent Association, styled *Kan-on-ko*. It is recommendable most especially by the remoteness of its foundation, its resources and its organization, as is shown by its Rules and by its history, herein summarized by way of introduction to the said Rules. It was the study of these very rules that suggested to us the idea of the present essay. What adds interest to this document, and what may justify us for giving it in its entirely, is that the final drawing up of it that was made last year, is destined to serve as a model to others of a like nature, the creation of which may be instigated in divers parts of the Empire. We hope that these praiseworthy intentions will not remain without results.

Customary Rules of the Akita Benevolent Association styled "Kan-on-Ko."

Introduction.

This Association owes its origin to the initiative of Nawa Saburoemon Akenari, a banker of the ancient princely house of Akita, who established a system of relief of the poor, thinking, with great reason, that there is no worse suffering in social life than poverty.

To that end, in the 12th year of *Bunsei* (2489th year of the era of Jimmu-Tenno), the Prince of Akita, Satake Yoshihiro, desirous of creating a fund for the maintenance of orphans, of the aged and of other unfortunates, ordered his chief subjects to inquire into the modes of organizing this relief. The latter sought advice of Nawa Saburoemon, who, having already made some attempts in that direction, united most heartily in the idea of his Prince. He entreated the house of Akita to set apart a plot of land, the revenues of which should be appropriated to relief purposes; on his part, he offered 1,000 *yen* subscribed by himself and by other benefactors thanks to his efforts.

The house of Akita, approving his proposition, added 1,000 *yen* to the sum offered, and appropriated to relief purposes a plot of ground bringing in 130 *kokus* of rice, nominal rent charge. Such is the origin of the foundation of this association.

From that time the managers of the association (*nen ban*), settled the mode of distributing relief by consultation among themselves, according to the orders and instructions of the house of Akita.

In the era of *Tempo* (2490 after Jimmu Tenno), it was decided that the property of the association belonged neither to the local authorities nor to the founders, and that it belonged to the association considered as a moral or judicial person. This decision was acquiesced in by the house of Akita. It was for the association an unwritten or customary law, still a perpetual and unchangeable one.

From that time the property of the association has been ever increasing through gifts of new benefactors, especially through the encouragement vouchsafed to it by Princes Yoshuchika and Yoshitaka.

However, at the time of the Restoration and of the abolition of feudalism, the landed property of the association was incorporated into that of the State. But Nawa Saburoemon Ikenari, the President and the other managers, made continual efforts to have the particular character of this property recognized by the authorities, and they obtained from the Government the payment of 5,500 *yen* in the 7th year of *Meiji* and of 49,200 *yen* in the 14th. Such were the epoch and the mode of revival of the Association.

Since the foundation of the association in the era of Bunsei, up to to-day, the number of poor administered to has amounted to more than three millions one hundred thousand (310 *man*, 3,100,000).

In the 12th year of *Meiji*, Senator Sasaki, during a journey he made to the North-East, having become acquainted with the association's system and having been touched by it, made a favourable report upon it to His Majesty the Emperor. At the time of the Emperor's journey in the same region in the 14th year of *Meiji*, the association's success was again brought to His Majesty's knowledge, and, by his order, the Sangi Ogi Takato visited the association, and the grandson of Nawa Saburoemon was admitted to the honour of seeing him and received praise from him.

In the month of March of the 22nd year of *Meiji*, the Imperial Court again gave the sum of 300 *yen* with the object of assuring the continuation of the association according to the adopted system. Thenceforth the working of the association was assured for ever.

But, since the period of its foundation, the rights and obligations of the association, the method of distributing relief and of the management of its property, were unwritten and purely traditional; so that even when mention of them is sought for in ancient documents, the latter are found to be scattered to the winds and even some customs have left no trace of themselves otherwise than in the memory of aged managers, and are on the point of being forgotten or of becoming vague. Should this condition of things remain, the customary rules would become lost altogether and the managers would end by swerving from the original object of the association and by acting contrarily to the Emperor's wish.

It is for that reason that the present managers have drawn up the present Rules, dividing them into chapters and articles for more clearness, but still in accordance with the former customs gathered from ancient documents, from investigations and from the constant practice of the managers. They are still the rules left by the founders, so too they have been called *customary* and must be observed by present and by future managers.

Akita, the 4th April of the 25th year of *Meiji* (1892)

The Managers of the Association:

Nawa Saburoemon,
Kagaya Chobei,
Murayama Sannosuke,
Sato Bunbemon.

Chapter I.

General Provisions.

Art. 1.—The Kan-on-ko Association is a moral personage recognized by the authorities, whose possessions consist in gifts from the Imperial Household and from others, as well as of the subscriptions of the founders and of donators.

Art. 2. The Association has for its sole object the relieving of the poor, and must perpetually carry it into effect in accordance with the limitations and conditions settled in the following chapter.

It can perform no other act even were it based upon public interest.

Art. 3.—The Association was at first under the superintendence of the princely House of Akita and, since the abolition of feudalism, it has been under that of the Prefecture.

Art. 4.—The offices of the Managers of the Association must ever remain in the city of Akita.

Chapter II.

Of Relief.

Art. 5.—Those only shall receive relief from the Association who uninterruptedly live in that part of the city of Akita that has been under the administration of the princely house of Akita's Mayor (*machi bugyo*). That part of the city is indicated in Appendix I.

Nevertheless, the maximum quantity of 30 *kokus* of cleaned rice may be given each year to the poor uninterruptedly living in that part of the city of Akita wherein the ancient princely House of Akita lodged its *Shizoku* (vassals), but each time with the authorisation of the Prefecture. That part of the city is likewise indicated in Appendix I.

Art. 6.—Those shall be considered indigents that may be relieved by the Association in ordinary times, who, under the following circumstances, cannot support themselves and have no other prop to lean upon nor have their families:—

1. Widowers and widows, orphans, and old people;
2. The infirm, the insane and weak-minded;
3. The poor with several very young or very old relations.

Art. 7.—To the poor indicated in the preceding article shall be given two *go* and ½ of cleaned rice per day and per capitum, without distinction of sex, and the half of said quantity to children under 7 years of age: however, the said quantity of rice may be augmented or decreased, according to quality and with the authorization of the Prefecture.

Moreover, medicine and medical attention may be given to the poor stricken with disease. The Administration may also procure the temporary admittance of the poor or infirm into the hospitals or asylums of the *Ken*.

Art. 8.—The duration for which relief shall be given shall be 1 month, 2 months, or 3 months; without prejudice, as to further relief that may be granted in the same proportion to those that cannot make out to support themselves.

Art. 9.—Relief in rice shall be distributed twice a month.

Art. 10.—Warm clothing, wood, charcoal, and other commodities may be given to the poor who, being but very lightly clad, cannot protect themselves from the cold in mid-winter.

Art. 11.—Necessary tools or apparatus for labour or very small sums as capital, may be given to the able-bodied poor, but who have fallen more and more into misery through lack of resources, on account of the number of the members of the family of tender or of advanced age, or of any other legitimate cause.

Art. 12.—The Directors of the Association shall put forth their endeavours to procure for the poor actually relieved by the Association, but at the same time able-bodied, the means of supporting themselves by encouraging them to work, and shall notify those who impoverish themselves by their laziness, that in future relief shall no longer be given them; relief actually granted shall cease to be given to those who have not conformed to the said notifications.

Art. 13.—Temporary and extraordinary relief may be given, beyond what is provided in articles 6 and following, to those suffering with hunger, cold, sickness or wounds, and in cases of disasters, either atmospherical or territorial or of famine, but in all cases with the authorization of the Prefecture.

Chapter III.

Of the Directorate.

Art. 14.—The direction of the affairs of the Association shall be entrusted:—

1.—To the Directors (*Nen ban*), at least three and not more than seven in number.

2.—To Administrators (*Yogakari*), three in number at the most.

3.—To Assistants (*Shitayaku*), seven in number at the most.

Art. 15.—The Directors as a body represent the Association and manage all its affairs.

In case of the necessity of a supplementary election of a Director, resulting from demise or from any other cause, the Directors present shall choose one from within the district wherein relief may be given, and from among those who enjoy the respect of the public and possess sufficient resources, and, with the authorization of the Prefecture, shall request him to accept that function.

Art 16.—The Administrators shall divide among themselves the management of the affairs of the Association, under the orders of the Directors. They are appointed and dismissed by the Directors: their dismissal must be communicated to the Prefecture.

Art. 17.—The Assistants must investigate the condition of the poor to be relieved, and attend to other matters upon the orders of the Directors. The provisions of the preceding article shall be applicable to the appointment and dismissal of Assistants as well as to the communication of these acts.

Art. 18.—Besides the members of the Directorate enumerated in Article 14, there shall be a Superintending Accountant of the rural property and of the rice collected as farm rent, and one godown-keeper. The Superintending Accountant shall have charge of the funds received and the duty of taking measures regarding unpaid farm rents, according to the orders of the Directors.

The godown-keeper must also watch over the safety of the administration offices and of the interior and exterior of the establishment.

Art. 19.—The salaries or pay of the Administrators, of the Assistants and of the other employés, shall be fixed by the Directors.

The Directors shall receive no pay whatever.

Chapter IV.

Of the Management of the Property.

Art. 20.—Besides the Administration offices, the godowns, land built upon with the accessories of the same, the management of the Association's property shall be divided up as follows:—

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1. For rice and for cleaned rice.
2. For cultivated lands or for leased lands,
3. For registered State bonds.
4. For money in hand and general accounts.

Art. 21.—Rice cleaned or uncleaned shall be kept in the Association's godowns. The cleaned rice is intended for relief, ordinary and extraordinary, the uncleaned rice for relief provided for in Art. 13.

Art. 20.—Arable lands shall be leased to farmers. The length of a lease cannot exceed five years, with option of renewal thereof for the same limit of time.

Art. 23.—Ready money derived from the redemption of bonds by the State, or from other sources and making part of the Association's capital, shall be used in the purchase of State registered bonds.

Money derived from annual revenue, shall be provisionally deposited in a national bank selected by the Directors.

Art. 24.—The expenditures of the Association shal be classified in accordance with the 4 numbers hereunder indicated and defrayed out of the annual revenue :—

1. Relief in ordinary times.
2. Salaries of the Administrators and employés, rewards and travelling expenses.
3. Expenses in the management of the property.
4. Sundry expenses (materials, repairs, ceremonies, etc.).

Art. 25.—Use of the money and of the rice must not be undertaken but upon the decision of at least three Directors

Art. 26 —The purchase of arable land and of registered State bonds and the exchange of rice to be stored, shall be communicated to the Prefecture; the quantity of rice to be stored must not be diminished at the time of exchange; in which case the diminished quantity must be made good by fresh purchases.

Art. 27.—The doings and acts hereunder enumerated, must be authorized by the Prefecture :

1. Expenditures not included in the numbers of the expenditures indicated in Article 24.
2. Expenditures overpassing the limit set forth in Article 24, for relief allowed by the said article or for any other, cause.
3. Expenditures for the purchase of furniture or for repairs exceeding 100 *yén* in one year.
4. New buildings.

Art. 28.—Accounts shall be balanced every year, in January and July, to verify the receipts and expenditures in money, in rice and in other things, up to the end of the elapsed month, and the balance sheet shall be communicated to the Prefecture.

If more than 1,500 *yen* remain available, after deduction of the approximate amount for expenditures for ordinary relief and for other expenditures in anticipation for the next half year, they shall be used in the purchase of rice or registered State bonds.

Chapter V.

of subscribers.

Art. 29.—Whoever shall approve of the object of the Association may subscribe to it, upon the approbation of the Association and the authorization of the Prefecture. No subscription can be for less than 15 *yen*.

Art. 30.—Subscribers and their heirs have right to the favours indicated in No. 5 of Article 1 and in Article 2 of Appendix II.

Art. 31.—Neither subscribers nor their assigns shall ever have the right to the return of the money, rice or other articles they have contributed, whatever the circumstances may be; nor have they any right to the property nor to the management of the Association.

Complemental Provision.

Art. 32.—The present Customary Rules can be modified only in case some contradiction to the original object of the foundation has been discovered, as regards their execution, saving modifications relating to Appendix II. Modifications must be decided by the Directors and authorized by the Prefecture; it is the same for those relating to Appendix II.

Appendix I.

relief districts.

[This 1st Appendix enumerates at length the quarters and streets of Akita, the inhabitants of which may receive relief from the Association. It seems singular that place of residence should have such influence upon the right to receive relief; but it has been deemed proper in this as in many other particulars, to keep up the old custom, which is what justifies the appelation of Customary given to these Rules.]

Appendix II.

Art. 1.—The Association shall observe the following ceremonies every year :—

1. On the 1st January the Directors shall call on hte Prefect to wish him a happy New Year.

2. On the 5th January shall be performed the ceremony of opening the godowns, and *sake* and viands shall be offered to the members of the Administration.

3 On the 11th March, religious music shall be played in honour of the Imperial Protection, in the *Hiyoshi dinja* (the name of a Shinto temple) at Yabashi, in the village of Ouchi, in the district of Minami Akita, and sacred *sake* shall be distributed among the members of the Administration.

4. On the 21st March of the lunar calendar, sacred music shall be performed in the said place, in commemoration of the founding of the Association, and sacred *sake* shall be distributed among those who have rendered exceptional services to the Association.

5. On the 21st November rice cake (*Kaganemochi*) with *noshi*, shall be offered to subscribers and to their heirs, in recognition of their good offices; afterwards *sake* and and viands shall be offered to the members of the Administration. The distribution of the rice cake shall be made in the presence of the Prefect or of his delegate.

Art. 2.—If any felicitous event should happen to the Association, religious music shall, extraordinarily, be played in the *Hiyoshi dinja* and *Sekihan* shall be distributed.

Art. 3 —The emblem of the Association shall, with its authorization, be that of the ancient house of Akita (佐竹).

Appendix III.

Only article. The Association shall grant relief to the heirs of Nagato Sanji, if they are overtaken by poverty, irrespective of the limits set forth in Article 5.

From all that precedes, it results that if Japan has made but little progress in matters of public and private benevolence, there are thereof time-honoured and good examples fit for imitation, and that a very pronounced movement exists in that direction.

But, when one examines the total of the annual expenditures made under that head by the Treasury (State and Prefectural) and by the communes, they are found to be too slender for a population that to-day exceeds 40 millions of people, having a soil fertile indeed, but whose mountainous and meagrely productive parts are immense.* This want of proportion between relief and population is, to a certain extent, explainable to the praise of the *esprit de famille* among Japanese and to the kindness, too, of friends and of mere neighbours, by which there is much less necessity for the unfortunate to recur to public relief than there is in European countries.

We have the proof of it in the numerous and terrible fires that so often afflict the inhabitants of this country: thousands of people suddenly deprived of shelter and of all resources, are at once received into houses, and, in such cases, there is no question about neighbours since they themselves are in the same plight; oftentimes too the whole family is plunged into the same state of destitution; there remains for them only their friends, and, in Japan, they are found in due days: simplicity of habits and moderation of wants lighten these sacrifices; perhaps, too, those who thus give shelter feel that they themselves are exposed to ask for it some day in like manner.

We said in the beginning, that the feeling of benevolence is manifesting itself under a new form; it has even taken the name of "charity" (*Ji-sen*) which expresses better the impulse that inspires it. A certain European influence is noticeable in it: thus, there is every year a "charity bazaar" for the benefit of the first two establishments in Tokyo mentioned above: it is held by the wives of the Ministers and the ladies of the Nobility: many other ladies make it their duty and a pleasure at the same time to interest themselves in it and contribute useful or elegant articles of their own making; purchasers give the first to poor children and gladly keep the second. There are also "charity concerts" the tickets for which are disposed of by the Lady Managers and the profit is applied to some charity announced beforehand. We have not yet come to "charity balls" and, to tell the truth, it is not to be too much regretted that we have not: concerts and theatricals at best are diversions for the mind that are not in opposition to the sentiment of charity: but to dance for widows and orphans has something singular at least about it, which would certainly shock the good taste of the Japanese.

We have mentioned "charity theatricals;" indeed, two years ago the famous actor Danjuro gave three successive representations fort the benefit of the poor, and the receipts were considerable. We think that was the first example, by Japanese, of this ingenious manner of associating lukewarm-hearts in charitable operations, and this initiative by the celebrated actor, can only still more increase its immense popularity.

This side of Japan's transformation assuredly deserves to be watched with interest and sympathy.

* We do not give the total figures because there is a notable difference between those given to us by the Department of Home Affairs and those found in the General Statistics Time is wanting for at this present to seek to set straight this difference. It seems to emanate from the fact that the Statistics make no sufficient distinction between individual almsgiving, so to speak, and relief funds intended to meet calamities that visit entire localities. There has also to be excluded from relief properly so called, *advances* made to people tried by accidents, to enable them to pay their overdue taxes, sow their lands, repair foundations, etc.

CRICKET.

The match on Saturday last, between teams representing "A. to K." and "L. to Z," resulted, as was expected, in a win for the former by seven wickets and 35 runs, and although at the outset of the game things did not bear such a rosy complexion. "L. to Z." went in first, Meaden and Mair facing the bowling of Edwards and Duff. Mair was caught by Walford, who played substitute, the first wicket going down for 22. Tate then joined Meaden, and had added 16 when he was caught by Edwards. Layard, next man in, hit out well and by good cricket compiled 34, but after this a dark cloud came over the batting, as Edwards, who had been relieved by Fenton, came on again, and getting well on the spot dismissed three men in succession, two consective wickets being also credited to Fenton, and six wickets fell for 8 runs. After a short interval Dickinson and Fenton went out to do battle for "A. to K." and, collating the bowling from the outset, runs came quickly; but at 72 Fenton was cleaned bowled by Walford, his contribution being 51. Duff then joined Dickinson and hit one for two, but Philip who was at long-on, thinking it would have reached the Pavilion and score three, let it pass, with the result that Duff was able to run five, the ball stopping short. At 113 Dickenson ran himself out, and Edwards joined Duff and hit away all over the field. Shortly afterwards Duff was given out "leg before," and Edwards was cleverly held by Mc hush at cover-point, Garfit and Healing playing out time. The fielding of "A. to K." was somewhat lax at the outset of the game, but after being warmed up they did better. The following are the scores and bowling analysis :—

L. to Z.		A. to K.	
Dr. Meaden, run out	45	Mr. H. V. Dickinson, run out	39
Mr. H. R. Mair, c. substitute, b. Duff	11	Mr. G. F. Fenton, b. Walford	51
Mr. E. W. Tate, c. Edwards, b. Duff	8	Mr. C. M. Duff, l.b.w., b. Meaden	23
Mr. R. de B. Layard, b. Edwards	34	Mr. W. D. S. Edwards, c. Mc hush, b. Walford	24
Mr. A. B. Walford, c. Dickinson, b. Fenton	2	Mr. A. S. Garfit, not out	19
Mr. G. J. Meadmish, b. Edwards	4	Mr. T. J. Healing, not out	5
Mr. P. de C. Morriss, b. Edwards	1	Mr. J. Dodds,	did not bat.
Mr. A. F. Litchfield, b. Edwards	0	Rev. F. F. Freese,	
Mr. C. Philip, c. Edwards b. Fenton	1	Mr. H. Alcock,	
Mr. J. L. beaud, not out	0	Mr. L. Fardell,	
Mr. W. R. Lamb, c. Freese, b. Fenton	0	Mr. D. S Brown,	
b. 7, w. 1	8	b. 3, l.b. 2	4
	103		158

Bowling Analysis.

L. to Z.

	Balls.	Runs.	Maidens.	Wickets.	Wides.
Mr. W. D. S. Edwards	74	37	1	4	1
Mr Duff	50	43	2	2	—
Mr. Fenton	60	41	—	3	—

A. to K.

	Balls.	Runs.	Maidens.	Wickets.	Wides.
Dr. Meaden	70	53	3	2	—
Mr. Philip	30	24	—	—	—
Mr. Walford	80	39	6	6	—
Mr. Lbeaud	30	25	1	—	—
Mr Tate	20	9	—	—	—
Mr. Layard	5	7	—	—	—

"TEA" v. "THE WORLD."

This match took place on Thursday, resulting in a win for "Tea" by 34 runs. The weather was dull and the light poor, especially towards the close of the game. The Teamen opened the ball at the wickets, White and Tate opposing the bowling of Meaden and Fenton, and the two batsmen got well set and runs were rapidly scored, when a change of bowlers effected the retirement of White, who was sent back by Lias after making a score of 21. Tate held on, notwithstanding the change of bowlers, and saw the return of Edwards to the Pavilion, until he was ultimately caught and bowled by Walford after compiling 37 by excellent cricket. Fenton effected the next removal, Morriss being dismissed for 15 runs well got, and after this the balance of the team went out for 22 runs, the only double figures obtained being scored by Young, who made 11 and carried out his bat, the innings closing for 113.

"The World's" first representatives were Wheeler and Walford, and the Doctor was the first to come home with only a single to his credit, being clean bowled by Edwards, and Meaden

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followed in but only to be at once sent back by the same bowler. Fenton then joined Walford, and made a stand, and after raising the score by eight, made two fours in succession, Walford also hitting freely and adding to the score till he was held by J. M. Mollison off a ball by Ross. Fenton added four twos and a six to his score when Edwards got one into his wickets: total 30. Lias, who had come in before Fenton, retired after making 14, and then five wickets went down for 9 runs, and the innings, including a dozen extras, closed for 79. Following are the scores:—

TEA.		THE WORLD.	
Mr White, b. Lias	8	Dr. Wheeler, b. Edwards	1
Mr. Tate, c and b. Walford	37	Mr. Walford, c. J. M. Mollison, b. Ross	15
Mr. Edwards, b Meaden	1	Dr. Meaden, b. Edwards	0
Mr. E Morrise, b. Fenton	25	Mr. Fenton, b. Edwards	30
Mr. J P Mollison, c. Lias, b. Fenton	6	Mr Melhuish, b Edwards	0
Mr. Muir, run out	1	Mr. Lias, not out	14
Mr Campbell, c. Lias, b. Fenton	0	Mr Dodds, l.b.w., b. J. M. Mollison	5
Mr. J. M. Mollison, c. Meaden, b. Lias	3	Mr. Garst, b. Edwards	1
Mr. Ross, b. Lias	6	Mr. Keating, b. Edwards	1
Mr Pearson, c, Libeaud, b. Lias	9	Mr. Kenny, b. Edwards	0
Mr. Young, not out	22	Mr. Libeaud, c. sub., b. Ross	22
b. 6	6	b. 7, l.b. 5	12
	113		79

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	O.	R.	M.	O.	W.		O.	R.	M.	O.	W.
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THE CONDITION OF ARCHITECTURE IN JAPAN.

BY J. CONDER.

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GENTLEMEN,—The General Committee of this International Congress have conferred on me the honour of election as a Member of their Advisory Council, and invited me to contribute a short paper upon some architectual subject connected with Japan. Asking your indulgence for the somewhat general and discursive character of my observations, I shall attempt to sketch the condition, past and present, of the art and science of building in this country.

The interest taken in Japan by foreign countries is increasing yearly, and nowhere is it more intense than in the United States of America—her nearest and greatest non Asiatic neighbour. There is no gainsaying that this external interest is primarily directed towards those fascinating arts and customs which are the outcome of her unique and isolated civilization, as developed in the past. Japan, on the other hand, though attached to many of her national customs, as handed down from ancient times, and anxious to preserve the purity and originality of her arts, has also other aspirations which, to her, are at least of equal importance. The nation is eager to partake in the social, political, commercial, and scientific progress shared by other people of the globe. That such modern advance should to some extent conflict with the preservation of ancient forms of art is unavoidable, and, indeed, is a result to be expected by those mindful of historical precedents. Nor is it surprising that solid achievements in the path of progress should be decried as imitations, and the servants of her growing necessities reproached as heartless vandals, by those enthusiasts who are concerned only with æsthetic externals.

The artistic faculties of the people nevertheless exhibit many signs of surviving the pre occupation of utilitarian developments. The decorative arts of to-day, as applied to industrial objects suited to modern uses, display the same national characteristics, and in many cases the same purity, honesty, and patience in their handicraft, as distinguished the productions of former epochs. According to the verdict of those capable of judging, modern works in porcelain, lacquer, metal work, carving, enamel, and embroidery, will fairly bear comparison with antique specimens. The Fine Arts, in the less conventional and more imitative character which they have attained in the West, have as yet received very little encouragement and acceptance by the Japanese.

Architecture being considered the mother of the æsthetic arts, it is interesting to enquire whether the national style of building in Japan, is not equally full of charming originality and equally capable of preservation in forms modified by modern necessities, as are the minor decorative arts above referred to. The basis of the comprehensive art of architecture rests as much upon considerations of prudence and reason as upon considerations of beauty, and in this respect it widely differs from the more purely æsthetic arts.

The architecture of Japan, has until recent years, been entirely a wooden style. I do not go so far as some eminent members of the profession, who assert that on this account it is not entitled to be termed Architecture. I presume that those who draw a fine line of distinction between Building and Architecture would insist upon certain high-art qualities, combined with monumental solidity, as essentials of the latter. The wooden style of Japan is based upon rules of proportion almost as studied and refined as those of the Greeks, and it displays constructive and applied decoration of a high order; so that, on the score of artistic qualities, the Japanese method can hardly be denied the title of Architecture. As regards monumental character, there exist in the country elaborate structures built with colossal timbers and dating from many centuries back. Notwithstanding the comparatively perishable nature of the material employed, these buildings can hardly be regarded as other than monumental, though they owe their permanence to special conditions prevailing in ancient times which do not hold good at the present day.

Not only is the national architecture of Japan one of wood, but the methods of construction employed are exclusively peculiar to wooden structures, and appropriate to that material alone. In this ancient style ligneous constructions have rarely been used to represent forms suggestive of or originating from brick or stone constructions. Examples of an opposite tendency may be seen. Stone pillars and lintels and stone railings exhibit scarved joints, tenons, and mortices, after the manner of carpentry; and these examples present a striking proof of the unsuitability of wooden methods to lithic structures. Japan has had no models of a stone architecture to tempt her to a similar misapplication of her wooden style. This style has therefore developed itself entirely on the lines of carpentry and joinery, and every constructive and decorative detail which it possesses is the natural and logical outcome of the most effective use of timber, so far as the knowledge and experience of the builders went. A close examination of results will hardly reveal a single constructive arrangement or decorative feature which possess rationality or stability if executed in masonry.

This fact has been practically admitted in the endeavours made by certain foreign architects to combine some of the solid styles of Europe with the ligneous style of Japan. A translation of the native wooden style into more permanent materials proving an impossible problem, recourse has been made to a mixture of methods and materials. The desire to perpetuate national characteristics of style in modern works is a most laudable one; it is one which has been pursued with some success in India; and is one which must inspire every architect on commencing work in a strange country. It is therefore a pity to see the failure of attempts in this direction unfairly ascribed to fickleness on the part of employers, as was done in the English periodical the *Builder* of April 15th, 1893. To design a civil building in masonry having all the characteristics of the classical styles of Europe, and to crown it with fantastic lanterns, roofs, and turrets of timber in imitation of portions of Japanese religious constructions, is not adapting the national style to modern purposes, it is to create a bizarre and hybrid *ensemble* as revolting to Japanese taste and common sense as it is wanting in the permanent and fire-resisting qualities which are first conditions of the programme imposed.

An attempt of another kind has been made to apply to modern purposes the ancient style of architecture. This consists in reproducing certain features peculiar to the old methods, as purely decorative and applied ornament to buildings constructed in brick and stone. Though constituting a perversion of true principles somewhat shocking to purists in architectural design, this is the only attempt at adaptation which has met with any practical success. It is a treatment which has historical precedent in some of the transitional styles of Asia Minor, and possibly one which might eventually lead to the future development of a distinct national style. This method, however, limits the national characteristics of an architectural construction to a superfluous and non-essential vestment. Elaborate applied ornament can rarely be bestowed upon buildings of any but the most exceptional class in this age of economy and utility. Seismic considerations in a country like Japan, subject to frequent earthquakes, demand the employment of the most simple and scientific methods of construction, and the abandonment of all unnecessary decorative features. The architect is obliged to rely for his external effects upon general proportions and necessary constructive forms and their combinations.

The preceding remarks have had reference only to the external aspect of architecture, such as is generally comprehended under the term architectural style. If, however, we turn to the subject of the internal arrangements of the ancient buildings we discover still more the necessity for revolutionary treatment, having regard to modern requirements and the advances of universal science. Few buildings of the ancient type are found capable of adapting to the requirements of the present day. Such institutions as colleges, assemblies, museums, hospitals and numerous other establishments belong entirely to *modern* Japan; and the former vernacular style of building presents no solution of the important problems which the requirements of such institutions impose on the architect. The internal arrangements of an extensive building in the old style require that a large proportion of the chambers borrow their light and ventilation from adjoining apartments, that those which receive direct lighting obtain it from the horizon in a manner which only illuminates the lower portions of the rooms, that rooms are used as thoroughfares to rooms, and that privacy and isolation are sacrified. Heating, acoustics, sanitation, and kindred sciences cannot be applied without changes entirely destructive of purity of style.

Enough has perhaps been said to show that vandalism and love of change, for its own sake, have very little connection with the revolutionary transformation taking place in the architecture, and especially in the civil architecture, of the country.

The ancient style of building as applied to religious and to domestic purposes gives some promise of survival.

The Shinto and Buddhist temples occupy spots which have for centuries been preserved as sacred groves and parks isolated from the more crowded parts of the cities. Comparative protection from conflagration, as well as religious conservatism are in favour of the perpetuation of these establishments in their pristine forms. The dwellings of the people possess certain peculiarities of arrangement closely connected with climate and habits of life. Customs are changing, but remain sufficiently distinct to render any revolutionary alteration in household arrangements extremely unpopular.

A brief notice of the purely Japanese architectural styles will not be without interest in the present context. The religious architecture consists of two styles—the Shinto and Buddhist, besides which is a mixed style called the Ryobo-Shinto. The Shinto shrines have been the medium of preserving the earliest architectural forms of the country. They are distinguished by their round long timbers planted in the ground, their straight lined gable roofs of steep pitch, their rafters crossing at the apex and quaint ridge constructions, and other primitive arrangements suggestive of the huts of the aborigines. The earliest Shinto temples in the country date from 48 B.C., the original buildings having been repaired and reconstructed in exactly the same style since that date. They are strikingly simple in their treatment, have very little ornament and no colour decoration.

Buddhism was introduced into Japan from China, through the medium of Korea, in the middle of the 6th century. The architecture belonging to this national faith is therefore a foreign style commenced in this country by Korean and Chinese architects. Many of the features were moreover foreign to the Chinese designers themselves, and as reproduced in Japan may be considered third-hand imitations of Indian representations. It is this style, abounding in grotesque representations of lions, elephants, and other natural forms entirely unknown to the country, and which the people associate exclusively with the mysteries of religion, that outsiders tell us is a one suited to the national scenery, and should serve as the model for modern civil erections in Japan. The Buddhist architecture has existed in its present form for many centuries. Compared with the present style of China, it exhibits remarkable difference; and it seems certain that subsequent changes and developments have taken place in the architecture of the latter country. The opposite theory, namely, that the Japanese builders subsequently altered the forms introduced from China in the 6th century, is inconsistent with the age ascribed to certain remaining monuments.

The Japanese Buddhist style is distinguished by roofs of grand sweeping curves and enormous eave projection. These roofs terminate in a combination of hip and gable which imparts to them a graceful outline from any point of view; and they are adorned with pedimental attachments of various curved shapes exhibiting gables of curved bargeboards, ties, and panelling, embellished with embossed and gilt metal fittings. The projecting eaves present soffits composed of several stages of rafters and plates carried by intricate systems of wooden bracketting. These brackets with their intermediate carved panels from a deep cornice crowning the wall pillars. The pillars forming the skeleton of the walls are placed at

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wide intervals apart, and are connected by occasional horizontal ties, but no diagonals of any kind. The chief horizontal tie forms the lintel to the large sliding or folding doors and also to such windows as are provided. Fenestrated portions of the walls are filled in with lifting lattice-work panels forming shutters, which can be suspended by rods from the eaves. Remaining portions of the walls are plastered or weather boarded. In most temples the floors are considerably raised from the ground and are surrounded by an outer gallery with ornamental railing, carried upon an elaborate arrangement of bracketting similar to the bracketting of the cornices. Wide flights of steps mark the entrance, and these are mostly covered by a portico of pillars supporting a curved lean-to—the continuation of the main roof. The isolated piers of these porticos are finished below with handsome bronze shoes and supported upon low stone bases. Above, they are connected by a double series of tie beams, and carry clusters of bracketting. The intermediate space between brackets and ties are filled with cuspings and carvings. The sloping sides of these lean-to constructions are decorated with ties of fantastic curves, carvings, and barge-boards. Some of these temple structures are richly decorated externally as well as internally with gold, colour, and carving. The polychromatic treatment is rich, but at the same time harmonious and refined. Gilding is extensively employed for the finials of the roof, the metal ornaments of the gable boards, and sometimes for the ridges and tile edges.

The interiors have but few subdivisions, such as exist consisting mainly of moveable slides. Internal pillars are introduced carrying elaborate clusters of bracketting, which, together with corresponding constructive ornaments over the wall posts, assist in carrying ribbed and panelled ceilings. The light is always admitted into these interiors at a low level, leaving deep unbroken friezes below the cornices. The rich colouring, gilding, and lacquering of the upper portions of the walls and the ceilings is subdued and softened by the partial gloom that prevails.

This description applies principally to the central oratories or main shrines of temples. Every temple is, however, a conglomeration of many buildings. The accessory structures consist of libraries, dancing stages, bell towers, drum towers, holy water sheds, halls for images, and numerous gateways, all occupying fixed positions in the temple courts. Though the style of architecture is the same throughout, these different structures exhibit great variety of detail and decoration.

The monastic establishments and palaces of the principal dignitaries of the church combine some of the characteristics of religious architecture with peculiarities of the domestic style of the country.

The domestic architecture of Japan is in many respects entirely distinct both in architectural form and interior arrangement from the religious architecture. The motive and method of decoration is also entirely distinct. Whereas the Buddhist style abounds in gorgeous and almost barbaric elaboration, the domestic style is refined and often even severe in taste. The most desirable aspect for living rooms governs the whole internal arrangement of dwellings, and, in all but the most crowded localities, compactness of plan is entirely sacrificed to this end. Comparatively few dwellings are more than one storey in height, and the result is generally an extended and irregular plan with portions partly detached and connected by long passages or verandahs. The idea of a dwelling possessing an elevational design or any outside appearance of symmetry or balance may be said to be entirely foreign to the Japanese. A display is sometimes made in the outer gateway or by means of an elaborate entrance porch; but outline is completely sacrified to utility and convenience, and ornamentation is only considered in the interior arrangements.

Internally the divisions between different apartments are mostly formed of removable paper slides, without fastenings of any kind, fitted into a framework of pillars and lintels. The spaces between the lintels and ceilings are filled in with pierced wooden panels prettily designed. The divisional slides can be removed on occasions, throwing several rooms into one; or they can be replaced in the summer time with open rush slides allowing complete circulation of air. The principal living rooms of a house are arranged to face the south or east, and the whole of their fronts consist of framed slides filled with glass or translucent paper, which communicate with a narrow outer gallery or verandah. This verandah can be closed at night with shutters which are also employed as rain doors in stormy weather to the total exclusion of external light. The open verandah is freely used as a passage from room to room. The remaining sides of a chamber, which are not occupied by moveable slides, are stuccoed, or papered, and ornamented, in some cases, with recesses of different kinds. The principal room of a suite will have one large ornamental recess called the *toko no-ma*, used for receiving a vase of flowers and a picture hung to the wall. Other recesses are formed with arrangement of shelves and small closets. Commoner rooms contain large closets for the storage of quilts, mats, and other requisites.

Chambers are used indiscriminately as day rooms or sleeping rooms; the bedding, as well as most of the day furniture is brought in as required and removed after use. Meals are served upon portable trays placed before each inmate; the charcoal fire-boxes, cushions, small writing tables, and everything required for use and comfort rarely remain in the rooms when unoccupied by people, the only permanent furniture being the picture, flower vase, and a few ornaments placed in the alcove or recess. This total absence of fixed furniture and the custom of sitting upon the soft rush matted floor permits of space being considerably economised. For an ordinary house a room of eight mats, or 12ft. square, is a good medium size. The better class dwellings are provided with five large chambers for entertainment and to display luxury, but these are regarded in the light of state chambers and rarely used as family rooms. The ceilings of all rooms are neatly finished with boarding decorated with narrow ribs. In the interiors of the palaces and mansions of the higher classes the paper slides, and even the walls of the recesses, are decorated with paintings, and the ceilings are often coloured and adorned with lacquered ribs and gilt metal-work. A great preference is, however, shown for white wood free from knots, unstained, and unvarnished. In the old palace at Kioto all the ceilings are of delicate white joinery, and the internal colour introduced is in the wall-slides and recesses. Lacquering is much such for the frames of slides, for the borders of raised dais, and for the ornamental shelves. The kitchen of a residence is well removed from the dwelling rooms, to which it is connected by a long corridor. Close to it is the family bath-room which is often very daintily finished.

The Imperial Palaces consist of numerous blocks of one-storied buildings connected by long covered galleries. Each block contains a suite of five or six rooms with a wide double gallery round the outside, communicating with steps leading to the garden. Internal corridors are not much used, rooms being entered from the surrounding gallery or from the adjoining apartment.

The military architecture of Japan belongs entirely to the past. The greater number of the castles have been razed to the ground, leaving only their deep moats, stone-faced escarps and mounds to testify of their former magnificence. A few have certain of their buildings remaining. These are, perhaps, in many respects the most picturesque and interesting examples of Japanese architecture. Though constructed of timber they are extremely solid in character and rendered partly fireproof by plastering which covers, but reveals, the wooden framework.

The castle ramparts, presenting considerable depth on the moat side, are, upon the inner side, earth parapets varying from 10 to 15 feet in height, reached by means of flights of stone steps, placed at intervals. Stones of considerable size are often used for the exterior facings. These stones are, pyramidal from front to back, the large cavities behind being filled with rubble and gravel. The quoin stones are squared and bonded with some care, but the ordinary facing stones are irregular polygonal blocks, roughly worked only on the face, uncoursed, and with no bond whatever: the slope at which they have been built alone keeps them in their places. The Japanese "stone walls," mentioned by some writers as built battering on account of earthquakes, are in reality simply earth embankments faced with enormous pyramidal blocks of rubble. The military engineer as well as the architect in Japan had no particular theory about earthquakes, but experience and common sense taught him that a vertical arrangement of stones, some thirty or forty feet in height, built without bond and with blocks which only bear upon one another to the extent of an inch or two near the face, would most certainly collapse, with the weight, too, of an immense mass of earth behind it. He therefore adopted the sloping line common to all embankments, and gave it, moreover, a slightly concave form—in all respects the best for a retaining wall.

Though these old builders cannot be credited with much knowledge of masonry, there are evidences of remarkable labour in the quarrying and transport of enormous blocks of stone. The escarps and stonefaced bases of turrets and gateways at the Castle of Osaka contain granite blocks of extraordinary size, which have been conveyed by water on enormous rafts from quarries at a considerable distance.

The earthworks of the Japanese castles are surmounted by curtain walls, built of stout posts and rails, filled in with mud and plastered over. Narrow embrasures are formed in the lower part of these walls, and they are covered by tile roofs of considerable projection, supported upon cross timbers placed over the top plate. The turrets built at the corners of the ramparts, and at other angles formed by breaks in the line of the defences, are either one, two, or three storied structures. In some cases they project beyond the line of the curtains, which they thus command laterally, and the stone escarp has then a projection which forms a base for their support. By this means the effect of a battering stone basement is produced, though in reality only a stone faced earthern mound exists. The proportions and details of these buildings were fixed according to the revenue or rank of the territorial lord who owned the castle, as well as with reference to the importance of the position.

The one-storied turret of the first class is an oblong structure measuring on plan thirty-six feet by thirty feet, and consisting of a surrounding corridor 6 feet wide with two enclosed rooms each 12 feet by 18 feet, having boarded floors. The outer posts are fixed at 1 foot, and the internal pillars at from 8 to 9 inches in diameter.

The façade presents a low wall about 9 feet high, divided into three horizontal compartments by stout projecting plates. The middle space has three small oblong windows with raised border, and closely barred with thick mullions. The whole of the wall space is plastered, and the projecting plates and the frames and mullions of windows are also coated with a thin layer of plastering, a key for the plaster being formed by notching, and binding with straw rope. The towers are covered by heavy tiled roofs of the hip-gabled form, having considerable projection at the eaves; the ends of rafters and surfaces of plates and soffits being separately plastered. The exposed wood-work of the semi gables, consisting of barge board and carved pendentives, and sometimes of the lattice work of the gable surface, is all coated with the same white plaster. The form of tiles, hip and ridge rolls, and terminals are similar to those used for other large buildings; but the two end terminals of the ridge are of a design peculiar to the Military Architecture. They represent fish with the tail curved upwards, after the fashion of the dolphin in Western designs. They are sometimes gilt; those belonging to certain of the more important castles having considerable intrinsic value.

The upper floor of the two-storied turrets corresponds in most respects to the plan of the single-storied turrets, but the exposed portion of the wall is lower. The lower floor measures 48 feet by 42 feet, having an extra gallery 6 feet wide round the inner gallery, which is a repetiton of that above. Thus two inner rooms 13 feet by 18 feet remained as before, but with the addition of two outer corridors. As has been previously remarked, these turrets are built at the projecting angles of the ramparts; and in the two-storied turrets both of the external faces of the lower storey are often provided with a slightly projecting bay filled with barred windows on the front and sides, and sometimes provided with moveable traps in the oversailing floor. By this means both the base of the tower and the flanks of the adjoining ramparts are commanded. The protruding bay is crowned with an O.G. gabled roof cutting into the lean-to roof of the lower storey of the tower. The height of the lower stage from cill to eaves is about 15 feet, and the total height of the two stories, not including the crowning roof, is 24 feet.

The three storied turrets are mostly square in plan, the uppermost stage consisting of a chamber 12 feet square with surrounding gallery 6 feet wide. The posts of the inner chamber are not continued below, but rest upon heavy cross timbers: the outer posts, however, are continuous, and form the inner walls of the second storey, the space being divided into two chambers each measuring 12 feet by 24 feet. Round this is a 6-feet gallery. The lower plan is a repetiton of the second storey, with the addition of an outer 6-feet gallery, so that the total width at the base is 48 feet. The two external façades have projecting bays, roofed with a slightly concave gable roof cutting into the wall of the second stage. The whole presents the appearance of a square tower in retreating stages, with a large oversailing and slightly concave roof to each offset. The upper roof is hip gabled, and upon the sloping sides are ornamented O.G. gables added as extra ornament and to give all faces of the roof a well-balanced appearance. The sizes of the timbers in these two and three storied turrets are proportionately increased, and in some cases are as much as 16 or 17 inches in diameter.

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the exposed portions upon the exterior being always plastered.

The small mullioned windows are invariably of the same form, and arranged in pairs or triples on each story. They are closed on the inside with slides of wood and paper to keep out the wind; but, as a protection, have also copper or iron flap shutters on the exterior, hinged from above.

The Castle gateways are of two kinds. The smaller, and generally outermost, gateway is constructed with stout posts about fifteen or sixteen feet high and from twelve to fifteen feet apart. A heavy wooden lintel is framed between the uprights at a height of about 12 feet. A large top plate, projecting at the ends, carries cross timbers upon which is contructed a tiled roof; and a short central post is framed between the lintel and top plate, the intermediate spaces being filled in with wattling, mud, and plaster. Within the gateway is a pair of heavy wooden folding doors opening inwards, sheltered, when closed, by the gate roof, and when moved back at right angles to the gateway protected by little wing roofs. These side or wing roofs are supported upon extra posts, with ties arranged so as to serve at the same time as buttressess to steady the main gateposts. The posts and lintels, as well as the heavy gates, are strengthened sometimes with numerous strips of iron studded to the edges and over the surface. Sometimes the surfaces of the whole framework are covered with plaster, being roughened for that purpose. A low earth parapet faced with stone upon the outside, having a banquette of stone steps upon the inside, and being crowned by a curtain wall of wood and plaster, connects these entrances with the main ramparts.

The smaller gateways generally face the moat and form the immediate head of the wooden bridge by which they are approached. On entering, an open court is reached, which has the main gateway upon one flank, the remaining sides of the enclosure being surrounded by ramparts and defences, and sometimes by a branch of the outer moat. In some cases the main gateway immediately faces the outer one, but this is unusual, and where such an arrangement is found there is generally another interior cordon of defences—such, for example, as in the entrance to the western enclosure of the Tokyo (Yedo) Castle. The main inner gateways are sometimes called two-storied. The lower storey, however, consist of the archway (if such a word may be employed for a trabeated opening). The archway, or opening, is a space left in the battering stone-faced ramparts. Upon the top of the ramparts, and crossing the opening, is constructed a long guard-house; the beams spanning the entrance are of enormous size and considerably cambered. Their ends are supported upon stout posts inclined against the battering stone flanks; from their feet other stout vertical posts are constructed leaving between the wall and the inner posts a triangular space which is boarded in and provided with sliding doors; and a wooden floor put in some feet from the ground enables space to be obtained for small stores. Upon the outer face only extra posts are provided so as to divide the entrance into one large central gateway and two side postern; the posterns being lower than the main entrance, a stout cross piece is framed between the two posts, serving as a doorhead and as a tie in addition. The openings are fitted with wooden gates of enormous thickness, strengthened with strips of iron and fastened by means of large wooden bolts run into iron sockets. A long and narrow lean to roof projects in front of the gate lintel, and assists in throwing off the wet. The cross-timbers, plates, and rafters of this roof, where exposed, are all plastered, as is the whole surface of the long building above. The upper structure, which is generally about 84 feet long by 24 feet wide, has low walls and a heavy oversailing roof, hip-gabled at the ends. The outer face has several low and thickly barred windows, protected by means of copper shutters. The arrangement of windows generally consists of one long continuous fenestration in the centre, and two small isolated openings on either side. The usual form of Japanese roof is adopted, crowned with the ordinary ridge tiles and copper fish finials. The oblong structure, which is divided internally into various guard-rooms, is entered from the ramparts, reached by stone steps. Some of the floor over the archway can be removed for the purpose of letting fall projectiles.

The outer circuits of the castles were, in days of military activity, occupied by the barracks of the soldiers and the residences of the principal vassals and retainers. The principal enclosure contained the donjon or keep, and the palace or residence of the commandant, who was generally the lord of the province.

The castle keeps are wood and plaster buildings, erected upon high stone-faced basements and varying from two to five stories in height. There also exist keeps which, though presenting externally the appearance of a single storey, are divided internally into two stages. The masonic substructures are ascended by means of flights of stone steps upon one side, which are sometimes exposed and sometimes roofed in. The more important citadels have a porch-like structure, containg entrance hall and porter's room, at the foot of the ramping passage which covers the steps. The upper stories of the donjon are reached by means of ladder-like stair-cases placed in various parts of the building.

The size of the two-storied keeps is, at the base, about forty-feet square, the platform being about twenty four feet above the ground.

In some, the full width is carried up to the top, but in others the upper stage recedes and is only thirty-six feet square. The lower story consists of a central space divided into matted rooms, surrounded by an outer corridor gallery. A similar arrangement is followed above. Small barred windows are placed in the four walls, and are protected by means of flap shutters of metal.

The main roof is either hip-gabled on all four sides, or on two sides only; in every case the roof terminal consists of the usual metal dolphin called "*shachi*." The sizes of timbers employed are determined according to rule; the principal posts being one foot square and the main cross-beams fifteen inches by ten inches in section.

The three storied keeps are not larger at the base than those of two stories, but the upper or third storey is made further to recede so that the area above is reduced to a square of twenty-four feet side. The stone base, as is before described, but the steps, instead of being exposed, are covered by a sloping structure having arrow-slits in the sides. Certain ornamental features are introduced, such as gables placed centrally in the first lean-to roof on two sides, and a balustraded gallery outside the top-most storey. The crowning roof is hip-gabled on two sides, and the remaining slopes are ornamented with O. G. gables attached for ornament. The internal arrangement is very similar to that already described.

A keep of four stories measures seventy-two feet square at the base, the lower floor being composed of two surrounding galleries, one six and the other eighteen feet wide, leaving a space 24 feet square in the centre. The wide surrounding galleries serve for the accommodation of armed retainers, and this arrangement, moreover, enables a certain amount of continuous support to be given to the walls of the receding upper stages. The second storey is 60 feet square, and has also an outer gallery 6 feet wide, the posts of which are carried upon the heavy roof timbers of the lower storey. Also, there is an inner gallery 12 feet wide, the posts of which are exactly over the central pillars of the lower storey. Thus a similar matted space of 24 feet square remains. The third stage is 48 feet square, and the fourth is 36 feet square. The heights of the different stories gradually diminish, the lowest being 14 feet 4 inches, and the fourth 10 feet 4 inches. The roof-slopes of the various offsets gradually increase towards the top. These roof-slopes are ornamented by means of false gables centrally attached. An oriel with a gabled roof is added to the third storey, and the uppermost stage has an ornamental balustrade projecting upon two of the sides. The top roof is hip gabled at the two ends, and over the gables are the usual *shachi*, of enormous size.

The five storied keep is an immense structure, measuring 96 feet square at the base. It stands upon a raised stone faced mound or platform. Within this masonry is a sunk basement 54 feet by 60 feet, communicating with a wooden annex erected against one side of the mound, and containing several guard rooms, and a staircase to the principal storey. The internal arrangement of outer and inner galleries, vestibules, staircases, and matted rooms, is very similar to that of the four-storied keeps. As such citadels were built only in castles of the first importance, a far greater amount of finish and decoration is employed in them than is usual for the more common defences. The matted rooms are provided with handsome panelled ceilings, recesses, shelves, carved and gilt panels, painted wall slides and all the luxuries of a first class dwelling.

The best existing example of such elaborate treatment is the keep of the Castle of Nagoya.

Situated in the *Hon-Maru* or chief enclosure, and close to the citadel, is the palace of the lord. It consists of an extensive group of one storied buildings, compactly arranged, and divided at intervals by inner courts or small gardens. The principal palace of the former *Shogun* in the Castle of Yedo, which was years ago burnt to the ground, covered an area of more than two acres. The military character of such buildings necessitated greater compactness in planning than was adopted in the Imperial palaces; and whereas the latter, as may be seen in Kyoto, consist of a number of almost detached blocks connected by long covered ways, the former were more under one roof, the succession of rooms was less broken, and the inner courts and gardens were introduced only where absolutely necessary for purposes of light and ventilation.

Each state room has its name, fixed mostly with regard to the subject of mural decoration with which it is embellished; such are, the Wild Goose Chamber (*Gan-no ma*), the Willow Chamber (*Yanagi no ma*), and Pine Chamber (*Matsu-no-ma*), and hence the custom in official regulations of referring to vassals as gentlemen of the Willow Chamber, or of this or that chamber. From these state apartments passages conduct to various groups of inner rooms which were used for purposes of more private entertainment, banquetting, study, and business. As much as possible plans were arranged so as to obtain a southern aspect for the living rooms, from which the various offices, kitchens, and conveniences were separated by an intervening court laid out as an internal garden. The immense area covered necessitated the constant repetition of such secondary rooms; almost every group of apartments would have a kitchen and scullery, with lavatories, baths, and closets.

The limits of this paper do not admit of more than this brief notice of the architectural styles of ancient Japan. Sufficient has been said to show, that though possessing considerable archæological interest, they belong distinctly to a civilization which has passed or has so entirely changed as to fix an almost impassable gulf between the ancient and modern architect. The modern developments of architecture in Japan, uninteresting as they may appear from a purely æsthetic standpoint, have been occasioned by a complete change in national polity, a modification of the type of civilization, the growth of mercantile and manufacturing enterprise and the establishment of humane institutions upon the lines of foreign examples. The education of architects and engineers to administer to these new wants during the last two decades has been the inevitable result of such progress. The immense loss yearly experienced in the large cities from conflagrations has occupied the attention of the Government, and as far back as twenty years ago a large portion of the capital was furnished with brick buildings of a simple kind, to the great increase of wealth and enterprise in these localities. The example thus set by the Government has been largely followed by the people.

The constant prevalence of small earthquakes and the occasional recurrence of violent convulsions has always acted, and will continue to act, as a check preventing the erection of buildings great height or architectural display in solid materials. A growing tendency on the part of commercial companies to apply fireproof methods with a minimum of strength to factory buildings, of has led in some cases to the erection of flimsy brick constructions. The great earthquake of 1891 caused considerable damage to certain buildings of this class, but other solid structures of more substantial and scientific construction presented a very good record. The great catastrophe added to totally upset the theories as to the resistance which the native wooden structures might be expected to present to such seismic disturbance. With the exception of a few monumental erections such as temples and castles, the Japanese buildings invariably collapsed, and to the catastrophe of earthquake was added the calamity of fire. Thousands of wounded people imprisoned in the fallen wooden structures far outnumbering those killed and injured by the earthquake were estimated to have been burnt alive.

A conference of Japanese architects, a large number of whom had personally inspected the localities of greatest seismic commotion, met to devise suggestions for future building. The Government has now organized a Committee of the most eminent scientists with a view to establish laws to minimize the effects of such disaster in the future.

ECZEMA.—Book on "Skin Trouble," sent free for One Stamp by Messrs. North & Rae, Limited, Yokohama.

A telegram states that His Imperial Highness Prince Yorihito, the heir of the house of Komatsu and cousin of the Mikado, arrived at Victoria (B.C.) by the Canadian Pacific steamer *Empress of Japan* on 15th inst. The battery of Royal Artillery fired a salute of twenty-one guns in honour of the distinguished visitor as the vessel anchored. Mr. Davie, the Premier and Attorney-General, cordially welcomed the Prince on behalf of the Government of British Columbia. Prince Yorihito, who is in his twenty-seventh year, purposes spending twelve months in travel in America and Europe. He will devote his attention chiefly to naval affairs.

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THE LAST BATTLE.—A.D. 2371.

By John C. Werner.

On the upper or Northern bank of the little river Brede a mighty host had gathered. From the East they had come like swarms of locusts, and, like them, had spread death and devastation in their tracks. From the lofty Himalayas; from the jungles of India; from the steppes of Russia; from the islands of Japan, and from other remote lands and seas they had come,—a conglomeration of people, but a conquering host, tributaries and subjects of the great Mongolian Empire. Thousands of yellow dragon-emblazoned banners fluttered to the breeze and indicated the strength and numbers of the victorious Mongol hordes as they extended for scores of miles along the river and beyond over the undulating sandy plain. On the opposite side were the allied armies formed up in line of battle. Their extreme right rested on a low hill a little to the southward of the village of Lygumkloster, and extending thence in unbroken lines to the shores of the Northern Sea, on the waters of which numerous vessels were anchored, between the mainland and the island of Römö. The Caucasian army, although inferior in numbers to the Mongol invaders, presented a most formidable array of desperate men, who were fighting for their homes, for their liberties, and for their very existence. On this day would their fate be decided—die freemen, or live slaves.

About the middle of the nineteenth century the Mongol invasion first began. At that time rich deposits of gold were discovered in the province of California on the continent of America, and thither flocked men of all nations and of all races. The Pacific Ocean separated this American El Dorado from the Mongols, but means were soon found for them, by the assistance of wealthy and unscrupulous Caucasians, to cross the Great Waters, and thenceforth an exodus began which ere long threatened to overwhelm the whole continent with celestials who would not assimilate with people of a different race. Efforts were made to stay the pestilential influx, but in vain: they were persecuted, deported and otherwise maltreated, but still they came, crawling, creeping, and slowly but steadily increasing. Many a prominent man took their part, as they were considered a patient, frugal, humble people, submitting to all the indignities heaped upon them with unprecedented patience, but they were cunning and treacherous withal, treasuring up every insult for future repusals. The Christian religion was then preëminently the religion of the Caucasian race, but divided into hundreds of schisms and sects, all bitterly opposed to each other, which later had occasioned their downfall. Many of these sects had zealous representatives among the Mongols, engaged in the vain attempt to convert them to Christianity. Many of these preachers were good men and competent for the work entrusted to them, but the majority of them were not. Without a knowledge of the language, the country, or the customs of the people, they often unintentionally offended those among whom their lot was cast, and the consequence was that they suffered martyrdom, but Buddha still reigned supreme in the land of the Mongols. Over the many islands in the Pacific, over the Australian continent, over India, Japan, Russia, and adjacent countries did the invaders advance, in hundreds, in thousands,—slowly but surely, and peaceably as yet; nothing could stem the stream of invasion, and so another century passed with a continued increase of their numbers.

During the latter part of the 20th and the beginning of the 21st centuries occurred terrible internecine wars, when the People asserted their rights, and all thrones and dynasties were overthrown. Millions of people perished; cities were laid waste and levelled to the ground, and the immense fleets which had been building and improving for hundreds of years were totally destroyed. The Mongols had during this time been moving steadily and silently on amidst the universal ruin. In the 22nd century they had full possession of the continents of America and Australia, and Chi-ca-go was established as their second capital. The Christian religion had by this time dwindled down to a memory or a myth, and those of the Caucasian people who had not embraced Buddhism were scientists and believers only in scientific facts. In the middle of the 23rd century the Tartar emperor was deposed, and a new emperor, a descendant from the old Ming dynasty, ascended the throne; the former peaceful policy was abandoned, and the invasion was henceforth accompanied with the most frightful scenes of murder, rapine, and fire. The Caucasian nations had too late perceived their mistake in permitting the Mongolians to gain foothold and ultimate possession in every land they penetrated into, but jealousy and mistrust of each other had hitherto prevented them from combining, until now the invasion assumed a new and terrific aspect. Great and desperate were the efforts made to meet and effectually check the invaders. Large armies were organized and put in the field, armed with the most scientific appliances of modern warfare. Several battles had been fought and won, but the Mongol hordes never diminished, never accepted defeat, never retraced their steps,—always went onward. For a hundred years had the struggle now gone on. The first decade of the 24th century had been tacitly yielded to a cessation of hostilities, but since then the war had been waged fiercely and ruthlessly on both sides. The allied armies had been ignominiously driven from the fertile fields of Northern Germany by overwhelming odds and it was first here by the shores of the North Sea that they had determined to make a final stand against the triumphant foe. They had received heavy reinforcements both by sea and air, even from the distant land of Africa, a country still in their league and still unconquered. Their army consisted of 1,100,000 men, 80 electric machines of enormous power, and 500 air ships,—these latter were finally rejected for this battle, as the enemy was discovered to be supplied with still superior ones. The Mongolians had 1,600,000 men in the field, and a reserve, extending back for a thousand miles, of 1,000,000 more. Since the discovery of extracting the juices of all kinds of animal and vegetable food, and compressing it in an extremely small space, large commissary stores were not required, as every man could carry enough to last him for 6 months. Not a scientific discovery was made by the Caucasians, that was not reproduced by the Mongolians, through a lavish outlay of gold; consequently their army was as well supplied with all modern improvements in warfare as that of their opponents, and they were not in any way inferior to them except perhaps in physical courage.

It was the morning of the last day of September A.D. 2371, or, since the accession of the Ming Emperors, the 518th year. A light vapoury mist overhung the land, but was imperceptibly being dispersed by the faint salt breeze which was springing up from the Northern Sea. The sun was yet hidden beyond the eastern hills, but a rosy tint in the sky above foretold its coming. All nature seemed to awake aware of the momentous day dawning, as the unusual silence that reigned on this morning was absolutely awful in its intensity. Not a sound was heard from the usually voluble denizens of the river's bank: birds, frogs, crickets, and other animals, large and small, were all mute; even the trees seemed not to rustle in the breeze.

Although still early, aggressive operations were already commenced by the hostile forces. An aërolite,—a small air ship—having been sent up by the Caucasians for reconnoitering, was instantly destroyed by the Mongolians, who, themselves powerless to utilize their own air ships, were on the watch for their opponents' movements above the earth. A strong electric current was directed on the unfortunate aërolite, which in a single moment put her completely *hors de combat*, and caused her and her occupants to descend—charred unrecognizeable objects. Such were the terrible engines of war in use during these latter days. Every soldier in both armies was armed with stored-up electricity, collected from the earth by powerful engines and used in tubes of gutta percha, like the guns used in former ages. These machines were certainly more or less perfect, but they were still the most death-dealing instruments ever produced in war for the destruction of men. Even in the most unskilled hands they were dreadful to encounter, but the majority of the men here meeting were veterans of many battles. The Commander in Chief of the Caucasian armies, composed as they were of many nations, was a man of middle age but brought up from childhood in the profession of arms and supposed to be the most valiant and wise of their leaders; he was also a descendant from a warrior race that centuries ago ruled over the Empire of Germany. The Mongolian Chief was a small, shrivelled up old man, but endowed with almost superhuman energy and an indominable courage. He was unscrupulous and cruel, and did not consider any means too vile by which to gain his end—the conquest of the world. With the Mongolian army was carried a monster image of Buddha and a swarm of yellow robed priests, whose supplications were heard this morning above the din arising from this large concourse of people. Their army here in the field consisted of 16 legions, each numbering 100,000 men, and these were again divided into divisions. The Caucasian force was formed into army corps, each consisting of a different number of men, but averaging about 40,000 each; and these were subdivided into brigades.

The car on which Buddha placidly reposed was brought to the bank of the river, whence it could be seen for leagues, to inspire courage and boldness in its believers, who, with it in sight, faced death and nirvana with impunity. Beside it the Mongolian General took his stand, and from here he directed all movements. He seemed to be invulnerable, and he calmly sat at the base of the immense image and coolly issued his orders, while a hail of electric bolts were hurled at him from the foe, to whom he was in full view. Blood-red rose the sun, when half a legion of the Mongolian's left wing waded silently and unopposed across the shallow stream to get on the Caucasians right flank; their blue and green uniforms hardly discernable, at a distance, from their surroundings. Vigilant eyes were on watch, however; they were allowed to proceed without hindrance several miles beyond the river, when suddenly without warning the Caucasians were on them. Whole ranks were mowed down without a sound being heard, except the expiring groans or shrieks of the stricken; none were wounded, death was instantaneous. The Mongolians, closing up their ranks, met the charge unflinchingly, and attempted to turn their enemy's flank by literally throwing themselves upon them in overpowering numbers, when a bloody hand-to-hand struggle ensued, that only ended by the arrival of fresh brigades of Caucasians. The Mongolians, dreading an attack in the rear, slowly retreated, but were followed by the foe, who incessantly kept the electric bolts playing on them, fearfully thinning their ranks. In the meantime, a charge was made all along the line by the Mongolians. Bridges had been constructed during the night, and when the sun rose the immense army began to cross in six different places. Forming in line of battle on the opposite bank, notwithstanding the fierce resistance made by the Caucasians, they, with one fell motion, advanced on their foes. What a terrific charge! For four miles their line extended in an unbroken phalanx—legions on legions. The Caucasians had to concentrate their scattered brigades in haste, to withstand that first onslaught. Foot by foot were the invaders driven back—first in the centre, where stood the flower of the Caucasian army—the men from the north, firm as their own mountains; then on the right, where the men from the British Isles were placed with their fearful electric machines, which created such havoc among the Mongols; and finally, after hours of carnage, the left also—Southern men and true—repulsed their foes. But the Mongolian Chief was determined to succeed if only by force of superior numbers. Fresh legions were brought into the field; the reserves were called up—hundreds of huge airships arrived, each with 1,000 men and more on board, who quickly disembarked close to the battle field, and the charge was renewed with increased vigour. Division after division fell to rise no more—brigade after brigade succumbed,—friends and foes intermingled in "one vast burial blend," and still the slaughter went on. Both from the front and rear were the Caucasians assailed, while a large force of their foes fought a passage through between them and the Northern Sea, so that they were completely inhemmed from all sides. Their large airships were captured, and also many of their powerful electric machines which were now turned on themselves, inflicting terrific slaughter.

The Caucasian General, seeing the day was lost, and despairing of being able to save the remnant of his army from destruction, decided to make one final charge where Buddha was enthroned on the river's bank. Collecting the scattering and demoralized soldiers around him, amounting in all to about 45,000 men, he, with a sudden and unexpected swoop, crossed the river, and, spreading his force out on either side, made a fierce and determined attack on the Mongolian head quarters. But in vain! Buddha was well defended! From unseen quarters were the assailants met with flashes of electric fire; their own weapons were useless to them, and they perished ignobly without being able to destroy a single foe. All were annihilated! Such unmerciful slaughter had never before been known. Not a wounded man was found among these 45,000 slain, so terrible were the weapons used in those days. Without smoke or deafening noise the infernal work was done in silence.

The battle had been fought and won, and again by the triumphant Mongolians. The yellow dragon flags fluttered yet to the breeze, while the Caucasian banners were laid in the dust for evermore, and it is said that not one man of the great Caucasian army remained to tell the tale. Nearly 2,000,000 dead were left on the battle field, which by a new chemical was set on fire on all sides, making this the most gigantic funeral pyre the world had ever seen.

Before the sun had set the Mongolian Chief had embarked on airships with his hordes, still numer-

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ous and bold, and, with Buddha and the priests, steered towards the Isles of Britain, where they were met by other hordes who had previously arrived from the Westward. Several of the legions shaped their course to the Southward where they took peaceful possession of all the lands.

This was the last battle! After a few futile attempts to stay the invaders, the Caucasian nations submitted without farther struggle, and henceforth peace and plenty were found side by side over all the world, under the Mongolian Emperor's mild rule, and Buddha reigned supreme over all.

CLAIM FOR THE RETURN OF GUARANTEE MONEY.

SANO YAICHIRO V. N. J. ROBINSON AND CO.

JUDGMENT FOR THE DEFENDANT.

Judgment has been delivered in this case by Mr. J. J. Enslie, in the British Court for Hyogo and Osaka. As before, Mr. Crosse appeared for the plaintiff and Mr. Pearce represented the defendant. His Honour said:—This is a demand for the return of the sum $750, being guarantee money paid by plaintiff to defendant for the due observance of a contract made between the parties for the delivery of a certain quantity of matting. The principal facts established during the proceedings were:—1. That a contract was made on the 12th December, 1892, between the plaintiff and the defendant for the delivery of 3,000 rolls of matting at certain dates. 2. That a breach of contract was committed during January last by plaintiff, by non delivery of the stipulated quantity of matting. 3. That in the absence of proof to the contrary, it is to be held that defendant was at all times ready and willing to take delivery under the terms of the contract. 4. That the evidence of plaintiff as to an order for 921 rolls of matting is contradictory, but it is proved that such order was given under the conditions stated by defendant, who alleges that nothing has been delivered under this order, the defendant, on the other hand, admitting that matting made after samples given by defendant, for the purpose of this order, has been or is on the public market. Plaintiff alleges recission of the contract for 3,000 rolls on 2nd February last by defedant, confirmed as he says by a letter purporting to be written by the banto or Japanese clerk Kumano on 10th April last. This the defendant denies. Plaintiff says in his examination in chief that at the time when the contract was signed he remarked it would be almost impossible to get the matting ready by April, and that he had then been assured there would be no trouble on that score. This statement is unsupported. Plaintiff, while alleging the rescission of the contract, at defendant's request, on 2nd February, admits numerous deliveries during that month. Plaintiff's explanation is that the contract (a paying one, as stated by defendant, the subsequent order for 921 rolls being in a measure confirmatory) having been cancelled, as alleged, he, under a generous concession by defendant, continued deliveries during the whole of February, receiving prompt payment of matting alleged to have been in preparation at the time when the contract is said to have been cancelled. A wonderful and incredible tale, which becomes all the more doubtful when we find that, defendant having on 29th April last threatened proceedings failing delivery of certain matting, plaintiff promptly on the 1st May following notifies defendant to take delivery of a parcel of matting. I cannot accept plaintiff's statement that the contract was cancelled at defendant's request on 2nd February. We now come to the letter said to have been written on 10th April by Kumano, in support of, and indited more than two months after the alleged recission by defendant. The only ground on which the law will hold the defendant liable for the acts of his Japanese clerk Kumano is that of the latter being his agent, which rests on his master's authority, express or implied. In this suit the question of express authority has not been raised, and it therefore remains for me to consider whether there is any implied authority arising by reason of any holding out of Kumano to the public, and in this case to the plaintiff, as his agent, either in all transactions or intransactions of a certain kind. This holding out another person as authorised generally arises either by allowing the person to act usually as an agent in all transactions or in all transactions of a certain kind, or, by giving him or permitting him to assume a certain position or appearance in which he would, according to the usual course of business, be authorised to do certain things. There is no evidence before me to show that the making or recission of contracts are within the usual scope of duties devolving on the clerk or Japanese banto of another. Speaking generally, I am satisfied that such a condition of things does not exist. It is well it does not. No proof has been furnished that Kumano was specially authorised, nor is there anything to show an implied authority for him to cancel a contract made by his employer. No facts have been brought out from which any jury could reasonably presume any authority on the part of the clerk Kumano to make or rescind contracts in the name of his employers. It is a well-known principle in law that it is the duty of parties dealing with a person professing to be an agent, but who is not notoriously so, to ascertain the nature or extent of his authority, before they deal with him. If they neglect to do so, and it afterwards turns out the the agent had no authority, or has exceeded his authority, the principal will not be bound. Defendant's indebtedness to Kumano does not in any way make the latter a partner of the defendant, neither does it affect the present case. There will be judgment for defendant.

Mr. Pearce applied that the usual order should follow as regards costs, and this was granted by his Honour.

The Court then rose.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the CHESS EDITOR.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 88.

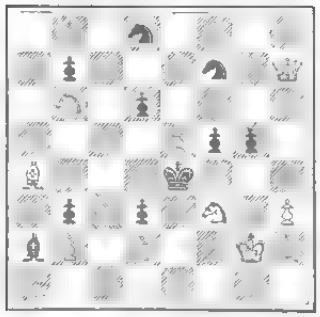
WHITE.	BLACK
1—B — K Kt 5	1—P × B
2—B — K Kt 8	2—R × B
3—Q mates.	

Correct solutions received from Omega, W.H.S., J.D., and J.W.E.

PROBLEM No. 90.

BY F. H. GUEST.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in three moves.

The Yokohama Chess Club re-opens on Monday evening, 2nd October, in the Club Rooms, No. 88, Main Street: and we are pleased to see from the Secretary's and Treasurer's reports that the Club is flourishing. We hope the members will settle down to hard work this winter, and that the proceedings will furnish us with many brilliant items for our column.

The Correspondence Games between Nagasaki and Yokohama amateurs have now been running a month. We give the score up to date, which we think will be of much interest to our readers. We hope to give a full score, when the contest is over; with some annotations and remarks at various points

GAME A.—RUY LOPEZ.

WHITE. Nagasaki.	BLACK. Yokohama.
1 P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to Q Kt 5	3—P to Q R 3
4—B to Q R 4	4—K. to K B 3
5—Castles	5—Kt × K P
6—P to Q 4	6—P to Q Kt 4
7—B to Q Kt 3	7—P to Q 4
8—P × P	8—Q B to K 3
9 -P to Q B 3	9—K B to K 2
10—K R to K sq.	10—Q to Q 2
11 K B o Q B 2	11 Q R o Q sq.
12 -Q to K 2	12—Q B to K B 4
13—Q B o K 3	13—Castles.
14—K Kt to Q 4	14—Q B to K Kt 3
15—P to K B 3	15—K Kt to Q B 4

GAME B.—PETROFF'S DEFENCE.

WHITE. Yokohama.	BLACK. Nagasaki.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to K B 3
3—Kt × P	3—P to Q 3
4—Kt × K B P	4—K × Kt
5—B to Q B 4 ch.	5—Q B to K 3
6—B × B ch.	6—K × B
7 P to Q 4	7—P to Q B 3
8—Q to K 2	8—K B to K 2
9—Q Kt to B 3	9—K R to K B sq.
10—Q B to K 3	10—Q Kt to Q R 3
11—Q P to Q 5 ch	11—B P × P
12—K P × P ch.	12—K to K B 2
13—Castles (Q side)	13—K to Kt sq.
14—P to K Kt 4	14—Q Kt to Q B 2
15—P to K Kt 5	15—K Kt to K sq.
16—P to K R 4	16—

We clip the following from the *Nottingham Guardian* of 22nd July. It gives an amusing account of a Chess Editor's troubles. The Problem Editor of the *Bradford Observer* has our deep sympathy: we cannot help feeling that he has been peculiarly unfortunate:—

The chess editor of the *Bradford Observer* makes merry over a series of misfortunes that occurred recently in his problem department. After announcing that the position last published was unsound, he says—We don't know whether we are sorry for this or not. To publish two or three successive unsound problems is annoying, but when the number is increased to five, all in the same month, the first tendency towards picturesque language is overborne by feelings of gratification at having established a record. Of course, any chess editor could publish any number of unsound problems in succession if he tried; the merit of our performance is that we didn't try. One hears of extraordinary deals at whist, but take the published compositions of the five gentlemen responsible for our June problems—Messrs. Walter Gleave, B. G. Laws, G. Heathcote, F. R. Gittins, and J. Rayner—shuffle them up, and the chances of dealing out five consecutive blanks would be smaller than that of getting thirteen trump cards. Two of the five were "cooked" in the same way—by the advance of the white king towards the hostile camp, and in the case of Mr. Gleave's problem the mishap was particularly to be regretted. The position was a remarkably fine one, and even after we had published the key move several solvers wrote disputing the soundness of it, the beautiful advance of the queen's pawn at the second move being the point overlooked. A "dazzler," "a beauty," and "a real gem" were amongst the not undeserved encomiums passed upon this problem.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, September 22.

General Sir Henry Wylie Norman, G.C.B., Governor of Queensland, has withdrawn his acceptance of the appointment of Viceroy and Governor-General of India, on account of his strength being unequal to the arduous duties of the post.

The Cabul Mission has entered Afghan territory all well.

September 23.

Parliament has adjourned until the 2nd of November.

Revolutionary risings have occurred in several of the Argentine provinces, and the troops are joining the movement.

London, September 23.

At a military review at Barcelona, a man threw two petards in the midst of the staff officers, several of whom were wounded. The man was arrested

The Russian ironclad *Rusalka*, with twelve officers and 166 men, is believed to have been lost in a storm in the Baltic Sea.

London, September 26.

Mr. Stewart moves in the Senate on Monday next a resolution for the impeachment of President Cleveland for a violation of the Constitution in seeking to coerce Congress into passing the repeal of the Sherman Act. It is believed that the silver party thus intend to attempt to divert attention from the repeal of the bill.

London, September 28.

Mr. Gladstone, speaking at Edinburgh, declared that his efforts in favour of Home Rule

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had in no wise failed. He claimed that Scotland and the rest of the Kingdom desired to be equally just in this matter. Ireland's affairs barred the path to all other legislation, a state of affairs for the continuance of which the Lords were now answerable. The Bill was now thoroughly before the people. The dissolution of Parliament in consequence of the rejection of the measure by the Lords would be quite unconstitutional, a monstrous innovation, and treason to a great nation's title to govern themselves. Home Rule was not the only question for the electors, but also the existence of the Lords whose case positively must be considered.* He bitterly lamented the necessity of raising such an issue. The question might be reviewed (deferred?) until the expiration of another session, but it was the duty of the majority to devise means of reaching their goal.

(* This part of the telegram is somewhat obscure.—ED. *J. M.*)

[SPECIAL "TELEGRAM" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

Nagasaki, September 28.

The oil tank question at this port has been finally settled despite the strong opposition offered by the residents in the surrounding villages. The preparation of the ground upon which the tanks will stand has already been commenced.

[SPECIALLY TELEGRAPHED TO THE "JAPAN DAILY MAIL."] (FROM THE "N.-C. DAILY NEWS.")

London, September 17.

The rebels bombarded Rio Janeiro for six hours, which resulted in injury to some buildings and a trifling loss of life.

Sir Thomas Wade, formerly Her Majesty's Minister to China, has given evidence before the Opium Commission, in which the use of opium in China was compared in its effects to those of alcohol, but he denied the assertion that China was obliged to grow opium in self-defence.

London, September 19.

The Brazilian revolt is extending to the northward, and the majority of the garrison in the forts at Rio have revolted.

A collision has occurred near the Seychelles Islands between the steamers *Gelderland* and *Swordsman*, in which the latter was sunk and six Lascars drowned. The *Gelderland* is a vessel of 1,405 tons belonging to the Rotterdamsche Lloyd, and the *Swordsman* a vessel of 720 tons belonging to the Sultan of Zanzibar.

September 20.

Cholera has reappeared in Hamburg.

The bombardment of Rio Janeiro has been renewed.

September 22.

In the debate on Supply, Mr. Sydney Charles Buxton, Parliamentary Secretary to the Colonies, admitted that the situation in Mashonaland was becoming daily more grave, but hoped for a peaceful settlement. He advised the Company to press forward their preparations and make victory a certainty if attacked.

In the United States Senate, Mr. Dubois, of Idaho, expressed the resolve of the Silver Party to resort to every expedient to oppose the repeal of the Sherman Act.

(FROM TOKEIN PAPER.)

Paris, September 15th.

The President of the Republic will go to Beauvais on the 24th inst. to be present at the review with which the manœuvres of the Second and Third Army Corps conclude.

Great fêtes are projected throughout the whole of France is honour of the visit of the Russian fleet to Toulon next month.

The English fleet will go to Italy during the visit of the Russian fleet to Toulon.

M Alfred Picard has been appointed Commissaire-General for the Universal Exposition of 1890.

Generals Benoit and Malon are dead.

Paris, September 12th.

General Miribel, Chief of the General Staff of the Army, is dead. He succumbed to an attack of apoplexy.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, Nagasaki, and Kobe ..	per N. Y. K.	Friday, Oct 6th.
From Canada, &c. ...	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Oct. 2nd.†
From America	per O. & O. Co.	Sunday, Oct. 8th.‡
From Europe, vâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Tuesday, Oct 3rd.§
From Hongkong	per O. & O. Co.	Thursday, Oct. 5th.‖
From Hongkong ...	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Oct. 8th.
From Hongkong ...	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, Oct. 12th.
From Europe, vâ Hongkong ...	per M. M. Co.	Friday, Oct. 13th.
From America ...	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Oct. 17th.

† *Empress of China* left Vancouver on September 19th. ‡ *Belgic* left San Francisco on September 21st. § *Nurnberg* (with Engl sh mail) left Hongkong on September 25th. ‖ *Gaelic* left Hongkong on September 29th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For America	per P. M. Co.	Sunday, Oct. 1st
For Hongkong	per P. & O Co.	Sunday, Oct. 1st.
For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Oct. 2nd.
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki ..	per N Y K.	Tuesday, Oct. 3rd
For Europe, vâ Hongkong	per N D. Lloyd	Friday, Oct. 6th.
For America ...	per O. & O. Co.	Saturday, Oct. 7th.
For Europe, vâ Shanghai ...	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Oct. 8th.
For Victoria B C., and Tacoma, Wash.,...	per N. P. Co.	Monday, Oct. 9th.
For Canada, &c. ...	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, Oct. 13th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS

Byron, British steamer, 1,319, Cook, 24th September,—Cardiff, Oil.—Order.

Verona, British steamer, 1,878, C. H. S. Tocque, 24th September,—Hongkong 16th, Nagasaki 20th, and Kobe 23rd September, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Willow Branch, British steamer, 2,147, Maling, 24th September,—Batoum 5th August, 117,247 cases Oil.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,168, Crichton, 24th September,—Otaru vià ports 19th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Pender, 24th September,—Kobe 23rd September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Glenavon, British steamer, 1,911, Jacobs, 25th September,—London vià ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Maud S, British schooner, 97, R. E. McKeil, 25th September,—North Pacific, Stores and Gear.—Captain.

Macduff, British steamer, 1,882, E. Porter, 25th September,—New York vià ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Titan, British steamer, 1,525 Brown, 25th September,—Liverpool vià ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer 896, Barstow, 26th September,—Manila vià ports, 13th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1 286, J. Nire, 26th September,—Kobe 25th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Peacock (6), gunboat, Lieut.-Commander Ingram, 27th September,—Hakodate.

Lancaster (14), U.S flagship, Captain McCormack, 24th September, Target Practice

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Thompson, 27th September,—Otaru vià ports 22nd September, General —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, R Tipple, 28th September,—Kobe 27th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Saghalien, French steamer, 2,580, Le Gall, 29th September,—Marseilles 20th August, Hongkong 21st September, Shanghai 25th, and Kobe 28th, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Mogul, British steamer, 1,827, T. Golding, 29th September,—Tacoma, Wash., vâ Victoria, B C., 14th September, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

China, British steamer, 2,600, Wm. Ward, 29th September,—San Francisco 12.h, vià Honolulu 19th September, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Samoa, British steamer, 4,507, Adams, 29th September,—Middlesboro' vià ports, General.—Smith, Baker & Co.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, Conner, 29th September,—Shanghai and ports 23rd September, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of New York, American steamer, 1,943, F. A. Johnston, 30th September,—Hongkong vià ports 21st September, Mails and General.—P. M. S S. Co.

DEPARTURES.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, Nirei, 22nd September,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,240, J. T. Smith, 23rd September,—San Francisco, Mails and General —P. M. S.S. Co.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2 034, Walter, 23rd September,—Otaru vià ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, R. Tipple, 23rd September,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ixion, British steamer, 2,299, Nish, 24th September,—London vià ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Lancaster (14), U.S flagship, Captain McCormack, 24th September,—Target Practice.

Nestor, British steamer, 1,263, Pottinger, 24th September,—Kobe, Sugar.—Butterfield & Swire.

Océanien, French steamer, 2,127, Schmitz, 24th September,—Shanghai vià Kobe, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,168, Crichton, 25th September,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Moyune, British steamer, 1,714, C. de la Perrelle, 26th September,—London vià ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co

Kaiserin Elizabeth (20), Austrian cruiser, Captain A. von Becker, 26th September,—Chemulpo.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,358, Haswell, 26th September,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,053, Thompson, 26th September,—Hiroshima, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Pender, 26th September,—Otaru vià ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Carradale, British steamer, 2,269, Sharp, 26th September,—Kobe, Petroleum.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Lawang, German steamer, 1,578, Von Binzer, 27th September,—Hamburg vià ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Walden Abbey, British ship, 1,754, J. Williams, 27th September,—San Francisco, Ballast.—R. Isaacs and Bro

Titan, British steamer, 1,525, Brown, 28th September,—London vià ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, Nirei, 28th September,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Elestrand, 29th September,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, R. Tipple, 29th September,—Otaru vià ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mogul, British steamer, 1,827, T. Golding, 30th September, Hongkong vià ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Iltis (4), German gunboat, Captain Graf von Baudissen, 30th September,—Hongkong.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Verona*, from Hongkong vià ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Howell, Mr. E. A. Ram, Captain H. N. Dumpleton, Mr. and Mrs. Fairfat, child, nurse, and manservant, Mr. and Mrs. Wilkinson, and Mrs. Ah Yau in cabin; 3 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, from Kobe:—1 passenger in second class and 27 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, from Manila vià ports:—1 passenger in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, from Kobe vià Shimotsu:—19 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Omi Maru*, from Otaru vià ports:—Mrs. Kimball in cabin; 4 passengers in second class, and 31 passengers in steerage.

Per French steamer *Saghalien*, from Marseilles vià ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Maconcley and child, Mrs. Maconcley's amah, Mr. Hayagi, Mr. Kasumoto, Mrs. Oshmoth and Ohteghee, Messrs. Esmeryand, Asse, R. Robertson, D. Macdonald, Christy, Mertens, child, and servant, Y. Dasenberg, Ah Lung, and Mulckey in cabin.

Per British steamer *Mogul*, from Tacoma, Wash., vià Victoria, B C.:—30 Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *China*, from San Francisco vià Honolulu:—Mr. C. Fichet, Mr. C. Sallter, Mr. C. H. Wilson, Mr. Josep Kornicky, Mr. Karl Rezuticek, Mrs. E. D. Lane, Miss Florence Brown, Rev. Clay MacCauley, Rev. W. F. Hoyart and family, Miss Anna D Gloss, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Vianna, Mr. W. Sasasuori, Mr. S. Rosenfeld, Mr. Y. Kobayashi, Mr. S. Fujimoto, Mr. and Mrs. Hart, Mr. and Mrs. Barclay, Mrs. Misaka Sato, Mr. Andrew Burnam, Miss Sulu Frey, Miss Carrie A. Heaton, Miss May Harris, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Haynor, Rev. J. H. Pike, Miss May Carleton and child, Mr. L. K. Whiton, Mrs. C. M. Jewell, Mr. C. Ritzhaup, Mr. Otto Meissiver,

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Mr. M. F. Coburn, Rev. P. H. Perkins and family, Mrs. Gordon, Miss Gordon, Dr. Gaines, Captain R. E Impey, Miss M. S. Torbet, Mrs. Tsui Kwo Yin and family, Mr. Julius Wrede, Mr. Howard Wrede, Signor Miguelenena, Mr. J. Furukawa, Mr. Wulffing, Mr Wm. V. D. Wright, Mr. Theo. A. Shaw, Jun., Mr. and Mrs. Hulbert and daughter, Mr. S. Tsuda Gizuka, Mr. Hunter, Miss M. Melvin, Mr and Mrs. E. G. Phillips, Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Nichols and child, Bishop John McKim and family, Miss Wallace, Mr. Lai Wam, Miss Jessie B. Nichols, Mr. F. Beverley, Miss Eva Foster, Mr. Tsui Kwo Yin, Mr. J. B Gaylord, Mr. Jas. McWilliams, Rev. J. J. Lucas, Mrs. A. S. Parke, Miss Parke, Mr. W. C. Parke, Mr. W. H. Chambliss, and Miss Dolmet in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Sakio Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Caldbeck, Dr. Reid, Mr. F. W. Mayers, Mr. B. C. Howard, Mr. W. G. Bayne, Mr. L. Bobsien, Mrs. S. Ishikawa, Mr. and Mrs. Iwanoff, Mr. Allynoff, Mr. Galesky, and Mr. Korbleff in cabin; Mr. Shimodzuka and Mr. Skidelsky in second class, and 39 passengers in steerage.

Per American steamer *City of New York*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. Chater, Mr. Gregaik, Mr. Cady, Mrs. Seymour, Mrs. MacHaffie and family, and Mrs. Nickel and family in cabin. For San Francisco: Mr. Smithers in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, for San Francisco:—Dr Dollhoff, Dr. McMurtrie, U S N., Mrs. J. R Taylor, Mr. J. J. Walton, and Mr. T. Yamaguchi in cabin.

Per French steamer *Océanien*, for Kobe:—Messrs. J. R. Moore, J Clifford Wilkinsen, and Geo. Macondray in cabin. For Shanghai: Miss Marie Place and boy, Messrs. Minter and J. de Senna in cabin. For Hongkong: Mr. Durillier, Mr. and Mrs. Manger, Mr. R. P. Sutter, and Mr J. Greenberg in cabin. For Singapore: Mr. E. Spencer Pratt in cabin. For Marseilles: Mrs. L. Roux, Mr. le R. P. Evrard, and Mr. Francis Esneault in cabin.

Per Japanese steame. *Kobe Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Miss Phillips, Messrs. P. V. Grant, A. H. Groom, L. Kock, G. Melcher, W G. Bayne, E. F. Joseph, B. C. Howard, D. Ramsay, J. Akakabi, B. Ika, and M. Fujise in cabin; and 44 passengers in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, for San Francisco:—

	SAN FRANCISCO.	TEA. NEW YORK.	CHICAGO.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai.....	391	4,971	2,258	579	8,201
Hyogo	—	344	—	186	580
Yokohama ...	1,535	330	552	44	2,461
Hongkong ...	6	—	—	—	6
Total	1,932	5,647	2,810	809	11,198

	SAN FRANCISCO.	SILK. NEW YORK.	HARTFORD.	TOTAL.
Hongkong	—	90	—	90
Yokohama	—	244	—	244
Total	—	334	—	334

Per French steamer *Océanien*, for Shanghai viâ Kobe:—Raw Silk for Europe, 565 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 315 bales. Treasure for Singapore, $50,000; for Shanghai, $3,000.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, $290,000 00.

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, Captain E. S. Barstow, reports:—Left Manila the 13th September, Hongkong the 18th, and Amoy the 21st; had fine weather throughout the passage; at 11.45 a.m. met Austrian war-ship off Sagami, this day. Arrived at Yokohama the 26th September.

The Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, Captain J. Nirei, reports:—Left Kobe the 25th September at 10 a.m. Arrived at Shiwotsu at 1 40 p m. and left at 5.20 p.m. the same day; had fine, clear weather and smooth sea with light variable winds; made Oshima at midnight; made Rock Island at 4 p.m. on the 26th, the weather being fine and moderate westerly breeze up to Rock Island; thence to port cloudy and fresh north-easterly breeze. Arrived at Yokohama at 10 20 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Omi Maru*, Captain W. Thompson, reports:—Left Otaru the 22nd September at 2 p.m.; had from light to moderate variable winds and fine weather. Arrived at Hakodate the 23rd at 8 a.m. and left the 25th at 8 a.m.; had light S.W. winds and fine weather. Arrived at Ogimohama the 26th at 6.50 a m. and left the same day at 1.30 p.m.; had light variable winds, fine and cloudy weather. Arrived at Yokohama the 27th September at 1 40 p.m.

The British steamer *China*, Captain William Ward, reports:—Left San Francisco the 12th September and Honolulu the 19th; had fine weather throughout the passage. Time, 9 days, 5 hours, 57 minutes, being the fastest on record from Honolulu to Yokohama.

The Japanese steamer *Satkio Maru*, Captain G. W. Conner, reports:—Left Shanghai the 23rd September at 9.45 a.m. and arrived at Nagasaki the 25th at 2 30 a.m.; experienced light to moderate north-westerly winds with fine weather. Left again the same day at 5 p.m. and arriving at Shimonoseki the 26th at 6 a m. Left again the same day at 11 a.m. and arriving at Kobe the 27th at 6 a.m. Left again the 28th at noon and arriving at Yokohama company's buoy the 29th September at 3 50 p.m.; experienced light S E winds on coast and variable winds with fine, clear weather through Island Sea to Kobe, thence to port moderate to strong winds from N.E. with overcast, cloudy weather.

The American steamer *City of New York*, Captain F. A. Johnston, reports:—Left Hongkong the 21st September, Amoy the 23rd, Nagasaki the 26th, and Kobe the 28th. Arrived at Yokohama the 29th September; had fine weather throughout the passage.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

There is but little improvement to note in the Import Trade. Double Yarns move off at a fair rate, but in Singles there is only a small business being done. Grey Shirtings continue to be in light demand, while Turkey Reds still find ready purchasers. In the Woollen department Flannels meet with a fair enquiry at unremunerative prices, but other lines are dull.

COTTON PIECE GOODS

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8¼ lb, 38½ yds. 37 inches	$2 05 to 2 50
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 38½ yds. 45 inches	2 30 to 3 00
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1 50 to 1 85
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches ..	1 50 to 1 90
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches .	1 75 to 2 75
Cotton—Italian and Satteen Black, 32 inches	PER YARD. 0 5 to 0 20
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches ..	6 25 to 8.75
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42 3 inches ..	0 6¼ to 0 7¼
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2 4lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	PER PIECE. 1 40 to 1 47½
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2 57½ to 2.77½
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	3.00 to 3 25
Turkey Reds—4 8 to 5lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	3 47½ to 3.67½

WOOLLENS

	PER YARD.
Flannel	$0 30 to 0 45
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0 35 to 0.40
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0 28 to 0.35
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0 20 to 0.28
Mousseline de Laine Crape, 21 yards, 31 inches	0 13 to 0 19
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0 55 to 0 50
Cloths—Premiers, 54 @ 56 inches ...	0 60 to 0 65
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0 40 to 0 70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 4 to 3½ lb, per lb	0 45 to 0 57½

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos 16/24, Ordinary	—
Nos. 16/24, Medium	—
Nos 16 24, Good to Best	$34 50 to 35.00
Nos 16 24, Reverse	—
Nos 28 32, Ordinary.....	—
Nos 28 32, Medium	—
Nos 28 32, Good to Best	39 00 to 39 25
Nos 38/42, Medium to Best	43 00 to 44 00
No 32s, Two fold	41 00 to 42 50
No. 42s, Two fold	45.00 to 47 50
	PER BALE.
No. 20s, Bombay	Nom. —
No. 16s, Bombay	Nom. —

METALS

A slightly better tone prevails in this market. Pig and Sheet Iron are in light demand, while Galvanized Iron also meets with some enquiry. Other lines show little tendency to move but prices rule firm.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ¼ inch	$3.60 to 3 70
Flat Bars, ½ inch	3 70 to 3 80
Round and square up to ¾ inch	3 15 to 3 30
Iron Plates, assorted	3 10 to 3 20
Sheet Iron	4 35 to 4 50
Galvanized Iron sheets	7.40 to 7 60
Wire Nails, assorted	5 30 to 5 65
Tin Plates, per box	6 00 to 6 25
Pig Iron, No 1	1 42½ to 1.45

KEROSENE

Buyers evince no anxiety to enter this market at present, and only a small business is being done. On the 24th instant the steamer *William Branch* arrived with 117,000 cases of Russian, while the steamer *Macduff* came in on the following day with 66,000 cases of Comet. These arrivals have had no effect upon prices, which remain nominally firm.

Chester	$1.67½ to 1 70
Comet	1 65 to 1 67½
Devoe	—
Russian Anchor	1.62½ to 1 65
Russian Moon	1.60 to 1.62½

SUGAR.

The late fall in prices has tempted buyers to operate in Browns to some extent, and the week has seen a fair amount of business. Whites are somewhat neglected, but holders are firm and prices show no change.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	$4.35 to 4.40
Brown Manila	5.20 to 5.35
Brown Daitong	4.00 to 4 05
Brown Canton	4 15 to 4 22
White Java and Penang	6.50 to 6 60
White Refined	7.55 to 9.20

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK

Our last issue was of the 22nd instant, since which date settlements on this market are 897 piculs, divided thus:—*Hanks*, 11 piculs; *Filatures*, 435 piculs; *Rereels*, 227 piculs; *Kakeda*, 200 piculs; *Oshu* 24 piculs. In addition to these figures Japanese shipments have been 56 bales, making the total business of the week equal to 960 piculs.

Since our last advices holders have been more current, meeting buyers on a lower basis and more business has been done, although the figures to date, when compared with last year, show up very poorly. For statistics of export and settlement we refer you to the table at foot; as to prices, No. 1 *Rereels* last year were fully $150 higher than at present, while exchange is now 15 per cent. lower than last year. Taking these two facts together, it would seem that prices are now at an exceedingly favourable level and with any improvement at all in consuming markets we should see better times. An enormous falling off is seen in the export to the United States which, up to date, is less than one-sixth of what it was at equal date last season.

Arrivals come to hand regularly, and the stock is increased to about 12,500 piculs, with plenty more supplies near at hand to replace any stock sold in the Yokohama market.

Exchange has declined in spite of higher quotation for silver in London, and it would seem that bankers here have more dollars than they can profitably employ, with the present dull state of trade.

There have been two shipping opportunities since we last wrote. The American mail *City of Rio de Janeiro*, 23rd instant, took 244 bales for New York, while the French mail *Océanien*, 24th instant, carried 565 bales for Europe. These departures make the present export figures 7,207 piculs, against 17,100 piculs last year and 13,645 piculs in the previous season.

Hanks.—A very small business, the only transaction being a parcel of *Shimousa* at $625. Some business is pending in *Hachoji* sorts at $555

Filatures.—Fine sizes have declined in price, but without attracting any very great attention, offers from consumers and manufacturers abroad being considerably under present values here. In full sizes, business continues on the basis of *Kasrosha*, $760; *Choshinsha*, $770; *Rokkosha*, $790. Reelers are now turning their attention to coarse sizes once more and we shall soon have further supplies.

Rereels.—These have been pushed up a fraction, *Five Girl* being now entered at $707½, with other grades at proportionate prices.

Kakeda.—More business has been done, with prices a trifle in favour of buyers. *Daruma*, $725; *Sun and Stork*, $720; *Musume I*, $680; *Musume II*, $645; *Musume III*, $617½. One parcel *White Flag* chop is reported at $730, with *Extras* at $760.

Oshu.—One lot of *Hamatsuki*, said to be superior quality, at $680

In other sorts, nothing done.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK)

Hanks—No 1	$620 to	630
Hanks—No 2 (Shinshu)	—	
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	600 to	610
Hanks—No. 2½ (Shinshu)	Nom. 600 to	605
Hanks—No 2½ (Joshu)	Nom. 580 to	590
Hanks—No 2½ to 3	Nom. 570 to	575
Hanks—No 3	Nom. 560 to	565
Hanks—No. 3½	550 to	555
Filatures—Extra 10 12 deniers.....	840 to	850
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	780 to	790
Filatures—No. 1, 10 13 deniers	810 to	820
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den	760 to	770
Filatures—No. 1½, 10/14 deniers	750 to	760
Filatures—No. 1½, 13 16, 14/17 den	740 to	750
Filatures—No 2, 10 15 deniers	720 to	730
Filatures—No. 2, 13 18 deniers	700 to	710
Filatures—No. 3, 13 20 deniers	—	
Re-reels—Extra	—	
Re reels—(Oshu) Best No. 1	—	
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers.....	700 to	710
Re-reels—No. 1½, 13/16, 14 17 deniers.....	670 to	680

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Re-reels—No 2, 14 18 deniers	630 to 650
Re-reels—No 2½, 14 18 deniers	620 to 630
Re reels—No. 3, 14 20 deniers	600 to 610
Kakedas—Extra	750 to 760
Kakedas—No 1	720 to 730
Kakedas—No 1½	680 to 690
Kakedas—No 2	650 to 660
Kakedas—No 2½	610 to 620
Kakedas—No. 3	580 to 590
Kakedas—No. 3½	—
Kakedas—No. 4	—
Oshu Sendai—No 2½	—
Hamatsuki—No 1, 2	670 to 680
Hamatsuki—No 3, 4	630 to 640
Sodai—No. 24	—

Export Raw Silk Tables to 29th Sept., 1893

	Season 1893 1894	1892 93	1891 92
	Bales	Bales	Bales.
Europe	5,475	6,896	5,156
America	1,583	9,858	8,084
Total { Bales	7,058	16,754	13,240
Total { Piculs	7,207	17,100	13,645
Settlements and Direct Export from 1st July	Piculs. 8,750	Piculs 20,000	Piculs. 14,100
Stock, 29th September	12,450	6,000	12,100
Available supplies to date	20,200	26,000	26,200

WASTE SILK

Settlements in this branch are 864 piculs, divided thus:—*Cocoons*, 587 piculs; *Noshi*, 42 piculs; *Kibiso*, 180 piculs; *Sundries*, 55 piculs. No direct shipments this week.

As before, *Pierced Cocoons* form the bulk of the trade, and the season may be said to be closed, for the present stock consists chiefly of *Najiko*, *Kuzumai*, and other inferior sorts, the best qualities *Degara mai* being now all taken up. In *Wastes* prices are down, but holders recede very slowly from their former position and buyers are still looking for lower values.

There has only been one shipping opportunity since we last wrote, the French mail steamer *Océanien*, 24th instant, taking 348 bales Waste and Cocoons, chiefly for Europe. The present export figures are 3 657 piculs, against 3,447 piculs last year and 3,305 piculs at the same date in 1891.

Pierced Cocoons.—Business has continued at slightly easier prices, as quality falls off.

Noshi.—Only one purchase this week consisting of ordinary *Joshu* at $71, first cost. Quotations are reduced all along the line with the exception of first quality *Joshu*, which is scarce and very firmly held.

Kibiso.—Considerable business in *Filature* at from $110 to $115. A little business done in *Oshu* at $55. In other sorts, no transactions

Sundries. A further purchase of *Boseki-wata* at $24 closes the list.

QUOTATIONS—(NEW WASTE).

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	$120 to 130
Noshi-ito—Filature Best	150 to 155
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	140 to 145
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	130 to 135
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	140 to 145
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	115 to 120
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	105 to 110
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	95 to 100
Noshi-ito—Bushu, Good to Best	130 to 140
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	90 to 95
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	80 to 85
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	70 to 75
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	115 to 120
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	105 to 110
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	50 to 60
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Good to Fair	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Middling to Common	—
Kibiso—Hachoji, Good	—
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	—
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	—
Mawata—Good to Best	—

Export Table Waste Silk to 29th Sept., 1893.—

	Season 1893 94	1892-93.	1891-92.
	Piculs	Piculs.	Piculs
Waste Silk	2,487	3,345	3,305
Pierced Cocoons	1,170	102	—
	3,657	3,447	3,305
Settlements and Direct Export from 1st July	Piculs. 5,900	Piculs. 7,900	Piculs. 5,250
Stock, 29th September	16,300	14,150	14,500
Available supplies to date	22,200	22,050	19,750

Exchange has declined to the following rates in spite of a rise in the price of Silver bullion at home:—London, 4m/s. Credits, 2/5⅝, Documents, 2/5⅞; 6m/s. Credits, 2/6. New York, 30d/s. U.S. $59¾; 4m/s. U.S. $60¾. Paris, or Lyons, 4m/s. fcs. 3.14, 6m/s. fcs. 3.16.

Estimated Silk Stock, 29th Sept., 1893.

Raw.	Piculs.	Waste.	Piculs
Hanks	160	Cocoons	2,050
Filatures	7,350	Noshi-ito	7,750
Re-reels	3,600	Kibiso	6,9 0
Kakeda	1,240	Mawata	80
Oshu	70	Sundries	510
Tavsaam Kinds	30		
Total piculs	12,450	Total piculs	16,300

TEA.

A fair day-to-day business has been done throughout the week in spite of a rise in prices Transactions have been principally in the Medium and Common grades of which the stock is large Arrivals from the interior are plentiful, but prices rule firm.

	Per Picl
Common	$12 to 13
Good Common	14 to 15
Medium	17 to 18
Good Medium	19 to 20
Fine	22 to 23
Finest	24 to 26
Choice	27 to 29
Choicest	31 to 35

EXCHANGE.

Rates of exchange have declined here, in face of the fact that silver has risen in London.

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	2/5⅞
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	2 5⅞
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	2/6-2 5⅞
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	2/6¼-2 6
On Paris—Bank sight	3 08
On Paris—Private 4 months' sight	3.16-3.14
On Hongkong—Bank sight	Par
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	⅛ % dis
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	73
On America—Bank Bills on demand	58⅝
On America—Private 30 days' sight	60-59⅞
On America—Private 4 months' sight	61-60⅝
On India—Bank sight	194
Silver	34⅛

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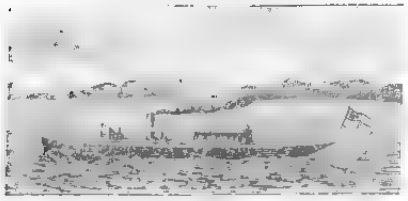

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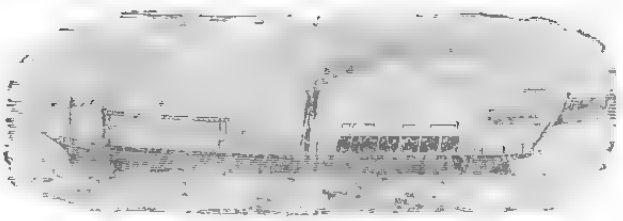

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A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADV.ENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, OCT. 7TH, 1893.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE shooting season commences to-morrow week.

THE Seiren-in at Kyoto was almost entirely destroyed by fire on the 29th ult.

THE *Gaelic*, taking the next American mail, is postponed till Monday at noon.

THREE different parties have sent in applications to the Authorities for permission to establish a Rice Exchange in Yokohama.

A GAME of Baseball, played on Tuesday between Yokohama and a team from the *Lancaster*, was won by the latter—10 innings to 3.

AMONG the medallists at the World's Fair in the section of Fine Arts is the name of the Kokka-sha for prints from woodcuts in colours.

A MEETING of representatives of the various Chambers of Commerce commenced a series of sittings on the 25th ult. at Kobe and concluded on the 29th.

A FARMER was murdered by burglars a few nights ago at Negishi, of whom there appear to have been several armed with swords. No arrests have yet been made.

THE Annual Meeting of the Yokohama Chess Club was held on the 2nd inst., when the report and accounts, which were favourable financially and otherwise, were adopted.

HER MAJESTY'S ships in northern waters left on Wednesday for this port, and the *Alacrity*, with the Admiral on board, may be expected here on the 10th inst., and the *Imperteuse* on the 21st.

THE Tokyo Tramway Company carried 686,942 passengers during last month, from whom *yen* 14,399 414 was received by the sale of tickets. The above shows a daily average income of *yen* 479.980.

SINCE the close of the Railway Council on the 29th ult., about twenty applications for permission to build private railways have been received at the Communications Department.

SEVEN Japanese sculptors were awarded medals at the World's Fair, which was a large number in proportion to the number of their exhibits as compared with the record of other countries.

AN extensive landslip took place at Kusakura, East Gambara District, Niigata Prefecture, on the 25th inst. about 9 a.m. A cottage was buried under the débris and one woman crushed to death

THE death in announced of Countess Tokugawa Kyo, wife of Count Tokugawa Sato taka, which took place on the 28th ult. The Countess had been suffering from premature childbirth, from the effects of which she died.

THE *Yoshino*, a Japanese cruiser lately constructed in England, was handed over to the Commissioners sent from Japan to take her over, on the 30th u.t., and the Japanese National flag was hoisted on the new vessel the same day.

A KUMAMOTO telegram dated the 3rd instant, states that some injurious insects have made their appearance in the rice fields in Yamaga and three other districts of that Prefecture. They have caused great mischief to the growing crops

THE steamer *Glenogle*, Captain Darke, from this port, won the $500 offered by the New York Chamber of Commerce for the steamer that brought the first cargo of new season's tea. The *Glenogle* made a record passage from Yokohama to New York.

A TELEGRAM from Osaka, under date the 3rd inst., says that an application for permission to build a railway between Sakai, in Izumi Province, and Hashimoto, in Kii Province, has been made by the promoters to the Authorities. The capital is fixed at one million five hundred thousand *yen*.

THE sealing schooner *Arctic*, which was captured in the north where she was received of her papers and ordered to Yokohama for contravening the sealing regulations, was reported on the 30th ult. some distance out from Hakodate steering south.

MESSRS. NOMURA SANJIN, Kajima Hidemaro, and other leading residents of Kobe, have applied to the Authorities for permission to construct an electric railroad between Nunobiki, Wada Point, and other picturesque spots in the vicinity of that town, with a capital of one hundred and fifty thousand *yen*.

MR. MIZUMO HANBEI, a photographer at Ota, Yokohama, has had the honour of receiving an order from the Imperial Household for a number of his patented lacquered photographs. It is stated that his manufactures are highly thought of in France and America, whence numerous order are being received.

A CRICKET MATCH was arranged for Wednesday last, the Kobe Team v. an eleven captained by the President, but rain intervened and the game was played in disagreeably moist weather—above and below—on the following day. Only one innings was played by a side which included most of the Kobe Team, when, notwithstanding the bowling of the Brothers Edwards, with the assistance of Maikam and E. R. Morris, the score made was 230, including 121 by Duff, who went in fourth and carried out his bat.

THE receipts of the Chikubu Railway Co., during the ten days ended the 20th ult., amounted to *yen* 7,339.570, making a daily average income of *yen* 23 676 per mile. The Ryomo Railway Co. received *yen* 8,197.960 during the ten days ended the 30th ult. This gives a daily average income of *yen* 16.067 per mile.

THE Railway Authorities propose doubling the lines between Kobe and Baba (57 miles), and Yonehara and Ogaki (22 miles), on the Tokaido Railroad. The work is estimated to cost one million three hundred and fifty thousand *yen*. The Authorities purpose asking the approval of the Imperial Diet in its approaching session.

HER MAJESTY'S ship *Archer* (6), Captain S. Rogers, arrived here on Wednesday last from Hakodate. The *Archer* left this port on August 9th, for the north, reached Hakodate on the 12th, and having coaled, left that port the same day for a cruise in the sealing waters. She left Petropaulovski on September 25th, and arrived at Hakodate on the 30th.

THE funeral ceremony over the remains of Mr. Komyoji Saburo took place on the 29th u.t. Over one thousand persons attended, including Count Goto, Minister of Agriculture and Commerce; Viscount Enomoto, a Privy Councilor; M. Boissonade, numerous members of both Houses of the Imperial Diet, officials of the Communications Department and of the Supeme and other inferior Courts of Tokyo, and many others.

A REPORT from Sōul says that Mr. Otori, Japanese Minister for China and Korea, arrived at Jinsen on the 25th ultimo by the *Genkai Maru*, and was received by the Japanese Consul, the Korean Administrator of the port, and many distinguished residents. The Korean Government is said to have despatched an official from the Foreign Office to welcome the Minister at the latter port. Mr. Otori intended to stay there for two or three days, and then to proceed to the Korean capital.

THERE is no alteration in the Import trade worthy of note. Yarns, both Single and Double, continue to be taken in small lots, while Grey Shirtings are moving in moderate quantities, and there is some demand for Dyed Shirtings. Fancy Goods are generally dull, though there is some enquiry for Cotton Velvets and Silk-faced Satins. Woollens continue without much enquiry, Cloths being the principal article in request. A better tone prevails in the Metal trade, and prices are firm against the enquiries made. The actual business has been small, and most of the transactions have been in the various kinds of Iron. Buyers of Kerosene will not operate at present rates, and next to nothing is done, a large quantity of the recent arrivals of Russian Oil has been transferred to Kobe, where trade is said to be brisk. The Sugar trade is quiet, both Browns and Whites meeting little enquiry, but holders are firm and prices unaltered. The Silk trade is still comparatively small, less than 1,000 piculs having been turned over during the week, not reckoning direct shipments. Holders have been more or less current, being evidently tired of waiting to move the large parcels that are now on this market, and daily business has been the result. Settlements of Waste Silk have not been large. The Tea trade is less active, buyers demanding concessions which holders decline to make. Exchange remains unaltered.

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THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The most noteworthy event during the present week has been the organization of the Great Japan Union. It is a motley congeries of sections, the National Unionists, the Oriental Radicals, the *Gen-yo-sha* of Fukuoka, and various conservative factions throughout the country. The moving spirits of the new political association are understood to be Messrs. Oi Kentaro, Sassa Tomofusa, Ooka Ikuzo, Abei Iwane, and a few others. It is stated that the Union possesses a large number of sympathizers among the members of the House of Peers. The ceremony of organization on the 1st instant as well as the grand lecture meeting which the promoters held on the following day, were a signal success in the sense that they aroused throughout the country keen interest in the movement against Mixed Residence. The principal members of the Union will, it is stated, shortly undertake lecture campaigns throughout the country and stir up the people to oppose resolutely the opening of the interior for Mixed Residence. The promoters of the agitation hope in this way to swamp the Houses of the Diet in the coming session with well backed petitions from all parts of the Empire, protesting against the possible admission of foreigners into the interior; while sympathizers with the movement within the Houses will try to pass an Address to the Throne the effect of which would be to negative the Treaty-revision Address voted last session. It is not likely that the Diet, as now constituted, will yield to the pressure which the members the Great Japan Union threaten to bring to bear upon it. But it is highly probable that the leaders of the movement will be enthusiastically received by the classes in the interior that possess the largest share in returning members for the Diet. As to the results which this agitation will exercise upon the question of Treaty Revision, it is as yet premature to attempt any forecast. But apart from its effect upon that question, the ferment is not unlikely to have important results upon the position of parties in Japan. Among such results, the most noteworthy is the formation of a large and compact Conservative Party. It has been noticed by every intelligent observer that during the last ten years a strong current of conservatism has been gathering force in social and literary fields, and this trend of ideas has gradually spread to the arena of practical politics, so that things daily grow riper for the formation of a Conservative party. Such an event would certainly mark a new step in the progress of party politics in Japan, as it might pave the way for the smooth introduction of Government by Party.

* * *

Whatever may be the influence exercised by the anti-Mixed Residence movement in country districts, it is very poorly represented in the press. With the exceptions of the *Kokkai*, the *Nippon*, and the *Choya Shimbun*, the leading metropolitan papers are positively opposed to it, as may be seen from their comments upon the newly organized Great Japan Union. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* criticises the Union as inconsistent and ambiguous in its aims. The Union claims to advocate revision of the treaties on a footing of true equality, but it does not take the trouble to explain what it means by "true equality." While insisting on equality, it proposes that the chief privilege which its nationals enjoy in foreign countries shall be withheld from foreign residents in this country. Our contemporary does not hesitate to declare that the existence of such a Union is a disgrace to the nation, which is justly proud of its illustrious history and hopeful of a brilliant future.

* * *

The Radical organ, the *Jiyu*, is confident that the absurd agitation started by the Great Japan Union will lead to no practical results. It may cause a temporary stir, but it will soon pass away and be forgotten for ever. For, in our contemporary's opinion, it is diametrically opposed to the spirit of progress which has marked Japan's wonderful history for the past twenty-six years, and which constitutes her moving force now more than ever before. Our contemporary's article is still unfinished.

* * *

Some persons apprehend that the Progressionists, moved by party considerations, may be inclined to look idly on the coming struggle between those in favour of, and those opposed to, Mixed Residence. It happens that some of the principal members of the Great Japan Union, as for instance, Mr. Oi Kentaro and others, mean to utilize the agitation as a weapon of attack against the Radical party, and under such circumstances it is not unnatural that people should entertain doubts about the attitude of the Progressionists who are now bitterly hostile to the Radicals. A rumour was recently circulated that Count Okuma had issued instructions to the provincial organs of his Party to maintain neutrality on the question of Mixed Residence. This report has been contradicted, it is true, but a general impression prevails that the Progressionist papers are not inclined to assume a decisive tone about the matter—an impression which has not been weakened by the apparent reluctance of those papers to discuss the subject in editorial columns. The *Yomiuri Shimbun*, however, which, though closely allied to the Progressionist Party, is not an avowed organ, strongly urges both the Radicals and the Progressionists to unite their forces against the onset of the anti-Mixed Residence agitators. However opposed they may be on other questions, these two parties, says our contemporary, are friends as to the question of Mixed Residence. If they refuse to work together, and if by their inaction they suffer their common foes to obtain the ascendency in the political field, the responsibility for obstructing the path of Japan's progress will rest not so much upon the advocates of the anti-Mixed Residence movement as upon the Radicals and the Progressionists themselves.

* * *

The *Kokumin Shimbun* calls upon the Radical Party to use every possible means of causing the Government to undertake the task of Treaty Revision on the basis of the Address to the Throne voted in the last session of the Diet, principally through the exertions of that Party. Should the Government be disinclined to approach the task, the Radicals are exhorted to take upon themselves the responsibility of carrying their scheme into effect.

* * *

Concerning the position of the National Unionists, a rumour is circulated that they are now more friendly towards the Government. Those who believe in this rumour point to the recent utterances of the National Unionist leaders at Sendai, namely, that they are at one with the Cabinet so far as fundamental policy is concerned, but opposed to it with regard to the manner of carrying out that policy. This declaration is interpreted to mean that the Unionists will be ready to support the Government should the latter show less inclination to conciliate the Popular party. Of course we are not in a position to say whether this report is worthy of credence, but an article in the *Choya Shimbun* on the 67th Article of the Constitution lends an appearance of plausibility to the idea. Our contemporary welcomes the news that the Cabinet, which was once understood to be inclined to widen the sphere of the Diet's authority over the items in the Budget, has at last decided to make no change in this respect. The concrete definition, which the Yamagata Cabinet gave to the 67th article by enumerating the items reserved from the free exercise of the Diet's vote is not claimed to be above criticism, and the present Cabinet may introduce such changes as it deems necessary. But the *Choya* declares that it can never approve of any modification made for the purpose of conciliating the Opposition. The leaders of the National Unionists declared at Sendai their opposition to the policy of the Cabinet because the latter is too prone to make concessions to the Popular Party. But the Ministry's decision not to extend the present limits of the Diet's competence in respect of the Budget shows, in the journal's opinion, that the Government still retains a certain amount of independence and courage. If it proceeds on these lines, the *Choya* does not doubt that there will be less occasion for intelligent observers to oppose it.

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The conduct of Mr. Tsuji Shinji and other educators, who have assumed a hostile attitude towards the present Minister of Education, is unfavourably criticised in the press. The *Jiji Shimpo* observes that the present agitators are merely following the example set by every discarded official. Instances of retired officials immediately becoming inimical to their late colleagues and superiors are said to be only too frequent. The wonder is that the case of Mr. Tsuji and his followers should have attracted so much attention. However, the subject is not without importance, for it serves—the *Jiji* continues—to remind the Cabinet that the reforms it is about undertake will remove from office many persons who will at once become its bitterest enemies. Our contemporary seems to apprehend that the discharge of a large number of officials at one time will have the same effect as the disbanding of a whole army.

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The *Kokkai* discusses the Korean question, and severely criticizes the Cabinet's failure to protect the interests of this Empire in the peninsula. Our contemporary alludes to the persistent and unflagging efforts made by the Chinese Government to establish its suzerainty over the peninsular kingdom and drive the Japanese out of that country. The latest instance of Chinese enterprise in Korea has been the placing of several steamers on the Han river in competition with Japanese ships which have hitherto enjoyed the monopoly of navigation between Sōul and Ninsen. China is also reported to have set up similar competition with Japanese steamers between her own ports and those of Korea. In the document issued by the Viceroy Li on this subject, he incidentally describes Korea as a dependency of China. This circumstance is taken by the Tokyo journal as a proof that China's real intention is to convert Korea into a part of her empire. The Viceroy Li has told several Japanese that the peace of the Orient will never be endangered so long as he and Count Ito are alive. How does it happen that the Chinese statesman is able to make such a positive assertion? Because, in our contemporary's opinion, he knows by experience that Count Ito and his colleagues are always ready to connive at China's violation of the Tientsin treaty. It is all very well to introduce reforms in the Government, but the *Kokkai* declares that the Government will be guilty of neglecting its fundamental duties, if it does not adopt a resolute course of action in Korea.

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The *Jiyu Shimbun* writes on the subject of the reduction of the land tax. With regard to the re-assessment of the taxable value of land, the Radical organ states that it has been enabled to infer the Cabinet's inclination to introduce that reform. But our contemporary regrets that nothing is known about the Cabinet's attitude towards the question of the land tax. It repeats the stock arguments on that subject, but as they have been noticed so many times in these columns, we need not reproduce them here.

A writer in a Dublin contemporary informs us that another society for the encouragement of Irish as a spoken language has just been started in Ireland. The plan on which the new association intends to proceed is mainly to encourage the growth of local bodies throughout the country, especially in the districts where Irish is spoken. Lectures in the old language will also be organised, and arrangements made to bring more closely together those who are able to speak in Irish in every part of the country.

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EDITORIAL NOTES.

COUNT INOUYE'S CONVERSATION.

THE *Nippon* publishes an account of a conversation which Count Inouye is said to have had with a visitor. Speaking of administrative reforms, the Minister of Home Affairs declared that the Diet and the Cabinet were equally responsible for carrying out the Imperial will as expressed in the Rescript of the 10th of February, 1892. The Cabinet, on its part, would explain the reforms to the Diet in a frank and straightforward manner, and the Diet ought to consider the matter in a similar spirit of fairness and honesty. On this question, both sides should refrain from having recourse to any party policy or strategem. The political battle between the Cabinet and the Diet should be fought on other issues. The Count then proceeded to severely criticise those who have rashly declared their intention to disapprove the reforms before their publication. He doubtless referred to the National Unionists, who recently resolved at their Sendai meeting to oppose the policy of the Government. The delay in carrying out reforms is not to be attributed to any apprehension on the Ministry's part about the Diet's opposition. The Government's intention is to effect all possible preparations so that the reforms many be carried out smoothly and without causing any inconvenience to the conduct of business. Count Inouye then alluded to the difficulties attending reductions in the number of officials. He is reported to have observed that the majority of the members of the House of Representatives, having at one time of their life served as officials, ought to know the nature of the difficulties that lie in the path of reform. These persons may disapprove the reforms now under contemplation, but they do so simply for the sake of humouring the ignorant masses. The opposition of men of this class counts for nothing. But the Cabinet, the Count went on, is not without serious anxiety lest discussions as to which side should be held responsible for injuring the harmony between the Cabinet and the Diet may lead to grave troubles. Should things come to such a pass, the Government, he said, would not hesitate to take a decisive step and appeal to the people at large.

GOVERNMENT ATTITUDE TOWARDS TRADE BETWEEN JAPAN AND CHINA.

THE *Jiyu* states that the Government purpose taking measures for the extension of commercial relations between Japan and China. With this view some changes in the Japanese consulates in China are said to be under contemplation. The Japanese Consulate in Hongkong is now charged with the superintendence of affairs in Canton also, but the distance between the two places renders it virtually impossible for an official in Hongkong to attend properly to affairs in the other city. In order to obviate this inconvenience, it is now proposed to establish a Consulate in Canton also, as was the case many years ago. Increased facilities will then be afforded for the transactions between Japan and the people in the south of China. The Government also intends, at the same time to take some steps in respect of the northern part of the big empire. The idea is said to be entertained of affording aid to the Commerce Investigation Institution of Japan and China, a business school at Shanghai under the control of Mr. Arai Sei. The *Jiyu* adds that over and above these schemes the Government contemplates assisting graduates of commercial schools in this country, whether public or private, to visit China, for the purpose of investigating commercial affairs in which the two countries have a common interest. Funds will be furnished to such students as have given proofs that they are worthy to be aided. The *Jiyu*, while publishing these particulars, does not vouch for their authenticity.

A MEETING OF THE UNITED CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE OF THE COUNTRY.

A MEETING of the united Japanese Chambers of Commerce is now being held in Kobe. It began on the 25th ultimo, and more than 40 deputies are attending. Mr. Yamamoto, President of the Kobe Chamber of Commerce, and Mr. Nakamura Eisuke, M.P., of the Kyoto Chamber of Commerce, were elected Chairman and Vice Chairman, respectively. Of the Bills thus far submitted for deliberation, that introduced by the Sakaye Chamber of Commerce is the most important. It relates to the abolition of duties on the import of raw cotton and on the export of cotton yarns, and it proposes that a memorial on the subject be forwarded to the Authorities. Before the Bill became the subject of regular discussion, Mr. Nakamura, of Kyoto, moved to appoint a committee and defer the discussion until a report on the merits of the proposition has been submitted by the Committee. This was approved, and the Chairman nominated five members to form the Committee. The grounds upon which the Sakaye Chamber of Commerce urges the abolition of the duties in question are said to be as follow: First, among the cotton yarns spun in this country, fine varieties above No. 20, are still insufficient in quantity for home consumption, whereas coarser yarns of sizes below No. 20 being abundantly produced, with indications of still greater development, it is most important in the interests of this industry to open markets abroad as soon as possible by abolishing the export duty. Secondly, Japan's competitors in the business are England and India, and as in those two countries there are no duties on the import of cotton and the export of yarns, the Japanese yarns can not hope to compete successfully in foreign markets, so long as the present customs duties are imposed. Thirdly, the Indian yarns enjoy a great advantage in the fact that their raw material is supplied by home growers, whereas, in the case of Japanese yarn, the cotton has to be procured from abroad, and the manufactured article is thus handicapped by having to pay freight as well as import duty. Fourthly, while Indian and English yarns are required to pay only one duty, namely, the import duty on being conveyed into any foreign country, Japanese yarns have to pay, in addition, import duty on the raw cotton and export duty on the manufactured. Fifthly, the fear that the abolition of the export duty on yarns would effect the Revenue inconveniently, is not well founded, for Japanese yarns have never hitherto been exported abroad, except in small quantities as samples, and have never yielded an income to the Treasury. The abolition of the import duty on raw cotton would affect the Treasury more or less but the benefits conferred on the country in the development of the spinning industry, and in preventing the import of foreign yarns, would more than compensate the loss. Sixthly, the opinion held by some that to abolish the import duty on raw cotton would injuriously affect the interests of native cotton growers, is based upon ignorance of the actual conditions of the business, for the uses to which the native and imported cottons are applied in spinning being different, no such injury could be inflicted on the former.

COUNT KATSU.

AMONG the interesting records now appearing in the columns of the *Choya Shimbun* there is one specially worthy to be quoted. It relates to the history of the celebrated Count Katsu's family, and is given on the authority of Mr. Sassa, member of the Diet for Kumamoto, who learned it from the Count himself. The story takes us back to the days of the great-grandfather of the Count, and therefore to the period of the Tokugawa Regency. One day, when a banneret named Ishizaka, who enjoyed an income of 2,000 *koku* of rice annually, was proceeding in a *kago* to the Shogun's castle, he observed by the road-side a young man apparently in a state of great exhaustion, who, after staggering along for a time, finally sank down in the snow. Ishizaka's pity being aroused, he stopped his *kago* and sent one of his retainers to succour the wayfarer. On his return from the castle he summoned this retainer, and learned from him that the sufferer was a blind man, 24 years of age, who had set out from his native province, Echigo, with only 600 cash in his pocket, intending to seek his fortune in Edo, that he had fallen on the road from sheer hunger, and that he was evidently a person of more than ordinary capacity. Ishizaka directed that he should be allowed to share the servants' lodging, and after the lapse of about a month, made renewed inquiries about him. The answer was still more favourable. It appeared that the waif had been acting as banker to the bannerets retainers during their games of chance, and in that way his capital of six hundred cash had grown into a *riyo* and a half. These things interested Ishizaka so much that he caused the blind man to be summoned to his presence, and handing him a sum of three *riyo*, bade him undertake any business that seemed advisable. The man took his departure, and for several years nothing was heard of him. So shrewdly, however, did he employ the funds thus placed at his disposal that he ultimately became immensely rich, nearly all the feudal nobles, great and small being indebted to him in various amounts. It is recorded that the Mito baron desired to secure the man's services at the then munificent salary of 500 *koku* of rice annually, but the other declined to sacrifice his independence for such a sum. He had nine sons, all of whom were educated thoroughly according to the standard of the time, and all engaged in some suitable business. Shortly before his death, which occurred in his seventieth year, he called his sons to his side and produced various deeds and promissory notes representing a vast sum of money. The youths imagined that a division of the paternal property was about to be made, and were therefore somewhat surprised when their father inquired whether any one of them desired to become a *Samurai*. One after another they declined, until it came to the turn of the youngest, who answered in the affirmative. Thereupon the old man handed over to this lad a sum of thirty thousand gold *riyo*, explaining that in these days of strict class distinctions to become a *Samurai* was an expensive and arduous undertaking. Thereafter he placed all the other documents in the brazier and reduced them to ashes, telling his other sons that since they had their several professions, the kindest thing that could be done for them was to let them work for their own livelihood, as their father had done before them. Tradition says that the documents thus destroyed represented a total of many millions of *riyo*. The youngest son became a banneret and founded the Katsu family. He was the grandfather of the present Count Katsu. He appears to have been a man of ordinary character, who neither augmented nor impaired the fortune bequeathed to him. Not so his son, however. The latter, a veritable *roué*, spent everything and died of the effects of dissipation, leaving behind him only debts of 300 *riyo*. The future Count, his son, was then only seventeen. His father dead, his mother bed-ridden, and he himself entirely resourceless, he adopted a thoroughly characteristic plan. Summoning the creditors of the family, he laid the facts of the case plainly before them, and assured them that if they had patience he should devote his life to the effort of repaying the debts. They accepted the situation, and the young Katsu took service under the Bakufu in a kind of menial capacity. Promotion gradually came, and in the end he found himself Katsu Awa-no-Kami. But though, at the time of the fall of the Shogunate, he had paid off all his father's debts, a sum of 15 *riyo* represented the whole of his worldly possessions.

SICKNESS ON BOARD THE "VICTOR EMANUEL."

THERE has been, we understand, says the *China Mail*, for some weeks a considerable amount of sickness amongst the men on board H.M.S. *Victor Emanuel*. On an average there are from twenty-five to thirty men in Hospital suffering from fever, and it has been found necessary to close the naval prison on board. From all accounts the old ship seems to be in a bad way, and it is about time she was replaced as receiving ship at Hongkong by a newer vessel. Her timbers are so rotten below water that in spite of her copper sheathing she is shipping a good deal of water and requires to be pumped

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out twice a day. In this warm weather the bilge water has a frightful smell. The *Victor Emanuel* has done sufficient service now to warrant laying her aside. The rumour that the *Ajax* was to replace her does not appear to be correct, and we believe there is no indication whatever that the Admiralty authorities at home intend to send out a newer ship. What the result of the present state of matters would be if the receiving ship were crowded with men during the recommissioning of two or three ships on the China Station is anything but pleasant to contemplate. This winter the *Impérieuse*, *Porpoise*, *Rattler*, *Firebrand*, and *Peacock* will recommission at Hongkong. There is some talk of doing away with the present system of recommissioning ships on the China Station, and of replacing the ships with others commissioned at home.

FIRE IN KYOTO

AT 11 a.m. on the 29th ultimo, a fire broke out in the kitchen of the temple Seiren-in in the Awata quarter of Kyoto. The Seiren-in was one of the *Monseki*, or monasteries distinguished as having been chosen in some era as residences for ex-Emperors or descendants of the Sovereign. Its interior decorations offered many features of interest and beauty, and its artistic *chefs d'œuvre* were considerable. The flames spread to the portions of the building termed *Shisei-Kodo*, *Kogosho*, *Shinden*, *Shiro-sho-zu*, *Kacho-no-ma*, and *Daishokuri*, which, as well as the vestibule and the corridor, were completely destroyed, only the store-house (*Hoso*), the bell-tower, the *Potsuashi-mon*, the *Uyekami-do*, and the *Chashitsu* escaping. The conflagration was extinguished at 12 50 p.m. Fortunately the mortuary tablets, the relics and the altar were all saved. Nothing is said in the telegram as to the supposed origin of the disaster.

MR INAGAKI MANJIRO AND HIS IDEA.

THE following is said to be the substance of a conversation which Mr. Inagaki Manjiro lately held with a representative of the *Yomiuri Shimbun*. It was while staying in London, said Mr. Inagaki, that I decided on the programme Japan should pursue in her foreign policy. I divided that programme into three stages. In the first, to which I assigned 5 years, the Japanese people would become convinced of the general necessity of a stable foreign policy; in the second, they would learn the necessity of fixing upon a certain definite policy, the time for this stage being 7½ years; and in the third, the policy thus determined would be carried, in practice, another term of 7½ years being occupied. In all, therefore, I assumed that 20 years would be needed for putting my purpose into execution. In pursuance of this programme I at once began to go round the principal cities in the Empire on a lecture tour, with the view of impressing upon the people the importance of pursuing a definite foreign policy. This part of the business has been satisfactorily completed in less than 3 years instead of 5, as originally contemplated. I am now therefore, engaged in the second part of the programme, for which, however, I fear that perhaps more time than I at first supposed will be required, the nature of the work being far more important and difficult than that of the first period. Mr. Inagaki then told the representative how he has succeeded in winning over to his views the Count who conducted Japanese foreign affairs in the early part of the *Meiji* era—meaning Count Soyejima—and also another Count not now in an active official post—Count Katsu. This part of the story does not convey a strong impression of the speaker's modesty. Shortly after he returned home, he waited for the first time on Count Soyejima, and stated the views which he held as to foreign policy. The Count took note of what he considered important points in the conversation of Mr. Inagaki, and pondering on them for a while, exclaimed, "*naruhodo*," in a tone half pleased, half regretful. He then proposed to Mr. Inagaki to exchange a vow of mutual brotherhood, so strongly was his admiration excited by the astuteness of the "Orientalist" (*Tohe Sakushi*). The first reception of Mr. Inagaki by Count Katsu, however, was far from being so flattering. In fact the Count treated him as a mere boy, and heard—if indeed he listened to—Mr. Inagaki's earnest statements with something like sneering contempt. Mr. Inagaki, highly provoked, cut short his remarks, exclaiming aloud that the rising generation was indeed liable to be led astray from its proper course by its seniors. This indignant protest was highly effective. The Count became serious at once and made Mr. Inagaki state his views in detail. When he had heard them to the end, the old statesman melted into tears and said that it was this very instability in foreign policy that had ultimately led to the down-fall of the Tokugawa. At that time he himself had told Prince Tokugawa Keiki that twenty years after the administrative power had been restored to the Emperor the country's foreign policy would assume a definite shape, and that simultaneously the services which the Tokugawa Regency has rendered to the country would become apparent. Twenty years have gone, but there is no sign of the Count's prediction being fulfilled, to his great grief and regret. He was therefore much pleased at the opinion of Mr. Inagaki, and has become one of his strong supporters. Mr. Inagaki added that the help he derived from such distinguished patrons was very great. Anything vaguer and more unsatisfactory than the whole story it would be difficult to conceive. What is Mr. Inagaki's foreign policy? So far as concerns the mere question of a nation having a definite foreign policy, every one, whether Count Soyejima or Count Katsu, must agree with him. But something more is needed, surely, than the declaration of such a misty general principle. If Mr. Inagaki is to be the *Deus ex machinâ*, he had better emerge from behind the curtain.

DEATH OF PROFESSOR WILLAM SHIELDS LISCOMB

WE much regret to have to announce the death of Mr. William Shields Liscomb, who for the past four years has been professor of English literature in the Keiogijiku University at Tokyo. Professor Liscomb was for some time a sufferer from *locomotor ataxia*. A few months ago he returned to America. He rapidly grew worse after his return, and on September 5th at Concord, New Hampshire, died. Mr. Liscomb was a friend valued by all who knew him well; his enthusiasm for his work was exceptional. His students were devoted to him, and his love for the people of Japan was strong and constant. The new education in this country has lost an unwearying servant in this death.

REMINISCENCES

AT a recent meeting of the *Toho-kyo-kai* (Oriental Association), after the regular discussion of the day had been concluded, the members organized a species of conversazione when, among the miscellaneous topics broached, some one alluded to the Hakodate insurrection headed by Viscount Enomoto, then Enomoto Kamajiro. Every student of modern Japanese history knows that, after having made a brave stand for some months against the greatly superior forces of the Government, the Viscount and his followers were at last confined within the small stronghold of Goryokaku, in the vicinity of Hakodate, and were daily threatened with extermination. Enomoto and his captains were resolved to save the lives of their followers by sacrificing their own, but that was not required of them owing to the magnanimity of the Imperialist leaders. The letter which Enomoto sent to the Imperial camp at this desperate juncture contained, at the end, an allusion to a Dutch book which the Viscount, thinking too valuable to be lost—for it was the only book of the kind in Japan at the time—wished the Imperialists to receive and preserve from destruction. When the talk had proceeded thus far, curiosity was whetted by the discovery that among those present there were several who had been personally engaged in the campaign on one side or the other, and every one was anxious to learn the name of the precious book. Viscount Soga, one of the company, was able to give a reply. In fact it turned out that he was the very man on the Imperialist side who had read the letter. The book, he said, was on marine law, and was subsequently put into the library of the Navy. A striking illustration, this, of Japan's condition in those days.

* * *

The next talk was on the detention of a Peruvian vessel full of Chinese slaves, which entered Yokohama harbour some 22 or 23 years ago. The Government of the time ordered the release of the Chinese and sent them home. Who was the Governor of Kanagawa at the time, the members queried, and turned for information to Count Soyejima, Minister of Foreign Affairs at the juncture. The Count, after a little hesitation, said that the present Minister of State for Foreign Affairs had been Governor of Kanagawa, and that he, the Count, had issued the order and caused the vessel to be detained. Mr. Mutsu, however, had apparently objected to take the proposed step, and had declined to carry it out, so that the Count had been obliged to appoint in his place Mr. Oye Taku, now President of the Tokyo Rice Exchange. Doubtless this information greatly pleased some of the members. Had they any acquaintance with Tommy Moore's immortal ballads, they would doubtless have sung! "Oh, for the Kings that flourished then."

THE HARADA LACQUERS.

THE *Yomiuri Shimbun* states that the four varieties of patent lacquer invented by Mr. Harada, a chemist to the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, are so well spoken of in foreign countries—the inventor having sent samples to London this spring—that a shrewd English merchant, acting through a German firm in Yokohama, offered to purchase the patent. In consequence of this proposal, the German firm, having in the first place made careful investigation as to the true value of the invention, ultimately conveyed to Mr. Harada information of the English proposal, but the inventor refused to entertain it. The fact, however, having been noised abroad, did much towards enhancing the reputation of the new lacquers, especially as Yokohama firms that deal in such things are said to be agreed, that other kinds of lacquer cannot hope to compete with those invented by Mr. Harada. One of these firms projected a change of business in consequence of the scanty demand for lacquers, but as renewed activity is anticipated owing to the fame already attained by the Harada lacquers, the firm is said to have abandoned its idea. The *Yomiuri* alleges that the object of the English merchant in seeking to purchase the patent rights of the inventor, was to set up a great factory in Hongkong and to obtain a monopoly of the trade in lacquer articles. We are bound to say, however, that whatever may be the merits of Mr. Harada's new lacquers, the *Yomiuri's* note reads much more like an advertisement than like a simple statement of facts. Besides, it would be out of the question for an English merchant to purchase a Japanese patent. Neither would there be any necessity to purchase it. A patent taken out by a Japanese in Japan does not restrain any British subject on British territory from imitating and selling the patented article. It does not even restrain a British subject in Japan, and inasmuch as a Japanese subject can not obtain British patent protection for his invention in Great Britain, any more than a British subject can obtain similar Japanese protection in Japan, the notion of either side purchasing a patent from the other is obviously untenable. If any offer was made by an English firm, it must have been an offer to buy Mr. Harada's processes.

PHOTOGRAPHIC ALBUMS.

MR. OGAWA has published three more of his now justly celebrated albums. Two of the new publications form volumes of a series intended, as we learn from the preface, to illustrate Japanese Art, Manners, and Customs. They are entitled "Japanese Costumes" and "Military Costumes in Old Japan." No information is given as to the author of the text, which is somewhat too terse and meagre, though it contains much useful and interesting information.

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We observe, however, that Mr. Ogawa has worked in this instance in connection with the Tokyo Art School, to whose researches he doubtless owes the accurate information that has enabled him to produce the costumes of pre-Restoration Japan. As usual, the colotypes are of the highest order and the albums are beautifully got up. The third Album now published is the "Lilies of Japan." We have here twelve really exquisite colotype representations of the beautiful flowers for which Japan is famous. The album being *ex suite* with Mr. Ogawa's previous publications frequently noticed in these columns, we need not describe it in detail. Indeed, there is nothing to say except that we have here before us in all their natural loveliness a number of the blossoms that lend such charm to Japanese summer scenery.

COMPLAINT AGAINST THE TOKYO WATER-WORKS COMMITTEE.

LOUD murmurs, says the *Kokkai*, are uttered by the public against the manner of conducting business adopted by the Tokyo Water Works Committee. The example cited concerns the purchase of some 300 drainage-valves. They were put up to public tender on the 30th of April, and the tenders were opened in the latter part of June, but the consent of the City Assembly was obtained only two or three days ago. In other words, more than 90 days were required for deciding from whom the articles should be purchased. Such dilatory procedure naturally aroused suspicion People began to say that there must have been some special understanding between the experts connected with the Works and the successful bidder, and that the Assembly had been deluded into approving a tender not in the interests of the city. The manner of tendering was that manufacturers in England, Scotland, America, and so forth were represented by such well known Japanese firms as the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha, Takata Shokai, Favre-Brandt, and two or three others. The tenders from these firms were, in round numbers:—Mitsui, 38,000 *yen*, and Takata 36,000 *yen*, the tenders from others ranging between these two. All the tenders, except one, were rejected on the ground that they were not in strict accordance with forms indicated by the Committee The Takata tender shared the same fate, the objection to it being that the firm had altered the dimensions of sketches given in the forms. Finally, the highest tender of all, that of the Mitsui, was declared successful. When an expert was asked to explain in the City Assembly the reason why the tender of the Mitsui had been accepted, he replied that, among the tenders which satisfied all the conditions, that of the Mitsui Company was the lowest and on that account it had been accepted. On the strength of this explanation the consent of the assembly was given. But, says our contemporary, the lowest tender was not that of the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha, but that of Takata. The fact seems to be that the Committee charged with the supervision of such things did not take any trouble, but left the matter altogether to the control of the experts. Great are said to have been the complaints among the tenderers because the procedure usually followed in determining such matters was not duly adhered to. Some are even said to be resolved to submit the matter to the judgment of the authorities.

TOKYO BARRISTERS AND THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.

IF the judges themselves are not satisfied with the methods employed by the Department of Justice to eliminate judicial officials whom it considers incompetent, barristers also appear to be far from content. A short time ago, says the *Kokkai*, the members of the Tokyo bar commenced a movement against the Department of Justice on the ground that Judge Matsuda of the Tokyo Court for Appeal had been advised by the President of the Court to present his resignation. They considered such a procedure entirely unconstitutional. But they have now desisted from pressing the point in deference to a request in that sense preferred by Mr. Miyoshi, Chief of the Court of Cassation, to Mr. Isobe, a prominent member of the Tokyo bar Mr. Miyoshi explained that the ideas entertained by the members of the bar were fully known to the Department, and that steps would be taken to give satisfaction. Relying on this promise, the barristers decided to let the matter drop. But they are now agitated by a new occurrence. Judge Namura, of the Court of Cassation, has been placed on the Retired List after having been promoted, only a week before, one grade. This time the barristers are said to be resolved to pursue a resolute line. They intend to approach the members of both Houses of the Diet with the view of having the matter brought up for discussion next session. Messrs. Isobe Shiro, O Kentaro, Tsunoda Shimpei, Okamura Terahiko, Yamada Taizo and others of not less note, have been elected a committee for managing the matter. They intend first to call on Mr. Miyoshi, of the Court of Cassation, and on Mr. Namura, who has just placed on the retired list, but how they are then to proceed, we do not learn.

A PLAN OF THE MANAGERS OF THE KAMAGAFUCHI SPINNING FACTORY.

A PROJECT which the managers of the Kamagafuchi Spinning Factory recently adopted for the purpose of encouraging the operatives, certainly seems to fall within the category of the Chinese fable of the man who, seeking to mend the shape of a cow's horns, killed the cow. Some days ago the managers intimated to the superintendents of operatives that, for the sake of stimulating the operatives in their work, the whole number of hands, aggregating about 1,800, should be divided into two parties as evenly as possible, and a reward of 100 *yen* should be given to the party found to have accomplished the greater amount of work. The time prescribed for the competition was 2 weeks from the given day. At once competition of the keenest description set in between the contending parties, greatly augumenting in intensity as the days went on. Excitement reached such a point that the superintendents of the respective parties declared themselves ready to commit suicide in case the party which they led were vanquished, while the operatives, on their side, came to a secret resolve to abandon their service in the factory should they be defeated, rather than endure the ridicule of their triumphant rivals. Though the competition between the two did not actually lead to physical violence, it was easy to see that a strong spirit of animosity was entertained by each side against the other, not a word being exchanged between the competitors though they had been on a footing of the strongest friendship previous to the competition. The excitement began to affect the health of the operatives: many of them lost appetite and lived simply on a scanty allowance of gruel. The Managers now became alarmed, and put an end to the rivalry by presenting a hundred *yen* to each side. Probably they will not renew the experience.

DR. ERNEST HART.

DR. ERNEST HART'S many friends in Japan will read with curiosity the following account of an affair in which he seems to have played a remarkable part—we quote from an American journal:—

Secretary Young, of the World's Congress Auxiliary, is carefully nursing a purple spot beneath his left eye. Mr. Young attempted to eject Dr. Ernest Hart, the well-known London physician, from the Hall of Washington yesterday afternoon. Dr. Hart was in a stubborn mood and refused to be put out. During the argument that waxed hot between the two men, Mr. Young's left eye suddenly came in contact with the worthy doctor's right fist. The consequence is that the genial secretary of the congress auxiliary will not be at his post of duty this morning

Professor Elliott Coues the bearded chairman of the congress, was about to open the afternoon meeting and had rapped three times on the little table with his rosewood gavel, when Dr. Hert entered the hall. No one knew who he was and as he made his way to the platform no objections were raised, it being supposed that he was one of the speakers of the afternoon Making his way to where Professor Coues stood, Dr. Hart exclaimed in a loud voice that he had something to say to the audience Professor Coues requested him to be seated until the session was opened, when they would be pleased to listen to anything he had to say.

"No, I won't wait," exclaimed the angry doctor shaking his first at Professor Coues, "I have something to say of importance to the public and I am going to say it."

Turning to the audience Dr Hart denounced the persons connected with the psychical science congress or any person professing to believe in such phenomena or spiritualism of any kind as imposters, and that he was willing to wager $1,000 that he could write a message and seal it and that no one could read by so called second sight or the power of clairvoyance, the contents of the said message.

Professor Coues again requested Dr. Hart to desist, as the congress was about to take up its regular duties. The angry doctor, however, refused to be silent and continued addressing the audience upon the subject of Spiritualistic fraud. Professor Coues sent for Secretary Young, who straightway went to the scene of disturbance. Mr Young tried to reason with the doctor, but to no purpose. Perceiving that arguments or words were lost upon the doctor, the secretary laid hands upon him and proceeded to eject him from the hall. At this time trouble commenced in earnest. Dr. Hart's fists were raised threateningly near Mr. Young's face. During the melée Mr. Young received a blow in the face, slightly discolouring his left eye. Professor Coues came to his assistance and Dr. Hart was finally persuaded to leave the hall.

The trouble yesterday was caused by the wager which Dr Hart offered to make a few days ago. When the congress on psychical science opened its sessions last Monday, Dr. Hart cast many reflections on the object sought to be obtained by the promoters of the congress and ridiculed the idea that there was a particle of truth in such alleged phenomena. Then the London physician offered to wager $1,000 that no one connected with or attending the congress could divine the words of a message which he himself should write and inclose in an envelope, which was to be sealed. This challenge was printed in several of the local newspapers. Yesterday Dr. Hart mentioned to several of his friends that he was going down to the congress and make his offer in person. He did so, but not with the result which he had hoped for.

Secretary Young said last evening that he much regretted the unfortunate occurrence of the afternoon. "Dr. Hart," he said, "had no right to go into that congress and offer to make a wager. The rule of the congress is that no outsiders shall be allowed upon the platform except those who are invited to read papers. It was understood when the committee of psychical research requested a hall in which to hold their sessions during the week of the general congress on science and philosophy, that nothing approaching an exhibition of spiritual phenomena or seance or experiments of any kind should be made, and Professor Coues, chairman of the committee of organization heartily agreed to this rule, which we make imperative to every congress that wishes to convene in the Art Palace.

"The idea of the congresses is solely that general knowledge on all subjects may be disseminated among the people, and no practical illustrations should be allowed. Consequently when Dr. Hart went upon the stage he was, as a matter of fact, an intruder and interloper, usurping the rights of those who had assembled at the meeting. He interrupted Professor Coues as he was addressing his audience, and when asked to withdraw he became angry and insolent. I had some trouble in getting him to leave the hall, and he shook his fists in close proximity to my face. Dr. Hart is a physician of good standing and is the editor of a medical paper in England and a man of prominence not only in his own country but also in America. I used no harsh measures in ejecting him from the hall, but had he been the president himself he had no right to go upon that stage to address the audience except at the pleasure of the chairman or the committee. I heartily regret that such an affair should have occurred."

President Bonney would not say anything about the matter, except that he regretted that such a thing should occur at a session of the congresses.

MR. KANMUCHI TOMOTSUNE, M P, ON CHINA.

THE members of the Nippon Economic Society and of the Mixed Residence Investigation Society invited Mr. Kanmuchi to a tea-house in Hoshigaoka, on the 27th instant, to hear about his recent travels in China, especially about the districts of Shanghai and Hankow. He made a speech extending over three hours, the gist of which is thus reported by the News Agency:—The Japanese merchants residing in Shanghai carry on a business fully proportionate to the amount of capital and labour involved. The spinning and foundry works conducted by Chinese at Shanghai are in a very active state. Hankow is well adapted to become a market for Japan and the despatch of a Japanese Consul thither is highly necessary; the Chinese Government is conducting the empire's foreign policy in strict conformity with the letter of the treaties, Notwithstanding the contempt shown for the Chinese by Western people, the Chinaman

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is more than a match for the Occidental in practical business, so that in China the commercial power is practically in the hands of Chinese compradores who really conduct and control the whole trade.

* * *

More than 30 members attended the above meeting, among them being Viscounts Shimazu, Soga, Matsudaira, Messrs. Miura Yasu, Nishimura Shigeki, and others of note.

THE ASSEMBLY OF THE DIET.

It has been for some time stated that the Diet would probably be convoked at an earlier date than usual this year, though why such a step should be taken we have no exact information. The *Choya Shimbun* now alleges that the Government's intention is to fix the opening day for November 15th, instead of the 25th as has hitherto been the case. If that intention be carried out, the Imperial Rescript ordering the convocation will have to be issued very soon in order to allow the full interval of forty days fixed by law. It is very possible that the Government may have resolved to anticipate the ordinary time in consideration of the fact that the New Year's recess has always hitherto arrived before the Budget came up for final discussion in the Lower House. In practice the Budget never reaches the hands of the Standing Committee before the beginning of December, and since the Committee is allowed fifteen days to compile its report, the 17th or 18th of December comes before the report is under consideration of the House. What then ensues experience has amply shown. Rising for its New Year's recess on December 25th, the House never finds itself even half way through the Budget, whereas the traditions and customs of Japan, to say nothing of fiscal convenience, are all in favour of having such an important financial question settled before New Year's day.

MR. INOUYE AND COMMON SCHOOL EDUCATION FUND.

It appears from an account published by the Tokyo News Agency, that the Minister of State for Education is much misrepresented or misunderstood by Mr. Tsuji and other opponents of the policy pursued by the Minister. One of the chief charges preferred against him by the educationalists out of power, is that his acts do not tally with his words, inasmuch as at the outset he declared his intention of shaping his policy in accordance with defraying the cost of common school education out of the national funds, but subsequently held an opinion directly at variance with that announcement. We noticed in a recent issue that some members of Mr Izawa's Society, organized for the very purpose of obtaining Government help in the matter of common school education, had waited on the Minister to ascertain whether he really held views contrary to those of the Society, as had been reported in the vernacular press. The Minister peremptorily declined to answer the question, declaring that, as Minister of State for Education, he did not feel justified in replying to such queries. This may have strengthened the suspicions entertained by the opposition, but, as has been before stated, their ideas appear to have been entirely unfounded. That Mr. Inouye is highly interested in this matter is evident, says the News Agency, from the fact that since he assumed the portfolio of the Department of Education, he has caused the Bureau of Common School Education to investigate the best method of granting State aid to primary education, and further evidence as to his attitude is furnished by the procedure at the Cabinet meeting held in the residence of the Premier on the 25th instant, when the question of a subsidy to common schools is said to have been deliberated for the first time.

TREATY REVISION AND THE GOVERNMENT

Under this heading, the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* observes that, if the nation does not desire the revision of the treaties, the Cabinet will not endeavour to hasten the matter. But with the English Government, negotiations have not been entirely suspended since the fall of Count Okuma, and the Cabinet cannot long leave the thing unnoticed. Moreover, should any country fail to fulfil its treaty obligations, the Cabinet will not hesitate to withdraw the privileges guaranteed in exchange for such obligations. Or again, should any of the Powers propose revision on the basis of the treaty between this country and Mexico, the Government would not hesitate to accept the proposal. What is certain is that the Cabinet will not waste its energies in the fruitless task of concluding imperfect treaties. With regard to the present agitation against Mixed Residence, which has been fomented by a gang of crafty politicians, the Cabinet will take no notice of it. The treaty with Mexico was concluded by the present Minister of Foreign Affairs, and it being unlikely that any of his colleagues is dissatisfied with that treaty, the Cabinet will not hesitate to negotiate with any Power which may be prepared to agree to a similar treaty. The Ministers, says our contemporary in conclusion, will not be thwarted by the clamours of the opponents of Mixed Residence.

ACCIDENT AT A WILD BEAST SHOW.

We take the following from the *Hongkong Daily Press* of the 22nd ultimo:—

A sensational scene, and a terrible accident, occurred yesterday afternoon at the Exhibition of Wild Animals which is now being held at West Point, near Jardine's Wharf. A special performance was taking place in the presence of H.E. the Governor, Sir William Robinson, Lady Robinson, and a large number of ladies and gentlemen. The programme commenced at 4.30 and the usual items were gone through satisfactorily and without any mishap. Professor Max had shown what he would do with jungle tigers, bears, snakes, and other creatures, and his manifest intrepidity during the performance had excited much admiration. It came to the last item in the programme, and, as is usual, this was characterised by more daring and nerve than any which had preceded it. A male panther was introduced into the den, and it may here be explained that the animal was not the same as that with which the Professor has performed on previous evenings. That one, over which the young Frenchman evidently had a good deal of command, was not well, and a brute which rejoices in the name of "Pluton" and was only captured on August 11th, was utilised for the exhibition. For several minutes all went well. The animal was whipped round the cage, angrily snarling all the time, and the Professor brought his iron pike into play pretty considerably. These attentions naturally lashed the natural savagery of the panther into the wildest condition of fury, but still the dreaded weapons of the tamer kept him at bay and induced him to run round the cage in what might appear to be fright. A table with food on it and a chair were introduced, and the Professor went through the pretence of eating. Then two little deer were driven in and immediately exhibited the greatest terror of their terrible companion. It was the Professor's object to keep the panther from making a meal of his natural quarry, and it was while he was thus engaged that the accident occurred. The panther, without apparently crouching for a spring, made a sudden leap in the air, covering a space of about 10 or 15 feet, and fell upon the breast of the Professor. His paw inflicted an ugly downward scratch on the face and his powerful teeth met twice in M. Max's forearm, and once in the muscles of the upper arm. With his other paw he tore a deep wound in the unfortunate performer's back. The young man gave a loud cry and the Chinamen outside the bars, who were armed with poles, made passes at the panther which released its hold and fell on the floor. With wonderful presence of mind the tamer flew to the door, happily close at hand, and made his exit safely. He was conducted into the dressing room streaming with blood, and his wounds were temporarily dressed. M. Mottet, the proprietor of the menagerie, was on the spot, and being a qualified medical man was able to attend to the pressing needs of his *confrère*. An ambulance was obtained from the Police Station and the injured man was conveyed to the Victoria Hotel, where he at present remains. Immediately after the accident, which was so sudden that few realed it until after Professor Max's exit the band played "God Save the Queen," and the audience dispersed. No performance of course was given in the evening, and it is not probable that with such injuries Professor Max will be able to resume his dangerous work for a few days at least.

The accident is one which is greatly to be deplored, but one which we cannot help thinking was scarcely surprising. It is a great feature of the performance that the animals are wild, and animated with the natural ferocity. They are not tame cats, as one might say, for the majority have only been recently captured and display every evidence of an entirely untamed spirit. Many of them are comparatively old, and we have always understood it to be an axiom in animal tamer's creed that the brutes must be young when first brought under a man's influence if any control is to be obtained over them. Professor Max has been in the business since he was a boy, is without any fear, and, we must say, without much prudence. His exhibition yesterday in dealing with the animal which inflicted such serious injuries upon him was in many respects a very cruel one. He was dealing with an animal fresh from its native wilds, and in order to make it move at all from the corner of the cage in which it crouched he had to apply with force his long whip and iron shod pole. To do this for several minutes, hurrying the poor brute from one end to the other of its small prison, was of course to tempt it to use the tremendous strength is possessed. That it eventually did so is, therefore, not a matter of much surprise, however regretable, and that it did not use its weapons with an even fatal result is a surprising though happy fact. Animal taming is a long and tedious process, and when complete reflects something perhaps on a man's patience and courage, but it is not right or proper that it should take place in public, when it is so exceedingly likely to lead to such a lamentable affair as that witnessed yesterday by Sir William and Lady Robinson and the ladies and gentlemen who were present

SEIZURE OF SCHOONERS AT COPPER ISLAND.

A Telegram dated at Victoria, B.C., on August 18th says:—The sealing schooner *Viva* came into port yesterday and announced the seizure of the Victoria sealers *Ainoko* and *Minnie* and two American sealers by a Russian man-of-war for sealing within the zone protected around Copper island. The papers of the *Ainoko* and *Minnie* were confiscated and they were ordered to proceed to Yokohama for trial before the British Consular admiralty. It appears that the Victoria sealers will run in here and disobey the orders. The *Ainoko*, it will be remembered, is supposed to have been lost, nothing being heard from her for a long time. The captain of the *Viva* says he saw the *Minnie* taken and says she was thirty miles out from the islands. The Russians claim she was only twenty-two miles out. He heard of the seizure of the *Ainoko* when on board the *South Bend*. He feared other seizures. The Russians are claiming the thirty-mile limit. Particulars have been forwarded to Ottawa.

KOREA AT THE WORLD'S FAIR.

Korea's first formal official function on foreign soil was the banquet given at the Auditorium, by the Royal Korean commissioner, on the 4th ult., the birthday of the King, in honour of the officials and foreign commissioners of the World's Columbian Exposition. The Koreans present were Chung Kyung Won, the royal commissioner; Ye Sung Soo, Korean minister to the United States; Pak Yong Kin, assistant commissioner; Chi Moon Kinn, attaché of the commissioner; Au Hey Sun, interpreter to the commission, and Surh Boung Kin, secretary of the minister. Commissioner Won sat at the head of the table with President Palmer at his right to act as toastmaster, the commissioner's ignorance of English making assistance necessary. The commissioner's speech, translated and read by the assisstant commissioner, Pak Yong Kin, was as follows:—"To-day is the anniversary of the birthday of his Majesty, the King of Korea, and you have been invited to this banquet to do honour to the event. For about ten years only has Korea, formerly known as the Hermit nation, been open to the world. His Majesty was greatly honoured by the invitation of the President of the United States to participate in the World's Columbian Exposition on the occasion of the 400th anniversary of the discovery of America, and much pleased by the particular attention of the National commission in sending Special Commissioner Seward to emphasize that invitation. Never before has Korea taken part in any international exposition, but in response to an urgent request of America, the great friend of Korea, his Majesty has sent his first official

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exhibit abroad, to make complete the representations of nations. Our small and humble exhibit has its place in the Department of Manufactures. It is simply representation and is not offered for comparison with the exhibits of the earth, but is honoured in forming a part of those combined exhibits which make the greatest exposition the world has ever seen. We recognize at this exposition the lessons of fraternal union in language, literature, religion, science, art, and the civil institutions of different peoples; and our administration for the educational system of imparting knowledge in all departments is very great indeed. We are sure this exposition will tend to the establishment of the principles of judicial arbitration as the supreme law of international relations. We have learned many things from all the various nations who form this exposition, and we have already determined to introduce into our country many of those beneficial improvements: and we hope that you also will take back to your country pleasant impressions of Korea and our gathering here to-night."

THREE RICE EXCHANGES IN YOKOHAMA.

BUSINESS rivalry or personal animosity seems to be exceptionally powerful in Yokohama, for no less than three rice exchanges are contemplated by the merchants of the place. The first party calls itself *Boyekisho-sha*. The place selected by it for an exchange is No. 30 of the 5th Ward in Kaigan, and the capital is eighty thousand *yen*, thirty thousand for warehouse purposes and fifty thousand for the exchange. There are nearly fifty promoters, notable among them being Messrs. Ijima Yuzo, Tajiro Ichiroji, Tanigawa Fukutaro, and others. The Yokota party proposes to have its exchange at No. 5, Onoye-cho, Gochome, and fixes its capital at fifty thousand *yen*; while the Kurobe party prefers some other site, not mentioned by the *Chu-o Shimbun* from which we take these particulars. It is stated that all three parties sent in their applications simultaneously on the 2nd instant.

THE OPPONENTS OF MIXED RESIDENCE.

THE ceremony for the formal organization of the "Great Japan Union," an association composed of the opponents of Mixed Residence, took place on the 1st instant in the Nakamura-ro, Ryogoku, Tokyo. Mr. Abei Iwane, a well known Conservative member of the House of Representatives, was in the chair. There were present nearly three hundred persons, including delegates from all parts of the country. The proceedings commenced at 2 p.m. Mr. Abei explained the origin of the Union and the object for which it has been established. As to its origin, he observed that it might be said to date from the establishment of an association (the *Naichi Zakkyo Kozyukai*) last year for the purpose of investigating the question of Mixed Residence. The results of the investigations conducted by that association had shown that, in the present condition of the country, it is premature to open the interior for Mixed Residence. The members of the association, being desirous of giving effect to their opinions, had decided to organize the Union the inauguration of which they were now assembled to celebrate. Mr. Abei then went on to remark that the question of Treaty Revision was a national and not a party one, and severely criticised the Radicals, who, notwithstanding the public declaration of their leader to the contrary, had made a party question of it by binding their members to certain fixed views on the subject. He hoped that the Government might be more careful in considering this question than the Radicals, but he was not without serious misgivings as to the Cabinet's firmness to resist the pressure which would be brought to bear upon them by the Radicals in the coming session of the Diet. Although the Radical Party pretended to desire equal treaties, its real object was, in his opinion, to make concessions in revising the present treaties. A country, he said, exists for its own interest, and it is Japan's own private affair whether or no her territory shall be opened for Mixed Residence—Mixed Residence and Treaty Revision were questions entirely independent of each other and had no mutual relations. If the foreign Powers refused to have intercourse with Japan on an equal footing, unless the interior was opened for Mixed Residence, then the Japanese nation ought to take some decisive action. Mr. Abei, however, did not state the nature of the action to be taken in such a contingency. After this address, the assembly proceeded to vote upon the draft rules of the Union. The preamble to the rules insists on the importance of reserving the right to grant Mixed Residence and exercising it strictly at the free will of the Japanese nation. The document also states that the members of the Union earnestly desire to have the treaties revised, and that their object is threefold: first, to secure the conclusion of treaties on a basis of absolute equality; secondly, to oppose the opening of the interior for Mixed Residence, and at the same time to make preparations for the grant of the privilege at some future date; and thirdly, to investigate international questions of all sorts. The officers of the Union are a President, and Vice-President, and Board of Councillors, Managers, and Committees. The election of the President and Vice-President will not take place for the present. To the Board of Councillors were elected Messrs. Abei Iwane, Sossa Tomofusa, Oi Kentaro, Suzuki Shigetoo, and Komuchi Tomotsune. After the election, Mr. Oi Kentaro delivered a short address, and the proceedings concluded with three cheers for the Emperor, the Empire, and the Union. The assembly then sat down to dinner, in the course of which speeches were delivered by Mr. Yasuba Yasukazu and a few others, while congratulatory addresses were read by Viscount Soga, General Yamakawa, and Mr. Fujimura Shiro.

* * *

The opponents of Mixed Residence held a lecture meeting on the following day, the 2nd instant, in the Kinki-kan, Kanda. The spacious building was full of an eager audience. Mr. Kokubo Kishichi having opened the meeting with a short address, was followed by a few other insignificant speakers. The assembly was surprised when they recognized on the platform a very conspicuous person, whose name had not appeared in the advertisements of the meeting. This was no other than Dr. Kato Hiroyuki, ex-President of the Imperial University. He called the attention of his hearers to the gravity of the question under discussion. Before taking any decisive action, he recommended that Commissioners should be sent to all countries which are suffering from the ingress of foreigners, such, for instance, as the states of South America, India, Turkey, Egypt, Siam, China, and so forth. They should reside in these countries for some years and study the question in an exhaustive manner. He thought it would not be too late to decide the question after the conclusion of such investigations. The other speakers were Messrs. Komuchi Tomotsune, M.P., Koyama Masataka, Mochizuki Bunshu, Kazuki Jokei, M.P., Arai Shogo, M.P., Kunitomo Shigeakira, Wada Hikojiro, M.P., Abei Iwaru, M.P., and Oi Kentaro. Four of these speakers, including Mr. Oi, overstepped the limits of the liberty of speech and had to leave the platform in the midst of their discourses. A few *soshi* were ordered to quit the hall; but the meeting was fairly quiet and orderly.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS BETWEEN JAPAN AND ITALY.

ITALIAN influence, says the *Hochi*, was for a time considerable in this country, on the return of a certain Count who had travelled in Italy. He professed great admiration for the institutions of that State and for its people, and he succeeded in creating an interest which brought the two nations into comparatively close friendship. But as years went by the feeling grew weaker, and when Mr. Nakajima returned unexpectedly, after a brief sojourn in Rome, without having achieved anything to boast of, the public appears to have begun to appreciate the virtual uselessness of despatching a representative to Italy. The idea now prevalent seems to be that to cultivate international friendship by despatching special representatives at no inconsiderable expense to the Treasury, is a policy of very doubtful advantage in the majority of cases. The critics include Rome in the list of places where a Japanese Minister is more ornamental than useful, and they condemn the notion of sending one there as a profitless act of extravagance. The *Hochi Shimbun*, however, while admitting that superfluous officials are to be condemned, notes that the functions to be discharged by a representative are not political only, and that the cost of maintaining him must not be calculated on that basis alone. He has to discharge duties of international sociability and etiquette as well, and when the relations between Japan and Italy are considered, that part of the Minister's rôle assumes no little importance. For even when the sixteen other Powers were disposed to decline Treaty Revision, on the terms proposed by the Japanese Government, Italy showed herself willing to stand alone in abandoning extraterritorial jurisdiction. Her attitude must have been due to the sympathy she felt towards this country, in view of the fact that the sacrifices Italy had to make and the difficulties she had to encounter in order to achieve unification, closely resembled the sacrifices and difficulties that lay in Japan's path to the Restoration. Thus, though from a political or an economic stand-point there may be no need to despatch a representative to Rome, international etiquette may require that one be sent. Besides, if Japan is not represented in Italy, the latter will surely not be represented in Japan, a fact well worth consideration. If the difficulty of obtaining suitable persons to fill the post begets rumours such a now prevail, there is food for serious reflection. Should there be no better alternative, concludes the Progressionist organ, the Japanese representative in Paris or Vienna or Berlin should be made Minister to Italy at the same time. It seems to us (*Japan Mail*) that this ingenuous article was compiled rather for the pupose of bringing discredit on Mr. Nakashima and the Party to which he belongs, than to seriously discuss an international question.

COMMERCIAL PROSPECTS BETWEEN JAPAN AND SPAIN.

THE *Hochi Shimbun* gives the gist of a conversation said to have taken place between a representative of that journal and a Japanese student recently returned from studying in Spain. The subject was commerce between Japan and Spain. The student's view is very sanguine. He said that though there are at present no particular relations between the two countries, either politically or commercially, strong grounds exist for hoping that transactions may become active hereafter. In order to hasten that desirable issue, Japan should take the initiative. The principal Japanese articles exported to Spain are fans, porcelains, silk-goods, and other fancy wares; but of these fans occupy the foremost place. The favour with which the fans made in Nagoya, Osaka, and Kyoto are received in the Spanish capital is said to be so great that not a female from the highest to the lowest appears at any place of amusement, or on any public occasion, without a Japanese fan in her hand. •It is true that silk fans are made in Spain, but they cost from 4 to 20 francs, and cannot compete with Japanese fans which, though tasteful and durable, cost only from 3 to 4 francs. The speaker had made inquiries while in Madrid as to the average quantity of fans annually sold in that city alone, not relying on statistical returns, but referring to the fan merchants themselves. He was informed that, roughly estimated, more than 6 million fans are sold every year. Those who derive the largest profit in the importation of this class of goods are not the Japanese or the Spaniards, but the French, for the fans all come through France. It might have been expected that retaliatory tariff restrictions recently imposed by Spain upon goods imported from France, would have checked the coming of Japanese fans, but owing apparently to the strong

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liking entertained by the Spaniards for these fans, no injurious effect was perceptible. The speaker had observed with surprise and regret that no Japanese merchant attempted to carry on business in the whole length and breadth of Spain, despite the fact that transactions between the two countries is of such a brisk character even at present. Nor is he at all satisfied with the enterprise, or lack of enterprise, shown by the Spaniards themselves, seeing that there are only two Spanish business men in Japan, one in Yokohama and the other in Kobe, and that they are engaged in a kind of transport business. He expatiated on the importance of the Spanish language to the Japanese, placing it in the same category with English from the business standpoint, inasmuch as Spanish is used in the South Sea Islands, in Central America, and in South America, all of which places promise to be good markets for Japanese merchandise. But it will be observed that this informant of the *Hochi Shimbun* falls into an error very common in Japan: he fails to distinguish between the producer and the distributor. The great thing for Japan is to find markets for her goods. What is of real importance to her in connection with this fan question is that purchasers should be forthcoming for the products of the industry, not that her own people should monopolise the rôle of middle-men. The French, apparently, make excellent distributors. They succeed—if we may believe the *Hochi's* informant—in selling six million Japanese fans annually in Madrid alone, and if Japanese agents could do better than that, they must be very clever. We admire all displays of enterprise, but practicality is also desirable on occasions

AN OPINION ABOUT THE JUDGES ADVISED TO RESIGN.

It may be interesting to hear what the judicial authorities are alleged to advance in support of their advice to certain judges to submit their resignation, advice about which the Tokyo barristers are said to be much displeased. The *Jiji Shimpo* has been enabled to learn the opinion entertained by an official of authority on the subject. He explained to the paper's representative that the contention of the barristers as to the Minister for Justice having set at naught the provisions of the constitution, is a wholly partial view. The Minister has simply given notice of the desirability of resignation to judges who are reported by their superiors to be incompetent to discharge their duties, in other words, the provisions of Art. 74 of the Law of Organization of the Courts of Law have been applied, nothing more or less. That these judges have been advised to resign without their cases being submitted to the Court of Appeal or the Court of Cassation, convoked specially for the purpose, according to the provision of Art. 74, was simply due to a friendly desire on the part of the Department not to expose them to any humiliation. Such precedents are frequently found in the West, there being special provisions for the purpose in German law, on which, indeed, the Japanese Law of Organization of the Courts is based. Altogether the steps which the Minister for Justice has taken in the matter are considered by him to be prudent and proper. As to the point whether some special judge to whom this treatment has been extended is really incapable of discharging his duty, there may, of course, be differences of opinion but the Minister has been guided by the best counsel available.

THE VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Men speak now of Mr. Abei Hankon as the most likely candidate for the Vice-Presidency of the House of Representatives. Recently three names were mentioned for the post vacated by Mr. Sone's acceptance of a diplomatic post They were those of Messrs. Kono Hironaka Shimada Saburo, and Abei Hankon. But Mr. Kono, it is understood, being the recognised leader of the Radical party in the House of Representatives, would not like to serve in a position inferior to that occupied by Mr. Hoshi Toru, President of the House, who has no formally acknowledged leadership in the party; and Mr. Shimada, being a Progressionist, is by no means a *persona grata* with the majority of the members. Thus, *faute de mieux*, the House will have to fall back on its oldest member, Mr. Abei Hankon, for which we are emphatically sorry, seeing that Mr. Abei's views about Mixed Residence do not qualify him for a prominent position anywhere outside Mr. Oi Kentaro's coterie.

METALS.

Messrs. S. W. Royse & Co., in their report dated August 26th, say:—The difficulties with the colliers have naturally affected the Iron trade, though prices of Pig Iron are not altered so much as might have been expected. During the first half of this month values of both Scotch and Middlesbrough Pig Iron remained steady, business done being almost entirely for prompt delivery; at the beginning of this week a much better tone was noticeable at Middlesbrough and some improvement in values, but prices have since receded and are now easy at about the same level as at the beginning of the month. The Manufactured Iron trade in the Midlands is quite unsettled by the colliers' dispute. Copper has declined slowly but steadily during this month, the reduction so far being about 15s. per ton. Tin has declined rapidly, and is now weak at about £5 per ton lower than at the beginning of the month. Spelter has lost ground, but only slightly. Lead, after remaining steady for some weeks, is now easing a little.

LAND-OWNERS IN JAPAN.

Judging from the present state of affairs, there appear to be no fears of the lands in Japan being monopolized by a limited number of owners, though that was one of the great evils of mediæval times. The *Kokumin* gives the following figures, based on the latest statistical returns of the Taxation Bureau of the Department of Finance:—

	1888.	1892.	1892.
Tax-payers of and above 10 *yen* per annum	882,527	672,776	870,307
Tax payers of and above 5 *yen* per annum	1,693,609	1,581,726	1,692,609
	1890.	1891	1892
Tax payers of and above 15 *yen* per annum	451,883	435,200	527,601

This table shows that though in the year 1891 there was a uniform reduction in the number of tax-payers of the three given grades—a reduction of which it is not possible to give any definite explanation at present—the subsequent tendency has been towards uniform increase. It should be noted that this list of tax-payers above 15 *yen* per annum is, in fact, the list of persons qualified for franchise. The table is therefore less accurate as bearing upon the land question than the figures for the lower grades, inasmuch as income tax is included in the case of several of the franchise-holders' yearly payment, and, at the same time, there are some land-owners who, though paying taxes of over 15 *yen* a year, are not entered as voters on account of not having attained their majority.

THE "ILLUSTRATED AMERICAN."

A correspondent sends to a home paper the following extract from the *Illustrated American*:

The English in India have just given another example of the shallowness and hypocrisy of their boasted enlightenment. A few days ago the Moslems of Rangoon assembled at their temple to sacrifice a cow in celebration of one of their most important religious festivals. While they were going through the sacred rites, Mr Fleming, the British magistrate, appeared before them, and with airy impudence ordered the Mahommedans to disperse As they did not obey his command as promptly as he wished, he ordered the armed police to fire on the worshippers At the first volley twenty Mahommedans fell dead and many more were mortally wounded. Not content with this impious slaughter perpetrated in all the fanaticism and cruelty of barbarism, the English brute, Fleming, summoned four companies of the military and ordered them to charge double quick and with fixed bayonets The Mahommedans still protesting their right to worship God after their own customs, slowly retreated The English persisted in their attrack, and did not desist until hundreds of the Hindoos had been killed

Englishmen and English papers are alleged to be extremely ignorant of what goes on in America, but we do not think our ignorance has ever reached the low-water mark touched in the above remarkable extract. Where the writer got his information from he is prudent enough not to say; he seems so anxious to deliver a crushing attack on "English brutes' that possibly he manufactured the news as he was writing. The correspondent states that in the previous week's issue the *Illustrated American* speaks of the deep knowledge of its editor, and at the same time publishes "A view of Balmoral Castle, *London*." This is about as near the mark as the other stray shot. . . . . This *Illustrated American* is the paper in which Mr. Clement Scott recently cut so ridiculous a figure

THE VOYAGE OF THE "GLENOGLE."

The New York *Herald* gives the following account of the voyage of the *Glenogle* from this port:—Captain Duke, of the British steamer *Glenogle*, has won the prize of $500 offered by the Chamber of Commerce to the captain who brings the first cargo of spring crop tea to New York from China. The *Glenogle* arrived on Thursday morning, 3rd August, from Yokohama, with freight valued at nearly $2,000,000. She made a new record from Amoy, and was easily first of the tea fleet, which began the long race westward early in June Captain Duke left Yokohama on June 7, supplementing his cargo at Hyogo, Shanghai, Foochow, and Amoy. At Amoy he had raised his cargo of tea to five thousand tons. He added nine hundred tons of coal and a few tons of curios. He weathered the monsoon in the China Sea, stopped a few hours at Singapore to load 800 tons of coal, got 250 tons more at Perim, and hustled through the Suez Canal at dawn on the morning of July 16. He coaled again at Port Said and Gibraltar. The Atlantic was crossed in 11d. 5h. and 12m. and the run from Amoy was made in 42d. 4h and 20m., which beats the best record, made by the *Glenogle* last year, by a little more than four days. The log showed 13,830 miles from Amoy, and 31,591 since the *Glenogle* left London on January 23. The British tea steamer *Ping Suey* left Amoy in company with the *Glenogle*. She was nine days behind at Gibraltar. The record tea ship had to strike her topmasts to pass under the Brooklyn Bridge.

THE RADICAL PARTY.

Later reports from Kyushu agree in attesting the success of the campaign lately carried on by the Radical leaders in that island. Rumours about a cool reception by their own followers in some localities, seem to be entirely unfounded, being in most cases mere fabrications of the Radical party's enemies.

* * *

Despite the strenuous efforts of the Progressionists and others to discredit the Radical party, the latter is declared to be even more popular in the country than before. Application for admission into its ranks are said to pour in from all parts of the country in such numbers, that two clerks specially detailed for the task are unable to register the names of the applicants fastenough. This report may be purposely exaggerated, but it appears in the columns of the *Kokumin Shimbun*, which is by no means well disposed towards the Radicals.

FATAL ACCIDENT ON THE "TITAN."

While the steamer *Titan* was discharging cargo on Saturday, says the *Kobe Chronicle*, a terrible accident occurred, resulting in the death of one man and very serious injury to another. A case weighing from 14 to 15 cwt. was being hoisted out of the hold, when the tackle got jammed round the winch. Before anything could be done to put matters to rights, the tackle parted and the case swung round on to the staging, knocking two coolies head over heels into the hold. One of the unfortunate men died soon after he was brought up on deck, but the other, though terribly injured, may possibly recover.

LADIES' BACK HAIR.

Mr. Labouchere, in the current number of *Truth*, says:—"My appeal for information as to the length to which ladies' back hair has been known to run has brought me evidence of one authentic case which completely eclipses

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the recorded of the friend of my friend at the Reform Club. In this instance the lady's hair measure 7ft. 4in. The fact is authenticated in the most satisfactory way by the certificate of a gentleman at Richmond, who is, I see, privileged by special appointment to dress several of the Crowned Heads of Europe. I do not know whether the lady in question is altogether to be envied, for two yards and a half of back hair must be a somewhat embarrassing adornment. Nature is, indeed, most capricious in the distribution of her favours; for, while this lady would, perhaps, gladly spare a few feet of her tresses, I happen to know several who are put to considerable expense in order to supply their deficiencies in this direction."

THE PRESS AND MIXED RESIDENCE.

THE organization of the Great Japan Union marks a step in the history of the movement against Mixed Residence. There are indications which suggest apprehensions lest the banner raised by the new political association may ultimately become a rallying point for the simple and conservative land owners and tradespeople in the Provinces, whose influence is beginning to be felt in the field of practical politics. These classes constitute nearly ninety per cent. of the electors, and it is needless to remark that, were the present agitation earnestly endorsed by them, the moment would be critical for those who have at heart the revision of the existing treaties and the formal recognition of Japan as a member of the community of civilized nations. But so far as the the educated class is concerned, there is no manner of doubt that the anti-Mixed Residence movement will never obtain an ascendency. This is well proved by the attitude of the metropolitan press upon the subject. Out of the ten leading dailies, only three are at all in sympathy with the agitation These are the *Nippon*, the *Choya Shimbun*, and the *Kokkai*. The position assumed by the last named is peculiar. It is not perhaps right to classify the paper in the same category with the *Nippon* and the *Choya*, for the *Kokkai* is avowedly in favour of Mixed Residence However, our contemporary has now taken an attitude difficult to reconcile with any practical programme. It does not hesitate to point out the absurdity of the arguments put forth by the opponents of Mixed Residence, but at the same time it alludes to the increasing popularity of the agitation, and declares that, in view of such a "state of things, it cannot but give reluctant approval to the movement." We find it difficult to conceive that a journalist of Mr Suyehiro's known integrity and ability can be capable of maintaining such an illogical attitude Perhaps he is no longer the liberal politician of former days. If we may judge from the tone of his recent writings, he seems to be now more or less in sympathy with the National Unionists and the rest of the conservatives. Perhaps he intends the article now before us to be read as an open intimation of his political metamorphosis If such be the case, he would have acted in a more manly way had he candidly and unequivocally announced the change that has taken place in his political opinions. At all events he is no longer to be counted among the zealous advocates of the opening of the interior for Mixed Residence. With these exceptions, all the leading papers, as the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, the *Jiji Shimpo*, the *Mainichi Shimbun*, the *Fyu Shimbun*, and so forth, are unanimously opposed to the absurd agitation started by what one of them has contemptuously termed "a gang of political adventurers." It is reassuring to find that these papers, representing as they do, the intelligence and knowledge of the nation, breathe a tone of manly self confidence in discussing the question of Mixed Residence. They laugh at the peevishness and ignorance of those who try at this eleventh hour to prevent the consummation of what is a legitimate and desirable consequence of the policy of progress adopted at the time of the Restoration. The opponents of Mixed Residence are severely criticised for estimating the capacity o their fellow countrymen so low as to count the latter incapable of competing with Occidental races in the struggle for existence. As to Professor Inouye, who is perhaps the first Japanese that has taken pains to prove the racial inferiority of his countrymen, the vernacular press does not think it at all necessary to make any serious allusion to him except for the purpose of placing him in the same category with the unpopular and much-abused author of "The Japanese Bride."

* * *

It is rumoured that the Progressionist leader has issued instructions to the provincial organs of his party to maintain an attitude of neutrality on the question of Mixed Residence. This report has been denied by the Progressionist papers in the capital, but their contemporaries seem inclined to believe that there is some basis of truth in it. For our own part, we can not imagine that, however intense their party spirit may be, the Progressionists will be so lacking in sense and public spirit as to look on idly because the present agitation on the question of Mixed Residence is in one sense directed against their enemies the Radicals. But while discrediting the rumour alluded to above, we cannot choose but regret that the Progressionists papers do not throw more energy into the discussion of the question, for some of them, especially the *Hochi Shimbun*, are certainly open to the charge of greatly abated interest, if not actual indifference.

* * *

If we turn to magazines and other periodicals, we find the same unanimous condemnation of the movement against Mixed Residence The *Ajiya* alone is more or less in favour of this benighted movement All the other magazines worth mention, as for instance, the *Kokumin-no-Tomo*, the *Keisai Zasshi*, and so forth, are decidedly in favour of admitting foreigners into the interior.

SAMUEL SAMUEL AND CO. AND THE YOKOHAMA FANCY GOODS MERCHANTS.

THE troubles between certain Japanese fancy-goods merchants and Messrs. Samuel Samuel and Co., appear to be still far from a settlement. It should be remembered that the affair originally arose between the Kobe merchants and the Branch Office of the Firm at that port. The former, dissatisfied with some proceedings of the Firm, formed a league, and resolved to decline supplying fancy goods to the Firm. Before conveying a formal intimation of that resolution, they thought it prudent to acquaint the Yokohama merchants engaged in the same business with the details of the affair. Thus Yokohama also became involved in the trouble. The merchants of the latter port assembled and, after discussion, resolved to send deputies for the purpose of holding a conference with Messrs. Samuel Samuel and Company with reference to the Kobe complication. They intimated their purpose to the Firm. A week passed without any reply from the latter, and when the Japanese pressed for an answer, they were told that the Firm saw no occasion to meet their deputies. Their pacific intentions being thus rejected, they are said to be highly incensed about the discourtesy experienced at the hands of the Firm, and on the 1st ultimo they held an extraordinary meeting at which 120 merchants attended. The following resolution was finally taken:—That the Yokohama Fancy Wares Associated Merchants decline to engage in any business transaction with Messrs. Samuel Samuel and Co., No. 27, Concession, and also with No. 64, Kobe Concession, in accordance with wishes of the Kobe merchants engaged in the same business; that this resolution shall be observed by every one present at the meeting from the moment of its adoption by the meeting, and by every one not present from the day on which the report of the meeting's proceedings reach his hands; that two watch-men shall be stationed in the neighbourhood of the firm to prevent any one supplying goods to it in contravention of the resolution; that a Standing Committee of twenty be nominated by the Chairman of the Association for managing matters relating to the effectual carrying out of the resolution, and also for winding up any incomplete business transactions in which any member of the Association may have been engaged with the Firm previous to the present resolution; and that the expenses required in the present affair shall be defrayed out of the surplus fund of the Association as a special outlay.

* * *

The above particulars being taken from the *Nippon*, notorious for its tendency to exaggerate every matter relating to foreigners, must be read with a certain measure of incredulity. But if they be correct in the main, it would seem that one of the principal foreign firms in this line of business is the object of a very resolute boycott by Japanese. We know nothing of the rights and wrongs of this affair, but we cannot, of course, suppose that any injustice has been wittingly done by the foreign firm, and it seems regrettable under the circumstances that Messrs. Samuel Samuel and Company declined to receive the delegates of the Yokohama merchants. The latter's procedure, namely, seeking a conference with the foreign firm before assuming a definitely hostile attitude towards it, was reasonable and proper. What appears probable, however, is that Messrs. Samuel Samuel and Company saw no reason to extend the consequences of the complication to Yokohama, and concluded that the Yokohama dealers had no title to interfere. It is easy to understand and sympathise with such a view. If anything that occurs between a foreign firm's branch office in an outport and its clients there, is to constitute a subject of discussion and difficulty between the firm's head office and clients in Yokohama, business would be scarcely possible. That, indeed, is the really serious aspect of such occurrences. They furnish an object lesson showing the great power exercisable by the Japanese in combination against the foreigner. No corresponding capacity for resistance exists on the foreign side. Combination is for him out of the question, and he thus lies virtually at the mercy of any league of Japanese allied to harrass or coerce him. The only saving factor of the situation is that both sides are anxious to do business rather than to waste time in disputes, but the position occupied by the foreigner is nevertheless far from enviable. We hear a great deal from time to time about his arbitrary conduct, and about the mastery exercised by him over the Japanese in matters of trade. But there are no openly visible evidences of such strength. On the contrary, whenever a dispute becomes public, what one sees is a foreign firm subject to strong coercion from the Japanese side and condemned to desist altogether from business, or to make some concession to his alert and resolute adversaries. The mastery does not "pan out" in the manner indicated by the vernacular press.

MR. HOSHI V. THE "KAISHIN SHIMBUN."

THE trial of the above libel case was resumed in the Tokyo Local Court on the 4th inst., at 10.40 a.m. The proprietors of the tea houses, Hisagoya, Tokiwa-ya, Hyogo-ya, Tomoye-ya, as well as Messrs. Okabe Hiromu and Horiye Shoichi, were called as witnesses. The examination of the proprietor of the Hisago ya resulted in disclosing the fact that Messrs. Oye Taku and others had met several times at the tea house since December last; but with regard to Mr. Hoshi, it was found that he had not been to the house during the last session of the Diet. Once in June last he had entertained Messrs. Saito, Okabe, Isono, Toriyama, and Tamate there; and in July he was present in company with Messrs. Kumagai, Ando, Yonekura, Matsumawa, and a few others. Concerning these meetings, it was testified by the proprietor of Hisago-ya that the one in July was connected with a certain fire insurance company, and had nothing to do with the Exchange question. Sakai, the proprietor of the Tokiwa-ya, was examined next His evidence, as corroborated by books, was that, although representatives of Exchanges had met several times in his house since November last, Mr. Hoshi was not present at any of the meetings, and that Mr. Hoshi had only once met Messrs. Oka-

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be and Koike at the tea-house, the time of the meeting being June. The proprietors of the Hyogo-ya and the Tomoye-ya made it plain that Mr. Hoshi had never been at their houses during the interval in question. The proprietor of the Hyogo-ya even stated that Mr. Hoshi never comes to his house, not being on relations of amity with him. In reply to the Presiding Judge's question, the tea-house proprietor stated that many years ago when Mr. Hoshi's law office was in the immediate vicinity of the tea-house, he—the proprietor—had been very much annoyed by objections which Mr. Hoshi made to the way in which lanterns were suspended at the front door way of the tea house on the occasion of a festival of the *Hie* shrine. Since that time the witness has not even greeted Mr. Hoshi when meeting him in the street. This piece of evidence brought into vivid salience to the idiosyncracies of Mr. Hoshi, and caused no small merriment in the Court. It being now a quarter past 4 p.m., the examination of Messrs. Okabe and Horiye was deferred until the next sitting which was fixed for the 9th instant.

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION

Mr. Tsuji Shinji, former Vice-Minister of Education and his fellow-thinkers seem to be taking every means to throw obstacles in the path of the reforms inaugurated by the present Minister, Mr. Inouye Ki. To mention some of the reports circulated about their doings. It is stated, for instance, that they have tried in vain to obtain the cōoperation of Messrs. Takamine Hideo, former President of the Higher Normal School, Sugiura Shigetake, Principal of the Nippon Chugakko Yano Jiro, former Director of the Commercial College, and Kubota Kanichi; that they are pursuading some influential members of the Cabinet to replace Mr. Inouye by Count Yamagata; that they are trying hard to purchase the support of certain powerful journals, and that they have distributed a circular among the principals of the Normal Schools throughout the country, telling them that the Minister of Education contemplates giving their posts to new men. But Mr. Tsuji and the educational agitators referred to, have little influence outside their own circle. Even supposing—and we find the supposition very difficult of credence—that they are pursuing the course ascribed to them by rumour, there is not much probability that they will secure the sympathy of the public in general.

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A report is said to have been assidnously disseminated by the agitators to the effect that the Minister of Education, alarmed at the growing influence of the opposition to his policy, applied for support to Count Okuma, through the medium of either Mr. Yano Fumio or Mr. Tokutomi Ichiro, editor of the *Kokumin Shimbun*, and that the Progressionist leader promised to give him such support. This report found its way into the columns of the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, and has been most emphatically denied by the Minister of Education. The *Hochi Shimbun*, which is understood to be under the immediate control of Count Okuma, also denies it, on behalf of its patron. Count Okuma, while stating that Mr. Inouye is not a man to ask for other people's assistance, nevertheless declares that upon the whole he approves the course pursued by the present Minister of Education. Such being the case, the Progressionist leader alleges himself ready to support Mr Inouye without the latter's solicitation, which, he declares, has never been addressed to him.

MEETING OF THE UNITED CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE OF JAPAN.

The meeting of the United Chambers of Commerce of Japan, held at Kobe from the 27th ult., was brought to a close on the 29th. The matters discussed at the meetings subsequent to that reported in these columns, had reference to investigations into civil and commercial laws; amendments of Chambers of Commerce regulations being proposed by the representatives of the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce; construction of a hall for specimens in the fourth domestic exhibition; advisability of permitting foreign goods and machines to be there exhibited, the last two questions being introduced by the Kyoto Chamber of Commerce; erection of a lighthouse at Cape Irako, Mikawa, proposed by the Yokkaichi Chamber of Commerce; establishment of silk inspection offices at Yokohama and Kobe, proposed by the Hiroshima Chamber of Commerce; and total abolition of export duties, proposed by the Chambers of Commerce of Shizuoka, Osaka, Hiroshima, Kanazawa, Sendai, Hamamatsu, and Yokkaichi. Nearly all of these bills were set aside to be dealt with in the first place by the respective Chambers by which they had been originally introduced, with, however, the hearty cōoperation of the rest in case such cōoperation were judged necessary. The last bill, relating to the total abolition of export duties, was passed by an almost unanimous vote of the members assembled, and the meeting decided to forward a petition on the subject to both the Upper and the Lower Houses of the Diet. Curiously enough, the Kobe Chamber of Commerce was hostile to the proposal, though it is not clear, from the brief statements contained in the vernacular press, on what grounds that Chamber alone entertained a view opposed to all the rest. We understand that the 3rd meeting of the United Chambers is to be held in Kanazawa in August of next year. We should add that a proposal to ask the Government to remove the import duty from raw cotton, was subsequently approved with virtual unanimity by the meeting.

BRANCH LINES OF THE OSAKA-BAMBA AND MAYEBARA-OGAKI RAILWAY.

With a view to laying a line of railway between Kobe and Bamba (Otsu), a distance of 57 miles, and between Mayebara and Ogaki, a distance of 22 miles, the Board of Railways, according to the *Jiji*, intends to ask the consent next session to an expenditure of 1,350,000 *yen*. The abundance of passengers and goods to the Kobe-Kyoto line seems plainly to call for the construction of an additional line between the two termini. Moreover, the land being level, an engine could draw 30 to 40 cars without difficulty, an advantage not enjoyed in places beyond Kyoto; but from Kyoto to Bamba the districts are hilly. Thus goods going to the eastern provinces from the Kei-Han region are necessarily much delayed in conveyance, to the no small inconvenience of merchants. It is to obviate such drawbacks that the construction of an additional line as far as Bamba is projected. We understand that a similar difficulty exists in the case of goods transportation between Ogaki and Mayebara.

PUPILS OF THE SHIMANE MIDDLE SCHOOL

Evidently the pupils of the Shimane Ordinary Middle School are strongly imbued with the Shinto faith, if the following story which we take from the *Kokkai* be authentic:—It seems, according to our contemporary, that the pupils of that school lately went over to Shikoku on a scientific excursion. They paid a visit to the famous shrine of Kompira, Sanuki, and it happened that three of the lads failed to perform the usual act of reverence at the shrine. The matter was regarded by their fellow students in a grave light, and was subsequently made the subject of special deliberation, when a decision was arrived at that the case of the three youths should be reported to the Director with the object of having suitable punishment inflicted; that they should be ostracized in the school, and that they should be dismissed from a society organized by general body of students. What the lads did exactly or what they failed to do, we do not know, but the action of the students has a very close resemblance to religious intolerance.

HOKKAIDO TIME-EXPIRED CONVICTS.

The people of Hokkaido, according to the *Jiji*, are much concerned about the manner of dealing with the convicts now in the various prisons of the island whose time will very soon expire. Some steps must be taken with promptitude, for out of a total of 7,000 convicts now in detention, 130 are to be discharged next year, having completed a term of 12 years' penal servitude. With not a *sen* in their pockets, and not a change of clothes to cover them, they can become only a public charge and may even be driven to desperate wrong-doing unless some means of enabling them to earn their bread be devised. To provide funds sufficient to send the convicts back to their homes is out of the question, even supposing that the people of Hokkaido were willing to inaugurate such a system. The problem is altogether puzzling. It was proposed to organize a large farm, and to employ the ex-convicts as labourers, but that scheme has fallen through, chiefly owing to the unwillingness of capitalists to embark funds in an enterprise depending upon the labour of such untrustworthy persons.

MOVEMENTS OF H.B.M SHIPS.

Following are the dates fixed for the arrival of H.B.M. ships at the ports mentioned:—*Imperieuse*—Hakodate, Oct. 15; Yokohama, Oct. 21; Kobe, Nov. 2; Port Hamilton, Nov. 10; Nagasaki, Nov. 17; Hongkong, Dec. 1. *Leander*—Fusan, Oct. 8; Port Hamilton, Oct. 11; Nagasaki, Oct. 14; Port Arthur, Oct. 18; Chefoo, Oct. 23; Woosung, Nov. 1; Amoy, Nov. 10; Hongkong, Nov. 15; will subsequently relieve the *Pallas* in the Straits of Malacca. *Severn*—Lazareff, Oct. 12; Nagasaki, Oct 21; Port Hamilton, Oct. 25; Chemulpo, Oct. 30; Shanghai, Nov. 6; Hongkong, Nov. 22; *Alacrity*—Hakodate, Oct. 8; Yokohama, Oct. 10; Kobe and Nagasaki; Korea, Nov. 2; Shanghai, Nov. 9; Hongkong, Dec 11. *Mercury*—Fusan, Oct. 6; Chemulpo, Oct. 10; Port Hamilton, Oct. 17; Nagasaki, Oct. 21; Kobe, Oct. 27; Yokohama, Nov. 1; and will remain as Senior Officer of Japan Division.

A NEWSPAPER IN OKINAWA (RYUKYU).

A newspaper called the *Ryukyu Shimpo* has been started at Nawa, the principal town in Loochoo. It is a small paper of four pages, 15 by 11 inches in size; and it is published on alternate days. The editors are said to be natives of the islands who studied at the Keio-Gijuku. The most interesting columns in the paper are those devoted to literary matter, for a glance over the Japanese national verses (*waka*) contributed by the inhabitants of the islands shows that they are very skilful in this line of literature. Another noticeable feature of the journal is that it is apparently on the best of terms with the local authorities, a circumstance apparently proving that the relations between the Emperor's representatives and his subjects in the southern islands are all that could be desired.

PATRONAGE OF THE WORLD'S FAIR.

The following figures show the number of admissions to the World's Fair on several popular days, and the daily numbers from the 1st to the 24th August. In that month the falling off on Sundays is particularly marked:—

May 1 (opening day)	198,965	August 9	108,420
May 30 (Decoration day)	225,578	August 10	116,119
Total for May (28 days)	1,050,037	August 11	93,019
June 8 (Infanta day)	235,281	August 12 (Bohemian day)	152,072
June 15 German day)	165,069	August 13 (Sunday)	28,304
Total for June (30 days)	1,675,823	August 14	205,172
July 4 (Independence day)	283,273	August 15	223,330
July 29 (Sweden's day)	129,573	August 16	122,368
Total for July (30 days)	1,560,803	August 17	141,304
August 1	80,200	August 18	123,068
August 2	83,043	August 19	168,862
August 3	92,692	August 20 (Sunday)	27,448
August 4	80,032	August 21	130,103
August 5	106,542	August 22	154,235
August 6 (Sunday)	26,181	August 23	149,609
August 7	90,334	August 24	140,409
August 8	104,034	Total from May 1	9,909,150

EXHIBITION OF HEIRLOOMS AT NIKKO.

It is announced that, commencing from the 1st instant, and continuing till the 15th proximo, the temples Tosho-gu and Rinno-ji at Nikko will display all their treasures to the public. Among the former's heirlooms there is a set of paintings of the Thirty-six Poets (*Sanju-rokka*

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sen) from the pen of an Emperor, and the other treasures number 570. Rinno-ji has autographic manuscripts of several Sovereigns, as well as of the Abbots Shodo and Jigen, together with antiquities said to be over 2,000 years old, the whole numbering over 300. The charges of admission are to be 10 *sen* at Tosho-gu and 8 *sen* at Rinno-ji.

TROUBLE BETWEEN THE KWANSEI RAILWAY COMPANY AND VILLAGERS IN OWARI.

THE News Agency gives an account of the recent trouble which arose between the Kwansei Railway Company and the farmers of Akahomura, in the Kaito district of Owari, through which village the intended railway extension of the Company for Yokkaichi to Nagoya is to be constructed. It appears that the farmers requested the engineers of the Company to suspend the final survey of the route until the rice-plants should be done flowering. The engineers, however, would not listen to this demand, but began the survey on the 26th ultimo, about 50 men being engaged in the work. This incensed the villagers so much that they rang alarum-bells, blew trumpets, and summoned some 3,000 people, women and young folks included, who by constructing temporary palisades and other obstacles, showed their resolution to resist the execution of the survey. The Divisional Headmen of the locality were much perturbed and tried to reconcile the two parties, but failing in the attempt, some of them thought it best to bring the matter before the Governor of the Prefecture (Aichi). They proceeded to Nagoya in haste and submitted the facts of the case to Governor Tokito, advising him at the same time that, unless the survey were postponed, they could not answer for the consequences. The Governor thought this quite reasonable, and instructed the Company to postpone the survey for 20 days, which order completely satisfied the villagers.

* * *

Apropos the foregoing, it may be added that the Company a short time ago obtained a provisional charter to extend its railway from Yokkaichi to Nagoya, a distance of some 30 English miles, and is naturally in a great hurry to complete the extension, before the opening of the 4th Domestic Exhibition in Kyoto, at latest. The only difficulty lying in the way of the work is the spanning of the lower part of the Kisogawa. That operation will absorb a considerable portion of the capital—1,200 000 *yen*—which to be raised for the extension. In view of the configuration of the ground, work was started from the other terminus at Nagoya instead of from Yokkaichi, where the Office is now situated.

ITEMS FROM CHINA.

THE epidemic in the province of Anhui appears to have developed terrible proportions. "It seems," writes the *North China Daily News*, "that owing to this epidemic, the country people in the parts affected were unable to attend to the harvesting of their crops, being either dead or lying sick to death in their beds. At first tempting offers of fifty cents a day brought a lot of outsiders to help in harvesting, but these again were also taken sick, which frightened others from offering their services." Violent rains coming before the harvesting of the crops could be effected, the loss of a considerable portion of the unfortunate people's grain has now to be added to their other griefs.

* * *

The mother-in-law in Japan has often been spoken of in strongly uncomplimentary terms, but she has to take a back seat in any audience composed of Chinese mothers-in-law. Two unhappy girls residing in Shanghai have just borne vivid testimony to a mother-in-law's capacity of inflicting torture. Of the same age, between 15 and 16, on the same night, in the same range of alleyway at the corner of Foochow and Yunnan Roads, and from the same cause, they took opium and died. One of the mothers-in-law has been arrested, not because of the brutality that led to the girl's suicide, but because she gave the poor child a number of violent blows on the head when the fatal results of the opium had become inevitable.

* * *

A prominent feature at a Chinese family fête is the receipt of autographic scrolls from men of note. Recently the ex-Provincial Judge of Hupeh, now living in retirement, and father of the present Director General of Chinese Telegraphs and Customs Taotai of Tientsin, celebrated his eightieth birthday at the family residense in Soochow. "The fame of the son," we read in the *North China Daily News*, "brought, besides an infinite quantity of presents of value, scrolls in painting and characters written on beautifully tinted brocaded silk, the gifts of almost every Viceroy, Governor, Treasurer and Judge of Chinese descent in the Empire, with a sprinkling of Manchus, including many from the high Ministers at Court, besides an unlimited number from officials commencing from the rank of Taotai downward. An idea may perhaps be formed of the number by stating that every one of the innumerable rooms in the vast range of buildings which occupy some twenty *mow* was covered with these scrolls, and that those presented by officials commencing with the rank of a Viceroy down to that of a Prefect, the official next to a Taotai, alone numbered over four hundred and fifty."

* * *

The great Viceroy Li has been handed over to the Board of Punishments for the determination of a penalty. Stated thus boldly the event sounds startling, but the fact is that according to one of those wonderful customs prevailing in China alone of all countries in the world, the Viceroy has been "handed over" at his own request! Deeming that the officials in charge of the Yungting River, which lies within his administrative district, had been remiss in the discharge of their duties, and holding himself responsible for their *lashes*, he denounced them to the Throne and at the same time asked that he himself be handed over to the Board of Punishments for the infliction of a due penalty. The Throne paid him the compliment of depriving of their ranks all the officials denounced by him—commencing with a Taotai and ending with a deputy assistant magistrate—but also took him at his word and "handed him over" 'Tis a strange country truly.

* * *

Some time ago a statement was published in a scientific journal and re-produced in these columns to the effect that the Chinese understood the use of the telescope in very ancient times. Concerning this a writer, evidently a sinologue of much research, says in the *North China Daily News*:—

> The Chinese never in ancient times had the idea of a telescope. They knew the five planets because they were taught them from Chaldea and as the Chaldeans did, they regarded them as celestial signs or essences in which were rendered visible to us the five elemental powers. Water was Mercury; metal was Venus; wood was Jupiter, fire was Mars; Earth was Saturn. What the Emperor Shun (not Ch'n) used was a primative astrolabe by which he could mark twenty-eight special stars when they reached the meridian. But there is not any statement in old Chinese literature giving the slightest reason for saying that he saw the planets through a transparent lens. There were reflecting mirrors in the time of Confucius but this Sage had no inclination for physics. His whole attention was absorbed by morals, politics and history. The wonders of scientific discovery were to him an unknown world, to him the past was a delight while he gazed on the future with a look of despair. But great teachers of morality have not everything their own way. They may not care for civilised arts, but civilised arts will advance in spite of their indifference. The magnifying power of a lens was child's talk to Confucius, but other writers took notice of it.

* * *

The following story from Peking is recounted by our Shanghai morning contemporary:—

> A high Minister of the Court is said one day to have remarked during a Cabinet Council in which complaint had been made of the tardiness of the arrival of the tribute grain from the provinces, that if railways had been built earlier there would have been no famine or distress in the country. Upon this, his Majesty is said to have asked whether railways were of any use to prevent the rain from coming down! There was a generally perceptible smile amongst the grave looking Cabinet Councillors at the question, but nothing daunted the Minister replied, "Of course not; but then there would be plenty of grain laid up beforehand which could be distributed without loss of time to the suffering districts, whereas now we have to wait for the grain as it comes and many lives are lost in the meantime." His Majesty was struck by the force of the reply and nodded acquiescence.

THE *Foochow Daily Echo* says:—

> "A novelty has been introduced into Foochow in the form of cheap Chinese literature with the view of encouraging reading amongst the poorer classes. The books are said to have been printed in Japan. They are neatly got up and of a handy size, and are on various subjects, some classical and some historical with a large proportion of simple moral tales."

THE TOKYO SHOSEN GAKKO.

To persons interested in the history of Japanese navigation, the following, from the *Nichi Nichi*, about the Tokyo Shosen Gakko may be of value. In November of 1875 the School was organized by the Mitsubishi Company, and was consequently called the Mitsubishi Shosen Gakko. In May 1882, however, it became a Government school, under the control first of the Noshoma-sho and then of the Department of Communications. Originally, the curriculum consisted of navigation alone, but afterwards a course of mechanical engineering was added, though that on a limited scale. In 1879, a great demand for seamen acquainted with the principles of Western navigation, owing to the gradual increase of ships built in foreign style, induced the faculty of the School to add a special course of navigation for the sake of students desirous of acquiring only such knowledge as was obsolutely necessary for every-day purposes of navigation. About the same time courses in marine meteorology and marine rifle practice were added. With regard to the numbers of students that attended the School from its opening to the end of last year, we learn that among a total of 352 students admitted in the course of navigation 145 secured certificates, 96 left the School without graduating, 28 died, and 83 are still receiving instruction. In the department of mechanical engineering there were 146 entrances in all, 25 obtaining certificates, 29 leaving without finishing their course, 7 dying, and 85 being still in the School. Classified according to the position now held by the graduates we have these figures:—Captains 23; Officers, 94; Mechanical engineers, 23; Ship inspectors in the Teishin-sho, 5; Lieutenants in the Navy, 8; officers in navigation companies, 4; Professors in the Shosen Gakko, 8; Cadets in the Navy. 5; an aggregate of 170. It should be added that the navigation schools both in Osaka and Hakodate were originally private institutions, like the case of the Tokyo Navigation School, but subsequently to their transfers to the Teishin-sho—the former in 1889 and the latter in 1888—candidates for abridged courses only are taught there. They now constitude branches of the Tokyo Shosen Gakko.

ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS.

IT is now very generally asserted that the long talked of Administrative reforms which the Government has pledged itself to make in obedience to the Emperor's commands, will be published on the 15th instant. His Excellency Count Ito visited the Palace on the 4th instant and had a long audience, at which, it is believed, the details of the reforms were submitted to His Majesty for approved. Doubtless the Emperor has already had frequent opportunities of examining the programme, but probably His Majesty's definite sanction of the whole scheme has only now been given.

A TRIPLE ALLIANCE IN THE EAST.

UNDER the above heading the *Kokumin Shimbun* mentions a conversation which a writer on its staff is said to have had with a certain distinguished person. The latter alludes, in the first place, to the increasing intimacy between England and China in opposition to Russia. He regards war between Russia on the one hand, and China and England on the other as merely a question of time. How should Japan act in case of such war? He thinks that the majority of the Japanese are inclined to throw in their lot

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with England and China against Russia, and he seems to deem it desirable that a definite understanding should be arranged between the three countries just named. Then proceeding to the question of the national defence, he remarks that the Military and Naval strength should be regulated on the basis of such an alliance.

THE COINAGE IN KOREA.

As anticipated, the intrigues of An Shiju and his powerful patrons, the Min family, seem to have prevailed against the recommendation of Mr. Omiwa Chobei for the reform of the currency in Korea. From a private letter written by Mr. Omiwa to a friend in Japan, it appears that he has given up all hope of remodelling the Korean Coinage System, and has decided to bid farewell to the peninsula. Not only are the Korean statesmen averse to entrusting the work of coinage to the Japanese Mint, but they show so little earnestness about reform of the coinage that they have not taken any step to discontinue the turning out of debased pieces from the Mint in Heian-do. They are bent, according to Mr. Omiwa, upon the issue of new auxiliary pieces alone.

NEWCHWANG

MESSRS. BANDINEL & Co. write:—Produce is cheaper, we quote:—Beancakes per 10 pieces, Tls. 4.50; Bean Oil per picul, Tls. 3.85; Beans per 3 piculs, Tls. 3 60. Stocks are small, and Beancake mills are working less than half time. It is now pretty certain that the new crop is remarkably good, and that unless there is an early frost, supplies will be ample. There will probably be a quantity of new beans down in about ten days, but we doubt if prices will be moderate before 20th October, after which date we think there will be an active demand for shipping. Already, enquiries are made for sailing vessels for October loading for Amoy and Hongkong. Charter—*Alwine Seyd* to Kobe 14,000 piculs 8 cents per picul.

SILK IMPORTS IN THE UNITED STATES.

THE following are the Imports of Raw Silk at the Ports of New York and the Pacific Coast, during August 1893:—

	Bales.	Lbs.	Value.
New York	151.....	33 047	$160,560
Pacific Coast ..	1240 . ..	162 230.....	547.025
Total	1391... ..	195 277	$707,563

During the same period the Imports of Waste, Cocoons, etc., were:—

New York . . .	178	53,400 . ..	$ 46,563
Pacific Coast ...	34... ..	13 600	7.296
Total	212.....	37,000.....	$ 53,859

JAPANESE SCULPTORS AT THE WORLD'S FAIR.

THE official announcement of the findings of the World's Fair jury on sculpture was made on August 20th by John Boyd Thacher, acting chairman of the executive committee on awards. More than one thousand pieces were examined and but eighty-seven medals awarded. Considering the number of their exhibits, the Japanese artists have come out strong. The awards are:—Germany 19, United States 14, Italy 12, Japan 7, Great Britain 7, Spain 7, Austria 5, Denmark 3, Sweden 3. The names of the Japanese sculptors are:—Okioka Asahi, Okazaki Sessei, Otake Norikuni, Suzuki Chokichi, Takamura Koun, Yamada Kosai, Syuraku Baido.

A NEW JOURNAL.

THE *Nippon* says that a new journal will be published from the 1st of November in the interests of general education, that it will have the assistance *sub rosâ* of Messrs. Tsuji Shinji, Izawa Shuji, and Nishimura, and that the well-known Mr. Kusakabe Sanosuke is working in its interests. Under such auspices it will presumably be in opposition to the present Minister of Education.

AN EXAGGERATION

A CALIFORNIAN paper says:—The steamer *China*, from Hongkong via Yokohama, had quite a number of Jewish exiles on board. The immigration commissioner on examination found they were nearly all very poor and wretchedly dirty, and decided to send them back to Japan on the same steamer, as should they be allowed to land they would become a public charge. Every steamer that will arrive between now and December will bring more of these exiles. They have all been expelled from Siberia, and Kobe, Nagasaki and Yokohama, Japan, are swarming with them.

THE "RENOWN."

MAUDSLAY, SONS & FIELD, LIMITED, engineers, Lambeth, have received the order for the machinery of H.M.S. *Renown*. This is the first ship of importance built since the time of the special grant, and is the commencement of the new programme. In the Report of the Navy Estimates her dimensions are given as follow:—length, 310 ft.; breadth (extreme), 72 ft.; displacement, 12,350 tons. A mean speed of 17 knots with natural-draught, and a maximum speed of about 18 knots with moderate forced-draught, is expected. The vessel is laid down at Pembroke.

YOKOHAMA KEROSENE OIL TANKS.

THE *Boyeki Shimbun* says that the hearing of the action raised for the suspension of work on the above at Hiranuma, took place on the 2nd instant in the Yokohama Saibansho. Counsel for the plaintiff suggested that the questions as to the nature of kerosene and whether the proposed structures are capable of withstanding every danger connected with the oil, should be submitted for the consideration of the professors in the Imperial University. The Court acquiesced in the request of Counsel.

A NEW OFFICIAL.

A CORRESPONDENT writes:—"Mr. Greathouse, formerly U.S. Consul General in Japan and for some time legal adviser to the Korean Government, was gazetted on the 26th ultimo Postmaster General of Korea, and given the high rank of "*He Pang*," which entitles the bearer to wear carved jade behind his ears. The next step would be to appoint a staff of official letter-writers in order to justify the nomination. We do not know whether Mr. Greathouse has accepted the position of a general without an army."

DROWNED.

AN accident occurred this morning which might have ended in a very large loss of life, and as it is it is said that two lives were lost. A sampan containing between 40 and 50 boys from the engine-works of Messrs. Warnecke and Peterson, went off to the steamer *Bellona* to do some work on the boilers, and as the boat got alongside the boys crowded to the gunwale to get on board and capsized her, all being thrown into the water. A terrible struggle then ensued, but it ended in all being accounted for but two, who are supposed to be drowned.

A CURIOUS CASE.

MR. ENSLIE delivered judgment yesterday in a case at Kobe, where a man named Stean was charged with assault in forcibly giving a Japanese a shock from an electric battery. Several witnesses gave evidence to the effect that no force was used, and others that they voluntarily tried the machine. The case appears to have been mixed up with a trade dispute, and the evidence was conflicting, but Mr. Enslie dismissed the case, and allowed no costs.

MURDERED BY ROBBERS.

WE read in the *Yomiuri Shimbun* that during the night of the 1st inst., two robbers, armed with swords, entered the house of Arai Sakugoro, at Negishi, Yokohama. The master, who fought the robbers, was fatally wounded. The murderers have not yet been captured.

FIRE AT THE OFFICIAL RESIDENCE OF COUNT INOUYE

ON Sunday at about 5 a.m. a fire broke out in the Japanese annex of the official residence of His Excellency the Minister of State for Home Affairs. Through the strenuous exertions of the servants and the speedy assistance of the firemen, the conflagration was confined to the Japanese building, which, however, was totally destroyed. As to the origin of the fire, we have not been able to learn anything definite.

EXHIBITION OF PICTURES IN UYENO.

THE vernacular press announces that an exhibition of Japanese pictures opened on Sunday in the galleries of the Japan Fine Arts Society, Uyeno Park. It is stated that a pair of screens of great beauty, by the celebrated mediæval artist Toba Sojo, have been lent by the Emperor, and that the Imperial Museum also has sent some articles of rare merit.

THE YOKOHAMA GUILD OF MISCELLANEOUS GOODS DEALERS.

THE *Boyeki Shimbun* states that the members of the above agreed at their special general meeting held on the 1st inst. to discontinue doing further business with Messrs. Samuel Samuel & Co., of Yokohama. The resolution was to be enforced from that day.

ISINGLASS.

THE crack three-year-old only had three engagements after his win on the Town Moor, and only two after the pen was put through his name, these being the St. Leger Stakes at Newmarket of 25 sovs. for starters and 300 sovs. added money, and the Lowther Stakes at the Second October Meeting of 50 sovs. for starters and 1,000 sovs. added.

IMPERIAL AUDIENCE.

THE Duke of Newcastle, accompanied by the British *Chargé d'Affaires*, proceeded to the Palace on the 28th ult. at 10 a.m. to pay his respects to H.I.M. the Emperor. Mr. Nakaji ma, Minister to Italy, who lately returned home, was received in audience by His Majesty the same day

THE "FLORENCE TREAT."

THE sailing vessel *Florence Treat* that was lost near Breaker Point about 10 miles to the Westward, is reported to have entirely broken up, not a vestige of her to be seen. The bodies of the Captain (Paulson), Captain's wife and three children were all found and buried by the Chinese, also those of seven of the crew.

RABIES

WE read in the *Boyeki Shimbun* that a railway workman named Shimizu, residing at Koru, who had been bitten by his dog supposed to have been affected by rabies, and removed to Noge Hospital, Yokohama, for treatment, succumbed to the malady a few days ago. He is said to have shown all the symptoms of the dread disease.

THE BIRTH IN THE WHITE HOUSE.

REFERRING to the President's newly-born daughter, the *Call* says:—"This is the first time in the history of the republic that the wail of a new-born infant of a President of the United States has been heard within the walls of the White House."

THE KOBE HOTEL BILL.

LAFAYETTE COLE, *alias* W. L. Clark, appeared before the U.S. Consul on Wednesday on his own petition, after a fortnight's incarceration on a judgment obtained against him by the Oriental Hotel for a debt of nearly $1,000, and was discharged.

DEATH OF MR HAMILTON FISH.

A TELEGRAM dated at New York on Sept. 7, says:—"Ex-Secretary of State Hamilton Fish died this morning at his country home at Garrison, New York. Mr. Fish died of heart failure. He was aged eighty-five. Death was entirely unexpected."

DEATH OF COUNT YANAGISAWA.

A TELEGRAM from Nara, received by the *Asahi Shimbun*, states that Count Yanagisawa, ex-chief of the Koriyama Clan, who has been ill for some time past, expired on the 2nd inst.

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THE "NIPPON" AND JUDGE MOWAT.

THE *Nippon* has commenced a series of articles reciting alleged cases of breach of treaty provisions on the part of the foreign residents. Our contemporary's object is to call the attention of the Japanese Authorities to the importance of enforcing the existing treaties more rigidly than heretofore. Strictly speaking, any Japanese journal is justified in adopting such a line, but we fear that the *Nippon's* manner of treating the subject may simply serve to stir up bad feelings among the foreign residents, without leading to any practical step in the desired direction. Among the alleged cases of breach of treaty provisions, our contemporary, in its first article, applies itself principally to ownership of real estate by foreigners and their residence outside the limits of the settlements. Of the names of foreign residents which have thus far figured in the *Nippon's* articles, we may mention those of Mr. WALTER, of Messrs. JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., and Judge MOWAT, of H.B.M.'s Court in Japan. The former is spoken of as the real owner of several lots of land at Negishi, which are registered in the names of OTOMO YORIYUKI or HIRAI YASUGORO. Judge MOWAT receives much attention from the Tokyo journal as the occupant of one of the houses at Negishi alleged to be the property of Mr. WALTER. An open letter is addressed to the Judge. The writer observes that, being desirous of asking for the favour of an interview with Mr. MOWAT in order to obtain his views about the state of civilization in England, he recently went to Yokohama and inquired for the Judge's residence, but was unable to find it after a long search both in the Settlement and on the Bluff. On another occasion, the writer was taking a walk in the vicinity of Negishi, when a carriage with Mr. MOWAT in it passed him. Following it at the top of his speed, he came to a large house in foreign style at which the carriage stopped. He believes the house to be really in the possession of Mr. WALTER. From the *betto*, the writer learned that this was the residence he had been taking so much trouble to find. He could not, we are told, believe his senses, because the house was situated outside limits prescribed for the residence of foreigners. He then gave up his idea of seeking an interview, and determined to address to the Judge the open letter now published in the *Nippon*. In it he propounds four questions, and asks Mr. MOWAT to kindly condescend to answer each of the points raised. These points are:—"First, is not your act of residing outside the settlement a breach of the treaty? Secondly, has your Honour been always living in your present house since your arrival in this country? It seems that your residence outside the Settlement is not of recent date, as the Japan Directory issued from the *Japan Gazette* office last year, gives your address at Negishi. Thirdly, supposing that you deem it a breach of the treaty to reside outside the limits of the Settlement, where did you obtain permission for the privilege? Fourthly, if you have violated treaty restrictions without special permission, how can you explain your conduct not only to this country, but also to HER MAJESTY the QUEEN of England and her subjects?" In conclusion, the writer express a hope that, after receipt of a reply to his letter, he may be allowed the favour of interviewing Mr. MOWAT.

We do not presume to say that Japanese who agitate for the strict observance of the letter of the treaties are altogether unreasonable. From their point of view such a contention doubtless has a great deal to recommend it. Since the treaties are not at all pleasant documents in their eyes, one can easily understand their wish that foreigners should not find the situation created by the treaties so pleasant as to need no mending. But these examples chosen by the *Nippon* are more laughable than impressive. Negishi is virtually a suburb of Yokohama. It is one of the bluffs overlooking the bay on which the Settlement is situated. The greater part of those bluffs is covered with the villas of foreign residents, who have built houses there, not in the exercise of any privilege secured to them by the original treaties, but in virtue of a subsequent arrangement. The convenience thus enjoyed is no more justified by the letter of the treaties than is the ownership of real estate by aliens in the very heart of Japan. If the *Nippon* inveighs against foreign residence at Negishi, why does it not inveigh also against foreign residence on all the bluffs surrounding the settlement? There is here no question of speculation in real estate. It is simply and entirely a question of a desirable site for summer villas. The bluffs in the immediate vicinity of Yokohama are not unexceptionally suitable for that purpose. In some cases the too close proximity of rice swamps constitutes a decidedly insanitary feature. Negishi is free from that objection, and has the additional advantage of being so near the Settlement that to drive there and back twice a day makes no embarrassing demand on a busy man's time. Besides, there have been no official sales of additional bluff land for a considerable time. It is not now an easy task for foreigners to find sites for villas, and if they are driven a little further afield, surely there is nothing in the fact to excite Japanese ire. At which of the bluffs does the *Nippon* intend to draw the line? If it desires to banish foreigners from the Negishi bluff, why not banish them also from the Honmoku bluff, and the Ama-nu-ma bluff, and all the other bluffs? Foreign ownership of land on any one of these hills is not among the privileges accorded by the original treaties, and if the letter, the strict letter, of the treaties is what the *Nippon* wants, let it at least be logical and consistent in its contention. As for Judge MOWAT, the open letter published by our Tokyo contemporary must be described as an unpardonable impertinence. Before inserting such a letter in its columns, the *Nippon* should have taken the obvious precaution of ascertaining the leading facts of the case. It is true that Judge MOWAT lives at Negishi, whether permanently or during the summer months only we can not say. It is true that Negishi lies beyond the limits hitherto set for foreign residence. But it is also true that in the Convention of 1866, by which the privilege of acquiring building lots on the Bluff was, for the first time, granted to foreigners, no restrictions of a definite character are set down. It is merely provided that "ground on the hills on the eastern side of the Settlement may be leased by foreigners from the Japanese Government," and the *Nippon* would be much perplexed, we imagine, to show that Negishi can not be included in the definition "hills on the eastern side of the Settlement." We ourselves do not perceive how Kanagawa-dai can be included in such a definition. Yet the Authorities allow foreigners to reside freely on Kanagawa-dai, and were the Kanagawa Local Government to advertise, to-morrow, a sale of building lots on the Negishi bluff, no one could regard the act as anything more than a step in the natural process of extension which the Settlement is undergoing, and was destined from the first to undergo. Not in all these things, however, is the explanation of Judge MOWAT'S residence to be sought, ample as such an explanation would be, but in the fact that he lives at Negishi with the express permission of the Japanese Government obtained for him in the sequel of due application through HER BRITANNIC MAJESTY'S Legation. The Japanese Government gives him leave to reside there presumably because his distinguished position entitles him to some consideration, and evidently because foreign residence at Negishi in the present congested condition of the other hills eastward of the Settlement is in no wise opposed to the letter of the Convention of 1866. That, having the sanction of the Japanese Government, obtained through his own Minister, he should be subjected to impertinences like those of the *Nippon*, is at once a disgrace to Japanese courtesy and a curious testimony to the discreetness and sense of justice that distinguish that journal.

Mrs. Lucilla Rodney, the famous lady pedestrian, has arrived at Chicago from Galveston, having walked the distance for a wager of 5,000 dollars. On the journey she wore out eight pairs of shoes. The average distance covered daily was 23 miles.

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MIXED RESIDENCE.

THE opponents of Mixed Residence are now making themselves so busy that there seems to be a probability of their securing a good many adherents. Such a cry as theirs is quite certain to be popular. Every nation, until it has been educated by long years of free intercourse with other States, is naturally disposed to hold aloof from outsiders. Just as a family likes to keep strangers out of the compound within which it dwells, so that large family, a nation, has an instinctive desire to preserve its territories from alien intrusion. Human nature in its rudest form inevitably entertains that sentiment. It must be assumed, too, that there are thousands of Japanese who have never given a second thought to the question of Mixed Residence. The contingency of having strangers living in their midst has never been brought within range of their daily imaginings, nor ever caused them any concern. Such persons, if their attention is for the first time directed to the problem simultaneously with predictions of evil, exaggerated descriptions of foreign aggressiveness, greed and craft, vivid pictures of evils sufficiently possible not to be altogether unreasonable, and spurious appeals to patriotic exclusiveness, are tolerably certain to develop a conservative sentiment, and to conclude that a step attended by so many evil potentialities had better not be taken. Hence Mr. OI KENTARO and his fellow-agitators may count on obtaining a goodly phalanx of disciples. They may point also to the example of Western countries: to America and Australia which exclude Chinese, and to Russia which drives out Jews. The comparison will pass muster with unthinking persons. It will be argued that if the United States, if a great British colony, if the Russian SOVEREIGN, can hope to escape the opprobrium of uncivilized exclusiveness while behaving in such a manner, Japan may fairly entertain a similar expectation. But in point of fact the cases are wholly different. Russia, Australia, and America exclude certain peoples whose close contact and competition they consider demoralizing and contaminating, but Japan, or at least the section of the Japanese nation ranged under Mr. OI KENTARO'S banner, openly declares its racial inferiority to all Western peoples, and announces its fear of encountering them on even terms We do not believe that in the history of the world there ever has been a corresponding instance of national pusillanimity. Of couse there are various ways of stating the question. The leaders of the Great Japan Union (*Dai-Nippon-Kyokai*), as they proudly call themselves, may give prominence to contingencies connected with the influx of foreign capital, with the acquisition of Japanese soil by aliens, and with other special matters. But the real bases of all their opposition to Mixed Residence can be nothing else than a sense of inferiority to the nations which they seek to hold at arms length. If they desired to have their action differently construed, they ought to have muzzled Professor INOUYE, one of the most learned and distinguished among them, who, in his recently published pamphlet, has stated with the most absolute frankness that the Japanese are inferior to the peoples of the West, and that their inferiority unfits them to associate on equal terms with the latter. Never before, we repeat, was a nation openly asked to subscribe such a creed of cowardice. The Japanese are certainly not wanting in courage. Their worst enemy has never accused them of any deficiency in that respect. Yet Mr. OI KENTARO, Mr. ARAI SHOGO, Professor INOUYE, and others who enjoy some measure of distinction in the fields of philosophy and politics, invite the Japanese to confess their fear of coming into direct contact with Europeans and Americans, and to seek, under the shadow of semi-barbarous seclusion, craven refuge from the terrors of open competition. Nowhere is there to be found an equally humiliating and contemptible precedent. If Japan thinks herself too weak, too ignorant, and altogether too inferior to associate with Western peoples on equal terms, she may be quite confident that they will not appraise her above her own estimate.

We now read in the vernacular press that the advocates of opening the country intend to give eminence to the fiscal phase of the problem. They will explain to the nation more fully than has yet been done, that apart from tariff revision there exists no means of carrying out the much desired reforms, re-assessment of the taxable value of land and reduction of the land tax. Several millions of *yen* are needed annually for these purposes, and several millions of *yen* cannot possibly be economized from the ordinary Budget, or obtained by increasing direct taxation without either dangerously curtailing the national armament, impairing the administrative efficiency, or checking industrial and commercial development. The only simple and convenient resource is an increased import tariff, and an increased import tariff cannot be negotiated unless Japan is prepared to concede the opening of the country. That is a simple phase of the affair. It should be easily comprehensible even to the least refined intelligence, and the leaders of the *Jiyu-to* in common with all other politicians who love their country's honour, will do well to emphasise the financial facts. But we trust that they will also point out the everlasting disgrace involved for Japan in such an admission of racial and national inferiority as Mr. OI KENTARO and his fellow thinkers would have her make to all the world.

A SERICULTURAL INVENTION.

A NEW invention, which, from the description given by the vernacular press appears to be of great importance to the silk industry, has just been granted a patent by the Patents Bureau. The inventor is Mr. ITO CHYUZO, and the invention combines the advantages of at once killing the pupa in the cocoon, preventing the cocoon from being affected by mould, securing ease of preservation and facilitating the operation of reeling. For killing the pupa in the cocoon, one of the following processes has hitherto been resorted to; namely, drying in the sun, applying artificial heat, or steaming and then drying artificially; all the different modes are far from satisfactory, though they vary in degree of objectionability. In every one of these processes loss of natural lustre, difficulty of reeling, and general deterioration in the quality of the silk can not be avoided. Moreover, susceptibility of the cocoons to become mouldy is one of the great difficulties to be contended against by silk-manufacturers. No convenient mode of storing has been devised thus far. The ordinary way is simply to arrange the cocoons flat on a shelf with some matting under them and to rearrange them from time to time. The space required for such a purpose being great, a silk manufacturer who carries on an extensive business in obliged to have a spacious store-house, and the shifting process adds so much to his expenses that 2 *yen* per *koku* is sometimes set down on account of handling the cocoons alone without the rent and repair of the store-house. Mr. ITO'S method of storing is very simple. Cocoons the pupæ of which have been killed by his process, may be hung from a peg in a bag with no injurious consequences. As an illustration how far the new invention is effective for purposes of preservation, we may note that Mr. HOSHINO CHOTARO, a well-known silk manufacturer, asked Mr. ITO this spring to have a small quantity of spring cocoons treated according to the new process, and then placed them under a corridor of his house where there is much damp. No change whatever is said to have been undergone by the cocoons up to this month. According to experiences thus far, about 20 to 30 per cent. of the cocoons are usually expected to become affected by mould, and since this percentage naturally increases the longer the cocoons are kept, the market becomes suddenly active every season owing to the desire of sericulturists to sell their cocoons as quickly as possible, and owing to the anxiety of silk manufacturers to buy them and reel them at once. The pressure thus brought to bear upon labour and capital during the season is excessive, and if this can be relieved by the invention of Mr. ITO, as seems highly probable, the benefit conferred on sericulturists, silk-manufacturers, and silk-dealers

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must be very great. Experiments conducted at the Tomioka Filature with Cocoons subjected to the new process were highly satisfactory. The process proved far more efficacious than even the canning method, which has hitherto been considered the best mode of preservation. A certificate given to the inventor by the Filature states that the silk treated by the new method is more elastic, is easier to reel, gives less waste, and is more lustrous than silk from cocoons preserved in any other manner; that the expense required in storing cocoons is reduced by one half; and that the cocoons remain uniformly in their natural condition throughout the year. It was by no easy steps that Mr. ITO succeeded in perfecting such an important invention, nor does the benefit conferred by him on Japanese industry date only from his recent discovery. While still young he went to America, and, after staying there a considerable time, returned home, thoroughly equipped with technical knowledge. He chose Kyoto as a place of residence, and it was owing to his exertions that the looms in Nishijin were improved and the now popular Nishijin fabrics came to be produced. He entertained the project of starting a new weaving business, but was hindered by the want of uniformity in the threads of Japanese silk. This set him thinking whether such a great obstacle to the production of finer artistic fabrics could not be surmounted. Convinced of the impossibility of obtaining fine threads of uniform quality unless a great improvement were effected in the mode of preserving cocoons, he at once set about the arduous task of devising a new process which might effectually meet the requirements of the case. In 1884 his task of invention was first undertaken, and 7 years of effort involving repeated failures that exhausted his resources, did not deter him. His patience and ingenuity were at last rewarded. By June of 1891 he was thoroughly satisfied with his invention, and applied for a patent in that month. In June of 1892 experts were despatched from the Department of Agriculture and Commerce to Mr. ITO'S own house to inspect the process of killing the pupæ as actually performed by the inventor, and they visited him again in September of the same year. The patent was not granted during that year, however. Last June the experts of the Department again proceeded to Mr. ITO'S house—he is now living at Negishi, Uyeno,—and conducted experiments at Tomioka with cocoons which had been killed by his process and subjected to his preservation treatment, comparing them with similar cocoons which had been handled in the usual manner. The results were as described above, and the Patent Bureau at last concluded that his process was worthy of legal protection.

THE PRESENT CONDITION OF JAPANESE LITERATURE.

SIX or seven years ago the literary energies of the rising generation were called into sudden and extraordinary activity. The field in which these newly awakened energies chiefly found employment was the writing of novels and stories. Most of such novels were enthusiastically received by a public wearied with the conventional and lifeless productions of the preceding twenty years, and long anxious for something fresh and entertaining. Some of the books published at the time possessed great intrinsic value. But the majority were without any merit except that they treated of new conditions of life and society. It was, therefore, natural that men should soon become tired of this modern school of shallow writers, and the cooling of public enthusiasm was of course coincident with a gradual decline of activity in the field of light literature. There are now signs of a revival, but upon the whole Japan is still in a period of transient literary torpor. The well known writer and critic, FUCHI-AN, discussing this subject in the *Kokumin-no-Tomo*, laments the poverty of ideas in the novelists of the day. Most of them he declares to be mere imitators of the vulgar and low *literati* of the TOKUGAWA times. They have no elevated ideal of morals or beauty, and are not ashamed of pandering to the unrefined sentiments of the vulgar public. Another writer of a higher reputation, TO-KOKU speaks in a similar strain in the columns of the *Hyôron*. He goes a step further, and observes that a true man of letters must have not only ideality but impassioned conceptions. The great writers both of prose and verse, of ancient and modern times, are conspicuous for the latter characteristic. In order to be spurred by passion, to feel the fire of enthusiasm, writers must have a religion of their own. By this TO-KOKU does not mean that they should be disciples of an conventional creed. The import of his axiom is illustrated by a rider in which he quotes as examples of great writers actuated by a living religion, HOMER, SHAKESPEARE, SAIGYO, and BASHO. Of living Japanese authors, ROBAN is, in his opinion, far ahead of all his *confrères* in this respect, though the tendency of his religious conceptions is rather to restrain his naturally strong genuis. KO-YO is too realistic; while BIMYO-SAI altogether lacks noble enthusiasm. KOSHO-SHI is worshipped by some persons as being pure and naïve, but his purity is not of much value, inasmuch as it lacks the spirit of nobility. SAGANOYA has something of noble enthusiasm, but his aspirations are said to resemble those of a rustic priest rather than of a great thinker. As to KOTO-AN, his verses are acknowledged to have struck a new keynote, and our critic is disposed to give him credit for a large share of what he calls impassioned thought.

The living Japanese authors mentioned in the preceding paragraph are all young men between twenty-five and thirty. They have not received a high education, but most of them can read works in one or other of the European languages usually studied in this country. Some of them draw their inspiration from foreign sources, but the principal fountain of their literary vitality is found in the rich and newly opened literature of the country. Indeed the rush for works of romancers and novelists whose very names had previously been almost entirely forgotten, has been one of the most remarkable features of the recent revival of letters. Enthusiasm for the study of old authors has been, in some cases, carried to excess, the result being a servile imitation of the style and moral trend of these masters. Young authors who have allowed themselves to drift into such a slough of imitation, richly deserve the sweeping criticism of FUCHI-AN, namely, that they are "mere copyists of the vulgar and low *literati* of the TOKUGAWA times." But there is no doubt that, among the almost countless numbers of literary aspirants of the present day, the names of some are destined to live in the history of national literature. In this category must be included ROBAN, BIMYO-SAI, OGAI, SHOYO, and a few others. BOBAN, whose real name is KODA NARIYUKI, is a younger brother of the well known Lieutenant GUNJI. Though only six or seven and twenty, he has already established a solid reputation as a novelist of real power. His best works, in our opinion, are "Furyû Butsu" and "Hitofuri-Tsurugi." He is now on the staff of the *Kokkai*. BIMYO-SAI, or YAMADA TAKETARO, is equally young and famous He possesses a remarkable power of historical idealism, and his novels are valuable on account of the insight they give into the life and thought of by-gone ages. He has devoted much of his time to the analytical study of the Japanese language, and a dictionary now brought by him nearly to completion is certainly one of the most remarkable works of the present age. OGAI is the *nom de plume* assumed by Dr. MORI RINTARO of the Imperial Army. His professional rank in the service is very high, but he is better known as a novelist and critic than as an accomplished Army physician. He edits the *Shigarami-Zasshi*, a literary magazine of high standing. An excellent German scholar and a whilom resident in Germany, he has treated of the life of Japanese students in that country, besides doing much to introduce its great writers to his countrymen. SHOYO is the literary name by which Mr. TSUBOUCHI YUZO is generally known. He is a graduate of the former Literature Department in the Imperial University, and was one of the very first pioneers in the revival of the national

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literature. His *Shosei Katagi*—a novel treating of students' life—published about ten years ago, first turned the attention of the rising generation to the field of light literature. He is now a professor in the Semmon Gakko and editor of the *Waseda Bungaku*, the leading literary journal in Tokyo. Some of the young authors have also turned their attention to versification. In this field, the most conspicuous names are BIMYO-SAI, KOTO-AN, KOSHOSHI, and a few others. But the poetic efforts of the rising generation have not been so successful as their work in the field of light literature.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom]

WILD BLACK CURRANTS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Will you kindly allow me to thank your correspondents "Wrekin," and "Eclugo" for their communications in answer to my enquiries about the existence of the wild black currant in Japan. I need hardly say that I did not confuse the plant I referred to with the bilberry, or any kind of *Vaccinium*, as I have long been familiar with it in the mountainous regions of this country, and in some parts of the "Japanese Alps" it grows in profusion. The plant I believe to be a black currant I saw for the first time this summer, when making the ascent of Myōjin-dake (sometimes also called Hadaka-dake), a fine granite peak to the south of Yarigatake, on the borders of Hida and Shinshiu. When on the E. slope of the mountain, at an altitude of about 7,000 feet, my attention was attracted by a familiar scent amongst the low trees and shrubs on the upper limits of the forest through which I had just been climbing. At first I could not tell where it came from, until a little higher up I noticed several bushes whose leaves looked different from what I had hitherto come across, and on getting to them I found a quantity of berries which I felt sure must be none other than the familiar black currants of our own English gardens. A delicious repast was afforded, and as a memento of the occasion, I put a leaf in my pocket, but unfortunately it was lost before I got back to Kobe.

The following description, however, which is as near as I can remember, will give some idea of the plant. The height was about 4 or 5 feet, the leaf having three lobes, with finely serrated edges, and the veins being, I think, what botanists call "radiate." The berries varied in colour from a sort of pale green to a dark brown and also black, all having the little tuft at the top, and growing on a long stalk in the usual way.

It was only on this particular mountain that I met with the bush in question, though the bilberry, as I have said, and also several varieties of wild raspberries and strawberries, are to be found in the neighbourhood in plenty.

Enclosed I send a small sketch which, I think, gives a fair representation of the leaves and berries referred to, and if you will kindly allow your correspondents, should they care to take the trouble to call, to see it, perhaps it may help to render my attempted description a little more intelligible, though as I know but little of either botany or drawing, I hope they will not be too critical of my efforts.

I am, Sir, your obedient Servant,

WALTER WESTON.

Kobe, September 28th, 1893.

The Rev. Mr. S—— is pastor of a congregation in Dundee. Some of his hearers are the richest people in town, but not celebrated for generosity in supporting the church. The good preacher has been trying to get the poor people to come to his church, and recently through the columns of the local papers extended to them a cordial invitation to attend. At the close of the service lately he said:—"Brethren, I have tried to reach the poor of our town and induce them to come to our church. I infer from the amount of the collection just taken—fifteen shillings—that they have come."

YOKOHAMA CHESS CLUB.

SESSION 1892-1893.

The annual general meeting of this institution took place in the Club rooms yesterday afternoon, there being present Judge R. A. Mowat, in the chair, and Messrs. O. Keil, Clarence Griffin, J. Davieson, W. B. Mason, O. Balk, H. von Hemert, J. Ph. von Hemert, F. Schiff, S. E. Unite, A. Balavus, H. Komor, E. C. Fox, H. Klingen, and J. T. Griffin, Hon. Secretary and Treasurer.

The notice convening the meeting having been read by the Secretary, the minutes of the last general meeting were taken as read on the proposition of Mr. KEIL, seconded by Mr. DAVIESON.

In regard to the question of the report and accounts, Mr. DAVIESON suggested that as they had been in the hands of members for some time, they also should be taken as read. They were most satisfactory.

This was seconded by Mr. SCHIFF, and subsequently passed.

REPORT AND ACCOUNTS.

The membership of the Club has increased to 57, and although several names will now drop out of the list owing to the departure of some our players for home, it is hoped that new recruits will soon fill the vacancies.

The Treasurer's account shows a balance in hand of $231.25, as against $161.25 a year ago.

Mr. J. R. Meiian resigned his seat on the Committee (when leaving Japan for Europe) in January, and Mr. W. B Mason was elected in his stead.

During the past session all the meetings have been held in the Settlement; and the Committee soon arranged for very commodious quarters at No. 86, Main Street, where Mr. L. Muirhour, proprietor of the Oriental Hotel, furnished the Club with a fine suite of rooms.

There has not been much work of public interest during the session, the attempt to arrange a Return Match with Tokyo players having fallen through. A proposal for two fresh correspondence games with the Capital also came to naught.

An Open Tournament was played among the members, finishing at the end of January. The final heat was between Messrs. Balk and Mason, Mr. Balk winning.

A very pleasant *réunion* took place in the Club rooms on the 13th March when the President (Mr. R. A. Mowat) presented his prize to Mr. W. H. Stone of Tokio, who proved to be the winner of the President's Problem Competition. Captain Brinkley, R.A. took the same opportunity of presenting the *Japan Mail* Prize for Problem solving to Mr. Mowat, who was the winner for the year 1892.

Unfortunately, the contest for Mr. Keil's Championship Cup and a Handicap Tournament arranged by the Committee were left unfinished at the end of the session. These will have to be recommenced; and the Committee hope that members will show more enthusiasm in the future and not allow these events to fall to the ground again. While upon this subject, it would be well to mention that many of the members (although they pay their fees with commendable promptitude and regularity) never attend the meetings of the Club. This is not as it should be; the Club has convenience for at least forty players to work simultaneously, and it would be encouraging to the officers to have every board occupied instead of seeing so many vacant places.

The best thanks of the Club are due to the President for his Problem Competition Prize, and to Captain Brinkley for his fostering care of the Club's interests by giving it free access to his columns, as well as by his action in continuing the *Japan Mail* Prize for the present year.

With these few remarks the members of the Committee tender their resignation, with best wishes for the future growth and prosperity of the Club.

Yokohama, 30th September, 1893.

JOHN GRIFFIN, Secretary.

YOKOHAMA CHESS CLUB—SEASON 1892-1893.

TREASURER'S ACCOUNT.

RECEIPTS.

Balance from last account		$161.25
Subscriptions, 57 members at $3		171.00
Entrance fees 13 new members at $3		42.00
Chessmen and boards sold, 5 sets at $6 60		33.00
EXPENDITURE.		
Rent of Club Rooms	$ 93.00	
Printing, Advertising, etc	43.95	
Signboard, pethes, postages, etc	6.85	
Subscription to British Chess Magazine	5.50	
Bricolleur's Commission	5.00	
Balance in hand	231.25	
	$387.25	$387.25
Cash in Treasurer's hands as above	$232.25	

E. & O. E.

Yokohama, September 30th, 1893.

JOHN GRIFFIN, Treasurer.

Audited, compared with vouchers and found correct.

F. G. SALE,

The CHAIRMAN then invited remarks on the accounts, but as none were forthcoming,

The CHAIRMAN announced that Mr. Keil had renewed his offer of a Championship Cup, while the Secretary had offered another for a Handicap Tournament. These had not been competed for last season, as the games had been begun too late and had been left unfinished. He wished to throw out as a suggestion from the outgoing committee that the contests should be begun sooner, so that the championship games could be concluded. These games should be began in December, after the members had had time to practice, and a condition should be made that a game be played off by each individual member within one month, if not, then he should be considered as having withdrawn, so as to enable the games to be brought to a conclusion, the championship game at the end of March and the Handcap earlier. He wished to say that three new members' names had been submitted, and as was usual he would submit them to the meeting and would declare them as passed, without the necessity of a ballot, if there was no objection. They were Messrs. W. Barrie, B. O. Squier, and H. Tennant. These gentlemen were unanimously elected.

The CHAIRMAN announced that the next business was the balloting for officers for the current year, and in this connection he suggested the desirability of introducing new blood, as there might be able men among them.

Mr. DAVIESON proposed that the last committee be unanimously re elected. Judging by the work done by it they could not get a better one, and he would add to this Mr. Von Hemert's proposal of a vote of thanks to the old committee.

Mr. SCHIFF seconded.

The CHAIRMAN remarked that if there was no counter-proposition he would take it as passed. He would have much pleasure in resuming the slight work that had to be done, and would take as a compliment the proposition requesting their acting again.

There being no further business, the meeting closed.

THE STEAMSHIP "SAMOA."

One of the largest cargo steamers afloat is now moored in Yokohama harbour, the *Samoa*, Capt. Adams, on a voyage from Middlesbro' and ports, with a cargo for Yokohama consisting of rails, bundle and bar iron, pig iron, coke, and general cargo. She was built in Sunderland by Messrs. William Doxford and Sons, Limited, in 1892, by which company she was also engined. She is registered as 4,507 tons, but can carry 9,600 tons dead weight. On her last voyage she carried 11,500 tons from Bombay to Antwerp. Her length is 465 feet, her beam 52½ feet, and her depth of hold 36 feet, and with a consumption of 40 tons of coal per day she steams 10 knots. Her engines are triple expansion; the diameter of the h.p. cylinder is 30 inches, of intermediate 49 in., and of the l.p. 64 in., with 51 in. stroke. She has 3 double-ended boilers, and also 2 upright donkey boilers for driving the nine winches, 2 steam capstans aft, and the windlass. The pitch of her propeller is 20 feet, and with 60 revolutions per minute, will drive her, deep loaded, 10 knots through the water. Her electric equipment is by Clarke and Chapman of Gateshead, Tyne, and is of the most modern kind, and the lights are placed in the most favourable positions for working cargo at night. Seven water tight bulk heads separate her in 8 different water-tight compartments. Four of these are cargo holds, and the other four bunkers and collision compartments. She has a double bottom, and between the two carries her water ballast of 2,200 tons; 1,800 tons is the capacity of her coal bunkers. Her engine is also fitted with Caird and Raynor's evaporator, something not often found on cargo boats, of which the Chief Engineer is evidently very proud, as well he may be, for, taken altogether, her few mail boats have an engine-room showing so many modern improvements.

For discharging cargo this steamer has unusual facilities; eight derricks, which are also ventilators for the holds, working on an improved plan separate from masts and independent of each other, can discharge cargo through eight different hatches, or can be shifted so that two can work out of one hatch at the same time. She carries four steel life boats, and two wooden boats, and is fitted with Harrison's patent steam steering gear.

The steamer is built of steel with part steel deck; she has a top-gallant forecastle, under which the crew (Lascars) have roomy quarters; a small poop aft for stores or cargo, and a bridge deck amidships, under which also is a large space for cargo if needed. On the bridge deck the officers and engineers have their quarters, which are, for

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such a large steamer, rather small and cramped On this deck is also the galley and the mess-rooms, and from this deck rises the enormous smokestack, while above this deck is still another deck or bridge, for the man at the wheel, and the chart-room. The steamer has no accomodation for cabin passengers, but she has carried 3,000 Mohammedan pilgrims from Jeddah to Java. The *Samoa* is not fitted with any ginger-bread-work, but every thing is of the most solid and substantial description

JAPANESE MUSIC.

A LECTURE GIVEN IN TOKYO, ON THE 17TH JUNE, 1893, IN THE ROOMS OF THE SOCIETY OF THE FRANCH LANGUAGE BY MR. UEHARA ROKUSHIRO.

(Translated for the *Japan Mail* from the *Révue Française.*)

GENTLEMEN,—Allow me, at the outset, to assure you, in the name of the artists present and in my own, how much we appreciate the honour you have done us in breaking away from your occupations to come to-day and be present at this meeting.

As far back as the history of the different peoples of the world dates, it is verified that music was known in the most ancient times.

This remark has been equally made as regards Japan. Who, indeed, has not read the legend of the Sun goddess "Ameterasu," who, offended by her brother, had shut herself up in the cavern of Ame-no-Iwaya? The eight millions of Gods, distressed at the darkness into which the world had been plunged, assembled near the cavern and engaged in all sorts of manœuvres in order to draw therefrom the light of the world. Upon that occasion the goddess Ame-no-usume-no-mikoto set herself to singing and dancing. It is to this legend that the origin of dancing and singing is attributed, as is also that of sacred music

Ancient traditions tell of *asobi* which took place in burial ceremonies. These *asobi* were nothing more than dances accompanied by instruments and vocal music. Mention is likewise made of *Hayato*,[1] of *O-uta*, of *Azuma mai*,[2] which were all of them so many representations of our old national traditions. But from the day when Sankan (the ancient name of Korea) had begun to pay us tribute, she sent us, with her presents, men learned in all branches, among whom were musicians. Through this medium there successively came to us, the *Komagaku*,[3] the *Kureakaku*,[4] the *Togaku*,[5] the *Tenjikugagu*,[6] so that under the reigns of the Emperors Temmu-Tenno and of Jito-Tenno, foreign music was held in great honour in Court. During the 8th century it shone with the utmost brilliancy, at the same time that Buddhism did. But, per contra, ancient Japanese dances were forgotten. The style of music I have just spoken of belonged to classical music. It was confined pretty much to the Court and the high Nobility. The people could not appreciate this art, the high character of which was beyond their capacity. National dances and music obtained popular favour, and it is thanks to this circumstance that they have been preserved, undergoing, naturally, the manifold transformations that time has brought to them, and that have given birth to an infinite number of schools of music and dancing. Let us mention among others *Heike biwa*,[7] *Dengaku*,[8] *Sarugaku*,[9] *Shirabyoshi*,[10] *Sachiwaka-no-mai*, *Kusemai*, *Joruri*,[11] *Naga uta*,[12] *Ha uta*,[13] and many others. This style of music was called *Zokugaku*, or popular music.

As to what concerns the scale of each one of these two styles of music, classical music has two gamuts borrowed from China, viz., the *Rio-sen* and the *Ris sen* gamuts, corresponding perhaps to the minor and major gamuts of Europe. Our forefathers have spoken in detail of these gamuts, I shall not dwell upon them.

I shall take up popular music, the scale of which has likewise two gamuts: *Yo sen*, or provincial gamut, and *In-sen*, or the gamut of the capital. It is only lately that some few artists have given their attention to the study of them, without however having arrived as yet at any positive axioms I myself have devoted to this study more than ten years of uninterrupted investigations that have not been without result I am glad to avail myself of this occasion to give expression to a few of my observations.

In a general way, whether there be question of classical or of popular music, Japanese music is based upon a scale of 5 notes. The major gamut of popular music (*Yo-sen*) does not at all differ from that of classical music (*Ris sen*). This gamut is composed of the 5 notes: *Kiu, Sho, Kaku, Chi, U*, which correspond to *Do, Ré, Fa, Sol, La* of European music. This gamut is called descending, in the sense that it is used in descending: *La, Sol, Fa, Ré, Do.* But when it is used in ascending, *U* becomes *Ei u*, that is to say, that the *La* is sharpened: *La* ♯.

The minor gamut, *Rio-sen*, of classical, or *In sen* of popular music, is formed of the following 5 notes. *Kiu Hen-sho, Koku, Chi, Hen-u*, that is to say: *Do, Ré flat Fa, Sol, La flat.* What we have said of the use of the major gamut, ascending and descending applies here equally: the gamut given above is the descending one: when it is used ascending, *La flat* becomes *La sharp.*

According to what has just been said, popular music rests entirely upon a musical scale of 5 notes: it is, then, inferior by 2 notes to the European gamut, the scale of which has 7 notes. The absence of these two notes explains why Japanese music seems monotonous. So, in order to correct this inconvenience, the practice of changes of tonic is here much more frequent than it is in Europe. The rules are absolutely the same. Each one of these notes can become the tonic one of a gamut; but some of them are not used as frequently as others are. But I will not further enlarge upon the history and the gamut of Japanese music.

There remains an important question for me to touch upon, and to which I beg you to give me your kind attention for a few minutes longer. As you know, our national music has entered upon a new phase, one of exceeding transformation. Let us cast a glance at the condition of things prior to the political and social reforms of 1868. With the Shogunate inaugurated by Yoritomo, we see on one side the Court Nobility lose all political and social influence, on the other, political power pass entirely into the hands of the *Samurai*, the warrior caste, that made up the middle class. The people were, by them, governed militarily. So that the feudal, that is to say, the military régime, acquired very great ascendency. Militarism appeared in everything, as much in the government as in tastes, and in manners: such a point had been reached that music was despised as an art exclusively reserved for women and children and incompatible with the duties of a *Samurai* The so-called *Sarugaku* music, a kind of clasical comic opera, alone found mercy. In a general way, every amateur of music was ostracized as being effeminate.

This is how a great gulf came to separate classical from popular music. Whilst the former had held with the high nobility in their prosperity as well as in their decline, the people, given over to another kind of music better suited to their condition, had allowed it to develop itself freely. And the nobility and the people were no longer heard to sing with the same voice.

Thus, then, we have seen classical music of very elevated taste, make at its debut, very rapid progress; but, tied to the fortunes of the Court Nobility, it fell with it, remaining only as a memory of the past. It could even be said without exaggeration that it had ceased to exist.

Such has not been the case with popular music: it has been attendant upon the vicissitudes of the social order. It has undergone progressive changes up to the day when, absorbed by the military preparations of that troubled period, the governing class no longer had time to give to it and had abandoned it to the caprices of the ignorant populace. It has never ceased to exist, but has lost its elevated character, to descend, step by step, to the state of debasement and of licence in which we find it to-day. It has found admittance everywhere, even into the highest and into the middle classes

At the time of the Restoration in 1868, which was the signal for reforms carried out in political as well as in social spheres, everything underwent modification; popular music alone has not changed, every means for improving it having failed.

As regards this question of means, opinion is divided: some say that popular music must be purely and simply forbidden: others think that the way to supplant it, would be to popularize European music in Japan The two propositions are acceptable. It seems to me, however, that, given the close connection there is between our popular music and our language, literature, and manners, its complete suppression would be a matter of great difficulty.[14]

Nevertheless we must not lose sight of the fact that, among its pieces of infinite variety, popular music possesses some that are of a noble and elevated style of composition, and that these choice pieces, like classical ones, are not appreciated by the mass of the people, but only so within the borders of a society too restricted to operate an ascendency for its tastes.

There is no doubt that, if among personages distinguished for their enlightenment and for their virtues, the modes of regenerating popular music were studied, it could be brought to a state of perfection equal to that of European music, and compositions of doubtful taste would naturally disappear.

Mr. Takano Shigeru and the other artists that accompany him, have devoted themselves entirely to the regeneration of Japanese music. Too much praise cannot be given to the zeal and disinterestedness with which Mr. Takano has been working to that end for more than ten years.

The kind attention which you will be pleased to give to the performance of the pieces they are about to play, will be considered by them as a precious mark of sympathy for the object they are pursuing.

[1] The *Hayato* were inhabitants of distant provinces who came to perform the dances and songs of their country before the Sovereign. Such was the origin of the *Rijin* or corps of Court musicians and dancers.

[2] The *Azuma mai* were dances of the Eastern provinces.

[3] *Komagaku* is Korean music

[4] *Kureagaku* is Chinese music of the Woo period.

[5] *Togaku* is Chinese music of the Tan period.

[6] *Tenjigaku* is the music of India.

[7] *Heike biwa* is singing accompanied by the *biwa*, in vogue especially among warriors.

[8] *Dengaku* resembles the *Kagura*, danced in temples.

[9] *Sarugaku* are *No* dances.

[10] *Shirabyoshi* are dances performed by females.

[11], [12], [13] are various kinds of popular songs.

[14] It is surprising that the author of this lecture finds the complete suppression of popular music "acceptable," and that his only objection to such a measure is that it "would be very difficult."

Perhaps the Shogunal power would have attempted it. But we are convinced that the present Government would never have the singular assurance to legislate in matters of art. It can encourage or not, with the public funds, certain forms or branches of art; but to that extent its power is necessarily limited. Thus, it seems decided to end the official encouragement it gave to the study of European music, by suppressing the Academy of Music, under the form of attaching it to the *Koto-shihan Gakko*. If it is a question of one of the measures of economy insisted upon by the Diet in all the Administration, there is nothing for it but to submit; but true lovers of Japanese music cannot but deeply regret that it should be condemned to painfully plod on for a long time to come, with the lame gamut of 5 notes.

The *Japan Mail* of the 19th July has, upon the suppression of the Academy of Music, a leading article in which we fully concur.—G.B.

LETTERS FROM CHICAGO.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Chicago, August 26th.

The September *Arena* contains a telling article on "Japan and Her Relations to Foreign Powers" by Mr. E. A. Chiney.

The *News Record* (Chicago) the other morning contained the story of "The Forty Seven Ronin," done into English by Mr. Taichi Takesawa.

Professor S. Chōyō has already the third or fourth time been called upon to deliever his lecture on "Japanese Art" in the Fair grounds: admission free.

Mr. J. Yoshikawa, an official interpreter, and Mr. S. Minano, have united with the Central Church of Christ, of this city. This church belongs to the denomination known as Campbellites, or Disciples, an off-shoot of the great Baptist denomination. These converts are very earnest, and profess an intention to have established in Japan "the Christian Civilization."

At Methodist gatherings here and there Mrs. Van Petten is often a speaker; recently at a Congregational meeting in this city Miss Martha Gulick, of Kobe, was one of the speakers.

Fifty-nine Japanese arrived at San Francisco the other day from Victoria, B.C.; but only ten actors were allowed to land, and the remainder, as "contract laborers," will be sent back.

This prospective deportation of Japanese is a reminder that the following item with reference to the attitude of China toward the United States an account of the Geary Law has been widely circulated:—

Cleveland, O., August 22nd.—A gentleman in this city has just received from a friend in Tientsin, China, a letter stating that United States Consul Bowman, who left that city a short time ago for the United States carried with him a message from Viceroy Li Hung-chang to President Cleveland The gentleman who sends the information does not tell how he obtained a copy of the message, but he vouches for its authority. It is as follows:—

"Report of an interview between the Viceroy Li Hung-chang and United States Consul Bowman, held June 29, 1893.

"The Viceroy Li Hung-chang requested Consul Bowman, on his return to the United States, to call upon President Cleveland and state to him:

"1. That Viceroy Li appreciates the good intentions of the President and Secretary of State and thanks them for their efforts to secure kind and just treatment for the Chinese residing in the United States.

"2. That Viceroy Li feels keenly the unfriendly nature and injustice of the Geary law.

"3. That China will take no action thereon until the next session of the United States Congress, in the hope that the Geary law will be modified or revealed

"4. That if the next Congress decides to enforce the law China will at once realiate; friendly relations between the two countries will be broken off and laws will be enacted looking toward the expulsion of all Americans from China.

"5. That meantime instructions have been issued to all Chinese officials to take especial care to protect all American citizens living in China from violence."

The awards for paintings and for etchings and engravings have been announced. In the latter department the "Kokkwashia" is mentioned for "prints from wood-cuts in colour." In the former department the Japanese are numerously represented as follows:—Oil paintings and paintings in various mediums.—Paintings, Kawabata Gyokusho, Imao Keinen, Mochizuki Gyokusen, and

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Tasaki Sowun; design in tapestry, Kawashima Riboi; painting in lacquer, Ikeda Taishin; painting on porcelain, Miyagawa Kozan; painting in lacquer, Asano Sozaburo and Kawanobe Itcho; design in weaving, Sasaki Seihichi; design in embroidery, Nishimura Sozayemon; painting in lacquer, Igarashi Tajiro and Morishita Mohachi; painting, Taniguchi Kokyo; painting in enamel, Kawada Shibataro, Suzuki Shonen, Kosei Shoseki, Hasegawa Gyokujun, Ogata Gekko, Kishi Chikudo; painting in enamel, Namikawa Sosuke, Kumagai Naohiko, and Hashimoto Gaho; painting in lacquer, Morimura Ichitaro and Taki Katei; design in embroidery, Iida Shibiichi; painting, Noguchi Yukoku, Taniguchi Taichi, Hara Ryutaro, Munemura Keizan, Uju Sozan, Mori Shungaku, Asae Ryukyo, and Takeuchi Seiho; design in embroidery, Omura Wakichiro; painting, Kubota Beisen: and painting on porcelain, Takemoto Hayato.

The *Chicago Herald*, in reporting this same list, made the amusing mistake of abbreviating the surname and printing the given name in full; such as, "I. Taijiro," "H. Gaho," "A. Sozaburo," etc. This mistake was undoubtedly due to the fact that upon almost all the exhibits of Japanese at the Fair the two names of each exhibitor (or, in these cases, artist) are given in the Japanese order.

Up to August 18th a large catch of seals in Japanese waters had been reported. The figures are: 19,460 by American fleet of 18 vessels, and 24,010 by British fleet of 19 vessels.

On the 17th instant the guarantee expired, by which the Canadian Government has for the past ten years been paying dividends at the rate of 3 per cent. per annum to the stockholders of the Canadian Pacific Railway. As an effort to secure an extension of the guarantee has failed, dividends must hereafter be paid out of earnings, subsidies, and land sales. President Van Horne, however, has announced that there is a surplus of earnings to the amount of $7,000,000 to be used during the next two years.

Day before yesterday ground was broken in Golden Gate Park, near San Francisco, for the Midwinter Exposition. Director-General M. H. De Young delivered the principal address. The foreign exhibitors at the World's Fair are now considering the question of transferring exhibits.

President Cleveland has issued the usual proclamation opening the "Cherokee strip" to settlement and homestead entry on September 16th at noon: and the usual crowd is waiting at the border for the grand rush. The land purchased comprises some 15,000,000 acres (more than half of the Indian territory), and lies mostly west of the 96th meridian.

Considerable interest is felt in the experiment which South Carolina is making in its new liquor law. By its provisions the State, through its properly appointed agents, sells all the liquor (which is proven "pure" by a chemical test). There is a State Board of Control, and there are local boards which locate the dispensaries. Governor Tillman calls the law a compromise between local option and unrestricted license, and has faith in its success. One section, however, which forbids any common carrier to transport, or any agent to deliver, packages of liquor without the official dispenser's certificate, has been declared by a S C. court to be contrary to the Inter State Commerce Law and the 14th Amendment.

The Virginia Democrats have nominated C. T. O'Ferrall for Governor; and the Iowa Democrats have put up Boies and Bestow for re-election. The Republican prohibitionists of Iowa are up in arms against their party's back-sliding, they have called a state convention to meet Sept. 5 in Des Moines.

The U.S Senate by a vote of 34 to 31 decided against the seating: of Lee Mantle, appointed by the Governor of Montana after the Legislature failed to elect. This decision applies also to the Washington and Wyoming cases.

Speaker Crisp has announced his committees Wilson, of W. Va., supplants Springer as the head of the Ways and Means Committee. Springer gets the Chairmanship of the Banking and Currency; and Holman that of Indian Affairs. Bland keeps his old place at the head of the Committe on Coinage, Weights, and Measures, of whom a majority are favourable to free coinage. The Ways and Means Committee is strong for tariff reform. The other important committees have the following chairmen:—Elections, O'Ferall, of Va; Judiciary, Culberson, of Tex.; Rivers and Harbours, Blanchard, of La.; Inter-State and Foreign Commerce, Wise, of Va.; Agriculture, Hatch, of Mo.; Foreign Affairs, McCreary, of Ky.; Naval Affairs, Cummings, of N.Y.; Pensions, Moses, of Ga.; Labour, McGann, of Ill.; Railways and Canals, Catchings, of Miss.; Education, Enloe, of Tenn; Civil Service Reform, De Forest, of Conn.; Patents, Covert, of N.Y.

The silver debate continues in Congress, but will probably be finished to day or Monday in the House of Representatives. Yesterday Springer was the principal speaker, to-day several of the leaders are on the programme. In the Senate yesterday Senator Hill created a sensation by scoring Pres. Cleveland in a long speech. The silver men are losing hope, and are almost ready to admit that the repeal bill will pass the Senate by a close vote. It is, of course, sure to pass the House of Representatives, by a majority, it is claimed, of 30 or 40

The financial condition has improved a little during the past week or ten days. The unemployed have been making demonstrations, usually quiet, but in New York and Milwaukee have resorted to some acts of violence. In this city it is planned to give employment to some 1,500 workmen on the new drainage canal. R. G. Dun and Co. report "more distinct and general" improvement of trade: and the annual review of the *American Agriculturist* gives a bright outlook for the farmers from an immense harvest.

Severe storms on the Atlantic on the 24th inst. did much damage, especially along the New Jessey coast. Several vessels were sunk, and many lives were lost.

On the same day a conflagration laid waste eight blocks in South Chicago, east of the rolling mills and north of the Calumet River, about Ninety-first Street. It destroyed 150 houses of working men, and rendered 300 families homeless; two churches and a coal-yard also suffered. The total loss is estimated at more than $500,000.

At Indianapolis, on the 24th inst., the bicyclist Zimmermann won the one-mile internat onal race, and a gold cup set with diamonds and valued at $1,000. He lowered the mile record to 2. 12⅘.

Prince Komatsu left St. Paul last night, and will reach here to day.

There have been several special days at the World's Fair lately: Australian day, British Empire day (19th), Delaware and West Virginia day, Illinois day (24th), and Coloured Folk's Day (to-day). On each one of those days the attendance was very large, particularly on the 24th, when there were 240,900 paid admissions.

Among the special attractions ately have been the stock show for men, and for the ladies the West Point Cadets. One evening a naval parade formed a beautiful spectacle, in which the Japanese phœnix boat, an electric launch, was conspicuous. Another, the Lady Managers gave a reception to the Lady Judges, among whom Mme. Shioda represented Japan.

At a recent banquet given under the auspices of the Chicago horticulturists, Messrs. H. Izawa and S. Tomiyama are mentioned among the guests, and Mr. Sen Tsuda was named as participating in the organization of an international horticultural society. Mr. Tsuda and Mr. K. Tawara are members of a large party now *en route* for the large grain fields of Dakota.

A series of scientific conferences has been held during the past two weeks at Madison, Wis. At Chicago also, this week has been devoted, in the World's Fair Congress, to Science and Philosophy. The various subdivisions have included astronomy, chemistry, pharmacy, electricity, meteorology, geology, philosophy, psychica science, woman in science, new problems, etc Prof. Tanaka, of the "University of Japan," has been named as president. Dr. Ernest Hart, of London, created a sensation by appearing one morning in the Congress on psychical research, and offering to wager $1,000 that he could write a message which, sealed, no clairvoyant could read.

The final sessions of the Peace Congress last week were very interesting. Dr. G. D. Boardman, of Philadelphia, argued that each nation had its peculiarity, and all were essential to each other. He made the following classification according to idiosyncrasies:—"The Egyptian, constructiveness; Hebrew, development; Greek, culture; Roman, jurisprudence; Gothic, impetuosity; Italian, æstheticism; Chinese, conservatism; Japanese, flexibility; Indian (Asiatic) mysticism; Indian (American) nomadism; African, facility; Scandinavian, valour; Turkish, fatalism; Russian, persistance; Swiss, federalism; Spanish, dignity; French, savoir faire; German, philosophy; English, indomitableness; Scotch, shrewdness; Irish, humor; Welsh, eloquence; Canadian, thrift; American, versatility."

The following telegram was sent to Queen Victoria and to Pres. Cleveland:—The World's Peace Congress at Chicago sends equal congratulations to Great Britain and America on the triumph of arbitration as a substitute for war as exemplified in the recent Behring Sea decision, cementing the friendship of both nations and full of happiest augury for mankind

A long resolution calling for an international court of arbitration was passed.

In the Horticultural Congress last week, Mr. Izawa read a paper on the Japanese methods of dwarfing plants and miniature gardening.

The September *Godey's Magazine* is to contain an illustrated article on "The Woman Question in Japan" by a lady whose name has slipped my mind.

Chicago, September 7th.

At the request of Chief Ives, of the Fine Arts Department, Prof. S. Choyo decorated the reception-room of that building with Japanese art works. This gave a fine opportunity to present the art of Japan before the élite.

Two Japanese girl students have entered the University of Michigan.

In Houghton, Mifflin and Co.'s announcements of fall publications, I find "Glimpses of Unfamiliar Japan," by Lafcadio Hearn, and "A Japanese Interior," by Miss Alice M Bacon

Among the features of the Midwinter Fair at San Francisco will be typical Chinese and Japanese villages. Mr. Issa Tanimura has been appointed Japanese Commissioner to that Exposition. The bill to extend the bond privileges of exhibits transferred from Chicago to San Francisco has passed both houses of Congress and been approved by the President.

His Excellency Prince Komatsu, stayed only a few days here at the Auditorium, and then left for the East. He strictly maintained his official *incognito*, and saw the Fair very quietly. Your correspondent regrets that absence on a vacation tour in Wisconsin prevented him from paying his respects to the Prince in behalf of the *Mail*.

The "Nanking University of China," an educational institution of the Methodist Episcopal Church, has been incorporated at Boston. The executive committee of the trustees includes: Chas. J. Fowler, President; Stephen L. Baldwin, Treasurer; Dillon Bronson, Clerk; and Denton G Woodvine, Charles Parkhurst, and Oliver H. Durrell.

On the 2nd inst. Tsui Kwo Yin, the retiring Chinese Minister, made his official adieu to the President; and Yang Yu, his successor, has since been officially recognised. No direct reference has yet been made to the Geary Law. Senator Dolph has introduced and advocated in a long speech a bill appropriating $500,000 for the enforcement of that law. Day before yesterday Judge Ross, in the U S. District Court at Los Angeles, Cal., decided, that, contrary to Secretary Carlisle's statement, there is money for enforcement, and ordered Chan Shang Yu-in to be deported. The preceding night, in some places of California, there were anti Chinese riots destructive of property.

Night before last the Korean Commissioners gave a banquet at the Auditorium to officials of the Fair and leading citizens. It was in honour of the birthday of the Korean King, and was a "swell affair." Royal Commissioner Chung Kyung Won presided, with Yi Sung Soo, the Korean Minister at Washington, on his right: President Palmer, of the National Commission, acted as toastmaster. Among the speakers was Imperial Japanese Commissioner Matsudaira. The Koreans were all attired in their native official costumes. As Korea is now participating for the first time in an international exposition, this was her "first formal function on a foreign soil."

The new novel, "The Prince of India;" or, Why Constantinople Fell," by General Lew Wallace, author of "Ben Hur," has been published by Harper and Bros., and meets a warm reception.

The public schools of the country are pretty generally opening this week with increased attendance.

The seventh International Sunday-school Convention has recently been in session at St. Louis, Mo. One feature was a parade of 10,000 children. Statistics were presented showing that the number of scholars in the United States and British America has almost doubled since 1875.

Dr. Adolph Stoecker, the famous anti-Semitic preacher, of Berlin, is here to assist Mr. Moody in evangelistic work. He will eschew controversial matters, and will expound the gospel to the German-speaking people.

Last Sunday morning seven Buddhists from Japan, and one Greek Archbishop from Zante, occupied pews in the First Presbyterian Church of this city.

The Sunday question still haunts the World's Fair Directory. Judge Goggin, after calling upon Judges Brentano and Dunne for consultation whether or not to dissolve the Clingman, or Stein, injunction, utterly ignored them, and publicly insulted them, so that they withdrew from the case. The judge, dubbed "Groggin" by the press, and believed to have been at the time under the influence of liquor, with angry recrimination continued the case for sixty days, or till after the Fair has closed! The Directors have since made an attempt, but in vain, to get another Judge (Ewing)

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to vacate that order for continuance. It is impossible to predict what course the matter will take next; there has been plenty of disgrace connected with it already. Better *requiescat in pace*, if it can!

The Grand Army of the Republic has just closed its annual encampment at Indianapolis, which was crowded with veterans and friends. Ex Pres Harrison delivered the address of welcome, and himself received a cordial welcome from the comrades. The parade, with 22,000 men in line, was "imposing" and "picturesque." J. S. B. Adams, of Mass., was unanimously elected commander in chief for the ensuing year.

R. D. Wrenn, a Baptist Minister's son, of Boston, by defeating Fred. H Hovey, another Baptist Minister's son of Newton, gains the lawn tennis championship of the United States.

On the 31st ult the two horses Domino and Dobbin, in a hard race at Sheepshead Bay near New York City for $10,000 a side, came out "even to an eyelash." It is said to have been one of the most remarkable races ever run.

There have been so many casualties lately that I can only enumerate the worst. In a collision on the Long Island Railroad, fifteen or more were killed, and scores were more or less injured. A cyclone along the South Atlantic coast did fearful damage to property, especially in Savannah, Ga., and Charleston and Port Royal, S.C. In Baltimore, Washington, Asbury Park (N. J.), New Haven (Conn.), and many other places "all along shore" considerable damage was done. Many lives also were lost in the South; and relief measures are necessary. The Chicago limited on the Boston and Albany Railroad went through a bridge near Springfield, Mass.; again fifteen were killed, and scores injured. On the electric railway from Avondale to Cincinnati, the brakes of a train gave way on the down grade, and the controlling apparatus was burned out. The flyer cut a telegraph pole in two and was smashed to pieces against a building. Only one was instantly killed; but a dozen were dangerously injured, and another dozen hurt badly, while a few were only slightly injured.

The death list includes Jerome Napoleon Bonaparte, a grand-nephew of the great Napoleon, and Dr. T. Thatcher Graves, who committed suicide at Denver, Col. Inasmuch as his second trial for the alleged poisoning of Mrs. Barnaby was to begin in a few weeks, it looks a little like a confession of guilt.

President Cleveland, apparently in excellent health, has returned to Washington with his family. The papers have had a great deal to say about a dangerous operation performed upon him: but, as the doctors have promised an official announcement, it is well to wait and get the truth.

As you were, of course, apprised by Reuter, the House of Representatives passed the Wilson Repeal Bill by an unexpectedly large majority on the 28th ult. The votes on the various measures were as follows:—

	Yeas.	Nays.
Ratio of 16 to 1	123	203
Ratio of 17 to 1	100	240
Ratio of 18 to 1	105	239
Ratio of 19 to 1	105	237
Ratio of 20 to 1	114	192
Bland-Allison Act	236	113
Wilson Repeal Bill	240	110

This bill (or, rather, its equivalent, the Voorhees Bill) has been favourably reported by the Senate finance committee, and is now being debated in the upper house. Speeches have been made by Sherman, Walcott, Stewart, Cullom, and others. The silver men will prolong the fight as much as possible, but will be beaten in the end. A poll of the Senate shows a small but sure majority against them.

It is reported, on what seems to be good authority, that, when pending legislation has been disposed of, the administration will give its attention to a complete revision of the national banking system. It is also stated that President Cleveland will send a special message to ask Congress to authorize the coinage of silver coin; and it is also *rumored* that Secretary Carlisle, under the general power conferred upon him, will coin the seigniorage of $51,000,000 now in the Treasury without waiting for the authority of Congress.

The Prohibition Republicans have nominated Hon. L. S. Coffin for Governor, and will make a strong fight also to secure the Legislature.

Henry C. Ives, of St. Johnsbury, Vt., has been tendered the position of Chief Justice of Samoa; he was at one time U.S. Land Commissioner at Samoa, and is said to be well qualified for the position.

Rev. Mr. Swann, a missionary from Ujiji reports that Emin Pasha was devoured by cannibals; but Dr. Carl Peters does not believe the report.

At the closing session of the Congress of Astronomy, the name "Chicago" was given to the asteroid recently discovered by Prof. Max Wolf, of Heidelberg.

Last week several congresses [Jewish, labour (social, and economic), single tax, profit sharing, weights and measures, coinage and postage, anthropology and zoölogy] were in session. Henry George, Dr. McGlynn, Pres. E. B. Andrews, Prof. R. T. Ely, Miss Grace Dodge, and Miss Jane Addams were among the "big bugs," and discussed various aspects of the labour question. This is the first week of the religious congresses, and is occupied by Jews, the Catholics, and the Lutherans. As the Congress of Religion, Missions, etc., runs through the month, I shall wait till the close, and then send a special letter concerning it.

The Welsh Eisteddfod is also in session now. Yesterday for the first time ancient Druidic rites were performed outside of Wales.

"As You Like It" has been several times played outdoors on the Fair grounds in the evening.

The attendance at the Fair is now very encouraging. When the figures for August 31st were added, they made a total of more than 10,000,000 paid admissions since May 1. The daily record is now up around 150,000; yesterday (Wisconsin day), stood at about 200,000 for both tickets and passes.

The awards in sweets and in liquors have been announced. In syrups, molasses, etc., Japan gets two medals:—K. Osugi, of Niigata, for malt extract, and S. Matsi, of Hyogo, for jelly. In liquors Japan gains 31 medals for *sake*: the following is the list as given in the *Tribune* of yesterday:—Japan—Kema Shobotain, Sasuka, Sanada; Komakichi Ton, Shinzeo Otsuka, Uhei Murayamas, Rhibei Watkam, Vasciyir, Idaio, Wasaburo Otsuka, of Osaka; H. Tatsyma, E. Tatsuma, Skomska; T. Taku, T. Tasuma, T. Okasaki, Midsmi; Stakeoka Kshisaki; J. Kano, T. Watanwabe, Tatro, Tsuboya, o Hogo; Chukichi Hoshino, Nvigata, I. Ito, A. Chai Kin, B. I. Now, Aclaikin, Dino Mice Kinsi, Noda Sake Factory, Sukamanski Kussumi, Nijuro Takashi, and Tatsutaro Kawakuchi, of Niigata; Mohei Tsuchikano, Eijuo Anno, and Seibei Morimoto of Osaka.

A few of these names happen to be absolutely correct; some are translatable; but many are so horribly mutilated as to be unrecognizable. The list is an awful and a striking example of the difficulty of translating foreign names.

The Congress on Labour had opportunity for not only theoretical, but also practical, study of their problems. While they were in session in the Art Institute, an immense crowd of unemployed gathered within view on the Lake Front. Incited by demagogues, they resorted on two or three occasions to violence, but were dispersed by the police, and their leaders arraigned before a police court. One afternoon a number of noted speakers addressed the mob, and tried to calm their passions. Since then Mayor Harrison has forbidden large gatherings on the Lake Front. Committees are hard at work securing funds, clothes, and food; relief is being distributed; and work has been arranged for several hundreds on the Drainage Canal.

Labour Day (September 4th) passed off quietly with the usual parade, picnics, games, and oratory.

A more healthy tone and a revival in confidence are found in business; money is much easier; and in many places work, recently suspended, is being resumed. Still there is danger, but also hope.

THE WORLD'S FAIR.

(From a Special Correspondent.)

Chicago, August 31st.

Not having been at all well the for last month, I hope your readers will forgive my long silence. I hope by a long letter to-day to make up for past misdeeds. Since I wrote last we have had many events of importance to chronicle in the "White City," the terrible loss of life in the Cold Storage Fire and the heroism of the Chicago firemen, the arrival of the Cadets from West Point, and the general festivities which were showered on them, the meetings of the Board of Lady Managers, convened to choose the Foreign and Home Judges of Awards,—this latter process was anything but a peaceful one, as each Lady Manager had a protégée to recommend, and bitter was the disappointment when their individual choice was not approved of by the majority.

A great deal has been charged to the account of the Lady Managers which is unjust, but, unfortunately, many of the accusations have been only too well grounded. It can hardly be otherwise, considering that out of the whole 115, many of them are not women of the highest intelligence or the highest breeding, but such names as Mrs. Beecher Hooker, Miss Phoebe Couzins, Mrs. Eagle, the most able parliamentarian on the Board, Miss Dr. Dickinson, Mrs. Ball, of Delaware, and Mrs. Barker, and last but not least, Mrs. Potter Palmer, throw a glory over the whole of that body of women, which shows them up to the world as capable, womanly and considerate, banishing all memory of the little tickerings and discrepancies which are bound to come up in such a large and mixed assembly.

British Day, August 19, was a great day for us at the Fair, there was a cortége formed down town with the soldiers of the English Tournament as vanguard, both horse and foot, with coaches following with H.M. British Consul, Colonel Hayes Sadler, who was chairman of the proceedings, and the British Commissioners, and a large concourse of English and Irish people, all most loyal and eager to do honour to the "old country."

There was a trooping of the colours before Victoria House in the afternoon, then every British object adjourned to the Festival Hall, where loyal and hearty speeches were made and answered. Altogether British Day at the Fair was great success, and did much to redeem the bad impression which is prevalent here against the English, by reason of Victoria House being persistently kept closed both to English and American visitors. This is a great mistake on the part of the British Commission, as all the State houses, which are mostly much more beautiful and more elaborately furnished and at a far greater cost, are unreservedly thrown open to the public, and it is reserved for England alone to be unhospitable even to her own countrymen and women.

This feeling has been so strong and so loudly expressed, that Sir Henry Wood has at last allowed Victoria House to be on view from 2 to 5 p.m. on presentation of admittance cards, but during the show hours the carpets are rolled up and the rooms roped in, and the public can only walk round roped off spaces and are not allowed inside the rooms, which of course very much annoys the republican American free citizen.

After all this digression I will continue my description of the exhibit in the Woman's Building. The Siamese Pavilion and Ceylon Court, with carvings in ebony and satin wood and rich and rare foreign draperies, are very beautiful. The Ceylon Court is hospitably open to the public, and white robed Cingalese men and women, with neat little Psyche knots on the tops of their heads, and nose rings which are the admiration and awe of all beholders, dispense most welcome cups of tea.

The exhibit of the Norwegian Industrial Society is notable for two reasons. It was with the English the only one ready at the opening of the Exhibition, and although in somewhat a limited space is very quaint and pretty. Beside it is the display of Sweden, rich in colouring and material, and small as to space occupied it is perfect in detail.

The Swedish women are also represented in the Gallery of Honour and in the Library in which is the loan 150 volumes of their best women authors. Several portraits have been hung in the Assembly Hall, among them are pictures of Jenny Lind and Christine Nilsson. An interesting Medal exhibit is given by Mrs. L. Ahlborn, of Stockholm, who is connected with the Royal Mint and designs medals for government. There is a screen by Miss S. Grabel of appliqué leather on green felt with hand-carved frame.

The Society of Art Handiwork makes a display of laces and rare tapestries. Much has been done by this society to raise the standard of manual work. Several pieces of etched glass have been done by women and are very remarkable. The portrait of the Queen of Sweden, painted by Miss Lindgren and belonging to the King's private Gallery, hangs on the wall of the Pavilion and is surrounded by tapestries. One is a blue hanging copied from a weaving of the twelfth century.

The Baroness Rappe and Miss Hulda Lundin represent the women of Sweden. The latter has an exhibit of models illustrating her system of teaching girls sloyd. The models were made by pupils in the primary and grammar grades of Stockholm between the ages of 7 and 14.

The Norwegian exhibit is under the direction of Mrs. O. Oes, President of the Norwegian Industrial Society. Several interesting articles are displayed. At the entrance of the booth is a wax figure dressed to represent a woman from the land of the midnight sun. She has on her snow shoes with a hood over the head and her knitting in her hands. In the rear of the pavilion is a miniature Norwegian log house. On the steps below are dolls dressed in costumes illustrating those worn in the different sections of Norway. There is a quilt made by a peasant girl, embroidered in diamond blocks of shaded reds, most effective and novel. Wood carving, woven quilt and laces illustrate the work done in the far country to the north.

To the left is Miss Kate Marsden's Leper Village exhibit, the rude mud hut of former days forming a strong and sad contrast to the group of white cottages surrounding the tiny church and the great general hospital buildings a little to one side of

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her contemplated village when through her lectures and the sale of her books she has made enough money to accomplish her design of starting a village, with houses, workshops and hospitals for the poor helpless lepers of Siberia. Miss Marsden is a fine specimen of the English woman, tall, erect, well formed for endurance in hardship and work, with an oval frank face and sympathetic grey eyes, she has here attracted much sympathy and attention. She leaves for England this week, entrusting her exhibit to a friend. Miss Marsden has met with much kindness from the Americans here, and her statements of affairs in Siberia are supported by the unquestionable testimony of the officials of the government, and by a most kind and appreciative letter of H.R.H. Princess Mary of Teck to Mrs. Potter Palmer, President of the Board of Lady Managers, thanking the latter for any kindness she may have shown to Miss Marsden and her most deserving work.

THE JAPANESE EXHIBIT AT THE WORLD'S FAIR (No. III.).

(From our own Correspondent.)

Chicago, September 11th.

TRANSPORTATION.

The Japanese exhibit in the Transportation Building at the Exposition is lacking in one respect—it contains no articles to illustrate the old methods of travel and transportation, and it lacks even some of the means employed at the present day. Mr. Willard A. Smith, chief of the transportation department, says that the Japanese, wishing to be considered a modern nation, declined to exhibit any articles which were not in the line of modern progress. It is not easy to get the force of this argument; for, even if such things were extremely rude and barbarous, they would, by very contrast with the modern inventions, bring out more clearly the progress which has been made by Japan within the forty years since the nation was opened to the world.

The objects conspicuous by their absence are the *norimono*, the *kago*, and the *jinrikisha*. Of the last-mentioned, however, a battered old specimen may be seen in the exhibit of the Columbus Buggy Company. One cannot help thinking, too, that a *jinrikisha*, pulled by a lively Japanese, would be preferable to a roller-chair, pushed even by a bright young college boy, for travel about the grounds. But then, unless the Japanese coolie could speak and understand English, or the rider Japanese, all grand social opportunities and flirtations would be ruined!

The exhibit is to be found in two places—downstairs just a little south of the centre of the main building and in the north west gallery.

The section down stairs is entirely devoted to naval matters. Even the brass fence around it with dependent anchors here and there suggests the sea. This exhibit contains a large number of models, drawings, and charts. The models, made by the pupils of the dock yard school at Yokosuka, are those of a propeller, twin screw engines, a double-ended, boiler and a boiler coated with an improved heat-retaining composition. There are other models made at the Yokosuka dock-yard—of a crucible for cast steel, of the cruiser *Takao*, of a third-class cruiser, of the *Akitsushima*, and of the *Hashidate*. The last of the three vessels is named after the "Three Views" of Japan. The other two, *Itsukushima* and *Matsushima*, were made in France; this one is being made in Japan. These models all display remarkably fine work. The naval arsenal at Tokyo has sent out for exhibition a quick firing gun with automatic recoil carriage, made according to a new, improved and excellent system, named Yamanouchi, after the inventor.

The visitors do not fail to notice the admirable drawings of vessels, whole or by sections, outside and inside views, and of the machinery arrangement and engines, all made by students of the dock-yard school. There are also excellent naval charts of different parts of the Japanese coast. It was not till 1870 that the first attempt was made by any Asiatic country to prepare a reliable chart. It is true that in 1815 and in 1862 attempts were made by the Japanese; but the charts were imperfect. In 1870 the hydrographic office was established in Japan. Since then 407 charts, perfectly trustworthy, have been issued. This work has been developed by the Japanese alone; they have had no foreign assistance except in the matter of instructions in the necessary sciences. In astronomy special mention is made of the help gained from Prof. George Davidson, of the United States coast and geodetic survey, who went to Nagasaki in 1874 to observe the transit of Venus.

In the gallery space also there are some surprising exhibits, many of which deserve particular notice. One is a model of the Ogaki sluice, first built in 1691, several times renewed and still existing. It has self acting trap doors, opening outside; it is used for drainage, flood protection, and boat navigation. Another is a model of the method of constructing a pontoon bridge in time of war. A third is a bird's-eye model of the Usui Pass, showing the Abt system of railway. There are also two other wonderful models of bridges. One, the Kintai Bridge, was first made in 1673, and has been many times rebuilt. The arches are of native wood; the piers are of ashlar masonry. There are five spans to reach across the river, which is 600 feet wide. The other is a model of the Aimoto Bridge, first built in 1662, but now replaced by one of a different kind. The original was constructed, as may be seen from the model, on the cantilever system. When Americans and Europeans look upon these models of sluices and bridges constructed 200 or more years ago, they have more respect for the ingenuity and skill of the Japanese.

The maps, diagrams and pictures must not pass unnoticed. Besides the photographs already mentioned, there are views of the arsenals at Tokio and Osaka. A general railway map and a diagram of the progress of railway construction are good object lessons of the advancement made in that line. In 1893 there are in the Japanese empire 1,864¼ miles of railway, of which the government owns 551¼ miles and private corporations own 1,313¼ miles.

There is a chart of the principal coasting-steamer routes; also a diagram which shows that in 1891 the shipping of Japan consisted of 18,700 junks, 850 sailing craft, and 600 steamboats. A specimen, by the way, of a Japanese electric launch plies up and down the lagoons at the order and convenience of the Imperial Japanese commission.

ELECTRICITY.

It is a great surprise to most persons to find Japan represented in the Electricity Building. That, moreover, is only one of the many surprises which the Japanese have perpetrated upon the world thorough the Columbian Exposition. Thousands of persons by this time have undoubtedly a better knowledge and a loftier appreciation of Japan's progress and attainments.

Upon reaching the Japanese section in the north east corner of the Electricity Building, one's attention is first attracted to a number of pictures. These include views of Mounts Bandai, Asama, and Fuji, and photographs vividly portraying the awful effects of the eruption of Bandai and of the terrible earthquake of 1891.

The main part, however, of the exhibit consists of various earthquake instruments, chiefly the Gray Milne seismograph in several forms. These include the duplex pendulum seismograph; a mantel piece seismometer; the seismograph writing on a glass disc, on a drum, on a band of paper; and the seismograph without multiplying levers. A chronometer (for recording earth tremors); an electrical contact maker; safety lamps, and a clock whose "dial moves quickly back and forth and receives on its surface three dots from the ink pads on its fingers," are also on exhibition. An amusing model is that showing by bent wires the motion of an earth-particle during 72 seconds; in this the actual motion of the ground, horizontal and vertical, is magnified fifty times.

There is also an automatic current recorder, invented by R. Sluda, M.E., of the Imperial College of Engineering, Tokyo: this is accompanied with a descriptive pamphlet. The visitor, moreover, scarcely fails to notice, especially if his head happens to come into violent contact therewith, the pretty bamboo electroliers, exhibited by the Miyoshi Electric Works. The whole exhibit is very creditable, and will tend to prove to the world, that Japan is foremost in the investigation of earthquake phenomena, and that seismology may properly be called Japan's specialty.

MINING.

The Japanese exhibit is located about the centre of the Western aisle of the Mining Building. The entrances into the section are made of rustic wood; the section itself contains an interesting and comprehensive exhibit. It is very appropriate that Japan make a good exhibit of her mineral resources at the World's Columbian Exposition. For, undoubtedly, Marco Polo's reports of the abundance of precious metals in "Zipangu" were among the causes which led Christopher Columbus to look for a shorter passage westward to Japan and China. Columbus did not find a more expeditious water-route to the East: but the precious metals of Zipangu have found their way to the land which he discovered and to the grand exposition named in his honour.

According to Wada's "History of Mining Industry in Japan," operations in that line of work began on a small scale about the end of the seventh century. Some progress was gradually made, as much as could be expected without the aid of science; but the whole period preceding the Revolution was one of empiricism. This old method of mining is very prettily and precisely illustrated in the exhibit by a large wooden model. When closed, this model shows only the outside of the hill or mountain in which the work is being carried on; but represents also miners giving to and from a shrine dedicated to the god of the mountain. The open model displays the men engaged in the performance of their various duties with their various tools and implements.

In show-cases may be found specimens of ores from various mines in different localities. These samples include gold, silver, pyrites, copper, zinc, basalt, lead, bismuth, calcite, quartz, alabaster, jasper, stibnite, cuprite, fluorite, iron sand, slag, magnetite, manganite, sulphur, etc. There are also specimens, not all in the rough, of garnet, beryl, agate, chalcedony, topaz, rock crystal, etc. Not gold foil alone, but also gold leaves adorned with water colour pictures may be seen. Marble slabs are there, as well as tiles, sheets of tin, pieces of zinc and copper (black and refined), blacklead crucibles, lumps of coal from the Takashima, Miike, and other collieries, etc., etc. Salt has no insignificant place in the exhibit; and even mineral water is not lacking.

There is a large collection of fossils and minerals, also one of soils, arranged to the eras of geological distribution. These begin with the elements, include sulphides, oxydes, haloid salts, oxysalts, and comprise a great number of organic compounds. The latter are classified into metamorphic, sedimentary, and eruptive rocks; and they belong to four groups (Archaean, Palaeozoic, Mesozoic, Cenozoic).

There are also photographic views of various fields and mines (copper, coal, silver, iron and antimony); diagrams of valuable statistics, and maps, general and special. Six small models are not without interest; they are hearths for ore-smelting, leading, liquation, fusion of residue, toughening and cupellation.

Wada's pamphlet, mentioned above, is not only instructive but also interesting; it contains both facts, dry facts, and also folk-lore. It states, for instance, that only quite recently have the Japanese began to extract petroleum from a few localities. In olden times oil-drops in several spots in the sea were observed by the people. By means of straws, the poorer classes used to gather this oil, which they called "stinking oil" (*kusuri aburu*) for lighting purposes, but they ceased using it because they had "a superstitious idea that its odour might offend the taste of their tutelary god!"

The story of the discovery of coal is told, not in history, but in tradition. It was January 15th, 1469, "they say," when a farmer and his wife went out to a hill to gather fuel. Being cold, they made a small fire on a "black rock," and were surprised to find that the rock itself took fire and burned well! That was the "opening" of the Miike Colliery.

Japanese folk-lore supplies also the tale of the discovery of the great Ani copper-mine. The story is too long to use here, and may any how be familiar to the *Mail* constituency. It tells how the god Ineri, disguised as a young female pilgrim in weariness, was kindly treated by an itinerant peddler, named Zenpachird; and how the peddler, by invitation hunting out persistently the home of the young girl, saw Inari Sama in a dream, and was told where he could find a treasure, *e.i.*, an abundance of copper.

Eczema.—Book on "Skin Trouble," sent free for One Stamp by Messrs. North & Rae, Limited, Yokohama.

In the House of Commons on the 18th ult., Sir C. Dilke asked the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, in reference to the statement in *The Times* of Thursday, 17th August, that a French diplomatist of high standing had been sent to Bangkok to ask for a grant of land in connection with a French scheme for making a canal through the Malay Peninsula, whether there existed any papers which could be laid before Parliament on the difficulties in the way of the construction of such a canal. Sir E. Grey in reply said, "Her Majesty's Government were informed on the 18th of July that M. le Myre de Vilers was being sent to Bangkok, but it is not known that his mission is in any way connected with such a scheme as that mentioned in the question. I must ask the right honourable baronet to postpone the last part of the question till there has been time to examine the papers."

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YOKOHAMA LITERARY SOCIETY.

The annual general meeting of the members of the above took place last night at Van Schaick Hall. Mr. Griffin, the President of the Society, occupied the chair, while there were present a number of ladies and gentlemen members.

The CHAIRMAN said that no doubt they had all been notified by the Secretary of the annual meeting for receiving the report of the committee and the election of officers for the coming year. This was really the most unpleasant meeting of the season, as so few people came to it. Probably they thought it a bore or were so well satisfied with the showing that they had no objections to offer, which must be most satisfactory to all concerned. The number present was small, being 30 as against 40 at the last general meeting, but he hoped that the new committee would be able to begin work this day fortnight.

The report was here read, and, at the suggestion of the Chairman, the accounts were taken as read.

EIGHTH ANNUAL REPORT—SEASON 1892-1893.

Your Committee have the pleasure to report a successful season, the progress of the Society continuing uninterrupted.

Seventeen meetings were held, the average attendance being 102. The total membership has increased to 149, and a feature deserving of special notice is that during the season 14 original papers were read by members and friends.

Appended hereto is the usual "List of Meetings" and also the Treasurer's account, the latter showing a balance in hand of $202.61.

Your Committee now tender their resignation accompanied by their best wishes for the continued success of the Society.

LIST OF MEETINGS—SEASON 1892-1893.

Meeting No.	Present.	
112	40	Annual Meeting. Election of Officers, &c
113	240	Columbus Commemoration: Address by Dr. Thwing.
114	75	Evening with Whittier
115	80	A Paper "The Taj Mahal." Mrs. Apcar.
116	214	Farm Life in Illinois. Mrs. Van Petten.
117	99	A Paper "Tolstoi." Miss Birkenhead.
118	280	A Paper "Christmas in the Olden Time." Special musical programme. Dr. Meacham.
119	80	Readings and Recitations.
120	95	Lecture "Robert Burns." Prof. Clay McCauley.
121	75	Lecture: Hawaii. Rev. J. Goodell.
122	82	Lecture: "The nature and aim of Education" Dr. C. H. H. Hall.
123	90	A Paper on "Schiller" Mrs. Smedley.
124	140	Essay "Esoteric Shintoism." Mr. Percival Lowell.
125	200	Essay "What has the advance of education done for women" Mrs. Smedley.
126	200	A Paper "A mismanaged Journey." Miss Webb.
127	230	A Paper "St. Swithin." Anonymous.
128	220	A Paper "Lawrence Oliphant." Mrs. Smedley.
	1740	

Average attendance 102.

TREASURER'S ACCOUNTS, SEASON 1892-1893

September 30th, 1893

By Rent Van Schaick Hall 17 Meetings @ $7.50		$127 50
By Stationery		54 65
By Postages and Coolie hire		13 19
By Refreshments		141.66
1 pair Screens	$9 35	
4 dozen Cups and Saucers	4.80	
2 dozen Plates	2.80	16.95
By Cash in hand		202.61
		$556 06
To Balance forward from season 1892/3		$109.66
October 1st, 1892 to September 30th, 1893.		
To Members Subscriptions 149 @ $3.00		447.00
		$556.66
October 1st, 1893		
To Balance brought down		202.61

E. & O. E.

FRED. G. SALE, Hon. Secretary and Treasurer.

Audited, compared with vouchers, and found correct.

F. J. LIAS.

Mr. SARGENT remarked that the report spoke for itself, and the committee were to be congratulated on such a report. There was a good balance in hand, the institution was not suffering for want of funds, and he proposed that they be accepted.

Mr. BALK, in seconding the proposition, congratulated the committee on the very good report set before them. There was one thing, however, which he thought might be omitted from subsequent reports, that was the attendance at the different meetings. He did the think it necessary to publish it. In the beginning of the society's existence when there were only 15 or 20 members, some satisfaction could be adduced from such a list it, but now they had outgrown the necessity of this.

The CHAIRMAN agreed that this could be done in the future, but that it could be kept in the secretary's books, as it would be interesting for the committee.

After some further remarks on this point, the accounts were put to the meeting and passed.

The PRESIDENT pointed out that the next business was the election of officers. According to the rules, there should be a committee of seven, the President, Vice President, and Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, and four ordinary members. Some time ago while in committee they had had a long talk and had come to the decision that as the society was now large, the post of secretary and treasurer should be separated. The holder of the joint position had up to the present to look up members as well as the cash, which was very hard work. He suggested a division, with the secretary to serve on the musical or other committee. He would put it as a motion that the post of Secretary and Treasurer be held by different people.

Mr. SARGENT queried whether this did not cause an amendment of the rules. Whether it was not necessary that notice should be given of such amendment.

The CHAIRMAN answered in the negative. He would, however, subsequently propose an amendment of the rules.

Mr. DRAPER seconding, the proposition was passed.

The committee was then balloted for and resulted as follows:—President, Mr. Griffin; Vice-President, Mrs. Smedley; Secretary, Mr. Fenton; Treasurer, Mr. Lias.

The CHAIRMAN in returning thanks for his re election, remarked that he had held the position for a long time, and that it was about time some one else took his place. It was not well, he thought, to work a willing horse to death. He would be willing to act this time, but hoped that in the meantime they would find themselves pretty anxious to make a change.

The other members of the committee were then balloted for and resulted in the election of Mrs Poole, Mrs. Page, and Miss Webb.

The election of the refreshment committee, by nomination, followed, the selected being Miss Brockbaugh, Mrs. Sargent, Miss Young and Mr Clarence Griffin, on the proposition of Mr. F G SALE, seconded by Mr. BALK.

The question of changing the rules having been decided upon, Mr. Balk brought forward a suggestion as to the advisability of reducing the subscription to $2 for ladies and $3 for gentlemen. He would move that this be done as the balance was too heavy, and with the increase of members not necessary.

A discussion then followed on this point, some being for and others against the proposal, various methods being mooted for using the surplus, in the course of which Mr. BOOTH suggested that it might be used as the nucleus of a library, the advantages of which the members could plainly see.

Mr. SARGENT contended the money in hand was insufficient to even start a library. The maintenance of one would cost a lot of money.

Mr. BALK's motion was here seconded by Mr DRAPER, but, being put to the meeting, was lost.

After the usual vote of thanks to the retiring committee, the meeting separated.

CRICKET.

THE KOBE TEAM V. THE PRESIDENT'S ELEVEN.

This game, which had been arranged for Wednesday, but was postponed on account of rain, was partly played yesterday in an occasional drizzle on a wet pitch. The Kobe team batted, Dickenson and Meaden being the first to go in. The brothers Edwards bowled, and the analysis below shows the result. Meaden, who was the first to come back, was replaced by White, who made 25; Dickenson then retired, and Duff came in with the score at 57, but carried out his bat for 121, which included 16 fours, 11 threes, and 6 twos. Man contributed 19, and Melhuish 22, and the innings closed for 230. The weather was much against the bowling and fielding, though the latter was good under the circumstances, and the analysis speaks for the former. Following are the scores:—

Mr. Dickinson, c. Garst, b. W. D. S. Edwards	11
Dr. Meaden, b. W. D. S. Edwards	13
Mr. White, b. W. D. S. Edwards	25
Mr. Duff, not out	121
Mr. Tate, b. W. D. S. Edwards	6
Mr. Walford, b. W. D. S. Edwards	1
Mr. Man, b. W. D. S. Edwards	19
Mr. Melhuish, b. W. D. S. Edwards	22
Mr. J. M. Mollison, b. E. B. S. Edwards	1
Mr. Libeaud, b. E. B. S. Edwards	0
Mr. Ross, b. W. D. S. Edwards	2
b. 5, l. b. 2, w. 2	9
	230

	R.	M.	O.	Wkt.	W.
Mr. W. D. S. Edwards	168	87	8	8	—
Mr. E. B. S. Edwards	100	58	3	2	—
Mr. Markham	35	23	2	—	2
Mr. E. R. Morriss	35	33	—	—	1

BASEBALL.

U.S. NAVY V. YOKOHAMA.

This match, played yesterday, went to the close of the fourth innings on pretty even terms, the Navy being only one ahead, but in the next four innings the Navy made eight to Yokohama's one, the game closing ten to three. The Navy team not only fielded well, but had an unusually powerful battery, which somewhat demoralised the home team towards the end. The following are the scores:—

U.S. Navy.	Pos.	Runs.	Outs.
Mr. Pratt	3B	2	2
Mr. McGill	P	1	3
Mr. Murphy	C	1	2
Mr. Quinby	LF	0	4
Mr. Franklin	1B	1	3
Mr. Stokes	SS	1	2
Mr. Heff	3B	1	3
Mr. Eberle	CF	2	2
Mr. Irwin	R F	0	3
Total		10	24

	Pos.	Runs.	Outs.
Mr. Anderson	P	0	5
Mr. Black	C	0	3
Mr. Merriman	2B	0	3
Mr Shirasu	SS	0	3
Mr. Tilden	1B	1	3
Mr Morse	3B	0	3
Mr. Stone	CF	1	2
Mr. Howard	RF	0	3
Mr. Blanchard	LF	1	2
Total		3	27

INNINGS	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
U.S. Navy	0	0	1	0	2	0	2	2	3	=10
Yokohama	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	= 3

REPORT ON THE FOREIGN TRADE OF JAPAN FOR 1892.

Mr. DE BUNSEN to the Earl of ROSEBERY.

Tokyo, May 30, 1893.

My LORD,—I have the honour to transmit herewith a Summary of the Foreign Trade of Japan for the year 1892, which has been compiled by Mr. Spring Rice, Second Secretary to this Legation.

The following points appear to be of special interest:—

I.—The increase of the foreign trade of Japan. The total sterling value of last year's foreign trade is nearly double that of 1884.

II.—The alteration which has taken place in the trade of Japan in the last few years, owing to the progress of Japanese industries. The imports of raw material are increasing at the expense of the imports of manufactured goods. While the sterling value of the imports has increased 19 per cent. since 1887, the value of the import of cotton yarn and piece goods has decreased 17 per cent.; the value of the import of woollen goods is stationary. On the other hand, Japan imported last year 11 times the quantity of raw cotton imported in 1887, and since the same year her export of fabrics manufactured in Japan has increased nearly 400 per cent. In the far East, Japan has now become a competitor with England in certain lines of cotton goods.

III.—The increased consumption of cotton goods in Japan. The amount of foreign and Japanese yarn consumed in Japan (exclusive of that manufactured from native-grown cotton) has increased from 25,000 tons in 1887 to 72,000 tons in 1892, while the quantity of the principal fabrics imported has increased likewise.

IV.—The steady increase in the import of sugar is another sign of the growing prosperity of the country.

V.—The fall since 1890 of the silver prices of the principal articles of import (except certain lines of iron goods), and the rise of the silver prices of the principal articles of export. Japan has been steadily selling in a dearer market and buying in a cheaper one.

VI.—The export of gold and import of silver. In 1892 Japan exported 1,000,000*l.* sterling worth of gold, and imported 3,000,000*l.* sterling worth of silver. I may here state that the foreign debt of Japan (interest payable in gold) was, in March last, only 768,000*l.*

VII.—For various causes the figures show a decline in British trade. In 1889, 40 per cent. of the entire trade of Japan was with the British Empire; in 1890, 41 per cent.; in 1891, 37 per cent.; in 1892, the percentage sank to 35. In 1889, the percentage which the whole value of the trade of Great Britain bore to the total trade was 24; in 1892, it was 15. This has been partly owing to the increased value of the exports of silk and tea, which go mainly to France and America direct. But there has also been a relative decline in the value of British imports alone. In 1886 the imports for Great Britain alone were 46 per cent. of the whole value of the imports of Japan; in 1889, they were 39 per cent.;

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in 1890 and 1891, 32 per cent.; in 1892, 30 per cent. Though European trade, as a whole, might be expected to suffer from the same influences, it appears that last year, while the imports from Great Britain decreased nearly 7 per cent., the imports from Germany and France were larger than the year before.

But while the figures show a result which cannot be considered satisfactory, I am bound to add that British import trade appears to be in a healthy state; the stocks on hand are not so great as last year, and the demand, as shown by deliveries, is increasing. The change which is taking place in the import trade of Japan, while it affects seriously certain branches of British manufactures, may tend, if kept pace with, to stimulate others. The growing wealth and industries of the country may be expected to bring with them an increased demand, not only for raw material, but for the higher grades of manufactured goods,—I have, &c.,

(Signed) M. DE BUNSEN.

The figures quoted in the following summary are based upon statistics given in the official return of the foreign trade of the Empire of Japan. Imports for the year are converted into sterling at the rate of 2s. 11¼d. to the dollar; exports at the rate of 2s. 10⅝d. to the dollar. The rate at which imports and exports were converted in the report on the foreign trade of Japan for the year 1891 was respectively 3s. 4d. and 3s. 2⅛d. The difference of the rates for 1892 and 1891 is about 10 per cent.

The total foreign trade of Japan for the year 1892 amounted to 23,805,232*l.*, composed of—

	Value. £
Exports	13,143,470
Imports	10,661,762

Showing, as compared with the figures for 1891, an increase of 344,550*l.* in exports, and of 173,884*l.* in imports, or a net increase on the whole foreign trade of 518,434*l.*, and an excess of exports over imports amounting to 2,481,708*l.*

The distribution of the trade among the open and other ports* was as follows:—

Ports.		1892. £	1891. £
Yokohama	Exports...	8,880,187	7,972,987
	Imports...	4,683,030	4,830,469
	Total...	13,563,217	12,803,456
Hiogo & Osaka	Exports...	3,253,923	4,964,201
	Imports...	5,417,954	3,655,666
	Total ..	8,671,877	8,619,867
Nagasaki	Exports...	481,480	618,358
	Imports...	438,237	488,689
	Total...	919,717	1,107,047
Hakodate	Exports...	112,944	102,792
	Imports...	1,809	36,247
	Total...	114,753	139,039
Other ports	Exports...	414,936	449,117
	Imports...	120,732	168,272
	Total...	535,668	617,389

The trade of Yokohama, Nagasaki, Hakodate, and the "other ports" suffers a decrease in the value of imports as compared with last year. This is made up for by a large increase in the import trade of Hiogo and Osaka. The export trade of Yokohama and Hakodate has increased, while that of Nagasaki Hiogo, and Osaka, and the other ports has diminished.

The trade of 1892 was larger than that of any previous year.

The following table shows the value of the import, export, and total trade of Japan from 1884-92 (the figures are taken from previous reports from this legation):—

Year.	Value. Imports.	Exports	Total
1884	5,999,805	5,971,205	11,971,010
1885	5,918,179	6,321,947	12,240,126
1886	5,577,817	7,999,659	14,577,476
1887	8,905,320	8,180,322	17,085,642
1888*	11,195,358	10,076,206	21,262,564
1889	10,131,408	10,756,708	20,888,116
1890	13,280,894	9,580,322	22,862,216
1891	10,487,878	12,798,920	23,286,798
1892	10,661,762	13,143,479	23,807,232

* In 1888 the Japanese customs changed the method of valuation of imports, raising it about 15 per cent.

In this period a considerable change has come over the trade of Japan, as will appear from the following table, the figures of which are based on the Japanese official reports:—

* The term "other ports" comprises Niigata, Shimonoseki, Moji, Hakata, Karatsu, Misumi, Idzugahara, Shishimi, Sasuna, and Otaru

Percentage of Principal Articles of Export and Import of Total Value of Export and Import.

I.—EXPORTS.

Article.	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.
Rice	3	6	2	7	4
Copper	2	4	5	4	4
Silk (raw)	51	38	40	40	41
Tea	17	17	18	17	14
Silk piece-goods..	—	—	2	2	2
Article.	**1888.**	**1889.**	**1890.**	**1891.**	**1892.**
Rice	11	10	2	8	4
Copper	5	4	9	6	5
Silk (raw)	42	40	21	40	43
Tea	9	8	9	8	8
Silk piece-goods..	2	2	4	6	9

II.—IMPORTS.

Article.	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.
Kerosene	8	6	5	9	4
Sugar	16	18	17	17	13
Cotton yarn	22	17	17	12	18
Cotton (raw)	1	2	2	2	2
Shirtings	5	4	5	4	3
Italian cloth	3	1	3	2	2
Mousseline de laine	6	6	3	2	2
Metals	—	7	9	9	9
Article.	**1888.**	**1889.**	**1890**	**1891.**	**1892.**
Kerosene	5	7	6	7	4
Sugar	10	9	10	12	13
Cotton-yarn	20	19	12	9	10
Cotton (raw)	3	8	6	13	17
Shirtings	4	3	5	3	3
Italian cloth	2	2	2	3	1
Mousseline de laine	3	3	3	3	3
Metals	11	9	8	8	7

From this table it appears that, in a period 10 years, while raw silk has kept its high place among the articles exported from Japan to foreign countries (forming on an average something over 40 per cent. of the total exports), tea has become an article of less importance, falling from 17 per cent. to 8 per cent. On the other hand, the export of silk manufactured goods is relatively increasing, and is now a more important item in the export trade than tea.

The second table shows also that Japan is becoming year by year her own manufacturer.

The import of cotton yarn, which formed 22 per cent. of the total imports of 1883, fell to 10 per cent. of the total value of the imports of 1892, while raw cotton has risen in the same period from 1 per cent. to 17 per cent. and is now the most important article in the import trade. A steady decline will be observed in the proportion borne by manufactured goods (shirtings, Italian cloth, and mousseline de laine) to the total value of the imports. It will be seen that this change nearly concerns the trade of Great Britain.

From tables published in the Japanese customs returns for 1892 it appears that 82 per cent. of the entire foreign trade was in the hands of foreigners, viz., 78⅛ per cent. of imports and 85½ per cent. of exports. The percentage in 1891 was, of the entire trade, 82 per cent.; of imports 77 per cent, and of exports 87 per cent.

Statistics showing the Distribution of the Trade of Japan among Foreign Countries

Country.	Value. Exports. £	Imports. £	Total. £
United Kingdom.	565,794	3,107,572	3,673,366
Hongkong	1,917,149	1,044,221	2,961,371
British Indian	203,195	1,145,310	1,350,505
Australia	105,556	40,775	146,331
Canada	157,025	4,597	146,622
Total British	2,950,719	5,342,475	8,293,194
United States	5,570,670	895,089	6,474,759
China	917,398	1,869,896	2,787,294
France	2,610,392	541,189	3,151,581
Germany	135,727	952,937	1,088,664
Other countries and ships' use..	949,564	1,060,176	2,009,740
Grand total	13,143,470	10,661,762	23,805,232

Comparing the above with the corresponding figures for 1891, the difference is as follows:—

Country.		Value. £
United Kingdom..	Exports... Decrease..	340,788
	Imports... Decrease..	225,103
	Net decrease.	565,891
Hongkong	Exports... Decrease...	107,234
	Imports... Increase ...	195,953
	Net increase.	88,719
British India	Exports... Increase ...	46,190
	Imports.. Increase ..	209,630
	Net increase	255,820
Australia	Exports... Decrease..	9,290
	Imports... Increase ..	2,634
	Net increase.	3,656
Canada	Exports... Decrease...	59,060
	Imports... Increase ..	1,124
	Net decrease.	57,936
British Empire	Exports... Decrease...	477,182
	Imports... Increase ...	184,238
	Net decrease.	292,944
United States	Exports.. Increase ...	784,416
	Imports... Decrease...	244,919
	Net increase.	539,497
China	Exports... Decrease...	20,200
	Imports... Increase ...	403,491
	Net increase.	383,291
France	Exports... Increase ...	177,005
	Imports... Increase ...	68,851
	Net increase.	245,856
Germany	Exports... Decrease...	98,693
	Imports... Increase ...	98,358
	Net decrease.	335

British trade has continued its downward course. In 1890 its value was 41 per cent. of the total foreign trade of Japan. In 1891 it fell below 37 per cent. In 1892 it represented less than 35 per cent.

Table giving particulars of the Decline of British Trade during the last Four Years, the Figures representing the Percentage of the Total Foreign Trade.

Country	1889. Imports.	Exports.	Total Trade.	1890. Imports.	Exports.	Total Trade.
Great Britain	39	11	24	32	9	22
Hongkong	5	10	8	6	15	10
British India	11	2	6	11	1	7
Australia	½	1	½	½	1	1
Canada	½	½	½	½	2	½
British Empire.	57	25	40	50	29	41
	1891.			**1892.**		
Great Britain	32	7	18	29	4	15
Hongkong	8	16	12	9	15	12
British India	8	1	4	11	1½	5
Australia	½	1	½	½	½	½
Canada	½	2	1	½	1	½
British Empire.	49	27	37	50	22	35

Thus the total trade of Great Britain has fallen from 24 per cent. to 15 per cent. of the total foreign trade; the exports to Great Britain from 11 per cent. to 4 per cent., and the imports from 39 per cent to 29 per cent.

The percentage of the trade of Hongkong has increased from 8 per cent. to 12 per cent.

British Indian trade has proportionately decreased. In 1889 it was 6 per cent. of the whole, and in 1892, 5 per cent.

The trade of Australia and Canada with Japan has decreased. Together their trade only amounts to a little over 1 per cent. of the total trade.

The tendency of the import trade of Japan is, as has been shown, towards an increase in the importation of raw material and a decrease in the importation of manufactured goods, such as cottons, woollens, machinery, &c. It is natural that Great Britain, the staple of whose trade is the import of these latter articles, should suffer by such a change. But it is to be observed that the imports from Germany and France have increased, although their trade is similarly circumstanced.

Below are tables which give (1) Particulars as to the import and export trade of Great Britain, Hongkong, Australia, and Canada, with the increase or decrease on the preceding year, and (2) the share which Great Britain has had this year and the year before in the import of certain leading articles. The percentage of British trade is given, as well as that of competing nations, so that their relative positions are shown for the two years under review.

Turning first to the exports from Japan to Great Britain, it appears that the largest decrease is in rice—and is proportionate to the total decrease in the export of that article from Japan. There is a considerable increase in the value of the export of copper to Great Britain, although the total export diminished. Great Britain took less silk from Japan in 1892, although the general export increased greatly. The total decrease in the export trade to Great Britain was 340,000*l.*, or 37 per cent.

The decrease under the heads of railway material and machinery is partly accounted for by the general decrease in the import of these articles, but the proportional share of Great Britain has decreased, to the advantage of Germany, in both locomotives and iron rails. Great Britain's share in the import of machinery has increased, but the total amount imported has diminished from 210,000*l.* in 1890 to 149,000*l.* Under the heading steam boilers and engines, Great Britain

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seems to be giving place to France and the United States.

The general import of metals and their manufactures has decreased about 12 per cent. Pig-iron, iron nails, and lead are, however, exceptions. In the increase under these headings Great Britain has shared: in iron nails, however, the largest item, she has given place to Belgium; Germany coming first with 63 per cent., Belgium 20 per cent., and Great Britain 17 per cent. In the import of pig-iron and lead she has made progress at the expense of Germany.

In the import of iron, bar and rod, iron, plate and sheet, and iron rails respectively, she shares in the general decrease; but her relative share of the total amount declines also to the advantage of Germany. The import of rails was in 1892 equally divided between Germany and England: in 1891, England's share was 70 per cent. In iron, bar and rod, her share declined from 65 per cent. to 60 per cent.; in iron, plate, and sheet, from 92 per cent. to 76 per cent.; in iron wire from 27 per cent. to 21 per cent. In all of these the share of Germany became correspondingly larger.

In the general import of manufacture of cotton and wool there is a large increase amounting together about 390,000*l*. British imports under this heading show an increase of last year with three exceptions—Italian cloths, Turkey-reds, and grey shirtings. In all of these three the total import shows a considerable decrease, and Great Britain has almost a monopoly of the import. The decrease in British trade under these headings amounts to nearly 200,000*l*. With the exception of white shirtings, cotton handkerchiefs, and cotton velvets (under which headings Germany has obtained a slight increase), England holds her predominance in cotton goods. In cotton yarn, however, there is an actual increase and relative decrease. British India, from which Japan imported 20 per cent. in 1891, supplied 25 per cent in 1892, and this increase was at the expense of Great Britain.

The total import of woollen goods increased, and British woollens increased also. But there was an important exception. The value of the import of Italian cloths (owing to heavy stocks which had to be sold off) was, in 1892, a little more than half of the import of 1891; and Great Britain exported 28 per cent of this article. Her share of the import of flannels fell from 17 per cent. to 13 per cent.; of woollen yarn, from 9 per cent. to 8 per cent.; of woollen cloths, 61 per cent. to 53 per cent.; of woollen cloths in part wool, from 97 per cent. to 93 per cent. In all these cases, England's loss was Germany's gain.

In locomotives and Portland cement the fall is marked; in the former from 85 per cent. to 76 per cent.; in the latter from 84 per cent. to 32 per cent. of the total import.

Tables showing the Relative Proportions of the Value of the Imports from Great Britain and other Countries during the Years 1891-92.

I.—Articles in which the Percentage of the British Import decreased.

Articles.	Percentage of Values of the whole Import. Belgium. 1891.	Belgium. 1892.	France. 1891.	France. 1892.	Great Britain. 1891.	Great Britain. 1892.	Germany. 1891.	Germany. 1892.
Aniline dyes	—	—	—	—	11	2	74	80
Beer and ale (in casks excepted)	—	—	—	—	28	2	48	92
Blankets	—	—	—	—	98	97	1	2
Coal	—	—	—	—	100	98	—	—
Cotton handkerchiefs	—	—	6	9	64	58	18	30
Cotton yarns	—	—	—	—	80	75	—	—
Indiarubber ware	—	—	13	20	56	54	36	36
Cotton velvets	—	—	—	—	98	96	2	4
Flannels	—	—	—	—	17	13	82	85
Flax and hemp yarn	—	—	—	—	84	73	15	26
Iron—								
Bar and rod	19	28	2	4	65	60	11	17
Plate and sheet	4	14	—	—	92	76	3	9
Rail	—	—	—	—	69	50	28	50
Italian cloths	—	—	—	—	99	98	1	2
Iron nails	9	20	—	—	19	17	72	63
Iron wire	22	25	—	—	27	21	51	54
Locomotives	—	—	—	—	85	76	6	24
Paraffin oil and wax	—	—	—	—	87	83	12	1
Portland cement	—	—	—	—	84	32	10	58
Salicylic acid	—	—	—	1	23	6	77	90
Printing paper	—	5	—	—	79	77	20	20
Shirtings, white	—	—	—	—	100	97	—	3
Steam boilers and engines	—	—	7	5	90	75	—	1
Woollen yarn	—	—	—	6	9	8	82	86
Woollen cloths	4	5	—	—	62	53	35	42
Woollen cloths (in part wool)	—	—	—	—	97	93	3	7

Articles.	Percentage of Values of the whole Import. United States. 1891.	United States. 1892.	British India. 1891.	British India. 1892.	Value of Total Import in Thousands. 1891.	Value of Total Import in Thousands. 1892.
					£	£
Aniline dyes	—	—	—	—	64	63
Beer and ale (in casks excepted)	—	—	—	—	16	28
Blankets	—	—	—	—	42	79
Coal	—	1	—	—	24	16
Cotton handkerchiefs	—	—	—	—	80	30
Cotton yarn	—	—	20	25	932	1,066
Indiarubber ware	22	7	—	—	20	21
Cotton velvets	—	—	—	—	46	83
Flannels	—	—	—	—	67	160
Flax and hemp yarn	—	—	—	—	15	26
Iron—						
Bar and rod	—	—	—	—	145	126
Plate and sheet	—	—	—	—	50	36
Rail	—	—	—	—	123	10
Italian cloths	—	—	—	—	307	158
Iron nails	—	—	—	—	209	196
Iron wire	—	—	—	—	9	15
Locomotives	9	—	—	—	98	30
Paraffin oil and wax	2	26	—	—	24	34
Portland cement	6	—	—	—	8	4
Salicylic acid	—	—	—	—	18	25
Printing paper	—	—	—	—	26	32
Shirtings, white	—	—	—	—	36	48
Steam boilers and engines	5	21	—	—	23	27
Woollen yarn	—	—	—	—	28	64
Woollen cloths	—	—	—	—	72	95
Woollen cloths (in part wool)	—	—	—	—	20	29

II.—Articles in which the Percentage of the British Import Increased, or was Stationary.

Articles.	Percentage of Value of the whole Import. Belgium. 1891.	Belgium. 1892.	France. 1891.	France. 1892.	Great Britain. 1891.	Great Britain. 1892.	Germany. 1891.	Germany. 1892.	United States. 1891.	United States. 1892.
Condensed milk	—	—	—	—	13	20	—	—	69	53
Canvas	—	—	—	—	96	100	4	—	—	—
Caustic soda	—	—	—	—	97	99	3	1	—	—
Chintzes	—	—	—	—	98	98	2	1	—	—
Clocks	—	—	—	—	2	8	6	20	83	70
Cotton drills	—	—	—	—	98	100	—	—	—	—
Cotton sateens	—	—	—	—	96	99	—	2	4	—
Cotton threads	—	—	—	—	93	94	7	6	—	—
Hats, caps &c.	—	—	—	—	97	98	2	2	—	—
Iron, pig	—	—	—	—	70	89	30	9	—	—
Lead	—	—	—	—	87	67	25	4	—	—
Leather (not sole)	—	—	—	—	8	20	10	8	22	20
Logwood	—	—	64	40	12	24	22	32	—	—
Machinery, spinning	—	—	1	—	92	96	2	2	—	—
Machinery, mining	—	6	—	—	28	45	22	6	60	43
Mercury	—	—	—	—	15	46	—	—	65	38
Mousseline-de-laine	—	—	89	89	2	2	9	9	—	—
Paint, in oil	—	2	—	—	93	93	3	1	—	—
Pumps	—	—	—	—	94	99	5	—	3	1
Satins, silk, and cotton mixture	—	—	30	34	2	7	46	28	—	—
Shirtings, dyed	—	—	—	—	99	100	1	—	—	—
Shirtings, grey	—	—	—	—	100	100	—	—	—	—
Steel	3	1	6	7	82	85	5	6	—	—
T-cloths	—	—	—	—	100	100	—	—	—	—
Steel wire	2	—	—	—	49	52	49	46	—	—
Turkey-reds	—	—	2	3	95	95	—	—	—	—
Tea lead	—	—	—	—	100	100	—	—	—	—
Victoria lawn	—	—	—	—	100	100	—	—	—	—
Wool	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Zinc	13	13	—	—	40	44	37	43	—	—

Articles.	Hongkong. 1891	Hongkong. 1892.	China. 1891.	China. 1892.	British India. 1891.	British India. 1892.	Value of Total Import in Thousands 1891	Value of Total Import in Thousands 1892
							£	£
Condensed milk	—	—	—	—	—	—	28	26
Canvas	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	6
Caustic soda	—	—	—	—	—	—	42	86
Chintzes	—	—	—	—	—	—	93	67
Clocks	—	—	—	—	—	—	58	30
Cotton drills	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	19
Cotton satins	—	—	—	—	—	—	22	78
Cotton threads	—	—	—	—	—	—	14	18
Hats, caps, &c.	—	—	1	1	—	—	69	50
Iron, pig	—	—	—	—	—	—	33	36
Lead	—	—	—	—	—	—	27	35
Leather (not sole)	—	—	22	24	47	60	69	83
Logwood	—	—	—	—	—	—	16	28
Machinery, spinning	—	—	—	—	—	—	86	55
Machinery, mining	—	—	—	—	—	—	25	16
Mercury	—	—	—	—	—	—	17	14
Mousseline-de-laine	—	—	—	—	—	—	325	360
Paint, in oil	—	—	—	—	—	—	20	25
Pumps	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	17
Satins, silk, and cotton mixture	—	—	—	—	—	—	67	47
Shirtings, dyed	—	—	—	—	—	—	28	29
Shirtings, grey	—	—	—	—	—	—	276	258
Steel	—	—	—	—	—	—	41	33
T-cloths	—	—	—	—	—	—	23	29
Steel wire	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	11
Turkey-reds	—	—	—	—	—	—	82	56
Tea lead	—	—	—	—	—	—	21	29
Victoria lawn	—	—	—	—	—	—	16	14
Wool	8	32	7	11	7	11	34	45
Zinc	—	—	—	—	—	—	24	38

Return of the Trade of to Great Britain during the Year 1892.

Principal Exports Great Britain.

Articles.	Value in Thousands. 1892.	1891.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Paper	12	10	2	—
Rice	112	285	—	173
Copper	93	54	39	—
Silk (raw)	67	118	—	51
Silk handkerchiefs	24	74	—	50
Screens	25	30	—	5
Porcelain, &c.	35	43	—	8
Total exports	565	906	—	341

Principal Imports from Great Britain.

Articles.	Value in Thousands. 1892.	1891.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Arms and munitions of war	61	14	47	—
Railway carriages	4½	36	—	31½
Locomotives	22	84	—	62
Machinery	118	229	—	111
Pumps	17	6	11	—
Vessels, steam	23	84	—	61
Paper	33	28	5	—
Hats and caps	46	66	—	20
Potash	46	4	42	—
Soda	33	50	—	17
Iron—				
Pig	31	23	8	—
Bar and rod	76	96	—	20
Plate	27	44	—	17
Nails	23	19	4	—
Rails	5	80	—	75
Steel	28	33	—	5
Lead	48	32	16	—
Zinc	21	12	9	—
Paraffin and wax	27	20	7	—
Cotton—				
Yarn	767	715	52	—
Threads	17	13	4	—
Chintzes	61	22	39	—
Drills	19	6	13	—
Satin	75	20	55	—
Velvets	80	43	37	—
Shirtings—				
Grey	249	267	—	18
White	46	35	11	—
Twilled	16	5	11	—
Dyed	18	17	1	—
T.-cloths	18	23	—	5
Turkey-reds	52	77	—	25
Blankets	74	41	33	—
Flannels	20	11	9	—
Italian cloths	149	300	—	151
Woollen cloths and mixtures	85	54	31	—
Flax and hemp yarn	20	12	8	—
Handkerchiefs	17	14	3	—
Coal	15	23	—	8
Leather ware	1	3½	—	2½
Carpets, &c.	6	10	—	4
Total import	3,107	3,332	—	255

Principal Exports to Hongkong.

Articles.	Value in Thousands. 1892.	1891.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Camphor	102	134	—	32
Cuttle-fish	122	111	11	—
Kanten	40	29	11	—
Rice	200	126	74	—
Shellfish and shrimps	77	111	—	34
Antimony	23	32	—	9
Wax	33	43	—	10
Copper	447	492	—	45
Oil	19	18	1	—
Cotton piece goods	31	14	17	—
Silk handkerchiefs	28	30	—	2
Coal and coaldust	174	251	—	77
Matches	240	333	7	—
Porcelain	34	28	6	—
Total export	1,917	2,024	—	107

Principal Imports from Hongkong.

Articles.	Value in Thousands. 1892.	1891.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Sugar	991	800	191	—
Cordage	3	4	—	1
Total import	1,044	848	196	—

Principal Exports to British India.

Articles.	Value in Thousands. 1892.	1891.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Rice	17	—	17	—
Copper	17	34	—	17
Silk handkerchiefs	16	6	10	—
Coal	35	30	5	—
Woodware	23	18	5	—
Total export	205	159	46	—

Principal Imports from British India

Articles.	Value in Thousands. 1892.	1891.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Saltpetre	10	8	5	—
Indigo	31	20	11	—
Leather	53	39	14	—
Cotton, raw	663	545	118	—
Cotton, yarn	262	183	79	—
Wool	5	2	3	—
Total import	1,145	216	207	—

Principal Exports to Canada.

Articles.	Value in Thousands. 1892.	1891.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Rice	9	18	—	9
Tea	124	18	—	56
Silk handkerchiefs	12	12	—	—
Porcelain	2	2	—	—
Total export	157	216	—	59

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PRINCIPAL IMPORTS FROM CANADA.

Articles.	1892.	1891.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Value in Thousands. £	£	£	£
Timber	2½ ...	1½ ...	1.	—
Total import...	4.....	3.....	1.....	—

PRINCIPAL EXPORT TO AUSTRALIA.

Articles.	1892.	1891.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Value in Thousands. £	£	£	£
Sulphur	4½....	½ ...	4.....	—
Rice	77.....	87.....	—... ...	10
Silk handkerchiefs	3½....	6.....	—.....	2½
Porcelain	2.....	3.....	—.....	1
Bamboo	4	5	—.....	1
Total export...	105.....	121.....	—.....	16

PRINCIPAL IMPORTS FROM AUSTRALIA.

Article.	1892.	1891.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Value in Thousands. £	£	£	£
Lard	3.....	7.....	—.....	4
Lead	10.....	1....	9.....	—
Wool	25.....	23.....	2	—
Total import...	40.....	38.....	2	—

IMPORTS.

The general tone of the import trade in 1892 was healthier than in 1891. In the report of the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce it is stated that the stocks carried over to the present year are, as a rule, considerably less than those at the end of 1891. Instead of, as in former years, holding excessive stocks, importers have only brought to Japan what was really required, and the year closes, therefore, with small supplies, and a consequently healthier condition of trade than for several year past.

Mr. Troup in his report of the Yokohama trade, states that though the statistics of imports show a falling off in gold values, an increased consumption has been the rule in the case of nearly all staple imports, the chief exception being iron. Mr. Enslie states with regard to Kobe and Osaka, that "large stocks have been cleared off, and that the market is now in a healthier condition."

The progress of cotton manufactures in this country (of which Mr. Enslie's report contains full and interesting particulars) is likely to affect, as it has already affected, the foreign trade of Japan in textile fabrics and raw cotton. With regard to iron, it is not likely that Japan (which possesses as yet no large foundry, and whose coal is not favourably situated) will be able to supply her own wants, at least for some time. It may be expected that the scheme of railway extension approved by the Diet, under which 5,000,000 silver *yen* are to be annually expended, will lead to an increased importation of rails. This year, the increased silver price has acted as a deterrent to the consumer, and the trade in metals has been unsatisfactory both to foreigners and Japanese, "due in a great measure," says Mr. Enslie, "to forward contracts made by Japanese merchants on a sterling basis of cost laid down, resulting in most cases in heavy losses, owing to the decline in silver."

With regard to the production of coal, Mr. Quin's report from Nagasaki gives particulars of the south west coal mines. The Takashima mine, which produces the best quality, appears to be giving out. But there has been a largely increased output of inferior coal at reduced prices. Wool is not produced in Japan, and the taste for this line of goods does not seem to grow very rapidly. Blankets, flannels, and mousselines have done well, but there has been a falling off in Italian cloth.

With regard to the figures given in the Government reports, Mr. Troup points out that about 15 per cent. should be added to the figures for imports, in order to arrive at their selling price in Japan.

Fluctuations have not been quite as wide as in 1891. Bank demand drawing rates of exchange on London fell from 3*s.* 1½*d.*, which was the highest rate in January, to 2*s.* 8⅞*d.*, which was the lowest in December—a decline of some 12 per cent in the 12 months.

In spite of this fall it will be seen from a table given at the end of this report that silver prices for that last 3 years have fallen considerably (to judge from the figures in the Government reports) for the principal articles of import except iron. They have, however, risen for the principal articles of export silk and tea.

In 1890 imports largely exceeded exports, but in 1891 this position was reversed, exports preponderating over imports to the amount of 2,311,042*l.*

In 1892 the excess of exports over imports was larger, amounting to 2,481,708*l.* The total value of the imports of 1892 exceeded that of the imports of 1891 by 173,884*l.* The principal items in which the value of the import declined are "metals and manufactures," which decreased 110,000*l.*, "oils and wax" which decreased 260,000*l.*, mainly owing to a large falling off in kerosene, arms, machinery, and instruments which decreased 160,000*l.*, and "grain and seeds" which, owing to a considerable reduction in the import of rice, declined to the extent of 280,000*l.* The falling off under these heads is a continuation of a tendency which was marked in 1891.

Against this is to be set a large increase in the importation of raw cotton showing a steady development of manufactures, an increase which was equally marked in the year preceding. In 1892 this increase amounted to 476,000*l.* and to an even larger amount in 1891.

In 1891, from various causes noted in last year's summary, there was a very general stagnation in the import and large falling off in the principal articles of import. In the cases mentioned above, this falling off was continued in 1892; but manufactured cotton and woollen goods recovered to a certain extent, though not entirely. Cotton manufactures which fell 778,000*l.* in 1891, rose 246,000*l.* in 1892; and woollen manufactures which fell 399,000*l.* in 1891, rose in 1892 to the extent of 120 000*l.*

This heading shows a considerable decrease on 1891. It is partly owing to the stagnation in railway building (which is soon to be succeeded by a period of activity), and partly to the decline in the demand for machinery (which the Japanese are now making for themselves).

The quantity of coal imported has declined from 14,871 tons in 1891 to 12,624 tons in 1892; it was chiefly imported from England, but America contributes a slightly increased share.

There was a considerable decline in the amount of rice imported—which largely affected British India, whose export of this article dwindled from 30,000*l.* to 150*l.* But the chief source of the rice supply was Korea, which provided 64 per cent. of the total import.

Under this heading there is again a decrease. The value in 1890 was over 1,000,000*l.*; in 1891, 850,000*l.*; in 1892, it was under 75 000*l.* The chief articles in which the import was reduced since 1891 were iron, bar and rod (reduced 15,000*l.*), rails (reduced 106,000*l.*), steel and steel ware (3,000*l.*), plate and sheet iron (14,000*l.*). On the other hand, there was a heavier import of pig iron, the value of which amounted to 33,000*l.* in 1891, and 36,000*l.* in 1892; of iron nails (which increased 26,000*l.*), and of lead (20,000*l.*).

The figures given below show the distribution between the three chief competing countries, Great Britain, Germany, and Belgium, of the value of iron nails, iron rod and bar, pig-iron, and iron plate and sheet during the year under review.

Country.	Nails.	Rails	Value Rod and Bar.	Pig.	Plate and Sheet.
	£	£	£	£	£
Great Britain...	23,500	5,050	78 500	32,010	27,403
Germany	84.300	5,020	25,120	3,560	1.900
Belgium	26 900	—	22,600	44	6,520
Total import	906,422	10.080	130.300	36,070	35 560

Considerable shipments of Belgium bar iron have been placed on the market at prices precluding larger importations of British iron (see Mr. Enslie's report).

The annexed table gives the amount of this article exported from Russia and America respectively in the last four years:—

Country.	Quantity 1892. Gallons	1891. Gallons	1890 Gallons	1889. Gallons.
Russia....	7,810,251	7 978,180,	6,538,330	9,767,130
United States...	24 879,024	32 503,950	36,131,150	30,231,708
Total.....	32 689,275	40,482,160	42,663,580	36 998,838

It appears that the import of kerosene is steadily decreasing, but on this point the report of the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce observes that there has been no decrease in the consumption since last year, very heavy stocks carried over from 1891 having been worked off in 1892.

The United States appear to be losing ground. Bulk importation in tank steamers has, however, only been just introduced, and has had no effect on the figures of 1892, but it will, of course, serve to increase the demand for the Russian article, the price of which will be considerably lower. Fears as to the result of the scheme seem to have affected purchases to a considerable extent, and brought about a temporary stagnation in business.

The import of Sugar, which declined in quantity and value in 1891, has in 1892 surpassed the total of 1890. In that year 102,765 tons were imported, at a value of 1,379,000*l.*; in 1892 the import amounted to 111,191 tons, at a value of 1,435,650*l.*

The figures for the last two years were as follows:—

Articles.		Value. 1892. £	1891. £
Brown sugar.....	China	348,120	379,860
	Hongkong	22,260	19,282
White sugar.....	China	6,990	37,988
	Hongkong	995,590	810,156

Hongkong has almost the monopoly of the import of white sugar, and has driven Germany, British-India, and the United States from the field. The Philippine Islands export about an equal amount of brown sugar.

In 1891, while there was a great increase in the import of raw cotton, various causes interfered with the import of manufactured fabrics, which fell—cotton fabrics 778,000*l.*, and woollen 399,000*l.*, or 34 and 31 per cent. respectively.

In 1892 there has been a considerable recovery in manufactured goods, though the import has not reached in value the point of 1890.

The figures of the import of raw cotton and cotton on seeds for the last three years are as follows:—

Year,	Quantity, Tons.	Value. £
1890	30.853.....	871,837
1891	47,550.....	1,366,542
1892	67,792.....	1,842,280

The share of the principal importing countries in this import, in quantity and value, were as follows:—

Year.	China. Quantity. Per cent.	Value. Per cent.	United States. Quantity. Per cent.	Value. Per cent.	British India Quantity Per cent.	Value. Per cent.
1890...76	71	3	5	14	23	
1891. -57	45	7	12	33	41	
1892...58	49	08	11	32	38	

Taking the items "cotton raw" and "cotton on the seeds" together, China is the largest importer, as regards both quantity and value. In 1891 British India was the largest importer of raw cotton alone, passing China. In 1892 China again went ahead, with an import of 43 per cent. of the total value, against 42 per cent. imported by British India. It appears that the import of China is of the lowest, and that of the United States of the highest grade. In the valuation per ton there is a drop from 28*l.* in 1891 to 27*l.* in 1892.

According to the official returns there were in November last 37 cotton spinning-mills, with 446,376 spindles. At the end of the year 1885 the number of cotton spinning factories in Japan was 21, having a total number of 62,320 spindles.

The demand for cotton yarn must have largely increased, for the imports do not show the decrease that would be expected from the development of Japanese industry. In 1886 the quantity imported was 14,660 tons, at a value of 1,210,000*l.*; in 1892 the quantity imported was 14,500 tons, at a value of 1,066,000*l.*; but if these figures be compared with the total value of the imports of the two years (1886, 6,577,000*l.*; 1892, 10,654,000*l.*), it will be seen that the import of cotton yarn has been far from keeping pace with the general increase of imports. In 1886 the value of the import of cotton yarn was about one-fifth of the whole value of the year's imports; in 1892 it was one-tenth.

The value of the import of cotton yarn increased from 1,210,000*l.* in 1886 to 2,279,000*l.* in 1888, from which year it decreased steadily, although there was in 1892 a recovery from the depression of 1891.

The figures for the last three years are as follow:—

Year.	Quantity. Tons.	Value. £
1890	18,880.....	1,613,310
1891	10,294.....	931,548
1892	14,538	1,066,080

Comparing the statistics of the import of raw cotton, it appears that while that of cotton yarn has decreased since 1890 23 per cent., the import of raw cotton has more than doubled.

Comparing the relative values of the imports of the two articles in 1892 and 1883, it appears, as has already been pointed out, that while the value of cotton yarn in 1883 was twenty times that of the import of raw cotton, the value of the raw cotton in 1892 was about 80 per cent. greater than that of the import of yarn in the same year.

In 1892, for the first time, cotton yarn figures among the exports of Japan, to the value of about 1,000*l.*

The distribution for the last three years of the import trade between England and India is shown by the following figures:—

Country.	1890. Quantity. Per cent.	Value. Per cent.	1891. Quantity. Per cent.	Value. Per cent.	1892. Quantity. Per cent.	Value. Per cent.
British India	44 ...	35	26	20	34	25
Great Britain	46 ...	64	74 ...	80	66	75

Before 1890 Bombay yarns had the first place;

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but in the last three years they have lost ground, though in 1892 they recovered slightly. Germany, which imported a small amount in 1890, has imported none since.

Shirtings, which declined in 1891 have recovered their ground in 1892 in quantity though not in value. In Yokohama, there was a very considerable decrease in the value of deliveries. The figures of the imports are as follow :—

Year.	Quantity. Yards.	Value. £
1890	37,798,704	374,841
1891	34,834,550	336,013
1892	40,437,968	343,450

Showing a valuation of 108 yards to the *l.* in 1890, and 118 yards to the *l.* in 1892.

England retains her pre-eminence, though the import of Germany has slightly increased since 1890.

In chintzes and prints and cotton velvets there has been a recovery from the depression of 1891 ; in the case of velvets the import is considerably larger that in 1892. The import of cotton velvets from Great Britain, which was 2,500,000 yards in 1890, and 1,670,000 yards in 1891, rose in 1892 to 3,252,000 yards. The deliveries of prints and velvets show a considerable increase, while the amount of stock carried over has diminished.

In "Turkey reds" there was a serious fall, both in imports and in Yokohama deliveries. The import in 1891 was 8,010,000 yards, valued at 82,500*l.* ; it fell in 1892 to 6,739,891 yards, valued at 56,500*l.* This decrease chiefly affected England, which exported 95 per cent. of the total import.

In cotton satins there was a considerable increase, the import being valued at more than three times that of 1891, and twice that of 1892; 99 per cent. was imported from England.

The import of T-cloths, which remained steady, in 1891, at about 23,000*l.*, fell to 19,000*l.* in 1892 There was also a decrease in the Yokohama deliveries. The import was entirely British.

Summing up the import of cotton fabrics for the last three years, we have the following figures (in thousands) :—

Table showing Import of Cotton Goods during the Years 1890 92.

Year	Shirtings Value in Thousands	British Import.	Chintzes and Prints. Value in Thousands.	British Import	Velvets. Value in Thou'ds.	British Import
1890	374	99	77	95	62	99
1891	336	99	23	98	40	98
1892	343	98	67	98	87	96

	Turkey-reds.		Satins.		T-Cloths	
1890	59	94	37	99	23	100
1891	82	95	22	96	23	100
1892	56	95	78	99	18	100

The import of raw cotton has increased, as compared with 1891, and decreased as compared with 1892. It now amounts to 504 tons, valued at 45,000*l.* More than half this import comes from Australia. Her share, however, has sunk from 81 per cent. in 1890 to 55 per cent. in 1892. The chief gainers are British India, 11 per cent.; and Great Britain, 22 per cent. The remainder comes from China.

The import of mousseline de laine was valued in 1892 at 366,059*l.*, an increase in 1891, but less than the import of 1892, 89 per cent. of this import comes from France, 9 per cent. from Germany, and 2 per cent. from England. The Yokohama deliveries increased considerably in value, while the stocks carried over are less than those of the preceding year.

The import of Italian cloths has declined considerably, though the Yokohama deliveries show a considerable increase. In 1890 the import was valued at 274,000*l.*, in 1891 at 307,000*l.*, and in 1892 at 158,000*l.*, 98 per cent. of which came from England. The stocks carried over are less than those of 1891, and the trade in this article may be considered in a healthy state.

In flannels and blankets there was a considerable gain on 1891, but a decline as compared with 1892.

The following table gives particulars as to the import of woollen goods (values in thousands sterling) :—

Table showing Import of Woollen Goods during the Years 1890 92.

Year.	Mousseline de Laine. Value in Thousands. £	British Trade. Per cent.	Italian Cloth. Value in Thousands. £	British Trade. Per cent
1890	452	2	274	100
1891	515	2	307	99
1892	366	2	158	98

Year.	Flannels. Value in Thousands. £	British Trade. Per cent	Blankets. Value in Thousands. £	British Trade. Per cent.
1890	150	22	92	95
1891	67	17	42	99
1892	160	13	79	78

British trade has fallen back considerably in flannels.

Compared with 1890, the import of satins, silks, and mixed silk and cotton has declined from 100,000*l.* to 66,000*l.* Great Britain's share in the import of this article has risen from 2 per cent. to 7 per cent.

There is a slight rise in the import of flax and linen.

Under this heading there is an increase in oil cakes, timber, indiarubber ware, and mats for packing, and a decrease in cora, beads and cordage.

Exports.

The export trade has been satisfactory; the low exchange stimulating business. A larger proportion of fine teas was produced, and though the quantity exported was less than last year, the price was 10 per cent. higher. The increase in the silk export was marked. In Mr. Troup's opinion "the trade promises to grow in importance, and the industry to develop from year to year." In August and September prices rapidly rose, and large profits were made. Silk manufactures occupy a prominent place among exports, going chiefly to the United States. The production of copper increased. Mr. Enslie gives some interesting details as to the production of camphor in Japan. The export of this article has decreased considerably, owing to the want of care in the preparation of the drug and in the preservation of the tree. There is a great foreign demand for matting for floors, chiefly in the United States, and Japan is supplying the far East with matches and umbrellas. It is noticeable that cotton yarn appears for the first time among the exports of Japan, and there has been a marked increase in the export of cotton piece-goods,

In sterling value exports increased 344,000*l.*, or 2¾ per cent. on the returns of 1891. In this increase the principal items are :—

Articles.	Value.
Silk (raw)	580,000
Textiles	482,000
Matting	64,000
Umbrellas	26,600
Matches	21,000

In the following articles there was a decrease :—

Bamboo ware, drugs, furs, grain, metal, oil, screens, strawplaits, and lacquer.

The principal article of export is silk. Raw silk alone forms 43 per cent of the exports; raw and manufactured silk together for 52 per cent.

British imports of Japanese silk have declined, but those of the United States, France, and Italy have increased. The distribution of the export of raw silk is as follows :—United States, 57 per cent.; France, 37 per cent.; Italy, 3 per cent.; Great Britain, 1½ per cent.

Silk handkerchiefs and piece-goods are also an important item, amounting together to 1,194,000*l.*, or 423,000*l.* more than last year. The distribution is as follows :—United States 57 per cent.; France 30 per cent.; Hongkong 3½ per cent.; England 3 per cent. The export to Great Britain is considerably reduced in silk handkerchiefs, the value exported in 1891 was 74,000*l.*, and in 1892 24,000*l.*

The tea export has declined. In 1891 it was valued at 1,132,000*l.*, and in 1892 it fell to 1,085,000*l.* Of this export the United States took 87 per cent., and British America 11 per cent. The export to Great Britain is small—about 5,000*l.*

The export of grain and provisions dropped from 311,000*l.* to 275,000*l.*, mainly in consequence of a decline in the export of rice. There was, however, an increase in the export of seaweed, mainly to China. The export of cuttle-fish was valued at 140,000*l.*, of which Hongkong took 122,000*l.* worth.

The value of metals exported was 755,000*l.*, as compared with 870,000*l.* in 1891, the fall being mainly owing to a decline in the copper export, which, though it increased in volume, fell in value. The export of copper in sheet, bar, and slab, increased, while the export of the ingots diminished. England took a larger quantity than in 1892 (93,000*l.*, as compared with 54,000*l.*). Hongkong was by far the largest customer, taking 63 per cent. of the whole export.

The quantity of coal exported, including that for ship's use, was 1,300,000 tons, at a value of 63,000*l.*, as compared with 1,240,000 tons, at a value of 764,000*l.*, in 1891. Not including ships' use the figures were 411,800*l.* for 1892, and 511,600*l.* for 1891.

There is a considerable increase in the export of cotton manufactures. The value in 1891 was 60,000*l.*, which rose to 111,000*l.* in 1892. This includes a small amount of cotton yarn—the firs. time the item has appeared as an article of export.

The details of the export to the principal countries are as follows :—

Articles.	Country.	Value. 1892. £	Value. 1891 £
Cotton under-shirts and drawers	British India	1,000	—
	China	2,000	2,000
	Hongkong	5,000	1,500
Total		8,000	3,500
Cotton cloths for floors	Great Britain	4,000	1,000
	United States	20,000	13,000
	Russia	1,000	—
Total		25,000	15,500
Cotton flannels.	China	9,000	2,000
	Hongkong	6,000	1,300
Total		15,000	3,700
Cotton piece-goods, other.	British India	8,000	2,000
	China	12,000	4,300
	Hongkong	31,000	15,000
	United States	4,000	1,000
Total		63,000	36,700

The following table shows the increase of the export of cotton goods :—

Year.	Value
1889	£34,000
1890	44,000
1891	60,000
1892	111,000

The export of paper slightly increased (47,000*l.*) as compared with (43,000*l.*) 1891.

Camphor, the export of which, in 1891, was valued at 260,000*l.*, fell to 180,000*l.* in 1892, and sulphur declined from 46,000*l.* to 40,000*l.*

The declared value of art manufactures converted into sterling was about the same in 1892 as in 1891, that is, 460,000*l.* Porcelain, 210,000*l.*, and lacquered ware, 76,200*l.*, were the principal items. The former article showed an increase of 6,000*l.* on the exports of 1891, while lacquered ware declined 17,000*l.*

In 1892 the exports of Japan were proportioned as follows :—

Articles.	Per Cent.
Raw silk	43
Manufactured textiles	10
Tea	8
Edibles	10
Metals and coal	9

Effect of Japanese Manufactures on Foreign Trade.

In his report of February, 1892, Mr. Gubbins enumerated the various industrial enterprises which have sprung up in Japan, and gave details as to their operations and progress.

The following table gives the official figures relating to the export or import, during the last six years, of the articles enumerated in that report

Making allowance for the fact that stocks carried over from last year are considerably less than those carried over from 1891, it is clear that foreign imports have been considerably affected by the progress of Japanese industries.

Since 1887 the gold value of the import trade of Japan has increased 19 per cent., and the value of the export trade 60 per cent.

In the case of cotton, the most important industry of Japan, it appears that the import of the raw material in 1892 was 11 times what it was in 1887. The import of manufactured cotton goods has decreased 17 per cent. since 1887, and 44 per cent. since 1888, the year of its greatest value.

The manufacture of cotton fabrics in Japan seems also to have affected the importation of woollen goods, which stands now at a slightly lower figure (1892, 1,043,000*l.*; 1887 1,107,000*l.*) than it did six years ago.

On the export side it appears that Japan's export of cotton and silk fabrics has increased from 280,000*l.* to 1,300,000*l.* This increase has been chiefly in silk goods, but cotton piece goods alone have increased in sterling value in the last three years from 44,000*l.* to 112,000*l.*

The import of machinery increased from 189 000*l.* in 1887 to 611,000*l.* in 1888, from which time it rapidly declined. The difference between the import rose from 69,000*l.* in 1887 to 170,000*l.* in 1889, from which year it declined to its present figure of 64,000*l.*, a loss of 7 per cent.

Both the import and export of paper have increased, the former 46 per cent. and the latter 77 per cent.

Although the manufacture of soap has been largely prosecuted of late years, the wants of the Japanese people seem to increase at a greater rate than the manufactures can satisfy; for the export of this article has decreased 42 per cent., while the importation has increased 130 per cent.

The quality of this article imported has decreased 50 per cent. since 1887.

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The import has increased 17 per cent. The export (which is confined to the coarser qualities) has increased 600 per cent. in value, allowing for difference in exchange.

The import of Portland cement in 1890 more than doubled that of 1887, but it rapidly declined until, in 1892, the import was 50 per cent. less in quantity than in 1887.

The import has remained the same, at a very small amount; the export has increased in quantity 170 per cent.

The import of bricks has declined from 1,000*l.* in value to 600*l.*

The export has risen from nothing to a value of 2,000*l.* in 1892; the import has declined from 5,500*l.* to 1,500*l.*, a decline of 70 per cent.

The export of European umbrellas has become a considerable trade, and in 1892 the export consisted of over a million at a value of 50,000*l.* Only 67,000 were exported in 1887, and in that year there was an import of 24,000, which has now ceased altogether.

The import of gunny bags and lubricating oil has declined since the establishment of manufactures, and the export of sulphuric acid and boots and shoes has largely increased.

These changes have taken place without tariff assistance; the total value of customs duties amounted, in 1892, to a little over 3 per cent. on the value of the year's trade.

It is to be observed that the consumption has considerably increased since 1887. Taking the difference in bulk between raw cotton and yarn to be 16 per cent., the raw cotton imported in 1887 and 1892 respectively represents 5,100 tons and 57,700 tons of yarn. The import of yarn in the year in question was (in bulk) 19,770 tons in 1887 and 14,538 tons in 1892. Thus, in 1892, the amount of yarn produced and imported was upwards of 72,000 tons, compared with 25,000 tons in 1887. Comparing the import of the principal textile fabrics we find a large increase in quantity since 1887: 40,000,000 yards of shirtings were imported last year, and 35,000,000 yards in 1887; 18,000,000 yards of mousseline de laine were imported in 1892, and in 1887 9,000,000 yards. If the amount of yards of cotton goods imported in the two years be compared, it appears that nearly 67,000,000 yards were imported in 1892 against 62,000,000 yards in 1887.

Comparative Table showing the Import and Export of Principal Articles of Commerce during the Year 1887-92.

Articles.	1887.	1888.	1889.
Textiles and raw materials—			
Import of raw cotton ..... Tons	6,000	14,000	38,144
Import of manufactured cotton ..... 1,000*l.*	2,393	3,204	2,684
Export of fabrics, silk and cotton ..... 1,000 dol....	2,804	2,057	3,267
Machinery—			
Import ..... 1,000*l.*	189	611	352
Steam vessels—			
Import ..... 1,000*l.*	69	190	170
Paper—			
Import ..... 1,000 catty	344	623	311
Export ..... 1,000 dol...	181	244	238
Matches—			
Import ..... 1,000 gross	2	3	4
Export ..... 1,000 gross	3,381	3,552	5,225
Soap—			
Import ..... 1,000 catty	183	159	246
Export ..... 1,000 catty	2,605	2,611	1,546
Rope—			
Import ..... 1,000 catty	518	749	414
Cement—			
Import ..... 1,000 catty	18,535	33,808	30,126
Glass—			
Import ..... 1,000 dol...	209	319	436
Export ..... 1,000 dol...	18	29	59
Bricks—			
Import ..... 1,000 dol...	7	15	9
Beer—			
Import ..... 1,000 dol...	368	447	211
Export ..... 1,000 dol...	—	4	15
Leather—			
Import ..... 1,000 dol...	19	13	13
Export ..... 1,000 dol...	1	4	7
Sulphuric acid—			
Export ..... 1,000 catty	644	869	679
Boots and shoes—			
Import ..... Pairs	11,930	13,005	19,891
Export ..... Pairs	769	609	1,271
Oil (lubricating)—			
Import ..... 1,000 catty	389	399	417
Umbrellas—			
Import ..... No., 1,000	24	48	12
Export ..... No., 1,000	67	159	290
Gunny bags—			
Import ..... No., 1,000	740	3,673	3,003

Articles.	1890.	1891.	1892.
Textiles and raw materials—			
Import of raw cotton ..... Tons	30,800	47,500	67,700
Import of manufactured cotton ..... 1,000*l.*	2,293	1,515	1,781
Export of fabrics, silk and cotton ..... 1,000 dol...	4,272	5,320	9,280
Machinery—			
Import ..... 1,000*l.*	462	229	149
Steam vessels—			
Import ..... 1,000*l.*	119	111	64
Paper—			
Import ..... 1,000 catty	608	350	505
Export ..... 1,000 dol...	275	269	326
Matches—			
Import ..... 1,000 gross	5	2	3
Export ..... 1,000 gross	6,723	8,029	9,342
Soap—			
Import ..... 1,000 catty	438	181	433
Export ..... 1,000 catty	1,319	1,284	1,501
Rope—			
Import ..... 1,000 catty	478	417	247
Cement—			
Import ..... 1,000 catty	24,876	7,086	3,212
Glass—			
Import ..... 1,000 dol...	394	279	264
Export ..... 1,000 dol...	77	103	138
Bricks—			
Import ..... 1,000 dol...	9	2	4
Beer—			
Import ..... 1,000 dol...	146	103	117
Export ..... 1,000 dol...	20	11	14
Leather—			
Import ..... 1,000 dol...	22	14	18
Export ..... 1,000 dol...	6	4	8
Sulphuric acid—			
Export ..... 1,000 catty	536	766	1,060
Boots and shoes—			
Import ..... Pairs	10,553	9,295	14,945
Export ..... Pairs	977	5,893	10,558
Oil (lubricating)—			
Import ..... 1,000 catty	390	414	275
Umbrellas—			
Import ..... No. 1,000	—	—	—
Export ..... No. 1,000	450	657	1,202
Gunny Lags—			
Import ..... No. 1,000	606	1,016	632

Articles.	Increase or Decrease since 1887. Per cent.
Textiles and raw materials—	
Import of raw cotton	+ 1,100
Import of manufactured cotton	— 17
Export of fabrics, silk and cotton ...	+ 375
Machinery—	
Import	— 20
Steam vessels—	
Import	— 7
Paper—	
Import	+ 46
Export	+ 77
Matches—	
Import	—
Export	+ 170
Soap—	
Import	+ 130
Export	— 42
Rope—	
Import	— 50
Cement—	
Import	— 82
Glass—	
Import	+ 17
Export	+ 600
Bricks—	
Import	—
Beer—	
Import	— 70
Export	—
Leather—	
Import	— 5
Export	+ 700
Sulphuric acid—	
Export	+ 64
Boots and shoes—	
Import	+ 25
Export	+ 127
Oil (lubricating)—	
Import	— 32
Umbrellas—	
Import	—
Export	+ 1,600
Gunny bags—	
Import	— 15

Shipping.

Comparative Table showing the number and tonnage of foreign vessels and Japanese Vessels of foreign build, whether steam or sail, entered at Japanese ports from abroad and coastwise during the years 1891-92.

Nationality.	1892 Number of Vessels.	1892 Tons.	1891. Number of Vessels.	1891. Tons.
British	1,096	1,898,641	1,002	1 719,700
German	405	380,588	363	369,771
French	78	184,527	79	188,792
United States	51	91,872	52	95,713
Other foreign countries	113	126,230	142	150,193
Total foreign ships	1,734	2,681,858	1,638	2,524,259
Total Japanese ships (of foreign build)	1,017	952,103	1.035	908.686
Grand total	2,760	3,633,961	2,673	3,432,945

The total tonnage is now approximately equally divided between British shipping and that of all other nations collectively, the former predominating by 363,320 tons. The excess last year was 6,635 tons, so that British shipping has increased relatively to that of other nations. Japanese and German shipping have increased; that of the United States and France has decreased.

Of the total merchandise imported to and exported from Japan during the year 1892, 58·3 per cent. was shipped in British vessels.

The following table shows the relative proportions carried in ships of the various nationalities in the last two years:—

Nationality	Percentage. 1892.	1891.
British	58·3	56·3
French	13·1	11·7
German	10·9	19 3
Japanese	9 7	10.4
United States	6 7	3.2

Japan passed Germany in 1891, but was herself passed by Germany in 1892. France, which advanced two places in 1891, has increased her lead.

The valuation in silver yen, as stated in Government returns, gives the following results for the last three years for the principal articles of import and export:—

Import.

Articles.	Percentage. 1890.	1891.	1892.
Kerosene, per gallon	·116	·112	·101
White Sugar, per catty	·065	·059	·062
Raw cotton, per catty	·158	·139	·140
Cotton yarn, per catty	·211	·322	·293
Shirtings (grey), per yard	·056	·054	·952
Iron, bar and rod, per catty ...	·026	·030	·025
Iron pig, per catty	·010	·009	011

Export.

Articles.	Percentage. 1890.	1891.	1892.
Silk (raw), per catty	6 5	5 5	6 7
Tea green, per catty	0 19	0 20	0 23

According to these figures the silver prices for the principal articles of import, except pig iron, have fallen very considerably since 1890, especially in kerosene and cotton, while silver prices for the principal articles of export (silk* and tea) have risen.

The exports and imports of specie and bullion into Japan in the years 1892 and 1891 were as follows:—

Exports.

Year.	Gold Coin and Bullion.	Silver Coin and Bullion.	Total.
	£	£	£
1891	37,088	196,749	233,837
1892	1,232,726	170,992	1,403,718

Imports.

Year.	Gold Coin and Bullion.	Silver Coin and Bullion.	Total
	£	£	£
1892	59,103	3,361,528	3,420,631
1891	47,190	2,267,562	2,314,752

The excess of imports over exports in 1891 was 2,080,915*l.*, and in 1892 2,016,913*l.*

The export of gold exceeded import by 1,173,623*l.* and the import of silver exceeded the export by 3,190,536*l.* The chief source of the gold imported was Korea—62 per cent. of the import of silver came from Great Britain, 20 per cent. from the United States, 8 per cent. from China, and 5 per cent. from Hongkong. Of the export of gold 86 per cent. went to England, 8 per cent. to China, and 5 per cent. to America. England sent to Japan just twice the value in silver coin and bullion that Japan sent to England in gold. The result of the year's movement of coin and bullion is that Japan has lost 1,000,000*l.* of gold, and gained 3,000,000*l.* in silver.

* The following figures show the price of two grades of Japanese silk in April, 1893, as compared with the average of the 8 years from 1885-92:—Japan filature No. 1, 8 years' average, 85 fr.; 1893, 72 fr.; Kaneda filature No. 1, 8 years' average, 48 fr.; 1893, 39 fr.

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In the last 10 years' the export of gold has exceeded the import by upwards of 1,000,000*l*, and the import of silver has exceeded the export by about 4,000,000*l*.

Comparative Return of Foreign Import Trade of Japan during Years 1892-91.

Articles.	1892. Quantity.	1892. Value. £	1891. Quantity.	1891. Value. £
Arms, machinery, and instruments	—	614,800	—	777,480
Including—				
Clocks, watches, and parts	—	108,400	—	108,300
Locomotives and railway carriages	—	44,590	—	149,481
Machinery	—	149,710	—	289,750
Steam boilers, engines, and parts	—	26,080	—	92,731
Steamers ..... No.	8	64,550	—	11,845
War material	—	160,360	—	100,823
Beverages and provisions	—	136,904	—	147,822
Including—				
Flour ..... Tons.	4,500	41,660	5,373	57,080
Books and stationery	—	113,250	—	101,605
Clothing	—	96 350	—	105,900
Coal ..... Tons.	13,624	15,750	14,872	23,820
Drugs, medicines, and chemicals	—	368,760	—	370,961
Dyes and paints	—	238,070	—	203,033
Glass and glassware	—	39,525	—	63,179
Grain and seeds	—	730,530	—	1,027,750
Including				
Beans, peas, and pulse ..... Tons.	92,400	485,400	63,485	335,147
Rice ..... Tons.	49,300	306,860	100,359	632,330
Hair, horns, ivory, skins, &c.	—	218,090	—	196,284
Including—				
Hides ..... Tons.	2,853	58,320	948	44,217
Leather ..... Tons.	915	228,996	942	109,082
Metals and manufactures of	—	740,890	—	850,816
Including—				
Iron, pig ..... Tons.	19,988	36,070	23,152	33,200
Iron, bar and rod.. Tons.	26,580	230,300	22,687	145,068
Iron, rails ..... Tons.	1,900	10,080	21,304	216,750
Iron, plate and sheet ..... Tons.	4,991	35,960	6,228	49,669
Iron, nails ..... Tons.	13,258	135,490	20,490	109,619
Lead, sheet, and tea-lead ..... Tons.	4,875	61,900	2,529	40,796
Steel wire, wire rope and steel wire	—	67,700	—	70,900
Zinc, sheet and old Tons.	2,318	50,230	1,528	34,007
Oil and wax	—	567,260	—	828,631
Including—				
Kerosene ..... Gals.	32,689,275	497,500	40,489,260	775,053
Port and cement .. Gals.	1,921	3,425	4,207	7,901
Sugar ..... Gals.	212,192	1,435,650	99,472	1,300,885
Including—				
Brown ..... Gals.	48,841	430,080	42,862	420,271
White ..... Gals.	64,717	1,000,900	53,095	879,020
Molasses ..... Gals.	4,945	10,490	3,403	9,901
Textile fabrics, &c., and raw material—				
(1.) Cotton	—	2,621,250	—	2,882,778
(a.) Manufactures—				
Yarn ..... Tons.	14,538	1,066,080	20,894	931,548
Shirtings ..... Yds.	40,437,968	342,480	31,834,550	336,013
Chintzes and prints ..... Yds	5,832,175	65,230	1,958,606	23,484
Velvets ..... Yds.	3,336,628	86,450	1,671,858	45,821
Turkey-reds .. Yds	8,739,691	56,550	8,010,023	52,528
Sarongs ..... Yds.	4,243,944	78,840	1,264,832	22,647
T-cloths ..... Yds.	2,357,198	18,971	2,586,840	23,510
(b.) Raw and on the seeds .. Tons.	67,792	2,842,280	41,550	1,866,542
(2.) Wool, and mixed co ton and wool	—	2,043,090	—	923,636
(a.) Manufactures—				
Mousseline de laine .. Yds.	28,009,643	366,050	14,329,521	315,374
Italian cloths. Yds.	4,526,748	158,830	8,103,839	307,721
Woollen and mixed cotton and woollen. Yds.	1,040,243	225,120	538,846	80,824
Flannels ..... Yds.	1,380,208	160,502	1,388,078	67,810
Blankets ..... Tons.	587	79,030	299	41,957
(b.) Raw ..... Tons.	304	45,231	—	34,425
(3.) Satins, silks, and mixed silk and cotton	—	66,560	—	89,230
(4.) Flax, ca vas, and linen	—	66,900	—	54,360
(5.) Carpets, handkerchiefs, and all other textile fabrics	—	60,253	—	64,100

Comparative Return of Foreign Import Trade of Japan during the Years 1892-91—continued.

Articles.	Value. 1892. £	Value 1891. £
Tobacco	46,845	45,525
Wine, beer, and spirits	60,210	71,685
Sundries	378,820	213,688
Total	10,654,418	10,487,878

Recapitulation of Imports.

Articles.	1892.	1891.	1890
Cotton, raw	1,842,280	1,366,542	871,837
Cotton, raw manufactured	1,781,170	1,515,236	2,293,974
Wool, raw	45,234	34,425	60,111
Wool, raw manufactured	999,365	879,231	1,278,425
Metals and manufacture of	746,230	856,816	1,093,553
Oils and wax	567,260	828,631	852,760
Sugar	1,435,650	1,300,885	1,379,463
Arms machinery, & instrum'ts	614,800	777,480	1,191,523
Grain and seed	730,530	1,017,050	2,325,855
Miscellaneous	1,891,799	1,900,176	1,229,393
Total	10,654,418	10,487,878	13,280,894

Comparative Return of Foreign Export Trade of Japan during the Years 1892-91.

Articles.	1892. Quantity.	1892. Value.	1891. Quantity.	1891. Value.
Bamboo wares	—	32,950	—	38,318
Books and paper	—	47,180	—	43,449
Coal and coal dust (except ship's use) ...Tons.	600,398	421,792	891,320	512,650
Drugs, medicine, dyes and paints	—	302,168	—	405,327
Camphor ..... Tons.	1,884	182,910	1,692	260,184
Ginseng ..... Tons.	98	36,630	96	31,812
Sulphur ..... Tons.	13,002	40,535	28,800	45,830
Fans ..... No.	13,653,525	49,176	15,782,048	58,033
Floors, matting	—	109,761	—	105,594
Grain, beverages, and provisions	—	1,320,707	—	1,751,086
Fish	—	273,260	—	320,8 3
Mushrooms .Tons.	822	81,470	919	90,102
Rice ..... Tons.	72,620	600,360	128,930	999,984
Seaweed ..... Tons.	25,792	243,490	21,255	183,505
Wheat ..... Tons.	40	282	1,766	18,010
Lacquered ware	—	76,186	—	92,900
Matches ..... Gross.	9,242,035	327,690	8,229,988	296,709
Metals	—	755,513	—	870,635
Antimony .Tons.	1,225	23,301	1,814	37 4 7
Copper ..Tons.	27,899	703,976	17,242	785,468
Oil and wax	—	94,382	—	120,9 6
Fish oil ..Tons.	4,380	35,809	2,539	28,203
Vegetable wax ..Tons.	2,458	41,200	1,582	30,990
Porcelain and earthenware	—	223,580	—	207,231
Rags ..... Tons.	5,796	28,820	3,968	20,055
Screens ..... No.	185,868	50,000	238,301	56,800
Silk, raw, waste, and cocoons..Tons.	6,054	5,758,560	5,429	5,138,306
Straw plates	—	22,389	—	21,181
Tea ..... Lbs.	50,377,000	2,085,650	53,099,900	2,281,887
Textiles and clothing	—	2,346,550	—	864,620
Cotton goods	—	121,880	—	60,4 7
Silk handkerchiefs	—	504,140	—	452,567
Other silk goods	—	689,860	—	328,379
Timber	—	39,020	—	30,263
Tobacco	—	17,651	—	27,313
Umbrellas, European ...No.	1,802,174	51,674	657,888	25,020
Sundries	—	851,239	—	701,616
Total	—	13,042,769	—	—
Foreign	—	100,703	—	—
Grand	—	13,143,472	—	12,898,930

Return of Principal Articles of Import from various Foreign Countries during the Year 1892.

Country	Beans.	Values in Thousands Sterling. Cotton, Raw.	Cotton Yarn.	Plannels.	Iron Bar and Rod.	Iron nails.
Belgium	—	—	—	—	23	27
China	243	915	—	—	—	—
Korea	162	—	—	—	—	—
British India	—	700	271	—	—	—
Great Britain	—	—	795	21	78	24
Germany	—	—	—	137	24	84
France	—	—	—	2	—	—
United States	—	215	—	—	—	—
Total import 1892	405	1,842	1,066	160	130	135
Total import 1891	1,194	1,284	1,194	160	130	135

Country.	Values in Thousands Sterling. Italian Cloths.	Kerosene.	Mousseline de Laine.	Rice.	Shirtings.	Sugar.
China	—	—	—	8	—	355
Korea	—	—	—	202	—	—
Great Britain	155	—	—	—	340	—
Hongkong	—	—	8	—	—	1,037
Germany	4	—	29	—	3	—
France	—	—	328	—	—	—
United States	—	378	—	—	—	—
Russia	—	119	—	—	—	—
Total import 1892	159	497	366	307	343	1,435
Total import 1891	1,194	1,284	1,194	160	130	135

Table showing the Value and Distribution of some of the principal Articles of Export.

Country.	Values in Thousands Sterling. Silk (raw).*	Tea.	Copper.	Coal.†	Camphor.	Rice.	Silk Piece-Goods.
United States	3,378	935	—	—	59	30	558
Hongkong	—	—	447	190	103	900	40
France	2,155	—	—	—	—	42	254
United Kingdom	67	—	—	—	—	123	36
China	—	—	93	180	6	—	—
Canada	—	129	—	—	—	49	—
Germany	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Australia	—	—	—	—	—	75	—
British India	—	—	16	35	—	16	—
Italy	170	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total export 1892	5,758	1,085	703	421	184	600	1,194
Total export 1891	5,138	1,284	1,194	160	130	135	1,435

* Raw, Noshi and waste. † Excluding ship's use.

A CROCODILE STORY.

An Indian contemporary says :—"A gentleman of Digha Ghat met with a very curious experience. He was sailing in a boat in the Ganges between nine and ten i the morning. When in mid-stream he allowed the boat to drif. with the stream. Suddenly he thought he felt something ha d grate against the keel for a few seconds, and then all was still again, but on a recurrence of the noise he stood upright in the boat and endeavoured to ascertain its cause. Seeing nothing either side, and unconscious of imminent danger, he went to the tiller, over which he stooped, and to his horror beheld the large protruding snout of a mugger close up against the stern. As he was totally unarmed, he made several attempts to dislodge the crocodile by kicking the upper portion of its snout, but with no result except that the brute bit more deeply into the soft wood. The butt end end of the oar was next used, but the saurian simply retaliated by whacking the boat with sledge-hammer force. The boat swung from side to side, and threatened to capsize." To continue the story in the teller's own words: "I was at my wits' end to obtain an implement of some sort to release me from the brute. When all attempts proved useless, I forced the oar in o its mouth, and in so doing broke a number of teeth. This effected my object With a terrific sweep of the tail he struck the boat. I found myse f doing a somersault in the air, and with a thud fell into the bottom of the boat. In a second I braced my energies, and got my boat out of range of my foe, who seemed bent on doing damage. Scarcely I ad I gained a hundred yards when once more I no.iced the raspings under the keel. The brute was trying to overturn my boat, but as often as its snout shot above the sides so often did I beat it under water. By some special dispensation the boat went in the direction of the shore, which I had left scarcely an hour ago. Presently I was landed high and dry, and within half a dozen yards, directly under the rudder, was the crocodile, coming up with all its might. I ran up the bank as hard as my legs permitted, but had I missed my footing I should have been snapped up in a few seconds, as the reptile was close upon me. I went in quest of my fowling piece, which I loaded, and made for the bank, but before I got there my friend had taken to the water. Now that al. the excitement was over I inspected the boat. Two plankings were rendered useless. The rudder was a complete wreck."

A JAPANESE PRINCE AT THE WORLD'S FAIR.

The American reporter is credited with a great deal of cuteness, but notwithstanding the facilities to be found in steamers' passenger lists and hotel guest entries, which are usually correct, the American reporter, in the matter of names, is a very slovenly person, as will be seen by the following extract from an American paper :—

The visit of the Rajah i-Rajagan of Kapoorthella, India, to The Fair and the attention he received has increased the desire of the crowds on the grounds to see with their own eyes Asiatic potentates and touch the hem of their garments. That is the reason that the people in Horticultural hall evinced so much interest when they learned that a real Japanese prince, who was "doing" The Fair "incog," was then somewhere in the building.

Some young ladies who were standing near the crystal cave became very much excited, and made all their arrangements to "corner" the prince in a little bower over which many green-trunked fern trees spread their foliage. It was a sport beautiful and romantic enough in which to captivate a prince from the Orient.

A long queued individual from the Celestial empire, in a costume gorgeous enough to have belonged to some long-winded Chinese actor, came along. The girls were certain th a was the pr nce, although they couldn't exactly reconcile the queue with their ideas of Japanese dress.

One of the girls stepped before the little party, for there were three Chinamen in it, and courtesied before his supposed royal highness and asked one of the others if he were not the prince.

"He no Melican man," responded the Chinaman.

"I know, but isn't he the Japanese prince?"

"No, he no Japana man. He washee clothes in San Francisco. He visit me South Clark street."

But the romance of catching a Chinese laundry man under palms and fern trees, though disappointing, did not dampen their ardour to see and talk to the real prince.

Presently two dark-skinned men dressed in American clothes came sauntering through, critically eying the floral disp ays through blue glasses. They were Japanese, and the girls determined to ask them if they knew where the prince was.

"Are you from Japan?" asked the girl who had before courtesied to the "wash ee man."

"Yes," replied the prince in good Engl sh; for the little, yellow-skinned, black-mustached gentleman was no other than Prince Komatsuno Miya, holding a position in the imperial army of the Emperor of Japan corresponding to a major-general of the United States army.

"We are waiting here," said the young lady, "to see a great prince from Japan. Do you know if he is in the building ye.?"

"Yes, replied the prince, smiling." "He came in some time ago."

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"Do you know what part of the building he is in?"

"He is in this part, somewhere"

"What does he look like?"

"He is about my size and looks something like me."

"Is that so? I thought he would be a great big, fine-looking man. But we are ever so much obliged to you."

The prince and his companion passed on, but persently the companion came back and gave a card to the young lady. It bore the name and title of the prince printed in English.

General or Prince Kornat Sunomiya, as has been stated, went into the grounds "incog." He wished to see and not be seen. For that reason he left all but one of his suite at his hotel. His identity was not discovered until he entered the Japanese section of the Liberal Arts building. Then all the Japanese on the grounds and the plaisance which he visited after witnessing the West Point cadets break camp prepared to receive him. The prince visited all the principal buildings and expressed great admiration for all he saw. He is especially pleased with the displays made by his own country.

At home the prince is not only a great army officer, but he is one of the greatest nobles of the nation, and as well a student of economic sociological questions.

He will remain in Chicago two weeks, and intends to spend much time at The Fair.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.

Solution of Problem No. 89.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—Kt to Q2	1—Any.
2—Mates accordingly.	

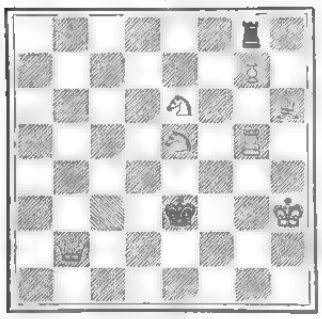
Correct solutions received from Omega, W.H.S., Digamma, Omicron, J.D., O.B., and J.W.E.

Correct solution of No. 88 also received from O.B.

Problem No. 91.

By S. Loyd.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in two moves.

Rumours are again current of another effort being about to be made to get the Chess players of the metropolis together with the object of forming a Club. We trust it will succeed. The number of players in Tokyo is not inconsiderable, and in various ways it would be a boon in that city of magnificent distances to have a central meeting place for those who otherwise rarely encounter each other.

The Annual Meeting of the Yokohama Chess Club was held in the Club Rooms on Monday, 2nd instant, and occupied only a few minutes. The members present secured perfectly satisfied with the position of affairs, passed the accounts approved the reports, reelected the Committee, and adjourned to play some practice games without delay. We hope the Club will heed the words of the report, settle down to hard work and let us have a brilliant Chess season.

There seem to be still some doubt as to the American Chess Congress in New York. A recent number of the *Illustrated London News* expresses the fear that the meeting will be postponed on account of the general commercial and financial distress now prevalent in the States. Let us hope that this will not be the case: it would be indeed a great pity of this great Columbian year passed without a great Columbian Chess tourney.

The Correspondence Games with Nagasaki continue their course: but no fresh developments worth noting have arisen during the week.

Mr. Blackburne entertained the members of the Swansea County Chess Club (says the *Standard*) at the Royal Institution, Swansea, with an exhibition of blindfold play. Out of eight games, contested simultaneously, he won six, lost one to Mr. J. C. Woods, and drew one with Colonel W. Ll. Morgan, R.E., to whom Mr. Blackburne conceded the first move. We appended one of the games, played on Board, No. 7:—

King's Gambit Declined.

WHITE. J. H. Blackburne.	BLACK Board No. 7.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—P to K B 4	2—B to B 4
3—Kt to K B 3	3 P to Q 3
4—B to B 4	4—B to K Kt 5

. . . . . The correct move being Kt to Q B 3. The text move is inferior, as the blindfold player immediately illustrates.

5—P × P	5—P × P
6—B × P ch.	6—K to B sq.

. . . . . If K x B, then 7—Kt x P ch, etc

7—B × Kt	7—K × B
8—Q to K 2	

Threatening to win the Bishop with 9—Q to B 4 ch.

	8—Q to K 2
9—Kt to B 3	9—P to B 3
10—P to Q 3	10—Kt to Q 2
11—B to K 3	11—R to K B sq.
12—Castles K R	12—P to K R 3
13—B × B	13—Q × B ch.
14—K to R sq.	14—Kt to B 3
15 Q to B 2	15 -Q to Kt 5

. . . . . He had nothing better now than to exchange Queens, with remote chance of a draw.

16—Q R to Kt sq.

White could not have won a second pawn here with 16—Kt x P, because if . . . . . Kt to Q 1; 17—Q to Kt 3, Q takes Kt P, etc. This is rather difficult to see for a blindfold player.

	16—K to R 2
17—P to Q R 3	17—Q to R 4

. . . . . He should have brought the Queen back to the defence of the King's quarters

18—Q to Kt 3	18—R to K sq.
19—Kt to K R 4	19—B to R 4
20—R to B 5	

Threatening 21—R x B and Q to Kt 6 ch, etc.

	20—B to B 2
21—Q R to K B sq.	21—R to K 3
22—Q to R 3	22—R to K B sq.
23—R × Kt	23—R × R
24—R × R	24—P × R
25 Kt to B 5	25—P to K R 4
26 -Q to K 3	26—Resigns.

The ending is beautifully played by Mr. Blackburn.

The *London Chess Fortnightly* is responsible for the following:—

One Saturday afternoon, according to their wont, two friends of the noble game of chess sat playing together in a Frankfort café. Suddenly one of them started up from his seat in a passion and exclaimed:—

You have taken one of my Pawns.

A glance at the board and men sufficed to show that a Pawn was really missing. The excitement over the lost Pawn became so intense that a lively altercation ensued, in which all the other gentlemen in the room took part.

Quiet was at last restored, and the player who had lost his Pawn resumed his seat and began to drink his coffee, which was covered with thick cream, when he all at once got something into his throat which nearly choked him.

He succeeded, however, in extricating the intrusive article, which turned out to be the missing Pawn. The chess player, intent on the game, had thrown it into his cup in place of a lump of sugar. —["Si non é vero é ben trovato."—Ed. *J.M.*]

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[Reuter "Special" to "Japan Mail."]

London, October 1.

The final treaty has been concluded between France and Siam, and will be signed on the 3rd instant.

The Argentine rebellion has been almost quelled.

Professor Jowett is dead.

London, October 2.

It is reported from Matabele that Impi has fired upon the chartered scouts near Victoria Loch, and that Mr. Jamieson has been authorised to send a strong force to reconnoitre.

It is reported from Washington that a compromise in the Senate for the repeal of the Sherman Act is probable this week if it becomes evident that the bill will be defeated in its present shape.

London, October 3.

Several silver mines in Colorado have resumed work, regarding the prospects of a rise in the value of the white metal as improving

London, October 4.

Five thousand (? rioters) have attacked Mahone's Militia, and desperate fighting ensued which lasted all day, resulting in the loss by the Spanish of 53 men and three officers.

London, October 5.

Owing to the advance of the Matabeles, who fired upon the chartered scouts near Victoria Loch, Mr. Jamieson is assuming the offensive by dispatching two columns.

The foreign men-of-war in the harbour of Rio de Janeiro have warned the rebels that they will forcibly prevent any further bombarding of the city.

[Specially telegraphed to the "Japan Daily Mail."]
[From the "N.-C. Daily News."]

London, September 26.

Prince Bismarck's illness has been most critical, and when the Emperor William learned that he was better he wired a message offering one of the Royal castles as a residence for the Prince during his convalescence. Prince Bismarck gratefully declined the offer, but the German press rejoices that the way has been paved for a reconciliation.

The petards thrown during a military review at Barcelona shattered the horse of General Campos, who was himself wounded in the thigh. The Chief of the Staff, an Aide-de-Camp, and four others were also wounded.

The Sultan of Johore has sailed for Singapore, as a lady at Brighton is bringing a suit against him for breach of promise of marriage, damages £10,000.

September 27.

No fresh recruits have been found in the Senate for the repeal of the Sherman Act, and Senator Vorhees only expects the Act to be repealed after an exhausting struggle.

Her Majesty's ship *Camperdown* grounded at the entrance to Malta Harbour, but was subsequently floated.

Isinglass, the winner of the Two Thousand, Derby, and St Leger, has been scratched for all his engagements this year.

All hopes for the safety of the Russian ironclad *Rusalka*, recently reported lost, have been abandoned.

It is now reported that two other Generals and numerous spectators were wounded by the explosion of the petards thrown during the review at Barcelona.

The Argentine insurgents have captured the town of Rosario.

September 28.

The bombardment of Rio Janeiro was renewed on Sunday, and many persons were killed, including a number of women and children, much damage being done to property. The rebel torpedo-boats attacked the men-of-war lying in the roadstead of Buenos Ayres, but the crews were captured and several officers killed.

September 29.

The Times states that Lord Cromer has been offered the Viceroyalty of India, but had declined on private grounds.

M. Carnot has abandoned his intention of going to Toulon to welcome the Russian Squadron at that port, probably in deference to the Czar's wish to avoid any exuberant political demonstration.

Shanghai, September 28.

A telegram has been received here to the effect that M. Lemair, French Minister to China, will shortly leave Peking, having been accorded the rank of Minister of the First Class en

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Mission M. Dubail, Consul-General at Shanghai, will be placed in charge of the Legation ad interim, and M. de la Batie will act as Consul General in Shanghai. M. Guillien, interpreter at Shanghai, has been appointed acting Consul at Foochow.

Singapore, September 22.

Mr. Becher, a mining expert, has been drowned at Pahang.

[FROM THE MANILA "DIARIO."]

Madrid, September 15.

A flood has occurred in the district of Villacanas, in the province of Toledo, with disastrous consequences. Fifty persons are known to have lost their lives and great damage has been done. Railway communication is interrupted on account of the flood.

(FROM "L'AVENIR DU TONKIN."):

Paris, September 17.

A strike has been declared by the miners at Lens on a question of wages.

Paris, September 18.

The strike of miners is becoming general in the Pas-de-Calais and threatens to spread over the north.

[JOWETT, The Rev. Benjamin, M.A., L.L.D., was born at Camberwell in 1817. His father, who died at Tenby in 1859, was the author of a metrical version of the Psalms of David. He was educated at St. Paul's School; was elected to a Scholarship at Balliol College, Oxford, in 1835, and to a Fellowship in 1838. He was tutor of Balliol College from 1842 to 1870, and in the discharge of that office he gained the regard of many pupils and friends. He was appointed to the Regius Professorship of Greek on the recommendation of Lord Palmerston, in 1855, having, in 1853, been member of a commission which had under its consideration the mode of admission by examination to writership in the Indian civil service, and of which the late Lord Macaulay was chairman. Professor Jowett has written a Commentary on the Epistles of St. Paul to the Thessalonians, Galatians, and Romans, published in 1855, and ed. 1858; he also contributed an essay on the Interpretation of Scripture to "Essays and Reviews" In 1870 he was elected Master of Ball ol College, and in 1871 published a translation of the "Dialogues" of Plato, in 4 vols., with introduction (2nd ed. in 5 vols. 1875. The honorary degree of LL.D. was conferred upon him by the University of Leyden in Feb. 1875, and by the University of Edinburgh at its Tercentenary in 1884. In 1881 he published a translation of Thucydides, with notes, in 2 vols.; and in 1885 a translation of the Politics of Aristotle, with notes and essays. He was appointed Vice-Chancellor of the University for the four years 1882-6.—*Men of the Time.*]

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, Nagasaki, and Kobe .	per N. Y K.	Friday, Oct 13th.
From America	per O. & O. Co.	Sunday, Oct. 8th.*
From Hongkong	per P. M. Co.	Friday, Oct. 13th.†
From Hongkong ..	per P & O. Co.	Tuesday, Oct. 10th.‡
From America	per P. M Co.	Tuesday, Oct. 17th §
From Europe, vià Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Friday, Oct 13th.‖
From Hongkong . ..	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, Oct 12th.¶
From Canada, &c. ..	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Oct. 30th
From Europe, vià Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Wednesday, Nov. 1st.

* *Belgic* left San Francisco on September 21st † *City of Peking* (with English mail) left Hongkong on October 5th. ‡ *Ancona* left Nagasaki on October 6th. § *Peru* left San Francisco on September 30th. ‖ *Sydney* (with French mail) left Hongkong on October 9th. ¶ *Empress of Japan* left Hongkong on October 4th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Europe, vià Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Oct. 8th.
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Monday, Oct. 9th.
For Victoria, B.C., and Tacoma, Wash.	per N. P. Co.	Wednesday, Oct. 11th.
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki	per N Y K.	Tuesday, Oct. 10th.
For Canada, &c. .	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, Oct. 13th.
For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, Oct. 14th.
For America . .	per P. M Co.	Sunday, Oct. 15th.
For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Oct. 30th
For Europe, vià Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, Nov. 3rd.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. M. Young, 30th September,—Otaru vià ports 25th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kumamoto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,240, Olsen, 30th September,—Hamanaka 27th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Clan Buchanan, British ship, 2,072, Geo. R. Harris, 30th September,—Kobe 24th September, Ballast.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Ramor Head, British steamer, 2,746, McAlvin, 1st October,—Barrow vià ports, Rails and Machinery.—Smith, Baker & Co.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,168, Crichton, 1st October,—Kobe 29th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Orestes, British steamer, 1,279, Harvey, 1st October,—Liverpool vià ports, and Shanghai 27th September, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 2nd October,—Vancouver, B.C., 19th Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Nürnberg, German steamer, 2,007, H. Walter, 3rd October,—Hongkong 27th September, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Ekstrand, 3rd October,—Kobe 2nd October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Bellona, German steamer, 2,032, J. Jaeger, 4th October,—Hamburg vià Hongkong 26th September, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Archer (6), cruiser, Commander J. Rogers, 4th October,—Hakodate.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,034, H. Walter, 4th October,—Otaru vià ports 29th September, General. Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Diana, American schooner, 74, Peterson, 5th October,—North Pacific, 50 otters and 5 seals.—Captain.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,219, Wilson, 5th October,—Shimonoseki, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. M. Young, 5th October,—Kobe 4th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,053, Thompson, 6th October,—Hiroshima 4th October, General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Pender, 6th October,—Otaru vià ports 1st October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yokohama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,298, Swain, 7th October,—Shanghai and ports 30th September, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 895, Barstow, 30th September,—Manila vià ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Peacock (6), gunboat, Lieut.-Commander Ingram, 30th September,—Hongkong.

China, British steamer, 2,600, Wm. Ward, 1st October,—Hongkong, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

City of New York, American steamer, 1,943, F. H. Johnston, 1st October,—San Francisco, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Verona, British steamer, 1,878, C. H. S. Tocque, 1st October,—Hongkong vià Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 2nd October,—Hongkong vià ports, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Kumamoto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,240, Olsen, 2nd October,—Nagata and Sakata, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,168, Crichton, 2nd October,—Otaru vià ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Meiji Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,010, Allen, 2nd October,—Hakodate, Stores.—Lighthouse Department.

Tsukuba Kan (8), Japanese corvette, Captain T. Kurooka, 2nd October,—Target Practice.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, Conner, 3rd October,—Shanghai vià ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Oread British bark, 774, Wm. Robertson, 4th October,—Yokosuka Dock, Ballast.—Captain.

Cardiganshire, British steamer, 1,657, Sincock, 5th October,—New York vià ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Glenavon, British steamer, 1,911, Jacobs, 5th October,—London vià ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,034, H. Walter, 5th October,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Ekstrand, 5th October,—Otaru vià ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Willow Branch, British steamer, 2,147, Maling, 5th October,—Kobe, Oil.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Orestes, British steamer, 1,279, Harvey, 6th October,—Hongkong vià ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Nürnberg, German steamer, 2,007, Hugo Walter, 6th October,—Hongkong vià ports, Mails and General.—H Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, from Otaru vià ports:—Miss Dunn, Miss Morgan, Mr. Pollard, Mr. Pinard, and Mr. Dumontier in cabin; 8 passengers in second class, and 24 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, from Vancouver, B.C.:—Baron d'Anethan, Baroness d'Anethan, Mr. J. Abrahams, Mrs Adams, Mrs Allen, Miss Barchet, Mr. R. W. Bates, Miss Blecker, Mr. and Mrs. Braithwaite, Mr. H. B. Bristow, Mr. and Mrs. P. R. Buchanan, Miss Buchanan, Mr. and Mrs Coates, Mr J. M. Cook, Mr. E. H. Cowey, Mr. W. Cope, Miss Donaldson, Dr. Florence, Rev. C. H. and Mrs. Fenn, Mr. R. S. and Mrs. Gardiner, Miss Gardiner, Miss Dora D. Gardiner, Mr. D. Gorhundass, Dr. J. A. and Mrs. Green, Dr. F. A. Green, Miss C. Gurney, Rev. W. F. Gray and family, Mr. E. Hagens, Mr. Thos. Hanbury, Mr. D. Hanbury, Mr. Cecil Hanbury, Miss Hanbury, Mr. and Mrs. Hardcastle, Dr. Hartshorn, Miss Hartshorn, Colonel Hatchett, Mr. E. B Haskell, Mr. J. C. Hutson, Mr. Hodges, Mrs. Houstoun and maid, Mr. and Mrs. Harris Hunt, Rev. H. A. Kemp, Mrs. Krebs, Mr. J. W. Lee, Mr. A. and Mrs. McBride, Mr. J. D Mackay, Rev. J. Mashine, Mrs. G. L. Mason, Miss Mason, Mr. E. F. Maxwell, Rev. E. L. and Mrs. Mattox, Dr. C. H. and Mrs. Maltear, Miss M. A. Means, Rev. J. A. Miller, Miss R. T. Miller, Mr. J Morris, Mr. and Mrs. Moorehead, Mrs. A. D. Morse and family, Miss H. Noyes, Mrs. Orr, Miss Orr, Mr. Prentice, Mr. Scott, Rev. W. F. Seymour, Mr. H. T. Stafford, Rev. W. B. Story and family, Rev. F. E and Mrs. Suncox, Rev. W. S. and Mrs. Sweet, Rev. C. W. and Mrs. Swan, Mr. H. L. Taft, Mr. F. Tiffany, Miss Ella Tuck, Mr. C. G. Veth, Mrs. E A. Walker, Mr. H. J. C. Williams, and Mr. C. H. Wilson in cabin; 2 passengers in second class, and 288 passengers in steerage.

Per German steamer *Nürnberg*, from Hongkong:—Captain T. B. MacMillan, Vice-Consul Kallen, Dr. and Mrs. Loew, Dr. Selenka, Mrs. Hauptmann Jacobi, and Mrs. Dr. Neubauer in cabin; Mr. W. Gratthoff and Miss Otsuksha Kakimoto in second class, and 19 Chinese on deck.

Per Japanese steamer *Omi Maru*, from Kobe.—Messrs. A. Growzel a, E. B S. Edwards, and T. Hmami in cabin; 2 passengers in second class, and 19 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru*, from Otaru vià ports:—Messrs. E. C. Hodges and Katakui in cabin; 40 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, from Kobe:—Mr. George S. Clarke, and Mr. and Mrs. Saigo in cabin; 2 passengers in second class, and 8 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Miike Maru*, from Hiroshima:—1,662 emigrants for Honolulu.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, from Otaru vià ports.—Captain W. S. Pyne, Captain W. H. Pierce, and Mr. S. Hury in cabin; Mr. L. La Low, Mr. R. L. Moss, and 5 Japanese in second class, and 6 Europeans and 75 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Smalley, Mr. Louis Spitzel, and Mr. H. Löhlein in cabin; 23 passengers in steerage. For San Francisco: Mr. and Mrs. Hsu Koh and Mr. Hsu Koh in cabin; Mr. H. W. Barnes in second class, and 1 passenger in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Hurlbut and child, Miss Frye, Mr. and Mrs. Marsh, Miss Hattie, Miss F. Brown, Mr. and Mrs. Perkins, Miss M. Carleton, Miss Torbest, Mr. and Mrs. Hayner, Mr. and Mrs. Hobart and 4 children, Madame Tsai, 2 children, and servant, Mrs. Woodward, Mrs. C. M. Jewell, Miss Glass, Rev. J. H. Pyke, Viscount de Labry, Commander R. S. Impey, Messrs. O. Tiffmore, F. Remers, Barman, A. Stein, J. Feyerick, W. D Hunter, and W. Kappe in cabin; Miss Y. Nakai, Mrs. Kirkes and 2 children, Miss O. Nawa, Mr. Nagashima, Mr. T. Yeshima, and Viscount de Labry's servant in second class, and 76 passengers in steerage.

Per German steamer *Nürnberg*, for Hongkong vià ports:—Messrs. G. R. Mosle, Otto Meissner, C. Ritzhaupt, Don Paoli Dei Conti Tarsis, Mrs. F. Brinckmann and 3 children, Rev. Gottschalk, Mrs Gottschald, Messrs. J. Ose and Mahomed in cabin; 10 Chinese in second class, and 3 Europeans and 8 Chinese in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, $253,000 00.

Per German steamer *Nürnberg*, for Hongkong vià ports:—Raw Silk for Europe, 131 bales.

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, Captain Young, reports:—Left Otaru the 25th September; had light S.W. airs and fine weather to Hakodate, arriving the 26th at 7 30 a.m. and left the 28th at 8 a.m.; had moderate W.N.W. winds and fine weather. Arrived at Ogmohama the 29th at 5 35 a.m. and left the same day at 11.14 a.m.; had light S.S.E. airs and fine weather to Inuboye; thence light easterly airs with rain to port. Arrived at Yokohama the 30th September at noon. Saw a large sailing ship off Sagami beating up.

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The Japanese steamer *Kumamoto Maru*, Captain Olsen, reports:—Left Hamanaka the 27th September at 4 30 p.m.; had easterly winds and fine weather; at midnight, wind S.E. and blowing moderate gale; on the 28th, wind and sea increasing and rapidly falling barometer; at 3 a.m., strong gale with heavy confused sea, hove to with ship's head S.E., wind blowing in fierce squalls with torrents of rain and hauling to S., S.W., W., and by 6 a.m. to N.N.W. when kept ship on her course; gale continued from N.N.W. with heavy sea until 8 p.m.; on the 29th, fine weather; at 9 a.m. passed Kinkasan; on the 30th, rain, overcast weather; at 1 a.m. rounded Inuboye. Arrived at Yokohama at 1.30 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Sagami Maru*, Captain Crichton, reports:—Left Kobe the 29th September at noon; had light variable winds and cloudy weather to Oshima; thence to Rock Island gentle to moderate and fresh N.E. and S.E. winds with heavy rain squalls thunder and lightning; thence to Sagami Misaki strong easterly winds and heavy rain; thence to Hommoku Lightship moderate easterly winds and drizzling rains. Anchoring outside Breakwater lightships the 1st October at 1.35 a.m.

The German steamer *Nürnberg*, Captain H. Walter, reports:—Left Hongkong the 27th September at 8 20 a.m.; up to Turnabout had fresh N.E. and E. winds, rough sea, and long easterly swell, cloudy air; thence to Lushoten Islands light E.S.E. winds, fine weather, light sea, and regular swell from east and south; on the Coast of Japan experienced light changeable winds, fine weather, light sea, with long and sometimes high S. and W.S.W swell. Arrived at Yokohama the 3rd October at 5 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru*, Captain Walter, reports:—Left Otaru the 28th September at 2.40 p.m.; had strong westerly winds and clear weather until midnight; thence light and fine. Arrived at Hakodate the 29th at noon and left the 1st October at 8 a.m.; had fresh S.E. winds and cloudy weather; afternoon the wind increased to a fresh gale and the wind hauling to south with heavy squalls of rain and heavy head sea; after midnight wind and sea moderating and rain ceased. Arrived at Oginohama the 2nd at 6.45 p.m. and left the 3rd at 4 a.m.; had light southerly winds with overcast and rainy weather to Inuboye; thence moderate N.E. winds and same weather to port. Arrived at Yokohama the 4th October at 10 a.m. Saw large vessel at anchor a long way up Tokyo Bay, but could not make out whether foreign or Japanese.

The Japanese steamer *Miike Maru*, Captain W. Thompson, reports:—Left Hiroshima the 4th October at 5.40 a.m.; experienced light to moderate N. and N.E. winds and rain throughout the passage, passed Oshima at 6.15 a.m. on the 5th, and Rock Island at 11.30 p.m. Arrived at Yokohama the 6th October at 7.30 a.m.; from Omaisaki to arrival moderate to fresh N.N.E. gale with heavy rain.

The Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, Captain R. Pender, reports:—Left Otaru the 1st October at 2 p.m; had fresh gale from S.S.E accompanied with rainy and thick weather; at midnig it wind suddenly shifted to N.W. continuing blowing strong until arrival at Hakodate the following day at 8 a.m. Left the 4th at 8 a.m; had gentle S.W. winds with overcast, rainy weather throughout the passage to Oginohama, when arrived the 5th at 6.10 a.m. Left again at 11 a.m.; had moderate N.N.E. winds with overcast, cloudy weather, passing Inuboye at 0 45 a.m. on the 6th; thence to port strong northerly winds with rainy weather. Arrived at Yokohama the same day at 11.30 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, Captain Swain, reports:—Left Shanghai the 30th September at 1.15 p.m.; had light variable winds, fine, clear weather, and strong south easterly swell up to arrival at Nagasaki the 2nd October at 4 a.m. Left again the same day at 5 p.m.; had light to moderate south-westerly and north-west winds and partially clear weather. Arrived at Shimonoseki the 3rd at 5.20 a.m. and left again the same day at noon; had moderate westerly breeze, veering to north-eastward and increasing to moderate gale accompanied with thick hazy weather and continuous heavy rain necessitating anchoring at 9 30 p.m.; on the 4th at 5.10 a.m. weighed anchor, weather continuing hazy, with heavy rain up to passing Okado point at 1 p.m.; thence to arrival at Kobe at 5 p.m. a moderate north-easterly breeze with continued dull, cloudy, but fair weather. Left Kobe the 5th at 7 p.m.; had light to moderate north-westerly winds and dull, cloudy weather up to passing Oshima at 4 a.m. on the 6th; thence to passing Rock Island at 8 p.m., fresh to moderate north-easterly gale and strong head sea; similar weather continuing up to arrival at Yokohama the 7th October at 2 20 a.m.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS

The past week has seen no improvement in the Import Trade. Yarns both Single and Double have been bought in small lots at unchanged prices. Grey Shirtings move off at a fair pace, while there is also a little business in Dyed Shirtings. In Fancies: Silk-faced Satins and Cotton Velvets occasionally meet with purchasers, but other lines remain dull. In the Woollen department Cloths are the only things moving, and they at a very slow rate.

COTTON PIECE GOODS

	per piece.
Grey Shirtings—8½ lb, 38½ yds 39 inches	$2 05 to 2 50
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 38½ yds 45 inches	2 30 to 3 00
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1 50 to 1 85
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches	1 50 to 1 90
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	1 75 to 2 75
Cotton—Italian and Sateens Black, 32 inches	per yard. 0 15 to 0 20
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 24 inches	6.25 to 8.75
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42 3 inches	0 62½ to 0 77½
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2 4lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	per piece. 1 40 to 1 47½
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	1 57½ to 1.77½
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.00 to 2 27½
Turkey Reds—4 8 to 5lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2 47½ to 2.67½

WOOLLENS

	per yard.
Flannel	$0.30 to 0 43
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0 35 to 0 40
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0 28 to 0.33
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0 20 to 0.28
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0 13 to 0 19
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0 15 to 0 50
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0 60 to 0.65
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0 50 to 0 70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 4 to 3½ lb per lb	0 45 to 0 57½

COTTON YARNS

	per picul.
Nos 10/14 Ordinary	—
Nos 16/21, Medium	—
Nos 16/21, Good to Best	$34 50 to 35.00
Nos. 16/21, Reverse	—
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	—
Nos. 28 32, Medium	—
Nos 28 32, Good to Best	39 00 to 39 25
Nos 38/42, Medium to Best	43 00 to 44 00
No. 32s, Two fold	41 00 to 42 50
No. 42s, Two-fold	45. 00 to 47.50
	per bale.
No 20s, Bombay	Nom. —
No 16s, Bombay	Nom. —

METALS.

No change to note in this market. But little business has been done, and that principally in various kinds of Iron, but a better tone prevails throughout the market and holders are firm.

	per picul.
Flat Bars, ½ inch	$3 60 to 3 70
Flat Bars, ¾ inch	3 70 to 3 80
Round and square up to ¾ inch	3 15 to 3 30
Iron Plates, assorted	3.30 to 3.50
Sheet Iron	4 35 to 4 50
Galvanized Iron sheets	7.40 to 7 60
Wire Nails, assorted	5 30 to 5 65
Tin Plates, per box	6 60 to 6 25
Pig Iron, No 1	1.4.½ to 2.45

KEROSENE.

There is as yet no appearance of activity in this market, buyers showing no inclination to operate at present prices. About 80,000 cases of the large Russian arrival reported last week have been forwarded to Kobe, where demand is said to be very brisk.

Chester	$1 67½ to 1 70
Comet	1 65 to 1 67½
Devoe	—
Russian Anchor	1 62½ to 1 65
Russian Moon	1 60 to 1 62½

SUGAR.

Browns have again relapsed into inactivity and but little has been done during the week. Prices, however, show no change. Whites also remain quiescent, but holders are firm.

	per picul.
Brown Takao	$4 35 to 4 40
Brown Manila	5.20 to 5.35
Brown Daitong	4.00 to 4 05
Brown Canton	4 15 to 4 22
White Java and Penang	6.50 to 6.60
White Refined	7 55 to 9 20

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last issue was of the 29th ultimo, since which date settlements on this market are 915 piculs, divided thus: *Hanks*, 72 piculs; *Filatures*, 570 piculs; *Re-reels*, 165 piculs; *Kakeda*, 99 piculs; *Hamatsuki*, 9 piculs. In addition to these figures, direct shipments have been 92 bales, making the total export of the week equal to 1,000 piculs.

Holders have again been current and buyers have shown a disposition to meet them, consequently a fair daily trade has been done at some reduction on last week's prices. Speculators seem to be again operating, two or three English houses taking a hand and apparently investing their spare cash in silk. Consuming markets do not seem very bright; a few orders come in slowly at very low prices such as, for the present, are not practicable.

Arrivals come in freely and the present stock is 13,500 piculs, *Filatures* in full sizes being now fairly well represented. Holders are pretty firm for this class of produce, refusing the bids which buyers are able to make and dealers here think that this class of silk has a future before it. Speculators also appear be of the same opinion, as they keep operating at quotations.

Exchange has remained very steady, although silver has fluctuated slightly in London.

There have been three shipping opportunities since we last wrote. The American mail, *City of New York*, first of October, took 180 bales for the New York trade, while the English mail, *Verona*, on the same date, had 1,044 bales for Europe. The German mail, *Nuernberg*, which left port this morning, took 131 bales also for Europe. These departures make the present export figures 8,595 piculs, against 17,611 piculs last year and 14,330 piculs at the same date in 1891.

Hanks.—Rather more doing in this branch, the sales consisting of *Chichibu* at $600 and *Hachoji* at $555.

Filatures.—More than half of the trade has been in this class, prices gradually declining for fine sizes, while in the American sorts Japanese holders are pretty strong, the stock of really good silks not being large. The following prices have been freely paid: *Satshinsha*, $760; *Choshinsha*, $760; *Hakusuru*, $755; *Toeisha*, $755; *Tokosha*, $740; *Koshu Yajima*, $740 and others in proportion. In fine sizes, *Usen Tase* and *Shinshu Shojokan* have been done at $810; *Koshu*, $760 and $725 according to quality. It is a long time since prices of fine and full sized *Filatures* so nearly approach each other as they do at the present time.

Re-reels.—Rather more enquiry for these; *Five Girl* have been done at $700; *Kanra*, same price; *Shorusha* and similar chops at $660, with inferior grades at $640, $630, &c.

Kakeda.—Considerable enquiry which has not so far led to much business. No. 1 silks like *Daruma* are still quoted at $720; *Horsehead*, $680; *Two-Horsehead*, $650; *Three Horsehead*, $620; other chops of similar quality at equal prices.

Oshu.—One small parcel of *Hamatsuki* booked at $655, and this completes the list.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK.)

Hanks—No 1	$620 to 630
Hanks—No 2 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	600 to 610
Hanks—No 2½ (Shinshu)	Nom 600 to 605
Hanks—No. 2½ (Joshu)	Nom 580 to 590
Hanks—No 2½ to 3	Nom. 570 to 575
Hanks—No 3	Nom. 560 to 565
Hanks—No. 3½	550 to 555
Filatures—Ex to 10/12 deniers	820 to 830
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	770 to 780
Filatures—No 1, 10 13 deniers	780 to 800
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den	750 to 760
Filatures—No 1½, 10/14 deniers	730 to 740
Filatures—No. 1½ 13 16, 14 17 den	730 to 740
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	700 to 710
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	690 to 700
Filatures—No 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re reels—(Oshu) Best No. 1	700 to 710
Re reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14 16 deniers	690 to 700
Re reels—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	660 to 665
Re reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	630 to 640
Re reels—No 2½, 14 18 deniers	610 to 620
Re reels—No 3, 14/20 deniers	600 to 605
Kakedas—Extra	750 to 760
Kakedas—No 1	720 to 730
Kakedas—No 1½	680 to 690
Kakedas—No 2	650 to 660
Kakedas—No 2½	610 to 620
Kakedas—No 3	580 to 590
Kakedas—No 3½	—
Kakedas—No. 4	—
Oshu Sendai—No. 2½	—
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	650 to 680
Hatsuse—No. 3, 4	630 to 640
Sudai—No. 2½	—

Export Raw Silk Tables to 6th Oct., 1893.—

		Season 1893	1892-93	1891-92.
		Bales	Bales	Bales.
Europe		6,650	7,446	5 199
America		1,763	9,858	8,744
Total	Bales	8,413	17,305	13.943
	Piculs	8,595	17,611	14,330
Settlements and Direct Export from 1st July		9,750	20,900	14,800
Stock, 6th October		13,550	7,400	13 800
Availa le supplies to date		23,300	28,300	28 600

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WASTE SILK.

Settlements in this depa tment are 450 piculs, divided thus; *Cocoons*, 255 piculs; *Kibiso*, 55 piculs; *Boseki wata*, 140 piculs. No direct shipments this week.

The market remains in the same state as last advised, the only relief being that the native spinning factories have taken off a few hundred piculs common *Cocoons* and low-class *Noshi* for use in their spinning mills. As far as foreign markets are concerned, holders will not further reduce their prices and buyers will not advance their offers, consequently but little business is done. Stock of *Noshi* is large and there are considerable orders at fair prices, but holders will not listen to them.

There have been three shipping opportunities since we last wrote, the *Verona*, first instant, taking 103 bales for Europe; the *Cardiganshire* some (Cocoons) for New York, and the *Nuernberg* 421 bales for the Mediterranean ports. These departures make the present export figures 5,280 piculs, against 4,239 piculs last year and 3,656 piculs at the same date in the previous season.

Pierced Cocoons.—The bulk of the trade has been in this class, but seems now to be over as there is very little good stock left and native spinners are withdrawing some of the *Najiko* and inferior sorts, and the season, as far as foreign buyers are concerned, may be considered over.

Noshi.—Not a single transaction for export during the week, yet in spite of this stagnation holders refuse to entertain the offers which shippers can make them, and in the absence of business prices must be considered more or less nominal.

Kibiso.—The only transactions have been a few piculs *Filature* at prices ranging from $105 to $115, according to grade.

Sundries.—A fair business continues in *Boseki-wata* at $24. Nothing done in *Neri*, *Tama* or other sorts.

QUOTATIONS —(NEW WASTE).

Pierced Cocoons -Good to Best	$120 to 130
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	150 to 155
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	140 to 145
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	130 to 135
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	140 to 145
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	115 to 120
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	105 to 110
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	95 to 100
Noshi-ito—Bushu, Good to Best	130 to 140
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	90 to 95
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	80 to 85
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	70 to 75
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	115 to 120
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	105 to 110
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	50 to 60
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Good to Fair	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Middling to Common	—
Kibiso—Hachoji, Good	—
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	—
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	—
Mawata—Good to Best	—

Export Table Waste Silk to 6th Oct., 1893:—

	Season 1893-94	1892-93.	1891-92.
	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Waste Silk	3,700	3,598	3,656
Pierced Cocoons	1,580	641	—
	5,280	4,239	3,656
Settlements and Direct Export from 1st July	Piculs. 6,350	Piculs. 10,050	Piculs. 5,750
Stock, 6th October	16,650	15,050	15,000
Available supplies to date	23,000	25,100	20,750

Exchange remains unaltered at last week's rates; although Silver is down in London, and lower quotations reach us from China ports:—LONDON, 4m/s. Credits, 2/5⅞; Documents, 2/5⅞; 6m/s. Credits, 2/6. NEW YORK, 30d/s. U.S. $59½; 4m/s. U.S. $60⅝. PARIS, or LYONS, 4m/s. fcs. 3.14, 6m/s. fcs. 3.16.

Estimated Silk Stock, 6th Oct., 1893.—

Raw.	Piculs.	Waste	Piculs.
Hanks	100	Cocoons	675
Filatures	8,050	Noshi-ito	8,210
Re-reels	3,940	Kibiso	7,210
Kakeda	1,310	Mawata	90
Oshu	120	Sundries	465
Tavsasm Kinds	30		
Total piculs	13,550	Total piculs	16,650

TEA

Demand has fallen off again and there is less doing. This is principally owing to holders refusing to lower their prices—buyers being willing to operate, but at less money.

	Per Picul.
Common	$12 to 13
Good Common	14 to 15
Medium	17 to 18
Good Medium	19 to 20
Fine	22 to 23
Finest	24 to 26
Choice	27 to 29
Choicest	31 to 35

EXCHANGE.

Exchange remains unaltered

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	2 5⅞
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	2 5⅞
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	2/6-2 5⅞
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	2/6½-2 6
On Paris—Bank sight	3 08
On Paris—Private 4 months' sight	3 16-3 14
On Hongkong—Bank sight	Par
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	⅛ % dis
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	73
On America—Bank Bills on demand	58⅛
On America—Private 30 days' sight	60-59⅝
On America—Private 4 months' sight	61-60⅝
On India—Bank sight	194
Silver	31⅛

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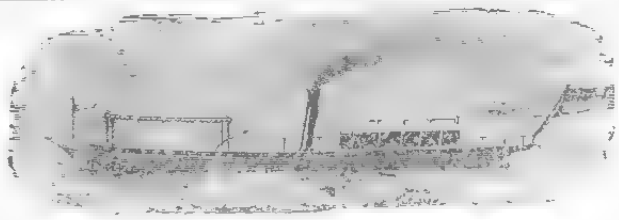

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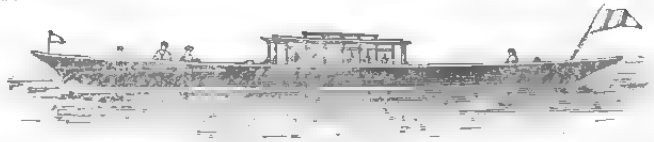
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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS. ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, OCT. 14TH, 1893.

MARRIAGES.

On the 11th instant, at Christ Church, Yokohama, by the Rev. E. Champneys Irwine, M.A., PERCY SALISBURY, fourth son of BALDWIN H. BENT, Esq., J. P., of Stowe Hill, Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk, to EDITH MARY TEMPLE (Ruby), only daughter of the late TEMPLE WILLCOX, Esq., and step daughter of JAMES DODDS, of Yokohama.

At Nagasaki, Japan, October 9th, 1893, Miss MARTHA ALVIRA TAYLOR, of Eau Clair, Michigan, U.S.A., and WILLIAM JACKSON CALLAHAN, of Whitesville Georgia, U.S.A., were united in marriage in the presence of the United States Consul, by Rev. I. H. Correll, D.D., assisted by Rev. J. C. C. Newton.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

AN extensive conflagration has occurred at Otaru.

SNOW is reported in Hokkaido several weeks earlier this year than last.

TUESDAY next will be observed as a holiday at the Yokohama Specie Bank.

DEATHS from cholera continue to be reported from the Straits Settlements

GAME licences were ready for issue at the Kanagawa Kencho on the 11th inst.

MR. N. W. MCIVOR, of Iowa, has been appointed U. S. Consul at Kanagawa.

CAPTAIN INGLES, R.N. left yesterday in the "Empress" for home, via Canada.

THE Autumn Regatta of the Yokohama Rowing Club is fixed for Saturday, the 21st inst.

THE Cricket match partly played on Friday week, in which the team that is to meet Kobe made 230, was continued next day, when the President's Eleven made 323, leaving off with two wickets to go down.

THE American mail steamer *City of Peking* has been postponed until Tuesday next, the 17th.

THE Japanese new cruiser, *Yoshino Kan*, lately constructed in England, leaves for Japan this week.

H.M. ships *Alacrity*, bearing the Admiral's flag, and *Porpoise* arrived here on Wednesday from Hakodate.

THE Town Band will play in the Bluff Gardens every Wednesday afternoon from 3.30 to 5.30 (weather permitting).

THE Nippon Yusen Kaisha will despatch their first steamer on the new Bombay route from Kobe on the 7th November.

IN a sailing race on Saturday last, postponed from the previous week, the *Hokkoshi* won the Petrel Cup and scored two record points.

A MEETING was held this afternoon at the Hotel Metropole, Tokyo, to consider the question of forming a Chess Circle in the capital.

AT the annual meeting of the Oriental Hotel Company at Kobe, a further dividend of 3 per cent. was declared, making the dividend for the year 8 per cent.

THE annual meeting of the Yokohama Literary Society, was held on Friday week, and the report and accounts showed the society to be in a flourishing condition.

THE Autumn Manœuvres will take place this year in Gumma Prefecture. His Imperial Majesty the Emperor will leave Tokyo for Mayebashi on the 20th inst.

THE preliminary examinations in the Soma case are expected to be completed at no distant date, and the Judge, it is said, is in favour of holding a public trial of the case.

THE temporary buoy, light, and flag at present over the sunken Hiraiso Rock, in Akashi Straits, will be replaced by a beacon which is to be established there on the 11th November.

A DIVIDEND for the year 1892 of seven dollars per share, equivalent to 28 per cent. on the paid up capital, was declared by the Union Insurance Society of Canton on the 7th inst.

IT is reported that a sailing vessel of foreign style of construction sank in the fairway of Ganryu-shima, in the Shimonoseki Strait, on the 22nd ult., one of her masts being visible above water.

THE case of the Oriental Bank v. Apcar, on appeal from the Yokohama Chiho Saibansho to the higher Court in Tokyo, was heard on the 10th inst., when the judgment was set aside and a rehearing ordered in the lower court.

THE steamer *Denbighshire*, while at anchor in Kobe Harbour, was run into by the *Yoshinogawa Maru*, a vessel belonging to Osaka, and sunk at her moorings, at one o'clock on the morning of the 11th inst.

A NAVAL Court of Enquiry assembled at the Teishinsho on Monday last to enquire into the circumstances attending the stranding of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha steamer *Sakata Maru*. The enquiry was continued on the following day, and judgment reserved.

THE Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs have issued a notice to the effect that from the 1st of October and until further notice "the Marks and Lights for the Feima Channel will be exhibited as formerly, as there is now a greater depth of water in that Channel than in the line of the old Bar Marks."

A CHARITY BAZAAR will be opened in the capital on the first Sunday in November next under the auspices of Princess Mori, President; Viscountess Mori, Vice-President, and the other leading members of the Japan Ladies' Educational Society.

THE telegraph during the week reports that the revolution in Brazil is actively proceeding, with the probability of the ultimate success of Admiral Mello, the leader of the party, and that the City of Rio de Janeiro has been severely bombarded; that trouble has arisen in Africa between the people of the Matabele country and the Company's scouts there, bloodshed being the result, with the possibility of war before peace is restored; that the American yacht *Vigilant* has won the race for the America Cup, also the second race; that the French Envoy has adopted a conciliatory tone in Siam, and a peaceful settlement is now looked for; that a great falling off has taken place in the British revenue returns; that a team of American cricketers has beaten the Australian team badly: that there is no prospect of the speedy settlement of the silver question; that a cyclone and tidal wave in the Gulf of Mexico have caused fearful devastation; that Prince Bismarck is in an extremely enfeebled condition; that trouble has broken out between the Moors and Spaniards; and that the English mission to Afghanistan met a splendid reception.

THERE is a decided improvement in the tone of the Import trade, though rather less business has been done. This condition of affairs is due to the fact that active enquiries are being made with an evident inclination on the part of buyers to operate extensively, but holders are very firm and asking prices have been pushed up, which has led to a check, at least for the present. Holders of Yarns are very firm and a less quantity has been taken, while Grey and Indigo Shirtings are in fair demand, though prices have been raised. The same may be said in regard to Fancy Goods, Italians, Velvets, and Turkey Reds, there being a good enquiry all round, but transactions have been shortened through increased values. Not much done in Woollens, the principal article in request being Mousellines. Metals are dull, buyers hold off, and the heavy stock has been further increased by a lot of damaged cargo recently arrived. There has been a revival in Kerosene, and a fair amount of business put though, and through no fresh arrivals have come in during the week, the steamer *Clam* left Hongkong a couple of days ago with a cargo of Russian oil in bulk for this port. At slightly easier rates, Sugar has been in moderate demand, both Whites and Browns, and the stock of Manila sorts has been considerably reduced. The Silk trade had not changed much during the week and the small daily business totals much less than 1,000 piculs, but at the last moment one firm took up a large parcel for Europe—500 piculs. Though holders have been generally current, prices are somewhat irregular. Sellers are strongest in the sorts used by the Japanese manufacturer, the latter coming into competition with the foreign buyer for Re-reels and Kakeda, which are yearly being used in Japan in greater quantities for manufacturing purposes. The high prices asked for Waste Silk strangle the business, and only a small trade has resulted. Very little has been done in Tea, and only a small stock of really good leaf remains. Exchange remains unaltered.

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THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The question of Mixed Residence continues to attract a large amount of public attention. The promoters of the movement against Mixed Residence are taking active steps to rouse the anti-foreign sentiments of the people. The Great Japan Union threatens to develop large influence among the ignorant masses in the country. But so far as the press is concerned, the movement is in a hopeless minority. Even the three dailies generally considered to be in favour of keeping foreigners out of the interior, are extremely ambiguous in their utterances on the subject. They seem to be afraid of committing themselves to any positive views. Of these journals, the *Kokkai* alone, as we noticed recently, has expressed itself in favour of the movement, although the reasons adduced for this remarkable change of views on our contemporary's part are anything but logical or manly. As to the *Choya Shimbun*, it has not yet made any positive declaration, but the public is led to infer its sympathetic attitude towards the opponents of Mixed Residence from the favourable manner in which their doings are reported in its columns. The *Nippon's* position is most singular. It has indeed been matter of surprise to the general public that this journal should maintain an equivocal attitude on the subject, for it has always been conspicuous for anti-foreign sentiments. But strange to say, it has not shown any marked sympathy with the Great Japan Union. In a series of articles just concluded, it explains its position. It is not an easy task to follow our contemporary through all the windings of its ingenious arguments; but we conclude that the attitude taken by it is this, that the opening of the country for Mixed Residence is not an obligation, but lies with the right of the nation. As to Mixed Residence in itself, our contemporary admits that it is harmless, but can not approve the granting of it except as the result of the free exercise of the sovereign right of the country. In other words, the *Nippon's* object seems to be to grant Mixed Residence by legislation and not by treaty stipulations.

* * *

With the exception of these three papers, all the leading dailies in the capital are pronouncedly in favour of Mixed Residence. The *Jiji Shimpo's* articles on this subject will be referred to in another place. Our contemporary holds the Government responsible for the present anti-foreign reaction, saying that that it was first called into existence by the revival of the Chinese school of thought by the educational authorities in 1881-1882.

* * *

The *Kokumin Shimbun* wonders how men who have said nothing during the past twenty years in opposition to Mixed Residence, can be so absurd and inconsistent as to take up a strong position against it now. Neither in the case of Count Inouye's revision programme nor in the case of that of Count Okuma, did the anti-Mixed Residence movement form an essential element of the opposition. Our contemporary undertakes at some length to expose the fallacies in the arguments of the opponents of Mixed Residence, from religious, political, social, economical, and racial points of view. It promises to treat, in its forthcoming articles, of the advantages that would follow the opening of the interior.

* * *

The *Jiyu Shimbun* spares nothing to ridicule the absurd position taken by the opponents of Mixed Residence. The Radical organ criticises in terms of utter condemnation the conduct of politicians who have taken up the cry against Mixed Residence out of party considerations, and points out the danger of inflaming the vulgar portion of the people with unreasonable hatred of foreigners. The promoters of the movement forget the peril into which the anti-foreign (*jō-i*) agitation of thirty years ago threatened to plunge the country. They laugh at the ignorance and the absurdity of the *Jō-i-to*, but are now assuming exactly the same attitude as their prototypes of the pre-Restoration epoch. The *Jiyu Shimbun's* series of articles is not yet concluded.

* * *

What causes anxiety in the situation is that the organs of the Progressionist party, though disapproving of the anti-Mixed Residence movement, maintain an attitude of comparative indifference. The mood of that party on this subject is well indicated by a leaderette in the *Mainichi Shimbun*, which observes that men who act in advance of their time are very often the objects of hatred by the vulgar public. Such was the fate of the Progressionists in 1889 when they advocated Mixed Residence in a fearless manner. Then turning to the Radicals, our contemporary speaks virtually to this effect:—"You denounced us as traitors in 1889, but you are to-day forced to play the same part which fell to our lot in that year. It is now time for you to show of what metal you are really made. It does not become you to hesitate and apologise. It is your duty to enlighten the people and lead them in the right direction."

* * *

The Hoshi v. the *Kaishin Shimbun* libel case, now going on at the Tokyo Local Court, has attracted a considerable amount of journalistic attention. The examination of witnesses thus far has not brought out any fact tending in the least to confirm the alleged corruption of the President of the House of Representatives. Neither does it seem likely that the damaging allegation will ever be proved. But it has come to light that he met, on one or two occasions, at a certain tea house, the Vice-Minister of Agriculture and Commerce and several persons connected with the Exchanges, and that several high officials of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce were entertained at tea-houses on various occasions by the representatives of the Exchanges. Beyond these bare facts, nothing definite has yet been elicited from the numerous witnesses already brought to the bar. But these facts suffice for the metropolitan papers to indulge in sweeping condemnation of the parties concerned. The Progressionist organs as well as those of the National Unionist party cast damaging reflections upon Mr. Hoshi in particular and the Radical party in general. According to some witnesses, not only Mr Hoshi, but several other leading members of the Radical Party, as Messrs. Kono Kironaka, Shioda Okuzo and others, were entertained by the Exchange people. Apart from the question of bribery, it ill becomes, say these papers, the leading members of a great party like the *Jiyu-to* to be present at jovial meetings at tea houses of evil reputation in company with men who were well known to be anxious to obtain their sympathy on some very important business question. The attack on the Radicals happens to be all the more bitter because it has been their habit to take credit for disinterestedness and purity of conduct. Their present position is a significant illustration of the Chinese proverb "whatever you give out comes back to you." Be the truth of the allegations made against Mr. Hoshi and other Radicals what it may, there is little doubt that the excitement caused over this question by the Progressionists cannot fail to injure more or less the position of the *Jiyu-to* in the country.

* * *

If the papers are severe upon the Radicals, they are still more so upon the officials of the Department and Commerce. Some of the witness stated that Count Goto himself was present at a tea house meeting, the expenses of which were defrayed by persons connected with the Exchanges. But Mr. Saito's name has thus far figured most conspicuously in the evidence given by the witnesses. It is not to be believed that an official of his standing has been guilty of receiving bribes from the Exchange people, but many seem to think that he might have shown more prudence in his conduct. The papers in the capital insist upon the arraignment of Mr. Saito and the other officials concerned before a disciplinary court. A Cabinet which has pledged itself to effect thorough reforms in the Administration is bound, say these journals, to clear its ranks of officials who have undoubtedly disgraced the service to which they belong. Count Ito is strongly urged to take decisive steps to get rid of these persons. It is to be expected that the Progressionists and the National Unionists will unite in the coming session of the Diet to bring strong pressure to bear upon the Ministry in connection with this question. The recollection of their fancied wrongs against the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce will not certainly cool the ardour with which these parties will thrust forward the matter in the House of Representatives.

* * *

A ludicrous incident has taken place in connection with the libel case. The members of the league formed by the representatives of the Exchanges throughout the country, angry with the Progressionists on account of the zeal with which their conduct during the last session of the Diet has been publicly denounced, recently sent a deputation to the head-quarters of the *Kaishin-to* to ascertain whether or not that Party had instructed the *Kaishin Shimbun* to lead the assault. They threatened that if the Party recognized the conduct of that journal, they should declare open hostility against it. The deputation were told that the Progressionist Party was not in any way responsible for statements made by the *Kaishin Shimbun*, and the members of the league were loudly ridiculed by the Progressionist organs. If they wanted to fight, the Progressionist Party, would not by any means decline to accept their challenge, but their courage to try conclusions was altogether doubted.

* * *

The appointment of Imperial Commissioners on various administrative questions has ended unfavourable comments from the vernacular press, the principal point of criticism being that the creation of these commissioners is a device on the part of the Ministry to shirk their administrative responsibility. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* points out the error of such a view. The function of the Commissioners is merely to furnish the respective Minister of States with materials for deciding given questions of administration. The Ministers have perfect liberty to adopt or reject the recommendations of the Commissioners, and consequently the existence of a Commission can never affect their administrative responsibility. As to the sinister reflections which are made upon members of the Diet who accept appointments on these Commissions, such abuse is said not to deserve serious notice.

* * *

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, writing upon the currency question, observes that the state of trade during the past few years has gone to confirm the predictions of the anti-silverites. Of late imports have gradually increased while exports have considerably decreased, and consequently the prediction of the silverites, that the depreciation of the white metal would stimulate the export trade of the country, have been entirely falsified. Our contemporary does not mean to decide the issue by this single point, but observes that so significant a fact deserves the serious attention of every student of the currency question.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

PRODUCTION OF THREAD FROM NETTLE HEMP.

ANOTHER success scored by the Japanese in the province of industry is recorded in the vernacular press. It consists in the production of fine thread from nettle hemp (*karamushi*). The patent is said to have been obtained by Mr. Itagaki Hokotaro, son of Count Itagaki, but the technical method was elaborated chiefly by Mr. Miyazaki Saburo, of the Hokkaido Hemp Factory. The reputation acquired by a certain French silk manufacturer in connection with thread of this kind, is said to have turned the attention of Mr. Itagaki to the subject. After repeated trials extending over a period of several years, Mr Itagaki at last succeeded in obtaining thread about the size of No. 40. He was, however, dissatisfied with that result, and would fain have devised some machine for turning out

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finer thread, and was therefore full of expectation on learning of the arrival of a well known English spinning expert in Japan last spring. Disappointment resulted, however. Instead of hearing anything encouraging or instructive, Messrs. Itagaki and Miyazaki were told by the English expert that it was hopeless for them to attempt the production of thread so fine as that obtained by the French process, and when he was assured that thread of No. 60 or 70 fineness could alredy be produced without difficulty in Japan, he made a remark more incredulous than complimentary. Nothing daunted by his discouraging answers, Messrs. Itagaki and Miyazaki resumed their experiments with all the greater zeal, and their exertions were not fruitless, for after repeated trials at the Hokkaido Factory, they at last succeeded in obtaining from nettle hemp threads of the fineness of No. 100, a fineness never previously obtained even in France. The *Karamushi* is said to be three or four times as strong as silk, equally fine, and not at all inferior in point of lustre, so that it is expected to prove a formidable rival of the "noble article." This nettle-hemp from the bark of which the thread is produced, grows abundantly in a wild state in Japan, especially in Hokkaido, so that the country has a great advantage over Europe where the plant must be specially cultivated.

POLITICAL ITEMS.

THE progressionist politicians of Kyushu intend to hold conferences at Oita on the 22nd and 23rd instant. These conferences will be attended by the members of the Radical and Progressionist parties as well as of the *Domei* Club; at least such is said to be the object of the originators of the measure. The principal subject of discussion will be the policy to be pursued by the Progressionists of Kyushu in the coming session of the Diet. It is, however, doubted by many well informed persons whether the Radicals and the Progressionists of Kyushu can come to any agreement as to a common policy after the recent tour of the Radical leaders. Some suppose that the proposed conferences are simply a means devised by the Progressionists to counteract the effects of the Radical tour.

* * *

It is generally understood that the Radicals will violently attack the reforms introduced in the Navy. According to the *Kokkai's* information, they reductions in expenses; also the displacement of the combatant officers in the Department by civil officials, thus changing that Department into a pure administrative office like every other Department of State; and finally the suspension or entire cessation of the works now going on under the Department, especially those at the Sasebo Naval Depot.

* * *

The National Unionists held a meeting in their office, Uchisaiwaicho, Tokyo, on the 5th instant. The committee charged with the investigation of polical affairs laid a report of their labours before the meeting. There were present Viscount Shinagawa, Mr. Yasuba, and other principal members of the Party. They are said to have discussed the bills to be introduced by them in the fifth session of the Diet.

* * *

The *Yomiuri Shimbun* states that a certain individual recently waited upon Count Okuma and sounded his views as to the possibility of a reconciliation between him and Count Ito. This individual's name is not given, but sufficient indications are published to leave no doubt that Mr. Takashima Kayemon of Kanagawa is meant, a common friend of the two distinguished statesmen. He is said to have begun with allusions to the days of Okubo's ascendency in the Government, when both the Progressionist leader and the Minister President were on the best of terms with each other and were equally invaluable assistants to their chief. In those happy old times, Mr. Takashima's house served as a common meeting ground for the two friends. They used to honour him with visits about ten times per month. Mr. Takashima then went on to regret that things had changed greatly since those days. He was grieved to see the friends of that time now separated from each other and standing at the two extremes of the political stage. Count Okuma is said to have listened to this conversation with deep concern. He is represented as having told his visitor that he was far from being pleased with the present state of his relations with Count Ito, and that in this feeling the latter would probably concur. But, he continued, Count Ito is surrounded by extremely small-minded persons, who are responsible for the present strained relations between the two statesmen.

* * *

According to the *Saga Jiyu*, Count Okuma recently sent a secret messenger to Mr. Taketomi of Saga, who, though nominally a Radical, is believed to be really a confidential follower of the statesman of Waseda. Mr. Taketomi is a very influential politician in Saga. He recently telegraphed to the head-quarters of the Radical party that no necessity existed for undertaking a political campaign in his locality, and he consequently found himself in an awkward dilemma, when, notwithstanding his advice, the locality was visited by Mr. Hoshi. At first Mr. Taketomi and other equivocal Radicals of the place were very cold towards Mr. Hoshi and his party. But Mr. Hoshi's resolute and threatening attitude compelled them to welcome him and even invite him to a lecture meeting. It is now believed that Mr. Taketomi's unsympathetic attitude was due to secret communications from the Progressionist leader.

* * *

The exposures which the *Kaishin Shimbun* has made about secrect meetings between the Exchange agents and some officials and politicians, have evoked the violent indignation of people connected with Exchanges throughout the the country. The *Kaishin Shimbun* is generally regarded as under the control of the Progressionist Party; and the Exchange people have addressed a letter to that Party to ask if the paper is really their organ and whether its statements about the Exchange question are endorsed by the Party. They threaten that, unless a satisfactory explanation be given, they will regard the Progressionist party as their open enemies. The *Hochi Shimbun*, writing on this subject, remarks that the *Kaishin Shimbun* is not an organ of the Progressionist Party and that the the Progressionists are not responible for what appears in the columns of that paper.

* * *

The *Chu-o Shimbun* states that the Premier recently had two long conferences with Mr. Kawata, President of the Bank of Japan, at Mr. Minomura's house at Hamacho, Tokyo. What could have been the subject of their conversation? Our contemporary seems to think that their talk was probably related to the reported change in the *personnel* of the Minister of Finance. But how related. Mr. Kawata is known to be on very intimate terms with Count Matsukata; so it might be supposed that he was requested by the Minister President to induce the ex-Minister of Finance to re-enter the Cabinet. But a more likely supposition is, in the *Chu-o's* opinion, that Mr. Kawata himself was offered the portfolio of Finance. Mr. Kawata is recognized to be a very capable financier, and he is even credited with aspiring to the post of *Okura Daijin*. From these circumstances the National Unionist organ is persuaded to believe that he has now received an offer of the portfolio.

* * *

The same authority informs us that Count Goto and Count Itagaki are now visiting each other very frequently. Our contemporary publishes this piece of news in a significant manner, but we fail to discover its importance, seeing that the two Counts have always been on friendly terms and have been in the habit of paying each other occasional visits.

* * *

A rumour has been extensively circulated in the metropolitan journals that Count Kuroda, who is confined to his house by a severe attack of rheumatism, has resolved to resign. Alluding to this report, the *Nichi Nichi* observes that there can be no truth in the rumour, because Count Kuroda, being one of the four statesmen who were specially charged by the Emperor with the organization of the present Cabinet, has a great responsibility to remain in it until a time comes for it to give its place to another Ministry.

* * *

The papers now state that the Cabinet has decided to postpone the carrying out of the administrative reforms until the opening of the next session of the Diet.

* * *

It has been widely rumoured that Mr. Morioka of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha will be succeeded by Mr. Furusawa Shigeru, formerly Director of the Bureau of Post in the Department of Communications. There is, we hear from a good authority, no truth in this report.

THE LATE ACCIDENT ON BOARD THE "PIGMY."

THE enquiry into the circumstances attending the death of William Rose, boy, first class, on board H.M.S. *Pigmy*, resulting from a gun accident on board, was concluded by Mr. H. E. Wodehouse yesterday, says the *Hongkong Daily Press* of the 27th ult. Some further evidence was taken, of which the main feature was that no one took the empty cartridges out of the gun after the accident or saw any one else take them out. Gunner Griffiths, recalled, said that he examined the gun ten minutes after the accident and found no empty cartridges. Mr. Wodehouse found the following verdict:—"That the deceased came by his death from injuries received through the inadvertent discharge of a bullet from a five-barrelled Nordenfeldt gun on board H.M.S. *Pigmy* in Hongkong waters after the conclusion of prize firing from the said gun and while it was in process of being secured." The actual cause of the regrettable fatality is therefore as far from being explained as ever.

THE SOMA CASE.

THE examination of the prisoners and witnesses in the Soma case is still going on. On the 5th instant Mr. Fukuzawa Yukichi, editor of the *Jiji Shimpo*, was examined as a witness by Judge Okada. The late Viscount Soma was in Mr. Fukuzawa's school, the Keio-gijuku, about the year 1876-1877, and it may be presumed that Mr. Fukuzawa was requested to give evidence about the unfortunate nobleman's academic life. On the same day the prisoner, Aota Tsunazo, was also examined.

* * *

Barrister Okano, Counsel for Mr. Nishikori, sought on the 2nd instant an interview with Mr. Nomura, Chief Public Procurator of the Tokyo Court of Appeal, and called his attention to the rumours then widely circulated about suspicious meetings between Public Procurator Kudo of the Tokyo Local Court and Viscount Soma, as well as with others interested in the present case. On the 4th instant, Mr. Okano was called to the Appeal Court and acquainted with the results of the inquiries that had been made about Public Procurator Kudo's conduct. According to what is reported in the press as to the statements of Chief Public Procurator of the Tokyo Court of Appeal, it appears to be true that Mr. Kudo recently received Messrs. Izumida Tanemasa and Okabe Koki in his official chamber. But he is said to have denied that he ever received a visit from Viscount Soma. His subject of talk with Messrs. Izumida and Okabe is alleged to have been connected with some private affair. Being on friendly terms with Mr. Okabe, who was formerly a Public Procurator, Mr. Kudo is reported to have told his superior that he could not very well refuse to see his friend who visits him now and then.

* * *

The analysis of the internal organs taken from the late Viscount Soma's corpse has not yet been finished. The papers seem to expect that the results of the analysis will not be favourable to the prosecution. Meanwhile, Dr. Eguchi who has charge of the scientific investigation, is the recipient of incessant advice from journalists and even private persons as to the manner in which he should fulfil his grave

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responsibility. But in truth there can be little chance of the analysis proving the administration of poison, unless arsenic or some similarly lasting substance was given.

* * *

Of the metropolitan papers, the *Chu-o Shimbun* is most conspicuous for the attention it pays to the case. It is publishing a course of sensational articles, describing midnight adventures, street rambles, excursions into the suburbs of the capital, and other exciting experiences undergone by a writer on its staff in the course of his investigations regarding the fate of an alleged illegitimate child of Madame Nishiyama Ryu, the mother of the present Viscount Soma and one of the prisoners in the present murder case.

MR. MAYEDA ON THE ABOLITION OF EXPORT DUTY.

THE gist of Mr. Mayeda Masana's speech about the abolition of export duties at the last meeting of the Nippon Commerce Association, held at the Kōyokan, on the 3rd instant, is given by the vernacular press. He did not consider that the agitation of Japanese merchants for the abolition of such duties was well founded or sound. Was there, he asked, even one Japanese merchant really engaged at present in sending goods abroad without employing foreigners as a medium. What benefit then could Japanese merchants derive from abolition of the duty on exported goods, seeing that the export business is almost exclusively carried on by foreigners? Export duty seemed to Mr. Mayeda to be a special tax levied on the resident merchants, the abolition of which would confer no benefit on native manufacturers or merchants.

* * *

Mr. Mayeda's comments are certainly true so far as the first disbursements on account of export duty are concerned: those disbursements are made by the merchants directly engaged in the export trade. He might have added, too, that they ultimately come out of the pockets of foreign consumers. In fact, whether the export trade be in Japanese hands or, as at present, almost entirely in foreign, no actual monetary loss in entailed on Japan by her export duties. If foreigners conduct the business, then the duties have to be paid by foreigners from start to finish. If Japanese conduct it, then Japanese disburse the duties at the outset, and recover them subsequently from foreign consumers. The question is one of indirect benefit solely. If it can be shown that the demand for Japanese goods in Europe or America would be increased by offering them at prices reduced by the amount of the export duties, then it would be an advantage to Japan to abolish the duties. Such would be the case, doubtless, wherever articles of Western production come into direct competition with Japanese in foreign markets, and might be the case also in other instances. The problem is one that demands very careful examination. We do not imagine that Mr. Mayeda's criticism is very relevant. The Japanese merchants who agitate for the abolition of export duties must know perfectly well that they themselves have no direct concern with the payment of the duties, and must be influenced wholly by the consideration that every facility tending to reduce in foreign markets the cost of this country's products and manufactures is desirable for the sake of Japan in general.

RAILWAY MANIA

THE *Shogyo Shimpo* writes thus on the subject of railways:—Since the Government constructed the Shimbashi-Yokohama and Kobe-Osaka railways in the early years of *Meiji*, projects for lines built by private enterprise gradually became so numerous down to the year 1886, that the authorities deemed it necessary to issue regulations for the control of private railways. Railway enterprise, however, met with a sudden check about four years afterwards, while most of the works were still in a half completed state, owing to monetary conditions that forbade the fixing of capital in such a manner. Something very like a panic overtook railway business, and there was even talk of the advisability of state ownership of all railways, the Government taking the matter into consideration and the Diet being petitioned to purchase private railways. The Diet, indeed, did not approve the petition, but it did approve, with some modifications, a bill introduced by the Government for laying state-owned railways along the principal routes throughout the country. This happened in May of last year. The wheel of fortune does not cease to revolve, and so, with the next improvement of economic conditions, private railway enterprises, which had experienced such reverses a few years previously, were revived once more, and the total amount of capital already invested, or proposed to be invested, this year already reaches an enormous sum. For the extension of railways alone a capital of 7,300,000 *yen*, according to the *Shogyo*, has already been invested, and that represents only a portion of the private railways for which charters have been granted by the Government. 'If we add the sums required for works of extension not yet officially sanctioned, as well as for railway projects which have already obtained charters, or on account of which charters had been applied for up to the end of August, it appears that the total sum involved is no less than 47,918,500 *yen*. The various figures stand thus:—

	YEN
For extension works already chartered	7,300,000
For new works of construction, already chartered	730,000
For works of extension and construction provisionally chartered	740,500
For works of extension and construction on account of which charters have been sought	39,148,000
	47,918,500

The *Shogyo Shimpo* thinks that the high-water mark of railway mania may be said to have been reached at last, and concludes its article by warning both the Government and the public to be on their guard lest the country be overtaken by a disaster similar to that experienced three years ago.

THE NAVIGABILITY OF THE MEIKONG

THE British Vice-Consul at Chengmai writes thus about the navigability of the Me.kong:—

"I may here state with regard to the navigability of the Me kong that I do not in the least believe that steamers can ever be advantageously employed on this river for trading purposes. No steamboat could safely make head against the treacherous current up the rapids or shoot them on the way down. This I say from what I have seen of them myself, but I did not see the worst rapids. The regions of rapids in the Meikong below Luang-Prabang may be roughly placed in the following separate localities—Tha Dua, Chiengkhan, Kemmerat, Khong, and Preatapang. Granted that steamers could be brought above these different rapids and navigated in the still reaches between them, how is the transport between the principal towns on the river to be effected? Are there to be unloading and reloading stations and roads made past the rapids? If so, what is likely to be the cost of transport of small quantities of goods from Cambodia to Luang-Prabang? It hardly requires a practical mind to make the proper answers to these questions, and I think I can do no better than quote the remark of the Commissioner at Luang-Prabang who, when a French traveller was trying to convince him of the practicability of bringing steamers up to Luang-Prabang silenced him by saying that he would undertake to build wharves for them at his own expense as soon as they arrived. But the absurdity of a scheme for the navigation of the Me kong, from a commercial point of view, may be judged best by comparing it to a similar undertaking on the Meinam. If a regular steam service up a large river from a port like Bangkok, that feeds the whole of the rich, populous valley above it, is hardly profitable, it is inconceivable that it should be more so up a difficult river through a poor, mountainous, and sparsely-populated country. The high expectations recently raised of the navigability of the Meikong can only come from those who have their own purposes to serve in leading the French commercial classess to suppose that there is a great possible market for French goods in a country that offers absolutely no such prospect. To form a practical idea, a candid reader has only to study carefully the account of the exploration of the Me kong by M. Garnier, whose good faith may be relied upon, although it would seem as if his ardent love of exploration affected his imagination in the same manner as the artistic enthusiasm of the French painter David, who used to say he saw all the colours of the rainbow in a grey sky. It appears to me that the perusal of M. Garnier's work must necessarily bring an impartial observer to the conclusions that the Meikong is difficult of navigation, the population is small, and the trade naturally finds the route best suited to it, and that to Bangkok is the only one of any importance for the Meikong valley from Cambodia to Luang Prabang; but when, moreover, the Siamese Government has completed the construction of the railway to Korat, which it is about to undertake, neither Cambodia nor Annam can have any chance of competing with Korat, for the trade of the Me kong valley. Korat is the natural feeder of that country, and there can be no doubt as to its importance as a trade centre nor as to the necessity for railway communication with Bangkok.

"In connection with the projects for the steam navigation of the Meikong, it has been stated that French commercial agents would be stationed at various places on the river. As far as I am informed, there are north of Cambodia no French stations of any description on the Meikong, with the exception of some missionaries at Lakhon and elsewhere, who, sad to say, have nearly succumbed to malaria."

MATINÉE MUSICAL.

THERE was a very pleasant *réunion* at the Public Hall on Saturday afternoon, the "Kings Daughters' Circle" holding a matinée and high tea there in aid of a fund to found a free bed for Women and Children at the General Hospital. The entertainment was a most pronounced success, a large number of residents and others visiting the Hall during the afternoon. The room had been most tastefully arranged by the ladies interested, under the supervision of Mrs. T. J. Morris, the President of the Society, the originator of the affair. Lounges and chairs were plentifully placed around the room, and these were set off by a background of bamboo and palms, where were set a number of tables very prettily decorated by the respective ladies in charge:—Miss Sale presiding over the Green and White table; Miss Annie Moss the Yellow; Miss Zaidee Rogers the Red; Misses Bourn; and Ada Sale the Lilac; and Misses L. Smite and Mendelson the Green; while in front of the stage was a large table containing some fancy work in charge of several very young ladies. The menus, some of them very neat, were also the handiwork of the ladies in charge. During the intervals of the band, a piano forte duet was played by Misses Smith and Mendelson, Miss Griffin also also contributing a pianoforte solo, while Miss Bloxham sang a song, "Love's proving," by Löhr. The following is the programme of the music of the *Lancaster's* band, which was kindly lent by Admiral Irwin for the occasion:—

1.—Overture	Esmeralda	Hormann.
2.—Selection	La Favorita	Don zetti.
3.—Waltz	Dream Faces	Meister.
4.—Duetto	Carmen	Gatti
5.—March	Louisen	Faust.
6.—Medley	American Airs	Schultz.
7.—Waltz	Mystic	Tayler.
8.—Selection	Robin Hood	R. de Koven.
9.—Polka	Comet Solo	Carlino.
10.—Schottische	Yokohama	Schultz.

DESPATCH OF EXPERTS TO IRON FOUNDRIES IN CHINA.

THE original decision of the Foundry Investigation Committee to despatch experts to China, for the purpose of inspecting works now in operation there, does not seem likely to be carried out. A few days ago, says the *Nichi Nichi*, Count Goto, Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, addressed a short speech to the Committee with closed doors. Among other things, he is rumoured to have referred to the despatch of experts to China, and to have thrown cold water on the project. His contention was that the Government had already carried out various investigations into the Chinese foundries; that the despatch of experts to China would not be very easy, in consequence of the limited funds at the disposal of the Committee; and finally, that China being a country where everything is enshrouded in secrecy, it was doubtful whether satisfactory investigations could be carried out. Mr. Hadano, who had been conspicuous for objecting to the proposed despatch, but whose objections had been overruled on a previous occasion, promptly seized the opportunity to make himself unpleasant. He asked, in an excited tone, why, if the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce did not fully approve the project of despatching experts, as could be now inferred from his speech, he had previously approved the repre-

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sentation of Messrs Makino, Wada, Hasegawa, and Noro, and allowed it to be submitted for deliberation by the Committee. Thereupon a somewhat hot discussion took place between several members, but it was at last decided to appoint a special committee of three to ascertain the views really entertained by the Authorities as to the despatch of experts to China, after which the project, together with this special Committee's report, should be again brought forward for discussion. Our Tokyo contemporary adds that, judging from the general trend of public opinion, there is little chance of the project being carried out, for the present at all events.

TONGKING COAL.

ONCE more we hear of the Tongking Coal mines which, always on the verge of success, never seem to succeed. The following item, however, translated by the Hongkong *Daily Press* from the *Courrier d'Haiphong* indicates a decidedly improving prospect:—"The Société Française des Charbonnages du Tonkin, whose success we recently chronicled in connection with the manufacture of briquettes, which have been tried by all the great steamship companies at Hongkong, by the French Navy, by the Messageries Maritimes, by the Phu-lang-Thuong Railway, and proclaimed everywhere and by everybody to be of the best quality, has succeeded in placing its product in America. An order has lately been received for 2 500 tons of coal from one of the largest San Francisco houses. This first shipment is intended for trial on the railways of the United States. No doubt the trials will be crowned with success, and we will then have an immense opening secured for our coal industry, a greater demand than our mines can meet. The Tongking flotilla never went better than when burning Tonking coal. At the moment of going to press we learn that the Société Française des Charbonnages du Tonkin, in consequence of satisfactory trials made at the Ateliers Maritimes, has been given an order for the supply of 12,000 tons of briquettes for the Navy."

THE YACHT "VALKYRIE."

SOME anxiety had been expressed in New York about the *Valkyrie*, and a telegram in the *Call* dated Sept. 17th stated that she had been out 25 days and had neither been seen or heard of. Among the passengers on the Anchor liner *Furnessia*, which arrived at New York shortly after midnight, were George L. Watson, designer of the *Valkyrie*, and M. Ratsey, the famous sailmaker. Watson expressed no surprise on being told that the *Valkyrie* had not only not arrived, but that she had not been sighted by any incoming vessels. The only comment he would vouchsafe was:—"The *Valkyrie's* all right, and she'll be here in good time. There's no reason for being alarmed because she's been out twenty-five days, for that's a good deal better time than the *Thistle* made.' A New York despatch dated the 18th, however, contained the following:—"In all probability before sunset to-morrow, if the weather remains favourable, the *Valkyrie* will glide past the Hook. She was sighted this afternoon by the National liner *Spain* bowling along under a fresh south wind at a clipping pace."

JEWS AT THE WORLD'S FAIR.

A LARGE audience of representative Jews gathered in Columbus Hall at the Art Palace to assist in the programme of the Jewish Denominational Congress, the first of a series of religious congresses to be held under the auspices of the World's Congress Auxiliary. Rabbi Joseph Silverman, of New York, read a paper on the "Popular Errors about the Jews." He said:—There is scarcely any truth save the false, or any right but the wrong. One of the keenest evils to befall a man or a people is to be misunderstood. To be robbed of our own indentity, one's own words misquoted, was to suffer all the pangs of mortification. Those were not the greatest martyrs who died for any cause, but those who had lived and struggled against misrepresentation. The vilest vices and crimes have been credited to the Jews, while by a few they have at the same time been accredited with the highest virtues. The Shakespeare story of Shylock was untrue in every detail. The Jew in all history had never been known to exact his pound of flesh, and yet the entire world had accepted this Shakespearean idea as a true portrayal, and had applauded the abortion of character rather than that portrayed in "Nathan the Wise." All sorts of stories have been told about the Jews and the general public has accepted an erroneous idea of them. Speaking of the Jews as a particular race was an error. The Hebrew race from which they descended had been impregnated with the people of every race and every clime, until now they had no country, no flag, and nothing but their religion left. The land of their nativity or their adoption was their country. Its laws they obeyed, its government they loved, and its judicial decisions they observed, and they pledged their lives and honour to do so. If there was a remnant of exclusiveness in the Jew of to-day was he to blame? He did not create it. The isolation from without had now come to seem the law of their being. Fraternity was desired by the Jews, but they would not accept it as a matter of patronage, but only on the ground of equality. The ostracism of the Jews had not been on account of any fault, but from false logic, which imputed the sins of a few to the many, and gave no credit at all to virtues like those of Montefiore or Baron Hirsch. He predicted that the Jew would be able, in spite of all this, to live down all misrepresentation, but said they would never abandon their religion.

YOKOHAMA CITY ASSEMBLY AND THE WATER-WORKS.

OUR readers may remember the resolution of the late Yokohama City Assembly to raise, for the purpose of extending the Water-works, a municipal loan of 1,800,000 *yen*, of which 1,100,000 *yen* should be applied for discharging the debt which the City already owes to the Government on account of the Works, and the remaining 700,000 should be used to extend the Works. It was further resolved to apply to the Government for an annual subsidy of 90,000 *yen* during ten years, calculated from the time when the work of extension was completed. An application in the above sense was forwarded to the Departments of Home Affairs and Finance some time ago. The matter has been considered by the Cabinet and its decision was conveyed to the Assembly, through the Governor of Kanagawa, on the 27th instant. Apparently some alterations in the application are required, and an extraordinary general meeting has been held for the purpose of introducing and passing them.

TROUBLE CONNECTED WITH THE OSAKA WATER WORKS.

THE trouble connected with the Osaka Water Works is far from being ended. The complication between the Water Works Committee and the Yokohama Firm, which even led to the resignation of the whole Committee, has now been succeeded by complications with the Osaka Arsenal. According to an account in the *Jiji Shimpo*, it seems that the Arsenal, having been entrusted with the casting of iron pipes of from 5 to 6 inches diameter, to the extent of some 6,000 tons, has proposed to the Committee that the length of each pipe should be changed from the original dimension, 12 inches, to 9 inches. Hence the new dispute. The Committee replied that they would acquiesce in the proposed change provided that the Arsenal agreed to bear the loss of about 10,000 *yen* which the City would incur in consequence of the increased expense of joints and iron plates; otherwise they declared that it would be necessary to obtain the iron pipes from abroad. The Arsenal folks would not consent to anything of the kind. They contended that having originally agreed to undertake the execution of the City's commission under circumstances of difficulty and on conditions not at all favourable to the manufacturer, they could not agree to be now subjected to a fine, neither did they admit any responsibility for the delay that had occurred in carrying out the work. If, however, the Committee persisted in having the alleged loss compensated by the Arsenal, the latter would simply be compelled to stop casting the pipes and decline the business altogether. Correspondences between the two has been voluminous, but it is not yet known how the affair has ended, or whether it has ended at all.

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The original contract, accordingly to the *Jiji Shimpo*, shows that the Municipal Council asked the Arsenal people to cast the pipes to the amount of 20,000 tons. The Arsenal Authorities, having no experience of this kind of work, made trial castings at a cost of some 1,400 *yen*, which money came out of the funds allotted for the construction of the Water Works. In the sequel of the trials, the Arsenal agreed to undertake the manufacture of cast-iron pipes of the various dimensions required, excepting, however, pipes 3 inches in diameter. But when the actual task was commenced, it was found to be far more difficult than had been anticipated, and the consequence was that the Committee thought it necessary to send abroad for 5,315 tons of pipes out of a total of 20,000 tons. Despite this lightening of the Arsenal's work, however, it is now feared that unless further recourse be had to foreign manufactures the progress of the Water Works will be seriously impeded.

SILVER IN THE SENATE.

PRIVATE advices received by wire from America indicate a deadlock in silver legislation. There have been long discussions in the Senate, but no prospects are yet discernible of an issue being reached such as could be accepted by both sides. The silver men have shown themselves willing to agree to a compromise, but it appears to be of such a nature that the party in favour of repealing the Sherman Act can not accept it, or at least have no authority to accept it. Thus the question is now in a state of chaos, the outcome of which no one undertakes to forecast. It is weary work. All that trade wants is some certainty, and not to be perpetually faced by the possibility of fluctuations such as sweep away all reasonable margins of profit and loss, and reduce business operations to mere gambling. But American legislators seem determined to prolong the uncertainty.

THE FIRST LINK OF THE PACIFIC CABLE.

THE following item is from a Sydney paper.—"The Hon. J. Kidd (Postmaster-General) and Mr. P. B. Walker (Secretary of Telegraphs) will leave Sydney for Brisbane, and there join the vessel *Francis Arago* to witness the laying of the new cable from Bundaberg to Gomen, Noumea. This cable will be the first link in the Pacific cable to Vancouver's Island, and will cover between 800 and 900 miles. The route will be via Samoa, Fiji, and Honolulu. The *Francis Arago* will go to Brisbane, and will proceed with the laying of the cable as soon as she has completed her coaling. The operations will take some six or seven days in event of good weather, and the vessel is expected back in about a fortnight. Mr. Walker will be on board as the representative of two Governments, viz., the Governments of New South Wales and Queensland, and will superintend the operations. The Postmaster-General will accompany the party to make himself acquainted with the route and witness the laying of the cable."

YOKOHAMA HARBOUR WORKS.

THE *Kokkai* states that a certain political party has at last decided to place upon its programme a question to the Government with respect to the Yokohama Harbour Works affair, in the coming session of the Diet. The question is believed to be connected with the following four points:—Purchase of land, purchase of the steam-dredger *Ayame*, alteration of official documents with respect to the purchase of cement, and the flying of a counterfeit foreign flag. The *Kokkai* says that the public are not yet acquainted with a strange transaction attending the acquisition of lots of land. Only a few persons are aware that certain speculators conjointly

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purchased, previous to the inauguration of the Harbour Works, lots lying on the sea-shore of Yokohama, and, by selling them subsequently to the Harbour Works Office, obtained an unreasonable profit of more than 30 000 *yen*. The Harbour Works Authorities declare that the *Ayame* was purchased from England at a cost of about 80,000 *yen*; but the political party in question do not believe it. They believe, on the contrary, that in reality an old useless ship must have been bought very cheaply somewhere about Hongkong and brought to Yokohama flying a counterfeit foreign flag. With reference to the purchase of cement, the party are said to have discovered some new facts which go to prove that alterations of official documents were effected in the interests of the sellers and purchasers. On this latter point, however, the imperfect information of our Tokyo contemporary leaves us in the dark. The sum of what we can gather is that excitement will be stirred up in the coming session with respect to this affair. It is to be hoped, however, that the political party entertaining this silly project will abandon it while there is yet time. The mare's nest about the steam dredger is veritable nonsense, as anyone will find who attempts to raise the question. As for the purchase of lots on the sea-shore with the intention of selling them to the Harbour Works Office, we express no opinion, being without information, but unless the story has a more solid basis than that upon which the other canard stands, it will soon fall to the ground.

MR. MURATA TAMOTSU AND THE STUDENTS OF THE SUISAN DENSHU JO.

THE students of the Suisan Denshujo (marine products training school) are said to have recently adopted a singular resolution in opposition to their principal Mr Murata Tamotsu, a prominent member of the House of Peers The document containing the resolution states that, although the students are for several reasons dissatisfied with Mr. Murata's conduct, they will not resort to violence, being unwilling to act like *Soshi*, but that they will never do anything for his sake. By way of illustrating the last point, they refer to the exper ments they occasionally conduct off the coast of Boshu and state that on such occasions, should Mr. Murata s ip into the sea and be in danger of drowning, they would not come to his aid. The principal grounds of their complaint against their Principal are said to be five, namely, first, that Mr. Murata used some of the students as his body-guards during the last session of the Diet; secondly, that he dismissed Mr. Takenaka, the *Kanji* of the school, who was very popular with the students; thirdly, that while, on the one hand, exhorting the students to practise economy, he has, on the other, compelled them go to the expense of buying uniforms; fourthly, that the food supplied to the students is extremely coarse, undue attempts being made to save money for the principal at the expense of the students' stomachs; and fifthly, that on several occasions Mr. Murata caused valuable fish to be taken to his house from the nursery ponds at Fukagawa belong ng to the school.

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This story is worth relating for the sake of its extreme comicality. It is difficult to conceive anything more si ly and senseless than the action of these students. Their threat that they would not save their Principal's life were he in danger of drowning is exquisite. A whipping and to be put to bed seems the best remedy for such impertinent petulance.

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND THE COMMON SCHOOL EDUCATION FUND

AN educational bill is now generally believed to be before Cabinet, the purport of which is to obtain from the Treasury an appropriation of between 600,000 and 700,000 *yen*, to supplement the common school funds in villages inhabited by poor folks. The present Minister for Education, says the *Mainichi Shimbun*, at first intended to ask for about two million *yen* from the Treasury, his idea being to pay the salaries of head teachers, in other words, directors, of common school out of the central Government's funds. Seeing, however, that the Cabinet was not favourably disposed to sanction the outlay of such a big sum and that the attitude of the Radical Party was even less sympathetic, Mr. Inouye changed his policy, and reduced his demand to a third of that total. It is of course too early to predict the fate of the bill, but the programme of the Minister does not appear to be much applauded according to educationalists out of office. These critics urge that such a procedure is diametrically opposed to that followed in England and other Western countries, and evil consequences rather than good might be expected to ensue. For, if common schools in villages inhabited by poor people are to be subsidized, it naturally follows that schools in rich villages should be excluded from enjoying any help. But if such partial patronage be bestowed, the people, far from exerting themselves for the improvement of their schools, as they are doing at present, will, on the contrary, divest themselves of all zeal and eschew all liberality, endeavouring, rather to make their schools appear as poor as possible, so as to qualify them for obtaining Government aid. Moreover, it would be no easy matter to determine which school should receive aid and which should not. In a word difficulties would be sure to arise among the village communities. The probability is that even if the bill should be submitted to the Diet, it will not receive sanction. Such are the views expressed by critics hostile to the Minister. But it is to be remembered, on the other hand, that both Houses of the Diet last session endorsed a petition for the granting of aid by the Treasury to common schools, and there is no reason to suppose that the Diet will revoke its resolution. The only point demanding careful consideration is the method of distributing the aid.

THE BEE AND THE BUTTERFLY.

THE above peculiar title is applied by the vernacular press to a battle now in progress between the owners of two trade-marks of which the one is a bee and the other butterfly. There is in this country a kind of sweet wine called *Kozan Budoshu*, which enjoys considerable favour with the public. Recently, a similar kind of wine begun to be made and sold, its maker affixing a label with a butterfly, whereas the Kozan wine is designated by a trade-mark of a "bee," which has been duly registered. The new wine maker applied for registration of his mark, a "butterfly," but the Patents Bureau rejected the application on the ground that a "butterfly" mark may be easily mistaken for the already registered mark of "bee." The applicant appears to be of a very stubborn character, for instead of submitting to the refusal of the Patents Bureau, he applied twice, and at last appealed against the decision of the judges of the Bureau. The contention of the applicant is said to be that, there being besides the figure of butterfly, a spray of rose blossoms and also four representations of coins, there is no likelihood of the mark being mistaken for that of the Kozan wine. The Judges reply that though they admit the rose spray and the representations of coins to be distinguishing points still there is, first of all, a great resemblance between the two insects, and moreover, as there are other minor points of resemblance, they cannot permit the registration of the mark. Great curiosity is felt about the issue of this affair.

THE GREAT JAPAN UNION.

WE have already stated that the members of the Great Japan Union intend to introduce at the very commencement of the coming session of the Diet a motion for the passage of an Address to the Throne dwelling upon the inadvisability of opening the country for Mixed Residence. They count upon the support of the National Unionists, the Oriental Radicals, the members of the Shiba Shukaijo, neutrals, and about half of the members of the *Domei* Club But these sections combined do not constitute a majority in the House of Representatives, and their only hope for the success of their plan lies in obtaining some converts among the members of the Radical Party. Several Radicals, notably Messrs. Yamada Taizo, Noguchi Katsuichi, Chiba Teitaro, formerly avowed opponents of Mixed Residence, were compelled by the decision of their Party to vote for the Treaty Revision Address introduced in the last session of the Diet. The promoters of the anti-Mixed Residence movement seem to cherish a hope that, by causing the constituencies to bring pressure upon these Radicals, the latter may be induced to sacrifice party considerations for the sake of their seats and original convictions,. The number of these equivocal Radicals is put at nearly twenty. The members of the Great Japan Union will, it is stated, use particular efforts in their proposed lecture tours to rouse the sympathy of the constituencies of the above Radical members. Should the opponents of Mixed Residence succeed in passing their contemplated Address, they will at once proceed to introduce a Bill for putting a stop to the illegal possession of real property by foreigners.

A MYSTERY AT SEA.

IT has long been regarded as an inexplicable mystery that a luminous object, known as *shiranui-bi* (literally meaning "unknowable fire") is occasionally seen at night, especially in cloudy weather, on the sea in Tsukushi Bay. The superstitious ascribe this unusual phenomenon to the spirits of those lost at sea. But, according to the vernacular press, the mystery is to be solved ere long. Professor Nakayama Hisatomo, of the Kumamoto Higher Middle School, who is now investigating the thing, is of opinion that phosphorus may possibly be the cause of this luminosity, which may be emitted from animalculæ in the water. He has secured some water from the place where the supposed fire makes its appearance and examined it with a microscope, with the result that he found a number of animalculæ in it. It needs, however, a more complete examination before finally coming to a determination on the subject, and with this end in view he is stated to be now pursuing his researches. It may be added that Mr. Kimotsuki, of the Navy, who made an investigation of sea currents some time ago, reported that the *Kuro-shiwo*, or the Black Current, which flows from the neighbourhood of the Philippine Archipelago to the Southern coast of Japan, is the warmest ocean stream in the world, and consequently it may contain minute animal life giving off phosphoresence.

NATIONAL BANKS.

THE economic conditions subsequent to the expiration of the charter terms of the national banks of Japan are discussed by the *Jiji Shimpo*. The national banks now existing in the various parts of the country will in a few years reach the time fixed for winding up their affairs in accordance with the provisions of the Bank Regulations. But since for more than 10 years they have served as media for facilitating the circulation of money, the effect of their closing must be severely felt in the world of business, though, of course they are not to be closed suddenly or unexpectedly as in the ordinary case of bankruptcy. The years in which the different national banks are to be closed are as follow, together with the total amounts of their capital :—

Years of Expiration of Terms.	No of Banks.	Total Capital. yen.
1896	5	4,550,000
1897	17	22,276,100
1898	55	11,985 000
1899	57	9.535.000
	137	48,346,100

The withdrawal, even though temporarily, of such a large sum as some 50 million *yen* from circulation within the short space of four years is not unlikely to disturb the money market very seriously, and may even cause a panic. Some persons allege that were the national banks converted into private banks, everything would go smoothly. But the *Jiji* observes that a private bank and a national bank differ radically, so that even though the national banks were con-

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verted into private ones, the accounts of the former would have to be entirely settled at the expiration of their terms. The closing of so much as one bank is perceptibly felt in the money market. What then would be the probable effect of so many banks being closed at the same time? In many places the only banking facilities that exist are furnished by the national banks. An example of the inconvenience that such places would feel in consequence of the closing of the medium of money circulation has already been furnished by Nemuro, when it was proposed, some years ago, to shut up the branch office of the Mitsui Bank, the only establishment of the kind in that town. At any rate, more or less panic is sure to follow at the expiration of the terms, unless some counteracting precautions be speedily adopted. The *Jiji* has nothing to suggest on this point, but only says that the Authorities are in duty bound to contrive some measures likely to ward off the disasters now apprehended.

THE PROFESSIONAL BEAUTIES OF JAPAN

MERE physical beauty has never been regarded by the Japanese as the sole criterion; fascinating manners, a ready but modest wit, and a gift for writing poetry and understanding poetical allusions weigh heavily in the balance, and some of their famous so-called "beauties" owe their reputations as such more to fascination of manner and a witty tongue than to physical charms. Really beautiful women are not common in any country, but Japan has her fair share of them, though the ordinary traveller has not many opportunities of meeting them. The beautiful women of the aristocracy, with two or three notable exceptions, are not often seen by any one save a few intimate Japanese friends. If they are Court Ladies, very occasionally some high Court ceremony may bring them into slightly more general view. This is because there are no social functions at which women of this class are present at the same time as the men of the family. Exceptionally beautiful women in the lower walks of life who are not married to merchants or men of similar standing, whose wives are almost as seldom seen by the general public as the arisrocracy, become first-class *geisha*, or 'professional beauties.'—HELEN GREGORY-FLESHER, in the October *Californian*.

THE REV. MR. TAMURA.

As expected, the case of Mr. Tamura, who is now unenviably notorious as the author of the "Japanese Bride," came before the local synod of the Church of Christ in Japan which was held at the Shiba Church, Tokyo, from the 3rd to the 7th instant inclusive. The Revs. Ibuka Kajinosuke, Wada Hidetoyo, Yamamoto Hideakira, Kumano Yushichi, and T. M. MacNair were elected a Committee to investigate the matter. This was on the 3rd instant. On the following day the Committee reported in the sense that the Rev. Mr. Tamura had been guilty of conduct unbecoming his position as Christian Minister. A case was at once instituted before the synod, with the Revs. Ibuka, Yamamoto, and Kumano as prosecutors. After hearing the two sides of the case, the President, the Rev. Togawa, pronounced judgment at the meeting of the 7th instant, reprimanding Mr. Tamura for having falsely slandered his countrymen and ordering him to publish in Japanese and foreign newspapers an advertisement retracting the opinions and correcting the facts stated in his book. Mr. Tamura gave notice that he was dissatisfied with this verdict, and that he should appeal to the general conference which is to be held in July next.

A PHENOMENAL INFANT.

SOME extraordinary cases of simplicity occasionally come before London magistrates. A woman was recently charged at one of the London police-courts with stealing a child fifteen months old. The husband of the accused, a youth of nineteen, was called as a witness, and said that when he went home on the day in question he found his wife in bed. She told him that she had been confined, and that the baby was a boy. He was rather surprised, he said, but he believed it. She sent him for a feeding-bottle and some wine. The magistrate asked him when he disabused himself of the idea that the child was his. He replied, "When I saw its teeth." A roar of laughter went up at his naive remark, at which the witness seemed much surprised. He said he counted at least eight teeth, and finding that the baby could both walk and talk he began to think something was wrong, so he communicated with his relatives, apparently with the intention of ascertaining whether this was usual in a new-born child. The woman accused of the offence was remanded, being seemingly out of her mind.

HOW LONG WILL JAPANESE COAL LAST?

ACCORDING to the calculations of a correspondent of the *Hochi Shimbun*, Japanese coal will become exhausted in 25 years and 10 months, that is to say in October of the 45th year of *Meiji*. The method by which this correspondent has arrived at such a disheartening and remarkably accurate conclusion is as follows:—In the first place he gives the satistical returns of the yearly yield of coal from 1882 to 1891, by which he gets 1,7453,390 tons as the average annual yield. He then calculates the proportional annual increase of yield, the average of which he takes as 13 per cent. With these data he estimates that in 1901 the yield will be 10,310,278 tons, and in 1911, 303,347,350 tons. Proceeding in that way, he arrives at the conclusion that the total yield for 25 years to come, computed from current year, will be 515,552,326 tons. Now the latest figures given by the Noshomusho fix the capacity of the Japanese coal mines roughly at 759,720,000 tons, and the proportion available for practical purposes being, according to the experience of England, three-quarters of the total capacity, it follows that the actual amount of coal which the mines will yield for use is 369,790,000 tons. If from that amount be deducted the aggregate annual minings in 25 years, reckoned from 1891, there remain only 54,237,674 tons. In other words, in January of 1916 there will remain to Japan a supply of coal only sufficient for ten months.

JAPANESE SILK AT THE WORLD'S FAIR.

THE World's Fair correspondent of the *American Silk Journal* makes the following reference to the Japanese exhibit and judges:—"The Japanese Exhibit gave the judges no end of work, the individual exhibits being so very numerous. The system of silk manufacture pursued by the Japanese is peculiar. A large number of petty weavers scattered about over a considerable area all produce for one contractor, who is a sort of "chief factor," receiving and disposing of the goods. These contractors have entered their various products in the names of the several weavers, although the former are to profit by the awards. A great many of the individual exhibits were practically alike, and, taken altogether, the judges found them a hard nut to crack, which would have been well nigh uncrackable were it not for the marvellous knowledge and intelligence displayed by the two Japanese judges, whose services have prove invaluable. The judges of silk and goods are but four in number: Henri L. Gargan, of Spielmann & Co., New York; Thomas M. Ryle, of the Pioneer Silk Company, Paterson; Samro Takaka, of R. Arai the raw silk importing house, New York, and Tademaso Hayashi, of Paris. These four were intrusted with the examination of all silk exhibits, from all countries, and they completed their labours on the 12th inst. The American judges speak in the highest terms of their Japanese associates, whom they found to be cultured gentlemen with a marvellous knowledge of silk and its manipulation, and speaking English "like natives."

MR. HOSHI V. THE "KAISHIN SHIMBUN."

THE third hearing of the libel case instituted by Mr Hoshi Toru against the *Kaishin Shimbun* took place in the Tokyo Local Court on the 9th instant. As on previous occasions, the Court was filled to overflowing. Mr. Horiye Shoichi, a representative of the Takata Exchange in the Prefecture of Nara, was the first witness examined, being interrogated by the Presiding Judge Suyehiro, and afterwards by the counsel for the defendants. The principal facts elicited from him were that the total amount of money spent by him during his stay in Tokyo since March last had been five or six hundred *yen*; that the representatives of the various projected Exchanges had formed a League in Tokyo for the purpose of securing the passage of the Exchange Bill through the Houses of the Diet in the last session; that the League had acted in concert with the representatives of the existing Exchanges; that Messrs. Oye, Yonekura, Isono, Tamate, Yoshida, Matsuo, Nakata, and Yamashima had been appointed by the League and the existing Exchanges as a Committee for taking steps to secure the passage of the Bill through the Diet; that the course adopted by the Committee for attaining its object had been to interview the members of the Diet without distinction of party or faction; that in the course of these interviews the Committee had had occasion to see Mr. Hoshi Toru; that in view of the inconvenience they had caused him by seeking a meeting with him at a season when he was particularly busy, the members of the Committee had invited him to lunch at the Tokiwaya; and that the witness knew nothing about the alleged corruption of Hoshi or of any body else.

* * *

The next witness was Mr. Oye Taku, President of the Tokyo Stock Exchange. The principal points spoken to by him were that the four existing Exchanges of Tokyo and Osaka had contributed 2,800 *yen* each to defray the expenses of the above mentioned Committee; that the other exchanges had subscribed in all about 5,000 to 6,000 *yen*; that these sums had been expended chiefly upon meetings at the various tea houses and for other current outlays incidental to the movements of the Committee; that the witness had entertained Count Goto and Mr. Saito Shuichiro at the Hisagoya on the 13th of November last; that he had several times met Mr. Saito to exchange views on some business questions; that Mr. Hoshi had no relations whatever with any of the Exchanges until recently when he was made legal adviser to the Osaka Rice Exchange; that Mr. Saito, though at first inclined to favour the organization of Exchanges on the basis of partnership, had subsequently changed his opinion and advocated the system of shares; that the witness had not gone about visiting the members of the Diet; and that he had sent letters to only about a hundred of them.

* * *

After the mid-day recess the proceedings were resumed at 1 30 p.m. Mr Hasegawa Senzo, a Manager of the Third National Bank, was then examined. He stated, among other things, that the bank represented by him had made an advance of 4,000 *yen* to Messrs. Oye, Yoshida, Isono, Tamate, and Yonekura on the 3rd March last; that the money had been paid back in two instalments in the course of the same month; and that his bank had never made them an advance of 22,000 *yen* as alleged by the defendants.

* * *

Mr. Okada Hiroshi then entered the box, in the capacity of representative of the Tsuruga Exchange. He testified that the meeting at the Tokiwaya, in June last, at which Mr. Hoshi had been present, had not been connected with the Exchange question; that, there being at that time a conference in the Noshomusho of delegates from the Chambers of Commerce, it had been thought desirable to invite the delegates together with the principal members of the Diet of all parties to exchange views on general industrial subjects; but that on further reflection it had been considered better to invite the members of the different parties separately, beginning with the Radicals, and that the meeting in question had been attended by Messrs. Hoshi Toru, Kono Hironaka, Yamada Taizo, Eguchi Sansei, Shioda Okuzo, and Ishizuka Juhei of the Radical Party. In reply to a question repeatedly addressed him by the Presiding Judge about the reason of Mr. Saito's presence at these meetings, the witness

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did not give any satisfactory answer, the explanations offered by him being that Mr. Saito was on intimate terms with him and others and so forth. He strongly denied, however, that the Vice-Minister of Agriculture and Commerce had anything to do with the Committee of the Exchanges. As to the entertainment given by Mr. Hoshi to Messrs. Tamate and Isono in June last; Mr. Okabe stated that he had been present on the occasion, having been requested by Mr. Hoshi to assist him in courtesies to the guests. Mr. Hoshi had invited these persons, said Mr. Okabe, by way of return for the hospitality shown by them to him in Osaka.

* * *

Two other witnesses were examined, namely Mr. Yonekura Ippei, Chief Manager of the Tokyo Rice Exchange, and Mr. Koike Saichiro, a presentative of the Tsuruga Exchange There was nothing remarkable in their statements. The latter witness declared himself a half brother of Mr. Saito, Vice-Minister of Agriculture and Commerce. Neither of these witnesses could offer any satisfactory explanation for the repeated meetings between Mr. Saito and the persons connected with the Exchanges, nor did they appear to think that any explanation was needed. The Court rose at 8 p m. At the next sitting, which was fixed for the 16th instant, Mr. Saito Shuichiro and several other officials will be called as witnesses in the case.

KOREAN NEWS

Sôul correspondence published in various metropolitan papers states that a convenient handle has been given to the Russian Government for pushing forward its long anticipated policy of interference in the internal affairs of the Korean Kingdom. The story runs as follows:—The Russian Government has been encouraging the emigration of Koreans into its own territories, and the number of Koreans who have crossed the frontier is said to have reached more than 10,000. The Korean Government does not of course like the exodus of its people, and is reported to have instructed the local officials of the districts lying on the borders of Russia to take stringent measures for preventing the emigration of the inhabitants across the frontiers. But the vigilance of these officials has not evidently succeeded in putting a stop to the exodus: it is said to be going on as briskly as ever. About a month and a half ago, some ten of the Korean emigrants revisited their native land, and coming under the notice of the exasperated officials were instantly condemned to death. One of them, however, succeeded in escaping from that dreadful punishment, and crossing over the frontier, laid the matter before the local Russian officials. The consequence was that the Russian Minister at Sôul received instructions from home to protest against the cruelties perpetrated upon the unfortunate Koreans. The story ends there, and nothing is stated as to the upshot of the affair. We deem the account very apocrophal.

* * *

Riots are said to have taken place in the Kôkai-do and the Chusei-do. These disturbances do not seem to be in any way connected with the *Togaku-to* malcontents.

* * *

The Korean Government is said to have created a Central Telegraph and Post Office by advice of Mr. Greathouse who has been appointed chief of the foreign department. Cho Heishoku is nominally Post-Master General, the internal department being under L. Yôshoku, a Councillor in the Home Office. The *Jiyu Shimbun's* correspondent doubts whether the Korean Government is really in earnest about establishing a postal and telegraph system. The *Fiji Shimpo's* correspondent mentions a rumour said to be prevailing among the Koreans, to the effect that the new Office will serve simply to secure for Mr. Greathouse the renewal of his contract which expires very soon.

* * *

Mr. Otori, Japanese Minister to Korea, arrived at Ninsen on the 25th ultimo and entered Sôul on the 27th. He was received at Kyu-san on the Han river by Mr. Sugimura, Japanese Consul General, Commander Niino, I.J.N., Captain Watanabe, I.J.A., and the principal Japanese residents of Sôul.

* * *

The Japanese residents of Sôul are reported to have established a fencing school in the settlement with Mr. Suzuki Togaku as instructor. They are said to feel the insecurity of their position, and to have under contemplation the formation of a military guild for the defence of their settlement in time of emergency.

* * *

Mr. Omiwa Chobei presented his resignation on the 19th ultimo, but, as the document contained some criminating references to his colleagues, none of his superiors has consented to deliver it to the King. He was reported to be resolved to leave the document in the hands of Mr. Bok Teiyo, Minister of Finance, and sail for his native country by the *Kisogawa Maru* which was to leave Ninsen by the 8th or 9th instant.

LOSS OF THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT IN CONSEQUENCE OF THE FALL OF SILVER.

THE *Nippon* attempts to calculate how far the Japanese Government will lose in its estimates for the current year, in consequence of the recent depreciation of silver. Our contemporary confines itself to such simple items in the Budget as expenses for the construction of war vessels, redemption of foreign loans, expenses for arms and ammunition both in the Navy and Army, and outlay involved in the construction of railways. In the first place, the sum of 4,921,437 *yen* appropriated for the construction of war vessels was estimated with exchange at 6.892 *yen* per English pound. But exchange being at present 8.24 *yen*, the sterling price of the war-vessels becomes equivalent to 5,884,015.904 *yen*. In other words, the loss incurred in the construction of war-vessels alone, owing to the depreciation of silver, amounts, according to the *Nippon*, to 962,578.902 *yen*. Again, the sum of 1,442 036.571 *yen* for the redemption of foreign loans having been estimated at the rate of 4.886 *yen* Japanese currency per English pound, the loss on this item reaches 989,884.069 *yen*, if calculated on the present exchange of 8.24 *yen*. The aggregate of the two, 1,952,462.971 *yen*, represents the net loss which the Government incurs in consequence of the fall of silver, both foreign loans and the expense of ship construction having to be paid in gold. The total appropriated in the Budget for the purchase of arms, ammunition, construction of forts, torpedoes, construction and repairs of ships, purchase of rails, &c., amounts to 6,098,546.123 *yen*. It is not very clear to outsiders, says our contemporary, what portion of that sum is to go abroad, and what portion is to be spent in the country. For convenience sake the *Nippon* arbitrarily assumes that one half of the sum must be paid in gold. On that hypothesis, and taking the difference between last year's exchange and this year's at 7.34 *yen* per pound sterling, it results that a loss of 683,144 96 *yen* is entailed on this account. In short, the depreciation of silver has resulted in a loss of no less than *yen* 2,635,607.931 to the Japanese Government on the above few items. How far must this be argumented, asks the *Nippon*, if to it the expenses for legations, consulates, and other items be added. The calculations seem to us (*Japan Mail*) somewhat exaggerated, but there can be no doubt that the pecuniary transactions of silver-using States, equally with those of individuals, are exposed to most embarrassing disturbances by these violent exchange fluctuations.

KOBE LOTTERY CASE.

THE Kobe Local Court is now engaged, according to the vernacular press, in inquiring into a case of considerable interest, not so much on account of its intrinsic importance, as because of the number of persons involved in it. It would appear that Mr. Oshima, a mercer of Motomachi, Kobe, thought himself very clever when he devised a means of disposing of his goods by selling them in lots of varying size and value at a uniform price of one *yen*. It resulted that while one purchaser obtained stuff to the value of, say, 50 *sen* for his one *yen* ticket, a lucky investor might receive a packet worth 100 *yen*. Oshima's shop was crowded by a multitude eager to buy one *yen* tickets. The matter, however, reached the ears of a Public Procurator of the Kobe Local Court, who, after special inquiries into this new manner of doing business, concluded that the ingenious haberdasher was openly violating the law. Mr. Oshima was subjected to a preliminary examination at the Court, and has now been committed for trial. Here occurred a curious and far-reaching question. If the seller of lottery tickets be liable to punishment, the purchaser is not less so; for it is provided in the Criminal Code and by Ordinance No. 25, issued in May 1882, that any one purchasing a lottery ticket shall be liable, whether he has paid the price or not, to major confinement for not less than 20 days and not more than 4 months, together with a fine of not less than 5 *yen* and not more than 50 *yen*. It may be imagined that the Public Procurator would have difficulty in determining the names of purchasers of a mercer's tickets, but in truth the thing is easy, for a special book is kept at the shop in which the names of the ticket-purchasers are all distinctly entered. From this book it is found that the number of purchasers aggregated a little less than 3,000, including the wives and daughters of Kobe local officials and others prominent personages. About 30 to 40 of the ticket-purchasers are now being summoned every day to the Court, to be examined, but it is computed that if all the unfortunate folks involved in the affair be treated according to the strict letter of the law, their preliminary examination will not be concluded before end of the year. The procedure of the clever mercer, it will be observed, was exactly identical with that contemplated by the well-meaning but ill-guided persons who proposed to get rid of the articles remaining unsold after the Industrial Exhibition of 1890 by inviting the public to buy tickets at 1 *yen* each with the chance of winning an article worth many hundreds of *yen*. Every respectable Japanese subject ought surely to know by his time that such transactions are unlawful. On the other hand, if this Kobe affair be pushed, its victims may complain that Japanese justice is not even handed, for every month tickets of the Manila lottery are openly advertised for sale at the treaty ports, and many of them are doubtless purchased by Japanese subjects. Foreigners have not acquired by treaty any right to openly violate the laws of Japan. Above all, they have not acquired any right to defy those laws for the sake of carrying on practices counted immoral and demoralizing in civilized countries. It does not redound to the credit of the Japanese Authorities that they tamely suffer this constant breach of the empire's laws.

DISCONTENT OF JUDGES LATELY PLACED ON THE RETIRED LIST.

THE Department of Justice is steadily pursuing its policy of removing judges or procurators whom it deems incompetent for the discharge of their functions, regardless, apparently, of the complaints uttered by some barristers against such a step, and not much concerned whether the judges or procurators advised to send in their resignation, follow or reject the kind counsel. Scarcely a day passes without an announcement in the *Official Gazette* that one or more judicial officials have been allowed to retire. Quite lately we observed the name of Mr. Ikegami, Chief Judge of the Tottori Local Court, included in the category of such officials. One is naturally curious to learn whether the judges thus pushed off the bench deem themselves under obligation to submit, or whether they think that they have a right to rebel. Some, at all events, take the latter view, for example, the former Chief Judge of Ise, whose stubborn opposition to the advice of the Chief Judge of the Nagoya Court of Appeal that he should forward his resignation was noted at the time in these columns, but who was subsequently placed on the retired list for all his vehement remonstrances. We read in the vernacular press

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that he is highly indignant with the Department for the treatment to which he and his colleagues have been subjected, and that he intends to place the matter before Counts Ito and Yamagata. Failing a satisfactory explanation from those high personages, he will appeal to the Diet by a petition carrying the signatures of all the malcontents of his class, for he considers that the procedure of the Department of Justice in compelling judges to resign is entirely unconstitutional.

SUMMONS OF CHIEF TAX COLLECTORS TO TOKYO.

THE chief tax-collectors of the various localities have now arrived in Tokyo in obedience to a summons from Minister of State for Finance. It is customary every year to hold a meeting of principal tax-collectors at the Treasury, in order to give instructions as to the discharge of their functions, and also to hear what they have to say on the subject or on any change which the Department contemplates introducing. The points submitted to them for deliberation this year are said to be certain amendments in the manner of collecting direct and indirect taxes; questions about the period of collecting taxes, and a scheme for amalgamating the direct and indirect tax-collecting stations. H.E. Mr. Watanabe, Minister of Finance, delivered an address to the assembled collectors on the 6th instant embodying the ideas which the Department entertains on those points. He referred first of all to the imperfect working of the present machinery for collecting taxes, and dwelt upon the fact that many persons are enabled to evade the payment of their full tax. Chief among such persons are *saké* brewers, not brewers on a small scale, but those who brew 1,000 *koku* or thereabouts. The Minister thinks that the total sum of which the brewers throughout the country manage to elude payment must be very considerable. To provide against such unlawful practices, he can conceive no more efficient mode than to make the regulations for tax collecting more stringent than they are at present. With regard to the seasons of collecting taxes, it is proposed to change the method of collecting thrice a year to twice only, namely, in the months of February and August. The object aimed at by this change is to afford convenience to tax payers and at the same time to economize the expense involved in collecting taxes. As to the amalgamation of district tax-collecting stations, the idea of the Finance Department is that whereas hitherto one station has almost universally existed for one district, hereafter one station may without inconvenience be made to serve for two districts under ordinary circumstances. The meeting was regularly opened on the 6th instant, and is expected to continue for about 10 days. Unlike the practice hitherto observed at meetings of the kind, the assembly this year is said to have been held with closed doors. We take these particulars from the *Jiji Shimpo*.

THE NEW ORIENTAL BANK, LIMITED (IN LIQ.) V. A. M. APCAR.

THIS case came up for hearing in the Tokyo Court of Appeal on Tuesday morning, before Judge Nishikawa and four Associate Judges, on appeal from the Yokohama Chiho Saibansho, Messrs. Masujima and Kishi representing the plaintiffs, and Mr. Sawada the defendant. It will no doubt be remembered that on the 15th March last judgment was delivered in favour of the plaintiffs for the full amount claimed. On the 20th April the defendant appealed from the judgment rendered by the Court below, and it was decided yesterday, after hearing the arguments of Counsel, that the decision of the Court below was bad in law and contrary to the provisions of the Law of Civil Procedure, the judgment rendered by it consequently being set aside and a rehearing ordered. The claim now amounts to $10,185 including interest.

QUANTITY OF RICE IMPORTED INTO TOKYO FOR ONE YEAR.

THE total number of bales of rice, writes the *Nichi Nichi*, that passed into Tokyo from various parts of the country, during the year ending on the 30th of September last, was 3,291,309, showing an increase of 1,253,508 bales as compared with the preceding year. At the same time, a marked change occurred in the proportions of rice coming from the various districts. During the previous year the greater part came from places adjacent to Tokyo, from provinces lying along the Tokaido, and from Echigo, Echizen, and Echiu. But during the year under consideration, the import of the staple from those regions was reduced to less than one half that of the preceding year, while on the other hand the north-eastern portion of the main island and the western provinces contributed a quantity eight times as large as that sent by them the year before. The causes underlying this remarkable phenomenon are doubtless varied, but chief among them must be differences in the yield of those districts last year and facilities of transport newly furnished to remote districts in the north-eastern part of the island hitherto practically beyond the reach of the Tokyo market.

A BANKRUPT SILK FIRM.

THE names of Fred. W. Alcock and C. E. Medling were presented to and considered by Chancellor McGill on the 7th inst., says an American Paper, for appointment as receivers for the Butler Silk M'f'g Company, and the latter, of whom the failed company was a troublesome rival, was appointed and is now in charge of the business. The nominal assets are $20,000; the liabilities are some $60,000 and include the following claims:—Jardine, Matheson & Co., silk, $2,882.03; William Ryle & Co., silk, $5,835 36; W. Macfarlane & Co., silk, $2,020 31; R. Arai, silk, $5,629 12; Hadden & Co., silk, $4,101.10, E. Zellweger & Co., silk, $5,573.69; Russell Murray, silk, $2,368.53; Weidmann Silk Dyeing Co., dyeing, $2,090.16; John C. Ryle & Co., throwing, $3,500; J. C. Todd, loan, $5,000; J. H. Brauvelt, loan, $3,500; Madaline A. Roe, chattel mortgage, $10,000; total, $52,500 00. The company was organized in 1889 with a capital of $25,000, and was composed of R. V. Butler, a very young man, who possessed a slight knowledge of the business but lacked ability and experience; Abram Fardon, a silk enthusiast, formerly paying teller of the First National Bank, now in jail on a charge of embezzling the funds of the bank, and James H. Huntoon, who, also, knew nothing of silk. It is from such material that failures may be expected.

THE "DENBIGHSHIRE."

As the Osaka Shosen Kaisha steamer *Yoshinogawa Maru* was coming into harbour at 1 o'clock this morning, says the *Kobe Chronicle* of the 11th, she ran into the steamer *Denbighshire*, lying off the Railway Pier, striking her amidships just abaft the main bridge on the starboard side by the engineer's room, and tearing a large hole. Immediately the foreign steamer began to fill, and before anything could done be the after part of the steamer settled down in about four fathoms of water. The bow is being kept above water by her water tight bulk-heads, and this has resulted in keeping the engine-room dry, but the saloon is flooded and towards the stern the water stands a foot and a half above the deck. Pumps and divers are already hard at work to raise her, in accomplishing which it is believed there will not be any great difficulty. The steamer has still about a thousand tons of cargo undischarged, consisting of hardware and piece goods. The Osaka Shosen Kaisha steamer appears to have sustained little damage, as after landing her passengers at Kobe she at once proceeded to Osaka.

* * *

Efforts at raising the sunken steamer *Denbighshire*, says the *Kobe Chronicle* of Thurday, were commenced at a very early hour yesterday morning, and continued during the day with considerable success. The Osaka Shosen Kaisha sent their own divers to the scene of the wreck, and by the evening the hole in the side of the ship was patched up and pumps had been fixed by Mr. R. M. Thomson, of the Kobe Engine Works. During the night these were kept at work, and by daylight this morning good progress had been made, the decks and saloon being above water. If everything goes well and no accident delays the work, it is expected that the steamer will be pretty well cleared of water in the course of the day.

* * *

Messrs. Dodwell, Carlill & Co., the agents of the "Shire" line of steamers, informed us last night "that they had just received a wire from Kobe stating that the *Denbighshire* had been floated and that the damaged cargo is being discharged."

* * *

It was reported last night, says the *Hyogo News* of Thursday, that Captain Miyagi, of the *Yoshinogawa Maru*, had committed suicide. He reached Osaka in good time yesterday, berthed his ship safely, put all papers and accounts in order, and went home. One report was to the effect that he had committed self-destruction by *harakiri*, because he belonged to a caste which would regard him as a disgraced man. A second account stated simply that he had shot himself. How far there is any truth in either assertion, we cannot say. At the moment of going to press there is no means of confirming or of contradicting them.

* * *

The operations for raising the *Denbighshire* went on yesterday, says the *Kobe Chronicle* of Friday, without a hitch. By daylight the decks were above water, and early in the afternoon the ship's pumps were got to work and the vessel was pumped dry. Great credit is due to Mr. R. M. Thomson, of the Kobe Engine Works, who assisted by the ship's engineers' has managed to put the steamer afloat again in a very short time—as a matter of fact we understand that almost the whole of the appliances brought into use for raising the vessel were from the Kobe Engine Works, the larger pumps obtained from the Government Dockyard being unworkable. Credit is also due to the Osaka Shosen Kaisha for the promptitude with which divers were set to work on the damaged steamer. We understanding that there has been no attempt whatever on the part of the Japanese company to deny responsibility, and everything has been done by prompt assistance and efficient help to minimise the damage as much as possible. A story has been published to the effect that the *Yoshinogawa* made no attempt to stand by the *Denbighshire* after the accident. This is denied, and it is stated that boats were at once lowered and assistance offered, but no one on board the Japanese vessel could speak English and possibly some misunderstanding may have occurred. When assistance came from other vessels near at hand the *Yoshinogawa* proceeded to her anchorage, landed her passengers and mails, and then her captain at the earliest possible moment went on board the foreign steamer. The rumour as to the suicide of the Japanese captain is equally groundless. This rumour was in circulation on Wednesday night, but there being not the slightest confirmation obtainable we did not refer to it in yesterday's issue. As the rumour was, however, published by another journal, we may state that in answer to an inquiry our Osaka correspondent telegraphs that the rumour is totally unfounded. As a matter of fact, the captain did go to Osaka with his steamer, as stated, but came back to Kobe immediately by train, remaining here all day Wednesday and returning to Osaka in the evening. The circumstantial story of what the captain did after taking the steamer to Osaka is therefore an invention. The *Osaka Asahi Shimbun* states that the Osaka Shosen Kaisha are entering into negotiations with the owners to purchase the *Denbighshire*, hoping thus to settle any claims which may be brought against the company.

ANOTHER COMPLAINT AGAINST THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.

COMPLAINTS against the policy of the educational authorities continue to be formulated. Another difficulty is likely to occur, according

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to the *Fiji Shimpo*, between the Department and the Local Assemblies with reference to the former's recently issued regulations about inspection of local educational affairs. The Department, in view of retrenching its expenditure, decided to abolish the office of central school inspectors, and to transfer the business hitherto undertaken by them to councillors of the Department, on the one hand, and to the directors of local normal schools, on the other. The directors are, it is true, officials of the Educational Department, their salaries being paid out of the Central Treasury. But the direct consequence of this revised policy of the Department is to entail on the localities whatever outlay is required by the directors of normal schools in discharging their new function of inspection. Whether the Local Assemblies will endorse this policy of the Department and consent to defray the inspection expenses out of the local revenues is a question concerning which troubles are pretty sure to arise. Already, indeed, difficulties have been raised in the Tokyo Assembly. The Governor recently consulted the Standing Committee about defraying the cost of inspection out of the reserve, but the Committee unanimously opposed the idea. They contended that if, because the salaries of normal school directors are defrayed out of the Central Government's Treasury, the Department of Education is to go on adding to the business of directors, as it has done in the present case, they could not undertake to bear the expense, however small, involved in the discharge of these new functions. Moreover, not a word being inserted in the Amended Regulations as to the expenditure required in carring out their provisions, there is no knowing by what method or to what extent the cost is to be defrayed. What steps the Governor of Tokyo has taken in consequence of this decision of the Standing Committee is not yet known, but it is expected that the example of the Tokyo folks will be followed by most of the other local assemblies, and that much difficulty will arise between the local assemblies and the Educational Department.

PRIVATE INSTRUCTIONS OF THE FOREIGN OFFICE WITH RESPECT TO EMIGRATION.

THE Japanese Government has taken what appears to us a prudent step with reference to the emigration of Japanese labourers. It has issued, according to the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, private instructions to Governors of the three municipalities and the five open ports that proper measures be enforced to prevent labourers from going abroad without due precautions being taken for their protection. Reference is specially made to Guatemala, from which some tempting offers are now said to be made to Japanese labourers, and also to North or South America and to the South Sea Islands. In fact about 75 Japanese labourers are now in Guatemala through the persuasion of a Mr. Fergusson, an American who is said to be commissioned by the Government of Guatemala with respect to the immigration of foreign labourers. This Mr. Fergusson went over to Hawaii, where, with the cōoperation of a certain Japanese and one or two Americans, he succeeded in inducing a number of Japanese to emigrate to Central America. The condition of these labourers in their new home, judging, from the report of some Japanese now in Hawaii, is anything but satisfactory. In fact very distressing accounts are given of the treatment they receive Guatemala having no treaty with Japan, it is not easy to enter into any negotiation with it, even though a necessity arose for so doing, as appears to be only too likely if reliance can be placed upon the rumours circulated about the treatment of Japanese immigrants there.

CAPTAIN INGLES, R.N.

ON Wednesday evening the members of the Tokyo Club entertained Captain Ingles, R.N., Naval Adviser to the Japanese Government, at a farewell dinner in the Rokumeikan. The health of the distinguished officer was proposed by H.B.M.'s Chargé d'Affaires, Mr. de Bunsen, in a short but happy speech, and was drunk with enthusiasm. Captain Ingles responded briefly with much feeling. The health of Mrs. and the Misses Ingles, proposed by Captain Brinkley, elicited strong evidence of the popularity enjoyed by Captain Ingles' family during their residence in Tokyo, and was drunk with many hearty wishes for their happiness. Captain and Mrs Ingles and their family leave Tokyo by the 8 55 a.m. train on Friday

A NEW YOKOHAMA FIRM!

WE find the following advertisement in a Chicago paper :—

SCHLESINGER AND MAYER,
YOKOHAMA AND CHICAGO.

A JAPANESE TRADING COMPANY CAME TO GRIEF.

We through our Yokohama house, were right on the spot, and paid cash for 10,000 Japanese Mats, Rugs, and Carpets. We paid about one-half the Japan price. The advantage of having an orgnization in Yokohama was never more strikingly illustrated than in this gigantic deal Through this gigantic deal you can buy to-day, September 11th,

10,000 JAPANESE MATS, RUGS, CARPETS,

At really half the Japanese prices. The designs of the Mats, Rugs and Carpets have never come to America before. They are fac-similes of Kazak, Kurdistan, Daghistan and Shirvan Oriental Rugs, and the prices are beggarly prices, and will surely cause the greatest Rug furore of the World's Fair year. The designs are a revelation. The prices are a revelation. The enormous stock in itself is a revelation

JAPANESE SILKMEN IN NEW YORK.

AMONG the Japanese who have visited New York during the month, says an American exchange were Shotaro Hagimoto, chairman of the Sakai Chamber of Commerce of Japan and Councillor to the Japanese Commissioner for the Columbian Exposition; Hichibei Katsuno, director of the Shinsho-sha Raw Silk Manufactory and delegate from the Gifu Province of Japan to the World's Fair; and K. Yuzawa, who was at one time connected with the Yokohama house of E T. Mason & Co. All came here direct from the World's Fair, and were guests at the Hotel Lincoln.

THE "CONCORD."

THE United States gunboat *Concord* left Singapore on the 25th ult., for the Japan station, proceeding via Bangkok. She is commanded by Captain C. F. Goodrich, and is a vessel of 1,700 tons, and carries six guns. She left South America on July 3rd, bound for China, calling at Gibraltar, Malta, Suez, and Perim. The following is a list of her officers:—Commander.—Goodrich. Lieutenants.—Sherriam, Hogg, Cottman, Leiper, Johnston, Twining. Chief Engineer.—Scott. Second Engineer.—Norton. Third Engineer. Patton. Doctor.—McClurg. Paymaster.—Smith.

GAME LICENCES.

IN accordance with the Game Law promulgated on the 5th of October, 1892, hunting licenses will be issued by the Kencho on and after the 11th of this month. As long as the present Game Law remains in force, these licenses will be issued every year on the day above mentioned, or the following should it be a holiday. From this year licenses of the 1st and the 2nd grade, into which hunting licenses are divided, may be obtained; the former, for catching game by means of nets, hawks, lime-ropes, or lime-twigs, and the latter for shooting.

A NEW FORAGE PLANT.

IT is stated that a new forage plant, *Polygonium Saghaliæ*, is being tried at Alliers, France. It requires little care, grows to a height of six feet in three or four weeks, and its large leaves are readily eaten by cattle. A second growth quickly follows the first cutting. A single plant covers more than a square yard, and yields over 80 pounds of leaves. The plant is a native of the island of Saghalien.

JAPANESE HANDKERCHIEFS.

THE Chicago correspondent of the *American Silk Journal* says:—"Handkerchiefs promise well. Notwithstanding that prices are higher, Japanese embroidered goods will monopolize a large slice of the Fall trade; a great many self colours, with embroidery of the same shade, are shown."

IMPERIAL AUDIENCE.

MR KIM, the Korean *Chargé d'Affaires*, and Captain John Ingles, late foreign adviser in the Naval Department, were admitted to an audience by the Emperor and Empress on the 10th inst. Mrs. Ingles was received in audience by the Empress the same day.

* * *

Baron d'Anethan, the new Belgian Minister, was received in audience by the Emperor on the 11th inst. at 10 a.m. The Minister and Baroness d'Anethan were afterward received by the Empress.

DECORATIONS.

WE read in the *Official Gazette* that Messrs. Hayashi, Vice-Minister; Kurino, Chief Commissioner of the Political Bureau, Inouye Katsunosuke, a Secretary, and Itsutsuji Nagaoki, an employé in the Foreign Office; Nakada Keigi and Go Keita, Private Secretaries to the Foreign Minister, and Sannomiya Yoshitane, Vice Grand Master of Ceremonies, have been permitted by the Decoration Board to accept decorations conferred on them by the French Government.

OFFICIAL APPOINTMENTS.

MR. KOMATSU JUTARO, Chief Commissione for the Translation Bureau in the Foreign Department, is gazetted to be a Councillor of Legation, while Mr. Inouye Katsunosuke, a Councillor in the Foreign Department, has been appointed a Secretary of Legation. Mr. Sekiguchi Yu, a Secretary in Foreign Office, has been promoted to the rank of Consul.

THE "CHISHIMA" CASE.

THE appeal from the decision of Mr. Mowat at Yokohama, to the effect that the P. & O. Company could not counterclaim against the Emperor of Japan in connection with the action arising out of the collision between the *Chishima Kan* and the *Ravenna* in the Inland Sea, comes on for argument to-morrow morning, says the *N.C. Daily News* of the 9th inst., in the Supreme Court here, before Mr. Hannen and Mr. Jamieson.

H.I.H. PRINCE ARISUGAWA TAKEHITO.

IT is gazetted that H.I.H. Prince Arisugawa Takehito, Commander of the *Chiyoda Kan*, be appointed Chief of the Ship's Company Division attached to the Yokosuka Admiralty Station, his position being taken by Captain Omoto, of the *Takao Kan*. Many other changes have been made in the Navy.

SNOW IN HOKKAIDO.

A CORRESPONDENT, writing from Muroran on the 6th inst., says:—"There is every appearance of an early and severe winter in Hokkaido this season. Snow has already fallen on the mountains in the vicinity of Volcano Bay. This is some three or four weeks earlier than last year."

THE DIET.

IT is now definitely settled that the Diet will meet on the 25th of November, the day regarded as the regular time of its opening. There were many rumours that the time would be anticipated this year, but they are now proved to be groundless.

MR OMIWA CHOBEI.

A TELEGRAM from Nagasaki published in the *Asashi Shimbun*, states that Mr. Omiwa, ex-Japanese Adviser to the Korean Mint, arrived there on the 10th inst. from Fusan. He at once left for Osaka viâ Fukuoka.

BIG FIRE AT OTARU.

THE *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* has a telegram from Otaru stating that a fire broke out in a house at Irouchicho on the 8th inst, about 3 a.m., destroying over eighty houses.

DEATH OF THE SON OF MR. NARAHARA.

THE same paper has a Kagoshima telegram stating that Mr. Narahara Takekuma, son of the Governor of Okinawa, died on the 9th inst.

MR. KOMURA JUTARO.

MR. KOMURA JUTARO, Chief Commissioner of the Translation Bureau in the Foreign Office, who was gazetted to be a Councillor of Legation, has been ordered to China.

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GAME AND GAME LAWS.

WE observe that some strong comments are finding their way into print with reference to the killing of game out of season in Japan. That is a point on which we have ourselves written from time to time, our object being to call the attention of the Authorities to the comparative uselessness of enforcing a close season against killers of game unless it be enforced at the same time against sellers of game. Of course, were there a possibility of so strictly applying the regulations governing the shooting or capture of game as to effectually restrain all unseasonable operations of that kind, then no occasion would exist for supervising the dealings of poulterers. But obviously there is no such possibility. The Government cannot for a moment contemplate incurring the great outlay of supporting a host of game-keepers to control killers of game from end to end of the empire. One plain method of control, a method making small demand on official labour, is to watch the markets and see that no game is exposed for sale out of season. To inflict pains and penalties on every person pursuing game out of season and at the same time to allow anyone and everyone to sell game out of season, is as though a government should interdict the brewing of beer and yet permit publicans to serve beer freely to their customers. Presumably the purpose of the Authorities in enacting the Game Regulations which evoked so much comment last year, is to preserve the head of game in the country against extermination. To effect that, the Regulations should have contained a provision against offering game for sale out of season. It was a great oversight that they did not include such a provision, and in its absence, we presume that the Authorities have no competence to interfere between a seller of game and his customers. But apart from the evident imperfection of Regulations that lack an interdiction of the kind, attention should be paid to the manifest injustice of fining unseasonable pursuers of game and paying no attention to the results of its unseasonable pursuit. No person so fined can fail to feel that he has been hardly dealt with, and that the laws punishing him are not worthy of being enforced. We venture once more to invite the attention of Japanese legislators to this unsatisfactory state of affairs. On the other hand, it seems well to remind the foreign public that the mere fact of game being exposed for sale before October 15th does not necessarily convict somebody of having violated the Game Regulations. The date fixed by the Regulations as generally applicable for the commencement of the season is October 15th, but discretionary power is reserved to each Governor of a Prefecture to advance that date to September 15th or retard it to December 15th, according to the nature of the locality and the condition of the game. Pheasants offered for sale in Yokohama, for example, at the end of September or in the beginning of October, were not necessarily taken out of season: they may have come from a locality where special licence was granted to pursuers of game. But while noting this exception, we repeat our conviction that the present defect in the law ought to be remedied as soon as possible.

MIXED RESIDENCE OR INTERNATIONAL DISGRACE.

IT is unfortunately too often characteristic of popular agitation relating to Treaty Revision in Japan, that the agitators neglect the ordinary precaution of studying the facts of their subject. Many of the opinions gravely advanced about changes in the Tariff, the practical effects of extraterritorial jurisdiction, and so forth, betray ignorance which, though not, perhaps, inexplicable in view of the difficulties besetting such problems, fatally discredits the agitators in the eyes of all well-informed persons. Never has there been so flagrant an example of this carelessness as in the case of the present movement against Mixed Residence. Mr. OI KENTARO and the prominent politicians working with him as propagandists of his mediæval creed, politicians numbering men of light and learning like Messrs. O-OKA IKUZO and SASA TOMOFUSA, have at least the responsibility of not fixing upon this Empire flagrant international disgrace. They may induce their countrymen to humiliate themselves by a display of pusillanimity wholly without precedent in the history of peoples aspiring to independence. They may betray the Japanese into the miserable poltroonery of bowing their heads before all the nations of the West, and confessing that racial inferiority, defective moral endowments, and inexperience of men and things forbid them to venture into the open arena of international competition, and condemn them to hide away in a distant corner of the world until their stunted capacities are sufficiently developed to endure the full light of civilized day. Mr. OI KENTARO and his fellow-agitators, may, we say, fix that indelible shame on their country. The Japanese are at liberty to form and declare whatever estimate they please of themselves. If they wish to be placed below the level of free civilized intercourse, no one can gainsay their fancy. It is their own affair, and the world will make no difficulty about rating them just as low as they desire to be rated. But the world will add an even more disagreeable supplement to this wretched showing if, by any evil chance, Japan should be betrayed into adopting the programme of the new conservatives. For in that event she would be guilty of deliberately violating engagements to which she is solemnly pledged in the sight of all men. We do not speak of engagements made by her twenty-five or thirty years ago. It has been pleaded on her behalf with considerable justice that when Foreign Powers approached her with proposals of commercial intercourse in the days of the Bakufu Government, her ignorance of external affairs left her no resource but to entrust the drafting of her first treaties to persons who took little thought for her real interests and less for her national dignity. The plea does not always command as much consideration as Japan claims for it, but even these most disposed to deny its force can not pretend to think that Japan, with her present experience, would for one moment entertain the notion of concluding conventions such as she accepted thirty-six years ago. No independent nation possessing even a modicum of experience would bind itself by such covenants. It is, therefore, frankly conceded that the strongest form of rebellion on Japan's part against some of the stipulations of her original treaties can not be held to discredit her international trustworthiness. But we do not allude to those stipulations when we say that she would be guilty of the grossest breach of faith towards the nations of Europe and America did she now adopt the anti-Mixed-Residence programme of the "Japan Union." We allude to a treaty concluded by her four years ago; a treaty concluded long after the nation had fully awoke to all the inconveniences of its former conventions; a treaty concluded nineteen years after the necessity of revising those conventions had been recognised by all her statesmen, and nine years after it had become a burning topic of public discussion; a treaty concluded by one of the greatest of her statesmen at the very moment when his energies were devoted to the task of Revision; a treaty concluded with the avowed object of settling and announcing an irrevocable and permanent policy of State; and finally, a treaty received by the nation with acclaim, never discredited by any hostile criticism, and welcomed as the first international compact by which Japan's true place among the nations of the world was recognised. We speak of the Treaty between Japan and Mexico, signed at Washington on the 30th of November 1888, and ratified by the Emperor of JAPAN, in Tokyo, on the 17th of July, 1889. The fourth article of that Treaty says:—

> ART. IV. His Majesty the Emperor of Japan, in consideration of the several stipulations contained in the Treaty, hereby grants to Mexican citizens resorting to Japan, apart from and in addition to the privileges extended to such citizens by the last preceding Article of this Treaty, the privilege of coming, remaining, and residing in all parts of His Territories and Possessions, of there hiring and occupying houses and warehouses, of there trading, by wholesale and retail, in all kinds of products, manufactures, and merchandise of lawful commerce, and finally, of there engaging and pursuing all other lawful occupations.

This article grants to Mexican citizens

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the privilege of Mixed Residence in its fullest sense, and that privilege Mexican citizens now possess. Moreover, any Western State which has a treaty with Japan is entitled to acquire the same privilege by accepting the conditions that attach to its enjoyment in Mexico's case. For Japan's treaty with each Western Power contains a most-favoured-nation clause, guaranteeing to that Power free and equal participation in all privileges and advantages granted by Japan to any other Power. We are not here contending for any partial interpretation of the most-favoured-nation clause. Some have advanced the monstrous dogma that the intention of the clause is to secure the unconditional extension to all the Treaty Powers of every privilege and advantage that may be granted to any one of them conditionally There never was a more untenable claim. By no possible subterfuge can the words "equal participation" be interpreted as signifying that what one Power purchases at a certain price must be given to all other Power gratis. We advocate no such injustice, but merely adopt the plain reading of the clause, the reading insisted on by Japan herself, namely, that every privilege or advantage conceded by her to one of the Treaty States is obtainable by any other on equal terms. The terms in Mexico'a case are very simple: they are, that all Mexican citizens, as well as Mexican vessels, resorting to Japan or to her territorial waters, shall, so long as they remain there, be subject to the laws of Japan and to the jurisdiction of Japanese Courts, and that Japanese subjects resorting to Mexico shall enjoy the same privileges as those granted to Mexican citizens in Japan. Submission to Japanese jurisdiction and reciprocal treatment, that is the whole price of the privileges secured by Mexico, and it is beyond all question that any of the Treaty Powers has a distinct right to claim the same privilege on payment of the same price. Japan cannot deny that right. She has admitted it explicitly in all her treaties with Foreign Powers; she has again and again of late years declared her readiness to interpret her treaties in that sense, and she has given practical evidence of her sense of obligation by inserting in the Mexican Treaty a most-favoured-nation clause on the lines here indicated. It follows, therefore—and the chain of reasoning will support any strain of criticism—that to attempt to withhold from foreigners the privilege of Mixed Residence would be to deliberately violate her solemn engagements and declare herself henceforth unworthy of international trust. Mr. OI KENTARO and his colleagues have entered the field too late. The situation is entirely beyond their control. Japan has already done, and done irrevocably, what they urge her now to refrain from doing. She has already granted Mixed Residence to Mexican citizens, and she has bound herself by treaty to grant it to any other nation that is willing to pay the same price for it. The new Conservatives loudly insist that all foreigners resorting to Japan must be subject to Japanese laws and Japanese jurisdiction, and that Foreign states must place Japan in every respect on a footing of strict reciprocity. But Mexico, by accepting those conditions, has secured the privilege of Mixed Residence, and Japan, by her own act, is now under compulsion to extend the same privilege to any State that accepts the same conditions. The members of the Great Japan Union seem to be ignorant of all this. They seem to have no manner of suspicion that their agitation and excitement can effect nothing more than the closing of the stable door after the steed has flown. Japan has definitely and irrevocably pledged herself to concede Mixed Residence to the subjects or citizens of any State submitting to her jurisdiction and treating her reciprocally. It is a mere waste of breath to talk of withholding that privilege now. What Mr. OI KENTARO and his followers would have their countrymen do is, first, to avow themselves so inferior to Western nations as to be obliged to shrink from association with the latter, thus subscribing to the most cowardly and spiritless creed ever embraced by any free people; and secondly, to openly violate their solemn international engagements and forswear themselves in the face of the world. These are the men that a section of the Japanese public is inclined to follow and applaud. We, who claim to be among the country's most sincere friends, desire to warn her earnestly against the disgrace and disaster of accepting such guidance.

REMUNERATION OF JAPANESE ARTISTS.

IF nature has been liberal in endowing the Japanese with exceptional versatility and dexterity, fate seems to be correspondingly unkind in barring their path to competence and ease. Even in feudal days, when patronage was often so munificent, merit, whether literary or artistic, earned poor reward. Romance writers of rare ability, as KYODEN and BAKIN, received remuneration amounting to only 6 or 7 *ryo* a month, and, a painter of such calibre as HOKUSAI led from first to last a hand-to-mouth existence. Nor can it be said that things have materially improved now. Japanese authors and artists are still unable to attain any of the rewards that come to shrewd merchants, manufacturers, or agriculturists. The highest monthly emoluments earned by writers of fiction, according to the *Jiji Shimpo's* estimate, are 100 *yen*, and there are not more than two or three fortunate enough to reap such a harvest. It has to be noted, too, that no one mounts thus high on the ladder of opulence until the prime of life has been passed; until long years of hardship and indigence have been patiently endured. In the next rank to these rare kings of their craft come writers still in their prime who are earning a monthly pittance of from 50 to 70 *yen*. They number in all barely four or five. As for persons who devote themselves to ephemeral literature, their case is even worse The highest honorarium received by a contributor of serials to a newspaper or periodical is 3 *yen* for one day's portion in a daily paper, and 5 to 9 *yen* for the portion published in one issue of a periodical. But that rate of pay is earned by only one writer, who enjoys the reputation of being the CHIKAMATSU of the day—Mr. FUKUCHI GENICHIRO. The range of inferior positions is almost endless, going down as low as 20 to 30 *sen* a chapter, the stipend which an obscure writer for a local newspaper receives. Things are even worse with Japanese painters than with literateurs. Most persons are competent to form a tolerably accurate estimate of the pains that have to be endured and the difficulties that have to be surmounted before a painter can achieve a picture fit to be submitted for public inspection. Several of the Japanese painters have even studied abroad for six or seven years. There are in Tokyo three or four artists in oils of such calibre that they could make their mark even in direct competition with foreign painters, but so little does the public appreciate their efforts that they are barely able to earn enough to keep body and soul together. Indeed, in this respect, they fare worse than the youngest writers of romance. Many people no doubt remember a picture that attracted much attention in the Fine Arts Section of the Industrial Exhibition of 1890. The subject was Kwannon, the Goddess of Mercy, standing on the head of a dragon. Of course the picture was open to criticism, but in many respects it betrayed great power of brush, skill in colouring, and strength of conception. The painter had devoted a long time to working out the design, had been several months completing the picture, and had incurred no small expense on account of materials. Yet he never received an offer for his *chef-d'œuvre*, and finally, bitterly disappointed, he presented it to a temple in the suburbs of Tokyo, where it now probably hangs side by side with daubs dashed off by uneducated artists in a few hours, if not minutes. Other pictures of not less merit have equally failed to find purchasers, or, if sold, have brought little to the pocket of the painter, the major part of the price going into the purses of middle-men.

Reviewing these and other incidents, the *Jiji Shimpo* concludes that although the condition of the literary class has improved somewhat in comparison with feudal times, painters are no better off than they ever were. For our own part we believe that they never were in more evil plight. Years must pass before painters

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in oils develop sufficient skill to find a market abroad, and they cannot hope to find a market at home until the conditions of Japanese life are radically changed, for the Japanese picture, the scroll, is perfectly suited to the style of building inhabited by the people, whereas the oil painting is entirely incongruous with the interior decoration and furniture of Japanese residences. As for painters of the old schools, many of them certainly show great merit, but the people seem to attach value entirely to the masterpieces of bygone eras, and to be persuaded that the modern artist produces nothing worth having. With experts in other branches of art, however, a more promising state of affairs begins to present itself. Some of the best carvers and lacquer-workers are finding in art schools, or under the patronage of the Imperial Museum, positions that carry emoluments far greater than anything offering even in pre-*Meiji* days, and the foreign market also gives opportunities that seem almost limitless if they be exploited with any degree of ability and enterprise. After all, however, one of the strongest points of the Japanese artist is his willingness to work for remuneration that would be utterly despised by Europeans or Americans of corresponding skill. So soon as he begins to insist upon higher rates of reward, the conditions of competition will become much less favourable for him.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom]

MESSRS. M. LEVY & CO.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—We find that, in your issue of this day under the heading "Notes from Japanese Papers," you print a paragraph from the *Asahi Shimbun* stating that "Messrs. Levy & Co., No. 64, Kobe, were boycotted by Japanese merchants," etc., etc., and we beg to inform you that as far as our firm is concerned there is no truth in the matter whatever. On the contrary, we are on the best terms with the Japanese merchants both at Kobe and Yokohama. Please give publicity to this and oblige.

Dear Sir, yours truly,

P pro. M. LEVY & CO.
GEO. D. CLARKE (Kobe Manager).

No 63, Concession, Kobe; No. 76, Concession, Yokohama, October 6th, 1893.

JAPANESE BIRDS.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—As one who takes a great interest in Japanese Birds of all varieties, I should be exceedingly obliged if any of your readers would inform me, through the medium of your columns, if the bird called "Yatsugashira" is now extinct or not in Japan. In English, this bird is called the "Hoopoo" (*Upupa epops*).

Thanking you, in anticipation, for inserting this letter, I am, Sir, yours truly,

NATURAL HISTORY.

October 6th, 1893.

MESSRS. SAMUEL SAMUEL & CO

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir, -With reference to the article in your issue of this morning on the boycott declared against us by a Guild of Japanese Merchants, will you kindly allow us to state that we did reply immediately to the letters sent us and most emphatically declined to tolerate any interference of the Yokohama Dealers with our business in a discussion which did not in the remotest degree concern them.

The whole thing is too childish and absurd to merit serious attention, and any action that the self constituted tribunal may take is a matter of complete indifference to us.

We remain, Sir, yours faithfully,

SAMUEL SAMUEL & Co.

Yokohama, October 6th, 1893.

THE NIPPON RACE CLUB.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—In your issue of Saturday there was a paragraph headed "Training Notes," by "Skylark." A casual reader might imagine that the weights in Members' Races for China ponies at the coming meeting of the N.R.C. were heavier than customary. Such is not the case; they are the same as they were in the Spring of 1889, possibly before, I have no record prior to that.

The only change that has been made is that jockeys that have never won a race in China or Japan get 10lb., instead of 7lb., allowance; this change was made last Spring as an encouragement to members to go in for race riding. When a writer takes upon himself the task of criticising the actions of others, it is generally supposed that the statements made are correct.

"Skylark" says "a 13-hand pony according to the scale, carries 10st. 3lb. If the pony should win a race there is a further impost of 7lb which brings the weight up to handicap limit."

It would be interesting to know how the winner of Race 2, first day (provided a 13-hand pony) is compelled to carry 11st. 10lb. in Race 6, same day.

There are five Members' Races, of which only two carry a 7lb. penalty.

"Skylark" puts the weight for a 13-hand pony in Members' Races at 11st. 3lb., such is not compulsory; an owner who thinks the weight too great can reduce it 10lb. by giving the mount to a jockey who has never won a race.

As regards the riding allowance of 5lb. to members, perhaps "Skylark" thinks the Committee ought to turn out ready made jockeys, as a butcher does sausages. He suggest, the Committee consult the riding members. Surely if they consult anybody it ought to be the owners.

In the *Mail* of the 17th April last, it was stated that owing to the falling off in the number of ponies, &c., a crop of barley would yet be seen waving over the race course. There are more ponies in training now than there have been for many years, and the barley has not yet sprouted.

I am, Sir, your faithfully,

WORTHINGTON.

Yokohama, October 9th, 1893

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—As one of the leading lights of the Nippon Race Club has rushed into print in criticism of the remarks by "Skylark" in your Saturday's issue, perhaps an outside opinion may be of interest. I quite agree with "Skylark" in deprecating the addition of 10lb. in the Members' Races. It is of course very laudable to encourage more members to ride in the races, but it is surely not necessary to compel all the old riders to carry 10lb. additional weight in five races in order to give an advantage to a few new hands who in all probability have themselves to put up a lot of dead-weight in order to pull the weight prescribed in the China pony scale. It would not be necessary for the Committee to *consult* the riders, but merely to *consider* them, and I think that it would probably be found that all of the new riders easily go to scale at 10lb. under the weight for the average China pony, and that it is not necessary to add the 10lb. all round. If the Committee think this impracticable, though there is little doubt about it, why not make members who have won races carry 5lb. over the scale, and new riders 5lb. under the scale? The ponies have to carry very heavy weights in any case, especially on such a hilly course, and it is a pity to make them carry more than necessary.

Yours faithfully, I.H.N.

October 10th, 1883.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—I have read with interest the Training Notes published in your issue of Saturday over the signature "Skylark," as well as Mr. Worthington's letter which appeared in your yesterday's paper.

As an outsider, who is simply interested in seeing racing fairly and squarely conducted, I cannot but remark that I consider "Skylark" to be quite right in saying that a winner has, in the members' races, to carry handicap weight.

Take for instance the new China subscription pony No 4, which stands 13.3. He will have to carry weight as per scale 156lb. with 10lb. added to for members race, 166lb.

Fortunately, in this particular case, the rider not having had a winning mount, gets 10lb. allowance. But being a good pony, he is expected to win the first race in his class, say either the 2nd or the 6th race on the first day. If that happens, he will have to carry the following weight in the 7th race on the second day, viz:—

Weight as per scale	156lb.
Added to for members' race	10lb.
Added to for one win	10lb.
Total.....	176lb.

It would be interesting to know whether this is not a handicap top-weight?

In conclusion, I would say that Mr. Worthington, though always disposed to be fair, has not experience enough to make out a good programme.

Thanking you for the insertion of the above,

I remain, yours truly, N.

October 10th, 1893.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—At the end of some notes on the training for the Autumn Meeting of the Nippon Race Club over the signature of "Skylark," I ventured a few remarks in reference to the "10lb. added" in the five races for members on the first two days. In writing what appeared in regard to this subject, I reflected the frequently expressed opinions of the majority of foreign riders at present in the Club. In an irrelevant communication a few days later, Mr. Worthington objects, but what has been written and said since shows that my idea has a considerable amount of support. Naturally, I do not wish to place my own opinion on this matter in the forefront, though I may, perhaps, and I say this with all modesty, be permitted to claim a small title to a hearing on the subject of weights, having won more than a hundred races. But I repeat that a large majority of foreign riders desire a reduction of weight in these races, now the necessity for the impost no longer exists on account of the number of light weights to be found among the riding members. Of course I did not anticipate that my contribution to your columns would have attracted the criticism of so distinguished a member of the Yokohama turf as Mr. Worthington, as, had I done so, I should certainly have preferred to have contained myself in my little shell, as I am decidedly averse to coming into conflict with the opinions of my superiors in racing knowledge.

Yours, &c., SKYLARK.

October 11th, 1893.

STEEL MAKING IN JAPAN.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—There are sundry Japanese proverbs to the effect that "The lighthouse keeper sees the least of the light;"—"Under the candlestick is the darkest place in the room;" &c., &c. Probably there is some analogous reason for the fact that paragraphs such as the following appear with tantalizing iteration in the home papers, while out here we hear comparatively little of the subject, except in the form of vague rumours:—

PROPOSED STEEL FOUNDRY IN JAPAN.—As the Japanese Diet has rejected the proposal of the Government to establish a steel foundry, several well-known capitalists, headed by Count Matsukata, have, it is said, subscribed £70,000 for the purpose, and a factory is to be at once built at Osaka, in the vicinity of which there is plenty of iron ore. The shareholders in this new industry are, it is stated, actuated more by patriotism than a desire for dividends; they think Japan should be able to build her own cruisers and manufacture the arms necessary for her service, military and naval. Machinery for the new foundry is now being purchased in this country and America.—*Practical Engineer* (London), May 19th, 1893.

The writer of the above is apparently unaware that cruisers are, and have been for some time past, built, and arms manufactured, in Japan, and that the real question is whether they must continue to buy the raw materials abroad or commence to manufacture them here.

STEEL IN JAPAN.—The Japanese Government has for some years past projected the establishment of a steel foundry. Up to the present there has been only one such foundry in Japan—namely that at Sakai in Izumi Province, which was established by Mr. Moriyama Moriyuki, ex-Director of the Osaka Mint, in 1889.

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The steel manufactured at the foundry is said to be of the best quality, but its proprietors have so little capital that they cannot extend the works. The original hope was to manufacture sufficient steel for the construction of men-of-war and arms for the military and naval services, so as to dispense with the use of imported steel. Several Japanese noblemen have now taken up the matter, with the result that a foundry is now being built in Osaka for the Japan Steel Manufacturing Company, who are procuring the latest improved machinery, and propose to manufacture five different qualities of steel from native ores.—*Industries and Iron*, July 7th, 1893

The writer of the above steers clear of the confusion between the production of the raw material and its subsequent use, but he gives no indication whether the steel hitherto made at the Sakai foundry could be produced at such a price as to compete, or even approximately compete, with imported steel of similar quality.

STEEL MAKING IN JAPAN.—Japan is to possess a steel foundry of its own. There was a fear lest the Diet should refuse to sanction the affair. My readers will remember the proposal that a company should be started with a view of starting such a foundry. I learn that the Diet has at last signified its approval, but with a condition imposed providing that the existence of a sufficient supply of raw material must first be ascertained. An investigation of Japanese iron deposits has been decided upon, and a committee selected for that purpose; the persons constituting the committee have been chosen for their technical knowledge. Their report is to settle the steel foundry question one way or another.—*British Journal of Commerce* (about), July 8th, 1893.

There is an article on the same subject in *The American Machinist* of August 17th, 1893 (which I need not quote) to much the same purport

It would be waste of time and space to point out the various discrepancies in the above paragraphs (and among them, the confusion between a Government undertaking and a private venture which might, or might not, require Government sanction), but I venture to suggest that a plain statement of facts, as they now stand, would be of considerable interest not only to your readers here, but also to those at home. Perhaps some of your Osaka correspondents can furnish some definite information.

As regards the advisability, and possibility, from a commercial point of view, of starting a steel-making plant in Japan, the admirable letter from Messrs John Birch & Co., which appeared in the *Japan Mail* of October (25th or thereabouts) 1892, leaves nothing to be added.

As regards the patriotic view of the case, it is encouraging to know that when the public have lost interest in watching the career of the patriotic pipe foundry about to be started at Tsukudajima, Tokyo, they will have another similar, and even more interesting, subject for discussion.

It has been said that it takes three generations to make a gentleman: may I suggest that it takes the same number to make a puddler?

Yours truly, WHITEFIRE.

October 9th, 1893.

SHOOTING LICENSES

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I agree generally with your article in Monday's issue, and, though a great deal has already been written on the subject, would feel obliged if you would kindly find space for this letter. To begin with, it is evident that many of the writers on the subject of the game laws are not acquainted with their provisions, else why ignore the fact that the Governors of Prefectures can and do advance or retard by one month, the issue of licences to kill game according to the condition of the birds. Japan runs so far north and south that young pheasants must be fit to shoot a great deal more than a month earlier in some prefectures than they are in others, and it is well known that the migratory birds that breed in the north arrive in some places six or seven weeks before they are found in others. Notwithstanding that the treaty limit is not out, many persons take a licence in the hope of getting a few snipe, quail, and woodcock, with an occasional hare, as the birds mentioned do not breed in the treaty limit. But there are so many Japanese shooting round Tokio and Yokohama—(I often wonder why they don't go farther afield)—that the birds have no rest, and do not remain in the places they frequented 20 years ago. Consequently, with the increased number of foreign guns added to the host of Japanese who affect sport, the game is not worth the candle; yet few men like to see their guns lie rusting and their dogs wax fat for want of work. There is one point about selling game in the market that appears to have been overlooked by all, and that is that not one-tenth of one per cent. of the game sold in Yokohama market is captured in the country over which foreigners are permitted to shoot. As nearly all the game sent to Yokohama comes from distant places, it is really more in the interest of Japanese than of foreigners that game should not be sold before the opening of the shooting season, as foreigners are not by the capture of game outside treaty limits prejudicially affected to any extent. If during this session of the Diet it should be found necessary to introduce a Game Laws Amendment Act, the present difficulty could be met by introducing a clause providing that when the opening of the season is advanced a month in any prefecture the game killed there should not be sold during that period outside the prefecture so advanced. I am no apologist for the authorities, and believe that, without straining the present regulations, police interference with the sale of game before October 15 could be instituted, were the authorities desirous of considering the holders of licences, which they do not appear to be.

But a greater grievance to foreigners in Yokohama who take out licences than the sale of game before Oct. 15 is the fact that the authorities have issued in certain cases special permits to a few persons who are *allowed to shoot outside treaty limits* When I first heard this I deemed it incredible, and only relate it now as a report, though I have been convinced that it is entirely correct—that is to say, that shooting outside treaty limits goes on, that it is paid for no further than by the ordinary licence, and that the ground taken is that, *as a favour*, permission from the authorities has been obtained. Perhaps the authorities might be able to explain this away—there are a great number of persons who would be exceedingly obliged by the explanation

Yours truly, CHOKE.

October 9th 1893.

SENDAI.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Sendai, to those only acquainted with the Southern Cities of Japan, comes as a surprise, and the English arrival, should his advent chance to be under the auspices of favourable weather, might almost delude himself with the fond fancy that the hedge flanked lanes he rambles through are those of his "ain countrie." Anon the conceit may be interrupted by a noble avenue of pines arching a pathway of moss grown stones which culminate in the steps of a silent and apparently deserted temple, transplanting his thoughts to Nikko, but this seems only to enhance the scenic charm. In many parts of Japan, I might say most parts, one of the most irritating characteristics to the lover of solitude is the ubiquitous nature of the inhabitants. Go far as you will afield in search of your own, and nothing but your own company, your immediate vicinity or at least the horizon is disfigured by the presence of the more or less picturesque but inquisitive presence of the native, and the even tenor of those thoughts you yearn to think alone is subjected to continual and exasperating interruption. In Sendai it is possible, however, to lose sight of humanity for nearly half an hour at a time, and revel in nature—not human nature, which one sees so very much unadorned in this country—to one's heart's content, the whole length of a green-grown, sun-basked lane; and gather sorrel and some of the simple hedgerow blossoms known to every English village maid. The scattered farm houses and thatch roofed homes are for the most part surrounded by large, well kept garden plots, in which the rich crimson of the tufted cockscomb vies with the varied tints of asters in making a floral show just now; while a week or two ago many a compound possessed apple and pear trees heavy with fruit which looked all it should look and tasted all that it should not. The entire city from end to end is one mass of trees; trees of all sizes, shapes, and kinds from the horse and sweet chestnut, the elm, lime, and birch to the palm and feathery bamboo, and a bird's eye view of the town from any elevated position is apt to convey the impression that it is a forest rather than a garrison town which the eye is invited to view. It is difficult to reconcile such an exceptional amount of vegetation, even for Japan, with a reputation for a dry and healthy climate such as Sendai is credited with possessing; and personal experience has certainly not tended to bear out the assertion, though I bow to the superior knowledge of old residents here and believe that the summer has been almost unprecedented. Since May, however, the amount of rain which has fallen here has eclipsed anything experienced during my five years' residence in Japan, and though I have lived in Japanese houses elsewhere it has not been my misfortune to suffer so from damp in any other part, and it is to be hoped the winter has better things in store. The one or two other foreigners living in Japanese houses appear to suffer more or less from the effects, and I am inclined, therefore, to think that Sendai is dry and healthy only to those who can afford the luxury of a very substantial residence, samples of which are by no means lacking in the outskirts of the town, thanks to Missionary effort. Among the Japanese, good houses are few and far between, the supply appearing very little in excess of the demand. The better class houses are, however, of superior build and finish, standing in many instances in well-kept grounds and in good situations. The Kencho offers a striking illustration of the taste thus displayed, this building standing in a park-like enclosure with magnificent trees and lotus ponds to make a pleasant outlook for the official world within. The public buildings are otherwise plain and unpretentious, and deviating little from the stereotyped pattern followed throughout the country. There is a great want of compactness in the city generally, which is a miniature Tokyo for distances. The roads are wide, and would be excellent were more attention paid to their repair, but in wet weather some the principal thoroughfares are a very network of water-filled hollows, while large, protruding stones, are the common characteristic of nearly all, so that jinrikisha riding is frequently more perilous than enjoyable. It seems a pity that more attention should not be paid to this by the authorities, as the comfort of a well kept road to pedestrians, cyclists, and jinrikisha riders alike hardly needs emphasizing. There is a bicycle factory here, and quite a large number of wheelmen, whose united influence should be brought to bear upon the powers that be in this matter; but the Japanese motto is unfortunately *n'importe* in nine cases out of ten.

Thus for Sendai as a city. Of its people I could say much did I not fear that my "impressions" may be considered unjust. There seems to be no question, however, that the people of Sendai are the people of Sendai, and cannot be confounded with the people of other parts of Japan. This is the verdict, cautiously given, of Japanese and foreigners alike whose experience permits them to form any opinion, though it has to be borne in mind that in the former case provincial prejudice has to be allowed for. A cockney swears by a cockney, and a Devonshire man thinks there is no man like a Devonshire man. So in Japan; but I cannot recall the fact, when living in Aichi, of Japanese from other parts of the country suffering any inconvenience worth mentioning if business led them to take their abode there. But I have met several Japanese in Sendai who complain much of the clannishness of Sendai folk, and can relate many humiliating experiences in connection with their advent here. Whether these experiences are really peculiar to this city or not I cannot say, but personally I have found the people much more difficult to deal with and less willing to oblige than elsewhere. An extreme keeness on the dollar contrasts strangely with an indolent indifference to custom, and the poorest artizan appears nonchalantly careless whether you bestow or withhold a job. Excessive independence and poverty appear to have entered into an insoluble partnership, and the humblest trader transacts his business with you in a manner which leaves no doubt in your mind as to who enjoys the benefit of conferring the favour In the matter of prices Sendai is high, be it in house rent, wages, kitchen meat, or jinrikisha fares, in all of which Yokohama, though a port and supposed to be dear, has an advantage. Not even native things are cheap. Little or nothing being manufactured here, freight, which is excessively high, adds a rather heavy percentage to everything imported from the capital, and hence the total cost of living also. Precisely what are the main industries of the place I have not yet had an opportunity of discovering, but in course of time I hope to be able to ferret out a few interesting facts, though as there is little or no commercial enterprise, and a great lack of communicativeness, there may not be much to relate.

The Missionary body here is both large and active. Missionary work being old established, has been fairly successful on the whole, Buddhist opposition being far less aggressive than it is farther South. But in place of religious opposition there is considerable political activity, and from what I can learn the feeling towards foreigners is very luke-warm, to put it mildly. In common with other parts of the country, missionary work here has during the last two or three years been heavily handicapped by the new spirit of independence springing up in Japanese Christian circles, and

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very great patience and tact are required by all the workers in the field at the present moment. The missionaries here, however, seem for the most part composed of men especially fitted to grapple with the difficulties in hand, men who have devoted themselves faithfully to the study of both language and people, and are earnestly anxious to do the best they can for their cause even at the cost of self effacement. They, as usual, however, labour under the great disadvantage of many instead of one banner, and they are themselves beginning to realize the fact that if Christianity is to be widely and lastingly engrafted in Japanese hearts, precisely the same presentation of Christ must be exhibited by each individual missionary. So many Christs, or Christ in so many garbs; Christ in the midst of so many paths by any of which He may be reached, is a Christ whose contemplation is a bewilderment rather than a fascinating revelation. One of the oldest missionary workers here, in the course of a recent address reviewing his work in Sendai during the past eleven years, said that though the present attitude of Japanese Christians was exceedingly discouraging to some, there was a very substantial grain of comfort in the reflection that Japanese Christians were able to take their present stand and able to assert their independence and capacity to work out their own salvation without the active assistance of their foreign teachers in future, and it is well indeed when missionaries can view the matter in this self-abnegating spirit. To those who take a deep interest in missionary work though not themselves in harness, the outlook is not perhaps so hopeful.

We are an unsophisticated, sober-minded, busy little community out here, with few opportunities for evil speaking, lying, and slandering and little given to festivities. At rare intervals the even, and somewhat monotonous, tenor of one's way is, however, broken by some call upon our dormant capabilities which results in a burst of "conviviality," as old Mr. Weller would call it. Such an occasion was presented last Saturday, when quite an extensive entertainment was given at the Miyagi Jogakko in aid of a poor school started in February last by the American Methodist Episcopal Mission, under the superintendance of Miss Phelps. The school started with fifteen ragged urchins, culled from the highways and byeways, who were gathered for general instruction into one small room. Through the cold season, however, even this small number was not regularly sustained, as the meagre clothing the parents were able to provide the children, and the absence of both *geta* and umbrellas kept numbers aways in bad weather. With the return of spring, however, the number grew larger and the attendance encouragingly more regular, and when the school closed for the summer vacation some thirty children were in regular attendance. This suggested the advisability of larger premises, and in the hope of being able to extend this work a school-house was secured, and arrangements made by which a weekly bath for both boys and girls, and conveniences for the cleansing of hands and faces at other times were satisfactorily made. This, I should say, is by no means the least desirable feature of this charitable institution, and it is to be hoped that no pains will be spared to impress upon the youngsters that if cleanliness is ranked after godliness the order of acquisition is customarily inverted. I have been informed, and I rejoice to learn, that the children have vastly improved under the guidance of their patient and sympathetic teachers, who I noticed on Saturday night exhibited much thoughtful solicitude, especially in the matter of noses, an attention keenly appreciated by those in the first row immediately in front of whom the infant brigade was marshalled. That a work of unique proportions must have been accomplished if these children represented a bathed and regenerate band of scholars one's olfactory nerves testified to, and the first state of these unfortunates must have baffled description.

From several workers enthusiastically engaged in endeavouring to alleviate the poverty in this neighbourhood, I gather that the condition of some of the people is pitiable indeed. But as the national sentiment towards the poor in this country is at best but one of contemptuous pity, the efforts of a handful of foreigners are necessarily prescribed That this work among these destitute children, and the desire to give them some education and lift them, be it ever so little, out of the mire which forms their natural element, awakened some real interest and sympathy among the Japanese Christians in Sendai, and many not impelled by religious motives was testified to by the crowded attendance and enthusiastic addresses at the Jo Gakko on Saturday evening. The condition of these children, their wretched homes, scanty food, and the general degradation of the influences under which they lived, were feelingly dwelt on by the Rev. T. Ikeda and another speaker, and at least $40 was realized by the sale of tickets for the entertainment. The programme provided was both ample and enjoyable, every item being warmly applauded by the audience, though some naturally gave especial pleasure. Among these were a clever sung "Chinese Song" by Mr. Matsura, and three *koto* performances, which were delightful, accompanied by a full orchestra of *gekkin*, flute, *kokyu*, etc., "Gales of the West," beautifully rendered by Miss Isabel Porter, a quartette by Mrs. De Forest, Miss Porter, and Messrs. Millar and Kumagae, and last but not least a sword dance by Mr. Kaneko, which was called for again later in the evening. This dance, which was weirdly fascinating for its very ferocity, seemed like the living personation of those warlike pictures so dear to the hearts of Japanese and so incomprehensible and revolting to foreigners. The attitudes were certainly fine, but the sentiment obviously underlying them, and the bloodthirsty suggestiveness of the marvellous evolutions of the dance, accompanied as they were by a vigorous War Song or Chant by three or four young men, seemed strangely at variance with both the place and the occasion, and the peculiar zest with which the more suggestive posturings were received bespoke the presence of feelings, so it seemed to some, of anything but peace and good will toward men. But here my comprehension of the idea may be at fault, and the admiration which the dancer's agility called forth is perhaps the only sentiment which should justly have been provoked. Among the other appreciated items on the programme were two duets by Messrs Millar and Kumagae, a Song by Mr. Curtis, which provoked much amusement, Handel's march in *Scipio*, by Master Wilfred Smith on the violin, and one or two good numbers on the organ and violin. The room was very tastefully decorated, and when shortly before ten the time came for us to separate, every one felt that a really enjoyable evening had been passed, and it is to be hoped that the poor little ragged folks of Sendai will be the means of more than one reunion of the kind during the winter.

Deeds of violence and casualities are not, I think, of very frequent occurrence here, the first of which I gather from the fact that policemen are very few and far between in the city, and rarely if ever seen in those localities where their presence might appear most desirable, the latter from the excitement caused by the untimely death of a man on the railway line a few days ago. The victim had been in former time a member of the police force, but of late years the only force which he acknowledged was apparently that of *saké*. At the time of his being run over he was under the influence of drink, but this does not release the Authorities from all responsibility in not providing some proper protection from the trains. At the spot where he was knocked down the line crosses a somewhat busy thoroughfare and is not protected by any gateway or barrier.

Some manœuvres were held about 20 miles from here some week or ten days ago, and as is customary in any transfer of troops in Japan, some 1,600 men from Echigo who were to take part in them were quartered on Sendai for the night. They behaved in a very orderly manner, which was probably due to the fact that they were pretty well tired out, some of them betraying considerable signs of fatigue.

"LYNCHING IN THE UNITED STATES."

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—I have not a word to say against your writing up the "lynch" question in America, but such wholesale condemnation of twelve million people ought not to go before your readers without protest. Were I not an American and Southern man, knowing as I do that your views are unjust, I should condemn them.

After making some allowance for the murdered in personal combat, a large number have been victims of these outrages. It is a serious question, and some one must bear the blame. You blame the Southern people for this, going so far as to say that "the lynchers are representatives of public opinion" in the South, so it is useless to ask in that quarter for the condemnation of such abominable outrages. All who comprehend the question—which means the Southerner or one who has lived in the South—know this to be not only a mistaken idea, but unjust to an honest and self respecting people.

In regard to one of these outrages I give an extract from one of the leading papers in the South: "We are heartsick. It seems to us that our civilization is in peril. The presence of lynch-law in every part of the country has long been an unspeakable disgrace, but in recent months the atrocities of mobs have reached a climax of savagery that would do credit to Dahomy. The hanging of the negro, Lee Walker, and the subsequent burning of his body in Memphis on Saturday night, 22nd ult., make another terrible chapter in the history of our State. We have no words at our command sufficiently strong to express our detestation of such things. That the negro victim was a brute is no doubt true. That he had twice or thrice within ten days committed crimes upon womanhood, so awful that the mere mention of them brings a shudder, is beyond a reasonable doubt. But what of this? Have we no law? Are we to fall to the level of naked Comanches in dealing with offenders? That the work of which we speak was done by a small mob of drunken men and boys we can easily believe; but till the civil authorities assert themselves in no doubtful fashion the blame rests on the whole city of Memphis. We are glad to see that Judge Scruggs has suspended the sheriff for a neglect of his duty, and a special session of the grand jury has been called to investigate the affair. It gives us pleasure to add to the above that every one of the Memphis papers denounces the mob in unmeasured terms, and calls for the punishment of all who take part in it. Senator Isham G. Harris, who is a citizen of Memphis, is out in an interview in which he says buckshot is the proper remedy for such desperadoes. A number of the ringleaders are now in jail, on bench warrants issued by Judge Scruggs, and it is to be hoped they will receive an adequate punishment. Men of the South do not want the arguments of your "cultivated Northerner" justifying such conduct. Men of the South don't attempt to justify it. With practical unanimity they deplore it and condemn it. "And any one who argues otherwise ignorantly or wantonly calumniates a law abiding and high-minded people." The extract I have given is true and shows a prevailing sentiment. Any reasonable man will see that Judge Scruggs went to the limit of his jurisdiction, and as one knowing the sentiment of the people in this section, I believe ninety-nine out of every hundred of the Judges of the Superior Courts of the South, when there is a possibility of apprehending such offenders, would be just as ready to do their duty. The instances are rare where lynching is done openly. Masked men force open jails in small country towns, or maddened fathers and friends of the outraged hunt the brutes down in their places of hiding and there take revenge.

You say "in the remainder of the cases the offences were less serious, ranging from robbery and arson to the crime of being drunk and saucy to white people. During the ten years prior to January 1st, 1892, twenty-seven of the men who were lynched were charged with race prejudice, thirteen quarrelling with white men, ten with making threats, and five with miscegenation." I see how these negroes might lose their lives as a result of such conduct; but who would call it lynching? "Being drunk and saucy to white folks" might embroil him in a quarrel and bring his career to a termination, for many a white man being drunk and saucy to white men meets with the same fate. "Twenty men charged with race-prejudice." This charge carries falsehood on its face. How would a lotter know of his prejudice? "Ten with making threats." It is not unreasonable to believe that a larger number for this cause should have been the victims of homicide. For this cause many more Anglo-Saxons in the South no doubt have met death in personal combat, but it would be difficult to believe that a man of any courage would call on a mob to defend him by getting rid of the offence in so inhuman a way. "And five for miscegenation." The laws of every Southern State, so far as I know, forbid the intermarriage of the two races. In all probabilities in the cases you mentioned (if founded on truth) this law was ignored and the people's patience in extremity suggested a remedy. The people in the South are determined, whatever humanitarians (?) may say to maintain these laws. There may come a time when they are not parts of their constitution; but in my opinion there will never be the realization of the foul hope of the negro "bleached out by the process of absorption till he is negro no longer." It seems that if the American of the South has an aptitude for any one thing, it is to keep socially distinct from the negro. He dares not act otherwise. It would be moral contamination, and suicide to a large part of the best of the human race; for the *mulatto* is known to be inferior to the negro even.

Judge Tomgee, in Reconstruction times a "Carpet Bag" governor of a certain Southern State, is mentioned by you as authority on the subject. Sparing his judgeship, all who know him would question anything he would say on the subject. A war governor, commissioned to govern a people who had governed themselves as few of the States of the Union had been governed, he turned his

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back upon a race of respectable whites to embrace the rising and predestined man of colour. Having saddled the people of his State with laws odious to them, he gained nothing but contempt and material for his "fools errand." As he retreats further and further from these scenes it is more a pandemonium People of the North—and it seems people of other nationalities lend an ear—will listen to Tomgee and Fred. Douglass calumniate the South, knowing that neither of them will do anything for their moral and intellectual improvement, while the views of Dr. Mayo from the North, who understands the subject, and scholars and philanthropists from the South are held up to ridicule

You would lead one to the conclusion, by your comparison of "our West Indian" possessions to the Southern States, and your question why were women in those islands not violated as in the South, that all of these charges are but fabrications of the Southern people, who "persistently and successfully attempt to wither the fruits of emancipation?" The British possessions together with the other islands in the West Indies have not the best reputation of mastering the question of miscegination. Has this anything to do with it? Put the population of the above mentioned possessions in America and the change would be imperceptible. These negroes and whites are not living side by side over broad expanses of moral districts where most of these crimes occur. If it were frequent in those "possessions" the world would not hear so much of it.

White men but seldom interfere with the liberties of the negro. He has all the privileges of the white man in political and material matters. The white man pays as much money for his education as he pays for his own child,—which is far more than many European poor get. And because he does not admit him to his drawing-room he is always represented by certain classes as ready to lead the negro to the stake. Let justice be done to all men.

Yours, &c.,
W.

October 10th, 1893.

CRICKET.

THE KOBE TEAM V. THE PRESIDENT'S ELEVEN.

In much better cricketing weather this game was resumed on Saturday, when some heavy scoring again took place. Meaden and Ross led the attack, which was subsequently supplemented by half-a-dozen others, Layard and Markham defending. The former batsman was the first removed, being replaced by Morriss, who made 13 before being caught by Mellwish off Ross. W. Edwards then went in—and stayed—defying the battery that was brought against him and punishing each bowler more or less by placing the ball all over the field. Markham retired after a long innings with 15, and the score at 127, and when the telegraph showed 208 Ewwards was put out, being caught by Mair off Ross, his score being 137, made up of 1 six, 20 fours, 9 threes, 6 twos, and 12 singles, which statement of the runs shows the nature of the hits. Bremner made a fine stand and a big score—92, before he was bowled by Walford, and being followed by Ravenhill with 25, Edwards with 9, and Healing with 10, without the assistance of the President, who did not bat, the innings closed with 323. Following are the scores:—

THE PRESIDENT'S ELEVEN.

Mr. Layard, c. White, b Ross	8
Lieut. Markham, b. White	15
Mr E. R. Morriss, c. Melhuish, b. Ross	13
Mr W. Edwards, c Mair, b. Ross	137
Mr Bremner, b. Walford	92
Col Ravenhill, c Tate, b. Walford	25
Mr. E. Edwards, b. Walford	9
Mr. J. P. Melhuish, did not bat	—
Mr Dodds, c. Dickinson, b. Walford	0
Mr Healing, not out	10
Mr. Allcock, not out	1
b. 13, l.b. 4, w. 2	19
	323

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	B.	R.	M.	Wkt	W.
Dr. Meaden	60	53	3	—	—
Mr Ross	135	64	3	5	—
Mr. Walford	85	56	2	4	—
Mr. Duff	25	3	—	—	2
Mr. Liheaud	65	35	2	—	—
Mr. White	20	8	—	1	—
Mr J. M. Melhuish	25	24	—	—	—
Mr. Melhuish	30	30	—	—	—

ECZEMA.—Book on "Skin Trouble," sent free for One Stamp by Messrs. NORTH & RAE, Limited, Yokohama.

A famous French glutton, who was conspicuously overeating at a dinner some years ago, excused himself from time to time by quoting the poet Boileau's well-known line, "In eating well, I praise the food." "Ah, sir," said one of the guests, significantly, "you carry praise to the point of flattery"

THE ORIENTAL HOTEL, LMITED.

The following is the report and accounts for Presentation to the Shareholders at the second annual ordinary general meeting, to be held at the Municipal Hall, Kobe, on Friday, the 20th October.

The Directors have now the pleasure to lay before the Shareholders a statement of the Company's Accounts for the year ended 31st August, 1893.

The total earnings in Working Account during that term amount to $59,181.89; showing a profit of $14,482.52.

On reference to the accounts it will be observed that after making reasonable provision for depreciation, viz.:—

On Property	$2,000.00
On Furniture	1,000.00
On Steam Launch	959.90
	$3,959.90

there remains a balance of nett profit for the year amounting to $8,735.80.

From this amount an interim dividend of 5 per cent. on Ordinary Shares for the half-year ended 28th February, 1893, was paid on the 22nd July, 1893, absorbing $3,700; leaving now available for distribution the sum of $5,035 80.

From this the Directors recommend the payment of a further dividend of 3 per cent. on Ordinary Shares, making 8 per cent. for the year. They also recommend the distribution of a surplus sum of $2,080 in equal parts to Ordinary and Founders Shares, in accordance with Article III. of the Articles of Association; making the total return to Shareholders for the year $9 40 per share on Ordinary Shares and $13 per shares on Founders Shares, and that the balance of $739.80 be carried to credit of Reserve Account.

It is gratifying to your Directors to be able to remind you that the views expressed in the Director's report of last year have been fully maintained.

The results of the Company's Working during 1893 have proved highly satisfactory, and your Directors regard the Company's prospects for the ensuing year as likely to be equally, if not more, promising than the results achieved in the past year.

The property of the Company has been maintained in an efficient way, and the buildings are now in first-class order and condition.

The Company have recently acquired a new steam launch at a cost of $2,550 and have disposed of the old launch, which for some time had been condemned by their Surveyor.

The Directors have pleasure in stating that the Company's Manager, Mr. Louis Bégeux, has has signified his willingness to renew his present agreement with the Company, on its termination in August, 1894, for a further term of 3 years on the same conditions as now existing.

The Directors beg to remind Shareholders that in accordance with the resolution passed at the last Extraordinary General Meeting of Shareholders held in Kobe on the 8th August, 1893, the property situated on Lots 11 and 84 Concession, Kobe, has been duly purchased by the Company, for the sum of $37,000, and tenders were invited on the 21st August last for the first issue of 400 Debentures bearing interest at the rate of 7½ per cent. per annum. Owing to these transactions having occurred immediately upon the close of the present fiscal year, a complete adjustment of these accounts is not able to appear in the present report.

DIRECTORS

A number of changes in the Board having taken place within the last year, the Directors deem it advisable to retire from Office, but offer themselves for re-election

AUDITORS.

In accordance with Article 129 of the Articles of Association, Messrs. Cecil Guinness and R. T. Head retire from Office, but offer themselves for re-election.

By Order of the Board,
TH. DE BERIGNY,
Secretary.

WORKING ACCOUNT

Dr.

To Mess Account	23,277 53
To Wines and Stores	25,262 12
To General Charges Account	2,080.48
To Wages Account	9,032 95
To Fuel and Lighting Account	1,992 21
To Laundry Account	1,414.08
To House Rent, Hotel Annexe	900.00
To Balance carried to Profit and Loss Account	14,482 52
	$59,181.89

Cr.

By General Receipts Account	59,181.89
	$59, 81 89

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

To Amounts Transferred—		
Ground Rents and Taxes	231.27	
Fire Insurance Account	382.12	
Bad Debts Account	56.45	
Directors' Remuneration	500.00	
Auditors' Fees	200.00	
Interest Account	519.09	
		1,808.80
To Amounts written off for Depreciation—		
Furniture Account	1,000.00	
Property Account	2,000.00	
Steam Launch Account	959 90	
		3,959.90
To Dividend Account—		
Ordinary Shares—		
Interim 5% dividend to 28th Feb. 1893	3,700.00	
Final dividend—4.40% to 31st Aug. 1893	3,250.00	
Founders Shares—		
Dividend of $13 per share	1,040.00	
		7,990.00
To Reserve Account—		
Balance carried to credit of this Account		734.80
		$14,504 52
By Balance from Working Account		14,482.52
By Transfer Fees		22 00
		$14,504 52

ASSETS.

Property Account	54,622 75
Furniture Account	23,236 55
Steam Launch Account	2,550 00
Investment Account	525.00
Wines and Stores Account	7,237.62
Fire Insurance Account	381.07
Property Lot 11 Amount paid on Account	7,400 00
Outstanding Accounts	2,082.64
	$96,824 63

LIABILITIES.

Capital Account	75,000.00
Debentures 7½% Amount issued	10,100.00
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	5,084.21
Dividend Account	4,996.00
Reserve Account	1,524.42
	$96,824.63

We certify that we have compared the above statements with the Vouchers and Books of the Company, and find the same to be correct.

CECIL GUINNESS
R. T. HEAD } Auditors.

Kobe, September 27th, 1893.

THE PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY OF JAPAN.

A regular monthly meeting of the above mentioned Society was held in the rooms of the Geographical Society of Japan, Nishikonya-cho, Kyobashi, Tokyo, on Friday, July 7th, Mr. Edmund R. Holmes in the chair. The minutes, having already appeared in public print, were taken as read.

New members were elected as follow: Prof. S. Tanabe, Messrs. C. Weinberger, Tanaka, and C. Otsuki.

Mr. Munster brought some samples of Amido. This developer is useful for travellers as it is put up in small glass cartridge-shaped tubes and requires no alkalis nor sulphates. These samples, the agent for which will be announced later, were distributed among attending members.

Several copies of a small pamphlet entitled "Dry Plates," sent by Cadett, of England, were shown and distributed.

Mr. Munster again brought small photos taken by the lens already described at previous meetings. The photos are good, as were those previously shown. Mr Munster brought in also an enlargement on bromide paper.

There followed a demonstration of Klic's entaglio copper-plate photographic process by Mr. I. Isawa, which called out a vote of thanks from the members.

A regular meeting of the same Society was held in the rooms of the Geographical Society (Chigaku Kiokai), Nishikonya-cho, Kiobashi, Tokyo, beginning at 5 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 6th, Mr. C D West in the chair.

The minutes of the last meeting having been read and approved, the following gentlemen were unanimously elected members of the Society:—Messrs. N. Iimura, K. Inouye, S. Kato, S. Kitamura, O Okawa, A. Poole, F. Putzier, and H. Tsunafuchi.

Mr. W. K. Burton showed comparative results of work done with lenses of symmetrical or "rectilinear" lenses, and the new Zeiss Anastigmatic lenses. The most interesting comparison was between an Aplanatic (Rapid Rectilinear or Rapid Symmetrical lense) of exceptionally good quality and an Anastigmatic, Series II. The difference was remarkable. Briefly summed up, the Anastigmatic was twice as rapid as the Aplanatic. It gave the same flatness of field with twice the angular aperture (four times the rapidity) and, with a small stop it acted as a wide-angle lens. The absence of astigmatism in the Anastigmatic lens was remarkable. Aplanatic lenses of the same rapidity, or even greater than the Anastigmatic, were made, but, used stop for stop, the roundness of field was greater than that of the some-

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what slow aplanat that was used for the comparative experiment.

Mr. Edmund R. Holmes sent some samples of Aristotype paper, and prints on the paper that had been addressed to the Society, care of him, by Messrs. Bradfischie and Pierce of New York. The prints were excellent: the samples were distributed to certain members, who were asked to report results to the next regular meeting.

The Secretary stated that the "Blackfriars Sensitizying Company" had sent samples of their sensitized albumnized paper to the Society care of him. The samples having come to hand at the beginning of the vacation he had opened the packets, and had tried the paper. It had come in a perfect state of preservation—the first time, to his knowledge that sensitized albumnized paper had come from Europe in perfect condition, and toned as readily as albumenized paper sensitized on a 10 per cent, neutral silver bath.

One of the medals sent as an award to the photographers whose work had been adjudged the best at the recent exhibition of foreign photographs by the Society was passed round.

Several copies of "Photography Annual" and a number of copies of "Photographic Scraps" and "Dry Plates" that had been sent to the Society, were distributd.

Results of work by Dallmeyer's tele-photographic lens were shown by Mr. W. K. Burton.

The regular meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chairman, and the meeting resolved itself into a *conversazione*, when Mr. K. Ogawa showed a very fine set of lantern slides of the World's Fair.

LETTER FROM CHICAGO.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Chicago, September 16th.

Prof. and Mrs. J. M. Dixon were in this city the other day on their way home from the Summer vacation. Prof. Dixon has written the article on "Japan" for the new Johnson's Encyclopedia, of which the managing editor is Mr. Robert Lilly, formerly agent of the Scottish National Bible Society in Yokohama. Mr. Lilly is also one of the assistant editors of the Century Dictionary. Washington University, with which Prof. Dixon is connected, and of which Dr. W. S. Chaplin (once of Tokyo University) is Chancellor, is to move out to the suburbs of St. Louis, and will try to raise $2,000,000 for new buildings.

Among the Japanese who have recently come to this city are Rev. T. Noya, of Tokyo; Prof. M. Hosoki, of the Technological School, Tokyo; Kinza Hirai, of Los Angeles, Cal., and Pres. Kosaki, of the Doshisha, Kyoto.

The following item comes from Milwaukee, Wis.:—A short time ago B. K. Miller, Jr., was offered the professorship of English and American law in the Imperial University of Tokyo, Japan, at a salary of $6,000 a year, with travelling expenses and house rent; but, while he appreciated the compliment paid to him, he thought he could not afford to accept the offer, and has so cabled the university.

The other day Mrs. Romyn Hitchcock delivered a lecture in the Woman's Building on "The Japanese." John L. Stoddard is soon to begin a course of lectures in Central Music Hall of this city on his travels in Japan, China, Ceylon, and India; the lectures will be illustrated.

After considerable excitement on the Pacific coast, matters seem a little quiet again with reference to the Geary Law. Several Chinese have been deported; others have been arrested; there have been some riots, on account of which Gov. Markham, of Cal., has appealed to the administration to enforce the law; and over 100 Chinese of Los Angeles have sent Congress a petition asking another opportunity to register. Representative Everett has introduced into the House a bill extending time for registration to September 1st, 1894. Pending the probable passage of this bill, the enforcement of the Geary Law is temporarily suspended.

Last Sunday Mr. H. Dhurmapala, General Secretary of the Matta Bodhi Society (Buddhist), Ceylon, preached in the pulpit of one of the Unitarian churches of this city with a "Message of Peace from the East to America."

It is quite probable that the U. S. Government will soon ask Great Britain, Russia, and perhaps other nations to join with it in an international convention to devise means for the protection of the Pacific Seals according to the findings of the Behring Sea Arbitration Court.

The political situation in Brazil was at first regarded with alarm by the authorities at Washington; but they have since been relieved to learn that the revolt has been meeting checks. Yet it is difficult to foretell what the morrow may bring forth in a South American country. On the 7th inst. the Brazilians at the Fair celebrated "Independence Day."

The Senate continues to do nothing but talk on the silver question. There are occasional reports of a "compromise:" but it is pretty generally understood that the President will listen to no overtures for a compromise.

L. S. Coffin, nominated for Governor of Iowa by the bolting Prohibition-Republicans, has declined.

Joseah Quincy has resigned his office as Assistant Secretary of State. Among recent Presidential nominations are the following:—Theodore Runyan, Minister to Germany, made "Ambassador;" ex-Congressman A. S. Willis, of Kentucky, as Minister to the Hawaiian Islands; Ellis Mills, of Virginia, as Consul-General to Honolulu; J. Courtney Hixson, of Alabama, Consul at Foochow; C. H. J. Taylor (coloured), of Kansas, as Minister to Bolivia; and N. W. McIvor, of Iowa, as Consul General to Kanagawa. I wish that I might be able to give some information concerning Mr. McIvor; but I have been unable to find out anything about him.

"Baby Ruth" must now divide honours with a sister born at noon, September 9. As Grover Cleveland was the first President to be married in the White House, so Esther Cleveland is the first Presidential child to be born there. In connection with this event, the following item with reference to Prince Komatsu, may be of interest in Japan:—After leaving his wife the President went down to the blue room, where he gave an audience to the Japanese prince now visiting Washington. It was highly characteristic of the President and the high sense of his conception of the duties and obligations attaching to the office which he holds that he did not break the engagement previously made with the Japanese prince. Most men, similarly situated, would have begged to be excused and, if necessary, have communicated the reason for doing so. The President, however, spent some time with the Oriental visitor discussing polite platitudes, and the first news the prince had of the affair was when his master of ceremonies and interpreter read the evening paper several hours later.

There have been several "records broken" lately. The Cunarder *Lucania* pulled the record for a maiden trip down to 5 days, 15 hours and 35 minutes; and the U.S. cruiser *Columbia* pulled the record for first trial trip up to 21.3 knots per hour. In the bicycle tournament at Springfield, Mass., Sanger, of Milwaukee, made a mile in 2. 08¼, and two miles in 4. 31¾; and Tyler, of Springfield, made a half mile in 1. 00¾.

Jupiter Pluvius and Sol have also been smashing records. The former did not favour Chicago with a single drop of rain for 84 days, and then did not send much: the latter day before yesterday pulled the thermometer up to 95 F. and made September 14th the hottest day of the year!

The list of calamities this time includes the killing of thirteen in a collision near Colehour, Ill., on the Panhandle route; a $275,000 fire in Pullman; the robbery of an express car on the New York flyer on the Lake Shore road at a small place in Indiana; and the death of Hon. Hamilton Fish, Secretary of State during President Grant's two terms. The express robbery was a bold and well planned affair, the work evidently of experts. The engineer was shot and dangerously wounded; the door of the express car was broken open with dynamite: but comparatively little booty was obtained. The passengers were not disturbed. The robbers have not been caught, but are being vigorously hunted.

The schools are opening again throughout the country. In this city great interest is felt in the Armour Institutes which opened yesterday. There had been 1,200 applicants for admission, but only 500 were accepted, who represent nearly every state in the Union.

The formal announcement of the failure of the Faribault school plan, which during the past eighteen months has been discussed from Rome to San Francisco, was made on September 13th, when Father Conroy appeared before the board of education and said the Catholics could no longer consent to the assignment of two Protestant teachers to the Hill school, which has been a Catholic school up to the time of the union. It is understood that the order came from Archbishop Ireland and that he had had a request to take the action from Pope Leo. As a result of this order all Protestant children will be withdrawn from the Hill school and that institution will in future be conducted strictly as a parochial school. The board of education annulled its lease of the Hill School and took steps to lease another building for the accommodation of Protestant children.

The State of Virginia is rejoicing in a new trade outlet through the opening of a steamship line from Newport to London and Liverpool.

On the 24th inst. the Canadian Pacific will open for both freight and passenger business its new line from Sudbury, via St. Paul and Minneapolis, to Moose Jaw. This will probably be made the main through line, at least in winter.

An official decree has been issued announcing that an international exposition will be held in 1900. Alfred Picard is named as commander general.

On the 22nd inst. the fifth ten per cent. of the World's Fair bonds will be paid off

Since my last letter California, Michigan, and Ohio have had big fête days at the Fair; and today is Texas day, with an oration on "The Women of Texas," by ex Gov. R. B. Hubbard. New York also the other evening gave a banquet in which Japanese dancing was a special feature.

Among the recently announced awards are the following:—To the Japanese Commission, quick-firing gun, photographs, and models of boilers, models "Hashidate" and other ships, models of three cruisers, and naval clarts; to Edward Bedloe, Amoy, models of Chinese water-craft; to Siamese Commission, models of boats.

The Spanish caravels have been formally transferred by Captain Conchas to the U.S. Government, in whose behalf they were formally received by Assistant Secretary of the Navy McAdoo.

A meeting of the World's Fair Directory is called for next Monday (18th) to discuss the feasibility of extending the Exposition till January 1st, 1894.

This is also "Railroad Day," the sixty-third anniversary of the opening of the Liverpool and Manchester Railway, and will be fittingly celebrated. A large attendance is expected to-day

The list of awards to Japan in the Department of Forestry has just been made known, and includes the following:—Yano Sataro, T. Hatsusegawa, C. Matsuo, Akita Kenchiō, R. Endo, D. Nagato, S. Mori, R. Okubo, K. Yamanaka, S. Tamari, Y. Yagamuchi, S. Osada, G. Matsuoka, K. Tsuzura, S. Ohashi, and Y. Sato.

A tremendous interest is manifested in the Religious Congresses now in session, so that halls in which the meetings are held are insufficient to accommodate the crowds in attendance. There are three sections of these congresses:—the parliament of religions, the denominational presentations, and the denominational congresses. As the two latter are only of special interest, a few items in this regular letter will be sufficient; but, as the parliament of religions is of general and world-wide interest, it will be reserved for a special letter after its close (27th).

This is the day when the rush will be made for the Cherokee strip, to be opened for settlement. An unusually large crowd has been waiting on the borders; and the suffering also has been more than usual, "with a temperature of 110° F., no water or shade." There were some deaths in the line.

Forest fires are raging fiercely in northern Wisconsin, are driving settlers from their homes, and are threatening with destruction some of the large towns.

Another train robbery—this time in Northern Michigan—$70,000 secured.

The unemployed in this city are being given employment as fast as it can be found or made. The city itself will use a large number on the streets.

R. G. Dun and Co. report to day a "decided improvement" in business with "money more plentiful and rates somewhat easier."

LETTER FROM SOUTH CAROLINA.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Clark's Hill, September 10th.

I am now away down in the southern part of the United States, in the heart of the rebellious districts of a third of a century ago. This State was always the leader on the States rights side of the great controversy over the meaning of the U.S. constitution, that was not settled until after four years of powder, ball, and blood. She came near precipitating that frightful conflict in 1832-33 by her bold defence of nullification—the doctrine that a State has the right to nullify any law of the Union that she considers unfair to herself. She finally led off in the dance of death by her secession from the federation in the fall of 1860. The ruling class in England did themselves and the Kingdom no good by their coquettish attitude towards the South in that struggle. Even now, after the lapse of three decades, there is clearly noticeable down here among the masses, a tone of crystallised resentment against England for what the Southerners look on as her deception of the South during that period of anxiety and suffering. "Perfidious

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Albion," in their eyes, added another count to the long indictment against herself for treachery and selfishness. The Queen's government went as far as they could go in nagging and hectoring Mr. Lincoln without actually giving occasion for war. This only tantalised the South because they didn't go far enough. The result has been to arouse the cold dislike of the North, and the sullen indifference of the South. This popular feeling is of no practical moment on either side of the Atlantic now, but it may become of grave importance at some delicate crisis.

But aside from this bit of "Ancient history" South Carolina has again drawn the public eye on herself by another radical innovation—the assumption of the entire control of the sale of spirituous liquors in her borders. She buys at wholesale, and retails at some forty *dispensaries* that are established at different points in her borders. At first the genuine, simon-pure prohibitionists were tricked and captured by the promise that the "stuff" should be sold for medical purposes only. Some ridiculously stringent regulations were adopted for the gull fication of these innocent lambs. After they had been thus "fixed," the present Governor goes in to make all the revenue he can. There is no prohibitive feature except the price in at least some of these grog shops. Fire water flows as copiously as of yore, if a man can stand the cash for tapping the fountain.

As I foretold in my last, the judges of the General Government have been heavy brakes on this novel machinery. Under their decisions strong drink can be stopped from outside to any person within South Carolina although the State law sternly forbids all such consignments except to the central administrative depot at the capital. Thus it comes about that it is wholly wrong for you to receive this stimulant, but all right for an express company to fetch it to you. The constables can seize it after it has reached your hands, but can't touch it while in *transit*. The U.S. Courts take their stand on that clause of the Constitution enjoining freedom of commercial intercourse between the States, but this see-saw of two authorities makes a criss cross medley for the average citizen. The whole question will be finally passed upon by the U.S. Supreme Court and unity of obedience can then be secured.

In the meantime, there is little prospect of any happy financial windfall to the State from the business. The rates are double those the private bar rooms charged, and in consequence "blind tigers"—secret bar rooms—are beginning to compete for trade, and are sure to get it. This venture furnishes another illustration of the old contention as to the cost of private and public management. The State has a large salaried officer who sits in lofty dignity, and fills up a huge book with names of all buyers, while a clerk at a slight compensation does all the real work. Then the spy system inaugurated eats greedily into the receipts. No one except the executive knows how many of these underhand agents are at work or what they get, but it is certain they are numerous and the force will have to be kept up as long as the scheme remains.

Politics are at such fever heat here that a respectable fraction of the white people would not patronize the establishments because of partisan animosity. So even at reasonable prices and with expenses cut down to a minimum, there can be no fabulous profits. South Carolina is bounded on three-fourths of her border lines by States that have the private bar-room system, and it is utterly futile to hope to prevent people from crossing the line with a jug or two of illegal "mountain dew."

The whole risky experiment is the outcome of peculiar and widespread discontent among the farmers all over the United States. They have certainly suffered a depression for several years past and are making a loud outcry for relief of some kind. Forming for the entire country three-fourths of the population, they saw that by clubbing their votes they could get whatever government was able to do for them. South Carolina again was in the van of this movement and all law and conservatism and decency are cast to the winds when the dominant party wishes to do a thing. In time of wild passion the people here have never had much respect for authority, and under the impetus of this rural recklessness, high spirited fellows feel only a contempt for the restraints of law. One crime here is never redressed by the sober judicial process, the rape of white women by black men. Punishment is swiftly dealt out by an insane mob. In this State of a little over a million inhabitants there have been at least half a dozen cases of such popular murder during this summer, done deliberately, fiendishly, savagely, in open day, without the shadow of disguise. Negroes have been hounded with dogs, caught, bound hand and foot, dragged across the country, beaten raw with leather straps, swung up to a tree and riddled with bullets by a crowd of excited men and boys. So far from attempting to bring these offenders to the judgment seat, many officials applaud and condone the conduct of the mob. In one instance a sheriff captured a negro charged with rape and complacently promised to hold him until a sufficient number had gathered to lynch him. When the present Governor was a candidate, one of his chief bids for votes was his offer to head any gang to string up a black for such a crime. He has kept his word. A few months since a poor frightened coloured wretch fled to him for protection from a self constituted jury of a hundred or so. The Governor, the sworn defender of the law, coolly had the terror-stricken victim tied with cords and sent back to be tried by mob law, knowing what fate was in store for him and still not raising a finger to guard him against the inflamed passion of the hour. Of course all calm investigation was out of the question, and the negro was soon dangling in the breezes at the end of a rope. Fuller inquiry afterwards pretty clearly showed that he was entirely innocent. Can you wonder that when I am asked here "how did you get along with those heathens in Asia?" I answer "South Carolina is the most heathenish place I've ever been in." The people here are certainly falling behind in their regard for orderly procedure. A spirit of revolution seems to be on them, and the conservative element in society has had but slight influence for several years past. When I see this restiveness of control, these brutal outbreaks, I am amused to hear of appeals made to send the gospel to "benighted idol worshipers." I haven't hesitated to advise all the missionaries here to keep at home and preach all things that make for purity and loveliness, because here is the greatest need for aids to right living.

In another matter is Japan far ahead of this part of America, -in her highways. The roads there are as superior to the roads here, as Fujiyama overtops a hay mow. Here is not even a pretext of engineering skill in laying off these arteries of travel. Instead of winding around the base of a hill they go straight up one side of the hill and down the other. The wear on animal muscles is never thought of. I drove across the country some 20 miles a fortnight ago, and felt like making an expedition into "Darkest Africa," stones, stumps, roots, logs, gullies, holes, banks, overhanging limbs, sand beds, treacherous streams, grass, briers, bushes—all made one sigh for the graded and graveled ways of the Land of the Rising Sun. The roads are worked by the *corvée* system, every able bodied man being liable to such duty twelve days every year, and actually serving perhaps two. Every one shirks the task and a little slovenly scratching is all the roads get.

I can't help thinking that a knowledge of such deficiencies would have a tendency to make a man tone down his vanity some when he feels inclined to boast the excellence of American civilization over Japanese.

Japan with all its terrible typhoons does not have a monopoly of storms. There has just been a frightful one on the coast of South Carolina, and Georgia. It began on the coast of Florida and went northward, increasing in fury until, opposite South Carolina, it reached the height of its force. Great damage was done all along its course, large trees uprooted, fences and houses blown off the face of the earth, cotton and cane swept clean from the ground, rice, potatoes, and vegetables ruined by impregnation with salt water. On the adjoining islands especially the loss was enormous. At the lowest estimate fifteen hundred people were drowned and killed by the mass of floating débris. The suffering falls chiefly on the negroes, who are least able to bear it from their improvident habits. The loss of property is certainly not less than a million dollars. The volume of water driven in by the gale was about nine feet in mean height above the highest spring tides, and of course the waves were still higher. The exact height is not known, but it must have been something remarkable. There was an instance of a sail boat drawing five feet, being floated over a trestle nineteen feet above the highest spring tides. Professor Abbe, of the U.S. Weather Bureau, predicted the coming this cyclone, and foretold the stages of its progress hours before its arrival. The accuracy of his work has occasioned great surprise, and it will be made the basis to call for increased appropriation for this branch of service.

You will doubtless have already noticed the curious but interesting information that Mr. Charles Nordhoff brought out in his letters on the annexation of Hawaii to the United States. This gentleman is on the staff of the *N.Y. Herald*, and he went out there as representative of his paper to describe the situation. He discovered that the present movement in the Paradise of the Pacific for absorption into the American Union is a result of the missionary spirit. The prime movers in overthrowing the Queen and in setting up a provisional government were "missionary children." As he puts it, the missionaries went there to save souls; their children are now plotting to make money. The father worked for the good of the natives; the sons acquired the richest spots of land and are now planning how to get the benefit of the 2 cents a pound bounty on sugar given by the U.S. treasury. Only one-ninth of the native race favours this annexation scheme, and yet these "missionary children" are seeking by any means to ride roughshod over this popular feeling in order to realise 40 to 80 per cent. on their investments in sugar plantations. It makes a pitiful, painful commentary on the work of missions that the pure sentiments underlying Christian proselytism should innocently put men in a position that develops in them such cruel avarice, that leads them to take such unscrupulous advantage of a weaker people.

It is reported that the great African chief of the Zulus once said he wanted no missionaries in his land, because "first come the missionaries, then come the soldiers." Some of the heaviest guns ranged on Mr. Gladstone's cabinet to induce them to retain Uganda were the mission societies of England with their petitions, deputations, delegations, committees, and oceans of private letters.

The New York papers have gotten hold of another sensational murder case, this time in New Jersey, and they are fairly revelling over it. An old man named Halliday disappeared. His house was searched but no clue found. In the basement of the barn under a pile of hay and manure were discovered the dead bodies of two women, that none of the neighbours knew anything of at all. The old man's corpse was afterwards found under his house. His wife, who has no children, is suspected of the triple crime, though there seems no motive for her to commit such atrocities. The two women were poor, and were rank strangers to her, and apparently were enticed there solely to give her the delicate pleasure of killing them. Insanity seems to furnish the only explanation of the deed.

The Johns Hopkins University has issued a translation of the Book of Job by Professor Siegfrid of the University of Jena, Germany. Two things are very striking in this translation, the metrical arrangement of the poetry in double columns, and still more the colouring of the paper in blocks. The blue, green, and red denote interpolations and additions of various kinds. The text is black throughout. There are about forty scholars at this labour, and the Johns Hopkins University expects finally to get out a uniform translation of all the Old Testament.

THE TERAKOYA;

Or the Former Primary Schools of Japan.[1]

Translated for the *Japan Mail* from the *Revue Française*.

ORIGIN

At the time that intestine wars were continually troubling Japan, the bonzes, who alone were less illiterate than the rest of the nation, were the first to open schools wherein they gave elementary instruction to the people, and it is in commemoration of these schools that the name of *Terakoya* (Buddhist temple annexe) was retained for primary schools prior to the era of *Meiji* (1868).

In the present sketch, we offer some information upon the *Terakoya* schools of *Yedo* (to-day Tokyo), going back to the time of old Japan, that is to say to before 1868.

CONDITIONS FOR ADMISSION.

In Yedo such and such a *Terakoya* situated within a *Samurai* quarter, admitted the children of *Samurai* only, and another situated within a merchant quarter, only those of merchants or of artisans. The same *Terakoya* admitted children of both sexes.

Although the age for admission was that of at least 5 years, the youngest children seen there were 8 or 9 years old. Boys attended these schools up to the age of 12 or 13 years, and girls to that of 14 or 15.

COURSE AND METHOD OF INSTRUCTION.

The course of instruction was conceived upon a practical plan and one very appropriate for the kind of profession for which the pupils were intended by birth, and varied according to the school, save upon one point which was common to *Terakoya*, that of the very great importance they were unanimous in attaching to calligraphic exercises.

It was by means of models of writing, serving at the same time as readers, that the master strove

[1] Extract from the *Choya Shimbun* of the 1, 2, 3 to 9 April, 1893.

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to imprint the strokes of the characters upon the pupils' mind, together with their pronunciation and meaning. These models of writing were encyclopedias: they contained every day correspondence, the topography of Yedo, the geography of Japan and other kinds of information useful in the pupils's future career. After writing and reading came arithmetic or the art of calculating by means of the *soroban*, a kind of abacus.

Such was the course followed everywhere, saving a few exceptions hereinafter mentioned:—

At first the sons of merchants and of artizans whom the state of their fortune permitted it, followed particular courses of reading Chinese texts, outside of the school's curriculum. They were the few that studied arithmetic.

The sons of *Samurai* learned to write and read Chinese characters and prepared themselves, in the *Terakoya*, for the serious study of Chinese literature which they were to complete later on elsewhere. The examples of writing put into their hands, were extracts in prose and in verse, from the works of the School of Confucius. But the *Samurai* condemned absolutely the art of calculating, as something injurious to a military education, for fear, according to their scrupulous prejudices, that it should give rise, among them, to a mercantile spirit which they despised and detested.

In general the course of instruction differed between the pupils of the two sexes, only in slight modifications and simplifications in favour of the girls.

Few girls learned to sew in the *Terakoya*, because, in the first place, there were special schools for sewing, and then because the mothers, for the most part, preferred to undertake themselves that sphere of their education, considered one of their duties.

Certain *Terakoya* taught the girls how to cut and fold *Noshi*.[a]

The masters of the *Terakoya* pursued, for teaching writing, the following method: every day a new group of ten pupils were collected around the master seated in a place that overlooked the whole class, in order that he might pay special attention to them, either in guiding their hands in forming the characters, or in correcting those made by themselves, while his assistants looked after the other pupils.

As to lessons in reading, they were given to all the pupils at the same time. Moreover, every day the class finished by a repetition of the reading learned during the day. A reading lesson was given in the following way: after one of the oldest pupils, chosen monitor, had read a passage in the lesson, all the others recited it together in a loud voice.

MORALS.

Lessons in morality were given through lectures that the master delivered, at least once a week, to his pupils upon domestic and social virtues. The most learned masters professed the morals of Confucius; the others were satisfied with odds and ends of Buddhistic and of Shintoist doctrines. They cited, in support of their words, examples of virtue that the Government had placarded in the streets to announce to the public the heroic devotion it had just rewarded. Let us say, in passing, that these notices were always couched in easy language comprehensible by persons of all ages and of both sexes.

DISCIPLINE.

School commenced at 8 a.m. and finished at 2 p.m. During school hours, the pupils could not leave their places without the master's permission or that of his assistants. The latter gave those that had received permission a wooden ticket, which they had to give up in returning.

At the end of the day, the master examined the copy-books of each pupil, and those found deficient were liable to be kept in and obliged to work at their lessons.

Every newly admitted pupil, if very young, took his place next to another one who was a relation or an acquaintance, in order that the latter might look after him, under the vigilant direction of the master's wife, entrusted with the care of the very youngest.

The girls and the boys were separated from each other by a suitable distance. The part of the room reserved for boys was called *otokosa* and that for girls, *onnasa*.

The master's assistants (the oldest pupils) made daily lists of the presence and return home of the pupils: standing near the inside door of the school, they entered, in the morning, the names of the arrivals and in the afternoon, they called the pupils by name, in the order of the arrivals in the morning, and let them go one by one without disorder: also they had to see that the pupils made their bows properly on arriving and on going away.

[a] These are small pieces of coloured paper, with or without designs, and folded according to forms as varied as the number of ceremonies for which they were intended.

MAXIMS.

Each school had, for the pupils of both sexes, its rules of conduct consisting of about the following maxims:

For boys: "Obedience must be practised towards parents and the master, it must be seen to that harmony reigns between comrades, that the rules of decorum are complied with, etc.: there must be no quarrels, neither money nor food shall be kept about the person in school, there must be no conduct of badly brought up children in the streets on the way to and from school," etc.

For girls: "Gossip about the figure, the dress, the state of the fortune of comrades, must be avoided; they must not make indiscreet remarks about others, must not talk among themselves about boys, must not be chatterboxes, impatient, must not laugh aloud," etc.

In some schools, a board bearing the two characters for perseverance, was prominently hung in the room, and and the master, pointing it out to reprehensible pupils, would exhort them to persevere in the paths of wisdom.

PUNISHMENTS.

The punishments consisted in reprimands, in *kiritsu*, in keeping in for an hour or two with enforced study and in whippings.

The disciplinary measure called *kiritsu* compelled the pupil in fault, to remain without moving, upon a *Tsukuye* (a writing table) placed in a corner of the class-room. Whipping was administered with a roll of card board whose blows resounded louder than they gave pain.

Sometimes incorrigible pupils were tied to a post, or else they were stood up upon a *Tsukuye*, being made to hold in the right hand a lighted stick of *Senko* (incense stick), and in the left a cup full of water.

These methods of treatment, some of which appear to us singular rather than severe, were not disapproved of by parents who were desirous for the good conduct, above all things, of their children, and relied upon the master's good judgment in what related to the choice of methods of correction. If badness was punished, merit was habitually rewarded as much for application as for good conduct.

EXAMINATIONS.

Six times a month there were written compositions which the master marked *very good*, or *good* or *bad*, according to results. But composition was permitted only on condition that the pupil knew by heart the words of the set copies for imitation, that had to be learned since the last composition. Examinations called *Sekigaki* took place in the 4th and 8th months of the year. They were at the same time school festivals: we will recur to them farther on.

At the end of each month there was a reading examination and, at the end of each year, in the 12th month, a general examination in reading. At these examinations, the pupils had to recite by heart, before the examiners, all the lessons they had learned during the month or during the year.

PREMISES AND MATERIAL.

In the suburban quarters of the town, the schools, kept by Shinto or by Buddhist priests, and necessarily located within the temple enclosure, fulfilled all desirable hygienic conditions But those in the centre of the city, excepting those in the *Samurai* quarters, were far from doing so: surrounded by business houses, in great streets or situated in narrow alleys, they had no vacant land about them and were thus badly off for good air.

In each school there was but one room, without partition, the floor being covered with *tatami* (straw mats): here was seen the master's place at the head of several rows of *Tsukuye* arranged by twos and twos in such a way that the pupils placed themselves at them one opposite to another. Every evening, at the end of school, these *Tsukuye* had to be displaced and put into a corner one on top of another, and replaced the next morning in the order of the arrivals so that the last places were left to the last comers.

Everywhere, one part of the school house served as a dwelling for the master and his family.

The following furniture was indispensible for the pupils, who had to bring the articles on the day of their admission to the school.

1. *Tsukuye*, a table with a drawer, of rough make, painted an orange yellow colour, 8 *sun* high, 23 *sun* and 10 wide.[b]

2. *Bunko*, wooden box painted like the *Tsukuye*, 13 *sun* high, 25 long and 20 wide, in which to put the ink-stone, brushes, copy-books, books, etc.

3. *Suzuri*, an ink-stone with a trough cut in it at one end, in which to prepare ink, 6 *bu*[a] deep, 4 *sun* wide and 7 long.

4. *Tehon*, a copy-book containing a certain number of leaves of strong paper, 12 *sun* high by 2½ *sun* wide, in which the master wrote the characters to serve as copies.

[b] The *sun*, inch, 1/10 of a *shaku*, foot, is 0.033 of a metre. Children, to work at these lilliputian tables were seated, naturally, on their heels. As to that shop-keepers at their counters, are placed scarcely higher. (*Ed.—R.F.*)

SOCIAL CONDITION AND MODE OF LIFE OF THE SCHOOLMASTER.

Among the masters of *Terakoya* schools, *Samurai* of the *Shogun* or Daimiyos were met with, either in active service or in retirement, and Buddhist and Shinto priests. Masters belonging to those categories of persons enjoying, outside of the school, sufficient incomes for their subsistence, voluntarily devoted their leisure time to the education of children. The other masters, who were *Ronin* (*Samurai* without lords) or else citizens, had, as means of existence, no other income than what their school brought them in. Included among masters of this category, were destitute priests and former ladies of the Court, retired from service and already too old to get married.

Under the Shogunate, there was no kind of interference by the Government in primary instruction: the masters, whom it submitted to no examinations as to capacity as is done to-day, were free to teach as they thought best, and parents to give or not give instruction to their children. The masters, whatever may have been their original social condition, enjoyed the privileges of the *Samurai*, that is to say, they could choose their domicile in a *Samurai* quarter to there keep, school, could wear swords and adopt a patronymic name for public and for private acts.

As a general rule, the conduct of masters was noble and disinterested, and they were worthy to be examples to the children confided to them, and well merited the respect of all. The pupils regarded, them their life long, as benefactors and ever sought to testify their gratitude to them. Thus, at family merry-makings, to which parents of the pupils never failed to invite them, the place of honour was of right reserved for them.

REMUNERATION.

Not all the masters had an easy life of it; many of them could count, to live, only on the fees voluntarily paid by pupils in money or in kind, fees that varied in amount according to the wealth of the quarter in which the school was located, for nowhere had they dreamed of establishing a tariff of fees, being convinced that education to be given to children ought not to be a matter of bargain at such or such a price, and left the parents of the children free upon the subject. It was this, moreover, that assured them an independent position, if not well, remunerated, at least much respected and very sympathetic.

In common practice, in the schools held by *Samurai*, pupils paid from one *shu* to one *bu* twice a year, at the new year and at the *Bon* festival commemorative of the dead, celebrated in the 7th month of the year; in the schools in the merchant quarter, pupils paid annually one *bu*, two *shu* or 200 *mon* according to their means.[a]

In general, in all the *Terakoya*, newly admitted pupils offered either in money or in kind, a present called *Sokushu*: in the 6th month of the year, each pupil gave 200 or 300 *mon*, sometimes even one or two *shu*, for expenses incurred in renovation of the *tatami* and in the 10th month, any sum whatever for expenses in warming the school: at the *Bon* festival and at the end of the year, each one brought to the masters presents varying in value.

In the schools in the merchant quarter, the masters of which were not *Samurai* and consequently had no surplus incomes, the pupils endeavoured to assist them to eke out their existence and to aid in defraying their expenses as much as possible. For instance, in order to meet those of the festival of *Kakisome* and that of *Sakigake*, they made a contribution of from 200 *mon* to one *bu* each. They handed to their masters a gift of from 16 to 32 *mon* at the monthly festival of the divinity *Tenjinsama*. The surplus of these contributions and offerings, constituted so much gain intended for the masters.

Besides, pupils often presented the earliest produced vegetables or fish of the first catch of the season: they gave clothing even.

USAGES AND CUSTOMS.

They 1st day of the 2nd month of the year was considered the luckiest one for entering school: on that day the already admitted pupils repaired to the Shinto shrine of *Inari* with long slips of coloured paper bearing their names and those of the schools to which they belonged.

Every pupil newly admitted to a *Terakoya* bespoke his welcome by distributing cakes of small cost.

[a] A *bu* is equal to 3 millimetres.

[b] A *mon* equalled 1/10 of a *rin*, a *shu*, 6 *sen* 5 *rin*, a *bu* 25 *sen*.

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In the 4th and in the 8th months, at the time of the half-yearly examinations of writing, called *Sekigaki*, there was a fête in each school on that day, the master was in full dress and the pupils came clothed in their best possible, according to their means. Before a numerous audience of parents and under the eyes of the master, the pupils had to handle their brushes and make from 2 to 8 large characters upon sheets of paper of different sizes, and as soon as they were made, they were hung up in the room, opened wide on purpose, so as to allow those crowding outside under the windows to see them.* The meeting ended with a little feast for the pupils and with a *tombola*.

On the 5th day of the 1st month the *Kakizome* took place (the first writing on the new year), it was a festival given upon the return to school and was identical with that of *Sekigaki*.

On the 5th day of the 7th month, the pupils came to the school for their *suzuri* (ink stones) to bring them back the next day, cleaned. On that day, they wrote upon slips of differently coloured paper, either prayers for progress in writing or else praises of their master, and fastened the papers thus prepared, to the end of their brushes: they then hung them together to the green branches of a bamboo, brought for the purpose, and frolicked around it.

Some schools, in the merchant quarter, celebrated the 25th of each month, the festival of *Temmangu*, or *Tenjin-sama*, a minister of the Mikado, and a calligraphist, deified after his death. A *kakemono* representing the god was hung in the school-room and offerings were presented to him on a table in front of him.

It was also the custom of the schools in the merchant quarters, every year at the time of the blossoming of the cherry trees to take the boy and girl pupils for a walk to localities where there were the most blossoms. They marched there in procession showing best clothes and passed the whole day under the blossoming trees in innocent games and amusements.

It was one of those days when the master, usually severe to the pupils, was companionable to a certain extent and joined in their merriment. These walks were taken at the expense of the pupils. This custom of taking the pupils out to walk at the time of the cherry blossoms, was well followed formerly, but since 1890 it has been fallen into disuse, as too has the prosperity of the *Terakoya*.†

SITUATION OF THE TERAKOYA UNDER THE SHOGUNATE.

The government of the Shoguns, which left full liberty to the *Terakoya*, without restricting them to any regulation, encouraged them sometimes by rewards conferred upon the masters and guided them, in moral education, by instructions, notably those of the 5th month of the 5th year of *Shotoku* (1715) and of the 3rd month of the 14th year of *Tempo* (1843), reminding the masters of the serious responsibility that weighed upon them as educators of the young generation, and of the points they were to insist upon in teaching morality.

The 8th Shogun, Yoshimune (1816 1844), greatly contributed to the development of the prosperity of the *Terakoya*, the number of which had, before the Restoration, amounted to 900 in the city of Yedo.

DECLINE OF THE TERAKOYA.

Dating from 1861, with mitfied agitation that spread over the whole Empire, the Revolution was under preparation: *Samuras* in the service of Daimyos started for the capital: nothing was heard but military preparations: a presentiment was felt of a stupendous event that could not be far off.

In the midst of this general perplexity alarming the mind and paralyzing business, parents withdrew their children from the *Terakoya*, which soon found themselves deserted.

After the Restoration the pupils returned to the schools, but they were no longer the same: little by little those intimate relations between masters and pupils disappeared, owing to the absence among the latter of the former sentiments of respect and love which gave room to indifference and egoism.

In this situation, part of the *Terakoya* maintained themselves, although with difficulty, until 1872, when the Imperial Government promulgated a school law, according to which they were to be immediately abolished. However, by special favour, some were authorised to continue on, under certain determined conditions, that is those the immediate suppression of which would deprive the masters of their means of livelihood. Many of these schools have since closed, unable to conform to the official courses or to compete with the municipal primary schools. Of those that exist to-day the oldest are the Chiba school founded in 1744 and the Hanagata one founded in 1789. They, like the others, pursue the official courses of primary instruction and continue to prosper.

After the Restoration, the Imperial Government turned its attention at the start, among other reforms, to that of primary instruction. The desire was that all social classes should be admitted without distinction to the benefits of instruction. But the first essays did not sensibly modify the secular régime of the *Terakoya* which continued to exist until 1872, when these schools were definitely closed. The school law, the putting into vigour of which had occasioned this measure, had just been promulgated: it replaced the old system of individual instruction by simultaneous instruction and introduced methods and books borrowed from all over Europe and especially from the United States.

This is not the place in which to give an opinion upon the rules enjoined by this law. What is certain is, that these rules could not be applied just as they were and that they underwent, at different times, modifications purposed to mitigate their requirements. Those that to-day govern primary instruction, were published by Imperial Ordinance No 215, of the 10th October, 1890 (23rd year of *Meiji*).

Primary schools receive children of the two sexes, of from 6 to 14 years of age: the course lasts 8 years, 4 or 5 of them devoted to the elementary, the other to the superior course.

In the elementary section, morals, reading, composition, calculation and gymnastics are taught. The superior course comprises, besides these matters, the geography and history of Japan and those of foreign countries, physics, drawing, music and in addition for girls, sewing. Notions about agriculture and commerce may, according to localities and circumstances, be added to the curriculum.

Primary schools are either public or private, according as they have been established by communes or by individuals. Instruction is not given in them gratuitously: the pupils pay a small fee.

Parents and guardians are responsible for the attendance at school, of their children and wards. Every child must finish at least the elementary course. In cases of plausible reasons for exemption from attending school, these reasons must be submitted to the Mayor and obtain his approval.

In what relates to instructors and to their aids, they must have graduated in a normal school or be provided with licenses from the authorities, after an examination.—(Ed. *R. F.*)

* It must be admitted that at that time, masters, parents and the public were satisfied with very little. We are inclined even to think that pupils were called upon to display their knowledge in the other branches of their studies. To-day, in the Japanese national exhibitions, an imitation of what is done in Europe and in America, the work of pupils is exhibited and it must be admitted that it deserves better attention.— Ed *R F*.

† However, to-day these promenades are also in vogue as to both private and public primary schools.

NAVAL COURT OF INQUIRY.

An Official Inquiry was held on Monday, morning, October 9th, at the Mercantile Marine Bureau (Teishinsho) into the circumstances attending the stranding of the N. Y. K. steamship *Sakata Maru*, Julius Giese, Master, on the 26th of August last, this being held by order and under Section 10 of the general regulations for granting certificates to Masters, Mates, and Engineers.

The Court was composed as follows:—Mr. J. Ito, President, and Messrs. J. M. James, Adviser to the Mercantile Marine Bureau, A. F. Macnab, Y. Yokoi, and Y. Oshima, Assessors. There was also present in Court Lieut. T. H. James, R.N., and several Japanese officials watching the case.

Julius Giese, warned, in answer to Mr. James, said—I was in charge of and in command of the *Sakata Maru* at time of stranding. I hold a Japanese, as well as a German, master's certificate. Have been in command of the *Sakata Maru* since the first of March 1893. I was on board her as chief officer about six years ago, and joined her this time as commander. Since I have been in command I have made about six voyages up north and return—from Kinkasan to Inuboye. I passed Kinkasan about 3.30 in the morning, distant about 7 miles, on the 26th August. I verified the ship's position by four-point bearings. The first was bearing S.W. by compass which was in error 4 degrees east. This was at 1 a.m. and patent log showed 332 miles. Then I altered the course to S.S W. by compass. Was not on deck at the first four-point bearing, as I ordered the officer to call me when we were abeam. The officer on watch is not here, will come at 2 o'clock. The second officer, Mr. Walker, was on watch at the time. I was on deck on the four-point or beam bearing—W.N.W. I saw this myself, and put it down in the night order book. At 3.30 I altered the course S. by W. ½ W. by compass. From the time I first saw the light and the time I was abeam it was two hours and a half. We were going about 8 miles an hour, for about 20 miles. The time between the first four point bearing and the beam bearing I don't know, as the officer did not note it. From Kinkasan I shaped S. by W. ½ W. the deviation of compass being three degress easterly. Our course was never altered from Kinkasan. The weather on the day of stranding was variable, cloudy and overcast in the early part of the day from 8 to 10; it cleared at noon, and became cloudy again. We had two sights in the morning for longitude, the first was not good, but the second was, the weather having cleared.

Mr. James—You don't generally trust the 2nd officer to take the sights, do you?—I generally take them myself, with the officer to take the time. We have always done so together. The observation was taken a little after 8.15 o'clock a.m. We got a good meridian and we agreed to within 2 miles—the weather was cloudy but not foggy. At noon it was fine clear weather with passing clouds. I got no chronometer observations at noon. In the afternoon we got no sights, as it became foggy. We ascertained our position by chronometer and the patent log. Up to this time had seen no land, and I was about to sound when my attention was diverted. We checked our course by dead reckoning. The chronometer was verified in Hongkong, and I have always found it to be correct. The dead reckoning showed there was a tide setting us about 11 miles to the N. Eastward. From Kinkasan we were set E N E. about 12 miles,—this was the difference shown between the observation and the dead reckoning. I thought the observed position was correct, as I could see no land, but my dead reckoning would have been right, had I seen land. I didn't alter my course at all. Allowing for the setting to the northward given in my dead reckoning, I should have been at least seven miles outside of Inuboye. In all previous voyages it set me out, but never in, except in my voyage from Hamanaka when, there being a wind, I was more to the Eastward than I expected. The calculations were worked out by myself and the second officer, and they agree to 2 minutes. I worked on my own calculation, which would put me further to the westward. During the evening it set in foggy again, so I told the chief officer to blow the whistle. It was foggy, but the mooh was visible overhead. We could see about 2 miles ahead. The officer said he could see as far as the whistle sounded, but I ordered him to sound it nevertheless. After 8 the fog became more dense. We struck at 9.14. The patent log was reported every hour. I expected to make Inuboye light at about 9 o'clock and get abeam at mid night. My position put me 92 miles off at noon. I first took the ground at 9.14. Had seen nothing up to that time, no indications of land whatever. The lead was not cast, as I intended doing so when I came on deck. As there seemed something wrong as to the speed I ordered it to be brought on deck, when I found the propeller fouled with seaweed and rope yarn. Up to the time of striking I saw no light or any glare indicating a light. I intended sounding at 9 p.m. and had the lines all ready for use. They were on the bridge, and I had gone abaft of the main-mast when I felt the vessel strike. When she took the beach she was bearing S. by W. ½ W., the wind was northerly but no sea. The wind came up afterwards. The water was 3½ fathoms forward, amidships 2½, and aft 3½, this was the result of sounding after we struck. I worked the engines half-speed astern first, and as I found it was a sandy bottom I worked her full speed astern. Gradually her stern stewed around, when I put her full speed ahead. She went a little bit but then stopped. The water tanks were full at time of stranding, but they were pumped out. I intended taking an anchor out, but as the sea rose we gave it up. Our own anchor was down, but this I pulled up when I went full speed ahead as I was afraid of running over it. In this we were also unsuccessful. Shortly afterwards the engineer came up and said he could no longer work the engines as there was too much sand coming in. A sampan came out from the shore and through her we conveyed news of her stranding. After stranding we could see nothing of Inuboye light. (The Master then pointed out his position on the chart.) From where I was I could see the top of the lamp, but nothing else. I ascertained my real position afterwards through the men of the place. We were going at full speed when the vessel stranded, the engines indicating 62 revolutions. The interval of time between the stranding and my stopping the engines in order to go astern was about 10 minutes. We sounded over the side of the ship. The engineer's log-book gives the exact time. (Captain James said it was there entered at four minutes, and Mr. McNab suggested it should be

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taken as correct.) The vessel was kept steady on her course all the time until she struck, and we saw no land all the time. I have been sailing up and down the coast as chief officer and as Captain for a considerable time. The tide was generally setting N.E. to N.N.E. from Inuboye to Kinkasan and sometimes further north. Have never experienced a southerly current; didn't know that such existed other than the inward tide in Sendai Bay, although I have heard of vessels having been set in a southerly direction. I had two patent logs out, but didn't try the hand log. I had faith in them as they ran pretty regular. The patent log indicated 63½ when I hauled it aboard after we struck. Off Kinkansan it showed 332½, which would the make distance sailed from Akisu Lighthouse 432 miles. The rope-yarn and seaweed was on the propeller of the log. The bottom was sandy, no boulders, etc. After we got the vessel off we came along with our own engines. It was our intention to steam along ourselves, as we could go 4 knots, had the *Sendai* not come along, and taken us in tow. I cannot give the time of the four-point bearing. The second officer took it but did not put it down.

Mr. James—I want to know how you got your distance from Kinkasan, which you say was seven miles off?—The second officer knows. I remained by the ship the whole time. As it came on to blow and I was afraid of losing life we left her, but the carpenter wouldn't leave; but as the weather abated next morning we all went aboard again. We were seven miles off when we were abeam. We must have been 30 miles off when we first sighted it. We were steering S.S.W. since one o'clock, 3 degrees error Easterly. The second mate took the four-point bearing by my orders, but he omitted to put it down. From 8 to noon the 3rd officer was on watch. Coming down the coast I have never been set in like this, but on the last trip she was more Eastward than I expected. All her steering gear was in good order, and everything had been carefully tested and found thoroughly efficient on the 10th August, going north on the same voyage. The sounding machine was ready for instant use—only to call a man up and throw it over. I have used the lead on previous voyages and certified my position by it and by dead reckoning. A steamer passed us further north, she was a little outside of us between Kinkasan and Inuboye, about 2 miles from us, but we could not ascertain what she was. There were some fishing boats to the westward of us. There were three chronometers on board, two belonging to the ship and one to myself.

At this stage the Court adjourned till 1.30 p.m.

On resuming in the afternoon, the Captain's examination was continued—I account for my being where I was to the tide being flood; the wind was at first from the Southward, but in the afternoon it shifted to the Northward. I went a little bit inland in order to get my bearings, but I could see no land. I was steering for Inuboye.

Mr. James pointed out that he could have taken his bearings from the bottom of the sea as it had been thoroughly surveyed. He also explained to the Captain the nature of the tides, suggesting that it was the tide rushing round the bend in the configuration of the land which had set him in. That if there had been no current, there probably would have been no discrepancies between the chronometer and the dead reckoning.

Witness—The course I steered on this occasion after passing Kinkasan might have been a quarter of a point more inshore (to the Westward) than the others I have been steering during the voyages I have made along this coast. On may previous voyage I made Inuboye about three points on the bow, on the starboard bow. I am sorry to say that the papers on which the observations were made on the morning of the 26th August have been lost. The daily rates were steady. Two of my chronometers were trustworthy These were marked down on the leaf of an almanack.

Abei Toshinori, the 3rd officer of the *Sakata Maru*, cautioned, said—I joined the *Sakata Maru* on 1st March. I have a certificate of the second class. My watch is from 8 in the morning to 12 noon. The weather was foggy, but it was clear above, the wind being fair and from the north. The vessel was steering S. by W. ½ W. I was in charge of the deck, but the Captain came on the deck off and on I helped him to take an observation a little past 8 o'clock, about 8.30, and again at noon. The second mate and myself usually took the times but on the morning in question I cannot remember who did so. There was only one bearing taken at 8.30, and at noon also there was only one. I was looking at the time while these were being done. Between 8.30 and the time the vessel stranded it was foggy, and I saw no land or anything else. We were still heading S. by W. ½ W. The Captain came on the bridge at about 8.5 p.m. and stayed until 9 o'clock, when he went aft. The logs were inspected every hour, the quartermasters being in charge, one on the starboard and the other on the port side. Both of them were taffrail logs, it was not necessary to pull them up to inspect them. We could not see beyond half a mile, nor did I see the moon. It was at 9 o'clock that we discovered a discrepancy in the log, that it did not rightly indicate the speed at which we were going. I thought that it had become fouled, so I informed the captain of the fact. I asked the chief mate at about 8.05 o'clock the distance we were from Inuboye, when he replied 34 or 35 miles, but that as soon as we sighted the light to report it. I heard nothing from the Captain. At the time we struck, the fog was exceptionally heavy, the shock was very sudden. I thought she had run on a reef. Before that moment I saw no signs of land. Immediately after we struck the engines were stopped by me by telegraph, in the absence of Captain from the bridge I heard the Captain call out stop almost at the same moment. He was abaft the lower bridge The vessel was still moving after she struck, and it was about 5 or 6 minutes before she stuck fast. This was, I think, after the order to go astern was given. The helm was put hard a starboard as soon as the vessel struck, by my orders. I called it out twice. The Captain, when he came on deck at 8.05, had a look around, as he usually does. The Captain and myself kept one watch, while the first and second mates kept the other. I never sailed on this coast before March, 1893 Before we struck I heard or saw no breakers, nor did I see other vessels on our way down. I did not see Kinkasan at 8 o'clock in the morning. It was owing to the distance and the weather that I could not see it. We saw no sign of land at all, during the voyage until after we struck.

Cap. Geise, recalled—The second officer took the sights and the third officer took the time when the bearings were taken.

Captain Geise asked whether he could call Captain Hardy to give evidence as to the currents.

Mr. James did not think he could throw further light upon this matter, as it had been studied out, but in reference to the tides he might be able to give information. There was no hot current there, but a cold one setting in from the north.

Captain Hardy said that the tides, from his experience, were very irregular, in fact they were not two days alike, depending very much on the wind and weather, especially the wind.

Mr. James asked Captain Hardy to put down what he knew about the tides in writing, as it would be useful

Sakata Ettaro, a quartermaster, said—I was on board the *Sakata Maru* when she stranded—was at the wheel at the time. My watch is from 8 o'clock till 12, both day and night. Between 8 and 9 o'clock in the morning I had charge of the wheel, and I was steering by my compass S. by W. ½ W. The wheel is on the upper bridge, the steering being done by steam. The weather was foggy and somewhat cloudy, and I could not see the sky. I saw the Captain taking bearings twice during the forenoon. There is no wheel-house on the bridge, only the wheel. The sun was invisible, I think, but they may have had a glimpse of it in taking the bearings. The weather in the afternoon showed no improvement. I did not see the bearings being taken at noon, as I was relieved at 11 o'clock. From 5 p.m. to the time of striking, the weather was similar if not worse than the morning. I was on watch when the vessel ran aground. I could see no land nor any light. While I was at the wheel the same course was kept throughout—S. by W. ½ W. The *Sakata Maru* is a rather difficult vessel to steer,—difficult to keep pointing right. With rough weather she yaws about ½ a point or so, and in fine weather about ½ of a point. She had no particular fault as to pointing. After the vessel struck, soundings were taken There was 3 fathoms at the bow and stern and 2½ amidships. There was a sailor on watch with me, named Shimada. The propeller of the log was fouled with seaweed. I think I have sailed past Kinkasan and Inuboye or along the same coast before, but cannot remember when. We were coming down from Akeshi, and left Inuboye about 2½ or 3 *ri*, but the weather was also foggy and I could not tell very well.

Tokumasu Wakataro, a quartermaster, said—I belong to the *Sakata Maru*. On the day of the stranding I was at the wheel from 8 a.m. till noon and again from 8 till 12 at night. The weather was cloudy and there was fog, but every now and then it cleared up above, but no land could be seen. Our course was S. by W. ½ W. Could not see the sun either in the morning or in the afternoon. I did not notice any bearings being taken while I was at the wheel. I was on the look-out from 8 til 9 p.m. after which I was to take the wheel. Course S. by W. ½ W., and saw nothing on the voyage. I looked at the log at 9 o'clock just before taking the wheel, and think we had made 63 miles, but after the vessel struck I did not look. When the vessel struck I heard the order, "Hard a starboard," and tried to obey the order, but the wheel was jammed. I think there was a difference of one or two miles in the indications by the two logs.

Shimada Nisaburo, a seaman, said—I belong to the *Sakata Maru*. On the day of stranding I was doing nothing in particular, except my usual work. I turn to at 5 a.m. and knock off at 5 p.m. The weather was not particularly bad, not clear not yet cloudy, and the sun was visible, shining brightly. My watch at night was from 9 o'clock. I was stationed at the forecastle, and it was 15 minutes after I went on deck that we struck. There was a heavy fog; heard no sound of surf nor saw land, and we struck suddenly without any warning. The fog came on early in the evening, and was thick by the time I went on deck and I could discern nothing. Could see no land during the whole time.

The Court adjourned at 5 o'clock until 10 o'clock next morning for the evidence of the second officer and two more quartermasters.

TUESDAY, October 10th, 1893.

The Court resumed its sitting at 10 o'clock this morning, when the second officer was the first witness called.

Henry Walter Walker, cautioned, said—I am the second officer, *Sakata Maru*. I joined the vessel on the 17th of October, 1892. I have a Japanese second mate's certificate. I took charge of the deck at midnight until 4 a.m. with the first officer on the date of stranding. The vessel was within 25 miles N.E. of Kinkasan. I first sighted Kinkasan light at 1 o'clock, bearing S.W. by compass. From 12 to 1 we were steering S.W., making the light straight ahead. The course was afterwards altered to S.S.W. When I sighted Kinkasan light on S.W. I looked at the patent log, as I always do on sighting a light, but I cannot remember what it indicated, as I have lost my note book. Kinkasan light was on a four-point bearing at between 2.30 and 2.40, but I am not quite certain. I did not enter it in the log, as it would be filling it up with bearings which are continuously being taken.

Mr. James remarked that it was better to be filled with bearings than nothing at all.

Witness continuing—The light bore W.S.W. by compass. The log showed 47 miles, which would make the run 347 miles from Daikokushima in Akeshi, which was the port of departure. I took the bearing myself. The interval of time between the four-point and beam bearings was 50 minutes, but I cannot remember the time of first four-point bearing. The patent log showed 7 miles during this interval. When the light was abeam, the course was altered S. by W. ½ W. by compass. From this to time of stranding no change was made in the course. The weather was cloudy in the early part of the morning and before noon. From midnight to four in the morning the weather was fine and clear. From 8 until 10 o'clock it was cloudy, the sun being visible at times, but at noon it was clear. The wind was Northerly and light, not sufficient to set sails. At noon I could see the sun, and the horizon was clear. There was no land in sight, but I saw a lot of fishing boats away inland. I took some sights at about 8.30 a.m. I first took a pair of sights with two chronometers, but they were not good. I told the third officer to call me if there was a break, but I had not gone far aft when it cleared a bit and I rushed out and took another single sight with one chronometer, which was successful. I considered the first sights unreliable because the horizon was not clear and clouds were quickly passing before the sun. The third officer took the time while I made the observations. He is thoroughly reliable. A few minutes afterwards the Captain took bearings, I keeping the time. I think the ship was worked up till noon from my sights, as I believe the Captain's were not good, there being a lot of clouds overhead. I worked out the sights, but they were not entered in my observation book, only good and reliable ones being entered in it by me. These sights I had not much confidence in, so I entered them on a memo form, which I have not at present got, it was lost the day after the wreck. The noon observations were very good, both the Captain and myself taking them. There was only a slight difference between the Captain's observations and mine as to altitude. I did all the working out of the observations and altitude myself up to noon and after. The ship's position for dead reckoning was not worked up by me. I don't know who did so. The ship's position was set by the Captain on the chart while I was in the chart-room. I was looking at him doing it. The ship's position was laid down from the result of my sight and not from the dead reckoning. There was no dead reckoning position marked down at

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all. There was a course line drawn down the chart, which was supposed to be our course at the time. The result of my observations were taken as indicating the correct position of the ship, and was so put down,—at least this is my presumption. I have been at sea nine years altogether. This is not the first steamer I have been in as second officer, as I held the same position in the *Takachiho Maru*. That was the one lost off Tsushima. I was second officer there. I have an English chief mate's certificate. On board the *Sakata* the Captain and I usually took the observations. There were only two observations on her, while in other vessels there have been as many as four and five. The sounding apparatus we have on board are Sir Wm. Thompson's patent. I have seen it used frequently. I have used it on the *Sakata* many times myself. The last time I used it was about a week previously, from Hamanaka to Akeshi. The weather was foggy at the time. I found no bottom with 100 fathoms out. We were well out to sea, and running backward and forward at the time. Have never seen the patent lead used between Kinkasan and Inuboye as we have never had any foggy weather before on this voyage. I have never met with any foggy weather before. On all previous voyages coming south between Kinkasan and Inuboye I think sometimes we steered other courses, but the one before we steered S. by W, and the one before that I think S.S.W. These courses we steered without any change to Inuboye. On the last voyage we made, Inuboye was bearing about two points off the starboard bow, but cannot remember how it bore on the previous voyage. On previous voyages we generally passed Kinkasan about ten miles off. Don't know how the previous bearings were taken, as I was not on deck. The weather during my afternoon watch on 26th August was foggy, and we could only see half a mile ahead at 3 o'clock. At 4 o'clock it was very cloudy, and I could not see so far. After this it was foggy, with clearing every now and then, until time of stranding. I was off duty in my room when the vessel first touched bottom. I rushed up and called out to the quarter-master to bring a lead aft. The chief officer was forward and took soundings there. The soundings were between 3½ to 3¾ fathoms aft; forward it was 3, and amidships 2½. The bottom was all sand, with no gravel or anything else. The engines were going full speed astern when I came on deck, but they were stopped as soon as the vessel took the ground. This backing had the effect of slewing her head round to the north west. The vessel moved a little astern at first, but slewing principally with her head to N.W., and in this position she lay. We gave up using the engines about four o'clock in the morning the next day. We let go one of the ship's anchors, the port anchor, but paid out no anchors in order to shift her. We dropped it at the foot. There were no anchors taken out seawards or steel hawsers or rope taken on shore previous to assistance coming. We could walk ashore from the vessel at low water, although there was a little water outside her. The vessel was high and dry. When I took the four-point bearing off Kinkasan the Captain was not on deck, but I called him after I took the beam bearing. I sang out to him, as he was in the chart-room lying down on the settee. He came on deck into the bridge. When the Captain and I took the bearings at noon we were amidships on the lower bridge at the side of the chart room. The sounding apparatus was in good order and ready for use at any moment. In case an accident has happened to this and made it useless, we always had the deep-sea lead and line ready for use. The stranded vessel got off on the 23rd September about 12 o'clock noon, and arrived at Yokosuka on the following day at 3 o'clock in the morning.

The Captain, recalled, said they got off on Saturday the 23rd and arrived at Yokosuka on the 24th.

To the Captain—When Kinkasan light was sighted at one o'clock you were on deck.

The Captain here intimated that the patent lead had been used once three voyages previous, but not in the second mate's watches, off Inuboye, when the sounding was 35 fathoms. Also that on the voyage previous to this he saw no light on Kinkasan while passing, only the land, as it was thick at the time, and the fog hung over the light. Thought to verify his position this way. The sounding was off Inuboye when the lead gave 35 fathoms. The chief officer took the soundings.

The Court rose at 12 30 and adjourned till 1.30 p.m.

On the Court resuming at 2 10 p.m. the Captain was recalled, and was questioned as follows by the President through Mr. James.

Mr. James—In verifying the ship's position from four-point and beam bearings, did you leave this duty to the second officer or ascertain the same from your own observations?—I was not on deck at the time of the four-point bearing, but was on deck at the time of the beam, the land being 7 miles distant.

In fixing the latitude and longitude of noon position on 26th August, did you do so on the result of your own observations or those observed and worked out by the second officer?—I worked the position out myself from the second officer's observations, as the observations I obtained were, from the state of the weather, not so reliable. This applies to morning sight only. For noon latitude I worked by my own meridian altitude.

Sakata Eitaro, a quartermaster, recalled, said—I was on watch from 12 o'clock (midnight) on the 26th to 4 a.m. Was on the look out from 2 to 3 o'clock. The officer in charge was the second mate. I looked at the log, but cannot remember the time positively; think it was a little after 2 30. Did not know positively how much the log registered, but think 45 miles. Took charge of the wheel at 3 o'clock, and a few minutes afterwards the Captain went on the bridge and stayed there till I left at 4 o'clock. I am positive concerning this. When I sighted Kinkasan I was on the look out, not at the wheel. This was about 1 o'clock. There was another quartermaster on deck named Tokumasu Wakataro. Kinkasan was on the starboard bow.

Tokumasa Wakataro, a quartermaster, recalled, said—I was on the look-out from 3 to 4 a.m. on the 26th August. We had already passed Kinkasan, so I did not look at the log. Did not get any special order to look at it other than the usual order to look at it every hour. The Captain was on the bridge and in the chart room off and on during the time I was at the wheel. Between 2 and 3 o'clock Kinkasan light was on the port bow. I am not positive whether I saw Kinkasan between 1 and 2 a.m. or not. I think the vessel's course was S. W. but cannot remember positively.

Sakata Eitaro, recalled said—Between 3 and 4 o'clock while I was at the wheel Kinkasan light was abaft the beam.

Judgment was reserved.

IN THE YOKOHAMA CHIHO SAIBANSHO.

Before Judge SUZUKI KOGEN and Associate Judges INOUYE YASUKICHI and HARA SEIICHI.—FRIDAY, 13th October, 1893.

This was a case in which Nakaido Tamijuro *alias* Nikaido Tameo, *alias* Haruyama Tameo, Miyazawa Minetaro and Yamada Sotaro, composing the firm of Horin and Co., were charged with fraud.

Public Procurator Kokubu Sangai prosecuted, while Mr. Anzai Rimpachiro represented Nikaido, and Mr. Akao Hikosaku, Miyazawa Minetaro. There were also present at the Barristers' table Mr. Yamaguchi Ken representing Serada Ichizo and Mr. Urata Juei, Uchida Suyemon, and Hayashi Riojiro to press civil claims for balance of monies due on goods sold and delivered.

The Procurator, in opening the case for the prosecution, pointed out that Nikaido, with the assistance of one J. R Polley, an American, engaged offices at No. 32, Settlement, Yokohama, where they traded under the name of Horin & Co. That firm, viz., Nikaido, approached one Serada Ichizo with offers for the purchase of some cows, this being done through Sotaro, who, in order to facilitate business, gave out that he represented a European named Polley, of whom Nikaido was the chief banto. In regard to the *shoyu* transactions, Miyazawa was the party actually engaged in the transaction, giving out that he also was the representative of Polley. Proceeding, the Procurator brought out the fact that two foreigners were implicated in the firm's business, the one being Polley and the other an Englishman named Buckley. After a few further remarks, Mr. Kokubu confronted the accused, Nikaido, with three previous convictions and Miyazawa with two.

Nikaido Tamijuro, in reply to questions by the Court, stated that he had done business under the name of Haruyama Tameo, and Nikado Tameo. The last was his real name, but he had assumed that of Tamijuro. There was a firm established at No. 32 named Horin & Co., composed of himself, J. R Polley and James Buckley. Polley and himself put in together between three and four hundred dollars. He was to put in $200 and Polley $200, Buckley having no capital but making up for it in work. Polley was taken in as the firm was established in the Settlement, as no Japanese are allowed to do business there. Polley's connection with the firm had ceased, nor was Buckley further employed. The separation took place about the 25th or 26th of June. Although Buckley represented them both in all transactions, he had no connection with the firm. Polley managed the export business while he (witness) attended to the purchases and sales. Polley's statement that he was not a partner but only an employé was not true. There was no salary arranged; he was to get something monthly out of the profits besides which there was something given him in hand. He took 60 per cent. of the profits and witness 40 per cent. Polley received more of the profits than he did. Miyazawa he paid *yen* 15 per month, while Sotaro worked for the firm gratis. Although the firm's capital was only *yen* 400, they were enabled to pay *yen* 150 in establishment expenses and keep as a reserve *yen* 250, because there was money coming in, from profits realized on sales. The business was an export one, but very little had up till then been sent away. Polley's work consisted in correspondence with foreign countries, the drawing up of contracts, etc. His denial of his was untrue. As regards No. 32; Polley went to secure rooms there but did not succeed. Buckley was thoroughly cognizant of the business methods of the firm, he being one of the firm.

The evidence of Polley and Buckley was here read out to the accused, in which both stated that they were merely employés on salary and commission; that they were in no way connected with the firm. Buckley stated that his principal work consisted of interpreting, he was in no way responsible for any of the transactions. That he received no money. Polley in his evidence emphatically denied he was in any way connected with the firm; he said he was an employé at *yen* 50 per month and commission.

Accused remarked that the statements were not altogether correct. When the *shoyu* was contracted for Buckley was present. As for Polley saying he had no connection with the cows, that was false, considering that he was a partner and must have been cognisant of the whole transaction, as he wrote out the contract concerning the cows. Accused could not in any way account for the business not being in Polley's name while he was a partner. He remembered buying three cows from Serada Ichizo. He never mentioned that either Polley or himself were the buyers, but Horin & Co. It was not a fact that he had stated he was acting for certain foreigners, nor did he say the firm was purchasing for itself. The cows were sold to Ujiwara Soshi for $500.

The Court—How do you account for selling cows not the property of yourself and unpaid for?—I never said I would purchase them, nor that I was manager of the firm. Sotaro first inspected the cows and acted as intermediary in the transaction.

Yamada, on being asked, acknowledged this.

The evidence of Serada was then read, and was briefly that some time in May Yamada came and offered to purchase some cows. After some haggling about the price of three, it was finally agreed that before closing the sale the foreign purchaser should be consulted. He learned that as the foreigner could not come, his chief clerk Haruyama would conduct the sale. It was finally agreed to purchase the three cows for $500, and the animals were handed over. On the plea that the cows must be examined before consummating the contract, a promissory note for *yen* 300 was given and *yen* 200 paid as guarantee, when the cows were sent to the station. He (Serada) subsequently saw Polley, when he learned that the latter was only an employé and Haruyama the real head of the firm. Witness then detailed his unsuccessful endeavours to get his money or cows returned.

Nikaido and Yamada characterised the evidence read as very faulty and incorrect.

On being confronted by letters, Nikaido said that one was written by Polley and the other two without his cognizance.

Miyazawa stated that he only obeyed the orders of his employers. He always gave persons to understand that he was an employé. The *shoyu* was sold to Hattori Eikichi by means of a notary public's certificate. He assumed the name of Shita Kozo to complete the sale. Remembered writing to Uchida and Hayashi by post card to call relative to the purchase of *shoyu*. Never met Uchida's agent, Ginzo, therefore could have had no conversation with him. It was agreed to purchase 100 tubs of *shoyu*. When Tatsugaro came Miyazawa and Polley were present.

Nikaido acknowledged that he had previously been convicted by the Tokyo Appeal Court to imprisonment. The other two convictions mentioned as having been entered against him were incorrect.

Miyazawa also acknowledged having been in prison, for misappropriation of funds, for two months, fined 4 *yen*, was and six months under police supervision.

Mr. Akao, Counsel for Miyazawa, then questioned Nikaido regarding the status of his client. Nikaido said that Miyazawa was merely an employé, that he had only been a week in his (accus-

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ed's) employ, when he was sent to Tokyo. He only acted under orders in all transactions, including the *shoyu* business.

Some argument here took place between Mr. Anzai and the Procurator, in the course of which the former intimated that he desired to call witnesses.

Judge Suzuki considered such a step unnecessary.

The Procurator then summed up, and in the course of his remarks on the principal points of the case, pointed out that Nikaido was undoubtedly the head of the firm, Polley being only an assistant in roguery. Both Polley and Buckley positively state they were employés, and he (the Procurator) suggested that these two were employed in order that business could be carried on in the Settlement. That fraud was the principal object of the firm, as they chose a prominent business quarter in order to more easily carry on their nefarious trade. *Shoyu* was an article largely purchased, and an order for this for export naturally disarmed suspicion. But the firm never exported anything. Their utter disregard of the prices paid must have been due to their intention of not paying for the goods obtained, and to cover the whole swindle under the name of a foreigner. Yamada's connection with the transaction of the cows was scathingly referred to, as was also Miyazawa's pretended ignorance of the objects of the firm.

The Court then adjourned at 12.30 to 1 p.m.

On resuming, Counsel for the accused addressed the Court.

Mr Anzai contended, in the course of a lengthy address, that Polley was and must have been a partner of Hirayama, as it was the former who wrote the promissory note, which went to prove that he must have had a share in the business. All the facts adduced went to show this. He submitted that what was done by Nikaido was not a crime, as the business was not carried through by himself, but for the firm. In conclusion Counsel contended that the evidence for the prosecution should be taken with great caution, as in its nature it was bound to be somewhat exaggerated and biassed.

Mr. Akao, who followed, submitted that fraud was not the object of the firm of Horin and Co., but that even if there was fraud, all its actions could not be so construed. He then spoke at some length on the position of his client.

The Procurator, in reply, said that from the evidence adduced in the case, he could plainly see that Horin & Co. had no intention of paying for anything. The partnership itself was most suspicious. The capital was only $400, and they had nothing in the bank. Under such circumstances how was it possible for them to carry on business on an honest basis, when even $1,000 would hardly have sufficed for the transactions into which they had launched out. They also sold the stuff obtained before they had even paid for it—sold it below cost price and its market value. This was not business. On this point Mr. Kokubu commented in very strong terms. Continuing, he remarked on their naive procedure in representing themselves as belonging to a foreign firm in order to lead others astray, most persons having trust in a foreign firm. He could characterise their action in no other words that that they had deliberately swindled and should be imprisoned for it. If their crime did not make them liable to imprisonment, he did not know what could be brought under that category, and quoted Art. 390 and 394 of the Criminal Code as the sections under which their case came.

Counsel for the accused briefly replied, and the accused themselves spoke a few words relative to their previous convictions, which closed the criminal action against them.

The civil claim was then entered into, Mr. Yamaguchi Ken, as Counsel for Serada Ichizo, claiming *yen* 300, being balance due out of a sum of *yen* 500, the price of three cows, of which $200 was paid.

Nikaido remarked that if it was so stated in the promissory note it must be correct.

Mr. Urata Jihei, representing Uchida Suyemon and Hayashi Ryojiro, put in claims on account of the *shoyu* transactions for *yen* 266.50 and *yen* 491 respectively.

This also Nikaido said must be correct if in accordance with the promissory notes.

The Court then retired to consider its judgment.

On resuming, Judge Suzuki, after entering into a long recapitulation of the evidence, sentenced Nikaido Tamiguro to two years' major imprisonment, a fine of 20 *yen*, and six months police supervision; Miyazawa Minetaro to eight months' imprisonment, a fine of *yen* 10, and six months' police supervision; and Yamada Sataro to six months' imprisonment, a fine of *yen* 7, and six months police supervision.

They would have the usual period within which to appeal.

As regarded the civil claims, Nikaido and Yamada are ordered to pay to Serada Ichizo the *yen* 300 claimed, and Nikaido and Miyazawa pay to Uchida Suyemon *yen* 266.50, and Hayashi Ryojiro the sum of *yen* 491.

The Court then rose.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, October 7.

The City of Rio de Janeiro has again been bombarded all day, and a general exodus has taken place, during which President Peixoto's troops continued robbing and murdering unrestrained.

London, October 9.

The Matabeles have fired upon the Bechuana Police, and eight hundred of the chartered forces are advancing against the Matabeles. War is imminent.

The *Vigilant* has won the first race for the America Cup.

Later.

The *Vigilant* has won the second race.

London, October 12.

It is officially announced that the Earl of Elgin and Kincardine has been appointed Viceroy of India.

The Bechuana forces will occupy Tati this week. Lobengula, who is in the vicinity with four regiments, means fighting.

Later.

The United States Senate has begun a continuous sitting in order to secure a vote upon the Sherman Act Repeal Bill. The repealers have been defeated on one of the free coinage amendments. The gold reserve has fallen to 87,000,000 dollars, the lowest ever known.

["SPECIAL" TELEGRAM TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

Kobe, October 11th.

The Japanese steamer *Yoshinogawa* ran into the steamer *Denbighshire* this morning at one a.m., striking her amidships and tearing a large hole in her side. The *Denbighshire* sank in four fathoms, and her bow is out of water, but her saloon is flooded. The *Yoshinogawa* was but little damaged and proceeded to Osaka.

Nagasaki, October 12.

The German ship *Martha Brockhan*, from Philadelphia to this port, with a cargo of kerosene, is reported as having arrived at Hongkong dismasted.

Kobe, October 13.

The *Denbighshire* has been pumped out, and was floated yesterday afternoon.

[SPECIALLY TELEGRAPHED TO THE "JAPAN DAILY MAIL."]
(FROM THE "N.-C. DAILY NEWS.")

London, October 2.

There is a rumour afloat at Bangkok that the French will concede to Russia the island of Kohsamit for a coaling station.

The French envoy at Bangkok is reported to have adopted a conciliatory tone towards the Siamese, and having abated his demands a peaceful settlement is expected.

October 4.

According to the treaty between France and Siam, the French will remain at Chantaboom until the left bank of the Mekong and the central zone, which are to be evacuated, have been pacified.

The British revenue returns for the half-year ending September last has decreased a million and a half sterling.

October 5.

The French Press rejoice at the settlement of the Siamese difficulty, which will not affect British interests, and recognise the advantage of the institution of a buffer State.

The Philadelphia team of cricketers have defeated the Australians by an innings and sixty-eight runs.

October 6.

The treaty between France and Siam has been signed, but the English Press apprehends that the looseness in the wording of the treaty will create further difficulties which will ultimately lead to the gradual absorption of Siam by France.

The Times Washington correspondent says that there is no prospect of the speedy settlement of the silver question.

October 7.

A tidal wave followed by a cyclone in the Gulf of Mexico has caused fearful devastation, in which 2,000 persons have perished.

Prince Bismarck has been extremely enfeebled by his recent illness, and is unable to leave Kissingen.

Three thousand Spanish troops are going to Melilla.

General Durand's Mission to the Ameer of Afghanistan has arrived at Cabul, and had a splendid reception.

Owing to the erection of various new forts round the bay at Rio de Janeiro, the bombardment of the city has been resumed. The commanders of the different foreign men-of-war in Rio Harbour have referred home for further instructions.

[FROM THE "SINGAPORE FREE PRESS."]

Penang, Sept. 22nd, 2.34 p.m.

Five fatal cases of cholera have occurred, imported by the *Secundra*.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the CHESS EDITOR.)

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 90.

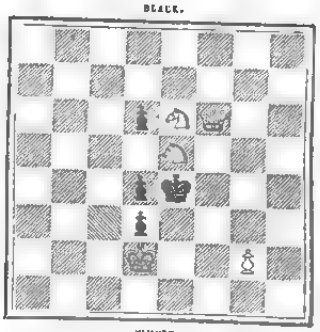
WHITE.	BLACK.
1—B — Q Kt 5	1—Kt — K 3
2—Q × P, ch.	2—K × Q
3—B × P, mate	
	if 1—Kt — K R 3
2—B — Q B 4	2—Anything
3—B — Q 5, mate	
	if 1—P — K Kt 5
2—Q — R 4	2—P — K B 5
3—Q — R 7, mate	
	if 2—Any other move
3—Q — K sq., mate	
	if 1—Kt — Q B 3
2—Q × Kt	2—Kt — K 2
3—Q — Q B 4, mate	
	if 2—P — K B 5
3—Q — Kt 6, or R 7, mate	
	if 2—Kt — Q 5
3—Q — Q 5, mate	
	if 1—P — Q 4
2—Kt — Q 7	2—Anything
3—Kt — K B 6, mate.	

Correct solutions received from W.H.S., Omega, J.D., J.W.E., and O B.

We regret an unfortunate blunder in the transcription of Mr. Loyd's pretty two-mover in last week's issue. The problem is therefore withdrawn from the competition; but we may add that the author's idea—Q to R sq.—may nevertheless be appreciated from the published position.

PROBLEM No. 92.
BY C. PLANCK, M.A.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in three moves.

Of all the characteristics necessary to make a good problemist, perhaps patience is the most important. The composer must always be prepared for failure, and always ready to give unlimited time and trouble to re-construction. He should be very hard to satisfy, and should always be striving for further improvement. The best problems occupy months—sometimes even years—in

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reaching perfection, and literally pass through hundreds of different forms before they take the exact shape which is considered worthy to place before the public. A skilful worker may often succeed in hitting off a sound and pretty version of some combination almost at a first attempt, in perhaps five or ten minutes at most, and there is sometimes a strong temptation to rush at once into print. The practised composer, however, usually resists this temptation, for experience teaches him that such extempore productions are always capable of great improvement, and his forbearance is often rewarded by the elaboration of a masterpiece out of what was at first little more than a pretty trifle.

The Nagasaki-Yokohama correspondence games are progressing and moves are now being rapidly made. We give the continuation since 30th September, and readers will find the positions becoming more critical and interesting now that the pieces are being cleared off by frequent captures.

GAME A. RUY LOPEZ.

WHITE. Nagasaki.	BLACK. Yokohama.
16—P to K B 4	16—Q B × K B
17—Q × Q B	17—P to K B 3
18—Q Kt to Q 2	18—Q Kt × P
19—P × Q Kt	19—P × P
20—K Kt to K B 3	20—K R to K B 4
21—P to K Kt 4	21—K R × K Kt
22—Q Kt × K R	22—Q × P ch.
23—Q to K Kt 2	23—Q × Q ch.

GAME B. PETROFF'S DEFENCE.

WHITE. Yokohama.	BLACK. Nagasaki.
16—P to K R 4	16—P to K Kt 3
17—P to K B 4	17—K Kt to K Kt 2
18—Q Kt to K 4	18—K Kt to K R 4
19—Q to K B 3	19—Q Kt to K sq.
20—Q Kt to K Kt 3	20—Q Kt to K Kt 2
21—Q B to Q 2	21—Q to Q 2
22—Q R to K B sq.	22—K Kt × Q Kt
23—Q × K Kt	23—Q Kt to K R 4

There seems a probability of the Columbian Chess Congress coming off in New York after all. We clip the following from English exchanges: the games and notes printed below being from the *Nottinghamshire Guardian* of 2nd September.

The *Daily News* says:—"Much uneasiness has been felt in London owing to the date of the Columbian Chess Congress not being as yet definitely fixed. The fact that the question of drawn games not counting will have to be put to the vote, introduces additional uncertainty as to the time to be spent in New York, and this will prevent players who have other engagements from taking part. It is currently reported in London that Dr. Tarrasch will compete. Mr. Albin, one of the strongest Austrian players, has already arrived at New York. M. Alapin is supposed to be on his way, and Mr. F. J. Lee, the English player, left for New York on Saturday last." To this the *Hereford Times* adds that Mr. Blackburne and Mr. Gossip have also decided to compete, and that France will be represented by M. Taubenhaus.

Mr. Jasnogrodsky, the Russian master, is staying a few days in Liverpool on his way to the New York Congress, and is at present engaged in a short match with Mr. Kozur, a well known amateur, at the Liverpool Chess Club. The first and second games were both drawn.

The *Baltimore News* furnishes some further particulars respecting the Congress to be held next month in New York. Mr. S. Loyd "the prince of problem composers," offered the committee twenty five dollars and six gold breast pins as prizes in the problem-solving tournament, which will be open only to subscribers and competitors. The offer was accepted, as was that of Prince Dadian, of Mingrelia, of a special brilliancy prize of two hundred francs, Mr. Steinitz to act as judge. It is further proposed to hold a minor tournament simultaneously with the masters' tournament.

Mr. Steinitz, in his chess column in the *Tribune*, says that some American lady amateurs of high social standing are earnestly contemplating the organization of a "Women's Chess Congress," and a tournament in connection therewith.

Mr. E. O. Jones (see printed game) who unexpectedly carried off the chief prize in the tournament of the Counties Chess Association, was placed as low as No. 41 Board in the North and South match last January. On that occasion he won his game against Mr. F. E. Foster of Sheffield.

Mr. L. P. Rees, the hon. secretary of the Southern Counties Chess Association, is endeavouring to arrange a match between England and Germany.

Played in the recent tournament of the Counties' Chess Association, between the two chief prize-winners, Mr. E. O. Jones and the Rev. A. B. Skipworth.

RUY LOPEZ.

White—Jones.	Black—Skipworth.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to Kt 5	3—P to Q 3
4—P to Q 4	4—B to Q 2
5—Castles	5—Kt to B 3
6—Kt to B 3	6—P takes P
7—Kt takes P	7—B to K 2
8—Kt takes Kt	8—P takes Kt
9—B to K 2	9—Castles
10—P to B 4	10—Q to B sq.

... Black has a cramped position, but his defence is quite in accordance with the newest ideas of the open game. The text move is perhaps the best at his command, its immediate object being to bring the K R to Q sq., preparing a masked battery against the adverse Queen. If instead of Q to B sq., Black played 10 ... P to Q 4 White would continued 11 P to K 5, Kt to K sq., 12 B to Kt 4, with the prospect of a strong attack.

11—P to K R 3	11—R to Q sq.
12—B to B 3	12—R to Kt sq.
13—P to Q Kt 3	13—P to Q 4
14—P to K 5	14—B to B 4 ch.
15—K to R 2	15—Kt to K sq.
16—Kt to R 4	16—B to K 2
17—B to K 3	17—P to Q 5

... A powerful move, which if properly followed up should yield a slight advantage to Black.

18—Q B takes P	18—P to Q B 4
19—Kt takes P	19—B to Q Kt 4

... ... As pointed out by the *Morning Post* he should here play B takes Kt, and then R to Kt 4, winning the exchange.

20—B to K Kt 4	20—B takes Kt

... The sacrifice of the Queen affords the only chance of a draw.

21—B takes Q	21—R takes Q B
22—Q to Kt 4	22—B takes R
23—R takes B	23—P to K R 4
24—Q takes B	24—R takes B
25—P to K 6	25—P to K B 4
26—Q to B 7 ch.	26—K to R sq.
27—Q to R 5 ch.	27—K to Kt sq.
28—Q to B 7 ch.	28—K to R sq.
29—Q takes K B P	29—R takes B P

... ... An extraordinary blunder; 29 ... B to Q 3 appears to leave White with nothing better than a draw by perpetual check.

30—R takes R	30—B to Q 3
31—P to Kt 3	31—Resigns.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, Nagasaki, and Kobe	per N. Y. K.	Friday, Oct 20th.
From Hongkong	per P. M. Co	Monday Oct. 16th.*
From America	per P. M. Co	Tuesday, Oct. 17th.†
From America	per O. & O. Co.	Saturday, Oct. 28th.‡
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Oct. 22nd.§
From Europe, via Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Friday, Oct. 27th.
From Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co	Monday, Oct. 30th.
From Europe, via Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Wednesday, Nov. 1st.
From Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, Nov 9th.

* *City of Peking* (with English mail) left Nagasaki on October 12th. † *Peru* left San Francisco on September 30th. ‡ *Oceanic* left San Francisco via Honolulu on October 10th. § *Persia* left Hongkong on October 13th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For America	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Oct. 17th.
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki	per N. Y. K.	Tuesday, Oct. 17th.
For Europe, viâ Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Oct 22nd.
For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, Oct. 28th.
For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Oct 30th.
For Victoria, B.C., and Tacoma, Wash.	per N. P. Co.	Monday, Oct. 30th.
For Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, Nov. 3rd.
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Saturday, Nov. 4th.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co	Friday, Nov. 10th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, M. Fukui, 7th October,—Yokkaichi 6th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Arctic, British schooner, 40, Gillent, 7th October,—Hakodate 30th September, 55 Seals.—J. H. Pyne.

Aurora, British schooner, 41, E. Toussant, 7th October,—Hakodate, Stores.—Captain

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 7th October,—Moji, Coal.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,695, W. G. Pearne, 7th October,—Hongkong viâ ports, 29th September, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co

Belgic, British steamer, 2,690, Wm. H. Walker, 8th October,—San Francisco 21st September, Mails and General.—O. & O. S S Co.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, T. Sakai, 8th October,—Kobe 7th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, J. Nirei, 8th October,—Yokkaichi 7th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, R. Tipple, 9th October,—Otaru viâ ports 4th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Oread, British bark, 774, W. Robertson, 9th October,—Yokosuka 9th October, Light.—Captain.

Ancona, British steamer, 1,880, W. D. Mudie, 10th October,—Hongkong 30th September, Nagasaki 6th October, and Kobe 8th, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,034, Walter, 10th October,—Kobe 8th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, M. Fukui, 10th October,—Yokkaichi 9th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Gulf of Siam, British steamer, 2,221, J. Sanderson, 11th October,—New York viâ ports, General.—Cornes & Co.

Alacrity (4), despatch-boat, Commander Callaghan, 11th October,—Hakodate.

Porpoise (6), cruiser, Captain C. L. Burr, 11th October,—Hakodate.

Tacoma, British steamer, 1,661, J. R. Hill, 12th October,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Carhill & Co.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, J. Nirei, 12th October,—Yokkaichi 11th October, General. Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, G. A. Lee, 12th October,—Hongkong viâ ports, 4th October, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, Y. Arai, 12th October,—Yokkaichi 11th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sessiu Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,011, Hayashi, 12th October,—Kobe 11th October, General.—Nada Kogio Kabushiki Kaisha.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Pender, 12th October,—Kobe 11th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,168, Crichton, 13th October, Otaru viâ ports 7th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, M. Fukui, 13th October,—Yokkaichi 12th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,358, Haswell, 13th October,—Shanghai and ports 7th October, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,219, Wilson, 7th October, Shimonoseki, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Harima Maru, Japanese steamer, 436, Kawamuro, 7th October,—Bonin Islands, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sadokuni Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,500, Tasaka, 7th October,—Shinagawa, Coal.—Baltan-gumi.

Saghalien, French steamer, 2,580, Le Gall, 8th October,—Shanghai viâ Kobe, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, M. Fukui, 8th October,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Pender, 8th October,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. M. Young, 8th October,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Bunkoku Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,475, Okuma, 9th October,—Otaru, General.—S. Asano & Co.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 9th October,—Nagasaki, General.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,695, W. G. Pearne, 9th October,—San Francisco, Mails and General.—O. & O S.S. Co.

Milke Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,053, Thompson, 9th October,—Honolulu, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, T. Sakai, 9th October,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, J. Nirei, 9th October,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Belgic, British steamer, 2,695, Wm. H. Walker, 10th October,—Hongkong, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Bellona, German steamer, 2,032, J. Jaeger, 10th

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October,—Hamburg viâ ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Byron, British steamer, 1,319, Cook, 10th October,—Hongkong viâ Moji, Light.—Order.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, Y. Arai, 10th October,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yokohama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,298, Swain, 10th October,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,034, Walter, 11th October,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, M. Fukui, 11th October,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,356, R. Tipple, 11th October,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Gulf of Siam, British steamer, 2,221, J. Sanderson, 12th October,—Sydney, Ballast.—Cornes & Co.

Macduff, British steamer, 1,882, E. Porter, 12th October,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Tacoma, British steamer, 1,661, J. R. Hill, 12th October,—Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, Nitei, 12th October,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sessiu Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,011, Hayashi, 13th October,—Shinagawa, General.—Nada Kogio Kabushiki Kaisha.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, G. A. Lee, 13th October, Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 934, Y. Arai, 13th October,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. Sestier and servant, Rev. J. Watson, Rev. W. Macgregor, Mr. J. Morgan, and Mr. J. O. Mears in cabin; and 5 Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Belgic*, from San Francisco:—Mr. H. M. Sewall, Mrs Sewall, Mrs. J. M. Donahue and maid, Miss R. Wallace, Mr. T. Kokmoki, Mr. J. Inouye, Rev. G. H. Ewing, Mrs. Ewing, Mr. C. P. Low, Mrs. Low, Mrs. E. L. Tilton, Miss Ruth W. Loring, Mr. J. J. Young, and Mrs. J. C. Mansfield in cabin. For Hongkong: Mr. Oscar Treffts, Mr. Chas. S. Terrill, and Mrs. Terrill in cabin. For Shanghai Rev. B. C. Atterbury, Mrs. Atterbury, and Miss M. Ritchie in cabin.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. C. M. Firth, Mr. Ping Nam, Hon. Mr. Galton, Mrs. Galton, and Miss Galton in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru*, from Kobe:—22 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Tacoma*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. W. T. Pirie in cabin. For Tacoma, Wash.: Rev. Dr. Nevins and Lieutenant Garvin, U.S.N., in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—17 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. R. Jones Hughes, Mr. H. H. Joseph, Mr. J. M. Shields, Miss Stewart, Mrs. M. Cole, Mr. H. Heckert, Mr. P. Vautier, Mr. W. Down, and Mrs. and Master Lowder in cabin. In transit for Vancouver, B.C.: Mr. E. S. Stevens, Mr C. Overbeck, Miss Donald, Rev. and Mrs. Sowerby and 6 children, Mr. C. T. Mathews, Mr. C. A. Taylor, and Dr. A. Zooyef in cabin; Mr. R. Riff and 10 Chinese in second class, and 195 Chinese and 51 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, from Kobe:—Messrs. Y. Taga, K. Ushiki, Goltzman, and Goberman in cabin; 15 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, from Shanghai viâ ports:—Mr. T. Fiecke in cabin; Mr. F. Mildebrath in second class, and 25 passengers in steerage.

DEPARTED

Per French steamer *Saghalien*, for Shanghai viâ Kobe:—Mr. Fred. Komp, Mr. O. Vinals, Mr. and Mrs. Fuchs, Mrs. Johanna Stromayer, Messrs. Theron, Philippe, J. H. Brunns, Bonhoure, MacDonald, Robertson, Lampué, Mr. and Mrs. Nichols and child, Mr. and Mrs. Phillips, Mr and Mrs. MacNamara, Misses Atdoola and Sumsoodin, Mr. Ch. A. Winston, Mr. and Mrs. Maconchey, child, and amah, Messrs. Zagoulaieff, Louis E. Arnold, and Paul Carvey in cabin.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, for San Francisco:—Mr. J. O Averill, Mr. C. Gibbens, Mrs. E. Gibbens, Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Givins, Mr. R. S. Givins, Mr. and Mrs. Hsu Kioh and child, Mr. Hsu Kioh, Mr. C. Pollak, Mr. C. W. Rosenbaum, Mr. F. P. Solomon, Mr. B. Suggenheim, and Mr. F. Terada in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Miike Maru*, for Honolulu:—Dr. Herz, Dr. and Mrs. Kamai, and Mr. Suda and infant in cabin; 19 passengers and 1,642 emigrants in steerage.

Per British steamer *Belgic*, for Hongkong:—Mr. and Mrs. Justice Ackroyd, Miss Kate Flesson, Lieutenant Rowcroft, and Mr. Jas. McWilliams in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Admiral and Baroness Ladario, Marquis Kuroda, Lieutenant and Mrs. Lefavor, Dr. Reid, Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Atterbary, Mrs. Infull, Mrs. Thompson and child, Mr. and Mrs. Sayao and 2 children, Miss M. B. Ritchie, Mr. and Mrs. Cooper, Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Ewing, Messrs. Abreu, Barros, F. J. Mayer, S. D. Clarke, Suyenobu, Iki, Ohkubo, and Shiba in cabin; Messrs. P. Montanha, Keng Chee, Wong Sing, and Komai in second class, and 40 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. Chas. A. Conolly, Miss Donalds, Mr. W. D. S. Edwards, Captain Enquist, Mr. R. C. Holt, Captain Ingles, R.N., Mr. H. C. Jarrett, Mrs. C. Gardiner Johnson, Mr. Matthews, Mons. Joaquin Oliver, Mr. Overbeck, Mons. Lucien Pinard, Miss Palmer, Mr. E. S. Stevens, Rev. and Mrs. Sowerby and 6 children, Mr. Taylor, Mr. R. N. Venning, Commander and Mrs. Walcot, and Dr. A. E. Zooyeff in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, $200,000.00.

Per French steamer *Saghalien*, for Shanghai viâ Kobe:—Raw Silk for Europe, 580 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 92 bales. Treasure for Singapore, $50,000; for Shanghai, $4,000.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, for San Francisco:—

TEA.

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	CHICAGO.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	1,608	736	1,313	—	3,657
Hyogo	100	—	379	—	479
Yokohama ...	1,205	408	1,363	515	3,391
Hongkong ...	172	—	—	—	172
Amoy ...	—	14,802	1,271	—	16,072
Foochow	45	—	—	1,881	1,926
Total	13,130	15,945	4,226	2,396	25,697

SILK.

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	HARTFORD.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	10	3	—	13
Hongkong	—	70	—	70
Yokohama	—	284	—	284
Total	10	357	—	367

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, $2,000.00.

Per British steamer *Tacoma*, for Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C.:—

TEA.

	PACIFIC COAST	NEW YORK	CHICAGO	CANADA.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai ...	980	5,446	3,099	514	—	10,039
Yokohama ...	164	3	—	—	—	167
Hongkong.....	585	—	—	578	—	1,163
Total	1,729	5,449	3,099	1,092	—	11,369

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—

TEA.

	CANADA.	CHICAGO AND WEST.	NEW YORK AND EAST.	PACIFIC COAST.	TOTAL.
Hongkong ...	3	—	928	86	1,017
Foochow ...	4,395	—	—	—	4,395
Shanghai ..	1,936	982	3,222	242	6,382
Colombo	—	—	—	252	252
Hyogo	2,980	1,110	—	—	4,090
Yokohama ...	2,889	—	—	41	2,930
Total	12,203	2,092	4,150	621	19,066

SILK.

	NEW YORK.	MONTREAL.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	30	—	30
Yokohama.....	43	—	43
Total	73	—	73

REPORTS.

The British steamer *Gaelic*, Captain Pearne, reports:—Left Hongkong the 29th September at 6 22 a.m.; had heavy nor-h-east gale and high sea to October 3rd; thence to port strong E.N.E. and head sea. Arrived at Yokohama the 7th October at 6 15 p.m.

The British steamer *Belgic*, Captain Walker, reports:—Left San Francisco the 21st September; experienced fine weather and moderate sea and winds throughout the passage. Arrived at Yokohama the 8th October at 12.19 p.m. Time, 16 days, 3 hours, 13 minutes.

The Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, Captain Tipple, reports:—Left Otaru the 4th October at 2.6 p.m.; had moderate to fresh N.W. winds and fine weather to Hakodate, arriving the 5th at 7.25 a.m. Left the 7th at 8 50 a.m.; had light S.W and N.W. winds, fine weather, and easterly swell to Oginohama, arriving the 8.h at 6.41 a.m. Left at 11 a.m.; passed Inuboye the 9th at 1.10 a.m. Arrived at Yokohama the 9th October at 12 20 p.m.; experienced moderate to strong N. and N.E. winds and rough sea, weather changeable.

The Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru*, Captain Walter, reports:—Left Kobe the 8th October at 4.40 p.m; at midnight had light easterly breeze and fine, clear weather; on the 9th at 4 a.m. passed Oshima with strong east-north-easterly breeze and fine weather; thence up to Omai-saki same weather and wind; from Omai-saki up to port fresh north easterly breeze and fine, clear weather. Arrived at Yokohama the 10th October at 7.30 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, Captain Nitei, reports:—Left Yokkaichi the 11th October at 10.20 a.m.; had cloudy weather and easterly swell with fresh easterly breeze; passed Rock Island at 10 10 p.m.; thence to port fine weather and light north-easterly breeze. Arrived at Yokohama the 12th October at 6 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, Captain Pender, reports:—Left Kobe the 11th October at noon; had moderate S.E. winds with cloudy weather to Rock Island, which was passed at 11.21 a.m. on the 12th; thence to port light variable winds with overcast and misty weather. Arrived at Yokohama the same day at 5 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Sagami Maru*, Captain Crichton, reports:—Left Otaru the 7th October at 2 p.m.; had light variable and fine weather to port. Arrived at Hakodate the 8th at 11.20 a.m. and left the 10th at 8 a.m.; had from fresh to strong S.E. winds and high head sea to Shiriya-saki, wind then increased to moderate gale from S.S.E. with very high sea and continuing so to Yamada Heads, wind then hauling to S.S.W. and moderating to gentle breezes and light variable airs to arrival at Oginohama the 11th at 4.30 p.m. and left the same day at 8.45 p.m.; had light to gentle variable breezes with passing showers and heavy S.E. swell to Inuboye, wind then hauling S.W. with moderate to fresh breezes and cloudy, rainy weather; at midnight on the 12th passed Noshima Lighthouse with light to gentle southerly breezes and fine, clear weather; similar weather to Kanon-saki, wind hauling to N.E. with cloudy weather. Arrived at Yokohama the 13th October at 5 30 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, Captain E. W. Haswell, reports:—Left Shanghai the 7th October at 9 a.m. and arrived at Nagasaki the 9th at 4 a.m. Left the same day at 5 p.m. and arriving at Moji the following day at 5 a.m. Left again at noon and reached Kobe the 11th at 8 a.m. Left Kobe the following day at noon and arrived at Yokohama the 13th October at 3.15 p.m. Experienced fresh easterly winds and dull, cloudy weather to Nagasaki; thence moderate to fresh head winds and fine weather to Moji; through Island Sea had strong south-east winds and fine weather to Kobe; thence along the coast had moderate south-west winds and thick, rainy weather to Oshima and dull, cloudy weather to arrival.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

The following vessels are advertised as on the berth:—

For LONDON viâ ports, Quick Despatch, the "POLYPHEMUS."—Butterfield & Swire.

For NEW YORK, Quick Despatch, the "PRIAM."—Butterfield & Swire.

For SAN FRANCISCO, October 17th, at 10 a.m., the "CITY OF PEKING."—P. M. S.S. Co.

For SHANGHAI viâ Ports, October 17th, at Noon, the "KOBE MARU."—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

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For TIENTSIN, viâ Shimonoseki, Nagasaki, Fusan, Jinsen, and Chefoo (from Kobe), October 17th, the "GENKAI MARU."—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

For HAVRE and London, October 25th, the "CLAM."—Samuel Samuel & Co.

For HONGKONG viâ Kobe and Shanghai, October 30th, the "EMPRESS OF INDIA."—Frazar & Co.

For TACOMA, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C., October 30th, the "MOGUL."—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

For HONGKONG viâ Kobe and Nagasaki, November 3rd, the "NUERNBERG."—Norddeutscher Lloyds.

For SAN FRANCISCO, November 4th, the "BELGIC."—O. & O. S.S. Co.

For CANADA, United States, and Europe, viâ Vancouver, B.C., November 10th, the "EMPRESS OF CHINA."—Frazar & Co.

For HAMBURG and London, Middle of November, the "VOLUTE."—Samuel Samuel & Co.

SHIPPING IN YOKOHAMA.

STEAMERS.

Ramor Head, British steamer, 2,746, McAlvin, 1st October,—Barrow viâ ports, Rails and Machinery.—Smith, Baker & Co.

Samoa, British steamer, 4,507, Adams, 29th September,—Middlesboro' viâ ports, General.—Smith, Baker & Co.

Willow Branch, British steamer, 2,147, Maling, 24th September,—Batoum 5th August, 117,247 cases Oil.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

SAILING VESSELS.

Anaconda, American schooner, 40, A. Lawson, 22nd July,—Hakodate 7th July, 131 Seals.—Captain.

Arctic, British schooner, 40, Gilleen, 7th October,—Hakodate 30th September, 55 Seals. J. H. Pyne.

Aurora, British schooner, 41, E. Toussant, 7th October,—Hakodate, Stores.—Captain.

Clan Buchanan, British ship, 2,072, Geo. R. Harris, 30th September,—Kobe 24th September, Ballast.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Cuthona, British ship, 1,702, W. Detchburn, 13th September,—New York 28th April, Petroleum.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Diana, American schooner, 74, Peterson, 5th October,—North Pacific, 50 otters and 5 seals—Captain.

Esmeralda, British schooner, 120, Harrison, 29th July,—Guam, Copra.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Maud S, British schooner, 97, R. E. McKel, 25th September,—North Pacific, Stores and Gear.—Captain.

Oread, British bark, 774, W. Robertson, 9th October,—Yokosuka 9th October, Light.—Captain

MEN-OF-WAR.

Archer (6), cruiser, Commander J. Rogers, 4th October.—Hakodate.

Alacrity (4), despatch-boat, Commander Callaghan, 11th October,—Hakodate.

Lancaster (14), U.S. flagship, Captain McCormack, 24th September,—Target Practice.

Marion (7), U.S. corvette, Captain C. V. Gridley, 20th September,—Target Practice.

Porpoise (6), cruiser, Captain C. L. Burr, 11th October,—Hakodate.

Tsukuba Kan (8), Japanese corvette, Captain T. Kurooka, 29th July,—Yokosuka 29th July.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

There has been a rather better feeling in the Import Trade during the past week. Yarns have fallen off slightly, but prices are very firm. In Piece Goods both Grey and Indigo Shirtings are in fair demand, but not much business has been done, holders having suddenly put up prices. In the Fancy department the same trouble is apparent, for although there are enquiries after Italians, Velvets and Turkey Reds, but few transactions are reported—holders being very firm at the late advance. Woollens are lifeless, with the exception of Mousselines which are in light demand.

COTTON PIECE GOODS

	PER PIECE.	
Grey Shirtings—8½ lb, 36½ yds. 39 inches	$2.10	to 2 65
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 38½ yds. 45 inches	2.35	to 3 12½
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1 50	to 1 85
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches	1.70	to 2 35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.75	to 2 75
Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 32 inches	PER YARD. 0.16	to 0 21
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	6.25	to 8.50
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0 62½	to 0.77½
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2 4lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	PER PIECE. 1.40	to 1 47½
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.57½	to 1.82½
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2 02½	to 2.47½
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2 65	to 2.85

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.	
Flannel	$0.27	to 0.45
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.30	to 0.33
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0.25	to 0.30
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0.20	to 0.25
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.13	to 0.19
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0 35	to 0 50
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60	to 0.65
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.40	to 0.70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 4 to 3½ lb, per lb.	0 45	to 0 57½

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.	
Nos 16/24, Ordinary	—	
Nos 16 24, Medium	$35.00	to —
Nos 16 24, Good to Best	34.50	to 36 00
Nos 16/24, Reverse	—	
Nos 28 32, Ordinary	—	
Nos. 28 32, Medium	38 75	to —
Nos 28 32, Good to Best	38.50	to 39 50
Nos 38, 42, Medium to Best	43 50	to 45 00
No. 32s, Two-fold	42 00	to 43 00
No. 42s, Two-fold	46.50	to 48.25
	FEMALE.	
No 20s, Bombay Nom.	—	
No. 16s, Bombay Nom.	—	

METALS.

Another dull week in this market, buyers continuing to hold aloof. Stocks are large and have been considerably increased by a lot of damaged cargo ex steamer *Samoa*.

	PER PICUL.	
Flat Bars, ¾ inch	$3 60	to 3 70
Flat Bars, ½ inch	3 70	to 3 80
Round and square up to ¾ inch	3.15	to 3 30
Iron Plates, assorted	3 10	to 3.20
Sheet Iron	4 35	to 4 50
Galvanized iron sheets	8 50	to 8 75
Wire Nails, assorted	5 30	to 5.65
Tin Plates, per box	6 00	to 6 25
Pig Iron, No 3	1.42½	to 1.45

KEROSENE.

Buyers have at last entered this market and the week has seen a fair amount of business. No fresh arrivals are reported and prices show a slight rise.

Chester	$1.70	to 1 75
Comet	1 60	to 1.70
Devoe	—	
Russian Anchor	1.60	to 1 62½
Russian Moon	1.67½	to 1.60

SUGAR.

Browns have been in somewhat better demand again, and a fair amount of business has been done at slightly easier rates. The stock now on offer is very low, being reduced to only 3,477 piculs of Manila. Whites also have changed hands to some extent and prices close firm.

	PER PICUL.	
Brown Takao	$4 25	to 4 30
Brown Manila	5.10	to 5.20
Brown Daitong	4.00	to 4.05
Brown Canton	4.05	to 4 20
White Java and Penang	6.80	to 6 90
White Refined	7 55	to 9 20

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last issue was of the 6th instant, since which date settlements on this market are 832 piculs, divided thus:—*Hanks*, 11 piculs; *Filatures*, 690 piculs; *Re-reels*, 110 piculs; *Kakeda*, 17 piculs; *Hamatsuki*, 4 piculs. In addition to these purchases, direct shiments have been 33 bales, making the total export business of the week 870 piculs.

Holders have again been current in their ideas, but there is not much change to be made in quotations; here and there better prices have been done, but some holders will give way more than others. They are especially strong for the lower grades of *Re-reels* and *Kakeda*, for here the native manufacturer comes into competition with the foreign shipper. The weakness is more apparent in fine sized *Filatures*, which are in plentiful supply and which the weaver cannot use, the producer having to depend entirely on the foreign market. Cables from the home side report very few orders, but give some reason to hope that with a further reduction in values here business will soon be on a larger scale.

Arrivals come in freely and the stock is now 14,600 piculs. Full-sized *Filatures* are still more or less in small supply and are held more firmly than other sorts. Speculative buyers seem to be watching our market very closely and should they commence to operate on any large scale, we shall probably find that we have then seen the lowest point for the remainder of the year.

Exchange has remained unaltered through the week, being steady at quotations.

There have been two shipping opportunities since we last wrote. The French mail steamer *Saghalien*, 8th October, had 580 bales for Europe and the American mail, *Gaelic*, 9th October, 284 bales for the New York trade. The Canadian mail, *Empress of Japan*, leaving this afternoon, will also have a little for the same destination, particulars of which will be given in our next. The present export figures are 9,498 piculs, against 19,919 piculs last year and 14,425 piculs at the same date in 1891.

Hanks.—There has been some enquiry for good quality silks, resulting in the purchase of a few parcels *Shimonita* at $620. Best *Shinshu* are held for the same figure, while seconds could be bought at $590.

Filatures.—Nearly all the trade has been in this class, fine sizes for Europe being freely purchased, as holders have shown a disposition to meet buyers. Should prices further recede, doubtless more orders would be placed in the near future. In full sizes, some reduction has been made upon Shinshu sorts, prices for them being about $10 lower all round.

Re-reels.—These have been rather pressed for sale, but holders will not give way in price sufficiently to induce large operations. Present quotations are:—*Five Girl*, $690; good No. 1½, $660; good No. 2, $630. Silks grading lower than No. 2 are comparatively strong, the native manufacturers buying some of their supplies in this market.

Kakeda.—These show a more marked decline than any other class, and No. 1 silks like *Daruma* have been sold as low as $705. All grades down to No. 2 may be reduced $20 a picul on the week; below that there is no change, supplies going to the country weavers instead of coming here.

Oshu.—A small business this week; only one transaction in *Hamatsuki* at $640.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK.)

Hanks—No 1	$620	to 630
Hanks—No 2 (Shinshu)	—	
Hanks—No 2 (Joshu)	600	to 610
Hanks—No. 2½ (Shinshu)	590	to 600
Hanks—No 2½ (Joshu)	580	to 590
Hanks—No 2½ to 3	570	to 575
Hanks—No 3	560	to 565
Hanks—No. 3½	550	to 555
Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers	820	to 830
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	760	to 770
Filatures—No. 1, 10 13 deniers	780	to 800
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	740	to 750
Filatures—No 1½, 10/14 deniers	730	to 740
Filatures—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 den.	720	to 730
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	700	to 710
Filatures—No 2, 14/18 deniers	690	to 700
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—	
Re-reels—Extra	—	
Re-reels—(Oshu) Best No. 1	690	to 700
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	680	to 690
Re-reels—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	650	to 660
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	620	to 630
Re-reels—No. 2½, 14/18 deniers	610	to 615
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	600	to 605
Kakedas—Extra	730	to 740
Kakedas—No. 1	700	to 710
Kakedas—No. 1½	660	to 670
Kakedas—No. 2	630	to 640
Kakedas—No 2½	610	to 620
Kakedas—No. 3	580	to 590
Kakedas—No. 3½	—	
Kakedas—No. 4	—	
Oshu Sendai—No 2½	—	
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	670	to 680
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	630	to 640
Sodai—No. 2½	—	

Export Raw Silk Tables to 13th Oct., 1893.—

	Season 1893	1892-93	1891-92.
		BALES.	BALES.
Europe	7,250	8,092	5,291
America	2,047	11,512	8,744
Total { Bales	9,277	19,604	14,035
Total { Piculs	9.498	19.919	14,425
		PICULS.	PICULS.
Settlements and Direct Export from 1st July	10,600	23,100	15,500
Stock, 13th October	14,600	7,100	15,200
Available supplies to date	25,200	30,300	30,700

WASTE SILK.

Settlements in this branch are 425 piculs, divided thus:—*Noshi*, 380 piculs; *Kibiso*, 37 piculs; *Kusui-to*, 8 piculs. No direct shipments this week.

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The market remains almost stagnant on account of the firmness of holders. Orders are in town for considerable parcels of both *Noshi* and *Kibiso*, but prices will not nearly meet at present. There are signs that holders will soon have to give way, although they have stood their guns manfully for a long time. It is not reasonable that the Raw Silk market should decline without some corresponding reduction in the price of Waste.

The only shipping opportunity has been French mail *Saghalien*, which vessel took 103 bales various *Waste* for Europe. The present export figures are 5,665 piculs, against 6,674 piculs last year, and 4,495 piculs in the previous season.

Pierced Cocoons.—Nothing done this week. Good to Best no longer exist, and shippers require lower prices before they will operate to any extent in medium and common.

Noshi.—Some parcels of *Oshu* were settled at $142½, while a few lots ordinary *Joshu* were done at prices ranging from $70 to $77. Best quality is still held beyond the reach of buyers.

Kibiso.—A very small business, the only purchase being about 40 piculs *Hachoji* at $35, and considering the quality, this does not seem at all a cheap parcel.

Sundries.—Nothing to note in *Neri* or *Boshiwata*, the only purchase reported being 8 piculs *Kuzu ito* at $63.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW WASTE).

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	$145 to 150
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	135 to 140
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	125 to 130
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	140 to 145
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	115 to 120
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	105 to 110
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	95 to 100
Noshi-ito—Bushu, Good to Best	120 to 130
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best Nom.	90 to 95
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	80 to 85
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	70 to 75
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	110 to 115
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	100 to 105
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	50 to 60
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Good to Fair	40 to 45
Kibiso—Joshu, Middling to Common	30 to 35
Kibiso—Hachoji, Good	30 to 35
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	20 to 25
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	—
Mawata—Good to Best	—

Export Table Waste Silk to 13th Oct., 1893:—

	Season 1893-94. Piculs.	1892-93. Piculs.	1891-92. Piculs.
Waste Silk	3,914	5,854	4,495
Pierced Cocoons	1,751	820	—
	5,665	6,674	4,495
Settlements and Direct Export from 1st July	Piculs. 6,800	Piculs. 12,400	Piculs. 7,600
Stock, 13th October	17,500	15,900	14,600
Available supplies to date	24,300	28,300	22,200

Exchange has remained unaltered since the 6th instant:—London, 4m/s. Credits, 2/5⅞; Documents, 2/5⅞; 6m/s. Credits, 2/6. New York 30d/s. U.S. $59½; 4m/s. U.S. $60⅜. Paris, or Lyons, 4m/s. fcs. 3.14, 6m/s. fcs. 3.16.

Estimated Silk Stock, 13th Oct., 1893:—

Raw.	Piculs.	Waste.	Piculs.
Hanks	110	Cocoons	980
Filatures	8,510	Noshi-ito	8,375
Re-reels	4,370	Kibiso	7,580
Kakeda	1,530	Mawata	90
Oshu	110	Sundries	475
Taysaam Kinds	30		
Total piculs	14,600	Total piculs	17,500

P.S.—Since the above was written, a move has been made by the purchase of about 500 bales Filatures for Europe. We cannot tell yet if this be an isolated purchase, or if other speculators will follow it up. In the latter case all decline will be checked; and we shall see a steady, if not higher, market.

TEA.

No change in this market. A small business has been done principally in Medium and Common grades—there being but a small stock of good leaf now left on offer. Prices show no change and close firm.

	Per picul.
Common	$12 to 13
Good Common	14 to 15
Medium	17 to 18
Good Medium	19 to 20
Fine	22 to 23
Finest	24 to 26
Choice	27 to 29
Choicest	31 to 35

EXCHANGE.

Exchange still remains unaltered.

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	2/5⅛
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	2/5⅜
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	2/5⅝
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	2/6
On Paris—Bank sight	3 05
On Paris—Private 4 months' sight	3.13
On Hongkong—Bank sight	Par
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	⅛ % dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72⅛
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	73⅛
On America—Bank Bills on demand	58⅜
On America—Private 30 days' sight	59⅛
On America—Private 4 months' sight	60⅛
On India—Bank sight	Nominal
Silver	33⅛

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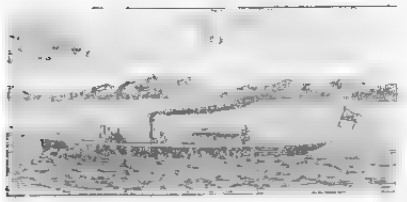

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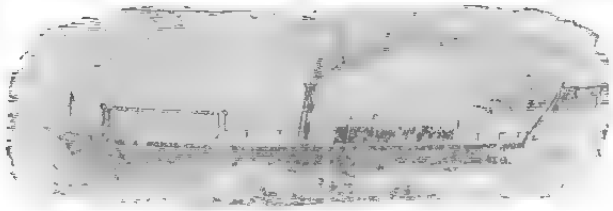

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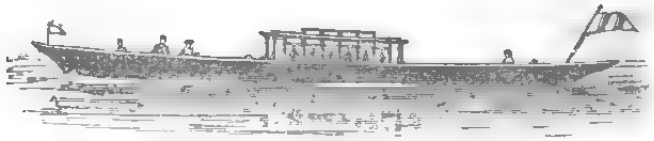

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same: and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, OCT. 21ST, 1893

BIRTH.

At Nagasaki, No. 12, Yamate, Oura, on October 10th, the wife of the Rev. IRVIN H. CORBETT, D.D., a son.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE opening of the Diet has been fixed for November 25th.

THE entries for the Autumn Meeting of the Nippon Race Club totalled $2,260.

THE Chrysanthemum Gardens at Dangozaka will be open from the 25th inst.

THE English mail of August 19th, was delivered in London on September 30th.

THE project for the construction of electric railways for Tokyo is taking definite form.

ALTERATIONS were made in the time-table of the Takasaki-Naoetsu Railway on the 16th inst.

A GRAND chrysanthemum show is projected at the World's Fair during the present month.

A CONCERT will be given in the Public Hall on Tuesday next in aid of funds for Christ Church.

THE Autumn Regatta of the Yokohama Amateur Rowing Club took place held this afternoon.

A VOCAL and instrumental concert will be given at the Central Tabernacle, Tokyo, on Saturday next.

BRAZIL is still in a disturbed state, and the rebel party do not appear to make the headway expected.

THE Fine Art Exhibition for the benefit of the Tokyo Charity Hospital will open on the 23rd instant.

THE steamer *Denbighshire*, recently sunk through being run into while at anchor at Kobe, has been raised and pumped out, and will continue her voyage to Yokohama, and probably be repaired at Yokosuka.

HOME RULE is the latest remedy proposed for the settlement of affairs in Hawaii, under American protection.

THE Photographic Society of Japan had a Camera Field Day to-day, and met for tiffin at the Aizuya tea-house.

MR. LAFCADIO HEARN has a book in the press which will be shortly issued, entitled "Glimpses of Unfamiliar Japan."

A MEETING of the chess players of Tokyo was held at the Hotel Métropole, Tsukiji, on Saturday last, when a chess club was formed.

PROMOTIONS and decorations have been distributed among the French naval officers recently engaged in the Franco-Siamese imbroglio.

THE arguments in the "Chishima"-"Ravenna" appeal case in Shanghai were concluded on Saturday last, and judgment was reserved.

IN a sailing match on Saturday last, *Drifter* won the "Molly Bawn" Cup, *Tomioka* the 32 Raters' Prize, and *Maid Marion* the 39 Raters Prize.

THE exhibition of the collection of rare antiquities, at the Hachiman Shrine, Kamakura, which was to be closed on the 20th inst., will remain open thirty days longer.

AN Imperial Ordinance was promulgated on the 16th inst. ordering the institution of a Committee of Currency Investigation who will engage in an exhaustive enquiry into the silver question as it affects Japan.

THE American mail brings lists of awards to Japanese exhibitors at Chicago in the department of fisheries and forestry, which were very numerous. Several awards were also obtained by Japanese for various animal products, hair, fertilizers, &c.

PRIVATE advices from Hongkong report no less than four typhoons in the China Sea this month, the effects of two being felt in the Crown Colony, and all doing more or less damage to foreign and native shipping both at sea and on the China Coast, including injury to the Gap Rock Lighthouse.

THE members of a swindling firm under the name of "Horin & Co." were tried at the Yokohama Chiho Saibansho on the 13th inst., and convicted, the principal being sentenced to two years' major imprisonment, and two others to imprisonment for six months, in addition to which fines were inflicted and police supervision ordered. In a subsequent civil case they were condemned to pay the sums for which they were sued.

IT is reported that the cotton spinning industry has been most successful this year, as all the manufacturers have sold their yarn at good prices. There is very little stock in hand, consequently the returns to shareholders have been much larger than in recent years. The dividends declared by them are as follow, viz., the Tokyo Spinning Co. 10 per cent. per annum, Hirano Spinning Co. 20 per cent., Shinshu Spinning Co. 15¾ per cent., Miye Spinning Co. 14 per cent., Kanebaka Weaving Co. 20 per cent., Kanegafuchi Spinning Co. 7 per cent., Settsu Spinning Co. 20 per cent., Osaka Spinning Co. 10 per cent., Owari Spinning Co. 10 per cent., and Amagasaki Spinning Co. 13¾ per cent. Since the beginning of this half-year the demands for cotton yarn has greatly increased, as qualities which have been in dull demand for long time past have recovered their wonted elasticity. An active demand is expected, and a more favourable lookout anticipated, so that fears are entertained that the supply will be insufficient to meet the demand.

TELEGRAPHIC communication between Yokohama and Nagasaki has been restricted during the week owing to the wires being down in the districts affected by the recent storms. The telegraph reports a German ship from America to Nagasaki with kerosene dismasted in the China Sea; that a convention has been signed between France and Siam, favourable to the latter; that the Earl of Elgin and Kincardine has been appointed Viceroy of India; that forces are on the move in Bechuanaland, and fighting is imminent; that great efforts are being made in the U. S. Senate to secure the passage of the Sherman Act Repeal Bill, and that the repealers have been able to defeat the free coinage amendments; that the gold reserve in the U.S. Treasury had diminished to the lowest point ever known; that cholera is spreading in Spain and serious inundations have afflicted that country; that the U S. Senate had a sitting lasting 39 hours, but the silver men prevented the formation of a quorum; that the *Vigilant* had won the final race and now holds the America Cup; that cholera continues to be reported from various parts of Europe, particularly from Russia; that the miners' strikes in the north of France are collapsing; and that General Campos is in a dangerous condition through his recent wounds from the bomb-throwing.

THERE is no change to report in the Import trade. Yarns to the extent of a few "spot" sales have been taken, and some forward contracts have been entered into. Piece-goods are much as last reported, there being a brisk demand for Shirtings and a good enquiry for Fancy Cottons, and there would doubtless have been many more transactions if buyers' and sellers' ideas of value could be brought closer together. Woollens are mostly neglected, Cloths being the only article in much request. There was some activity in the Metal market a week ago, but this condition has not been maintained, and except for Wire Nails very little is doing. There has been more business in Kerosene, and a fair amount of Oil has changed hands. The tank steamer from Batoum referred to last week has arrived. The Sugar trade is brisk, especially for White sorts, and the small stock of unsold Browns is held for higher figures. The big transaction in the Silk market at the close of last week has not been followed up by buyers to any extent, as they have been kept pretty much in the dark as to the condition of the markets in Europe and America in consequence of the stoppage of telegraphic communication with the outside world. The downward tendency of prices has been checked for the time, and a total of 1,700 piculs has been taken, including a small direct shipment. The condition of the market now depends upon the wires that come in as soon as communication is reëstablished. If orders are plentiful, present prices will be fully maintained, if not, a further decline may be looked for, as holders are carrying an exceedingly heavy stock—about 15,000 piculs—which could be largely and quickly augmented were there any necessity for more Silk. There has been a little more doing in Waste Silk, but the trade must be described as dull at best, and the stock is heavy and increasing. In the Tea trade there has been but little enquiry and less business. Exchange is unaltered, and though showing a weak tendency a few days ago, is again steady at the close.

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THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The issue of an Imperial Rescript for the convocation of the Diet has given the metropolitan papers an opportunity to discuss the political situation. The approaching session of the Diet is looked forward to by the nation with an unusually keen interest, for it is expected that the session will give definite shape to the struggle for the introduction of Government by Party. For our own part, we have no sanguine hope for the introduction of such a system of Government, and are persuaded that the Opposition will have to undergo several more trials before they can attain their object. Be that as it may, politicians of all parties are agreed in thinking that the coming session of the Diet will be an extremely eventful one. We give below a résumé of some of the principal articles that have appeared during the week upon the situation in the fifth session of the Diet.

* * *

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* is of opinion that the coming session of the Diet will witness confused fightings leading to no positive results. There are two questions which may, under certain conditions, cleave the House of Representatives into two hostile camps or unite the whole House in a solid phalanx against the Ministry. These questions are Mixed Residence and Administrative Reforms. But our contemporary is inclined to believe that no such result is possible under the existing state of affairs. On the subject of Mixed Residence, the National Unionists, the Oriental Radicals, and others may be able to muster some strength in the House of Representatives, and a keen struggle may ensue between them, on the one hand, and the Radicals and the Progressionists on the other. But this question is not, in the *Nichi Nichi's* opinion, likely to assume very such importance in the House, for it is a foregone conclusion that the majority of its members will never submit to the negativation of the Address they voted on the same subject during the last session. As to Administrative Reforms, the House can never count upon a solid opposition to the Cabinet. There is no doubt that the Radicals and the Progressionists will declare themselves dissatisfied with the reforms about to be carried out. But the National Unionists, who have always opposed such reforms on the ground that they are not needed, will find it extremely awkward to unite with the above parties in demanding more of them. Thus the anticipated solid phalanx against the Cabinet on the subject of reforms is pronounced by the *Nichi Nichi* to be chimerical. While such is the state of parties in the Diet, the Ministry is said to be resolved to confront it in the coming session with a determined attitude. Everything considered, therefore, the *Nichi Nichi* is confident that there will not be occasion or power on the part of the Opposition to bring its struggle with the Government to any critical point.

* * *

The *Kokkai* observes that some changes having recently taken place both in the attitude of the Cabinet and the mutual relations of different parties, the coming session of the Diet may bring out a fresh phase in the political drama. As to the rumour of an alliance between the Government and the Radical party, our contemporary remarks that there have not been entirely wanting some indications on the part of that party to lend more or less plausibility to such a supposition. But considering its past history, our contemporary cannot believe that the *Jiyu-to* will unite with the present Ministry. On the contrary, the rumour about its submission to the Government is believed to make the Radical party all the more violent in its attack upon those in power. The party is not on friendly terms with the Progressionists, but, in the *Kokkai's* opinion, stern necessity of political strife will compel it to work in concert with them in opposition to the Cabinet. While these two parties will thus be practically united against the Government, the National Unionists will certainly not be friendly towards it. If the Ministry goes so far in its conciliatory policy as to carry out the agrarian reforms in the manner desired by the Representatives of the people, it may, in the *Kokkai's* opinion, be able to maintain itself in power for some time. But our contemporary doubts if the present Cabinet possesses the courage to disregard the resentment of the Military section of clan statesmen who are opposed to those reforms. "Whether or no Count Ito is a great statesman," says the *Kokkai* in conclusion, "we shall see in the course of the coming session of the Diet."

* * *

The *Choya Shimbun* agrees with the *Nichi Nichi* in believing that the Opposition will be incapable of pushing its fight with the Cabinet to the last point. In order to fight a decisive battle, the Opposition must be prepared for the dissolution of the Diet at any moment. But, with the single exception of the Progressionists, all the parties in the Diet are said to fear a dissolution. The Radicals, in the *Choya's* opinion, are losing the people's confidence so fast that they fear to go to the country under the present state of things. Neither are the National Unionists confident, in the event of a general election, of being returned even in their present strength. Moreover, although they have declared themselves opposed to the policy of the Cabinet, they are entirely at one with the latter so far as its fundamental principles are concerned. Under such circumstances, neither the Radicals nor the National Unionists will be prepared to follow the Progressionists in their indiscriminate attack upon the Government.

* * *

The question of Mixed Residence continues to occupy the most prominent place in the columns of the vernacular press. It is believed that the anti Mixed Residence movement is very strong in provincial localities, especially among the landed class, but it still remains to be seen how far the warm interest said to be taken by the rural population in this benighted agitation will affect the situation in the coming session of the Diet. The promoters of the agitation hope that they will be able to induce the electors to bring irresistible pressure to bear upon the members of the Diet, so that the latter may be forced to sacrifice their consciences to political necessity and vote for a resolution strongly disapproving the opening of the country for Mixed Residence. Meanwhile, the agitation has irrevocably failed to make any impression upon the educated classes of the nation. There is not a single newspaper of any account which has openly espoused the cause represented by the Great Japan Union. It may be stated without any fear of contradiction that the whole weight of the press has been thrown into the scale against the present movement. The *Jiji Shimpo*, as heretofore, leads the journalistic fight against the opponents of Mixed Residence. Our contemporary tells these persons that they have struck upon a wrong age. Had they started the agitation fourty years ago, they might have been able to monopolize the whole field; but that time has hopelessly passed by, and they have no more chance to achieve any practical results by the course they are now pursuing. The apparent prosperity of the movement is compared to the lingering heat in autumn. The agitators may succeed in causing a temporary excitement, but it will soon pass away, leaving no perceptible trace behind upon the face of practical politics. They are consequently advised to give up their useless task and devote their energies to more fruitful purposes.

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The *Yomiuri Shimbun* denounces the members of the Great Japan Union because they sacrifice national interests for those of party. Their object is not, in our contemporary's opinion, so much to oppose the admission of foreigners into the interior as to excite the prejudice of the people against the Radical party. They, therefore, deserve the strongest condemnation by every true lover of the country. The Government is told to take no notice of their absurd and unpatriotic actions and undertake the task of Treaty Revision with decision and courage. One contemporary promises the Cabinet its hearty support if it be resolved to adopt such course of action. The *Yomiuri* also calls upon the advocates of Mixed Residence to take advantage of the present agitation to present their views to the people at large.

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The *Jiyu Shimbun* is continuing its series of articles on the subject. The Radical organ strongly criticises the opponents of Mixed Residence on account of the low estimate they are not ashamed of making about the capacity of their fellow countrymen. Our contemporary points to the steady and solid progress which the nation has effected in the past twenty years, and to the aptitude which many Japanese students have shown for original scientific research and other evidences of intellectual activity of a high order manifested by the people.

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The *Kokumin Shimbun* also urges the Ministry to accomplish the task of Treaty Revision at the earliest opportunity. The opinion of the people, says our contemporary, is already well known to be in favour of the opening of the interior for Mixed Residence. If the Government hesitates to undertake the task in earnest, it must be prepared for the opposition of the whole nation.

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The *Nippon* has again touched upon the subject, but our contemporary's opinion is as ambiguous as ever. It states in one line that it is not opposed to the immediate opening of the interior, but in the very next line it does not hesitate to say that it is in sympathy with the patriotic motives of the opponents of Mixed Residence. Our contemporary's idea seems to be that it is not dignified to open the interior as a recompense for the abolition of Consular Jurisdiction. The privileges to be allowed must be granted as a perfectly spontaneous and independent favour. It is also to be gathered from its profuse writings that it believes the people too much under the influence of a pro-foreign tendency to enable them to cope successfully with foreigners in the field of practical activity.

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The promulgation of an Imperial Ordinance relating to the creation of a Commission for the Investigation of the Monetary System has called forth the unstinted approval of all the metropolitan papers with one significant exception. The papers advise the Government to exercise great caution in the selection of men for the Commission. According to rumour, some persons, who have no recommendation except that they belong to one or other of the parties, are included among those likely to receive appointment. The vernacular press, without distinction of party, seems to be opposed to the usual method followed by the Cabinet in the appointment of Committees, namely, that of keeping a balance between the different political parties represented in the Diet. The Government is recommended to select only those persons who are really qualified for the important position.

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The paper which does not approve the creation of the Commission is the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*. Our contemporary thinks that there is no longer any necessity to conduct any elaborate investigation into the subject. Political writers and financiers of different schools have already had their say on the question, and it only remains for the Cabinet to form its decision on the matter and shape its policy accordingly. Our contemporary would have enthusiastically welcomed the measure had it been taken a year or two ago. Why has the Ministry taken such a useless step now? The *Nichi Nichi* hints that the Ministers of State may have had recourse to the measure simply for the sake of appearances. As to the number of the members of the Commission, our contemporary thinks that it is too large; it thinks that five, instead of twenty, would be the proper number. Our contemporary also cautions the Government against

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the appointment of members on the basis of balance of parties.

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The disastrous inundations in the Prefectures of Okayama, Hyogo, Tottori, Ehime, and Oita occupy the largest portion of space in the vernacular press. Injuries done to the crops and loss of life must be enormous, but the disruption of telegraphic connection with some of the localities concerned has prevented the papers from making any accurate estimates on these points. The press urges upon the Government to elaborate a scheme of riparian improvements on a large and permanent scale. The *Nichi Nichi* is informed that such a scheme is in course of preparation in the Council of Engineering Works and it will be submitted to the Diet in the coming session.

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The *Hochi* v. the *Kaishin Shimbun* libel case still forms one of the commonest topics of conversation. Journalistic attention is now chiefly directed to attacks on Count Goto, Minister of Agriculture and Commerce. He is called various names, and is the subject of comments more outspoken than delicate. He is called upon to resign. Some papers also urge the Premier to dismiss his unpopular colleague from office. It is stated that the matter will form a subject of discussion in the approaching session of the Diet.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

CAPTAIN INGLES, R N.

Captain Ingles, R.N., Naval Adviser to the Japanese Government, and his family, left Shimbashi Station by the 8.55 a.m. train on the 13th instant for Yokohama, to embark for England in the Canadian Pacific Company's steamer *Empress of Japan*. A great crowd assembled at the station to say farewell, the Naval Department being represented by His Excellency Count Saigo, Admirals Nakamuda, Nirei, and Inouye, a number of Captains and Commanders, and the whole body of cadets from the Naval College; the Imperial Household Department by Mr. Sannomiya, and the foreign community of the capital by nearly the entire British contingent. On arriving at Yokohama Station, Captain Ingles found a carriage awaiting him, in which he was driven to the Naval Department pier, whence he embarked, the Minister of State for the Navy and a number of Naval officers, both Departmental and on the combatant list, accompanying him on board his steamer. A pretty compliment was paid the departing officer by Baron Inouye, Admiral Superintendent of the Yokosuka Dockyard, who, accompanied by the heads of Departments and several officers from the Squadron lying at Yokosuka, arrived in one of the Dockyard tenders just before the *Empress* sailed, and steamed slowly round the mail-boat, the Naval Band on board playing "The girl I left behind me" and "Auld lang syne." Captain Ingles' own service was also well represented by friends who came to say *bon voyage* from the British men-of-war in harbour, the *Alacrity*, *Archer*, and *Porpoise*. His Excellency Admiral Freemantle, whose intention was to have accompanied Captain Ingles from the Naval Pier with his Japanese friends, just missed the opportunity of doing so through his coxswain taking him to the wrong place, but the Admiral arrived on board the mail-boat half-an-hour before she sailed As the departing steamer began to swing, the Company's tender *Spindrift* steamed outside the breakwater to give Captain Ingles' many friends on board an opportunity of waving a last farewell as the splendid boat *Empress* glided past on her long journey. It was plain, indeed, that the Japanese fully appreciate the admirable service rendered by Captain Ingles during the six years of his residence in this country, and sincerely regret the necessity that recalls him to duty in England. He has shown himself a most able adviser, and has contributed as much as it is possible for a foreigner to contribute to the efficiency which the Navy of this empire may now justly boast. We sincerely hope that his useful services may be again available when the causes of his present departure shall have ceased to control his movements. Meanwhile, it is the hearty wish of a very wide circle of Japanese and foreign friends in this country that the best possible fortune and the largest measure of happiness may be in store for him as well as for his charming wife and daughters, whose genial hospitalities added so materially to the pleasure of life in Tokyo, and whose absence will create a wide gap on every social occasion and at every friendly gathering.

PETITION OF THE AOGA-SHIMA ISLANDERS.

The inhabitants of Aoga-shima, a solitary island lying about 18 nautical *ri* south of Hachijyo, have preferred to the Tokyo Municipality through their representatives, the head-men of the Island and a few other persons, an application to have a regular steam-ship service opened to the Island. The grounds on which the application is based appear reasonable Referring to the history of the Island in the *Temmei* era (1781-88), it appears that in consequence of a terrible volcanic eruption, more than 300 persons were killed out of a population of about 500 souls. The survivors fled to Hachijyo in fishing boats, and the island of Aoga-shima remained entirely deserted for several decades subsequently. Ultimately, however, an effort to re-people it was made, chiefly through the exertions of one Sasaki Jirotayu, a descendant of whom is now the head-man of the place. For years the work of reclamation was carried on, and at last the island became so much changed for the better that in the *Tempo* era (1830-1843) the Government considered the land fit to be included in the taxable area of the empire. One thing, however, has always stood in the way of the island's development, namely, the exceptional difficulty which the islanders experience in attempting to cross over to Hachijyo, in consequence of the famous current running between the two places. This current has frequently carried boats out to the open sea, and many a death stands to its charge. The Tokugawa Government administered the affairs of the island in a thoroughly paternal spirit. By way of aid for purposes of navigation, a sum of money, deemed sufficient for the construction of several ships, as well as for their regular repair was granted and in the event of the islanders being drifted to other coasts they were sent home at public expense. With the Restoration, however, this policy of liberal protection ceased to be pursued, much to the distress of the islanders, who since then have been obliged to rely on very inferior boats for their periodical voyages to Hachijyo. Such are the perils besetting this voyage, that out of twenty-three passages made in the eleven years between 1882 and 1893, disaster was experienced on fifteen occasions, heavy losses both direct and indirect, being entailed on the islanders The difficulty of navigation being so great, the islanders naturally shun the passage as much as possible. Whatever business they engage in, however, it is unavoidable that they should undertake at least one or two voyages a year, if only to discharge their obligation of tax-paying and sending conscripts for the Army. The vulgar prejudice once widely entertained against the conscript system, namely, that to be enlisted for service was virtually a sentence of death, applies with much truth to the conscripts of Aoga-shima, for owing to the difficulty of navigation the departure of young men for purposes of enlistment very frequently proves to be their last journey, and such a case did actually happen last June. Eleven robust youths enlisted for service and set sail in a vessel manned by six sailors. The ship, however, never reached its destination, it capsized, and all on board were lost. Nature has in truth been conspicuously unkind to Aoga-shima. Not a single good anchorage for ships is to be found along its coast. The islanders have been obliged to dig out a small inlet where they shelter their boats, and even this haven was entirely destroyed by a recent storm, so that there is now no shelter for ships, and not a few catastrophes have occurred in consequence. Thus the islanders finding their means of existence gradually narrowed, are said to be contemplating removal to a more favourable place whenever they can find an opportunity. The representatives now in Tokyo fear that unless something be done towards alleviating the condition of their fellow islanders, Aoga-shima will again become deserted. This is not the first time that a petition in a similar sense has been forwarded to the Authorities. In 1888 a prayer was submitted to the municipality in connection with the question of navigation, but did not receive favourable consideration. The year before last a similar petition was sent up to the Diet during its second session, but dissolution of the Diet occurred before the petition came on for consideration. The representatives now in Tokyo are said to be working most zealously in the interests of their object, and certainly the case appears to merit the favourable consideration of the Authorities.

THE EMPEROR'S DEPARTURE.

H.I.M. the Emperor, attended by Marquis Tokudaiji, Grand Chamberlain, and many other officials of the Imperial Household, left the Palace at one o'clock yesterday afternoon for Uyeno Railway Station, whence the Imperial Party left for Gumma by the 1 45 p m. train to witness the manœuvres of the Imperial Body Guard. H I M. the Empress and the Premier accompanied the Emperor to the station. Among those who assembled at Uyeno to bid him farewell were Counts Yamagata, Kuroda, Inouye, Goto, Higashi-kuze, Soyejima, and Sasaki, Marquis Nabeshima, Grand Master of Ceremonies; President Hachisuka of the Upper House; Princes Ichigo and Kujo, Marquis Mayeda, and Governor Tomita, of Tokyo.

THE JAPANESE VICE-CONSUL AT VANCOUVER INTERVIEWED

Mr. Kito, Japanese Vice-Consul at Vancouver, who lately returned home on leave of absence, has been interviewed by a representative of the *Hochi Shimbun*, with special reference the condition of Japanese emigrants in British Colombia. Judging from the information given by him, the emigration has been an entire failure thus far, and he lays the fault at the door of both the emigration agents and the labourers themselves, mismanagement of the former and misconduct of the latter being equally responsible. He spoke at first of the emigration of 100 labourers for mining purposes on an island about 300 leagues from Vancouver. They were sent through the now notorious Kobe Emigration Company, in November of 1891. The Company appears to have gathered together all the human flotsam and jetsam of that port, for when the emigrants arrived at their destination, their employer discovered, to his surprise and chagrin, that out of the whole number, only 4 or 5 knew how to work or were honest enough to make any attempt, the rest for the most part refusing to go down the mine on one pretext or another. The employer bore this for a while, but finding their obstinacy not a whit lessened as week after week went by, he at last asked the agent of the company stationed there to relieve him of the utterly useless men. It was of course beyond the power of the agent to send the good-for-nothings home. He could only offer repeated assurances that he should enforce stricter discipline, and that in the future the company in Kobe should be required to send only honest and efficient men. In deference to these representations the employer consented to waive his demand for the men's return to Japan. By and by it became necessary to close the mine, and an intimation was accordingly conveyed to the agent that no further need of labourers for the mine existed, and that their shipment from Kobe should be immediately stopped. Labourers to the number of 83 did arrive, however, some time afterwards, and of course no work could be found for them at the mine. For some time, how long we are not informed, both the old and the new emigrants had to endure hardships of the severest description, starvation staring them in the face. This may have been a premeditated design on the part of the proprietor of the mine to give the Japanese a lesson, for it would seem that the mine was opened again after a brief interval. When

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work re-commenced, the proprietor was much pleased to find the conduct of the old comers greatly changed for the better, their recent misery having exercised a most salutary effect. Their prospects began to brighten, for with diligence and economy they could afford to lay by a certain sum of money weekly. This, however, did not last long. Prosperity soon de-developed their old slothful habits, and even the comparatively industrious and honest new-comers began to be demoralized. A contract had been originally made that 30 per cent. of the men's wages should be deducted until the expenses incurred by the Company in bringing them from Kobe were paid off. They demanded with much show of vehemence and insistence that this contract should be altered in their interest, and when the demand was rejected, they organized a strike and finally resolved to cross over to Vancouver, which they succeeded in doing by means of several wretched boats, clandestinely obtained in the island. They then went to their Consulate to procure help. Mr. Kito was astonished at their miserable appearance, and though it was by no means an easy thing to extend help to such a number, still to leave them unassisted was out of the question, their plight being desperate. He therefore headed a list of subscribers, and his example being followed by others, enough was collected to keep the wolf away from the labourers' door. Mr. Kito told the representative of the *Hochi* that by the time he started for Japan all the miserable folks had found work of some kind. What had become of their relation between the Kobe Company and their employer, we do not learn. Mr. Kito next proceeded to give his opinion on Japanese emigration to British Columbia proper. He was emphatically opposed to emigration. Without any example except the above whereon to base his view, he nevertheless insisted on the unwisdom of more Japanese coming, and explained that the confidence of employors had been entirely forfeited by Japanese labourers, and positive dislike of them had taken its place. The constant arrivals of a low type of Japanese in Vancouver were quite remarkable in consequence of the frequent refusals of the San Francisco Authorities to permit the landing of such persons there. So numerous were these arrivals there that during 155 days from April 1st of this year to September 5th, 869 persons had landed in Vancouver, most of whom were ignorant labourers of the lowest type. The appearance of these adventurers is graphically and comically described by the Consul. Dressed in cast off uniforms of soldiers or police which they have worn ever since sailing for Vancouver, they wander about the streets in parties of three or five, perfectly indifferent to what others may say of them, and staring at everything they think curious. Sometimes they enter a low tavern or cheap general goods store, and then the business of getting out their money is quite a serious affair, for instead of having it in their pockets, they keep it fastened up in girdles wound round their waists. To pay out a sum, however small, even one sen, they first unbutton a coat, then a vest, then a shirt, and finally showing their naked bodies even in the presence of a lady, they produce the desired amount from their girdle. The Consul enters into a number of details descriptive of the proceedings of these persons, but he tells nothing worth repeating here. The pith of it all is that the men are so needy as to be sometimes driven to lawless conduct, and that they hire themselves out at wages far below the sums demanded by their white competitors, the consequence being that the latter regard them as enemies to be excluded at all costs.

A PRIMITIVE PAIR.

THE vernacular press gives a fuller account than that just published about the two primitive persons whom Mr. Nakamura, M.P., is said to have encountered quite recently in the depths of a forest, some 8 English miles from Azuma-mura, a hamlet situated on the borders of Shinano and Kozuke. Mr. Nakamura and some others had gone to those woody districts on lumber business, and hearing at the hamlet that the forest possessed strange denizens, their curiosity was awakened. Accompanied by a guide, they at once proceeded in quest of the couple through woods virtually devoid of paths At last they reached what appeared to be a tiny shed of about 3 mats (72 square feet) in size, made with branches and vines, in a shady place where it was not quite light even by day When the party peeped into this veritable nest they saw an old man and woman both appearing from their countenances to be 70 years of age, or thereabouts, but perfectly healthy. What struck the visitors with surprise was the costume of the hermits. It was simply a garment made by stitching together some leaves, and a scant garment at that, for it covered the loins only. These old dwellers in the woods appeared to be greatly astounded when they found themselves the cynosure of observation, but they quickly recovered their ease of mind on being told who the visitors were and for what purpose they had come. When asked to tell the history of their lives, they replied that about 40 years ago they had left their native village, Azuma, for that secluded place, owing to unavoidable circumstances, which, however, they declined to disclose. The place being devoid of any arable land, they subsisted on acorns, roots, and sometimes by capturing birds and small animals, precisely after the manner of savages in wilds. After having led that sort of existence for about 30 years, the desire to return to their native village once more became insuperable. They made their way thither, but the villagers were so much surprised at the aspect of these strange-looking beings that no one ventured to approach or speak to them. They were therefore once more obliged to retire to their former retreat, where they lived thenceforth determined to end their days there. The old couple were found to be very clever in capturing small birds. Their device is to project into the air two flat pieces of wood by which a sound resembling the flapping of eagle's wings is produced. When pheasants and birds of that kind hear the sound, their fear is so great that they are virtually paralyzed, and so can be easily captured.

THE TAKASHIMA CASE

SOME attention has been attracted in London by the story of a Lincolnshire girl and a Japanese named Takashima, as told in the columns of *Truth*. The girl was a domestic servant, the youth, a valet at the Japanese Legation who represented himself to be a student of good connections and sufficient means. We need scarcely go beyond this outline of the tale. Marriage preliminaries were arranged, but the groom failed to put in an appearance. In truth he was already a husband. The girl, acting under legal advice, subsequently consented to receive £20 by way of compensation for the wrong she had suffered. There the matter might have ended, had not the birth of a child and the girl's indigent condition as an inmate of a workhouse infirmary, aroused the sympathies of a writer who, under the pseudonym of "Scrutator," told her story in *Truth*. He described how proceedings had been attempted to compel Takashima to contribute to the maintenance of the child, and how no legal remedy had been accessible owing to the fact that Takashima, as the servant of an ambassador, was exempt from the jurisdiction of an English Court. After inveighing against this imperfect state of the law, "Scrutator" proceeded to reflect on the conduct of Takashima's employers, whom he criticised, first, for continuing to employ the man, and secondly, for not withdrawing their protection and handing him over to be dealt with by a British tribunal. Of course this latter suggestion was the outcome of mere thoughtlessness, for it is obvious that even though a British Court granted an order against a Japanese for the maintenance of a child in England, no method of enforcing the order would exist, and the man might at any moment evade it by simply quitting the country. But "Scrutator's" story attracted the attention of the Japanese Minister, Mr. Kawase, who had heard nothing previously of the matter, and he immediately took steps to himself offer the girl some reparation for the wrong she had suffered. Such cases, we suspect, are not at all infrequent in Europe, though it is seldom that a *deus ex machina* like Viscount Kawase appears to save the situation. Moreover, such cases, *mutatis mutandis*, are common enough in Japan also, where many a woman finds herself deserted with a Eurasian child, or perhaps children, for which she has no means of providing. The broade difference, however, is that in Japan no declared prospect of marriage deludes the girl to her fall. She seldom belongs to the class of women who exact something beyond present ease and comparative opulence as the price of complacence, and her own free volition consequently bars any subsequent demand for redress

LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AUTHORITIES IN A DILEMMA.

THE local educational authorities, we read in the vernacular press, are much embarrassed by a conflict of opinions between the Educational Department and the educationists out of power. The latter led by Messrs Tsuji and Izawa, local officials connected with educational affairs, are almost without exception, members of either the Educational Society of Japan, which is under the presidency of Mr. Tsuji, or of an analogous society presided over by Mr. Izawa. They were persuaded to become members of these societies when their Presidents wielded great influence in the Educational Department, not simply to carry favour, but rather to avoid incurring displeasure. Now, however, the position of the two Presidents is radically changed. They are still, it is true, at the head of the societies, but of the societies themselves, which formerly were largely instrumental in promoting the policy of the Educational Department, are now bitterly opposed to it, as the public daily learns from the vernacular papers; local officials are therefore placed in a dilemma. As members of the societies they fear to be regarded as endorsing the hostile attitude assumed by Messrs. Tsuji and Izawa against the Department of Education, and on the other hand, to withdraw might look servile, and might also provoke the umbrage of men whom the perpetual revolution of the official wheel may at any moment restore to commanding positions. It is difficult to determine whether such a dilemma deserves ridicule or pity.

THE GREAT JAPAN UNION AND POLITICAL PARTIES.

THE Great Japan Union is about to send out three lecture parties. Messrs. Oi Kentaro, Kumtomo Shigeakira, and Igarashi Koryu are to visit the Prefecture of Fukushima, and the adjacent districts, holding their first lecture meeting at Shirakawa on the 17th instant. The Prefectures of Miyagi, Iwate, Yamagata, Akita and Aomori have been assigned to Messrs. Suzuki Shigeto, Kokubo Kishichi, and Urakami Katsutaro, who will begin their campaign with a lecture meeting at Sendai on the 18th instant. To the provinces of San-in-do and San-yo-do as well as of Shikoku, will be sent Messrs. Sassa Tomofusa, Arai Shogo, and Takata Jiro. The two last mentioned lecturers are to leave the capital on the 20th instant and will join Mr. Sassa at Suma, in the Prefecture of Hyogo, which place he is expected to reach a few days in advance of them. As to the provinces of Tokaido and Kwanto, no special lecture party will be appointed, it being decided with regard to these localities to send out lecturers from time to time as the convenience of the Union allows or as expediency suggests.

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The activity shown by the Great Japan Union is a source of no small anxiety to the Radical Party. The principal members of that Party held a conference on the 11th instant to consider some method of counteracting the evil influence of the opponents of Mixed Residence. According to the *Choya Shimbun*, it is said to have been decided at the conference to hold a grand lecture meeting in Tokyo in opposition to the Great Japan Union and to distribute reports of the speeches among the provincial members of the Party. Our contemporary also

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mentions that some of the provincial members of the Radical Party are not pleased with the rumoured connection between Mr. Hoshi and the Minister of Foreign Affairs, and that they even threaten to quit the Party. But this report must be received with a good deal of doubt.

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The Progressionists are said to have decided to maintain neutrality in the struggle about to open between the Radicals and the Great Japan Union on the subject of Mixed Residence. They are not displeased to see their foes threatened with a strong attack by the members of the Union.

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The National Unionists are on the whole in sympathy with the present agitation against Mixed Residence. But it must not be concluded that all of them are really against the admission of foreigners into the interior. Several of them are decidedly opposed to the agitation.

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The attitude of the *Domei* Club is at present uncertain. It is indeed pretty well known that the majority of its members are in favour of Mixed Residence; but some of them evidently take a different view. Fear of dissension seems to have induced the Club to refrain from taking any decisive action on the matter. According to the latest report, the members of the Club, while, on the one hand, remaining neutral with regard to Mixed Residence, will, on the other, endeavour in the coming session of the Diet to bring strong pressure to pear upon the Cabinet to induce it to take up the task of Treaty Revision at the earliest opportunity.

CONVOCATION OF THE DIET.

As we announced in our last issue, the convocation of the Diet is now fixed for the 25th proximo, an Imperial Rescript to that effect having been published in the *Official Gazette* of the 13th instant, over the Sign Manual of the Sovereign and the signatures of all the Ministers of State. Including the day of promulgation of the Rescript, the interval before the opening is 43 days, or 3 days more than the minimum interval fixed by law. During that interval the Government's scheme of administrative reforms will be published and put into operation. The 15th instant is commonly rumoured—with truth we imagine—to be the day fixed for the publication of that important measure, so that the members of the Diet will have just a month to scrutinize it and the organs of the Opposition a month to assail it before parliament meets. In all countries of the world every one is far wiser than the statesmen in power, and every one not in office could manage the affairs of the country much better than those in office. We shall therefore hear innumerable opinions, all more or less critical, and all based on the assumption of superior statecraft and administrative competence. That is one grand privilege which a free newspaper press secures to a free people. A lad fresh from the philosophical researches of academical life or a youth who has just climbed the literary stool, may sit in judgment upon the ripest talent and the most careful achievements of his country's statesmen without provoking ridicule or being sent to a house of correction. We shall witness some of these prett displays during they next month.

MESSRS. SAMUEL SAMUEL AND CO. ONCE MORE.

THE *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* writes that the agitation of the Japanese Fancy Goods Merchants against Messrs. Samuel Samuel and Co. can not be expected to prove efficacious. The principal articles dealt in by the Firm, according to our contemporary, are cereals for export, and petroleum, iron, and ginned cotton for import. Even in the export of cereals alone, the yearly total of the Firm's transactions exceeds 4 million *yen*.* Hence it is not strange that the Firm are perfectly unconcerned about an agitation got up by merchants with whom their transactions are believed to be only about 10,000 *yen* per month. The *Nichi Nichi* thinks that if the procedure of the Firm has really caused umbrage, and if there is a serious intention of resenting what has occurred, the only effective course is to stop the supply of cereals to the Firm or the purchase of oil, iron, or cotton, from them. Moreover, a firm of such magnitude as Messrs. Samuel Samuel and Co. can procure, if necessary, any goods they want through the medium of other firms by paying a small commission. Thus the paltry device of attempting to embarrass them by proceedings such as those which the Fancy Goods Merchants have organized, is waste of labour. Some say that because the proprietor of the Firm is a Jew the disgrace of being boycotted is not felt, and can produce no effect in correcting the Firm's objectionable practices. But the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* thinks that even though the proprietor be a Jew his moral sensibility is vulnerable if sufficiently strong measures be adopted to reach it. Our contemporary concludes its article by warning the Fancy Goods Merchants that in view of the attitude assumed by the Firm towards their boycott, better advised methods must be pursued if success is aimed at.

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One of the most singular features of this affair, from the point of view of an outsider, is that the public has not heard a word of the sin laid to the charge of Messrs. Samuel Samuel and Co. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* assumes that the Japanese Fancy Goods Merchants have right on their side, and the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, being Japanese, may fairly be excused for adopting that notion. But to us who, not being Japanese, are naturally biassed the other way, and who are nevertheless desirous of arriving at a just judgment, the commentators' indifference to primary facts seems distinctly peculiar. Meanwhile, the dignified attitude maintained by Messrs. Samuel Samuel and Company can not fail to impress the foreign community in their favour. We can not but add, too, that the *Nichi Nichi's* remark about the nationality of the head of the Firm seems quite below that journal's usual standard of intelligence and discrimination. The stigma in dark ages attaching to Jewish origin has long been condemned by civilized men as one of the most unreasonable and contemptible prejudices ever born of ignorance and superstition.

JAPAN AND THE SILVER QUESTION.

THE *Official Gazette* of the 16th instant contains the following Imperial Ordinance:—

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE

We hereby sanction, and direct the due promulgation of, rules relating to a Committee of Currency Investigation.

(Sign Manual).

(Signatures of the Minister President of State and the Minister of State for Finance.)

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE NO. 103

RULES RELATING TO THE COMMITTEE OF CURRENCY INVESTIGATION.

Art. I.—The Committee of Currency Investigation shall be under the superintendence of the Minister of State for Finance, and shall investigate the following matters:—

(1.) The origin and general results of recent fluctuations in the relative value of gold and silver.

(2.) The effect produced upon the economy of Japan by recent fluctuations in the relative value of gold and silver.

(3.) Whether, in consequence of recent fluctuations in the relative value of gold and silver, any change should be made in the present currency system of Japan, and if such change be considered necessary, what currency unit should be adopted and what methods should be followed for the purpose.

Art. II.—The Committee of Currency Investigation shall be composed as follows:—

President ..... One.
Vice-President ..... One.
Members ..... Twenty.

Art. III.—The President, Vice-President, and members shall be chosen from among high-class administrative officials, Professors of the Imperial University, members of the Imperial Diet, and other persons of learning and experience in matters of currency, and shall be nominated by the Cabinet on the recommendation of the Minister of State for Finance.

Art. IV.—Regulations for the proceedings and deliberations of the Committee of Currency Investigation shall be determined by the Minister of State for Finance.

Art. V.—The President shall control the proceedings and report the decisions of the Committee to the Minister of State for Finance.

In the event of the President's absence his functions shall devolve upon the Vice President.

Art. VI.—Managers shall be attached to the Committee; they shall be chosen from among the superior officials of the Department of Finance and shall manage the business of the Committee under the direction of the President.

Art. VII.—Secretaries shall be attached to the Committee to manage all secretarial matters under the direction of the President and the Managers.

Art. VIII.—The President, the Vice-President, the members, the managers and the Secretaries shall receive annual allowances of not more than three hundred *yen*.

CANDIDATES FOR THE VICE-PRESIDENTSHIP OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

ACCORDING to the *Kokkai*, the most likely candidate for the post of Vice-President of the House of Representatives is Mr. Watanabe Hiromoto. He was formerly a National Unionist, but is now really independent of all parties, and the circumstance will ultimately secure his election, although in point of aptitude for the position he can not be compared with some of the other candidates. As to Mr. Kusumoto, he is undoubtedly well qualified for the post, but is not sufficiently popular in the House to obtain the largest number of votes. Mr. Abel Iwane is also admitted to be a capable man, but his connection with the Great Japan Union will make him anything but a *persona grata* with the Radicals and the Progressionists, and so he has little chance of election. With regard to Mr. Suzuki Shigeto, he is a very popular member, but his voice being weak, it is not believed that he would make an efficient Vice-President. We note that neither the Radicals nor the Progressionists will offer any candidate of their own for the post.

A GOOD PAIR OF SWINDLERS.

IN terms too obscure to be fully understood, the *Chugai Dempo* refers to a fradulent transaction by which two or three dishonest Japanese attempted to rob a foreign merchant in Yokohama of a sum of 40,000 *yen*. A fellow named Tsuda is said to have been the originator of the design. In conjunction with another of his own type, he conceived the idea of counterfeiting Government bonds, which they intended to sell to the foreigner, the head clerk of the latter being a party to the scheme. The intention of the impostors was that the man whose name the bonds bore should cross to foreign lands and thus elude the grasp of the law. Our contemporary does not state how this intrigue ended, but it appears that the foreigner was astute enough not to fall a victim to the imposture.

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The *Chugai Dempo* next gives, perhaps as a set-off to the foregoing attempt by Japanese, an instance of a similar scheme by which a foreigner in Kobe successfully defrauded some coal mines owners in Kyushu, not, however, acting alone, but in conjunction with a Japanese of Kochi Prefecture. The foreigner, who, according to the *Dempo*, was a well-known loafer in Kobe, went down to Kyushu with his Kochi confederate, after having carefully elaborated the method of conducting their plot. The foreigner represented himself as the head clerk of a rich resident merchant in Kobe who desired to purchase some coal mine for the benefit of his Anglo-Japanese children. Now there are in Kyushu many proprietors of small coal mines who are far from being well off. They were therefore very glad to hear the above statement, anticipating that they should be able to conclude a profitable bargain with the foreigner. The first transaction of the pair of swindlers was with a certain proprietor who proposed to part with his mine for 10,000 *yen*. To this the foreigner replied that he was perfectly satisfied with the price, but that he also must get something for his trouble. In short, the mine-owner was persuaded to write an account for 15,000 *yen*, of which 3,000 *yen* were to go into the pocket of the foreign clerk, and the remaining 12,000 *yen* to the pro-

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prietor, the extra 2,000 *yen* being in consideration of his consenting to write a false account for 15,000 *yen*. The foreigner then, in quite a matter-of-fact kind of way, wrote an order for 15,000 *yen* and requested at the same time to have the 3,000 *yen* which were to be his reward. Carried away by the sweet prospect of an additional 2,000 *yen*, the proprietor actually gave a cheque for 3,000 *yen*, which the foreigner cashed at the nearest bank. In that way the pair are said to have successfully defrauded seven or eight mine-owners. At last the scheme was discovered, and the defrauded mine-owners sensible of the hopelessness of trying to get their money back, and doubtless knowing that they themselves having been parties to a felony, could not carry the matter into a law court, had no resource but to administer a sound thrashing to their beguilers, which they accordingly did. The story furnishes a striking illustration of the code of business morality obeyed by a certain class of Japanese. The foreign rascal's chief cleverness consisted, as we think, in his faith that so many wily mine-owners could be found in Kiushu.

"SAKE" BREWERS' PETITION.

WITH an intention of profiting by the opportunity of which the assembly in Tokyo of the principal tax-collectors affords, the committee of the *saké* brewers throughout the empire are said to be agitating to give effect to the decision adopted at the late general meeting of brewers. The decision was that the Government be petitioned to measure the capacity of a *saké* tub after the residue had subsided, not before, as is the practice at present. The brewers complain that the *saké* tax being assessed on the basis of the volume of the liquor, it follows that by the present mode of measurement they are taxed on residuum which is simply waste matter. They claim that as the residue amounts to about 2 or 3 per cent. of the whole volume, the tax should be assessed after deducting so much per cent. from the gross volume. Should 3 per cent. be deducted, they calculate that a diminution of about 400,000 *yen* would be effected on the total tax of some 15,000,000 *yen*. The demand being perfectly reasonable, is likely to be conceded, not, however, to the extent of 3 per cent. as proposed by the Committee, but probably to the extent of 2 or 1½ per cent. The reason why the authorities have hitherto measured the volume of *saké* previous to the subsidence of the lees, is understood to be that if the process of settling be awaited, an interval of about 2 weeks must be suffered to elapse from the time when the liquor is pressed out, and during that interval many contrivances are likely to be devised for eluding the due assessment of the tax. Evidently such an apprehension would have no force if a fixed percentage were deducted from the total volume on account of the lees.

COUNT INOUYE AND THE "JIYU SHIMBUN."

THE *Jiyu Shimbun*—whatever may be the reason—has never been very amicably disposed towards Count Inouye. Its latest attempt to drag the name of the Minister of State for Home Affairs' into unenviable notoriety has been the publication of a note, in which attention is drawn to intimate relations said to exist between him and the Mitsui Bank. The story is as follows:—Some years ago, Mr. Nakamigawa Hikojiro, who is known to be on confidential terms with Count Inouye, joined the Bank, and proceeded to introduce such sweeping reforms into its organization that the institution is now in a much better condition than before. But in one respect the changes introduced by him are said to have involved very awkward consequences to many of the Bank's best constituents. Advances of sums exceeding 50,000 *yen* are not made, it is alleged, without first consulting Count Inouye, the consequence being that proposals for such advances are seldom favourably entertained. The inconveniences resulting from this practice are alleged to be such that people begin to make secret inquiries as to the Home Minister's interference in the affairs of the Mitsui Bank. As another instance of the power which Count Inouye exercises in banking circles, the Radical organ asserts that the 110th National Bank at Shimonoseki was induced by him to give the splendid site occupied by its buildings to the branch office of the Bank of Japan. "Why," says our contemporary in a significant manner, "Count Inouye possesses such intimate connections with banks, it is not given to us to understand."

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The whole of this charge reads to us simply as a display of ill-will. Even supposing that Count Inouye did possess and did wield the influence attributed to him, no reproach whatever could be properly manufactured out of the fact, unless, indeed, the *Jiyu Shimbun* is still sufficiently antiquated to adhere to the creed of military feudalism which classed the people as *Shi-no-ko-sho*, relegating traders to the lowest place in the social scale. It is scarcely conceivable that Count Inouye should add the practical work of banking to the multifarious functions connected with his busy office as Minister of State for Home Affairs. But if his counsel has been the means of reorganizing and placing on a sounder footing one of oldest and best financial institutions of the country, surely hearty applause not ill-naturated muendo is what he has a right to expect at the hands of public critics. In England, a statesman who, in addition to his official duties, found time and possessed ability to effect material improvements in banking affairs, would receive the praise justly belonging to such versatility. But in Japan a snake must be found in every patch of verdure; of such is the kingdom of party politics.

TROUBLE IN SAITAMA PREFECTURE.

ALL the Divisional Headmen in the Chichibu district of Saitama prefecture, writes the *Hochi Shimbun*, have declined to continue discharging their functions, and the local administrative machine in that quarter has stopped working. Why the Headmen have taken such an unusual step appears to us inexplicable, if we are to judge only by the information of our contemporary. The main cause of the trouble is traced to the ravages done by frost in that Prefecture last spring. When the damage was experienced Mr. Ginbayashi, Governor of the Prefecture, summoned an extraordinary session of the Local Assembly, and after due deliberation as to the amount of help to be given to the farmers, by way of alleviating the effects of their unexpected calamity, the Assembly decided to appropriate 30,000 *yen* out of the reserve fund. In the meanwhile the Governor had made the District Headmen under his control compile reports describing the extent of the suffering inflicted on the people in their respective localities, and when these reports were submitted for the perusal of the Governor, it was found that the report from the Chichibu District contained various exaggerations. The Governor therefore instructed the Headman of that District to recompile the document, and that official thus found himself placed in an awkward position, for he had originally left the matter mainly in the hands of the Divisional Headmen, promising them somewhat boastfully that he should have their reports approved by the Governor. While he was therefore hesitating to tell the Headmen to prepare fresh reports, the Prefectural Authorities sent clerks to the district and caused independent reports to be prepared, with the result that the injury suffered by the District was estimated to be about one half of the previous statement. The District Headman thought himself disgraced in the eyes of the people by this prompt way of doing business on the part of the Authorities, so he sent in his resignation, which was accepted a few days afterwards. But he did not neglect to sow seeds of trouble behind him, for he assured the Divisional Headmen, before he retired, that in consequence of undue interference on the part of the Kencho officials, he had been frustrated in his endeavours to have the claims of the people heard, in spite of all his labour to that end. Now it happened that the chief of the officials appointed to investigate the damage caused by the frost, was a councillor of the Local Office, and the Divisional Headmen as well as the people under their care were led to regard him with feelings of umbrage owing to his action as investigator. The same man, however, was appointed to the post of District Headman by the Prefectural authorities after the resignation of the discredited occupant of that office, and the Divisions Headmen at once concluded that they could not possibly serve under an official who, according to their view, had behaved in a manner totally at variance with the interest of the district. Hence their resolve to tender their resignations in a body, with one or two exceptions. The Governor of the Prefecture is expected to visit the District in person ere long.

JAPANESE RAILWAYS FROM A MILITARY POINT OF VIEW.

A CERTAIN general officer is represented in the vernacular press as having expressed sundry opinions about Japanese railways viewed from the military standpoint. He thinks that railways of wide gauge are far better than those of narrow gauge, but he admits the impossibility of effecting any change in that respect now in Japan. Even with regard to the narrow gauge, however, he affirms that strict uniformity has not hitherto been observed in Japan, and that attention should hereafter be paid to this important point. He has much to say, also, about the over-economical methods of construction adopted by private companies, whose lines follow winding routes and ascend steep gradients simply because the engineers were required to cut everything as low as possible. Examples in point are the Osu line of the Nippon Railway Company, where gradients as steep as 1 in 40 exist, and the Kokura-Moji section of the Kiushu Railway, where the sinuosity of the road in quite remarkable. It would have been possible to make the former comparatively level and the latter much less tortuous had not paramount importance been given to the question of outlay. Passing to the Abt system and its adaptability for military purposes, he said that although it might be employed with some advantage in places where ordinary railways could not be laid, as for example the Usui Pass, it should be avoided as much as possible. A few weeks ago a battery of artillery in the Takasaki Barracks was despatched to Karuizawa for field exercise. By way of trial, the battery was conveyed over the Pass by the railway, and in returning the men were marched. It was found that the trains had to make four or five trips in effecting the transport of the whole battery, so that the distance could actually be covered quicker by marching. Therefore, from a military point of view, the Abt system should be avoided even though the alternative involved great sinuosities or very steep gradients.

A NON-CORRUPTING METHOD OF CORRUPTION.

WE are indebted to the *Jiji Shimpo* for an explanation of this paradox. As time advances, says our contemporary, the devices resorted to for purposes of corruption must also advance. To pack bank-notes in an innocent-looking box of confectionery is now out of date. But there are more civilized substitutes. One of the most ingenious in these days when the public voice is so clamorous against underhand procedure of all kinds, is to make the person whom some one intends to ingratiate purchase a lot of land, perhaps with a dwelling house on it, and then persuade him to sell it at a far higher price than he paid for it. The seducer calls on his victim and tells him, as if the thought had suddenly occurred to him, that he has heard that such and such a lot of land with a furnished house on it is offered for sale extraordinarily cheap. The price per *tsubo*, says he, ought to be 15 *yen*, but owing to the owner's being in pecuniary straits, he is willing to part with it for as little as 9 *yen* per *tsubo*. The unsuspicious victim replies that he also being impecunious, cannot think of making the purchase, whereupon the others offers to find the necessary money. Thus tempted, the victim goes to inspect the land and buildings, perhaps accompanied by his wife. The pair are highly satisfied with the situation and the construction of the house, so they conclude to buy with money borrowed from their tempter, who

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is of course clever enough to tell them that the money may be returned any time they think convenient. They remove to the new place. Half a year or perhaps a whole year expires. By that time the tempter, who has all the while been a welcome visitor at the house, gently breaks to its new owner that some one is exceedingly desirous to have the place, and will pay for it at the rate of 15 *yen* per *tsubo*, or 6 *yen* more than the original price. He strongly recommends his friend to part with the land, and strengthens his recommendation by observing that he himself is now a little short of money and would be glad to have the advance refunded. The owner thinks this advice highly reasonable, and seeing before his eyes a clear profit of 3,000 *yen*—supposing the lot to have measured 500 *tsubo*—readily concludes the bargain with feelings of deep gratitude to his kind friend. This relation once established, the wily adviser—who, of course, had purchased the house and land himself originally with the deliberate intention of making a loss of three thousand *yen*—soon begins to avail himself of the official influence of his victim, who can refuse nothing that he is asked, though his conscience remains quite clear all the while. Such are the wiles of the era.

THE MISSIONARY MURDERS IN CHINA

A SIGNIFICANT and instructive correspondence has taken place in the columns of *The Times*. The writers are Mr. A. Michie and Professor Douglas, both entitled to be heard with all attention and respect. They take precisely the views represented, on the one hand, by the ultimate action of the Swedish Consul-General, and on the other by the comments which that action evoked from the local English press. Here is the chief portion of Mr. Michie's letter :—

The victims of the latest outrage happen to be Swedes, and China has no fear of reprisals from Sweden. Had they been British, blood-money would have been promptly offered, and accepted, for friendship's sake, but in no case would condign punishment have overtaken the guilty parties. This sequence of outrage and money compensation is fast settling down into a kind of routine, which, with the tacit consent of all concerned, seems likely to assume a recognised place in the eternal order of things. Now, this is most unsatisfactory to all the interests concerned—to the Governments of Europe and to the United States, who are responsible for the establishment of missionaries in China; to the Chinese, whose morality is not improved either by the practice of rioting, or immunity from its consequences; and to the cause of Christianity, which suffers immeasurable injury from its constant association with lawless violence.

There is in the British nation a reserve or latent power able both to control the one sided zeal of missionary bodies and to push the Government in the direction of its obvious duty. And it is in the hope of engaging the attention of serious but non-fanatical people that I venture to crave the space necessary to make the following incontrovertible observations :—

1. That the teaching of Christianity is turned from a blessing to a curse to the Chinese people by its association in their minds and in their sight with foreign force and fraud.

2. That the Chinese people are learning from the missionaries to hate the name of Christianity. Some of our countrymen are honestly persuaded that the Chinese hate opium. It may be so, but the degree of that hatred bears no comparison with the intensity of consequences which is now calling for revenge.

4. That it is the plain duty of any and every British Government to do everything that may yet be possible to revise and remedy the scamped work of Lord Elgin, who introduced the religious toleration clause into the British Treaty of Tientsin.

5. That since the English missionary societies do not exercise either the control over themselves or the discipline over their agents necessary to secure observance of the rules which common sense prescribes for dealing with strangers, it becomes the imperative duty of the Government which protects them to frame and enforce such regulations for their intercourse with the Chinese as will at least minimise the primary obstacles to the peaceable spread of Christianity in China.

It is true that were the Government and the mission bodies both to rise to the occasion the difficulties of propagandism would still be far from being eradicated, for there would remain two immensely influential divisions of the force outside of British control—the Catholic missions and the American Protestants—and there would be, as now, isolated adventurers, who recognise no authority but their own undisciplined will. The most insignificant of these factors will always possess indefinite capacity for mischief.

But, after all, reforms must begin somewhere. So far as Great Britain is concerned, religious toleration was imposed on China in the most frivolous manner, under the Treaty of Tientsin of 1858. "Shove in old Reed's clause," said Lord Elgin to his interpreter and go-between, Mr. H. N. Lay—(see the latter's recent pamphlet on opium, Effingham Wilson)—and the thing was done. "Old Reed" was the envoy of the United States, whose Government has never been averse from munching the chestnuts pulled off the hob by the paws of the British lion, and which has been a light-hearted treaty-maker with China. The toleration clause was "shoved in" to the British Treaty, "added at the last moment and accepted by the Chinese Commissioners without the slightest demur, without discussion or comment," and on that flimsy foundation, supported by a forged clause in the Chinese copy of the French Treaty of 1860, referring only to Roman Catholics, the whole superstructure of missionary rights to travel and reside, buy land, and build houses in the interior of China, without being amenable to Chinese laws, has been built up.

While it is deplorable that the greatest mission-field in the world should have been thus marred for all time by violence and bloodshed, it should not be forgotten that in the midst of it all a vast deal of valuable and lasting work is being done, the best of it of a sort that defies tabulation, makes no show in official reports, and counts for nothing in attracting contributions. Among the people of China there is undoubtedly a field for the implanting of Christian principles, not comparable indeed (in my humble estimation) to that presented by the mass of improvable barbarism at home, but still, for those who are constitutionally stirred to distant adventure, and to whom the value of a human soul, like that of the ascent of an Alpine summit, bears a direct relation to its inaccessibility, there is much real good to be achieved in China.

How to set about it is a large problem, not to be solved offhand by raw and reckless students puffed out with theological commonplace, but by men who before presuming to teach the Chinese will first sit down and patiently learn from them, giving them back, in due time, their own, with usury.

But what, it will be asked, is the practical issue of the whole matter; what ought to be done? Not, perhaps, very much, but something should surely be attempted, if not by the missionary societies at least by the Government. In this respect the Germans are already setting a useful example. The German representation, both diplomatic and consular, in China has been marked throughout by conspicuous ability. But what is most to be commended is that it is always practical, painstaking, and conscientious, most efficient in its protection of German subjects and their business concerns, while careful also of the larger imperial and cosmopolitan interests. The German Government is taking the lead in the attempt to regulate the religious question in China, and so far at least as its own missionaries of the Protestant section is concerned it has already drawn up a set of rules for their conduct, under which they will continue to enjoy full protection and freedom to proselytise, but will be forbidden to indulge in practices which have proved to be incompatible with the maintenance of peace in Chinese communities.

What, therefore, the German Government is doing apparently without the direct pressure of public opinion, or the countenance of other Powers, the British Government, with ten times the interest at stake, might not unreasonably be asked to do also. Even one step in the right direction would be an earnest of an awakening sense of a great national responsibility.

Mr. Michie, it will be seen, does not in the smallest degree condone the brutal assassination, or suggest that any gentleness should be shown in exacting reparation. But he wants to go beyond mere hand-to-mouth measures; wants to exchange the wearisome iteration of bloodshed and blood-money for some radical policy that will prevent the former and obviate the necessity of the latter. Professor Douglas, on the other hand, sees nothing but the solitary fact that two missionaries have been brutally done to death. Commenting on Mr. Michie's letter, he writes :—

All this is interesting enough, and may possibly be considered when the question of the revision of the treaties shall be ripe for settlement. At the present time it helps to confuse the very plain issue which is before the Governments of the Treaty Powers with China. Murders of exceptional brutality have been committed in a province, Hupeh, where lately two other foreigners were massacred, making four in all. It is significant that these atrocities have been perpetrated during the viceroyalty of Chang Chih Tung the most powerful Viceroy next to Li Hung-chang in the empire; that no effort was made by the local authorities to suppress the rumours and placards which led up to the last outrage, that at first the mandarins put every obstacle in the way of the recovery of the bodies; and that the two foreigners, Messrs. Archibald and Lund, who were at last permitted to go in search of the victims, were treated with rudeness and contumely throughout.

Is it not time that some strong and concerted measure should be taken to check the recurrence of these crimes? The Chinese have not reached that state of civilisation when the official connivance at the murder of innocent men appears as a national shame. The callous indifference which both the Tsung-li Yamên and the provincial authorities have shown in such cases puts this beyond the reach of argument. *Lex talionis* is the law which the Chinese best understand and appreciate, and if it were made clear to the Emperor's Government that, having for thirty years tried to treat with it as with that of a civilised Power, and having found the experiment a failure the Treaty Powers intend in all future cases of the murder of foreigners with official connivance to follow, *mutatis mutandis*, some such precedent as that afforded by the destruction of the Summer Palace, it would, I am convinced, do much to bring to a close the list of outrages on helpless missionaries in China.

Professor Douglas is an accurate type of a large class of Englishmen. They see only the facts actually before their eyes and recognise only the duty of dealing with them. Mr. Michie thinks that there has been established in China a system which must inevitably lead to outrage and bloodshed from time to time. Professor Douglas says in effect, "never mind the system; let us address ourselves to punishing the outrages and avenging the bloodshed." In a word, he would leave untouched the cause of the malady, and deal only with the symptoms. That is the general creed of foreigners in the Orient. On the whole it is the safest creed. They deal with the conditions existing before their eyes and the facts arising out of them, leaving to statesmen and diplomats the duty of correcting causes. Too often, however, the man who ventures to speak of causes and to advocate their remedy is denounced as a traitor and unpatriotic. The correspondence has since been continued by Mr. Michie and Mr. Horatio Nelson Lay.

THE RADICAL PARTY AND KYUSHU.

On the 13th instant, the Radicals assembled at the head-quarters of the Party to listen to the reports of Messrs. Kono Hironaka and Hyakuman Umeji on their tours in Kyushu and Hokkaido respectively. According to the account given in the *Jiyu Shimbun* about the meeting, Mr. Kono was able to present a most satisfactory report on his tour in the Prefectures of Kagoshima and Miyasaki, where he had been enthusiastically received by the inhabitants. In Kagoshima, the opponents of the Radicals made several attempts to disturb the lecture meetings held by Mr. Kono and his followers, but on every occasion their hostile efforts are said to have proved altogether ineffectual. In the same Prefecture the people of the *heimin* class had hitherto taken little interest in politics, but since the last general election they are said to have begun to play an active rôle in public affairs. The feeling against clan Government is said to be very strong among the local politicians,—so strong that pitiful stories of wives being divorced and friendships severe on this account are not rare. In the Prefecture of Miyasaki, the Radical Party is said to possess little or no opponents. Mr. Kono was able to report that a great number of people applied for admission into the Party during his recent tour in these localities. In conclusion, he alluded to the rumours which had been published in the metropolitan press attributing many false statements to him. He alleged that these stories had no foundation in fact, and did not deserve serious consideration.

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One of the stories circulated about Mr. Kono is that while at Kagoshima he regretted the rupture between his Party and the *Kaishin-to*, and confessed that only a section of his Party was really antagonistic to the Progressionists. Concerning this, the *Jiyu Shimbun* observes that it is entirely without foundation. On the eve of their departure for Kyushu, Messrs. Hoshi, Kono, and Matsuda are said to have assembled at Count Itagaki's house and agreed upon a general plan of campaign. The plan adopted was, according to the Radical organ, first, to establish more intimate relations between the Party and its members in Kyushu; secondly, to explain to the Radicals of Kyushu the programme of the Party; thirdly, to draw a definite line of demarcation between the Radicals and the Progressionists; and fourthly, since the term *Min-to* (Popular Party) has no definite political significance, to ignore of its existence. Such being the plan of action decided upon, the *Jiyu* remarks that Mr. Kono

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could never have taken any step contrary to it. Mr. Kono is said to have reported at the above mentioned meeting that he pursued his tour in strict accordance with the general programme above alluded to.

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So far as appearances go, the recent Radical campaign in Kyushu seems to have been eminently successful. But the exact state of affairs can not be known until the proposed grand meeting of the Kyushu politicians takes place in Oita on the 20th instant. Meanwhile, a rumour is published by the *Chu-ô Shimbun* to the effect that the Oita meeting will result in the adoption of a resolution to attempt a reconciliation between the Radical and the Progressionist parties. It is of course expected that a resolution may be introduced at the meeting, but it is at best doubtful whether, after the recent visits of the Radical leaders, such a motion will have any chance of passing. It is more likely that, if the motion were really made, it will save as an occasion for the defection of the Taketomi section (Saga) of the Radical party. At allevents, the situation will be made clear before long.

MR. LAFCADIO HEARN.

We look forward with great pleasure to the publication of a new work by Mr. Lafcadio Hearn, whose brilliant and delightful style has earned for him a title to be regarded as one of the most successful writers that ever touched Oriental topics. The advance notice of the work run as follows :—

Glimpses of Unfamiliar Japan. By Lafcadio Hearn author of "Stray Leaves from Strange Literature," etc. 2 vols crown 8vo

This is not merely another book in addition to the many recently published on Japan. It is, as its title indicates, devoted to portions of the country and features of its life quite unfamiliar to American readers. Mr Hearn has enjoyed exceptional opportunities for observing these, and his aptitude for understanding and appreciating foreign customs and ideas lends unusual value to his work, while his picturesqueness of style is especially suited to the Oriental scenes and customs he describes. The following titles of thirteen of the twenty-seven chapters suggest the character and variety of the work : At the Market of the Dead, The Chief City of the Province of the Gods, The Most Ancient Shrine in Japan, The Cave of the Children's Ghosts, In a Japanese Garden, The Household Shrine, Of Women's Hair, Two Strange Festivals, By the Japanese Sea, Of a Dancing Girl, Of Souls, Of Ghosts and Goblins, The Japanese Smile. This interesting work supplements other books on Japan, and aids materially to a more complete understanding of its singularly interesting people.

THE SOMA CASE.

The preliminary investigation in the Soma case came to an end on the 12th instant, so far as concerns the examination of witnesses and the *procès verbal*. There were over eighty witnesses to be examined. The magistrates have still to consider a great mass of documents bearing on the case, and it is anticipated that several weeks will be needed for that part of their task Not till it is completed will the public learn whether or no the case is to go forward for trial. At present the general impression appears to be that the magistrates will commit the accused, but we cannot discover the grounds upon which such an impression is based, seeing that, according to the rules of Japanese criminal procedure, the public has not been placed in possession of any information about the facts elicited at the investigation. Neither is anything known about the analysis of the late Viscount Soma's viscera, though it may be assumed that the operation will not have furnished any positive evidence, since, owing to lapse of time, all traces of poison must have disappeared, unless, indeed, some mineral poison was administered.

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With regard to the Soma case, some journals mention a report that there is not sufficient evidence to support the accusation of murder by poison, but that the prisoners will be prosecuted on a charge of having illegally confined the late Viscount Soma and thereby caused his premature death.

* * *

Dr. Eguchi, of the Imperial Army, who has had principal charge of the autopsy on the corpse of the late Viscount Soma and the analysis of the internal organs taken from his body, has brought a suit for libel against the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, which accused him of holding secret meetings with the partisans of the prisoners and of receiving bribes from the Soma family. The suit was to be heard in the District Court of Kyobashi on the 16th instant. The *Yomiuri* will probably pay dearly for its recklessness. The integrity of the distinguished Army physician is not questioned by any serious person.

* * *

The Chief Public Procurator of the Tokyo Local Court, Mr. Kudo, is the subject of many unfavourable comments, on account of interviews with some influential retainers of the Soma family on private affairs at his official chambers. It is stated that he will be removed to some other court.

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Mr. Nishikori, the originator of the present case, is sorely chagrined by the attention which his movements receive from the police authorities. He has repeatedly addressed letters of remonstrance to the Chief of the Metropolitan Police, complaining of the constant scrutiny to which his actions are subjected.

A TYPHOON.

The extraordinary changes of temperature within the past ten days indicated the existence of very uncommon atmospheric disturbance. During the early part of the month coldness and rawness altogether unseasonable prevailed in Tokyo and Yokohama, and were suddenly replaced, on the 10th instant, by damp, oppressive sultriness such as invariably precedes the advent of a storm. At 2 p.m. on that day warnings were despatched by telegram from the Central Observatory to all parts of the Empire, the intimation being to the effect that heavy rain was falling in Kwanseï, that symptoms of serious atmospheric disturbance were becoming hourly more manifest, and that, in all probability, a typhoon would be experienced during the night of the 13th instant. These warnings were justified on the morning of the 14th, when a violent storm broke over Kiushu, Shikoku, and Chiukoku. The telegraph lines westward of Hiroshima were interrupted, so that particulars could not be received from that quarter. So far as could be ascertained, the typhoon, whose centre seems to have passed over Kiushu, was accompanied by deluges of rain, and must therefore have caused great damage to the crops. It appears to have been generated on the 11th instant in the Pacific to the east of Luzon, and to have then trended northward, passing to the east of Formosa on the 13th, and striking Japan *viâ* the Loochoo Islands. It was felt slightly in Tokyo during the night of the 13th and 14th. Its exact path had not been ascertained on the morning of the latter day, but it was supposed to have travelled from Kiushiu over Shikoku, touching Chiukoku, and from thence to be passing to the north-east

INUNDATIONS IN OKAYAMA AND TOKUSHIMA.

An extra of the Tokyo *Asahi Shimbun* has the following :—Okayama, 6 p.m. 14th instant Owing to incessant rain the Takase-gawa has risen 14 feet above its normal level at Takase, the Asahi-gawa, 16 feet at Okayama, and the Yoshii-gawa 12 feet at Tsuyama. Tidings of embankments that have collapsed and the bridges that have been washed away are arriving by special messengers. Okayama, 7.45 p.m. 14th instant.—The Asahi-gawa has risen more than 17 feet above its normal level. Okayama 7.20 a.m. 15th instant.—The Asahi-gawa is steadily rising, the volume of water being higher and more violent than in the inundation of last year. The embankment lying between the river and the city of Okayama has collapsed and the whole of the streets are under water. The houses carried away are countless, and a number of men and cattle are reported as having been killed or wounded. Telegraphic and other communications being cut off with the sorrounding places, nothing can be known about them Tokushima 6.45 a.m. 15th instant.—Owing to a violent storm raging since the evening of the day before yesterday, the upper waters of the Yoshinogawa rose more than 24 feet, and the lower about 10 feet, above their normal level. The water, however, has been gradually subsiding since about 1.30 a.m. yesterday night. The number of houses and farms submerged is large, and the banks have given way in several places.

* * *

The following telegrams were received on Monday in Tokyo :—

From the Governor of Toyama Prefecture to the Minister of State for Home Affairs. 11.23 p.m 15th October :—Eighty-four houses in Shinminato machi have been washed away by the waves, with considerable loss of human and animal life. The roads also have suffered greatly.

Niigata Oct. 15th 7.42 p.m. from the Governor to the Minister of State for Home Affairs :—Six Japanese vessels lying at anchor in the harbour of Ebisu, Sado, and nineteen in the harbour of Shizu were wrecked in a typhoon to day, and four lives were lost.

* * *

We take the following information about the recent storm from the vernacular press :

Okayama, 4.45 p.m. 16th instant. A visit to the streets of the town shows that more than 100 houses have been washed away, and that some hundreds have collapsed, especially in the streets nearest to the banks that yielded to the pressure of the water. The killed and wounded are reported as amounting to several hundreds.

Okayama 1.15 p.m. 17th instant.—Communication with villages lying along the banks of the upper course of the Asahi zawa being still cut off, nothing particular is yet known about the state of affairs in that quarter. At Kanazawa-mura, Tsudaka-gori, the waters of the river are higher by 4 feet than in the inundation of year. The bank was broken in several places, and some 50 persons are said to have been drowned. The books kept in the Tax Collector's Office were in great part lost. In districts situated along the banks farther down the river, similar disasters have been caused Altogether the inundation of this year was far more destructive than that of last year.

Tottori, 1.14 p.m. 17th instant.—Owing to a violent storm which began to blow about one o'clock in the afternoon of the 14th instant, there has occurred a flood such as had not been known during recent years. The water is deep in the streets and was steadily rising at 7 o'clock in the morning of the 16th instant. The number of men and cattle drowned or injured is believed to be great, and extensive areas of cultivated land have been devastated.

Tottori, 3 p.m. 12th instant.—Owing to the storm of the 14th instant, the number of persons lost both in the city and in the sourrounding villages is recorded to be 17 thus far, and the houses carried away are 92. The banks broken, bridges washed away, and the ravages to farms are not yet precisely known.

Kobe, forenoon of the 17th instant.—The train between Kobe and Nagaoka is opened for traffic from this day. Between Okayama and Nagaoka the rails have been torn up through a length of more than a mile. The bridge over the Hoken-gawa has been deflected a little, and it is believed that the train will not be able to passabable over it for 4 or 5 days. Between Okayama and Kurashiki no particular damage has been done, so the trains will run from to-morrow. Between Kurashiki and Tamashima the rails have been washed away through a length of about 2½ miles, and damage has been done culverts. The state of affairs in the vicinity of the Kanogata can not be known, owing to the obstruction of telegraphic communication, but the destrict is believed to have suffered damage, in consequence of the overflowing of rivers.

Osaka, afternoon of the 17th instant.—According to intelligence brought by the steamer *Mukomaru* which arrived this morning from Moji, Kyushiu, about 60 or 70 Japanese junks and fishing boats in that harbour were wrecked by the storm. At Tanoura, Bujeu, a Japanese ship of about 1,200 *koku* and 14 other ships of smaller dimensions were lost. The Kyushiu railway has suspended traffic on its lines, apprehending accidents.

In the vicinity of Tamashima, Bitchu, so deep are floods, that the telegraph poles are visible only about one foot over the water. Houses are being constantly swept away, and the people have been suffering from want of food during two whole days and nights. The water, however, has subsided about a foot since yesterday morning. More than 6 or 7 weeks must elapse before the entire

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line of the Sanyo Railway can be re opened for traffic.

Matsuyama 9.40 p.m. 15 h instant (transmission obstructed by the flood.)—Owing to the recent violent storm, an embankment of along the Soshia gawa has burst and more than 20 houses standing near it have been washed away, with the loss of several lives. The town of Iwaji had more than a hundred houses destroyed by the storm and by the waves that were driven into the streets.

Okayama, 9.40 a.m. 17th instant.—Owing to flooding of the Takayama gawa, the district office of Kawakami has lost its books and documents for the most part. In Kawabe and the adjacent villages more than 400 houses were washed away, and about 200 persons are missing. The Kawabe Police Office was carried away and the head constable drowned. In the Kuboya district more than 400 houses have been carried away.

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A telegram despatched from Tottori on the 19th inst. states that the total number of houses reported to have been washed away in Hoki Province was 804, and the number of persons killed 145.

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The *Fiji Shimpo* states that over four hundred fishermen belonging to Nagasu, in the Tamana District of Kumamoto Prefecture, who went out fishing on the 13th inst. in about two hundred boats were caught in the storm. The number of boats lost is 175, containing more than 350 fishermen.

* * *

Some fifty fishing boats belonging to Saga District, in Saga Prefecture, were carried out to sea, and their crews have not yet been heard of.

THE YOKOHAMA MERCHANTS AND THE POST OFFICE.

The Japanese merchants in Yokohama, say the vernacular press, are discontented with the Post Office on account of a proceeding which they consider partial. The largest amount of mail matter that comes to Japan is from the continent of America, and when a mail arrives later than the usual hour of delivery, it is customary for the Post Office to send out special messengers and have the letters, &c., delivered to their addresses as quickly as possible. This special arrangement, however, does not extend beyond the foreign Concession. Letters to Japanese are left until the next ordinary time of delivery, and their recipients claim as a consequence that they are frequently anticipated in business transactions by the foreign firms, being thus deprived of profits that would accrue did they receive their postal advices as promptly as foreigners do. They intend, it is said, to bring the matter to the notice of the proper authorities, and indeed they would have every title to do so were things as they imagine. There is no general reason why letters addressed to Japanese should not receive exactly the same amount of attention and be delivered with exactly the same promptitude by Japanese post-offices as letters addressed to foreigners. In practice it has generally been found, we believe, that the advantage rests with the former, but that is easily explained quite apart from any question of deliberate partiality. Letters bearing foreign addresses do not pass in large numbers through the Japanese post-office, and the clerks and sorters upon whom devolves the duty of dealing with them, have easier work, and therefore can accomplish it more promptly than their comrades who have to handle the Japanese mails. That has long been well understood, insomuch so that Japanese themselves sometimes use Romanized addresses to get their letters out of the common ruck of mail matter. But were there question of organizing a special delivery service for foreign letters and leaving Japanese for a later service, a charge of improper partiality could not be avoided. We do not believe, however, that anything of the kind occurs. On the contrary, our information is to the effect that the Post Office's arrangements are precisely the same for all senders and receivers of mail matter, without any distinction of nationality. Foreigners do probably get their letters more quickly than the Japanese, but the reason is simply that they organize on their own account means to secure promptitude, most of the firms having boxes of their own to which they send messengers to take out the mail matter. The messengers are on the spot before the mails are sorted and carry away the letters and papers so soon as ever these are procurable. If Japanese receivers of mail matter took mere trouble to help themselves instead of ventilating groundless complaints, we imagine that things would run more smoothly and satisfactorily.

ELECTRIC RAILWAYS.

Electric railways, writes the vernacular press, are gradually coming into vogue in Japan. Already the projectors of a line of electric street cars in the city of Kyoto have obtained a charter from the Authorities and intend to start the work of construction before long. Similar projects are in contemplation in Kobe, Osaka, and Odawara, while the Izu-Sagami electric railway belongs to the same class of enterprises. Mention has been made in these columns of an intention on the part of the Tokyo Tram Company to have its present system altered to an electric railway, and we now read that another line has been brought into the field of practical conceptions by Mr Amenomiya, a wealthy merchant of Tokyo, frequently mentioned in these columns with reference to the iron foundry affair. He is said to have entertained the idea of electric trains for the capital as far back as 1887, when he asked an engineer to make a thorough investigation on the subject. The time, however, was not then ripe for the enterprise, but he believes that the occasion now offers We have already spoken of a meeting held by him at the Koyokan for the purpose of starting the affair, and of the enthusiasm with which the fifty capitalists present received his idea and approved the plans and estimates submitted for their consideration. It may be supposed that Mr. Amenomiya's enterprise will clash with the Tokyo Tramway now in existence. But such is not the case. The intention of the projectors to construct the railway along streets where the cars of the Tramway Company are not running, as, for instance, between Shimbashi and Shinagawa, from Hatchobori to Yettai Bridge via Yoroi, and so forth. The total length of the projected lines is estimated at 40 miles roughly, on the basis of double tracks in several places, and the capital involved is to be 1,400,000 *yen*, of which one half will be taken up by the projectors.

AN OPINION ON CHRISTIANITY.

In his diary of the 15th of March, 1890, Minister Hsueh, quoted by the *North China Daily News*, expresses this opinion about Christianity :—

Those in the West who follow the Christian religion aim at cultivating virtue and loving men, not very different from Confucianists. But as to the books which the Church circulates, such as the Old and New Testaments, their allegories and stories of the gods are not equal to such Chinese novels as the *Canonisation of the Gods* and *Record of Travel to the West* Every three-foot child knows that these stories are not true. When occasionally meeting men of learning of the West they seem to know this well, but are unwilling to say it out plainly. I have met some who say that in a century or two more science will be daily advanced and will put off all Christian books.

As to Confucianism, all with one voice without exception approve of it. Although foreigners are also fond of complimenting, still by carefully watching the tone the compliment seems in all sincerity of heart For the way of our sages is neither local, nor changeable, and penetrates deep into men's minds. To compare the sayings of Jesus Christ with Confucian sm is it not like taking a piece of glass and comparing it with a diamond? Even foreigners are not ignorant that in China formerly the doctrines of Yang and Meh, of Buddha and of Laotze, made a noise for a while and then after a time died out again. Confucianism is like the sun and moon in the heavens, although from of old they are still brighter than ever China had no intercourse with Europe, Asia, and the other continents Now that there is intercourse all their religions spread from one to the other. Thus we know that Christianity will decline and Confucianism will spread to the West

PROTESTS OF OSAKA ELECTRIC LIGHT COMPANY.

The Osaka Electric Light Company thinks itself much aggrieved by the procedure of the Municipal Authorities, says the *Fiji Shimpo*. The Company, it must remembered, was started about 4 years ago, and being the only enterprise of the kind in Osaka, is said to be reaping large profits. It has not, however, abused its monopoly, but has been careful to consult the convenience of its customers by repeatedly reducing its charges. Nevertheless, since the prosperity it enjoys could not be concealed, a spirit of emulation soon developed itself, and certain persons in the city projected another electric light enterprise, called the "Naniwa Electric Light Company," for which they lately succeeded in obtaining a charter. Thereupon the elder Company despatched a representative to the Municipal Office, and asked to have the following points duly considered ; first, that since the prime thing to be taken into account in sanctioning works constructed along the high-ways and streets is public convenience, such highways and streets not being the property of the people or of the Government, but being simply means of general travel and transport, the grant of licences should be carefully confined to cases where it is indispensable. No such necessity exists for sanctioning a second company in Osaka for purposes of electric lighting, there being already one that amply meets the requirements of the public. Secondly, the business carried on by the Osaka Electric Light Company, which was established in strict conformity with laws and instructions, is subjected to various official restrictions, and the Company is therefore entitled to official protection so long as it does nothing detrimental to public interest. Thirdly, the Company cannot find any precedent for the licensing of more than one enterprise of exactly the same kind in one and the same city, when the enterprise involves works on the public highways, as is the case with tramways, electic lighting apparatus, and so forth. To these detailed objections of the existing Company, the Municipal office returned an answer more remarkable for brevity than for courtesy, namely, that the office considered the establishment of a second company quite proper, and not at all calculated to impair the convenience or imperil the safety of the citizens. Of course the company is wholly dissatisfied with such a response, and is taking steps to bring the matter before the central authorities. It must be confessed, as the *Fiji* truly observes, that the desirability of having two electric light companies in Osaka is difficult to comprehend, especially in view of the fact that the streets are so narrow. Where two *jinrikisha* can barely pass each other, a double set of electric light wires must be a distinctly dangerous adjunct, above all when they are suspended overhead and not carried underground.

THE TOKYO BARRISTERS STILL OBDURATE.

No man has been more *en evidence* than Mr. Hoshi Toru since the commencement of the last session of the Diet. His admirable conduct in the difficult position of President of the House of Representatives first attracted public attention, and this was followed by his vehement leadership of the attack on the Progressionist Party, an attack fraught with important political consequences, since it involved the disruption of the solid opposition by which the Government had hitherto been faced in the Diet, and since it a so threatened, for a time, to create a breach in the ranks of the Radical Party itself. Immediately succeeding this excitement came the Soma case, which gave Mr. Hoshi's enemies in the Barristers' Association an opportunity to abuse him, and then ensued the Kiushu campaign which attracted so much attention. Thus far, Mr. Hoshi may fairly claim that victory has been upon his side all along the line, but he is not yet entirely out of the wood. There are still whispers of an attempt to introduce a motion next session deposing Mr. Hoshi from the Presidential chair, and his action in the Soma case is still exercising the Barristers' Association. The Standing Committee of the latter petitioned the Public Procurator-General to proceed against Mr. Hoshi, and having failed to persuade that official of the justice of their views, have now assumed different ground. They have submitted to the same Procurator-General, Mr. Haruki, a memorial on the same subject, wherein they dispute his authority to negative a representation of such

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a nature. Whether or not Mr. Hoshi's conduct in relation to the Soma affair was reprehensible cannot be definitely determined, they say, until the facts have been investigated by a disciplinary Court. In ordinary criminal cases, the Public Procurator is empowered by an express provision of the Law of Criminal Procedure to exercise his discretion as to whether or no a prosecution should be instituted. But in a case like the one under consideration, which falls within the purview of a special law, the Committee claim that the Public Procurator has no such discretionary power. It being provided in the Barristers Law that a Barristers' Association shall, under given circumstances, make representations for the convention of a disciplinary tribunal, the Public Procurator, on receipt of such representation, is bound, in their opinion, to take steps for the opening of such tribunal without attempting to determine the propriety of the course proposed. The Committee, therefore, pray that steps should be taken for instituting a disciplinary case against Mr. Hoshi Toru.

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There may be involved in this matter a nice point of law upon which outsiders are not qualified to express an opinion. But, on general grounds, it appears an untenable contention that the Public Procurator-General should be reduced to the position of a mere channel of communication between a barristers' association and the Judiciary. Supposing that a disciplinary Court were to be constituted for the purpose of trying a charge against Mr. Hoshi Toru, it would devolve, we presume, upon the Public Procurator-General to submit the case afterwards, and to pronounce his views in open Court before any decision had been given from the Bench. It is scarcely to be supposed that in submitting a case for which he saw no sufficient reason, he would fail to append a statement in that sense, and it is scarcely to be supposed that in the face of such a statement a disciplinary tribunal would be convened. The majority of the men constituting the Committee of the Barristers' Association are political enemies of Mr. Hoshi, and it looks much as though they were resolved to persecute him to the bitter end, even at the cost of openly betraying their own animus, and of depriving the Public Procurator-General of all functions not purely notarial.

POLITICAL ITEMS.

THE journalistic attack upon Count Goto in connection with the Exchange affair is kept up with unabated vigour. The *Kokkai* has an interesting caricature on the affair. Two men in robes resembling those of Judges and barristers are beating a bush from which emerge an elephant, a rhinoceros, and a devil. "Something luminous," say these men, "having fallen into the bush, we thought it might be a star (*hoshi*=Hoshi); but lo, what have we beaten out! The proverb says that men sometimes beat serpents out of the bush. It is perhaps the first time that a bush has yielded an elephant (*só*=Count Goto) a rhinoceros (*sai*=Saito), and a devil from Oyeyama, (=Oye Taku)." It is stated the National Unionists will bring up the matter in the coming session of the Diet, and will exert pressure upon the Government to remove Count Goto from the Department of Agriculture and Commerce. It is also rumoured that a similar course will be taken by a section of the House of Peers.

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The members of the *Kyushu* Club, including Messrs. Kayetsu Ujifusa, Radical, Kawashima Jun (*Domei* Club), Minoura Katsundo (Progressionist) and others, met on the 14th instant at the Ise-kan, Minami-Nabecho, Tokyo. Mr Kawashima is reported to have spoken on the importance of an alliance between the Radicals and the Progressionists in the coming session of the Diet. Mr. Minoura dwelt upon the necessity of making a public declaration of the political opinions entertained by the Kyushu politicians at the projected grand meeting in Oita. Mr. Kayetsu is said to have declared himself in accord with the views expressed by Messrs. Kawashima and Minoura. It will be seen from this that the Kyushu Club still entertains hopes of a reconciliation between the *Jiyu-to* and the *Kaishin-to*.

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A fresh occasion for embittering the animosity between the Radicals and the Progressionists is furnished by a by-election in Miyagi Prefecture to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mr Saito. The candidates of the two parties are Messrs. Izawa Sakuji and Okubo Bentaro, respectively. Both parties are sending large re-inforcements from Tokyo to assist their respective favourites. A keen and, as some fear, riotous, contest is expected to take place.

MR. HOSHI V. THE "KAISHIN SHIMBUN."

THE fourth hearing of the libel case Mr. Hoshi v. the *Kaishin Shimbun* took place in the Tokyo Local Court on the 16th instant. The first witness examined was Mr. Saito Shuichiro, Vice-Minister of Agriculture and Commerce. Before proceeding to his examination, the Presiding Judge called the attention of Counsel for the defendants to the fact that the person about to be called to the bar was simply a witness in the case, and cautioned them against putting to him impertinent questions having little or no connection with the matter in hand, namely, the alleged bribery of Mr. Hoshi. This caution was deemed necessary by the Presiding Judge because, from a document presented to him that morning by one of the Counsel for the defendants, he discovered that the counsel seemed inclined to question Mr. Saito as though he were the principal person charged with corruption. In reply to queries addressed him by the Presiding Judge, Mr. Saito explained briefly the origin of the Exchange Bill, which, the result of mature consideration, was framed on the basis of enabling each Exchange to choose between the two systems of partnership and joint stock company; stated that he had met several times representatives of the Exchanges for the purpose of comparing views with them on the question of Exchanges or of consulting with them as to methods of securing the passage of the Bill through the Diet; acknowledged that on several occasions he had been entertained by the Exchange people, but mentioned that when they called on him at his house he had entertained them; admitted that he was present at the celebrated meeting in the Tokiwaya on June 22 last, having been invited to it by Mr. Okabe for the purpose of being introduced to Mr. Kono Hironaka who also formed one of the party; denied that he ever received 5,000 *yen* to hold for the Exchange people; admitted that he had received, with the approval of the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, a present of two gold watches from the Exchange agents by way of congratulation on the occasion of his promotion to the Vice-Ministership of his Department. In reply to Counsel for the defendants, Mr. Saito made several statements, but they were not of an important nature. Mr. Saito's replies were remarkably clear and emphatic, and his examination produced an excellent effect.

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The next witness was Mr. Naka Sadakatsu, one of the Judges who had resigned in consequence of the famous Gambling Case, and formerly one of the principal shareholders of the Tokyo Rice Exchange. His testimony was unfavourable to the Exchange people. He had been dissatisfied with the way in which the Tokyo Rice Exchange disbursed money for the passage of the Exchange Bill, and had asked Mr. Yonekura, Chief Manager of that Exchange, to explain the purposes for which the disbursements had been made. But receiving no satisfactory answer from the Exchange officers, he had instituted a suit against Mr. Yonekura on the charge of having fraudulently expended money entrusted to his custody. As he was repeatedly solicited by the friends of Mr. Yonekura to withdraw the suit, he finally consented to do so. He also stated that on one occasion he had been told by Mr. Nagayama, an Exchange broker, that the latter had been the medium of giving to a certain person a bribe of 1,000 *yen* at the request of Mr. Yonekura. He also drew the attention of the Court to the fact that the officers of the Tokyo Rice and Stock Exchanges were holding conferences to prearrange the statements to be made in court and to make up reports of the disbursements of the money in question.

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The other witnesses brought to the bar were Messrs. Sekine Chikamitsu and Ito Kanichi, who are charged with the custody of the money to be spent for the passage of the Exchange Bill through the Diet. They were unable to account for a sum of about 10,000 *yen*. They alleged that they forgot how the money had been expended. They were advised by the Court to try to recollect and send in an explanation in writing. The next hearing was fixed for the 25th instant, the witnesses named for that occasion being Ito Heikichi, a *jinrikisha* man in the employ of the Hisagoya, and several people connected with the Exchanges.

FRICTION OF SHIPS AND WATER.

MR. EDISON is experimenting with a view to reducing the friction between the sides of ships and water. He finds that "a ship drags a lot of water with her," and gives the following illustration:—"Say the vessel is going 20 miles an hour; two feet from her side the water is going 10 miles an hour: four feet away 5 miles an hour, eight feet away 2 miles an hour, nine feet off 1 mile an hour, and so on in diminishing ratio. All this water the vessel is dragging with her. That is what the engine has got to do—not force the ship through the water, but carry the water along. This all comes from the fact that the water sticks, as it were, to the sides of the ship." Mr. Edison wants to do away with this "sticking." In certain experiments, made in a tank, he sought "to produce hydrogen by electricity along the sides of the ship, eliminating the salt in the water." He succeeded, and, "using a current through the sides of the ship, reduced the friction of the water to a minimum." "I thought," he remarks, "that I had one of the biggest things of the century till I tried it in genuine salt water." He had been making his salt water in the tank by emptying salt into fresh water, but when he tried genuine seawater from Sandy Hook the invention would not work, "because the ocean contains other things than salt." He claims that if he were able to apply his invention successfully to the *Campania*, "she could cross easily in four days." In the meantime, he suggests "forcing some cheap oil through the pores of the sides of the ship under the water-line. She would then slip across the ocean on a bed of oil like greased lightning."

EXCHANGE MANIA.

ANOTHER mania has now overtaken the Japanese mercantile world, namely, the establishment of exchanges. When the Exchange Regulations were issued some months ago, writes the *Yomiuri*, applications from various districts for charters to organize exchanges reached the Noshomusho almost without interruption. Since, however, the Regulations were not to come into effect until the 1st of October, the Department thought it convenient to defer the receipt of applications for the establishment of exchanges till that time. The date having now arrived, the enthusiasm of the projectors, perhaps owing to the restraint thus put upon it, has risen to an extraordinary pitch, so that although only a few days have elapsed since the 1st of October, already 26 applications have been sent into the Noshomusho, and a far greater number of similar projects are said to be *en route*. By way of illustrating the extent of the mania, the *Yomiuri* gives the places along the Tokaido line where it is intended to start exchanges, namely, the 14 cities of Tsu, Yokkaichi, Ogaki, Gifu, Tsunami, Ichinomiya, Handa, Kamezaki, Okazaki, Toyohashi, Hamamatsu, Kakegawa, Shizuoka, and Yokohama. In nearly all these places the chief article intended to be dealt in by the exchanges so soon as their establishment receives sanction, are cereals, the condition of distribution and consumption of which are nearly similar in all the localities concerned, moreover

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not a few of those towns which are so enthusiastic to have exchanges, lie in close proximity to each other, as, for instance, Handa and Kamezaki, which are separated by only 1 *ri*. It is clear that permission to establish exchanges can not possibly be granted to these towns simultaneously, and the result is that the keenest competition is going on pending the Government's decision, competition said to be as acute as that which takes place between districts where competitive lines of railway are under consideration. The *Yomiuri* thinks that the agitation of the projectors will be all to no purpose unless information be quickly afforded as to the policy the Noshomusho intends to pursue in this matter. For the benefit of the agitators, our contemporary proceeds to state, with apparent confidence, that the Noshomusho at first intended to sanction the establishment of one exchange in each prefecture; but subsequently this resolve was modified to that of limiting the establishment to the 11 towns of Kumamoto, Hiroshima, Okayama, Matsuye, Matsuyama, Fushigi or Mikuni, Yokkaichi, Shizuoka, Sendai, Hakodate, and Otaru. To obtain more trustworthy information on the subject, a representative of the paper sought and obtained an interview with Mr. Wakamiya, Chief of the Bureau for Commerce and Industry, who, however, when asked whether it is really privately decided by the Department to limit the establishment of exchanges to the above 11 places, replied that no such decision had even been arrived at, nor could be arrived at, since the Department could not possibly lay down a hard and fast rule of its own motion and pending the receipt of applications presented in accordance with legally enacted regulations. The *Yomiuri* thinks the statement of Mr. Wakamiya perfectly just and proper, but nevertheless declines to abandon its own preconceived idea. Despite Mr. Wakamiya's declaration to the contrary, it says in conclusion, the citizens of the above named eleven cities anticipate with certainty the grant of charters, and in not a few of them the officers for the projected exchanges have already been privately determined.

ACROSS ASIA.

YESTERDAY, says the *N. C. Daily News* of the 13th inst., there arrived in Shanghai from Peking Mr and Mrs Littledale, who have just completed an interesting and adventurous journey across Asia. At the end of January last they left London for Constantinople, and started from the latter place about ten days later. The route was through Russian Tartary, Samarcand, Khokand, and Kashgar, and this part of the journey, thanks to the great courtesy of the Russian officials, was rendered comparatively easy. But the travellers as they advanced into Tibet were not long in making acquaintance with those vexatious difficulties which the natives contrive to put in the way of strangers who come "to spy out the land," and of which readers of Asian travels have some idea. The train from Kashgar consisted of about forty donkeys and half as many ponies. Mr. and Mrs. Littledale went by way of Lobnor, along the Altai Mountains and Mount Nanshan to Kokonor, from there down the Yellow River on a raft to Bonto, and then on to Peking, where they arrived about ten days ago. Mr. Littledale apparently regards the achievement with all modesty, for he declares that he has no intention of writing a book on what he has gone through, though it is to be hoped that as part of the travels were through a district of which very little is known, Mr. Littledale may be persuaded to do as he did after a journey he made through the Pamirs, and contribute a paper, at least, to the records of the Royal Geographical Society. The tour was undertaken from a love of exploration and a desire to indulge in sport, and in both respects it seems to have been successful. Mr. Littledale came across a number of wild camels and he succeeded in shooting some of these. The most troublous period of the journey was between Lobnor and Kokonor, as the guides were treacherous and finally deserted, leaving Mr Littledale and his wife to direct their course as best they could by the aid of a sextant. A large proportion of the animals succumbed on this part of the road, which took about two months to traverse. Most of the animals died from lack of water, the guides asserting that it was impossible to obtain that much needed fluid, although somehow or other they were always able to procure it when they wanted it themselves. Mr. and Mrs. Littledale took a number of photographs and collected some interesting natural history specimens. They purpose returning to Europe by the next mail.

THEATRICALS IN TOKYO.

THE communities of Tokyo and Yokohama are promised a great and exceptional treat in the shape of theatricals by amateurs of the two places. Concerning the ability of the ladies and gentlemen who have kindly consented to give their services, it is only necessary to say that Viscount de Bondy and M. Casenave in Tokyo, and Mr. Bayne in Yokohama, will sustain the leading parts, and that they will be assisted by ladies some of whom make their *début* upon this occasion, while others have already won the hearty plaudits of the public. We are not at liberty to state what pieces have been selected for representation, but it is settled that there will be two French and one English. Probably the performance will take place at the Rokumeikan, but that point remains to be decided, and we sincerely trust that if a choice be possible the Imperial Hotel will be selected, for the only salons available at the Rokumeikan, though excellently suited for the purpose of their original design, dancing, do not lend themselves happily to theatrical representations, and it would be more than a pity if a performance by the best local skill that Tokyo and Yokohama can furnish in combination were in any respect marred by faults in the place chosen. The object of the theatricals is charitable. A considerable, probably the major, part of the proceeds will be devoted to the support of the Leper Hospital at Gotemba, and the remainder to other charities not less deserving, which will be enumerated in due time. Madame Sienkievicz, ever foremost in Tokyo in deeds of charity and acts of hospitality, is working with her wonted energy and enthusiasm in this matter, and is receiving the able assistance of Mrs. Sannomiya. The rehearsals for the French plays take place at the Legation of France in Tokyo, and doubtless the exact date of the performance—probably about November 20th—as well as other details will be published very shortly. With a vivid recollection of the really admirable acting which we were privileged to witness last year in Tokyo under similar auspices, we may be allowed to congratulate the public on the pleasure in store for them next month.

DISASTROUS STORM AT NAGASAKI.

ONE of the fiercest and most destructive gales experienced here for a number of years passed over this district on Saturday last. During the three previous days rain had fallen almost incessantly, and quite unexpectedly, considering the time of the year; but up to a very late hour on Friday night little, if any, danger was anticipated. About midnight, however, the barometer had a downward tendency and a strong N.E. breeze sprang up. This gradually increased until daylight, and continued until after noon, the wind, with trifling variations, remaining in the same direction all the time. After moderating, the wind still continued to blow steadily from the N.E. throughout Saturday night, Sunday, and Monday. On Saturday, business of every description, not only afloat, but ashore, was entirely suspended. The exact number of junks and miscellaneous boats lost and damaged, and also the lives lost, we have, as yet been unable to ascertain; but the list, when compiled, will undoubtedly be a heavy one, and had the full force of the same gale been experienced at night the casualties would have been at least doubled. As it was, quite a number of lives in imminent danger were rescued by means of assistance rendered from ships and from the shore. A number of small craft of various descriptions were swamped and sank in deep water, but the majority drifted on to the beach on the south-east side of the harbour, and were made short work of by the waves, until by noon the whole side of the bay was lined with wrecks and wreckage, the vicinity of Furuko, below Namenohira, presenting an especially sad appearance. The total losses in the harbour included nearly the whole of the foreign owned house-boats, ten to twenty coal lighters, as many trading junks, water-boats, cargo lighters, a number of sampans, and three sailing yachts; and the lives lost is estimated at about fifteen. The yachts lost, we may mention, were Mr. Bennett's *Emilie*, Mr. Powers' *Eta*, and Mr. Huon's *Jumping Frog*. The Mitsu Bushi Colliery's steam launch also sank at her moorings. In the surrounding vicinity the losses must also have been very heavy, both as regards life and property. A number of old houses in the native town were blown down, whilst in the Settlement not a single house escaped damage, either internal or external. The trees on the Bund also suffered severely, whilst the Bund wall was washed away in two places. The American-owned schooner *Adventure* dragged her anchors until she brought up at Boyd's jetty, and will require considerable repairs. H.M.S. *Leander* had her awnings blown away, and dragged her anchors until she got in close proximity to the shore. During the whole of the gale a Japanese torpedo-boat was cruising round the harbour, and although not doing so much good as she might have done, she succeeded in saving a few lives. The life-boat of H.M.S. *Leander*, also put out and rescued some junk men, who would undoubtedly otherwise have been lost; whilst N.Y.K. steamer *Fushiki Maru* was the means of saving six lives. A good few lives were also saved by timely assistance from the shore, as the doomed craft came dashing up against the sea-wall. It is impossible to adequately describe the scene as presented to eye-witnesses. Ashore it was bad enough, what with tiles, sheets of galvanized-iron roofing, and other dangerous things flying about; afloat it was far worse, several instances being recorded of people being seen to sink, never to rise again, without the slightest possible hope of rendering assistance. In addition to the damage so far described, there is every reason to fear that the crops not gathered in will have been seriously affected, and as a sign of the area covered by the storm the telegraph wires are down for many miles beyond Omura, and were not in working order when we went to press.—*Nagasaki Express*.

LAWS FOR WORKMEN.

IT appears from the report of the Tokyo News Agency that the Bureau of Commence and Industry has for long strongly advocated the codification of laws relating to mechanics, and that it proposed to introduce a Bill on the subject during the second session of the Diet. The project was frustrated, however, owing to the opposition of certain Cabinet Ministers as well as influential business men. Since then, the draft has lain in a pigeon-hole of the Bureau, but the original idea of having it introduced for deliberation by the Diet is said to have been revived this year. The Bureau no longer proposes to lay the Bill at once before the Diet, but contemplates sending it in the first place to the chambers of commerce in the various parts of the empire, and awaiting their approval or amendments. It will not therefore be possible to have anything done in the matter during the coming session of the Diet. Meanwhile, it is interesting to know that the opinion of industrials, in Tokyo at all events, is not favourable to the measure, according to information collected by the News Agency. They seem to hold that the promulgation of such laws could not fail to weaken the binding effect of contracts between employers and employed, would gradually educate among the latter a tendency to strike, and would stir up much agitation in the world of industry and commerce, without conferring any corresponding advantage on either employer or employed. Briefly speaking, the view of these persons, as interpreted by the News Agency, is

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that in a country like Japan, where the development of commerce and industry is still in its initiatory stage, the enforcement of laws like those proposed by the Bureau would be productive of evil only.

EDUCATION.

How far the *Mainichi Shimbun* is qualified to become the exponent of the educational programme contemplated by the present Minister of State for Education, we do not know, but it speaks with every semblance of confidence. The broad objection attributed by it to the Minister in connection with the educational system hitherto pursued, is that a tendency has existed to set too much store by high-class instruction at the expense of training that might be useful for practical purposes. Mr. Inouye, therefore, intends to distinguish more essentially between learning for academical ends and learning that is to serve solely in the work of industrial and commercial life. In pursuance of that project, graduates of the Common Schools who contemplate an academical career, would pass on to the Middle Schools, and thence, through the Upper Schools to the University. Graduates, on the other hand, desiring to become barristers, technical experts and so forth, would pass, through the Middle Schools, to the Specialty Colleges (now the Upper Middle Schools) of the University, or to the Technical Schools; and graduates not able or disposed to fall into any of the above classes, would proceed at once to Practical Schools where instruction would be given with the view of fitting them for the inferior callings of life. Such is the skeleton of the scheme. The same authority alleges that the course at the Middle Schools would be extended to five or six years, and that the transformation of the present Upper Middle Schools into Specialty Colleges (*Senmon no Daigaku*) of the University would be effected in the year 1895.

THE GERMAN BOWLING CLUB OF TOKYO

In Kanda, Imagawakoji, 1 chome, 8 in the same house with the German Asiatic Society, are the quarters of the Tokyo Bowling Club. Here for a long time Tokyo's well known German residents have assembled on Saturday evenings to repair the wear and tear of the week's work with some hours of hard bowling, singing, and good-fellowship. Seeing that the Society has enjoyed seven years of prosperous existence, the members felt justified in celebrating this by an anniversary festival which took place last Monday evening. Notwithstanding the heavy rain not a few presented themselves at the appointed time. These found the rooms elaborately decorated with green and with mottoes suited to the occasion. Those living in the neighbourhood had the privilege of listening to an almost continuous rumble of balls and falling pins until a late hour. During an interlude a poem was recited by the present Kegelwart, Prof. Grassmann, which was followed by singing. Mention ought also to be made of a supper prepared in good German style, and who ever entered a convenient bamboo bower had no need to emerge again without first having strengthened himself with a glass of good Tokyo beer—not from the bottle. It was a most successful occasion.

GOLD IN JAPAN.

It is calculated by experts, says the *Nippon*, that the amount of gold reserve in the Bank of Japan being 22 million *yen*—expressed in silver—and the aggregate of the gold held by the people, 50 million *yen*, the total in the country is 72 millions, to which about a million is added annually by foreign trade and by imports from Korea. But a great part of this gold is held by noblemen and wealthy persons who do not put it into circulation, so that, probably, the whole amount available for currency purposes does not greatly exceed thirty million.

JAPAN'S MARINE PRODUCTS.

The rapid increase in the export of Japan's marine products is certainly a matter for much congratulation, as the *Jiyu* remarks. The rate of development appears to be about three-fold in every decade. At the commencement of the *Meiji* era it was half a million *yen*. In the tenth year of the era it had become more than one and a half millions, and in 1892 it reached a total of 4½ millions. There is no apparent reason why this rate of increase should not be maintained, especially in view of the facts that Japan's tradal relations with China show signs of steady improvement, and that China offers an almost unlimited market for Japan's marine products. The *Jiyu* repeats what has often been stated in these columns, namely, that great room exists for improvement in the methods of fishing practised in Japan, and that the yield might be multiplied largely were this point attended to.

NOTICE TO MARINERS.

The following Notice to Mariners in reference to soundings in the Tientsin District of the China Sea, has been issued from the Coast Inspector's Office of the Imperial Chinese Maritimes Customs:—Notice is hereby given that Captain William P. Chard, of the Chinese steamer *Peiping*, reports that he has repeatedly, on different voyages, obtained soundings in from 7 to 9 fathoms, low water, hard mud, about 14 miles to the N. 87½° E. (true) from Shaluitien Island (Tsaofeitien), where the latest Admiralty Charts show 15 fathoms, and that he estimates the extent of the bank to be about 3 miles in an E.N.E. and W.S.W. direction, with a breadth of from 1 to 1½ miles. On a straight line from this bank to a point bearing south 3 miles from Tsaofeitien Lighthouse, Captain Chard obtained no soundings of less depth than those indicated by the charts.

SIAMESE CANNON.

The *Liberté* says:—Is it generally known that before the French cannon menaced Bangkok and the palace of the King of Siam, Siamese cannon had bombarded Paris? In 1684 the King of Siam sent to Louis XIV. an embassy, the pomp of which has remained famous. The King received it with proper *éclat* and accepted the presents sent to him. Amongst them were two small cannons inlaid with silver which were placed in the Garde Meuble, which then occupied the site now occupied by the Ministry of Marine. On the 14th July, 1789, the people, before running to the Bastille, pillaged the Garde Meuble, taking away the Siamese cannon, and it was these that principally contributed to the forcing of the doors of the State prison.

THE STRANGER'S HANDBOOK.

We have received a copy of the "Stranger's Handbook of the Japanese Language," by Gentaro Tomita, being a dictionary and phrase book combined, to which are added tables of values, weights, measures, &c. The dictionary portion is generally on the plan of the work issued some years ago by Mr. Satow, to which it bears a striking likeness. The book is well printed, and free from the blemishes usually found in works of the kind by Japanese, being apparently very carefully read. It is in a neat limp cover, and being portable in form should be very useful to persons visiting Japan.

REPORTED DISCOVERY OF COAL.

It is reported, says the *Rising Sun*, that two new seams of coal have been discovered on Kushishima, a small island near Matsushima, some twenty miles distant from this port. The sinking of a shaft was commenced there in May last by a Mr Ichimura Shotaro and two other partners, and on the 9th inst., at a depth of fifty-four feet, a seam five feet in thickness was opened out, and at a further depth of seven feet, a six-foot seam was struck. The quality of the coal is said to be excellent.

CHESS IN TOKYO.

The lovers of Chess in Japan will be glad to learn that a Chess Club has been formed in Tokyo. A meeting for this purpose took place at the Hotel Metropole, Tsukiji, on the 14th inst., and was attended by some fifteen players, including the President and two others members of the Yokohama Chess Club. The officers were elected as follows:—Mr. W. B. Mason, President; Mr. C. H. McGee, Secretary; Messrs. Walz, Munsinger, and White, Members of the Committee. The rules of the Yokohama Club were adopted with some slight alterations. The weekly meetings will be held every Tuesday from 1 to 11 p.m. at the Hotel Metropole.

THE "JIYU-TO" AND STATE ENTERPRISES.

The News Agency reports, as a result of investigations conducted by the Committee of the *Jiyu-to*, that apart from the appropriations included in the next Budget on account of the construction of men-of-war—appropriations concerning which the old difficulty seems to exist—the Radicals are disposed to adopt a sympathetic attitude towards other State enterprises, especially those relating to colonization. We are not aware what provision next year's estimates make on account of such undertakings, but it would seem, unless the News Agency be misinformed, that the Radicals have expressed them in favour, and that Count Itagaki himself now is a strong advocate, of giving every reasonable encouragement to emigration.

THE TAKASAKI-NAOETSU RAILWAY.

Alterations have been made in the time-table of the Takasaki-Naoetsu Railway which make the departures a few minutes later than those in vogue during the past summer. The following are the times from the four principal points:—From Takasaki (down)—6.30, 9.30 a.m., 12 30, 3.30, 6.30 p.m.; from Karuizawa—6 30, 9.30 a.m., 12.30, 3.30 p.m.; from Nagano—6.25, 9.25 a.m., 12.25, 3.25 p.m. From Naoetsu (up)—6.20, 9.20 a.m., 12.20, 3.20 p.m.; from Nagano—6.20, 9.20 a.m., 12.20, 3.20 p.m.; from Karuizawa, 6.20, 9.20 a.m., 12.20, 3.20 p.m. The change dates from Oct. 16.

THE "DENBIGHSHIRE."

The *Osaka Asahi*, says the *Kobe Chronicle*, which a day or two since said that the Osaka Shosen Kaisha would endeavour to purchase the *Denbighshire*, now states that, as it has been discovered the injury to the steamer is not as great as was at first feared, only three iron plates being broken and one dented, the company has given up the idea of inducing her owners to let them take the steamer over. It is expected that the vessel will be sent to Yokosuka after the temporary repairs have been completed, where she will go into dock.

JAPANESE DINNER IN CHICAGO.

Heromich Shugio, a member of the jury on Fine Arts at the World's Fair, gave a dinner to a small party of wealthy Japanese tea merchants at the Wellington Hotel, Chicago. They were K. Komada, I. Yamaguchi, I. Ito, K. Sano, and S. Furuya. Dinner was served in American style, but Mr. Shugio said he proposed giving another dinner soon at the Japanese village in the style pursued in Japan, and that he would have a few of the prominent officials at the World's Fair as guests.

THE SHERMAN ACT.

A telegram dated the 15th inst., which was received yesterday (18th) by the Government, says that the majority in the Senate are in favour of the abolition of the Sherman Act, but they are not strong enough to pass a resolution at once. Such being the condition of affairs a compromise will be the natural result, some concession being given to the supporters of silver.

PRESIDENT CARNOT.

The *Jiji Shimpo* says that a telegram has been received in Tokyo to the effect that President Carnot, who has been indisposed for some time, is in a precarious condition. The recent reports, however, of the President's illness, current in Paris, and of his having undergone some disastrous operation, were all entirely false Let us hope that the present rumour is false too.

DEATH OF AN M.P.

A telegram from Toyama, under date the 18th inst., states that Mr. Iwaki Takatsune, a member of the House of Representatives for that Prefecture, has died.

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THE "JIJI SHIMPO" ON MIXED RESIDENCE.

THE *Jiji Shimpo* is taking much pains to point out the dangers of the anti-Mixed Residence movement. Our contemporary observes that until lately it paid little attention to the agitation, believing that only conservatives in their dotage would be absurd enough to oppose the admission of foreigners into the interior. Great, therefore, was the leading journal's surprise to find the agitation taken up in earnest by practical politicians. These persons are divided by the *Jiji* into two classes, namely, those who have an ulterior object to serve—principally in connection with the promotion of party interests—and those who are ignorant of foreign affairs. Some regard the movement with indifference, being persuaded that under any circumstances there is little prospect of the question of Treaty Revision being disposed of for years to come. But entirely apart from considerations connected with the possibility or probability of revising the treaties, our contemporary thinks it of vital importance to pay attention to the progress of the agitation against Mixed Residence. For should that agitation be left to develop unhindered, it must lead to most serious consequences. Its promoters know only too well how to excite the anti-foreign sentiments of ignorant people in the country districts, and unless active steps be taken to counteract the evil influence exercised by them on credulous rustics, they may succeed in arousing the antipathy of the people against foreigners so thoroughly as to seriously affect Japan's foreign relations, not only in diplomatic and economic directions, but in all other matters also. It cannot be doubted that the agitation has assumed its present formidable aspect, because the anti-foreign spirit has for years been mustering strength in the country, a state of affairs for which the *Jiji Shimpo* holds the Government primarily responsible. The origin of the neo-anti-foreign tendency dates, in our contemporary's opinion, from 1881-1882, when a radical change was made in the educational policy of the Government, and a powerful impetus was imparted to the revival of the Confucian system of philosophy and morals. Important positions in the educational field were given to men whose only recommendation was that they had been trained in the Chinese way of thought and feeling; while a marked preference was shown for moral text books compiled on the basis of the old system. This reactionary course exercised a powerful effect on the rising generation, and we now see its results in social and political spheres. Holding that view, the *Jiji* strongly urges the Government to devise some effective remedy for the evil whose seeds were originally sown by official mismanagement. The Government, we are told, cannot remain inactive on the oft-repeated pretext that unanimity of national sentiment is essential to the successful solution of Treaty Revision. The EMPEROR'S statesmen are bound to take steps for bringing about unanimity, especially as their administrative methods have been the means of preparing the ground for the agitation now assuming such inconvenient and troublesome dimensions.

These comments of the *Jiji* form an interesting contribution to our materials for analysing a difficult problem. Our contemporary refers the origin of what it calls the "neo-anti-foreign feeling" to a date not more remote than eleven or twelve years ago, and moreover asks us to believe that the injurious influence then exercised found its way to the heart of the nation by educational channels. There is an evident difficulty about this theory, namely, that the generation undergoing school instruction eleven or twelve years ago, cannot possibly be yet in a position to sway public opinion. Perhaps the *Jiji* intends to suggest that the Government, by reverting, in 1881-82, to Chinese educational bases, indirectly produced an anti-Occidental effect on the nation at large. If that be the *Jiji's* meaning, its language is decidedly misleading. From either point of view, however, its accusation lays at the door of the Government the sin of having directly fomented antipathy to foreign intercourse, whereas the creed hitherto entertained by observers is that, if the Government be in any respect blameworthy, its responsibility lies in having shown too wholesale favour to foreign institutions and foreign fashions. The men who directed the administration in 1881-82 were the very men who direct it now—Counts ITO and INOUYE, the fathers of Japanese modern progress. Can we follow the *Jiji Shimpo* in supposing that these men employed the official machinery at their command to foster injuriously old-fashioned tendencies? Surely not. It is true that as far back as 1881 or 1882, Counts ITO and INOUYE appreciated and were gravely troubled about the educational hiatus that had been produced by the nation's breaking away from its traditional systems before being prepared to accept the systems of the West in spirit as well as in form. But we learn now for the first time that they attempted to fill the gap by reverting to a cult which had been originally abandoned at their instance. We are well aware of the *Jiji Shimpo's* high title to be heard with respect on such subjects, but its retrospect in this instance does not appeal to reason or consist with history. The influence that has really been preparing the way, as we think, for propagandism like that of Mr. OI KENTARO and his confederates, is the influence of the *Kokusui Hoson-to*, or party for preserving the excellent phases of Japanese national characteristics. That party made its appearance some ten years ago, and its doctrine, at once soothing to national self-respect and alleviative of the sense of umbrage engendered by Occidental assumptions and displays of racial superiority, attracted many disciples, not alone among the rising generation, but also among conservatives of the old school. There were even found numerous foreigners who lamented and condemned Japan's alleged precipitancy in effacing her own national traits and adopting alien systems. From the creed that Japanese customs and institutions might, in many cases, be more respectable and worthier than foreign, there was but a brief interval to the conviction that foreigners and their institutions were preferable at a distance.

We cannot attempt here to analyse the various factors that have contributed to produce the present state of affairs, or to describe the processes of their working. But it is impossible to accept as conclusive or satisfactory the *Jiji Shimpo's* simple and sweeping statement of the *origo mali*. Were we required to assign the cause chiefly responsible, we should unhesitatingly say that Japan's experience of foreigners has alienated her regard for them, and that their attitude towards her has provoked her resentment. But that too would be a partial presentment of the case. Its historian has still to be found.

CHESS IN TOKYO.

A NOTICE has been issued inviting the attendance on Saturday afternoon at the Hotel Métropole of persons interested in Chess. The notice is marked by the impersonal character almost invariably distinctive of such initiatory efforts in Japan. Someone must take the first step, yet every one shrinks from doing so nominally, lest he should find himself subjected to the too ready accusation of arrogating functions neither properly belonging nor duly delegated to him. The meeting will therefore come together in obedience to an anonymous invitation and under unexpected circumstances, for there has not been much room hitherto to hope that Tokyo would make the effort of organizing a club. There is no lack of players, or, we should rather say, of devotees of the game; men who love it for its own sake and not because they hope to win any laurels in its pursuit. But though the foreign community has an unusual proportion of amateurs, it happens that the majority of them already enjoy at the Tokyo general Club nearly all the facilities afforded by a special Chess organization, and that in consequence they have hitherto shown natural laziness to supplement the advantages they now possess. Yet Tokyo undoubtedly wants a Chess Club. The inchoate character of its Chess circle has more than once been responsible for inconveniences not confined to the capital alone. For example, Tokyo cannot accept a challenge *qua* Tokyo. The men who meet

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every evening in the Rokumeikan, and who engage there in desultory trials of skill, are not justified in regarding themselves as the representatives of Tokyo, and since they have no commission in that capacity, are obliged to meet any organized club under the very unsatisfactory guise of "some Tokyo players." This happened last year on the occasion of a tourney with Yokohama, and this also was the cause of the failure of the return match. The Yokohama Club, in its corporate capacity, selected its champions, and these, sensible of their duty as representatives, were ready to come to the scratch. But in Tokyo the champions were all voluntary, and having no sense of responsibility to any one outside themselves or to anything save their own conscience, they failed, or at least some of them failed, at the eleventh hour. Yokohama might fairly have resented this untimely default, but Yokohama's spirit of sport was not easily chilled, and Tokyo's reasons for subsequent repentance thus became all the more cogent. Such accidents are sure to happen in the absence of any accredited organization, and we therefore hope that the effort now on foot will prove successful. The capital is quite strong enough to be independently represented in the Chess field, instead of suffering the enthusiasts among its players to go abroad in search of a club. Concerning one point, however, it may be advisable to say a word. The meeting of to-day is convened at the Hotel Metropole in Tsukiji, from which we infer that some intention exists of making that place the centre of future operations. We trust that such is not the case. Doubtless the Hotel Metropole possesses, as a hotel, all recommendations. But it lacks the essential of being centrally situated. Tokyo players will not undertake a pilgrimage even to a Chess shrine at such a distance on winter evenings, and if the Hotel Metropole be made the place of meeting, a poor attendance must generally be anticipated. Accessibility is half the battle in such matters. The Imperial Hotel, or even the Tokyo Hotel, is perfectly situated for the purpose, and certainly the former could furnish everything needed in a manner not to be surpassed anywhere.

THE FINE ART EXHIBITION.

PREPARATIONS are busily in progress for the Fine Art Exhibition to be opened on the 23rd instant in the Tokyo Charity Hospital. We have already explained that the Exhibition is to take the place of the usual Charity Bazaar held in the Rokumeikan in Tokyo for the same object, and that it is under the auspices of a Ladies' Committee comprising the wives of all the Ministers of State and of many prominent noblemen. So far as we can judge, the Exhibition will be something quite out of the common. Several years ago, when the first display of the kind was organized in the capital, private collectors responded with a measure of alacrity to the request of the promoters. There was not, indeed, any general willingness to contribute specimens. In Japan it has never been a habit in wealthy or aristocratic families to display heirlooms to public gaze. Such things were reserved for the eyes of relatives or intimate friends. Moreover, the Japanese collector was not a collector in the European or American sense of the term. He did not collect merely for the sake of bringing together a number of *chefs d'œuvre* typical of the history of art or representative of its progress at different epochs. He collected only things that could be employed as articles of furniture or household utensils. When we speak of articles of furniture we include, of course, objects used to decorate the alcove, so that the term covers many things belonging fairly to the category of art objects. Still they were essentially alcove ornaments. No Japanese ever conceived the notion of having a private museum, or of displaying in his salons a multitude of costly and beautiful articles disposed in cabinets or ranged on shelves. He may have possessed and did, in point of fact, often possess scores of such things, but they were chiefly part of his dining equipage, and as such lay hidden away in a strong-room until occasion arose for their employment. Hence, when the founders of the Japan Fine Arts Society first mooted their project of an exhibition, the great majority of private collectors were almost shocked at the vulgar idea of ostentatiously parading heirlooms for public inspection. Some, however, responded, though even in their case the response was tentative. They sent a few objects, avowedly wishing to see how things worked, and promising to be more liberal on the next ocasion. Things did not work at all well, however. The arrangement of the exhibits fell into the hands of men who considered only the commercial aspect of the display, and who, having fish of their own to fry, reserved the places of light and honour for salable objects contributed by themselves, and relegated the treasures of private collectors to dark corridors and inaccesible corners. Such partial treatment proved of course fatally deterrent of future efforts, and all subsequent exhibitions were marked, more and more, by absence of contributions from private persons and preponderance of objects for sale, until these annual displays came at last to be regarded mainly as occasions for seeing and purchasing the master-pieces of modern artists. But that first exhibition, despite the tentative timidity that restrained private collectors, furnished a means of estimating what an exhibition in Tokyo might be were the interest and aid of the dilettanti of the capital really enlisted. We believe that they have now been enlisted, and that the public may look forward to seeing an assemblage of specimens such as has never before been brought together in Japan. Among those who have promised to contribute from their collections are Marquis MAYEDA of Kashu, Marquis TOKUGAWA of Kishu, Marquis TOKUGAWA of Bishu, Prince MORI of Choshu, Count MATSUKATA, Marquis ASANO of Hiroshima, Viscount AKIMOTO, Count INOUYE, Count DATE of Sendai, Count MATSUDAIRA of Izumo, Marquis HACHISUKA of Awa, Prince TOKUGAWA of Shizuoka, Marquis IKEDA of Okayama, Count HISAMATSU of Matsuyama, Mr. IWASAKI, Mr. KUKI, and so forth. The treasures of the Imperial collection also will be placed at the disposal of the Committee, and the list of exhibitors will include many, in addition to those already enumerated, whose contributions will be of a rare and beautiful character. We are persuaded that the affair will prove a genuine treat to all lovers of art, and that it will furnish a unique opportunity for the foreign public to acquaint themselves with the kind of articles prized by the upper classes in Japan, as well as to infer the nature of Japanese domestic civilization and refinement in pre-Restoration days.

NOTABLES ON MIXED RESIDENCE.

BY a singular coincidence, several metropolitan papers simultaneously commenced on Sunday last to insert accounts of interviews with distinguished public men on the question of Mixed Residence. The first person interviewed, by the *Yomiuri Shimbun's* representative, was Count SOYEJIMA, the well known Privy Councillor. He is generally regarded as a man of rather conservative ideas, being a believer in Shintoism of an extreme type, and the opponents of Mixed Residence consequently counted upon his sympathy with their cause. But they have been cruelly disappointed. He told his visitor that the admission of foreigners into the interior would be a necessary consequence of the abolition of Consular Jurisdiction. To demand the removal of extraterritorial jurisdiction and yet to refuse the privilege of Mixed Residence to foreigners, would be a preposterous thing, contrary to reason and incapable of execution. The Count strongly denounced people so irresponsible as to call upon others to effect what they doubtless themselves recognize to be impossible. Instead of saying that it is too early to grant Mixed Residence, these persons might have maintained with more consistency and honesty that the time is still premature for Revision of the Treaties. He had a poor opinion of men who feared the admission of foreigners into the interior. The step might not, perhaps, be altogether free from evil, but was there anything perfectly beneficial in this world? Some seemed to fear that Mixed Residence might imperil the independence of the

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country. If the independence of the country were so uncertain, would it be possible to secure it by refusing the opening of the country to foreigners? The old statesman also ridiculed the foolishness of the apprehension that Mixed Residence would increase the number of marriages between Japanese and foreigners and that the Japanese race might in that way be modified gradually until it would finally lose its original characteristics. At any rate, he saw nothing undesirable in such a modification of race peculiarities, but he had not the slightest doubt that the essential element of Japanese spirit (the *Yamato-damashii*) would be transmitted to posterity as it has been bequeathed by ancestors of the people from generation to generation.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun's* first experiment in sounding views on the subject of Mixed Residence was made upon Viscount TAKASHIMA, ex-Minister of War, a leading spirit among the clan statesmen of the Military section, and understood to be more or less in sympathy with the National Unionists. His opinions on any subject are worth quoting, but particularly so in the present case. The conversation commenced with reference to the subject of the Great Japan Union. The Viscount did not declare himself in sympathy with the object of the new association, yet he thought that the movement might be of some use as a means of educating the mass of the people in diplomatic matters. No sane person, he said, could very well oppose Mixed Residence. He did not think it likely that revision of the treaties on an equal footing could be accomplished in the space of three or five years, and therefore he saw no use in making such a fuss about the question of Mixed Residence. In order to induce the Treaty Powers to consent to Japan's demands for equal treaties, it was absolutely necessary to increase the strength of the country. The interviewer then asked whether, supposing that foreign Powers were ready to comply with the Japanese proposal at the present moment, the ex-Minister of War would approve the opening of the interior for Mixed Residence? Most certainly, was the reply. Viscount TAKASHIMA did not think that the grant of Mixed Residence would be followed by any remarkable influx of foreigners. He was, however, inclined to doubt the wisdom of extending the privilege to the Chinese. As to the ownership of real estate, he would recommend careful consideration of the subject.

Prince KONOYE, one of the most rising men in the House of Peers, but by no means a supporter of the Government, was interviewed by a writer on the staff of the *Kokumin Shimbun*. He declared himself most emphatically at variance with the opponents of Mixed Residence. It was, he said, the height of absurdity to talk of revision of the treaties on equal terms without opening the interior to foreigners. As to the apparent prosperity of the Great Japan Union, Prince KONOYE attributed it to the efforts of some ambitious conservatives whose real object is to use that association as a means of attaining some political end dearer to their hearts than the interests of the country. He thought that some restrictions might be placed upon the privileges of Mixed Residence. Then alluding to the Representation which had been introduced in the House of Peers by Viscount TANI on the subject of the recovery of tariff autonomy, Prince KONOYE regretted that he had given his support to its passage. At that time he had just returned from abroad, and was still ignorant of the real state of affairs in Japan. It was out of the question, and most unwise, he said, to demand the revision of only the portions in the treaties that bear upon tariff autonomy, as proposed in the above mentioned Representation. No foreign Power would agree to such a demand.

Our own (*Japan Mail's*) representative recently had a long talk on the same subject with Mr. SHIGA, editor of the *Ajiya*, and of the newly resuscitated *Nippon-jin*, who is well known to be opposed to the immediate opening of the country for Mixed Residence. But our representative was agreeably surprised to find Mr. SHIGA most heartily disgusted with the present anti-Mixed Residence movement, and with the motives of its guiding spirits. He denounced in unmeasured terms Professor INOUYE and others who are taking pains to demonstrate the inferiority of the Japanese race to the races of Europe and America. Neither was Mr. SHIGA in sympathy with men who seek to further personal or party interests by pandering to the prejudices and credulity of the ignorant masses. For that reason he had declined the invitation addressed him by the promoters of the Great Japan Union on the occasion of the ceremony of inaugurating the association. Asked on what ground he did not approve the immediate grant of Mixed Residence, he replied that as a measure of precaution he thought it wise for Japan to wait until the present rising generation should have obtained ascendency in the different spheres of activity, his doubt being whether the commercial and industrial mechanism, as it now existed in this country, might not still lack some essentials of solidity and permanancy, and whether under such circumstances direct competition with foreigners would be altogether advisable. He believed that, by the time the young men now between twenty-five and thirty had reached the age of forty to forty-five, things would wear quite a different aspect, in every department of national life. Another reason why he did not like to see the interior opened at once, was that a tendency still prevailed among the people to over-estimate foreign ability and the superiority of foreign civilization. Such a tendency, he thought, was injurious to the development of a spirit of self-confidence, and he considered it important to remedy this state of things before bringing the people face to face with foreigners. He had large and firm faith in the brilliant future of his nation, and for that reason he was anxious to see it enter the arena of competition under the most favourable conditions possible.

Mr. SHIGA apparently fails to perceive that while criticising the tendency of his countrymen to overestimate the ability of foreigners, he himself fosters that tendency when he promulgates the doctrine that a new generation of Japanese is needed to hold its own in industrial and commercial rivalry with the Occident.

METAL WORK IN JAPAN.

SUZUKI CHOKICHI, whose name was recently before the public as the maker of the Twelve Hawks sent to the Chicago World's Fair by Mr. HAYASHI, has his workshop at No. 1, Irifune-cho, Hachome, in Tokyo. It is true to the usual character of the Japanese art artizan's quarters, being of the humblest and most unpretending character Some concession, however, has been made by the gifted owner to the advertising tendency of modern times; the entrance wears an imposing air compared with its surroundings, though it must be confessed that the elements of this *ensemble* do not bear analysis; they dwindle down, on examination, to a handsome bronze basin which stands in a recess immediately within the wicket gate. Otherwise there is nothing notable except neatness, and neatness is normal in Japan. To the right, almost within arm's length, extends a long shed of the flimsiest and cheapest construction, littered with graver's implements, metal filings, and discoloured models that have done their duty and ceased to be worth preserving. It was within this shed that the celebrated Hawks were produced, and it is within this shed that other master-pieces not less meritorious are now in process of production. The men that chip and chisel there suggest no probability of great results. They are of the type familiar to every one acquainted with a Japanese atelier: diminutive work-worn beings, poorly clad, of absorbed mien, indifferent to all waifs and strays of outside life that drift within range of their earnest eyes; apprenticed eternally to toil, yet quietly content with their lot and taking with equal mood all its exigencies; never seemingly sanguine; always modest and self-effacing; folks full of large posibilities, but bearing from generations of experience the mark of their class's doom in Japan—unrecognised merit. They sit on the ground here and there, tailor-fashion, each bending over some vase or urn that lies between his knees and grows gradually under his patient, lissome hands into an object glorious with elaborate

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tracery of arabesque scroll and diaper, or pictured with stories of fate and fortune. A place where metals are cast, hammered, rasped, and carved can never be other than grimy and offensive. The canon that applies to cooking should be obeyed equally by artizans in iron and copper: results alone should be exhibited, processes carefully concealed. But in such matters the Japanese is absolutely matter of fact. In his theatre he takes no pains to produce realistic effects by hiding things that the good will of the audience can easily take for hidden. In his atelier he lets every one see how he works as well as what he achieves. By and bye he will exchange this simple honesty of method for the mystery with which his astuter *confrère* in the West knows how to environ achievements of talent and handicraft. By and by he will appreciate that evidences of cheap, work-a-day origin ought not to be published in the contest of admirable *chefs-d'œuvre*. But at present he suffers things to be exactly as they are, and it must be confessed that such practical frankness detracts somewhat from the romance of the result. SUZUKI has shown what he can accomplish along some of the Japanese metal-worker's beaten paths. He is now making a new departure as a caster of bronze figures and busts of contemporary celebrities. How perceptibly mental history would have been vivified had this art existed a dozen centuries ago in Japan and China! Conceive what new interest we should take in the stories of HIDEYOSHI, of YOSHITSUNE, of IYEYASU, of CONFUCIUS, of GENGHIS, and so forth, did their portraits in metal exist to illustrate these annals. But we are entirely without such things. Except in rare cases where some special peculiarity of appearance attracted the attention of contemporary historians, posterity can form no conception of how these great agents of destiny looked in the flesh. Of course such a defect could not be left unremedied in the *Meiji* era. The bronze statue of OMURA, recently unveiled in the grounds of the Shokonsha at Kudan, showed that the capacities of the Japanese artist in metals could be successfully utilized to illustrate contemporary history, and the fact receives further verification from the latest works of SUZUKI CHOKICHI. One of these is a life-size statue of Mr. FUKUZAWA. It has been undertaken at the request of the great educationalist's pupils, past and present, and its destination is the principal hall of Mr. FUKUZAWA'S college at Mita. A sitting posture, in Japanese fashion, has been chosen for the figure; the costume is Japanese, which leads itself admirably to the purposes of the artist in metal; and Mr. SUZUKI has caught the exact likeness of his renowned subject. Another statue, on a smaller scale, is that of the late Mr. ITO HEI, a well-known merchant of Yokohama and Tokyo. This work is too insignificant to be imposing, but for the rest it serves all the purposes of a permanent portrait. We may be permitted to express a strong hope that in castings of this kind Japanese artists will be constant to the costume of their own country. Its graceful folds lend themselves excellently to the ends of such work, and are happily guaranteed against the instability of fashion. In Europe the artist's instinct rebelled for centuries against the stiff lines and scissor-marked shapes of contemporary costume, nor does he even yet reproduce it with sufficient conviction to be quite satisfactory. The truth is that we never really discover the profound ungainliness of trousers, coats, tops, and petticoats until we come to depict them on canvas or chisel them in metal or marble. Of these statues Mr. SUZUKI has reason to be proud, though the fact does not appear to have been yet borne in upon him. He prefers to exhibit a masterpiece of a very different character, a jointed dragon in bronze. The first of these extraordinary achievements was bequeathed to posterity by one of the early MIYOCHIN masters, who loved to set himself apparently impossible tasks, and who manipulated iron as though it were wax. MIYOCHIN MUNECHIKA'S dragons, craw-fish, crabs, cicadæ, and such things were among the most marvellous examples of hinging and jointing the world has ever seen. It goes without saying that in form and proportions they were absolutely true to nature—wherever nature furnished a model—but the wonder of them was that, without losing the solidity and durability of the iron that composed them, their limbs and bodies were capable of movement in every and any direction. Such a curiosity of handicraft is SUZUKI'S bronze dragon. Its size, however, distinguishes it from any of its predecessors, for it measures about eight feet in length. Everywhere flexible, it can be placed in a thousand different postures according of the fancy of a manipulator, and in each pose it preserves the aspect of a very fierce and mischievous reptile. SUZUKI keeps it in a long box lined with red velvet and comfortably padded, from which coffin its limp emergence compares strikingly with the horribly bristling vitality of its subsequent attitudes. Another powerful occupant of the same ateliar is an iron eagle, life-sized, with outstretched wings and wonderfully chiselled plumage. SAITO'S flexible-necked eagle, now in the World's Fair at Chicago, seems to have suggested this work, but the SUZUKI eagle now on view in Irigune-cho is happily free from the pigeon-like affinities of the Exposition bird. It is a veritable eagle, fierce, meagre, alert, and pitiless, just such and bird as SHELLEY conceived "sailing incessantly, with clang of wings and scream" in lonely lands. The makers of these master-pieces are the men on whose efforts much of Japan's material development depends.

REVIEW.

Outlines of the Mahâyâna, as taught by Buddha. Articles in the *Bukkyo*, August, September, October, 1893, by the Rev. SHINTO KUROTA.

ONE of the changes most noticeable in Japan is the great development during the last few years of its book-trade. A few years ago a purely Japanese book-store was, to the ordinary foreigner at least, a most uninteresting place. A few shelves of dilapidated English books, mostly Readers which must long ago have been banished from any respectable school in England or America—and a large counter facing the street, covered with native books in those dingy bindings which antiquated scholars so dearly prized, and written in that crabbed style which either ruined the eyesight or refused absolutely to unfold its treasures to any but the most patient Sinologue—a book-shop in old times was not a very edifying place for the curious foreigner to pry about in.

There are still, it is true, many such shops, but the march of time has brought with it the progressive book-store, and the writer of this article has in his mind at least two or three shops, all in one street, where the literature exposed for sale is of a very different order, where magazines and novels, books of travel and of research, all quite modern, all nicely printed and illustrated, with artistic covers intended to catch the eye of the passer by, are not only exposed for sale, but meet with a great many customers.

This literary activity is not confined to books of mundane interest. A very considerable proportion of the new magazines and books are of an ethical or even of a religious character, and the Buddhist clergy (to their honour be it spoken) are taking a very active part in the dissemination of their views by literary means.

The last few numbers of the *Bukkyo* (a Tokyo fortnightly) contain a series of articles on the outlines of the Mahâyâna from the pen of the Rev. Shinto Kurota, a prominent priest of, we believe, the Jôdo Sect. The fact that they are written in English and therefore presumably for English speaking readers, seems to warrant us in entering upon a somewhat lengthy criticism of them. Mr. Kurota, we feel sure, meant his articles to be read by foreigners and taken into consideration by them. We have read them with very great interest, and we hope Mr. Kurota will continue to write for us in the English language. Half the controversies in the world arise from imperfect definitions, and if Mr. Kurota will continue to give us clear definitions of the Truth as it appears when looked at through Buddhist spectacles, he will be doing good service both to Japanese and foreigners.

At the same time he must pardon us if we venture to criticize some of his statements.

He begins by warning us that we are "not to seek Buddhism in the words and sentences of the Sutras," and lays down the proposition that "the doctrines of Buddhism have no fixed forms," and that in studying Buddhism we must keep always before us the end which Buddha had before him.

It seems to us to be an impossibility to keep the end in view without paying some regard to the means by which the end is to be attained. Surely the doctrines enunciated in the Sutras were intended as helps to the attainment of emancipation. You cannot travel to a town unless you travel by some road that leads you to it, and in the case of attaining to emancipation it is not true that "all roads lead to Rome?"

He then lays down the proposition that "there is nothing in things themselves that enables us to distinguish in them either good or evil, right or wrong. It is but man's fancy that weighs their merits and causes him to choose one and to reject the other." And again, "there is no distinction between right and wrong in things; it is men's own conjecture that makes the distinction."

This is no new theory in philosophy; it is not a workable theory, and it is ethically a very dangerous one. It is not new, for it has asserted itself in India and Greece and more recently in Europe. It is not workable, for it resolves itself into *quot hominus tot sententiae;* it is dangerous, because it destroys every ethical standard, and all experience, persona and historical, shows us that both individuals and mankind at large require an ethical standard.

We even venture to doubt whether it is Buddhism. It is certain that Buddha laid down some very definite moral rules. It is also certain that he based the whole of his teachings (if, that is, an appeal to the Sutras be permitted to us) upon the law of *Ingwa* (Karma-cause and effect). It is certain from that law that if a cause be good a good result will follow, if a cause be bad a bad effect will result. What defines the good and the bad? The distinction between good and evil

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must be as old as the law of cause and effect; older than any sentient beings that are now subject to birth and death within the universe. It is certain that *popular* Buddhism considers the distinction between good and evil as having some higher sanction than man's "fancy." We quote from a cheap tract entitled *Hito no michi* with which Mr. Kurota is probably familiar. "*Shion fūsen wa tenchi shizen no michi nishite Kami ya Hotoke ya Seijintachi ga kotowara ni mōke tamoi shi hō ni wa aradzu, shizen ni hitotaru mono no yoranaba naranu tensoku nari.*" The writer, whilst distinctly denying that the moral precepts contained in the *shion* and *fūsen* have been taught to men by divinities, Buddhas, or Sages, equally distinctly affirms that they are among the laws of the Universe, which man must obey.

It has always seemed to us that the doctrine of cause and effect as taught by Buddha is beautiful, because it is true, and dangerous because it is only half true. It is true that the world is governed by *Ingwa*. We see cause and effect everywhere around us—*e.g.* in the moral and physical results caused by heredity, association, education, &c.

It is half true because it supposes that such a law can have come into force without the action of a creating mind. Mr. Kurota, for instance, can see that (I am quoting his words) "all things in the Universe are mind itself," and that what we call "the heaven and the earth" came into existence "through the actions of pre-existing sentient beings." He cannot see that pre-existing sentient mind must be one only, and that that one pre existing sentient mind is that being whom men call God.

Mr. Kurota has probably come into contact with Christianity. He will, we are sure, pardon us if we refer him to an extremely difficult passage in the Bible, the first chapter of Ezekiel. It seems to us to show the stages by which men were to come to the acknowledgement of God. The prophet sees what he describes as "a vision of God." First, a fire, shapeless, confused, bright. Such are man's thoughts when he contemplates for the first time the nature and the essence of God. He is dazzled by the brightness of his subject, and his thoughts are confused. After a while his eyes gather strength and he distinguishes in the midst of the fire four living creatures in the attitude of servants. They have a strangely complex appearance and seem to be mysteriously connected with one another. They represent the operations of nature, complex and varied. We get our first notions of God from observance of the works of nature. Everything in the universe is governed by a law, and therefore everything is in the position of a subject. But where there is a subject there must also be a king, where there is a law there must also be a law-giver. Ezekiel looks further into the flame and beyond the four living creatures the symbols of phenomenal existence, he sees the throne, the symbol of law, the Karma which governs the world. And then appears upon the throne the figure of a man. It is no mere impersonal law or set of laws that governs the Universe. It is a personal God—self-existent—the personal God is in the likeness of man. In the likeness of man—and therefore a Trinity—will, reason, and affections, each of them distinct and yet indivisible. In the likeness of man and therefore Incarnate in the Person of Jesus Christ, in order that man may have a definite object for worship, and may know whom he serves.

A Ld.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE AND THE LATE SIR JAMES RUSSELL.

The following despatch is published in the Hongkong *Official Gazette*:—

Downing Street, September 8th.

Sir,—In my telegram of the 2nd instant, I informed you of the unexpected and lamented death of Sir James Russell from an attack of the heart.

2.—You will share the great regret with which I learnt the intelligence, and the Hongkong community in general will, I doubt not, mourn the loss of an honoured and valued friend.

3.—In my opinion, Sir James Russell's services to the Government were of a very high order, and in him successive Governors and Secretaries of State found a wise, just, and single-minded adviser, who, not on the judicial bench only, but in many other ways, did good and lasting work for the Colony in which his public life was spent.—I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

R.PON.

Governor Sir W. Robinson, K.C.M.G., &c., &c.

LETTER FROM CHICAGO.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Chicago, September 25th.

The *Independent* of the 21st inst. contains two articles with reference to Japan. One is by Rev. J. L. Atkinson on "Home Missions in Japan;" the other is by Rev. Wm. Elliot Griffis, D.D., on "Two Japanese Men of Letters." The latter relates to Michizane and Rai Sanyo, and is *apropos* the fact that their names are inscribed on a stone in the front of the Boston Public Library.

Japan has been very fortunate in securing a large number of awards among those recently announced. In the group including miscellaneous animal products, hair, fertilizers, etc., Kichibei Doi and Bunshiri Shibata are mentioned. In the group of glass and glass-ware the following are announced:—

K. Abira, Tokio, crystal ornament.
Tosuisha Asamatsu, Osaka, coloured glass tablets.
T. Kamia Kawa, Osaka, coloured glass tablets
Mayoechi Shumeda, Osaka, glass flower vases.

Other Japanese exhibits in this group are to be reported later.

In the department of forestry the following list has been published:

Japan—Yano Sotaro, Osaka, collection of willow toothpicks; K. Yamanaka, Osaka, collection of bamboo and willow ware; T. Matsunagawa, Fukuchima, collection of lacquer; S. Tamari, Kagoshima, collection specimens of bamboo; C. Matsuo, Aomori, lacquer; Y. Yamaguchi, Aichi, samples of bamboo; Akita Kencho, Akita, collection specimens of wood; S. Osada, Miyazaki, bamboo for manufacturing purposes; Endo, Hyogo, willow baskets, G. Matsuoka, Hyogo, collection bamboo works, D. Nagato, Hyogo, specimens of bamboo; K. Tsuzura, Osaka, collection of bamboo baskets; Mori, Kumamoto, species of bamboo; S. Ohashi, Hyogo, collection of bamboo works; R. Otsubo, Kagawa, collection of bamboo works; Y. Ito, Aomori, raw lacquer; Bureau of Forestry, Department of Agriculture and Commerce, Tokio, collection of timber sections, maps, statistics.

In the mining department an award is made to Kihachiro Kanamoto for specimens of gold foil and dust

In the group of horticulture, the College of Science, Shibata Tomiyama, the Yokohama Gardeners' Association, and Sen Tsuda and Company receive mention.

In the department of fisheries Japan is honoured with the following long list:—

Japan—Agricultural Bureau, Tokio, collective exhibit, maps of fisheries, mounted algae, molluscs and shells of molluscs, shells, crustaces, pictures of fishes, photographs of fishes, knives used in curing fish, netting, nets, seines, fishing vessels and boats, sketches of fishing, lines, trawls, net fishing, fish traps, weirs, pound nets, gill nets, fish hooks, rods, fishing gear, agricultural association, oyster culture, ground photographs, map of turtle grounds; T. Nakashima & Co., Nagasaki, specimens of corals; K. Niki Nagasaki, sea weeds; J. Shibahara, Kyota, fish hooks; T. Shimoto, Akita, fish hooks; I. Sameshima, Yamamoto-Gun, models of the Matia net; T. Shimito, Akita, artificial flies; J. Shinahara, Kyota, artificial flies; G. Natsuda, Nagasaki, sardines and shrimp in oil; Fukuomoto, Shizuoka, salt mackerel; S. Mekutani, Shizuoka, salt mackerel; E. Sato, Shizuoka, salt mackerel, C. Murayama, Hokkaido, dried pregeneita, haliots, oysters, scallops, and oyster sauce, D. Hasegawa, Shizuoka, dried sea weeds, Y. Rubota, Tokio, sea weeds, dried and bottled in sheets, in jars, etc.; I. Chibashi, Hyega, sea weed jelly; E. Ranzka, Osaka, sea weed jelly, paper sea weed jelly; H. Suguki, Shizuoka, salt mackerel; T. Nishikawa, Tokio, fish manure; K. Suhara, Wakayama, fish manure, M. Kawahara, Nagasaki ken, whale wax; S. Saito, Yamaguchi ken, sperm oil; Kawashiri Whaling company, Yamaguchi ken, whale oil; M. Kawahara, Nagasaki ken, whale oil; Ikejura Seito, Osaka, isinglass; H. Yamaguchi & Co., Shizuoka, dolphin oil, Kenjiro Fukui, Nagasaki, isinglass; Shotara Nakamura, Osaka, isinglass, Sakamoto Tanaka, Osaka, isinglass, N. Minebe, Aomori, sardine oil, Y. Azari, Hokkaido, cod liver oil; H. Yamauchi, Shizuoka, salt mackerel; A. Wakita, Hiroshima ken, canned oysters; R. Miyauchi, Mirachiman ken, oyster sauce; K. Fuwabara, Kumamoto, ken, canned ayu; S. Takeowchi, Yamaguchi, salt sard-ne-s; T. Maki Hiroshima, canned oysters and fish; Y. Oto, Fukui Ken, canned clams and crabs; T. Saito, Shizuoka, sea weed dried; K. Niki, Nagasaki, sea weed dried; G. Takahashi, Hokkaido, smoked salmon; T. Fujino, Hakkaido, canned salmon; X. Suhara, Hokkaido, canned salmon; Imperial Fishery Stock company, Hokkaido, fried oysters; H. Shimomura, Hokkaido, smoked herring, salt cod-fish, and smoked plaice; C. Misushima Hokkaido, canned salmon, K. Ito, Hokkaido, canned shell fish, dried fish, canned fish, dried shell fish, dried oysters, dried scallops, short fins, fish manure, fish guano, codliver oil, fish oils, sea weeds for food; K. Mikimoto, Miyeken, pearl shells in alcohol, pearls assorted; Kenbukai, She, sea weeds.

The following list, not perfectly intelligible, is given in the line of vinegars, etc.:—

Japan—Kahati Naruto, Ozaka, vinegar; E. Sgea, Hyogo, the mirau (ap beverage; R. Kontabi, Hyogo, vinegar.

During the Congress of the Evangelical Association, Bishop Esher, of Chicago, spoke in German on "Evangelical Mission Work in Japan"

The Foreign Missionary Society of the Christian Church (Disciples), in convention, have lately decided to erect a Bible Training School, probably at Tokyo, for native workers in Japan.

Chief John Thorpe, of the department of floriculture, is planning for a grand chrysanthemum show next month, to be the crowning feature of his work at the Fair. Japan will naturally be given a large section in that display, and ought to exhibit a reproduction of Dangozaka.

The attendance at the Fair continues to be encouraging, and has lately been on the increase. During the past week the daily records of paid admissions have been around 175,000; and last Saturday with no special attractions the figures were 213,000. Not much decrease is expected before October 15th, if the weather keeps favourable; and even the last weeks may show no diminution. All agitation about continuing the Exposition beyond October 31st is at an end. The executive committee of the board of directors, without a dissenting voice, decided that the Exposition should be closed on the specified day.

During the past week Texas and Iowa have had special days at the Fair. The building of the "Lone Star State" was erected through the efforts of Texas women after the State Legislature had refused to make an appropriation. It was, therefore, with great propriety, that the oration of the day by ex-Gov. R. B. Hubbard sounded the praises of "The Women of Texas." The "Hawkeyes," of course, turned out in large numbers with Gov. Boies and other officials: their special celebration lasted for two days. Fishermen also gathered last week, and vied with each other in telling big fish stories!

Two interesting weddings also came off last week at the Fair. In one case an Illinois couple were married on the big Ferris Wheel, and were pronounced man and wife just at the moment when they reached the highest point. In the other case two young people in the Javanese Village were wedded with proper Mohammedan rites.

"The Columbian Peace Plough" is a genuine article made literally from swords and other implements of war, and is probably the first fulfilment of the Scripture prophecy concerning the turning of swords into ploughshares.

In contrast, however, to the above is the news from Brazil. The reports in this morning's papers are to the effect, that the rebel fleet has renewed the blockade of Rio de Janeiro; and that the result of this uprising may be (though others emphatically deny it) the restoration of the Empire.

The latest news with reference to the Geary Law is, that the U.S. Government stands ready to enforce it so far as its present means will permit; but that no deportations have yet been made, because the parties in custody have appealed to higher courts for writs of habeas corpus, and can not be removed from custody until the final decision has been rendered in favour of the Government.

It is stated (on the authority of the newspaper dispatches from Washington), that the report of ex-Minister Blount on the Hawaiian question will be an exposé of political intriguing, into complicity with which we were deeped; and that President Cleveland, in his message to Congress, will recommend "home rule" for Hawaii with the protection of the U.S. Government during the process of reorganization there. Meantime, a bill has been introduced into the House of Representatives by McCreary, of Kentucky, to authorize Celso Cæsar Moreno and associates to construct and maintain a cable to Hawaii. There is no government grant or guarantee provided: but government privileges are specified. The cable line must be completed within five years.

"Home Rule" may prove as interesting and difficult a question with reference to Hawaii as concerning Ireland. To the large number of Japanese and Chinese upon the islands, it would be a very important matter. The details of the "home rule" plan will be awaited with great interest.

Among recent Presidential appointments are the following:—Wm. L. Chambers, of Alabama, to be Land Commissioner in Samoa; James J. Van Alen, of Rhode Island, to be U.S. Ambassador to Italy; and W. J. Hornblower, of New York, as Associate Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court. Judge Hornblower is only about 40 years old, a Princeton graduate, and an able lawyer, especially well versed in corporation law: he will honour the bench.

Rev. Bennett Mitchell (Methodist) is the Prohibition-Republican candidate for Governor of Iowa. With the Republican party thus divided, the chances of Gov. Boies for another term are excellent.

As the "hearings" before the Ways and Means Committee on the tariff matters have been concluded, work will soon begin on a bill, which may be expected in November or December.

It is hoped, but not confidently expected, that the Senate will come to a vote this week on the silver question. The people are tired of useless oratory and demand action.

On the 18th inst., the centennial of the laying of the corner-stone of the Capital, was celebrated at Washington with great ceremony. The orator of the day was William Wirt Henry, a descendant of Patrick Henry: other speakers were President Cleveland, Vice-President Stevenson, speaker Crisp, Justice Brewer, *et al.*

Brunswick, Georgia, is still suffering with an epidemic of yellow-fever. Yesterday four cases were declared well and discharged; but two new cases were reported. The health board and relief association are hard at work: there is a scarcity

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of provisions, and consequently great suffering among the poor.

There seems to be an epidemic of carelessness on the part of railroad employés. Two more terrible collisions are reported: one on the "Big Four" near Manteno, Ill., with a list of ten killed and twenty badly injured; another on the Wabash near Kingsbury, Ind., with a list of twelve killed and thirty injured. The details are sorrowful and sickening.

Archbishop Ireland, of St. Paul, maintains that the "Faribault plan" has merely been temporarily suspended, from local causes, at Faribault, and is in successful operation in other places in Minnesota.

The following gives the advertised summary of the new lectures by John L. Stoddard in Central Music Hall in this city:—

I. EASTERN JAPAN.

The un-Pacific Voyage. A New Land. Yokohama the Port, Tokyo the Capital. Nikko and its Sacred Groves New and Strange Sights. Days Among fascinating Women and sturdy, Smiling Men.

II WESTERN JAPAN.

Mikado Land the More Charming the More It Is Explored. Glorious Scenery Crowned by White-Capped Fuji. The Sacred City of Kioto and Its Temples. Curious Dress and Customs of the Japanese

III. CHINA.

Across the China Sea. Beautiful Hongkong. A Visit to Canton. Unparalleled Experiences. A Queer People and Their Queer Markets. Horns and Blunderbusses! Farewell to a Strange City

IV. FARTHER INDIA.

The Spicy Breezes of Ceylon, Colombo Its Port, Kandy Its Capital. Again at Sea. Bombay. Unique Jeypore. Benares The Sacred Ganges Caste in India. The Awful Majesty of the Himalayas.

V. NEARER INDIA.

An Incomprehensible Land. Calcutta, the Great Capital Venerable Delhi, the Mogul City. Souvenirs of the Sepoy Mutiny at Lucknow and Cawnpore. Agra and its Immortal Taj Mahal.

THE GOTEMBA LEPER HOSPITAL IN JAPAN.

Tokyo, 5th September, 1893.

Many charitable persons have kindly condescended to take interest in relieving the lepers of Japan. As customary, I come, this year again, to bring to the knowledge of our Benefactors the present state of our Establishment.

1.—Number and condition of the lepers at Gotemba.—Our hospital contained 50 patients in June, 1892; it contains now 86: 68 male and 18 female. They are all adult, a child of 10 years, and another of 11 or 12 excepted. With the *personnel* of the administration, the inmates form a community of about 100 persons.

Several lepers are awfully disfigured and unable to use their hands or feet. Three of them are blind, and some others are on the point of becoming so. In general, their limbs are eaten away rapidly.—Lately a woman had to consent to have her foot amputated: it was about to be cankered. —Several patients feel perceptibly better after assiduous treatment; two lepers even thought themselves cured and have left the hospital, but these are exceptions. The terrible disease generally grows worse. The aspect of the greater number changes so as to become unrecognizable after a few months.

The child of ten years, who is in our establishment, suffered at first only in her hands and feet; her face was yet healthy; now her face is already swollen, and all covered with bloody pimples which will soon burst open. A few days ago, her mother came to see her; alas! that poor mother was sadder than her child!

What resignation among our dear lepers! They suffer and die, often in the prime of life, but they suffer without complaint and die happy.—Some months ago, a woman, blind since a long time, received the last sacraments and departed in the peace of God. Now, before dying she manifested a great joy to leave this world.—"I start for heaven," she said, "how happy I am!"—And the other patients envied her lot.

2.—Recruiting of the Lepers.—Our patients are already numerous. They have increased by more than one third since the last account. They arrive more or less from all sides, but especially from Kusatsu.

Kusatsu is the name of a village situated on the mountains which limit on the West the plain of Tokyo, at about 50 leagues from the Capital.—From the foot of a rock gushes forth an abundant sulphur spring of a very high temperature. This shapes into a stream which makes its way down a ravine. Near the principal spring, a little below, originate here and there several more little springs, which all go to swell the larger one. The surroundings of these mineral springs have quickly been occupied by hostelries built thereon, which are also bathing establishments. These establishments, placed at intervals along the stream, form the rather large village of Kusatsu.

The bathing-establishments are about empty in winter, but they are filled in summer by two or three thousand bathers. Among these bathers, who are mostly all sickly, are to be found from 80 to 100 lepers. Until lately they were free to choose their baths; they are now confined to the lower edge of the village. There they lodge in miserable hovels, which other lepers hold by way of hotels. By this speculation they are enabled to sojourn in Kusatsu, and to prolong their treatment. Their guests remain until their modest pension can be no longer paid. When they have exhausted their little savings, they must leave, for every door is then unmercifully closed upon them. Fresh recruits arrive; those that come take the place of those that leave. Their resources exhausted, they also must leave.

However, it is only reluctantly that they depart from Kusatsu, for the baths of that locality, taken regularly for some time, bring along with them a certain amelioration of their sad condition. The first days, the awful disease appears in all its unsightliness. The corrupted blood is forced out, and makes its way through all the pores; the wounds open widely and grow hideous. Red pimples, full of corrupted matter, cover all the body. Moxa is then applied and the body grows over with black pimples. It is thus purified of its infection by fire, but resembles a living charcoal horrible to behold. If the treatment is prolonged, a radical cure will probably not be obtained; the patient may come however to enjoy, at last, a state of health relatively satisfactory.

I have made two trips to Kusatsu. The first time, 11 lepers, informed of my arrival, came to meet me. They hoped to obtain their admittance to Gotemba. I did not think it prudent to gratify their wishes on the spot. If I had allowed too easily a certain number of them to go to Gotemba, the whole band would probably have rushed thither, and our establishment would not have been spacious enough to receive them. I simply let a house at Kusatsu, and placed there a Catechist to instruct such as desired to acquire a knowledge of our holy religion. Since that time, about 20 lepers have received, every day, an instruction in religion.

On a late trip of mine, four persons were baptized. Fifteen or sixteen others ready for baptism and desiring to receive it, had not been able to await the arrival of the Missionary, for want of resources, and had started out again on their mendicant wayfaring life.—One leper, on the point of leaving Kusatsu, said to the Catechist: "I take along with me a catechism and a prayer-book. I will study them by heart all over: may I hope to be baptized, if I meet the Father then?" And he left with tears in his eyes!

On hearing this account, I felt positively heart-broken.—What could I do?—I gave orders to my Catechist to make inquiries and try to find again those poor Catechumens, so worthy of compassion, and to send them all to Gotemba. Moreover, I charged him henceforward to send us every leper that would be turned out of doors at Kusatsu for not being able to pay his board.

Truly, indeed, the hospital of Gotemba is crammed with inmates, and it will be necessary to erect buildings near in order to receive fresh patients; but I thought it would have been a lack of confidence in divine Providence not to accept these unhappy lepers, deprived of all shelter, and desirous of saving their souls.

Already several of these unfortunate beings have arrived at Gotemba. They make nearly a hundred leagues to get there. The road is long and painful, but it would be much longer and more painful, if they had to start again on a mendicant life?—Thus we shall always have lepers from Kusatsu, if we shall be able to accept them.

3.—The Work of the Lepers.—The lepers that can yet use their hands and do not suffer too much, engage willingly in manual labour. We have dress-makers, among the women, they make and mend their own clothes and those of the other patients. Among the men, we have manufacturers of oilpaper parasols and umbrellas, bamboo pipe-stems, "zori" or straw-sandals, "Kokera" or roof-shingles, even carpenters, stone-cutters, tinmen, and blacksmiths; some sweep the rooms, the corridors and the yards, to keep the hospital clean; others have an eye on the fire destined to warm the baths which the patients take at least once a day, others again fetch the rice bought in the neighbourhood. At present several have engaged in raising silkworms. We have a field of mulberry trees, and have thought it expedient to try what is practised in this country on a grand scale and with profit.

The labour of lepers produces, it is true, but a trifling part of the capital necessary to cover the considerable expenses required, for only the less invalid of our patients can work, and that only during a few hours of the day. However, we do not intend to neglect this means, feeble as it is, of lightening the burden of our benefactors. Our patients are well aware of the sacrifices made for them, and they work willingly to alleviate them as much as possible.

4.—Moral effect produced "ad extra" by the Leper Hospital.—At the outset, our endeavours on behalf of the lepers were not understood by the pagans. They imagined some speculation to be hidden there-under. But after a short time, the minds were opened to the light, and to day everybody knows that the purpose of the leper hospital is no other than the relief of the bodies and the salvation of the souls of the wretched lepers. Nobody, in the environs of the hospital, ignores the great expenses we make to entertain numerous patients, the cares we bestow upon them and the disinterestedness that animates us. Not only the neighbours of the leper hospital, but many persons living at a distance, make no mystery of their praise. I know a doctor in the service of the Government of his country, in one of the largest hospitals of Tokyo, who having visited our establishment and seen with his own eyes what the generosity of charitable persons does for the welfare of the lepers of Japan, has remained really surprised at so much humanity. He offered to visit "gratis" our patients, once or twice a month. Moreover, he asked different information about the work, for he wished, as he said, to make it known among his acquaintances in the capital, and to gain fresh sympathy for it.

The leper hospital of Gotemba seems thus called upon to do a little good, and to help in evangelizing Japan, in making known the religion which inspired it and sustains it.

In closing this account, I sincerely thank our generous Benefactors. It is their inexhaustible charity that has created and developed our work. Owing to their pious liberalities the work prospers. It relieves and consoles already many a misfortune. May God return a hundred times all the good their alms assure! Our patients every day repeat that prayer in behalf of those that have had pity on their misery, and their prayer, I can assure it, is as ardent as it is assiduous. After all, it is not only a duty of gratitude, it is also a duty of justice. We will try never to forget that double debt.

P. VIGROUX, Miss. Ap.

NOTE 1.—The maintenance of one leper costs five *yen* per month, or 60 *yen* per year (about 150 fr.)—Any one who will contribute this sum annually will have the satisfaction of founding a bed.

NOTE. 2.—Contributions may be addressed to Rev P. Vigroux, Miss. Ap.—Tokyo (85—1 sukiji);—or to Rev A. Pettier, Procurator of the Catholic Mission,—Yokohama, 80;—or to Rev. V. Hinard, Director in the Seminary for Foreign Missions,—Paris Rue du Bac, 123

BURSTING OF A GUN ON A FRENCH CRUISER.

FOUR MEN KILLED ON THE SPOT.

Sydney, August 27th.

Information received per steamer *Tanais* from New Caledonia, says the *Hongkong Daily Press*, states that, a few days before the ship's departure, the French authorities received news that a gun had burst on the French cruiser *Duguay Trouin*, while lying in the harbour of Papeete, Tahiti. The cruiser is of an old type, and was launched at Cherbourg in 1877. She is armed with five 6½-in. 5-ton breech loading guns and five 5½-in. 3-ton guns. One of the former whilst in use at target practice burst, and the shell with which it was loaded fell on the deck and exploded.

A large number of men were injured; the gun's crew suffered terribly. Five men were picked up in a frightful condition, being disfigured almost beyond recognition. Four of them, including the chief gunner, expired soon after reaching the hospital, but the fifth is expected to recover.

The ship was much damaged by the explosion, and heavy parts of the gun were blown a great distance. One piece of iron weighing several hundredweight was thrown over the fore yard-arm 250 ft. distant.

The disaster appears to have happened in somewhat the same way as the explosion which occurred some time back on board the British cruiser *Cordelia*, and the gun was of about the same calibre.

A French gentleman says he cannot get the hang of the English language. "Look at zis," he says. "Here is one story about a boy. It say: 'His mother kissed him and he kissed her back.' What for he kiss her back? And here is one sentence worse and worse: 'He went fishing and his mother whipped him on his return.' My, my! Zat is such a funny language?"

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CRICKET.

THE PRESIDENT V. THE CAPTAIN.

There have been occasions when the Yokohama team, with a big match pending, came to the scratch very short of practice, but this complaint cannot be made now, and they are likely to be in good fettle when the time arrives to show their true form. Another game was played yesterday, The President v. The Captain. The former went in first, and looked strong on paper, but they could do nothing with the bowling of Walford, who was dead on, taking six wickets, his deliveries apparently being difficult to keep down; and Fenton and Libeaud shared equally the honours of the balance of the bowling, the side being put out for 59 runs. Edwards and Firth commenced bowling against the Captain's team, but after five overs the former retired and Meaden went on. Dickinson and Fenton were first in, but the former was soon sent home, and White came next. He very quickly added a dozen to the score in four hits, when Fenton, being bowled, was replaced by Duff. This partnership was a paying one—White 48, Duff 28—and after a single by Tate, the game was concluded by Walford 40 and Mair 9, both not out, Melhuish, Libeaud, Healing, and Showler did not bat. Total 134. Following are the scores:—

President's Eleven.		Captain's Eleven.	
Dr. Meaden, c. Fenton, b. Walford	6	Mr. Dickinson, c. Markham, b. Firth	3
Lieut. Markham, b. Walford	2	Mr. Fenton, b. Firth	2
Mr. Firth, c. Tate, b. Fenton	6	Mr. White, c. and b., b. Crisp	48
Mr. Bremner, b. Walford	23	Mr. Duff, c. Sub., b. Markham	28
Mr. Mollison, c. Libeaud, b. Walford	0	Mr Tate, b. Firth	1
Mr. Crisp, c. Showler, b. Walford	0	Mr. Walford, not out	40
Mr. Edwards, c. Tate, b. Libeaud	23	Mr. Mair, not out	9
Mr. Brown, c. Tate, b. Libeaud	1	Mr Melhuish, Mr. Libeaud, Mr. Healing, Mr. Showler — did not bat.	—
Mr. Allcock, b. Walford	2		—
Mr. Pearson, c. White, b. Libeaud	5		—
Mr. Litchfield, not out	0	b. 4	4
b. 3, l.b. 1	5		134
	59		

Bowling Analysis.

	B.	R.	M.O.	W.		B.	R.	M.O.	W.
Mr Walford	78	26	4	6	Mr. Edwards	28	18	2	—
Mr. Fenton	60	28	4	2	Mr. Firth	205	46	1	3
Mr. Libeaud	54	22	3	2	Dr. Meaden	40	22	4	—
					Mr Crisp	40	37	—	1
					Lieut. Markham	40	17	3	1

KOBE TEAM V. PRESIDENT'S ELEVEN

Although Saturday was not a good cricketing day, the weather and ground permitted play and enabled the Kobe team to get some good practise up to what may be termed the last moment before their departure. From all accounts, cricketers in Kobe have been hard at work, and so far as the Kobe-Yokohama match is concerned it will probably—unless a dire misfortune overtake one side or the other—be a pretty close affair. There cannot be any doubt, however, that during the past week or two the Yokohama cricketers who have now gone on the warpath have shown such form as will enable them to give a good account of themselves in any match in which they may be engaged. The following are the details of Saturday's game:—

The Kobe Team.

Mr. Walford, c. Dumbleton, b. Crisp	29
Mr. Mair, c. Bremner, b. Firth	0
Mr Melhuish, b. Crisp	8
Mr. Ross, c. Mollison, b. Firth	8
Mr. White, c. Mollison, b. Ferguson	25
Mr. Lias, b. Ferguson	23
Mr Duff, c. Mollison, b. Ferguson	0
Mr Tate, c Mollison, b. Crisp	55
Mr. Dickinson, not out	33
Mr. Fenton, c. Mollison, b Crisp	0
Mr. Libeaud, b Dumbleton	0
b. 2, w. 2	4
	192

	Balls.	Runs.	M.O.	Wkts.	Wides.
Mr Firth	70	29	6	2	1
Mr Crisp	63	30	3	4	1
Lieut. Markham	35	22	1	—	—
Capt. Dumbleton	20	9	2	1	—
Mr. Ferguson	51	39	2	3	—

The President's Eleven.

Mr. Ram, b. Tate	6
Lieut. Markham, b. Lias	2
Capt. Dumbleton, b. Tate	23
Mr Firth, not out	20
Mr. Crisp, l.b.w., b. Lias	2
Mr Ferguson, b. Lias	0
Mr. Bremner, not out	3
b. 4	4
	57

	Balls.	Runs.	M.O.	Wickets.
Mr. Ross	18	17	1	—
Mr. Lias	55	19	5	3
Mr. Tate	35	17	1	3

A swimming match for the championship of the world and £250 a side has been decided at Hollingworth Lake, near Rochdale. The competitors were J. Nuttall, of Stalybridge, and J. L. M'Cusker, of America, and the course was a mile. Nuttall won by about a hundred and fifty yards in 26 minutes 8 seconds or 1 minute 59⅘ seconds better than the previous best on record.

THE CRICKET WEEK AT KOBE.

YOKOHAMA V. KOBE.

The Yokohama-Kobe match, which was to have commenced on Monday, but which the late arrival of the Yokohama team and the continuous downpour of rain prevented, began soon after 10 o'clock yesterday morning.

Yokohama winning the toss sent in Fenton and Dickinson to oppose the bowling of Pakenham (Pavilion end) and W. Braess. Pakenham opened, and from his 5th ball Dickinson made a pretty cut for 3, Braess's first over was a maiden. From the 3rd ball of Pakenham's next over Fenton was l.b.w. One wicket for 3 runs. White following, put the first ball he received into the slips for 2 Three were made from Braess's next over by Dickinson, Pakenham bowling a maiden. Runs came rather slowly, the batsmen not being able to do much with the bowling, Braess putting in two consecutive maidens. From Pakenham's next, however, Dickinson put one ball into the slips for 2 and the next prettily to leg for 3, 30 going up at 10.45, at which point G. Braess replaced Pakenham, Dickinson, who was doing all the scoring, putting his 1st ball to leg for 2.

Pakenham went on at the other end in the following over and was hit for 3 by White, 6 in all being made from his first over at this end. Dickinson was beaten by G. Graess, the first ball of the following over just missing the stumps; no runs were scored from the following balls. Pakenham then sending down a maiden, 4 were made from Braess, and, a like number being got from Pakenham, 50 went up. During Braess's next over Dickinson got him to the boundary for 3. Then came the result desired by Kobe—namely, the separation of these two batsmen, Dickinson being caught and bowled by Braess (51 for 2), after playing a careful innings of 33, in which there were 5 threes. Duff followed and cut the second ball he received for 3. Five runs came from 2 overs, when Duff was well caught at cover by Wilkinson off Braess, the retiring batsmen having made only 8, no doubt much to the satisfaction of our locals. Three wickets for 70.

Tate now joined White, who appeared well set. Pakenham bowled a maiden, and then from Braess's 3rd ball Tate was out l.b.w. Four for 70. Walford filled the vacancy only to return immediately, being caught by Miller from the 2nd ball he received from Braess, the latter getting 2 wickets for no runs in that over. Mair was the new comer. Pakenham was then sent to the boundary by White, and as the bowler was proving rather expensive, Wilkinson went on at 82. His first ball was hit for 1 by White, and he then bowled a no ball. Braess, who was bowling well, followed with a maiden, a few runs being got from Wilkinson. Soon after this White gave a very hard chance to Robinson at long-off, but the fielder was unable to hold it. With the total at 97, W. Braess again resumed bowling. The century went up at ten minutes before 12, White having contributed 44. W. Braess, after having bowled 3 overs for 5 runs, was removed, and J. Marshall took the ball. White cut his first ball for 3, but Mair's stumps were displaced by the next. Six for 105, Mair's score being 9. Melhuish came in, and shortly after White was let off by Lightfoot off G. Braess's bowling. Play was slow for some time until Marshall yorked Melhuish, who had failed to score Seven for 113.

Lias then joined White, and sent the 3rd ball he received to the boundary for 3. He was nearly bowled by the 1st ball from Braess, but drove the the next for 3 again. Just now things began to get a little lively, three consecutive balls being hit for 3 each and the 4th driven on to the Pavilion (by Lias) for 4 This brought Pakenham on again, and from his first ball White gave a chance in the long-field which Griffiths misjudged and 3 was the result. The batsmen had evidently "collared" the bowling, nothing but threes being hit, and 150 appearing on the board at 12.25. Lightfoot then came on in place of G. Braess, 9 being made from his first over, although White narrowly escaped being caught at point from his 3rd ball. As the ball was traveling merrily all over the ground Miller was tried in place of Pakenham at 183, 5 runs resulting from his opening over. Although Lightfoot was getting severely punished, he was still kept on, and with the score at 290 he clean bowled Lias, who had contributed by very free hitting 35, in which there were only 3 singles and 2 twos.

Ross, the incomer, made a single from the first ball he received. W. Braess took the ball from Lightfoot, and when the total had been carried to 205 Ross fell a victim to Miller, being held by Wilkinson at cover. The last man (Libeaud) now joined White, who bid fair to carry his bat through the whole of the innings. White cut Braess prettily for 3, and in the next over placed Miller nicely to leg, for 3 again. Ross did the same with the next ball but one, and the following over from Braess (W) producing 6, Pakenham once more took the ball. Five runs had been made off the latter, when, at 1 p.m. with the total at 226 for nine wickets, an adjournment was made for tiffin—White's score being at this point 123.

Play was resumed at 2.30., C. Braess commencing with a maiden over. When a few runs had been made White returned a ball to Braess, which the latter was just unable to reach. Pakenham bowled a maiden, and from the 4th ball of Braess's succeeding over Libeaud was bowled. White thus carried out his bat for a score of 129, but he had been very lucky during the latter part of his innings.

With the exceptions we have noted, the fielding of Kobe was very good, and if Edwards had been able to play and thus give Kobe another fast bowler, the score might have been kept considerably lower.

Yokohama

Mr. Dickinson, c. and b. G. Braess	33
Mr. Fenton, l.b.w. Pakenham	0
Mr. White, not out	129
Mr. Duff, c. Wilkinson, b. G. Braess	8
Mr. Tate, l.b.w., b. G. Braess	0
Mr. Walford, c. Miller, b. G. Braess	0
Mr. Mair, b. Marshall	9
Mr. Melhuish, b Marshall	0
Mr Lias, b Lightfoot	35
Mr. Ross, c. Wilkinson, b. Miller	2
Mr. Libeaud, b G. Braess	3
b. 4, l.b. 3, w. 1, no. ba. 1	11
	232

Bowling Analysis.

	Balls.	Runs.	Mdns.	Wkts.	Wds.	No Balls.
Mr. Pakenham	110	70	4	1	0	0
Mr. W Braess	65	31	3	0	0	0
Mr. G Braess	234	30	8	4	0	0
Mr. Wilkinson	15	9	0	0	0	1
Mr. Marshall	30	17	1	1	0	0
Mr. Lightfoot	10	22	0	1	2	0
Mr. Miller	20	16	0	0	2	0

Kobe commenced their innings at five minutes to 3, sending Hutchcock and Wilkinson against the bowling of Lias (Pavilion end) and Walford. Lias opened with a maiden, Hutchcock getting one from Walford in the next. Play was very slow, six maidens having been bowled consecutively, when Walford dismissed Wilkinson with a bailer One wicket for 1 run. C. Lucas then joined Hutchcock and soon dispatched the ball for 2. Lias had bowled 6 maiden overs and thought it time to take off his coat, and during that over was hit by Lucas for a single. Maidens followed, but at last Hutchcock got one of Lias's away for 1. The Yokohama team were fielding well, and a hit to point by Hutchcock was held by Lias at slip off Walford. Two wickets for 8

Pakenham followed, and hit the first ball he took from Walford for 1, Lucas cutting the next nicely for 3. Things looked as if they were about to improve, as in the next over he dispatched Lias for a 3 and did the like with the first ball of Walford's succeeding over. Unfortunately for Kobe, this did not last, as from the next ball Pakenham was held in the slips by Mair. Three for 18. Matters began to look decidedly blue for the local eleven, and another disaster followed, as Lucas was caught during Lias' next over by Dickinson. Four for 18, of which the retiring batsman had made 15. Lightfoot came in only to go back immediately, being caught off the first ball he received from Lias by Libeaud.

There seemed no end to the ill luck of Kobe, as from the next ball, bowled by Walford, Marshall was sent back without having scored. Six for 18, four wickets having fallen without any runs being added to the score. W. Braess and Robinson now filled the vacant positions, but the former speedily fell a victim to Lias, being caught by Tate. Miller, following, just escaped the same fate, but the fielder could hardly reach the ball, and the result was a 2. Miller sent the next ball to the boundary for 3, afterwards "skying" a ball which the fielder "muffed," but in attempting a second run for this 'it Miller was run out. Eight for 24. Griffiths joined Robinson and smicked Lias for a single, when Robinson was sent back by the same bowler. Nine for 26. G. Braess filled the last place, but the end soon came, Griffiths being splendidly caught by Tate in the long-field, without any runs being added, Kobe being thus all out for the miserable total of 26. The Yokohama team fielded splendidly, always being "there" and scarcely missing half a chance.

Kobe.

Mr. Hitchcock, c. Lias, b. Walford	0
Mr. Wilkinson, b. Walford	0
Mr. C. Lucas, c. Dickinson, b. Lias	15
Mr. Pakenham, c. Mair, b. Walford	1
Mr Marshall, b. Walford	0
Mr. Lightfoot, c. Libeaud, b. Lias	0
Mr W. Braess, c. Tate, b. Lias	0
Mr. Robinson, b. Lias	0
Mr. Miller, run out	6
Mr. Griffiths, c. Tate, b. Walford	1
Mr. G Braess, not out	0
l.b. 1	1
	26

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BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	Balls.	Maiden Runs.	Overs.	Wickets.
Mr Lias	70	11	9	4
Mr. Walford	66	14	7	3

Kobe, after a short interval, followed on, Wilkinson and Hitchcock again going first to the wickets. Tate opened from the Pavilion end, Wilkinson driving him for 4 during his first over. Ross took the ball at the tennis end, Dickinson being behind the stumps in place of Duff, who had filled this post in the first innings. Play was very slow, as in the first innings, 8 overs only producing 2 runs until Wilkinson drove Tate for 2. Hitchcock then came back, caught White, bowled Ross. One wicket for 5. Lucas came in, and after making a single, cut Ross well for 2, Melhuish just saving the boundary. Runs came a little more freely until Lucas was finely caught by Lias at square-leg off Tate Two wickets for 12.

Wilkinson had a narrow squeak at point from the following ball. Pakenham, who had taken Lucas's place, then made a single, but a few balls later was dismissed by Tate, caught Walford. Three for 14. Marshall followed and kept up the procession, going back after a few balls without scoring. Four for 16. Lightfoot came in and sent Ross off for 2, a pretty cut. Wilkinson appeared somewhat set by this, and played with more freedom, getting 2 threes in quick succession, but at 5.10 p.m. play ceased with the score at 26 (Wilkinson 18, Lightfoot 2, not out).

Kobe will continue their second innings at 10 this morning and may put a better appearance on things, but cannot possibly hope to win and will be fortunate if they save the innings' defeat.

Play was started at 10 25 Wednesday morning, the "not outs" of the previous day, Wilkinson and Lightfoot, being opposed to the bowlers Ross and Fenton. Ross took the first over and was cut by Lightfoot for 3, who also put Fenton's 4th ball nicely to the boundary at leg. Lightfoot got 2 from Ross. Fenton then bowled a maiden. Walford took the place of Ross, and from his 2nd ball Lightfoot was caught by Melhuish at cover-point. Five wickets for 34. W. Braess followed, and from the second ball he received made a single, shortly after getting another from Fenton. It was now Wilkinson's turn. After a single off Fenton he cut Walford prettily for 1. Again in the following over he cut Fenton for a 3. As a few runs were being made Lias went on to bowl in place of Fenton, Braess getting a single from his first ball. Walford bowled a maiden, when Braess put one from Lias softly into Ross's hands at long-on, close in. Six wickets for 49.

Robinson joined Wilkinson, and opened with a single. Got another from Walford and then gave a chance, off Lias, to Fenton, who however let him off. The fielding of Yokohama just then was not at all up to their previous form; the batsmen were also suffering from an indisposition to run. Lias sent down a maiden over; the first ball of the next from Walford was too good for Wilkinson, just taking off his bails. Seven for 61, of which the retiring batsman had made 32 in good style.

Miller came in and sent Walford to leg for 2 as a commencement. Play then became slow, Lias bowling 2 and Walford 1 maiden over, when Robinson got the latter away to leg for 2, but was soon after bowled by Walford. Sixty-six runs for 8 wickets.

The Doctor hit Lias over the trees for 4, and then got a 2 for a flukey one in the slips, but Lias had his revenge, as from the last ball of the over Miller was caught by Ross. Nine for 72 runs.

G. Brass now partnered Griffiths, and put up the first ball he received from Walford dangerously near point. However, he got the next away for 2, and played Lias to leg for 2. He then returned the ball to Lias, who appeared to think it a catch, but the Umpire decided otherwise, and Braess sent his next ball for 2, a nice off drive, but the finish was near, as in attempting a run for a hit by Griffiths, Braess was run out. Kobe's total was thus 82, an improvement on their first attempt, but still not nearly enough, Yokohama being victors by an innings and 124 runs, the biggest beating they have as yet given Kobe.

KOBE 2ND INNINGS.

Mr. Wilkinson, b. Walford	32
Mr Hitchcock, c White, b. Ross	0
Mr C. Lucas, c. Lias, b Tate	4
Mr. Pakenham, c Walford, b. Tate	1
Mr Marshall, b. Ross	0
Mr. Lightfoot, b. Walford	10
Mr. W. Braess, c. Ross, b Lias	5
Mr Robinson, b. Walford	8
Mr Miller, c. Ross, b. Lias	8
Mr Griffiths, not out	0
Mr. G. Braess, run out	7
b. 6, l.b. 2, n.b. 1	9
	86

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	Balls	Maiden Runs.	Overs.	Balls	Wkts
Mr. Tate	60	12	6	0	2
Mr. Ross	65	10	5	1	2
Mr. Fenton	2	0	1	0	0
Mr. Walford	60	16	3	0	3
Mr. Lias	50	18	4	0	2

CHINA V. JAPAN.

This match commenced at 2 p.m., Pakenham, who acted as Captain for the Japan twelve, made up of six players from Kobe and six from Yokohama, having won the toss, sent in Dickinson and Wilkinson to open the play on behalf of Japan. Mann took the ball at the Pavilion end, sending it down to Dickinson, who dispatched it for a single. F. J. Abbott was the bowler at the tennis end of the ground, his first ball going to leg for 3 to the same batsman, the next being sent to square leg for a like figure by Wilkinson, his partner getting a single from the same bowler. Wilkinson cut Abbott prettily, but in attempting another similar stroke was splendidly caught by Wood (Shanghai), one hand just reaching the ball. One wicket for 10 (Wilkinson 4). White came in and soon had 2 to his credit. Mann then sent down the first maiden, Abbott following with another. Dickinson then put Mann to leg for 3. Play became steady, Abbott sending down another maiden, after which White drove Mann for 2.

With the score at 22, Firth relieved Abbott, White hit his fourth ball to long off (Dumbleton), who let it through, 1 run resulting, a pretty cut, off Mann, giving him another 2. On the score reaching 28 a further change in bowling was made, Strick going on in place of Mann. Dickinson attempted to cut a rising ball from Strick, and almost put it into point's hands. A cut for 3 by White brought up 30 on the board after three-quarters of an hour's play. In the next over White was bowled by Firth, who had beaten him with the previous ball, Two wickets for 32

Lucas joined Dickinson, who was playing steadily. The new-comer started with a fine leg hit for 3, and got Firth away for another. Two maidens were bowled, when the same batsman got Strick again to leg for 3, bringing the score up to 40, after which Mann resumed in place of Strick. When Dickinson had made 15 he gave a chance off Firth to point (Wood), who declined it. Mann then bowled Lucas with a ball which broke tremendously. Three for 47.

Tate arrived and broke his duck with a single. Runs came slowly, chiefly by singles, until 60 was reached, when Dickinson was given out l.b.w. to Mann. This batsman had contributed 21 by good and careful cricket, but had given one hard chance.

Duff partnered Tate and opened his account with a single off Firth. Runs continued to come, slowly still, until 75 was reached, when Wallace replaced Firth with the ball at the tennis end of the ground. Duff lifted his second ball over the sheet for 3, two singles being made off the remainder Duff then sent Mann to leg for 3, and this caused him to be superseded by Anderson with the score at 85. Tate secured 5 from the newcomer, a single being made into a 3 by a bit of bad fielding. Duff collared one from Wallace which bid fair to go clean over into the road, but dropped just inside for 3. The century went up at five minutes to 4 o'clock. At 8 runs later Firth once more had a look in with the ball, but Tate sent his first delivery to the boundary for 3 Duff getting a two off one later. Still another change in the bowling was then made, Abbott taking Anderson's place, one run being made by Tate from this over. In Abbott's next over Duff played on to his wicket. Five wickets for 116 (Duff 17).

Pakenham was next in, scoring a single to start with. Tate was making a few runs, but Pakenham appeared not at all comfortable. However, he soon got more at home and got 8 from three successive balls. With the score at 141, Mann took the ball from Firth, and Strick again came on in place of Abbott. At 146 Tate was out l.b.w. to Mann. Tate had played a capital innings for 48

With only 10 minutes remaining before stumps were to be drawn, Walford went in, and lifted the first ball he received towards the field at long-on, who made a desperate attempt to secure it, but could not get quite near enough. After scoring 4, however, Walford was given out l.b.w. to Mann (the third l.b.w. to this bowler). With the score 155 for 7 wickets, Lias joined Pakenham and got to work with 3 singles. Pakenham had lifted one from Strick to the boundary, but in attempting a another similar stroke was clean bowled. Eight wickets for 161.

It being by this time five o'clock, and light beginning to fail, play was knocked off for the day. During the afternoon the ground was crowded with visitors -in fact we doubt whether a larger number have ever before been drawn to witness a cricket match in Kobe. The weather was superb during the greater part of the day, though it commenced to rain half-an hour after play was finished.

The cricketers had another splendid day on Thursday, somewhat cooler than on the previous days, but doubtless more enjoyable for the players on that account.

Japan resumed their innings at 10.20, the not-out of the previous day (Lias) going in with Lightfoot. Firth took the ball at the tennis end, Lias getting a single from his first delivery. Lightfoot sending the 5th ball for 3, Mann went on at the Pavilion end—7 resulting. There were then 4 byes and a hit for 3 by Lightfoot. Firth bowled 5 balls for no runs; the umpire allowed him an extra one, which went for 3, again Lightfoot. A maiden from Mann followed, and another by Firth. Lightfoot then put one up in the slip, a bare chance, 2 resulting; the next went to leg for 2, and the following for 3, all by the same batsman. Lias got the next for 1. This brought on Abbott in place of Mann. The second ball of Firth's next over was hit by Lias to leg and looked as if it was going over the fence, but Wallace was there and held him right on the extreme edge of the ground—a fine catch. Nine wickets for 183 (Lias 5).

W. Braess was next in, but was very soon bowled by Abbott for the unenviable "duck's egg"—the first of the innings. Ten for 187. Lightfoot drove Firth hard to the on; Markham jumped up for it, and just succeeded in touching the ball, almost converting it into a catch. In attempting a very short run for a hit by Lightfoot, Braess was run out. Total for the innings 190, Lightfoot being 22 not out.

During the first few overs of the innings the fielding of China was inclined to be somewhat loose, but they afterwards pulled themselves together and fielded capitally.

JAPAN'S INNINGS.

Mr. Dickinson, l.b.w., b. Mann	21
Mr. Wilkinson, c. Wood, b. Abbot	4
Mr White, b. Firth	13
Mr. C. Lucas, b. Mann	13
Mr. Duff, b Abbott	17
Mr. Tate, l.b.w Mann	48
Mr. Pakenham, b Strick	19
Mr Walford, l.b.w., b. Mann	4
Mr Lias, c. Wallace, b. Firth	5
Mr. Lightfoot, not out	22
Mr. W. Braess, b. Abbott	0
Mr. G. Braess, run out	1
b. 17, l.b. 3, w. 4	24
	190

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	Balls.	Runs.	Mdns.	Wides	Wkts.
Mr. Mann	120	50	4	1	4
Mr Abbott	82	25	6	5	3
Mr. Firth	116	53	8	0	2
Mr Strick	50	17	5	0	1
Mr Wallace	30	23	1	0	0
Mr. Anderson	25	8	2	0	0

After some twenty minutes' interval, China commenced their innings at 11.15 a.m., sending Mann and Markham to defend the wickets against the bowling of G. Brass (Pavilion), who started with a maiden, and Pakenham at the other end, the latter also opening with a maiden. Mann drew first blood, getting 2 from Braess. Markham followed with a 3 from Pakenham. Nothing more was made until the last of Pakenham's 3rd over, when Mann got him to leg for 2. Lucas just saving the 3. From the 4th ball of the succeeding over (Braess) Mann was held at square-leg by W. Braess. One wicket for 8.

Sawyer came in next, to be sent back very quickly by Pakenham. Two for 8 runs. Wood joined Mann and cut Pakenham for a 3, and then got Braess away for 1. Braess repeatedly defeated Markham, who could do nothing at all with him and at last was clean bowled by Braess. Three for 16.

Dumbleton now became Wood's partner, the latter getting Pakenham away for 3. Three maidens followed, when he repeated the stroke, but his end was near, as in the next over Braess puzzled him with the next ball. Four for 23, of which the outgoer had made 7

Firth, the next comer, caused a considerable alteration in the arrangement of the field. He got a single off Braess, 3 following by Dumbleton. The last-named batsman then drove Braess to the on—a half chance to Lias, who could barely reach it—2 being placed to his credit, another 2 following, Walford letting the hit through. Firth then made a few runs and Dumbleton got a 3, still from Braess, shortly afterwards nearly running himself out from a hard drive back to the bowler which Braess fielded splendidly and returned sharply.

Runs having come rather freely, Lias went on vice Pakenham, 1 being scored off his first over. Firth now began to open out, 50 soon appearing on the board. Dumbleton had a life, Pakenham letting him off—a hard chance—and 60 was soon signalled, bringing Walford on in place of Lias. Two runs coming off him, Lias replaced G. Braess at the other end, and Dumbleton drove him well for 3. Runs came freely, a lot of singles being stolen, and both the batsmen appeared well set, 80 soon being telegraphed. This caused Tate (left-hand) to come on in place of Lias, and he started with a maiden. At 12.45 play stopped, tiffin being in view, with the score at 82, Dumbleton having made 30 and Firth 26, both not out.

Upon resuming after tiffin Firth was soon out without adding to his score, being caught by G.

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Braess off Pakenham. Five for 82. Abbott filled his place, and after scoring a single and a 3 was taken by Walford off G. Braess. Six for 91. MacGregor came out, and as quickly went back again, bowled by the first bal. he received from Braess. Seven for 91. Ram was next in. Dumbleton got a few more runs, but his partner did not assist him, as Braess found his way to the sticks before he had broken his duck's egg. Eight for 97.

Wallace now appeared, and Dumbleton encouraged him with a 3 off Braess, which brought up the century at 4.45 p.m. Dumbleton was scoring freely, being the only man who could do anything with the bowling just now, as at 106 Pakenham sent Wallace back clean bowled, the last three men all having o up against their names After a few quiet overs, Strick, who had just come in, lifted one of Pakenham's which went right into Tate's hands, behind the bowler, only to drop out again—a shocking bad miss. Dumbleton still scored, his partner helping with 3 singles, and 130 went up, when Dumbleton, in obtaining a stolen one, was nearly run out, and then had a life from Dickinson at long leg, but the fielder had the excuse of the sun being in his eyes. The score rose slowly to 140, when Walford took the ball from Braess. Three resulted from his first over, two of which were byes. White then took Pakenham's place, sending down a wide to start with. The separation, however, came soon, Walford bowling Strick with the first ball of the following over. Ten wickets for 147 (Strick 6).

Anderson followed, but came back after scoring a single from Walford, the total score being 148, forty two less than Japan's score. Dumbleton had scored 76 not out in a very free style, marred, however, by a few chances. Japan, with few exceptions, fielded admirably.

CHINA.

Mr. Mann, c. W Braess, b. G. Braess	4
Mr Markham, b. G. Braess	4
Mr. Sawyer, b. Pakenham	0
Mr Wood, b G Braess	7
Mr Dumbleton, not out	76
Mr Firth, c. G. Braess, b. Pakenham	16
Mr Abbott, c. Walford, b. G. Braess	4
Mr MacGregor, b. G Braess	0
Mr. Ram, b. G. Braess	0
Mr. Wallace, b. Pakenham	0
Mr. Strick, b. Walford	6
Mr. Anderson, b. White	1
b. 9, l.b. 9, w. 8	10
	148

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	Overs.	Runs.	Mdns.	Wides.	Wkts.
Mr. G. Braess	31	61	11	1	6
Mr. Pakenham	35	39	14	0	3
Mr. Lias	7	27	0	0	0
Mr. Walford	9	10	0	0	2
Mr. Tate	3	2	2	0	0
Mr. White	1 o-5.	0	0	1	1

After a short interval Japan started their second innings with Dickinson and Lightfoot, Firth and Abbott opposing them with the bal. Runs came freely, 10 being hoisted within a few minutes, when Wallace took the ba l from Firth, and S rick went on vice Abbott, but runs still came from both batsmen, who were stealing a few. Mann, who was keeping wicket, gave his pads and gloves to MacGregor, who had kept wicket in the first innings, and went on to bowl in place of Wallace, but the batsmen were not separated until the score had reached 37, when Lightfoot put one of Mann's up to Abbott in the slips, which the latter held. Lightfoot's score was 18, made in free style.

Wilkinson was next man and a few more runs were made, to which he had contributed 1 when time was called, the score standing at 45 for one wicket, Dickinson being responsible for 18 not out.

To-day Friday at 10 a.m, and also to-morrow Shanghai will play a game against Kobe which will no doubt prove as interesting as Japan v China.—*Kobe Chronicle.*

A TRIP TO ASO VOLCANO.

A native steamer in the fall sailing from Kobe, through the famed Inland Sea to points around Shikoku, affords the passengers fine views of cities on the sea, villages on the hillsides, islets, rice-fields under the sickle, and burning mountain tops, where the charcoal maker plies his task. It is very pleasant indeed, though when night comes, (and this may be counted on twice), you must crawl into a little cabin, occupied perhaps by several others also, make your bed on the floor, and sleep as best you can. A part of the sea called "Bungo Nada" is noted for storms; and some passengers do not greatly enjoy these.

In order to get around the long projecting cape Misaki, the vessel goes so far north that it touches at several points on Kiushu. One of these, Oita, is a good starting point for Aso. But, if there is a day to spare, it is well to stop at Beppu, for above this city and Kannawa near by rises the steam of 700 hot springs. This is one of the three famous hot water regions of Japan. Here is a *geyser* that throws up water several feet every ten minutes, a lake of boiling water, the hotels have natural hot baths attached; and there are many free public baths.

The *jinrikisha* ride of an hour from Beppu to Oita is along the sea, and looking far out you may see the curling smoke of steamers and the sails of countless fishing boats.

Aso is near the centre of Kiushu, a *ri* (2½ miles), south of the road leading from Oita on the east coast to Kumamoto on the west. This road must have been constructed at great cost to the government. Before the present era (*Meiji*), it was a path; now it is a highway. There are several tunnels, and often the way had to be cut in the rocky mountain bases and along the river beds.

By starting from Oita at sunrise and wasting no time, Sakanashi, a village at the base of Aso, may be reached by sunset. Takeda, a town of 6,000 people, is about half way. Our party went to Takeda in *jinrikisha*, and then took a seatless back, excepting one who led the way on a bicycle. In the morning there were views of Oita river, Uni mountain, many terraced fields, and fine villages with numerous water-moved mills. One wooded mountain region was passed said to be frequented by wild monkeys; though at Takeda, just beyond, we heard the sound of a steam engine.

The Prince of Takeda was a Roman Catholic before the extirpation of Christianity three hundred years ago. A bell sent to him from Europe remains in the town.

Our slow pace in the afternoon gave good opportunity to observe the beautiful clusters of cedars, the smoke rising from the volcano, and the soil growing darker and darker as we neared Aso, which seems to have been the centre of immense volcanic disturbances in a primeval age. Though the soil seems rich, the population is comparatively sparse.

We made a very long steep descent and arrive at Sakanashi. This and the village beyond lie in a deep valley supposed to be the volcano's crater. If the supposition is true, it tells a story of vast eruptions, corresponding to the signs seen in the surrounding country for many miles away. The hack in the morning quickly takes you to the second village, from whence the remaining two miles are not suitable for a wheeled vehicle, though it would for the most part do for a horseman. We went on foot, quickly getting above the wooded base, and then passing over numerous conglomerate volcanic hills with no vegetation except grass and a few shrubs. As we drew near to the top ice was visible in the clefts of rocks, but we could get none, though thirsty. There is a peak of the mountain much higher than the part which is a volcano; and upon it there was much snow.

By and by the sound of roaring is heard, and the cone composed of ashes and burnt rock is reached. But the ascent which before had been gradual is even here not steep. A quarter of a mile up this brings the traveller to the highest point, from which he may step down a few feet, and be upon the level *caldera*. Scientists are not agreed as to the way in which these *calderas* are formed. Two small Shinto Shrines are on this one; and in its centre is the crater, almost a mile in circumference, from 100 to 200 feet deep, in shape an ellipse, stretched north and south, with its western side irregular. A wind was blowing the rising fumes to the north, so that we could stand upon the western edge, and look down upon the seething mass of burning sulphur and boiling water, very clear glimpses of which were got through the smoke.

The southern part of the crater is not so deep and active as the other, and may be easily descended. Here I scraped up some of the sulphur. The southern end of the more active part is called *Yu no Tani*, "valley of hot water."

We made no scientific measurements or analysis. A Japanese teacher of mineralogy told me that he found samarskite and iron sulphide in Aso's crater.

A few years ago the people living near Aso noticed one morning a yellow powder deposited on everything. This proved to be sulphur emitted by the volcano during the night. But there has been no regular eruption for many years.

HENRY G. HAWKINS.

ECZEMA.—Book on "Skin Trouble," sent free for One Stamp by Messrs. NORTH & RAE, Limited, Yokohama.

A wife whose orange-blossom had scarce lost its natural bloom was busily engaged at her escritoire, apparently tearing up letters. "What are you doing there, dear?" asked her fond husband, who was a man of figures, by the way. "Only tearing up the first monthly receipts, dearest; they're no use now." But the look on that fond husband's face was a study, as he remembered his wife was one of Newnham's mathematical successes.

BASEBALL.

YOKOHAMA V. THE NAVY.

A game of baseball was played yesterday between the U.S. Navy and Yokohama, and the latter won, the scores being 11 to 10. At the outset the game was much in favour of the Navy, who had 6 to 0 at the end of the second innings, but they failed to score again till in the eighth innings when they got 4, Yokohama in the meantime having scored 8, and then putting on another three in the ninth innings, finished the game for eleven. Taken altogether it was one of the best games that have been played for a long time, notwithstanding that a good many mistakes were made. Following are the scores:—

U.S NAVY.	Runs.	Outs.
Mr. Pratt	3	3
Mr. McGill	3	3
Dr. Stokes	0	3
Mr. Riley	0	3
Mr. O'Connor	1	3
Mr. Quimby	0	4
Mr. Franklin	2	2
Mr. Martin	1	4
Mr. Irwin	1	3
	10	27

YOKOHAMA.	Runs.	Outs.
Mr. Anderson	2	3
Mr. Black	3	1
Mr Merriman	3	2
Mr. Shirasu	1	2
Mr. Tilden	1	3
Mr. Edwards	1	2
Mr. Stone	1	4
Mr. Blanchard	1	4
Mr. Howard	0	3
	11	

INNINGS.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
Yokohama	0	0	0	0	3	0	3	0	3	=11
U.S. Navy	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	=10

H.B.M.'s SUPREME COURT.

SHANGHAI, OCTOBER 10TH.

ON APPEAL FROM H.B.M.'S COURT FOR JAPAN, AT KANAGAWA.

(IN ADMIRALTY.)

Before N. J. HANNEN, Esq., Chief Justice, and GEO. JAMIESON, Esq., Assistant Judge.

BETWEEN THE PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, DEFENDANTS AND APPELLANTS, AND THE IMPERIAL JAPANESE GOVERNMENT, PLAINTIFF AND RESPONDENT.

Mr. Francis, Q.C., of Hongkong, Mr. J. F. Lowder, of Yokohama, and Mr. A. P. Stokes (Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master) appeared for the P. & O. Company; while Mr. H. S. Wilkinson, Crown Advocate, Mr. M. Kirkwood, Yokohama, and Mr. H. P. Wilkinson appeared on behalf of the Imperial Japanese Government.

Mr. G. Hayashi, Acting Consul-General for Japan, occupied a seat on the Bench, and there were several interested auditors in Court.

Upon the case being called on,

Mr. Lowder proceeded to address their Lordships—May it please the Court. In the month of November last a collision occurred in waters of which your Lordships will take judicial cognisance, waters commonly known as the Inland Sea of Japan. The collision was between a vessel belonging to an English company and a public ship of Japan. The result of the collision was that the *Chishima*—which was the public ship—was sunk and unfortunately a number of lives were lost, and the *Ravenna*—which was the other ship I have referred to—sustained very serious damages. A correspondence ensued between the representatives of the plaintiff and the representatives of the defendants in Yokohama with reference to an action which the plaintiff contemplated bringing against the defendants, and in the course of time an action was brought in Her Majesty's Court for Japan. The action was brought on the Admiralty side of the Court for Japan. The defendants put in an answer to the petition which had been filed in the action, and acting upon the advice given them applied to the Court for leave to file a counter-claim in the same action against the plaintiff and that the action and the cross-action should be heard together, and further that plaintiff should be required to deposit security for such damages as might be recovered on the cross-petition. This application was resisted on behalf of the plaintiff on various grounds. The only one which I shall put before your Lordships at the present moment is one which was decided in the Court before, viz., that the collision having taken place in Japanese territory or Japanese territorial waters is to be governed by the law of Japan, that is to say, the law applicable to the case in all its bearings is the law of Japan, and it having been shown by an affidavit which is on the file and which is before the Court, that according to the law of Japan the plaintiff being the So-

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vereign of Japan, is exempted from liability, that he can do no wrong, and no action can be brought against him in his own Courts. Therefore it follows, according to the judgment of the Court below, that no action can be brought against him in a British Court, and if no action can be brought against him in a British Court, therefore, on the same ground, no counter-claim can be brought against him. I think I have fairly stated the issue before your Lordships. The propositions which we shall endeavour to establish are shortly these. First, that the collision did not take place in territory of Japan, so as to bring the action under the exclusive jurisdiction of the municipal laws of Japan; it took place on the high seas. Secondly, even if it took place in Japanese territory a counter-claim will lie against the plaintiff in the absence of proof that by Japanese law ship-owners are exempt from liability for the torts of their servants in Japanese territory. These are the two propositions which we shall endeavour to support by cases which have been decided and by allusion to the principles which have always governed the decisions in those cases.

The learned counsel then proceeded to refer to Mr. Mowat's judgment in the Court below. He first of all read the following extract:—

The plaintiff's Counsel resist the application on several grounds. They say, in the first place, that Rule 55, under which it is made, does not apply to any foreign plaintiff; they say, in the next place, that even if it is applicable to foreign plaintiffs other than Japanese, it cannot be applied to Japanese because under the Treaty with Great Britain Japanese are (it is contended) entitled to have the cases which they bring into our Courts in Japan heard without having to submit to counter-claims; in the third place, it is alleged on behalf of the plaintiff that he has sovereign rights in this Court, and it is contended accordingly that the principle that the Crown can do no wrong applies; and, lastly, it is argued that even if the plaintiff is not to be treated as the Crown in this Court, the law to be applied is the law of Japan because the collision occurred in Japanese waters, and inasmuch as by that law there is no remedy, an English Court can give none—the *M Moxham* (L. R., 1 P. D. 107). I have come to the conclusion that the last of these objections is sound and must prevail, but before stating my reasons for coming to that conclusion, it will be convenient—as the matter will, both from its general importance and amount involved, no doubt be taken to the Court of Appeal—that I should state shortly the answers to the first three objections to allowing the counter claim. The first two objections may be disposed of together. It was argued that Rule 55 had no application in the case of suits brought by any foreign plaintiffs, but, even if it had in such cases, it had none in the case of suits brought by Japanese plaintiffs. I do not propose to express any opinion on either of these points, for they do not arise in the present case. The plaintiff, as was recently decided in another proceeding in this cause, and in accordance with the then contention on his behalf, is not a "foreigner" within the meaning of that word in our Orders in Councils. The term is there confined to subjects of the Emperor of China or of the Mikado of Japan and subjects or citizens of any other State in amity with Her Majesty. Whatever view, therefore, I might take of the application or non application of Rule 55 to foreigners, it is evident that the Rule could have no application to the Emperor.

He paused here to explain to their Lordships how it came about that the application for leave to file a counter claim was made in the Court below. The petition having been headed "in Admiralty" of course it became *ab initio* an Admiralty case. The appellants could of course have followed the practice at home and have lodged a counter-claim without applying for the leave of the Court to file a counter claim, but it was decided to first of all ask the leave of the Court. After all, it was a matter of procedure, and he did not think it could affect the judgment of their Lordships on the point now before them. Whether it would have been better to file a counter-claim without asking permission or not he (the learned counsel) did not know, but he was inclined to think he followed the better practice. Anyhow, the question for the Court to decide was whether his clients had a right to counter-claim against the plaintiff or not, the other part of it was mere matter of procedure. Having made up his mind that it would be the proper mode of procedure to apply for leave, the application was made. Had he proceeded to file his counter-claim without obtaining the permission of the Court the chances were that Counsel on the other side would have immediately applied to the Court to strike out the counter-claim on the very ground that they resisted the counter-claim which was now before their Lordships. After all it merely came to a matter of procedure, and whichever method he had adopted the same question would have come before the Court for decision. The judgment proceeded:—

The third urged against allowing a counter-claim is one which, I presume, I must treat as serious, because Counsel for the plaintiff advanced it at two different stages of his argument. It was contended that the plaintiff was in no sense a foreign Sovereign in this Court, but on the contrary that he had Sovereign rights here and in fact was "The Crown." I cannot allow those propositions to pass unchallenged, and I meet them by saying simply—first, that His Imperial Majesty, the plaintiff in this case, although the Sovereign of this country, is, in strictness, in this Court as much a foreign Sovereign as would be the Emperor of China, the other Sovereign specially named with him in the Order in Council; next, that his Majesty has no more sovereign rights in this Court than any other foreign Sovereign or State in amity with her Majesty has—that is to say, he has none; and, lastly, that "the Crown" in this Court is, and is only, her Majesty the Queen, who was "pleased, by and with the advice of her Privy Council, to order" that, together with the Provincial Courts of Her Majesty established under an earlier Order, "there shall be in and for Japan a Court styled Her Britannic Majesty's Court for Japan"—in which Courts is vested "Her Majesty's jurisdiction, civil and criminal, exerciseable in Japan." I do not think it would be consistent with the dignity of the Court of Her Majesty here were its Judge to say less than what he has now said on the propositions put forward by plaintiff's Counsel.

I come now to the fourth, and the only valid, argument against the admission of the counter-claim—viz. that, the collision having occurred in Japanese waters, the law to be applied is the law of Japan, and inasmuch as by that law there is no remedy, no proceeding can be brought in respect of it in an English Court. On this branch of the case several questions arise, the first of which is—Did the collision occur within the territorial waters of Japan? I had certainly assume , from the statements in the petition and answer—there is no conflict between them as to the actual locality of the collision—that the collision did occur in such waters, and the case of the *M Moxham*, relied upon by Counsel for the plaintiff in this part of his argument, was an authority only on that theory. However, it appeared, in reply to a question from myself to defendant's Counsel after he had concluded his argument without having at all referred to that case, that he disputed the fact and contended the collision occurred on the high seas; and he suggested that if otherwise, I should be of opinion that a counter-claim would lie, I should give him liberty to file one and leave the present point to be raised in the plaintiff's reply to the cross-petition. It did not seem to me that I ought to follow that course, which would, besides entailing additional expense upon the parties, only be postponing to another time a question which had been fairly raised then, and which I had the materials before me to determine. It was accordingly agreed between Counsel that the question should be left to me to decide upon the petition and answer, with the assistance of such charts and authorities bearing on the point as they should furnish me with.

I entertain no doubt whatever that the collision occurred in the territorial waters of Japan—giving to that term its recognised meaning in international law. The *Chishima* is stated in the petition to have been cut nearly in two, sinking immediately, and the spot where she sank is given as Long. 132° 40′ E. and Lat. 33° 56′ 20″ N. The answer states that "prior to and at the time of the collision, both vessels were in a narrow channel," "known as Gogo-shima straits, between the islands of Musuki and Gogo." These islands are in what is called the "Inland Sea" of Japan—a succession of land locked bays extending for about 240 miles from east to west. This sea has four entrances,—two extremely narrow, the third under two miles in width, and the fourth with two branches, the wide of which is about four miles wide. The island of Gogo, referred to in the answer, is close to the northern shore of Shikoku, which is one of the four large islands of Japan, and which forms the southern boundary of the eastern portion of the Inland Sea. The channel between Gogo and Musuki described in the answer as the scene of the collision, is not two miles wide, and the place of collision itself is less than three miles from the nearest part of Shikoku. On these data it is impossible from any point of view to contest the proposition that the collision occurred within the territorial waters of Japan.

If His Honour had proposed to confine himself to that proposition of law and not drawn the conclusion that he had from it, he (the learned counsel) would not perhaps be in a position to contest that the term "territorial waters" was in international law metaphorically applicable to the waters where this collision took place; that was to say, as between nation and nation it might be in diplomatic language, or in the language of international law correct to term those waters territorial waters, but to go beyond that and say that because they were, as he described, and with the limitations he had put to it, territorial waters, therefore a tort committed in those waters was committed in Japan, was a position, he submitted, wholly untenable. The judgment proceeded:—

The only authority in Admiralty which plaintiff's Counsel were able to cite for the propositions that the local law determines the character of the act and therefore (so far) the existence or not of a remedy, was the *M. Moxham* (L R. 1 P.D. 107). In that case an English ship ran against and seriously damaged a pier in the port of Marbella, in Spain, and it was held that proof of the law of Spain to the effect that the master and crew, and not the owners, of a ship are liable for damage caused by negligent navigation, would be a good answer to an action in England for damage so caused. No doubt in that case the damage was done to a pier which was annexed to the soil of Spain, and the Judges were careful in their judgments to confine themselves to that fact; but I should have had no difficulty in holding that the principle was the same whether the damage was caused to a pier, or to another vessel lying within Spanish territorial waters. For the territorial waters are part of the territory of a country, and the terms are constantly used interchangeably in the cases dealing with collisions.

Continuing, the learned counsel said he would proceed to call their Lordships' attention to a series of cases which had been decided from time to time showing that waters situated similarly to the waters connected with the present suit were really the high seas, although they might in a sense be called the territorial waters of a foreign country. The first was the case of R. v. Carr and Wilson (*Law Reports*, 10, Q.B., page 76). It was a case of felony, some bonds having been stolen from a ship lying in the river at Rotterdam, moored to the quay. She was at a point 16 or 18 miles from the sea, and within the ebb and flow of the tide. It was held that the person guilty of the theft could be properly tried and convicted at the Central Criminal Court as the offence was committed within the jurisdiction of the Admiralty Court.

The Chief Justice—You do not deny, I suppose, that the foreign jurisdiction would have attached to her also?

Mr. Lowder said he did not dispute that, but his point was that there was not an exclusive jurisdiction in Japan. The next case to which he would call attention was that of R. v. Anderson (*1 Crown Cases Reserved*, page 164). An American citizen serving on a British ship caused the death of another American citizen under circumstances amounting to manslaughter. The ship was in the river Garonne, within the ebb and flow of the tide, and it was held the ship was within the Admiralty jurisdiction and the prisoner was rightly tried and convicted at the Central Criminal Court. In the case of the *Saxonia* (*Lushington*, page 410) which arose out of a collision in the Solent, half-a-mile from the shore, it was held that although the accident occurred within half a mile from the coast of England, nevertheless it was within the Admiralty jurisdiction and not within the municipal jurisdiction as contradistinguished from the Admiralty jurisdiction. The case of the *Fairlass v. Thorsen* (*Marsden's Admiralty Cases*, page 130) also supported his contention. It was a collision between an English and a foreign ship which occurred near the Isle of Dogs, and the Admiralty Court was held to have jurisdiction. It would probably be contended by his learned friends on the other side that these were all cases of ancient history and not applicable to the case which their Lordships were asked to decide, and one could not help admitting in taking a review of all these cases that there might have been some little indistinctness of idea in the minds of the learned Judges from time to time as to what was properly the high seas and what properly territorial waters. The cases he had submitted were very clear upon this point, that even though a tort be committed within the three mile limit still the Admiralty Court had jurisdiction on the ground that those waters were none the less on the high seas because they were within the three miles limit, in other words, the high seas began from low water mark. The case of the Mercantile Bank of India v. the Netherlands India Steam Navigation Company, was a strong one to put upon the others he had cited to show, what might not perhaps have been apparent at first sight, that in order to say that a tort was not committed on the high seas, it was to

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be shown that it occurred within the exclusive jurisdiction of a foreign country, and that unless the tort were committed in territory which was under the exclusive operation of foreign law, then an English Court of Admiralty had jurisdiction, that was, the jurisdiction of the one did not oust the other; foreign law, which might be opposed to English law, would not hold its own under those circumstances. It must be, as it was in the case of the *Moxham*, a place which was under the exclusive jurisdiction of the country whose laws were invoked, and he did not think that the case of the *Mackin* carried the case of the *Moxham* further at all. If his argument upon this point commended itself to the Court, then the basis of the judgment of the Court below was cut away, but on the assumption that the Court was not with him and would like him further to consider the case he would proceed to his next proposition, which was—Even if the collision did take place in Japanese territory a counter-claim would still lie against the plaintiff in the absence of proof that Japanese shipowners are not liable for the torts of their servants committed in Japanese territory. He would further quote from the judgment:—

And if the owners of the *Ravenna* could not sue successfully in an original action for their damage under such circumstances, it would seem necessarily to follow that they could not counter-claim for such damage in an action instituted by the owners of the *Chishima* for *their* damage. If R has no right of action at all against C, but against some other person only, it is difficult to understand on what principle R should be allowed to transfer that other person's liability to C's shoulders simply because C should think fit to prosecute his own undoubted right of action against R.

Now to apply this to the present case. The *Chishima* was a public vessel belonging to the Emperor of Japan. What, then, is the law of Japan as to the Emperor's liability for the negligent navigation of his vessels by his servants? That, like all foreign law, has to be proved by the evidence of experts, and the evidence on that point is furnished by the declaration of Mr. Nobushige Hozumi, who has been for eleven years Professor of Law at the Imperial Japanese University, and is now Chief Professor of the College of Law there. The declaration states:—"According to Japanese Law the Emperor of Japan can do no wrong. His Majesty is sacred and inviolable. He cannot be sued in person or by representation for damage for any misconduct or negligence of an official in his service, whether in the discharge of such official's duties or otherwise." The Emperor's immunity is thus by the law of Japan absolute, and on that ground, therefore—quite apart from any other—no action for damage resulting from the negligent navigation of his vessels in the waters of Japan would lie against him in an English Court. And, for the reason I have given in dealing with the supposed case of the private Japanese shipowner protected from liability by the law of Japan, it would equally appear that no counter-claim could be raised in an action where the Emperor sued.

But this point, say the defendants, has been settled otherwise in the case of the *Newbattle* (L. R., 10 P. D. 33). In that case, which was an Admiralty action brought by the King of the Belgians for damages to his vessel the *Marie Louise*, the owners of the *Newbattle* obtained an order staying all proceedings in the plaintiff's action until security should be given to answer their counter claim. That case certainly seems at first sight to be a direct authority for defendants application here, but on examination it does not appear that the point involved in the present case arose there, and the decision therefore has no real bearing on this case. Brett, M. R., after referring to the case of the *Parlement Belge* (L.R., 5 P.D. 197), in which it was decided that the ship of a foreign prince could not be arrested, goes on to say—"It has always, however, been held that if a Sovereign Prince invokes the jurisdiction of the Court as a plaintiff, the Court can make all proper orders against him." So Cotton, L.J., after a similar reference to the decision in the *Parlement Belge*, says—"But when a Government comes in as a suitor, it submits to the jurisdiction of the Court and to all orders that may properly be made." The question then arises: Would an order granting the leave asked for, be a "proper order?" Could such an order "properly be made?" Now it is to be observed that, prior to the decision in 1885 of the *Newbattle*, all the "orders" that had been made against foreign Sovereigns had been confined to matters of procedure, *e.g.*, to answer on oath, to grant discovery, to give security for costs. In the *Newbattle* for the first time was an "order" made against a Sovereign virtually making him a defendant and as such liable to be called upon to pay money; and everything will depend here upon the true appreciation of that case. In my view all that it decided was that the immunity from suits which a foreign Sovereign enjoys in an English Court because of his Sovereign character, is lost to the extent of any counter-claim which might be established against him in any suit in which he is himself suing, and the subject of which counter claim could have formed the ground of an action against him *had he not been a Sovereign*. In other words, the immunity which he surrendered by coming into the Court was only the immunity with which he was clothed, *qud* Sovereign, by English law—not any other immunity or any other advantage. The benefit of his own law, for example, which equally with his subjects (but no more than they) he is entitled to have in an English Court when that law comes properly into question there, is an advantage which remains to him, and his position in that respect is, in my judgment, in no way touched by the decision in the *Newbattle*. "Regard must of course be had," says Lord Justice Cotton there, "to the fact that in this case the King of the Belgians is a Sovereign Prince, but the order is nevertheless a proper one. It is a reasonable principle that a plaintiff whose ship cannot be seized . . . . shall put the defendant in the same position as if he (the defendant, were a plaintiff in an original action against a defendant whose ship could be arrested as security." But the Lord Justice there, as I understand him, is referring only to the particular case before him, viz, the case of the ship of a sovereign which *on account of its ownership* could not be arrested, and his remarks have, in my view no application to the case of the ship of an owner (Sovereign or subject) against whom in consequence of the law of the country where the collision occurred, no remedy in an English Court exists.

It is in this way I read the decision in the case of the *Newbattle*, and if I am right it is no authority for the application of the defendants in this case. To apply it to the present case, as the defendants ask me to apply it, would be to transfer to the *lex fori*, whose function it is to supply a remedy when a wrong is shown to exist, the functions of the *lex loci*, which has first to declare whether a wrong does exist.

He would turn his attention to that part of the judgment which he had just read, which stated that because an action would not lie against a foreign Sovereign it followed a counter claim would not. His Honour cited no authority in support of that proposition, which he (the learned counsel) submitted could not be maintained. He would be able to cite cases to show that a claim and counter claim were one and the same act on, or at all events were to be treated as one and the same action; that a counter-claim was really a defence, that a counter-claim was a remedy; that a counter-claim was procedure and came within the *lex fori* to the exclusion of the *lex loci*. With regard to the *ex loci* and *lex fori* he would mention the case of Adamson, Bell and Co. v. Tai Won Wah, reported in the *North China Herald* of 16th September, 1884, but which he would not read. He would only say that the Chief Justice expressed himself strongly to the effect that in China, and the same applied to Japan, there could be no such thing as *lex loci*, and the *lex fori* must be applicable. There was the recent case of Neck *v.* Taylor upon the point, to which he would call attention. A boarding-house keeper began an action for £69. The defendant, who was a foreigner living out of the jurisdiction, counter claimed for £250 for the retention of jewellery. He cited the case for the purpose of showing that a counter-claim might be advanced notwithstanding that the sum claimed in the counter-claim far exceeded the claim in the original action. Amongst the other cases quoted in support of the connection between the claim and counter-claim, were those of Delobbel Fupo *v.* Barty (1, *Queen's Bench Reports*, 1823, page 663), Chapman *v.* Royal Netherlands Steam Navigation Company (4 *Probate Division Reports* page 157), Macgowan *v.* Middleton (*II Queen's Bench Division Reports*, page 364). In the latter case Vavasseur *v.* Crook was referred to, which had a curious interest in connection with the present case. Certain shells purchased by the Japanese Government in Germany were brought into England, and seized, and the Mikado by his Minister, in his own name applied to be made a defendant in the case and paid £100 as security for costs, and then upon an affidavit showing that these shells which had been seized were the property of Japan, obtained an order that they were to be released on these grounds, notwithstanding the fact, even if it were established, that the plaintiff had a good right as against the defendant. The shells were released and returned to their proper owner. In that case the Mikado sought to establish a counter-claim and it was decided that as the original action had been discontinued the counter-claim fell with it, and that became a leading case upon the point until it was overruled. The learned counsel mentioned it as a curious coincidence that the plaintiff should have had so much to do with counter-claims in a British Court.

At this stage the Court adjourned for tiffin.

Upon the resumption,

The learned counsel continued his argument addressing himself to the consideration of the question of conflicts between the laws of various nations. He contended that although a set off or compensation or counter-claim might not be admissible by the law of the country when the debt was contracted, or as in this case where the tort took place, nevertheless the law of the country where the wrong occurred or tort took place would not be considered, but the action would be entirely governed by *lex fori*, and the *lex loci* would not be considered at all. Therefore in this case the plaintiff having invoked the jurisdiction of the Court had laid himself open to the reply which would meet any other suitor who came into the Court and asked for its assistance. If he were not a foreign Sovereign there would be no question about it at all, but cases went to show that, if a foreign Sovereign came into one of our Courts in the position of a plaintiff, he laid himself open to a counter-claim the same way as any other plaintiff asking for the protection of the Court. If it could be shown that a tort having been committed in Japanese territory all shipowners were exempt from liability for the torts of their servants, then the assumption would be incontestable that the law of Japan would apply, and that the shipowner in that particular case could not be sued directly, but it would follow also that the owners of the steamer would be equally protected on the assumption that the collision took place on Japanese territory, because equality was equality, and it was impossible for any Court to administer in the same action two different sets of law. It had not been attempted to be shown that that was the law of Japan, and he therefore contended, in accordance with well-known principles, that the law of Japan was that all shipowners were liable for the negligence of their servants. Although he (the learned counsel) admitted to the full that no Sovereign could be directly impleaded in his own Courts without his consent, or in the Courts of a foreign country—that he was absolutely free from actions of any kind whatever on the principle that "the king can do no wrong"—it was a very different thing indeed when the Sovereign divested himself of the dignity of his Crown and descended to place himself in the position of a suitor in a foreign Court. Under those circumstances the mere fact of his coming into Court was evidence that he asked the assistance of the Court. He could not have the assistance of the Court without submitting to the jurisdiction of the Court; and in submitting himself to the jurisdiction he divested himself of all those safe-guards which he would otherwise have a perfect right to ask for the protection of himself from attack. When he became a plaintiff he dropped his dignity as Sovereign and had to take the humble position of a suitor in the Courts, and he could ask nothing more than a suitor in our Courts could ask. After quoting cases in support of this view, the learned counsel concluded by saying that His Majesty had chosen to invoke the assistance of that Court and must take the consequences and remedy which that Court would give to its own subjects. That Court would not go out of its way to treat a foreign Sovereign coming to it differently from any of its own subjects. Upon the ground he had urged he asked their Lordships to reverse the decision of the Court below.

Mr. Francis, Q.C., in support of the appeal contended that the Judge of the Court below was premature in coming to his decision. According to the procedure of the Courts at home, in the Colonies, and under the the provisions of the Orders in Council for China and Japan, the sole duty of His Honour was to ascertain whether a *primâ facie* case was made out to justify the admission of a counter-claim. His Honour should not have attempted to decide the very important point now raised, but should have admitted the counter-claim and have allowed it to be discussed on the trial and hearing of the case. To a very considerable extent his learned friend (Mr. Lowder) was taken by surprise with reference to this particular point, which was really raised by His Honour himself in the course of the discussion, and the greater portion of the arrangements of the other side were addressed to other points. Such a point having been raised, an order might have been made for the whole question to be reargued. There was not sufficient material before the Court to justify His Honour dealing with the matter as he had done. The only reason he could suggest for this was that His Honour desired to save expense and trouble. By what evidence was the judgment supported? By an affidavit put in by the other side which simply set out no more

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than the Court itself could have assumed as a matter of course. There was nothing more claimed in the affidavit than had been claimed for every Sovereign in his own Courts as well as every foreign Court. He (the learned cousel) asked that the decision of the Court below should be reversed.

Mr. H. S. Wilkinson on behalf of the plaintiff and respondent, said that Mr. Francis had referred to the affidavit which had been filed in the case, and had remarked that that affidavit would not have been received except by consent without the deponent being subjected to cross-examination. He (Mr. Wilkinson) was bound to say that if the other side considered that anything in that affidavit was not correct it was open to them to give notice for the deponent to appear and be cross-examined upon it, and if there had been any doubts upon the facts as put forward in the affidavit counter-affidavits could no doubt have been filed. The learned counsel then went on to speak as the *M. Moxham* and *Machin* cases, and he had not concluded when the Court rose for the day.

SHANGHAI, OCTOBER 11th.

Mr. G. Hayashi, Acting Consul-General for Japan, again occupied a seat on the Bench.

Upon the case being resumed,

Mr. H. S. Wilkinson said he had already proceeded somewhat at the adjournment, but he might just recapitulate what he conceived to be the case that he had to meet. The learned Judge in the Court below was in favour of the respondents upon one point and against them upon others, but the appellants naturally had confined themselves to the one point upon which the learned Judge gave his decision against them, and he (Mr. Wilkinson) proposed in the distribution of his argument to confine himself pretty closely to that part of the case, and to leave his learned friend (Mr. Kirkwood) to bring before the Court such arguments as he might consider right, with regard to those points upon which the learned Judge was against the respondents or did not express an opinion. If their Lordships had decided that the Court below was right upon the particular point now being debated, it would not be necessary absolutely to consider the other part of the case, but as their Lordships might not entirely agree with the argument which he placed before them, it would be necessary in order to place before their Lordships the whole case on behalf of the respondents, that those other points should be dealt with. His learned friend would deal with them, but he (Mr. Wilkinson) might have to refer incidentally to that part of the case. Four propositions had been laid down by the other side. Mr. Lowder laid down two, first, that the collision did not take place in territory of Japan, so as to bring the action under the exclusive jurisdiction of the municipal laws of Japan; it took place on the high seas. Secondly, even if it took place in Japanese territory, a counter-claim will lie against the plaintiff in the absence of proof that by Japanese law shipowners are exempt from liability for the torts of their servants in Japanese territory. There was really another proposition laid down, but he (Mr. Wilkinson) did not know how far Mr. Lowder intended to carry it.

The Chief Justice—Is the second proposition worded exactly as you intended to put it, Mr. Lowder?

Mr. Lowder—The defendant in the Court below, would be equally not liable upon the assumption that the tort was committed in the territory of Japan, and, as all ship owners are not liable by the law of Japan they themselves would come under the same law.

The Chief Justice—But as that is not said to be the law of Japan we need not—

Mr. Lowder—No, it is only hypothesis.

Mr Wilkinson, resuming, said Mr. Lowder had also contended that whether a counter-claim was to be allowed or not was a matter of procedure and was therefore to be determined by the *lex fori* and not the *lex loci*. How far his learned friend proposed to go with that argument he did not know, but in dealing with other propositions he should have occasion to refer to cases in which that point was dealt with. He took it that the law was this, that whether the procedure were by way of counter-claim or cross petition, or new suit, was all a matter of form. But whether upon a cross-suit being brought or cross petition in the same suit, or a counter-claim, the defendant would be entitled to recover, was to be determined by the law of the place where the act complained of took place. He did not know whether his learned friend quite agreed to that proposition, but it was a general proposition on the subject.

The Chief Justice—The way in which I have got your proposition is this. "Whether the claim of the defendant should be by counter-claim in the same suit or by some other method is a matter of procedure and therefore to be dealt with by the *lex fori*, but whether such counter-claim is allowable at all is a question to be determined by the law of the place where the tort is committed."

Mr. Wilkinson—I think the word "allowable" is a little ambiguous: "Whether the defendant would be entitled to recover on his counter-claim" I would suggest. That all pre-supposes that the defendant is entitled to sue the plaintiff at all. I put it in a very general way, because I propose to put the argument whether the defendant in this suit could sue the plaintiff in any way.

The Chief Justice—Mr. Lowder admits that, (To Mr. Lowder.)—You admit that the defendants in this case could not sue except upon a counter-claim?

Mr. Lowder—I admit that to the full.

Mr. Wilkinson, continuing, said—Mr. Francis laid down two propositions—(1) that the Court below was premature in deciding the point, the whole duty of the Court was to find whether there was a *primâ facie* case; (2) and that without a counter-claim the Court could not have any enquiry as to the amount of the defendant's damages. Mr. Lowder's first proposition was that this was Japanese territory for some purposes, but not Japanese territory for the purposes of this suit. He (Mr. Lowder) admitted that the place of collision was in the territorial waters of Japan, but he said they were so only metaphorically and diplomatically. The learned Judge in the Court below had decided what the limits of the waters were, and that particular point had not been in any way called in question.

The Chief Justice—As to the spot?

Mr. Wilkinson—As to the features of the land. That he took it—and his learned friend (Mr. Lowder) did not dispute it—brought the particular spot within the Japanese territorial waters as ordinarily understood in books upon international law, but what he understood the other side to say was that the municipal law of Japan did not extend to those waters in matters relating to ships.

The Chief Justice—So as to exclude any other law; that is what I imagine the proposition to be.

Mr. Wilkinson remarked that proposition would be equally barren, for the reason that if the Japanese municipal law applied there, it did not matter what other Courts had jurisdiction. What his learned friends said was this: "Inasmuch as other Courts have jurisdiction there the municipal law of Japan relating to collision—leaving aside all question of extraterritoriality—does not extend to the three mile limit, that it stops at low-water mark." They contended that the law that applied beyond low-water mark was the general maritime law and not the law of the country, and the cases which were cited were intended to show that. Proceeding to comment upon the cases cited, the learned counsel argued that the Chartered Mercantile Bank *v.* the Netherlands Steam Navigation Company, was a very different case from the present one, as it arose out of a collision between two steamers on a voyage from Singapore to Sourabaya and undoubtedly on the high seas. The case did not go to the extent of the exclusive jurisdiction of the country, but his learned friends, on account of the use of that word "exclusive" founded an argument which he (Mr. Wilkinson) submitted was fallacious. Mr. Lowder had cited other cases to show the Court of Admiralty had jurisdiction in territorial waters of other countries and argued that therefore those countries had not exclusive jurisdiction. The learned counsel went on to quote copiously from a number of leading cases, and was interrupted by the rising of the Court for tiffin.

Upon resuming,

Mr. Wilkinson said his argument in the morning was addressed to Mr. Lowder's contention that where the collision in the *Moxham* took place was within the exclusive jurisdiction of the country, and the place where the cause of the present suit happened was not within the exclusive jurisdiction, and therefore the doctrine of the *Moxham* did not apply. It was, he thought, a little unfortunate that the words "exclusive jurisdiction" had been used because there was no such thing, he ventured to say, as "exclusive jurisdiction" existing in the world, that was to say, that nothing could be done within that space that the Courts of another country could not take cognisance of.

The Chief Justice—What do you say is the real meaning of the words "exclusive jurisdiction?"

Mr, Wilkinson—Territorial jurisdiction.

Mr. Lowder pointed out the words "sole territorial jurisdiction" occurred on some page as "exclusive jurisdiction" in one of the cases cited.

Mr. Wilkinson went on to argue that exclusive jurisdiction extended to all enclosed waters such as the Inland Sea, and within the three miles limit, and he then read numerous extracts from leading cases. With regard to Mr. Francis' statement that the Judge of the Court below had acted prematurely in refusing leave to enter a counter-claim, the learned counsel went on to refer to the practice in regard to counter claims in H.M.'s Courts. In no case where an ordinary Japanese sued had it been the custom to entertain a counter-claim.

Mr. Lowder—I think that is not before the Court.

The Chief Justice (to Mr. Wilkinson)—Have you got any authority for that?

Mr. Wilkinson—Except official statements made under my own hand some time back. I would refer to the Treaty which shows in effect that it was not intended to have counter-claims, and I propose now to consider what the practice of this Supreme Court has been with regard to counter-claims. My learned friend will be able to tell us if he knows of any counter claim.

Mr. Lowder—I was only admitted yesterday, by your kindness.—(Laughter.)

Mr. Wilkinson said he was speaking of Japan.

The Chief Justice (to Mr. Wilkinson)—You say the practice of this Court is that counter-claims are not entertained where the Chinese are concerned.

Mr. Wilkinson—Yes, I may say that is the practice. Proceeding, he said he had asked for a reference to be made to find any case in which a deposit had ever been made for costs of a counter-claim, and he believed the records of the Court did not reveal any. Of course, that was not perfectly conclusive, because security might be given in some other way.

The Chief Justice—So many have been cases by junks run down and absolutely lost, and run down by steamers.

Mr. Francis said there was the case of *Hochung* and the *Lapwing*.

The Assistant Judge—That was a cross-petition.

Mr. Wilkinson—In that case there was no security given.

The Assistant Judge—I do not know about security, but there was a cross-petition.

Mr. Wilkinson referred to the case of the *Kowarts sors* and the *Norna* (*North China Herald*, June, 1871.) That was an application for costs, which were allowed by Mr. Goodwin, and Sir E. Hornby afterwards refused the application for costs. The cases of the *Fusing* and *Ocean* (*North China Herald*, May, 1875,) and the *Seng Hong mow* and the *Peking* (*North China Herald*, August, 1878,) were also referred to and quoted from by the learned Counsel in support of his contention.

The Chief Justice remarked that unless Mr. Wilkinson had some perfectly fresh argument founded upon the reading of the Treaty, they neither of them would have had the slightest doubt if anybody had applied under the Order in Council of 1871, that they could have made the order, unless there was some special reason; but that they had the power to make the order, or that it should be made, there was no question.

Mr. Wilkinson said he understood the question was as to power to allow the counter-claim. The words of the Order in Council and the Rules were wide enough to cover everybody, so that as far as that was concerned power was given to the Court to grant a counter-claim in any case in which the application was made, but that power was given knowing that the Court would exercise its discretion if in the circumstances of the case it thought fit. The question was—What were the circumstances of the case? He would not press upon their Lordship an argument upon the Treaty if their Lordships intended to intimate that that point had been decided and that the Treaty itself did not prevent a counter claim.

The Chief Justice—The point has never been raised.

Mr. Wilkinson said he proposed to leave the argument as to the Treaty to his learned friend (Mr. Kirkwood). He only wished to point out that what Mr. Francis said amounted to this, that in every instance where there was a *primâ facie* case set up the Court should allow the counter-claim. He (Mr. Wilkinson) submitted that if the Rules clearly stated that a counter claim must be granted, then it might violate any agreement entered into between the Governments.

The Chief Justice—You need not deal with that at all, because I am quite clear that this does not apply to the present case. It speaks of a "foreigner" and it defines a foreigner as a subject of the Emperor of China or the Mikado of Japan. The Mikado of Japan, therefore, does not come within the definition of a foreigner, and that is, I imagine, why this case was brought under the other Rule.

Mr. Wilkinson—And therefore, I say the Judge below had to exercise a discretion and to take into consideration all the circumstances of the case, whatever they might be.

Mr. Kirkwood then proceeded to address the Court on behalf of the plaintiff and respondent. He pointed out that the application in the Court below was made under Rules of Procedure in

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Admiralty, and more particularly under Rules 1 to 12. He contended that no counter-claim had been allowed where the Sovereign had been a plaintiff in the Court.

The Chief Justice—Has a Sovereign ever been a plaintiff in a case before where under any circumstances it would have been possible that the question of counter claim could have arisen?

Mr. Kirkwood—I think in many cases where a counter-claim might have been made the Sovereign has been a plaintiff in the Courts of Japan, such as for ground-rent. He sues, it is true, through the local Governor.

The Chief Justice—I am inclined to think that the case has arisen. First of all there was a suit for ground rent in an American Court. The American Court upheld it, but decided against the Japanese Government. On the other hand, the Japanese Government brought an action against an English person. If I remember rightly it was allowed, and certainly, if not in the form of a counter-claim, then in some other. I think they decided it on its merits.

Mr. Wilkinson—It was the case of the Governor of Tokyo *v.* Mrs. Bockley, and Mrs. Blockley *v.* the Governor of Tokyo.

Mr. Kirkwood said there was the case of an action for right of way by the Sovereign against Mitchell & Co., and in that suit no counter claim was set up. Proceeding, counsel contended that Japan being a governed country the Queen had no inherent foreign jurisdiction over her subjects.

The Chief Justice—While they remain there?

Mr. Kirkwood—While they remain there. He submitted there was no inherent right in Parliament to give that power to her.

The Chief Justice—I daresay you are perfectly right, but what I was smiling at was whether this Court is going to determine whether Parliament has the right.

Mr. Kirkwood said he was quite aware that this view had frequently not been accepted and in common parlance very erroneous views were expressed on the subject, but he thought that what he was saying was quite borne out by general principles of international law, that the only jurisdiction exercised by the Queen in Japan was absolutely by virtue of the permission she had received from the Sovereign. He need not remind their Lordships that the point had been lately raised in connection with the subjects of the King of Portuga.

The Chief Justice—I do not see, Mr Kirkwood, how I can make use of the argument you put before me without expressing an opinion as to whether Portugal or Japan was right, and do you expect me to do that?

Mr. Kirkwood—No, but in that case—

The Chief Justice—I think, perhaps, it would be better not to draw in such a very dangerous topic as that.

Mr. Kirkwood proceeded with his argument—In the case of a British subject in Japan he had to obey British law whilst there, not because it had any inherent extra-territorial force in Japan, not because he owned any local or territorial allegiance whilst in Japan to the Queen of England, but solely because he owed a local allegiance to the Queen of England. He (the learned counsel) was quite aware that contrary opinions were very prevalent, and it was surprising that during so many years these questions should have gone on without having been fully ventilated and decided. But erroneous opinion on the question had existed, he submitted, only because they had not become a subject of careful judgment, but on the contrary, the judgment which should have been pure and careful had been distorted by many and varied opinions. The exercise of jurisdiction by the Queen in Japan had nothing to do with the Sovereign rights of the British Crown and as it had nothing to do with the British Parliament's inherent rights, and its existence depended entirely upon the concessions made by the Emperor of Japan, so also did its extent. The first question he would therefore submit would be: "Does the Treaty between England and Japan give to the Queen a jurisdiction over a counter claim by a British subject, firstly, as against a plaintiff being a Japanese subject, and secondly, against a Japanese plaintiff when that plaintiff is the Sovereign?" He would first like to deal with the case of a Japanese subject, and then contend that the Emperor could not be put on a worse footing in a British Court in Japan than one of his subjects. Whether he should not stand on a better footing might be reserved for future argument. The Treaties clearly went to show that claims against British subjects should be tried by the British Court, whilst cases against Japanese should be tried by the Japanese Court. For the sake of argument he put the case of an assault committed by a British subject on a Japanese subject. The latter could take proceedings in a British Court, but supposing the British subject replied that he was first of all assaulted by the Japanese, would he be entitled to enter a counter-claim for damages against the Japanese and have it tried in the British Court? To all intents and purposes a counter claim was an action by a defendant against a plaintiff.

The learned counsel had not concluded when the Court rose for the day, and the case was adjourned till Friday morning.

Shanghai, 13th October.

Mr. Kirkwood, in continuing his argument, reminded their Lordships that on Wednesday he submitted to their consideration the proposition that the Queen had no inherent right of jurisdiction over her subjects in a governed country, because simply they were her subjects, nor had Parliament any inherent right to give her jurisdiction, but that jurisdiction had been given the Queen solely by the ruler of that governed country, and that it was strictly limited to its extent by the terms in which it had been granted. The Treaty had given no jurisdiction over counter-claims against Japanese by British subjects, or, much more so, not against the Sovereign. In support of his contention that to all intents and purposes a counter-claim was a separate and independent action, he directed attention to the Judicature Act 1883, which provides that "if in any case in which a defendant sets up a counter-claim, the action of the plaintiff is stayed, discontinued, or dismissed, the counter-claim may, nevertheless, be proceeded with." Supposing the motion which was now asked for to be granted, what would be the result? The defendant would have leave to counter-claim, and an order might be made staying proceedings until security was given. But presuming they only had leave to counter-claim, then in that case if the Emperor, the plaintiff, discontinued his action, the defendants would be entitled as a right, under the Judicature Act, and under the rules at home, to go on with their action, to have a decision, on the *ex parte* evidence they might choose to adduce, given against the plaintiff, although the Court would have no possible way of enforcing that judgment.

The Chief Justice—That seems a very strong argument for making him give security. You point out it would be ridiculous to do the one without the other.

Mr. Kirkwood said he should further contend that at assuming security were given the Court would be in no better position.

The Chief Justice—I should think that they would not be so foolish as to go on with their case if they could not get any remedy.

Mr. Kirkwood—It is a question whether they would get any.

The Chief Justice—I quite agree with you, but I do not see how it helps you in any way.

Mr. Kirkwood said he submitted that if the British Court saw fit to stay the action and made an order now, the Court would be obliged to go on and hear the defendants' counter-claim. That would be hearing a claim against a Japanese subject, supposing it not to be the Sovereign—and a claim against a Japanese which was no longer a counter claim—because the original action had been withdrawn—that would be hearing an action which should properly be confined to the jurisdiction of the Japanese Court. The action having been withdrawn, the counter claim was no longer a set off by way of defence, and in trying it the British Court would be assuming the jurisdiction of the Japanese Court. Referring to the Treaties, Counsel contended that the counter-claim now asked to be allowed, was not one which the British Court could try. In the case of a Japanese subject the Treaty did not provide for such a counter-claim being tried by the British Court, and much more so was this the case regarding a Sovereign. His Majesty had seen fit to bring his action in the British Court and was willing that his claim only should be decided by the British Court.

The Chief Justice—You put it as if he might have instituted it in some other Court; could he?

Mr. Kirkwood—That is a very difficult question for me to answer.

The Chief Justice—I mean is that your argument?

Mr. Kirkwood—I do not propose to argue that; I do not think it would be fitting for me to argue it after His Majesty has seen fit to bring it in the British Court. Whether in any case he might not bring it in another Court I do not feel at liberty to say. Continuing, Counsel argued that by instituting his suit the Emperor had not deprived himself of his Sovereign rights, or put himself in a worse position than one of his subjects. If the counter-claim would not lie against a Japanese subject, the Emperor by coming into Court could not be put in a worse position than a Japanese subject.

The Chief Justice—I follow that, and I think it would be admitted.

The Chief Justice (to Mr. Lowder)—If a counter-claim will not lie against a Japanese subject then I think you would admit that it would not lie against the Emperor?

Mr. Lowder—Quite so; I have already admitted it in my argument.

Mr. Kirkwood said his next point was that if such jurisdiction to try a counter-claim against a Japanese plaintiff or against the Sovereign, when plaintiff, had not been acquired by Treaty, had it been acquired in any other manner such as by sufferance?

The Chief Justice—You say it has not?

Mr. Kirkwood—We submit it has not. The learned Counsel went on to refer to the Orders in Council of 1860, 1865, 1881, and 1886. He pointed out that in the first mentioned Order in Council there was a provision that in cases in the British Court between a British subject and the subject of another nation, the latter should give an undertaking to submit to the Court's jurisdiction. That provision was repealed by the Order of 1865. That provision was necessary in order to give the British Court any jurisdiction over claims against other foreigners or Japanese. In the Order of 1881 the claim was again put in. His learned friend in the Court below laid great stress upon the fact that the Order in Council of 1865 was communicated to the Japanese Government, and without proof to the contrary, therefore, the Court would assume that the other Orders were not communicated, or else the fact that they had been communicated would have been stated. He then proceeded to relate the circumstances under which the Order of 1881 came to the notice of the Japanese Government. It began by the British Consul in Yokohama claiming for the British Courts authority to decide claims arising out of the matter in dispute in any particular suit or action. Thereupon a very strong protest was made by the Minister for Foreign Affairs. There was no other way in which the Court could decide all claims arising out of the suit than upon a counter-claim, and therefore the protest of the Minister for Foreign Affairs was directed against the investigation of a counter-claim against a Japanese subject by the British Court.

The Chief Justice—Suppose the plaintiff, a Japanese, were to come into Court and submit to its jurisdiction, in the same way as Chinese do here in the matter of arbitration; would not that be something of the same sort?

Mr. Kirkwood—Such a case has never arisen, I submit, and the Foreign Office would not allow them to do it.

The Assistant Judge—You complain of Japanese being obliged to submit to the jurisdiction as the price of their being allowed to bring the claim at all. The Japanese view is: "We ought to be allowed to bring our claim without submitting."

Mr. Kirkwood—The Japanese view is "If the submission is to go farther than the trial of our case, then we object to it." If the submission gives power to the Court to try a claim which would be tried by the Japanese Courts then, so far as the jurisdiction of the Japanese Courts would be affected, we object. Counsel went on to argue at some length that under the Treaty a Japanese subject bringing a suit in the British Court would not be subject to a counter-claim. When the Sovereign in Japan saw fit to bring a claim in a British Court he did not submit to its jurisdiction in the same way as if he brought his action in England. If he went to England and instituted his suit there he would be open to a counter-claim, but in Japan he could not do anything except as Emperor and therefore an action against him would not lie, and he could not be put in a worse position in the British Court in Japan, which received its authority from his concession, than he would be in his own Court in Japan. In England no original action would lie against him, but when a Sovereign came in there as a plaintiff a counter-claim would lie against him because he had waived his Sovereign rights, but when he came into a Court in Japan he did not waive them.

The Assistant Judge—Assuming the British Court in this case has the jurisdiction, then does the Sovereign, by going into that, not waive his dignity just as much as if he brought his suit to London?

Mr. Kirkwood—I submit not.

The Assistant Judge—Does he not by voluntarily coming into that Court waive his personality?

Mr. Kirkwood—Distinctly not.

Counsel next went on to submit that the Emperor in coming into any Court in Japan could not be regarded as a foreign Sovereign in Japan where that Court was situated, and that it was not possible for the Queen, who derived her jurisdiction in Japan from the Emperor, to designate him a "foreign Sovereign" when he came into one of her Courts.

The Chief Justice—I imagine "foreign Sove-

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reign" means not English or British Sovereign, that is all.

Mr. Kirkwood—That is a question which has not been decided yet. It would, he submitted, be an extraordinary thing if the Queen enjoyed, in the exercise of the jurisdiction she derived from Japan, greater privileges and rights than the Emperor from whom she had derived those rights.

At this stage the Court adjourned for tiffin.

Upon resuming,

Mr. Kirkwood continued his argument. When the Emperor delegated to the Queen his jurisdiction, did he mean to put her in a better position as Sovereign than she was in before?

The Chief Justice—That it is plain that he did, otherwise he would not have given her the power. He certainly put her in a better position; he gave her rights she had not before.

Mr Kirkwood—I submit that he did not intend to prejudice the individual rights of his subjects as against Her Majesty by that.

The Chief Justice—It seems to me that he did, because the right of the Japanese subject before that was to have all cases tried before his own Courts. The Emperor, it seems to me, did put the Queen in a better position, and he put his own subjects in a worse position—possibly not in a worse but a different position—than they were in before the Treaty was made.

Mr. Kirkwood—Even assuming he did that, can it be assumed is intended to go still farther and to deprive himself of the rights of a Sovereign and privileges that he would have had without the creation of that Court?

The Chief Justice—It does not seem to me it would be an impossibility. Of course I should be determining the case if I made up my mind now whether he did so or not.

Mr. Kirkwood—All the rights the Queen has in Japan she has acquired from the Emperor, and he has never given her rights and powers to treat him as anything but the Sovereign of Japan.

The Chief Justice—Nobody imagines for one moment that the Emperor of Japan is treated in any Court as otherwise than the Emperor of Japan. But when it is said he must be treated as a foreign Sovereign that meant he must be treated as not a Sovereign of England. It seems to me that when a Sovereign sues for money damages he is in a slightly different position; I do not think he can be fairly said to be in his official capacity. It is not in his international capacity he is acting.

Mr. Kirkwood then went on to contend that the collision happened in the territorial waters of Japan, and also that as the defendants had themselves not given security for costs, they were not entitled to demand security from the plaintiff, even if the counter claim were allowed.

The Chief Justice remarked that he was under the impression there had been an undertaking given by the defendants which had been accepted by the Japanese Government as satisfactory.

Mr. Kirkwood said the defendants had given a written undertaking, but it was not the giving of security which under the Admiralty Act was necessary to entitle them to security from the plaintiff.

The Chief Justice—If that is so I must compliment the Japanese Government and their legal advisers upon the astute way in which they have appeared to give the defendants an advantage, when in reality they have put them at a very considerable disadvantage. What on earth was the object of the P. & O. giving this undertaking at all?

Mr. Kirkwood—To prevent the ship from being delayed by arrest.

The Chief Justice—But if you say you would have released her directly, it would have been a mere matter of form. Of course they would have imagined you would only release her on bail.

Mr. Lowder—She was lying in dock for repairs for a month after this correspondence took place.

The Chief Justice—I suppose if you had said what you have the P. and O. would not have given the undertaking.

Mr. Kirkwood—They must be presumed to know the law.

The Chief Justice—I do not suppose that people always imagine that every advantage is to be taken of the law.

The Assistant Judge—You argue that because the defendants have not given security we cannot possibly order the plaintiff to give security, because we have not authority to do so under the Admiralty Act.

Mr. Kirkwood—Quite so, because we have not got security. The learned counsel concluded by remarking that he had raised many points which had probably been raised for the first time in China.

Mr. Francis, Q.C., in replying on behalf of the appellants, said with regard to the application for security which had been resisted that day on the ground that the defendants had not given security, he would urge that the Court had what he might call the inherent jurisdiction of staying proceedings until the plaintiff had done that which would enable perfect justice to be given between the parties. The particular defence set up by the plaintiff on this application for security it was difficult to speak of in terms which were at the same time courteous and respectful and would fairly designate the nature of the objection. He sincerely hoped the position would not be persisted in, and he would submit to their Lordships that it was hardly consistent with the dignity of the Emperor of Japan that a subterfuge of that nature should be resorted to for the purpose of evading the jurisdiction and power of the Court to order security to be given. The correspondence before the Court appeared to be very simple and straightforward. A friendly suggestion was made that the plaintiff was willing, if a certain undertaking were given, no proceedings should be taken for the arrest of the vessel, and as little trouble as possible should be given. The defendants were asked if they would give an undertaking to appear and defend, and then there would be no necessity to go to the trouble of arresting the vessel. The undertaking was given under the full impression that was the only security the plaintiffs' advisers desired, and that they had the most perfect confidence in the solvency and sufficiency of the P & O Company to make payment any claim which might be established against them. Having referred to the correspondence, he submitted that on the face of the undertaking, the plaintiff was bound to submit to any order their Lordships might make, if the their Lordships allowed the counter-claim, or the advisers of the plaintiff must take their choice of having deceived the defendant, with the full knowledge of the use they intended to make in the lower Court and in that Court, of the correspondence, and if that was consistent with the dignity of the Emperor of Japan, which was being so hotly maintained in that Court, he should be very much astonished indeed. He should expect, at the very least, that before the conclusion of that sitting, opposition to the order for security for costs, would be withdrawn. Their Lordships had it in their full power to stay proceedings in the plaintiff's suit until he consent to do what their Lordships thought was just and equitable from beginning to ending, and if any special authority for that were needed he would refer their Lordships to Rule 33 of the Order of that Court. After reviewing some of the grounds of opposition to the appeal, the learned Counsel went on to refer to the way in which the Queen had derived her jurisdiction over her subjects in Japan. In 1859 Japan obtained entrance into the family of nations by conditions which were forced upon her. The condition was that she should, for a time at least, submit that all foreigners coming within the territory of Japan should be wholly and entirely under the laws of their respective countries and within the exclusive jurisdiction of the Courts of their own countries. It was not a delegation, it was not a concession; it was a right claimed to be exercised by Christian nations which then, for the first time, came into contact with her, and it might be fairly said to have been imposed upon her by force, as a condition upon which she was to be admitted into the great family of nations. He denied entirely that the word "delegation" could, under any circumstances, or from any conceivable point of view in connection with the matter, be used in connection with the jurisdiction that Her Majesty exercised in China and Japan. It was in no sense a delegation. It was in no sense derived from the Emperors of China or Japan in their respective countries. It was claimed as a right by Great Britain, and that right had been acceded to and consented to by the forms of the Treaties. With regard to the question of the Inland Sea being the territorial waters of Japan, the learned Counsel contended that it was in precisely the same position as the Solent, which had been held to be a common highway of all nations, and constituting the high seas. The Inland Sea had been a public highway ever since the public appearance of foreigners in this century in Japan, and the incidents connected with the attack on Shimonoseki clearly showed that all foreigners claimed the right of free navigation of that sea, that that claim was recognised by the Government of Japan, and that those who resisted it were compelled by force of arms to abandon their resistance.

The learned Counsel had not concluded when the Court rose for the day.

When a man leaves our side and goes to the other side he is a traitor, and we always felt that there was a subtle something wrong about him. But when a man leaves the other side and comes over to us, then he is a man of great moral courage, and we always felt that he had sterling stuff in him.

THE NATIONAL DEBT OF JAPAN.

Mr. M. de Bunsen, Chargé d'Affaires at the British Legation, Tokyo, has sent to Lord Rosebery a memorandum by Mr. Spring Rice, on the National Debt of Japan, which is drawn from a work recently published by the Financial Department. Mr. de Bunsen writes:—It is interesting as showing the rapid development of Government credit since the restoration. In 1870 a loan was raised in England at 9 per cent. at the issue price of 98; the average price of the Consolidated Five per Cent. Bonds at the time of issue, in 1886, was 100 04; they are now quoted at 108. The conversion of bonds has proceeded rapidly. Bonds to the total value of upward of £2,000,000 sterling will be paid off this year without option of conversion. As a result of this operation there will, by October, be no bonds bearing a higher rate of interest than 5 per cent., except the foreign loan of about £750,000, and the loan for the suppression of the south-west rebellion ($10,000,000), both of which will mature in 1897. The foreign loan pays 7 per cent. interest in gold, which, to Japan is about 13 per cent. on the capital received in 1873. The interest on the rest of the debt is paid in silver. A further sum of 60,000,000 yen (£8,500,000) is to be raised by yearly instalments of 5,000,000 yen for the construction of railroads. The total internal debt of Japan, exclusive of the foreign debt, will at the end of the year amount to about 252,000,000 yen. 10,000,000 yen at 7½ per cent., 10,000,000 yen at 4 per cent., 28,000,000 yen bearing no interest, and the remainder at 5 per cent. 22,000,000 yen are applied annually to the payment of principal and interest.

Total Debt of Japan in March, 1893.

In March last the internal and foreign debt of Japan was as follows:—

Name.	Description.	Amount. Currency. Yen.	Sterling. £	Interest. per cent.
1 ...	Old loan	6,364,180	... — ...	—
2 ...	New loan	10,525,925	... — ...	4
3 ...	Pension bonds (a) ...	30,740,020	... — ...	5
...	Pension bonds (b) ...	9,380,740	... — ...	6
4	Loan for redemption of unsigned paper money	7,879,900	... — ...	6
5 ...	Naval loan	16,480,000	... — ...	5
6 ...	Consolidated loan ...	148,150,900	... — ...	5
7 ...	Railway loan	8,000,000	... — ...	5
8 ...	Loan for suppression of S.W. rebellion ...	20,000,000	... — ...	7½
9 ...	Convertible Notes borrowed from Bank of Japan for redemption of Government paper money	22,000,000	... — ...	—
10 ...	Foreign debt	—	... 768,200...	7
	Total, internal debt ...	264,361,665	... — ...	—
	Total, foreign debt ...	—	... 768,200...	—

OLD AND NEW LOANS.

Prior to the restoration, each of the 277 fiefs had its own debt. In 1873, a cabinet ordinance declared that these debts became State liabilities. Those which had been incurred between 1844 and 1867 to be called the "Old Loan," and such as had been contracted between 1867 and 1871 (when the fiefs were abolished) to be called the new loan. After careful examination of the claims that were sent in (of which about half were rejected), and the payment in cash of claims amounting to less than 25 yen bonds to the amount of 12,418,175 yen were issued for the new loan, and 10,972,725 yen for the old loan. The bonds for the old loan are terminable annuity bonds expiring 1921; about 220,000 yen are paid off per annum. The bonds for the new loan were redeemable each year by lot—the whole to be redeemed by 1889, according to the original plan. The rate of interest is 4 per cent. The scheme, however, was frustrated by the attempt of Saigo to establish a separate Government in the southern island. The suppression entailed a great expenditure, and in 1877, the year of the rebellion, the redemption was suspended. The operations of paying off the bonds, &c., were entrusted to the Bank of Japan; 1-1,000 of the sums paid as principal, and 3-1,000 of the sums paid as interest were allotted as fees.

Pension Bonds.

The object of the pension bonds was to supply the noble and priestly classes with the means of a livelihood. Prior to the restoration, the greater part of the land was held by the Daimyos, and the rest was divided between the Imperial family, the Temples, the Shogun, and the Hatamoto, or Shogun's vassals and persons to whom grants had been made for meritorious services. The revenues from these lands were administered by the owners who supported their retainers with the proceeds, or gave lands rent free for military service. The occupiers paid a rent which varied according to the district, and, as a rule, enjoyed fixity of tenure with certain restrictions as to transfer and cultivation. The holdings changed hands by inheritance or adoption. The rights of the lord to raise the rents or to resume possession

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seem to have varied according to the circumstances. At the revolution, the Crown resumed the ownership of the land by the voluntary surrender or by force. The occupiers were given certificates of ownership, and, indeed of rent, paid a land tax to the Government, which thus, assuming the possession of the land, assumed with it the responsibility of providing for those who had been formerly dependent on the land.

To provide for these persons pensions were accorded to them, which at first amounted to one-third of the total outlay of the Government. Till 1875, these pensions were payable in rice. For that year they were made payable in money, the average price of rice paid to the Government for tax during the preceding 3 years being taken as the basis of conversion. The Daimyos were allowed one-tenth of their former revenues, and the military class were given pensions paid, not as before by the Daimyo or the tenant farmer, but directly by the Government.

In order to enable the poorer pensioners to obtain money for starting in business, they were allowed to capitalise their pensions in the following manner:—Hereditary pensions at six years' purchase, life pensions at four years, half to be paid in cash, half converted into bonds. The rate of interest of these bonds was to be 8 per cent. Many pensioners converted their pensions, with the result that, owing to ignorance of business (for in pre-revolution times the Samurai was forbidden to engage in trade), the proceeds were soon squandered. The system was, therefore, put an end to in 1876, after upwards of 35,000,000 yen had been handed over in cash and bonds. The redemption of the bonds was completed in 1883.

In 1878 the pensions which remained were converted into bonds at various rates according to their character and amount. Thus in the case of hereditary pensions above 70,000 yen, they were converted at five years' purchase, and interest allowed at 5 per cent. In the case of pensions between 100 yen and 1,000 yen interest was allowed at 6 per cent. Hereditary pensions less than 100 yen were divided into six grades, and the rate of interest was fixed at 7 per cent. Life pensions were converted in the same manner, but the amount of principal was reduced one half *

As a result, bonds to the amount of 173,861,000 yen were issued at rates varying from 5 per cent. to 10 per cent. of which the feudal pensioners became the holders. According to the original plan these bonds would have been redeemed in 17 years, but the Satsuma rebellion upset the Government's financial calculations. As a result of the various repayments, it will be seen that in March last of the 5 per cent. bonds 30,000,000 yen remained unpaid, and under 10,000,000 yen of the 6 per cent. bonds, which latter will be paid off in the course of the present year (1893). The 10 per cent. were all paid off in 1882, and the 7 per cent. in 1890. Before the conversion took place the Government paid in pensions upwards of 17,500,000 yen. The sum payable as interest on the hereditary pension bonds was 11,500,000 yen, a difference of 6 000,000 yen.

It is estimated that the military class (almost all of whom must have been dependent on rent or pensions) numbered about 6,000,000 at the time of the revolution, so that it is evident that only a small proportion of these were provided for.

PENSION BONDS TO SHINTO PRIESTS.

At the restoration the lands belonging to shrines were given up and the number of priests greatly reduced. A distinction was made between the Shinto and Buddhist priests, the latter being supposed capable of continuing the occupation and living on offerings. The Government took the former under its protection and granted pro rata bonds to those who had received incomes from former temple lands. The rate of interest was 8 per cent. The bonds were redeemable by lot, and were all paid off in 1886. The original amount was 380,411 yen. Besides these, bonds were assigned to various temples in exchange for the surrender of their lands. The total amount disbursed was 1,885,000 yen, and payment was completed in 1887.

REDEMPTION OF PAPER MONEY.

Shortly after the revolution the Government issued paper money which soon fell to a discount against coin, although the issue was limited to 32,500,000 yen. In order to keep up its value the Government offered to give 6 per cent. bonds in exchange for the notes on the amount of paper in possession of any person from December, 1873. The bonds were of two kinds, registered and unregistered, of which latter foreigners were allowed to become owners. On the resumption of specie payment in 1886 the issue of these bonds was suspended. Up to that date 6,669,250 yen were issued for the registered bonds, and 7,929,900 yen for the unregistered. The former are all paid off, the latter will be paid off in the course of the year (1893).

HOME AND FOREIGN LOANS.

NAVAL LOAN.

In 1886 a loan of 17,000,000 yen was authorised at 5 per cent, the proceeds to be expended on the navy. The principal was to be redeemed by lot at any time within thirty six years, no redemption to take place for the first five years. The bonds were to be allotted to the highest bidders in order. Four issues were made, the last taking place in 1889. At the first issue the average price paid was 103 75, and at the last 100 08.

PUBLIC WORKS.

In 1878 the Government decided to raise a loan of 12,500,000 yen, the proceeds to be devoted to improving the means of transportation and encouraging industries and agriculture. The issue price was eighty yen for one hundred yen bond, and the interest 6 per cent. The bonds were to be redeemed within twenty-six years.

The Nakasendo Railway Loan was issued in three instalments, from 1883-85, for the purpose of the construction of a line between Tokyo and Kyoto. It was the first to which foreigners were allowed to subscribe. The sum actually raised was 18,290,000 yen for 20,000,000 yen worth of bonds, at 7 per cent.

In order to complete the series of railways contemplated in the Act, a further sum of 2,000,000 yen was borrowed in 1889; the bonds (interest 5 per cent.) were allotted to the highest bidder, the average price being 100'35.

In June, 1892, a Bill was passed providing for the issue of bonds for the purpose of raising funds for the construction of railways. In 1893 a definite scheme of extension was approved of. A sum of 60,000,000 yen is to be raised from 1893 to 1905 in public 5 per cent. bonds, at 5,000,000 yen a year. The determination of comparative lines is deferred until the next session; but the scheme approved of provides for the construction of 1,200 miles. In September, 1892, the total mileage open was 1,750, with 100 miles in construction. The scheme contemplated involves a total mileage of 5,000.

In the budget for 1893 the receipts from the public works of the Government are estimated at about £2,000,000, and the money to be expended on subsidies, railways, &c., at about £1,250,000.

LOAN FOR SUPPRESSION OF THE SOUTH-WEST REBELLION.

The various complications with Korea, Formosa, &c., did not necessitate any special loan; but the rebellion in the island of Kiushiu, which lasted for 200 days in 1887, cost the nation 42,000,000 yen, and necessitated an increase of the national debt. Great difficulty would then have been experienced in raising the necessary funds had not the Fifteenth National Bank advanced 15,000,000 yen at 5 per cent. in bank notes, to be paid back in twenty years. The bank was allowed to issue notes beyond the limit prescribed by the Bank Act. Six years afterwards 5,000,000 yen was paid back, and 2,500,000 yen of the over-issue of bank notes having been withdrawn, the amount of the bank's reserve was made to conform with the law; but in consideration of the great services rendered by the bank to the nation at that critical time the rate of interest was raised to 7½ per cent. (which rate was considered fair at the time—1883). The Government was not to repay the principal for twenty full years from the original loan, *i.e.*, 1897.

FOREIGN LOAN.

This was the first loan raised abroad by Japan. With a view to develop the resources of the country by facilitating means of communication the Government of 1869 entrusted certain Commissioners with the duty of making a contract with an Englishman (Mr. H N. Lay), for the purpose of raising a loan of fixed amount on the security of the customs duties and the net income of a railway to be constructed with the proceeds of the loan.

The contract with Mr. Lay was dissolved, and the Oriental Bank Corporation conducted the operations. The amount was to be £1,000,000 sterling, then equivalent to 4,880,000 *yen*—interest to be at the rate of 9 per cent.; the sum of £100,000 to be annually redeemed, the process to be completed in 1882.

The issue price was £98 for every £100 bond. The proceeds were £980,000 or 4,782,400 *yen* were employed on the construction of the railway from Tokyo to Yokohama, and 2,000,000 *yen* for the purchase of gold and silver coin for recoinage. The expenses of issue amounted to about 1·72 per cent. owing to the appreciation of gold, the total amount disbursed for this 4,800,000 *yen* from the date of issue of the loan in 1869 to 1882, the year of maturity, was 8,869 513 *yen*.

The 7 per cent. sterling new foreign loan was raised for the purpose of furnishing funds for the commutation of the pensions of the former noble classes in order to start them in business (see above). A Japanese Commissioner proceeded in 1872 to London, where he succeeded in issuing bonds amounting to £2,400,000 sterling, which was equivalent to *yen* 11,712,006. The issue price was £92 sterling, and the proceeds were 10,833,600 *yen*. The interest was to be 7 per cent. paid in gold, and the debt was to be repaid by lot in twenty five years from the date of issue; £216,000 were to be paid every year for principal and interest. From 1873-89, a total sum of about 20,000,000 *yen* was paid, representing £3,456,000 sterling. The appreciation of gold cost Japan over 3,000,000 *yen*.

At the present (July, 1893) rate of exchange, Japan is paying 13 per cent. in silver on the amount received in order to discharge her gold liability. The debt matures in 1897; in March last £768,200 were out standing. The annual charge for interest and principal now amounts to about 1,500,000 *yen*.

THE CONSOLIDATED PUBLIC LOAN.

The consolidated public loan is to be raised from time to time as the Finance Minister thinks fit, for the purpose of converting and consolidating domestic debts bearing interest over 6 per cent. The total amount of the bonds to be issued is limited to 175,000,000 *yen*. In 1886, after the resumption of specie payments, Government bonds over 6 per cent. interest commanded a high premium; in that year began the work of conversion and consolidation. The consolidated public loan provides that the rate of interest is to be 5 per cent.; the bonds unregistered; the principal to be paid by lot within fifty six years of the issue of the bonds (1943) The bonds to be delivered first to the highest bidder; except for subscribers of sums smaller than 200 *yen* to whom bonds should be issued to the full amount of their subscriptions. The first issue was made in 1886; the amount was 10,000,000 *yen*. Nearly twice this amount was subscribed, and the bonds were finally disposed of at 100.04.

Besides subscriptions in cash, the Government received subscriptions of 179,650 *yen* in Government bonds bearing interest at 6 per cent. and upwards no doubt owing to the fear of the owners that the bonds should be immediately repaid. A special issue took place in 1888, when bonds to the value of 7,500,000 *yen* were handed to the Bank of Japan, at par, for the repayment of Treasury bills. The second public issue was in 1889, when bonds to the amount of 5,000,000 *yen* were issued, the average price being 100.3. At this issue, however, none of the high interest bonds were offered for conversion. It may be noted that these bonds may be held by foreigners. In these issues, however, one foreigner only appears as a holder in the official returns—bonds to the amount of 2,000 *yen* were issued to him.

Of the sums thus obtained amounting to 22,519,881 *yen*, 1,258,138 *yen* were paid out in the first year as interest and for the expenses of issue, and 18,130,545 *yen* was employed for the redemption of the 7 per cent. hereditary pension bonds. On each occasion for redemption a considerable number of persons demanded consolidated loan bonds instead of cash. From 1886-89 (after which dated statistics are not to hand) there were twelve drawings of 7 per cent. bonds for redemption, the aggregate amount drawn being over 64,000,000 *yen*, of which 43,000,000 *yen*, by the option of the holders of the drawn bonds, were exchanged for consolidated public loan bonds. Besides this, provisional holders of 6 per cent bonds, whether drawn for redemption or not, were permitted to exchange them for consolidated loan bonds.

SERVICE OF THE DEBT.

Twenty-two million *yen* are applied annually to the payment of principal and interest and of the attendant expenses. The amounts assigned to each item of the categories of the debt are, with the exception of the old internal debt, determined at the period of compiling the budget. As the holders of bonds drawn for redemption have in many cases preferred to exchange their bonds for consolidated loan bonds, there has been a gradual accumulation of money in the Treasury from the fund which is from time to time assigned for redemption. Taking advantage of this fact, the Government in April last issued a notification announcing the payment of 10,000,000 *yen* of 6 per cent bonds without option of exchange. It is announced that the remaining 6 per cent. bonds will be paid in a similar manner by October next with the result that except the foreign debt and the debt to the fifteenth national bank (the loan for the suppression of the south west rebellion) there will remain no debt with interest higher than

* In respect of pensions saleable by the former fiefs, the scale of conversion was 10 years' purchase at 10 per cent. The value of these bonds issued was about 9,000,000 yen.

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5 per cent. The total value of bonds to be paid this year in the above manner will be about 17,000,000 *yen*.

The consolidated loan will then amount to about 150,000,000 *yen* with an annual charge of 7,500,000 *yen*. Besides this there will be the old and new loans (the former an annuity loan without interest, the latter 4 per cent.), the 5 per cent. pension loan, the loan for the suppression of the south-west rebellion (7½ per cent.), the railway and naval loans, both at 5 per cent.

Comparing the charge of this debt for interest alone in the years 1887-83 and the present year, allowing for the 5,000,000 railway bonds to be issued and the repayments above specified, and excluding the foreign debt and the annuities, it appears that the charge of the debt for interest was a little under 14,000,000 yen in 1888, as compared with 11,200,000 yen in 1893-94, and 12,000,000 yen in 1892 93.

Against this must be set 1,828,000 yen to be paid this year for interest and principal on the foreign debt, as against 1,325,363 yen which was paid in 1887.

In 1890, a sum of 22,000,000 yen was borrowed from the Bank of Japan for the edemption of Government paper money. This sum was without interest, and was in convertible notes. Of the Government paper money, 25,000,000 yen's worth were in circulation in 1891 92, against 98,000,000 in 1882.

Summary

In order to obtain money for works of communication, the issue of coinage, and the necessary expenses of the reconstruction of the Government, two foreign loans were issued in the first six years after the restoration.

The old foreign loan at 9 per cent. was issued at 98 in the year 1870, and the new foreign loan at 7 per cent. was issued at 92 in 1873. They amounted together to 16,500,000 yen, or under £3,500,000, according to the then rate of exchange. Of this sum about £750,000 remains, on which interest is paid at 7 per cent. in gold, or calculated on the silver value of the interest and principal about 13 per cent. on the sum received. This debt, the only foreign debt of Japan, will be paid off in 1897. In 1873 measures were adopted for discharging the obligations carried over from the old Government to the new—various loans were issued—the new and the old loan into which the debts of the old fiefs were converted—the "Kinsatsu" exchange loan, for the redemption of paper money by Government bonds, and the loans for the conversion and repayment of pensions. These measures were adopted between 1873 and 1876. Except the payment of the pensions, amounting to about 18,000,000 yen (the money for which was chiefly obtained from abroad), none of these internal loans represented cash transactions. The new Government was simply assuming, in a definite and convenient form, the various ill-defined obligations of the old. The total amount of the indebtedness thus incurred was about $220,000,000.

In 1876 the peaceful reorganisation of the country was violently disturbed by the rebellion in the south-west island. New debts had to be incurred, and the repayment of the old debts was delayed. It was thought that the financial stability of the Government was only saved by the patriotism of one of the banks, which advanced a sum of 15,000,000 *yen* at a low rate of interest.

In 1877 the work of the development of the country was resumed. For this purpose a loan of 12,500,000 *yen* was issued, the proceeds to be devoted to public works. This was the first loan open to the general public and subscribed for in Japan. The nominal rate of interest was 6 per cent.; the real rate on the money received was 7½ per cent. In 1883 a new loan was raised for the construction of a trunk line between the new and old capitals. 18,000,004 *yen* was raised in three years, the rate of interest paid on the amount received being something over 7½ per cent.

In 1886 the resumption of specie payments took place. A loan of 17,000,000 *yen* was raised for the extension of the navy. Subscribers were numerous, and the cost in interest to the Government was under 5 per cent. In the same year the Government began the work of conversion, which has proceeded rapidly since that date. The consolidated public loan bonds at 5 per cent., issued at prices gradually rising from 100 to 108, has taken the place of the older loans at 6 and 7 per cent., with the result that the charge of the debt for interest has been reduced in 5 years from 14,000,000 *yen* to 12,000,000 *yen*.

At the same time the debt has been gradually paid off; and this year the Government obligations will be reduced to the extent of 12,000,000 *yen*.

CHESS.

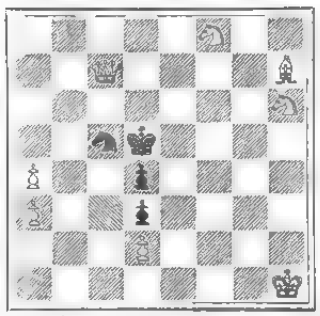
(All communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

The Yokohama Chess Club meets at the Club Rooms No. 88, Main Street on Mondays and Thursdays from 5 to 11 p.m.

The Tokyo Chess Club meets at the Hotel Métropole on Tuesdays from 1 to 11 p.m.

Problem No. 93.
By Rev. J. Jespersen.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in two moves.

The most notable event of the week in local Chess "circles" has been the successful establishment of a second Club in Japan. A meeting of those interested in the matter was held on Saturday, 14th, at the Hotel Metropole in Tokyo. About fifteen enthusiastic chess-players attended, including a contingent of three from the premier club, that of Yokohama—Messrs. Mowat (President), Griffin (Secretary), and Davieson journeying to the capital for the purpose of congratulating the Tokyo players and assisting in the new venture.

The meeting was called to order shortly after 4 p.m. and Mr. W. B. Mason was made Chairman. Mr. W. D. Cox kindly acting as Secretary. It took but a few minutes to establish the Tokyo Chess Club and officers were at once elected. Mr. W. B. Mason (an ardent votary of Caissa, whose artistic problems are well-known from Glasgow to the Antipodes, and who has been the moving spirit in founding the new Club) was unanimously voted the first President with Mr. C. H. McGee, Secretary and Messrs. Munzinger, Walz, and White, members of Committee. The Yokohama Chess Club Rules were then adopted with a few slight modifications (one of which is that Lady Chess players are admitted as Honorary Members); it was decided that the Club meet for play once a week on Tuesdays from 1 to 11 p.m. and the place of meeting be the Hotel Métropole, in Tsukiji, where the courteous manager Mr. Dewette proffered excellent accommodation.

Amid mutual felicitations the meeting concluded, and several players having brought boards and men with them, half a dozen friendly contests were at once begun.

The first regular meeting of the new Club was held on Tuesday, 17th, in the Club rooms and an Open tournament has been arranged to start immediately, so as to find out the relative strength of the members. There is already talk of the Yokohama Chess Club challenging the new Club to a match which will no doubt come off by the end of the year and we hope that Kobe, Nagasaki, and other open ports will now follow suit in establishing Clubs so that we may have plenty of good solid Chess-culture in this land of our exile. The Tokyo Chess Club has our heartiest good wishes. Long may it's banner wave in friendly defiance to all competitors!

The news from home by English Mail contains nothing startling. The *British Chess Magazine* for September devotes seven pages of solid matter to an article by one of the editors (Rev. C. E. Ranken) upon "Blindfold Chess and its connection with visual memory" as recently expounded by Professor Binet in the *Révue des deux Mondes*. It also gives an interesting abstract of a paper in the New York *Tribune* describing Siamese Chess, which appears to be much like the Chinese variety of our game. The *British Chess Magazine* further says "The almost tropical heat which has prevailed throughout the (British) metropolis for the last few weeks has reduced chess-playing to a minimum, and there is consequently but little to record of chess doings in London."

There is nothing new to report in the Nagasaki-Yokohama games; the storms of the last few days having cut-off communication by wire, the combatants are perforce idle.

The following correspondence game was played recently by two of our Tokyo friends, who have now become prominent members of the Tokyo Chess Club. We hope to hear of them and their doughty deeds again at an early date.

Giuoco Piano.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—K Kt to B 3	2—Q Kt to B 3
3—B to B 4	3—B to B 4
4—Q Kt to B 3	4—K Kt to B 3

It is not considered well for either player to castle early in this opening. If White castle at his fourth move, Steinitz recommends the following defence:—4—Castles, Kt to K B 3; 5—P to Q 3, P to Q 3; 6—B to K Kt 5, P to K R 3; 7—B to R 4, P to K Kt 4; with a strong attack on White's Castled King.

5—P to K R 3	5—P to Q 3

5 ..... P to Q 4 at once is better.

6—P to Q 3	6—P to K R 3
7—B to K 3	7—B to Kt 3 (best)
8—P to Q 4	8—P × P
9—B × P	9—Kt × B
10—Kt × Kt	10—P to Q B 3

Black wishing to keep his Bishop for the end-game does not continue exchanging.

11—Castles	11—P to K Kt 3

This seems injudicious and premature. He should have Castled and placed his King in safety before attempting any attack on White's position.

12—K R to K sq.	12—Kt to Q 2
13—Q Kt to K 2	13—Kt to K 4
14—B to Kt 3	14—Q to K B 3

14 ..... Q to K Kt 4 at once, with a view to B x P would have been much better.

15—P to Q B 3	15—Q to K 4
16—Kt to Kt 3	16—Q to B 5
17—Q to K 2	17—P to K R 4
18—Q to K 3	

White here offers exchange of Queens to open his Bishop's file and gain a counter-attack.

	18—Q to B 3
19—Q R to Q sq	

Preparing an attack on the Queen's wing.

	19—P to K R 5
20—Q Kt to K 2	20—R to R 4
21—P to K B 4 (best)	21—Kt to Kt 5
22—Q to B 3	22—Kt to K 4
23—Q to K 3	

The Black bishop exerts a potent but hidden influence on White's movements. K to R. sq is adicated.

	23—Kt to Q 2
24—K R to B sq.	24—B to Q B 4
25—Q to Q 2	

Strengthening his attack on the Q side.

	25 R to R 2
26—K to R sq.	26—Kt to K B sq.

26 ..... B x Kt would have been more satisfactory. White now pushes on to victory.

27—P to K 5	27—P × P
28—P × P	28—Q × P
29—Kt × P	29—Q to Q 3

If 29 ..... P x Kt the Queen mates. The battery behind the Knight is now unmasked.

30—Q to K B 4	

The coup-de-grace! White plays excellently and proceeds to polish off his adversary in fine style.

	30—Q × Kt

If 30..... Q x Q. 31 R mates.

31 B × B P ch.	31—Resigns.

If ..... 31—R x B, 32—Q x R and mate. If ..... 31—K to K 3; 32—Q to K Kt 5 ch., Q to K B 3, 33—Q x Q and mate.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[Reuter "Special" to "Japan Mail."]

London, October 14.

The United States Senate, after a sitting lasting thirty-nine hours, adjourned, the silver men preventing a quorum.

The *Vigilant* won the final race, and now holds the America Cup.

London, October 16.

The United States Senate has resumed the debate on the repeal of the Sherman Act. The latest reports point to the adoption of a compromise based upon the reduced purchases of silver.

["Special" Telegram to "Japan Mail."]

Nagasaki, October 14, 2.20 p.m.

After three days' successive heavy rain, a typhoon has reached this port. It commenced last night and is still raging. A number of junks and sampans have already been lost, and probably a few lives.

Tottori, October 18.

There is a big flood in Sanindo, and a hun-

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dred lives are reported lost in Inaba, though the returns as yet are far from complete. As communication with the country west of Hok. has been cut off, these districts have not yet been heard from, but the devastation further west is believed to be much greater than in the places named

[From the "N.-C. Daily News."]

London, October 9.

A monster procession took place in Dublin yesterday in memory of Mr. Parnell. Everything passed off quietly.

The Railway to Beira from Fort Salisbury has been formally opened. This facilitates communication with Mashonaland. Mr. Cecil Rhodes, Premier of the Cape Colony, has arrived at Fort Salisbury.

October 11.

The Austrian Government, yielding to the popular demand, has introduced in the Reichsrath a Bill for a wide extension of the suffrage.

The great strike of coal miners in Belgium is ended.

October 13.

The Washington Senate has begun a continuous sitting in order to secure a vote upon the repeal of the Sherman Act. The cloakrooms of the Senate are filled with couches for the convenience of tired members, and special arrangements have been made for supplying food. Senator Allen, who is in favour of the Act, spoke for fifteen hours. The repealers have defeated one of the free coinage amendments. The debate continues.

[From Manila Papers.]

Madrid, September 22.

Cholera is spreading throughout Biscay, continues in Belchite, and has broken out in Loja and Granada, although with less virulence.

There were inundations also in Castilla, causing more distress than in the Mancha. Huts were erected through charity for the accommodation of the poor and houseless in Villacañas

Madrid, September 26.

Sr. Sagasta, while attending the hippodrome yesterday, slipped and fell fracturing his right leg and spraining his left ankle. During the night inflammation set in, accompanied with great pain; but to-day he is better.

The King and Queen Regent have arrived at Madrid, and while passing through the streets were enthusiastically cheered.

The condition of General Martinez Campos, who was wounded in the leg through the explosion of a dynamite bomb the other day, is becoming worse. Fever has set in and he is confined to bed. Difficulty has been experienced in extracting the pieces of the projectile.

[From Tonkin Papers.]

Paris, September 23.

Cases of cholera are reported from various parts of Europe, but it is only in Russia that the epidemic is serious.

September 25.

M. Carnot was warmly cheered at the military review which ended the manœuvres.

September 26.

In a speech M. Carnot affirmed the sincere desire of France for peace.

The miners' strikes in the North are collapsing.

Paris, September 27th.

The Press announces the early appointment of a Minister for the Colonies.

Paris, September 29th.

General de Boisdeffre has been appointed Chief of the Staff of the Army in succession to the late General de Miribel.

The question of the creation of a Minister for the Colonies will be settled in the month of November.

The author of the bomb-throwing outrage at Barcelona has been condemned to death.

Admiral de Boissoudy is nominated Commander of the Mediterranean fleet.

A conflict has taken place between the gendarmes and the strikers in the North.

Paris, October 2nd.

The Czar of Russia has written to President Carnot, thanking him for the sympathy expressed by France for the wreck of the *Russalka*

Cholera has broken out on board the Italian ironclads.

Paris, October 4th

The French press expresses satisfaction at the signing of the treaty with Siam

The tone of the English press is bitter.

M. de Cassagnac is being prosecuted for an article reflecting on General Saussier, the Military Governor of Paris.

Prince Bismarck has completed his memoirs, which are to be published after his death.

Paris, October 6th.

General Dodds states that the Dahomey column is now ready to resume operations against Behanzin.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, Nagasaki, and Kobe ..	per N. Y. K.	Friday, Oct. 27th.
From America	per O. & O. Co.	Saturday, Oct. 28th.*
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co	Sunday, Oct. 22nd †
From Hongkong	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Oct. 24th.‡
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. M. Co.	Friday, Oct. 27th.
From Canada, &c., ..	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Oct. 30th.
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Wednesday, Nov. 1st
From America . .	per P. M. Co.	Sunday, Nov. 5th.
From Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co	Thursday, Nov 9th

* *Oceanic* left San Francisco viâ Honolulu on October 10th † *Peru* left Hongkong on October 23th. ‡ *China* left Hongkong on October 27th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Europe, viâ Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Oct. 22nd
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki	per N. Y. K.	Tuesday, Oct. 24th.
For America . . .	per P. M. Co.	Friday, Oct. 27th.
For Hongkong . . .	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, Oct. 28th.
For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Oct. 30th.
For Victoria, B.C., and Tacoma, Wash. . .	per N. P. Co.	Monday, Oct. 30th.
For Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, Nov. 3rd.
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Saturday, Nov. 4th.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, Nov. 10th

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Sydney, French steamer, 3,450, Augé, 14th October,—Marseilles 3rd September, Hongkong 5th October, Shanghai 9th, and Kobe 13th, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Ekstrand, 15th October,—Otaru viâ ports 9th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha

Benlawers, British steamer, 1,483, Webster, 16th October,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—Cornes & Co.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, R Tipple, 17th October,—Kobe 15th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, R. R. Searle, 17th October,—Hongkong viâ ports 6th October, Mails and General. P. M. S.S. Co.

Pak Ling, British steamer, 1,910, Long, 17th October,—London viâ ports, General.—W M. Strachan & Co.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, Kenderdine, 17th October,—Kobe 16th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Peru, American steamer, 2,540, Daniel Friele, 18th October,—San Francisco 30th September, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Niobe, German steamer, 1,666, E. J. Pfaff, 18th October,—Hamburg viâ ports, General—Simon, Evers & Co.

Petriever, American schooner, 75, H. J. Snow, 18th October,—North Pacific, 104 Seals.—T. M. Laffin.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,168, Crichton, 18th October,—Kobe 17th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. Young, 18th October,—Otaru viâ ports 14th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Polyphemus, British steamer, 1,803, R. F. Scale, 19th October,—Liverpool viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Fronto, German steamer, 632, Bohn, 19th October,—Petropaulovsky 12th October, Sea-skins.—Walsh, Hall & Co.

Clam, British steamer, 4,100, Daniel, 20th October,—Batoum viâ Hongkong 14th October, Petroleum.—Samuel Samuel & Co

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, Conner, 20th October,—Shanghai and ports 14th October, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,580, Selck, 21st October,—Nagasaki, Coal.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

DEPARTURES.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Pender, 14th October,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,168, Crichton, 14th October,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ancona, British steamer, 1,880, W. D. Mudie, 14th October,—Hongkong viâ Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O S.N Co

Samoa, British steamer, 4,507, Adams, 14th October,—Hongkong viâ ports, Light.—Smith, Baker & Co.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,358, Haswell, 17th October,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Ekstrand, 17th October,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, Kenderdine, 18th October,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, R. Tipple, 18th October,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Archer (6), cruiser, Commander J Rogers, 18th October,—Kobe.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, R R. Searle, 19th October.—San Francisco, Mails and General.—P M. S.S. Co.

Peru, American steamer, 2,540, Danie Friele, 19th October,—Hongkong, Mails and General.—P. M. S S. Co.

Benlawers, British steamer, 1,483, Webster, 20th October,—New York viâ ports, General.—Cornes & Co.

Cuthona, British ship, 1,762, W. Ditchburn, 20th October,—Portland, Oregon, Ballast —Order.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,168, Crichton, 20th October,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Pronto, German steamer, 632, Bohn, 20th October, —Kobe, Light.—Walsh, Hall & Co.

Pak Ling, British steamer, 1,910, Long, 21st October,—London viâ ports, General. W. M. Strachan & Co

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED

Per French steamer *Sydney*, from Marseilles viâ ports:—Messrs. Ishikawa, Oh Hatta, J. Edgard, Mr. and Mrs. Bean, Messrs. Tassard, Guiguard and boy, Magier, Barlatier, Munter and boy, E. Munter, Miss Jose Nidal, Messrs. Odon Vinals, Paw Ah Lei, Fonseca, Retallian, and Guidon in cabin.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Lieut. Blakeway, Captain Harrison, Mr. R. P. Drage, Mr. Dobie, Madame Tei Sono, and Mr. G. Mose and servant in cabin.

Per American steamer *Peru*, from San Francisco:—Captain A. Anderson, Dr Y J. Allen and Miss Mary Allen, Miss Lillian Bonnel, Rev. A H. Lang, Mr Geo. E. Woodhull, Mr. G. Eno, Kato, Mr. and Mrs. Colquhoun, Miss A. E. Lawrence, Mr. J. Bielgen, Miss R. L. Irving, Mr. Joseph Gerom, Dr. C. H. Irwin and Mrs. Irwin, and Miss Minnie M. Pickett in cabin; and 181 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, from Hakodate viâ ports:—Bishop McKim and Rev. Francis in cabin; 6 passengers in second class, and 79 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Mr. J. A. Taylor, Mr. Lowder, Mr. Macpherson, Mr. O Ito, Mr. A Messey, Mr. H. R. Mair, Mr. W. E. Gamble, Mrs. Weston, Mrs. Tobin, Mr. A. R. Eastlack, Mr. L. Bannans, and Mr. Rospopoff in cabin; Mr. S. Uyeno, Mr Katanka, Mr. Lean Ko, and Mrs. Tamura in second class, and 41 passengers in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Mrs. Ingles, the Misses Ingles (2) and child, Mrs. J. A. Douglas, Miss Douglas, Captain H Dumbleton, Mr. E. A. Ram, Mr. C. M Firth, Mr. and Mrs. Melhuish and servant, Messrs. Libeaud, W. W. G. Ross, A B. Walford, Tate, F. E. White, F. J. Liss, H. R. Mair, H. V. Dickinson, Fenton, C. M Duff, Showler, Lieut. Markham, Mrs Fisher, Mrs. De Ath, Mr. H. Tennant, and Mr. Tripp in cabin; 1 European, 6 Chinese, and 2 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, for Shanghai viâ ports:—Baron Von Gutschmid, Mrs M. Melvin, Mrs Cole, Captain Lee, Master H Lee, Messrs Louis Spetzel, William C. Eator, J. C. Hill, R. Miller, T. A. Shaw, L. K. Whiton, W. V. D. Wright, Fukuda, and Shinowara in cabin; Messrs. Watanabe, Otto, S Fukushima, and Ichiun in second class, and 77 passengers in steerage.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, for San

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Francisco :—Messrs. Y. Inouye, G. Nagasaki, K. Wakayama, E. Walter, E. Goltzmann, A. Gebermann, and C. Watanabe in cabin.

Per American steamer *Peru*, for Hongkong :—Messrs. F. Beverly, G. Gregory, Chater, H. H. Joseph, J. M. Shields, and Young in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, from Shanghai and ports :—Treasure, $200,000.00.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, for Hongkong via ports :—Silk, 929 bales; Waste Silk, 101 bales

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, for San Francisco :—

	SAN FRANCISCO.	TEA NEW YORK	CHICAGO.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	—	796	1,276	—	2,072
Hyogo	165	—	576	—	741
Yokohama ...	1,078	—	795	305	2,178
Hongkong ...	59	—	—	—	59
Amoy	—	610	—	—	610
Total.....	1,302	1,406	2,647	305	5,660

	SILK SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	HARTFORD.	TOTAL.
Hongkong	—	45	—	45
Yokohama	—	285	—	285
Total	—	330	—	330

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, Captain Tipple, reports :—Left Kobe the 15th October at 6 p.m.; had fresh to strong N.W winds with overcast, rainy weather to Oshima; thence to Rock Island moderate to strong S.E. and E. gales with heavy sea, overcast, rainy with heavy squalls; passed Rock Island at 1.10 a.m. on the 17th. Arrived at Yokohama at 8.20 a.m., had strong N.E. and N. winds, moderating rainy weather.

The American steamer *City of Peking*, Captain Searle, reports :—Left Hongkong the 6th October at 3 45 p.m.; on the 7th at 9.14 a.m. stopped the engines for 18 hours and hove to in a strong N.E. gale with high sea and all indications of a typhoon in N.E.; on the 8th at 3.47 a.m. started on our course, weather improving with strong N.E. winds and rainy barometer; on the 10th set in with heavy rains and fog to Nagasaki; on the 11th at 4 50 p.m. arrived at Nagasaki and left on the 12th at 7 50 p.m., during which time had continuous heavy rains; on the 13th at 6 a.m. passed Shimonoseki Straits; the same day at 6 p.m passed through the northern passage and at 6.25 p.m. anchored, weather thick and heavy rains with falling barometer; at midnight weather clearing proceeded on our course at 12.45 a.m. came to anchor, weather thick with very heavy rains; on the 14th at 5 a.m. let go the second anchor in a strong gale from N.E. with rising sea and floods of rain, lowest barometer 29.18; on the 15th at 5 30 a.m. started ahead on our course weather clearing and barometer rising; thence to Kobe light winds and rain; total time at anchor at Inland Sea 36 hours; on the 16th at 12.15 p.m. left Kobe, to Oshima light northerly winds; from Oshima to Rock Island strong S.E. winds and heavy swell; thence to port moderate N.E. breeze.

The Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, Captain Kenderdine, reports.—Left Kobe the 16th October at noon; had gentle breeze, rainy weather, and wind from E N.E.; at 4 30 p.m. wind hauled S.E. and E; at 9 5 p.m. passed Oshima Light, encountered between there and Rock Island high easterly and confused swell, heavy rain, thunder and lightning at times (moderate variable winds throughout the passage); on the 17th at noon passed Oma-saki; at 2 42 p.m. passed Rock Island; thence to Sagami-saki moderate confused swell, cloudy, clear, and fine weather, between 4.17 and 4.25 p.m. met *Kobe Maru*, *Tokai Maru*, and *Omi Maru* (off Vries Island) bound out; at 6.52 p.m. passed Sagami-saki Light; at 7.37 p.m. passed Kannon-saki Light. Arrived at Yokohama at 9 45 p.m.

The American steamer *Peru*, Captain Friele, reports :—Left San Francisco the 30th September at 4 8 p.m.; had succession of strong westerly gales, rain, and heavy weather; latter part S.E. to N.E. fresh breeze. Arrived at Yokohama the 18th October at 8.22 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Sagami Maru*, Captain Crichton, reports :—Left Kobe the 17th October at 4.15 p.m.; had light variable winds and cloudy weather with rain squalls to Oshima; thence to port gentle to moderate S and S.W. winds and fine weather. Arrived at Yokohama the 19th October at 3 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, Captain Conner, reports —Left Shanghai the 14th October at 1 p.m. and arrived at Nagasaki the 16th at 11.30 a.m.; experiencing heavy northerly winds with high seas. Left again the same day at 7.30 p.m. and arriving at Shimonoseki after a rough passage with heavy winds and seas from N N.E. at 10 a.m. on the 17th. Left again the same day at 1.30 p.m. and arriving at Kobe the 18th at 9.30 a.m. after a fine passage with light variable winds and clear weather. Left again the 19th at noon; experiencing strong winds from N.W. to N. with high seas to Rock Island, passing there at 10.30 a.m. on the 20th; thence to port moderate winds from N.E. with fine, clear weather. Arrived at company's buoy the 20th October at 4.10 p.m.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

There is practically no change to note in the Import Trade. Only a small "spot" business has been done in Yarns, while a few forward contracts have been made. In Piece Goods, Shirtings continue to be in brisk demand, and there are also good enquiries after Fancy Cottons. Buyers and holders, however, seem to have some difficulty in coming to terms. In Woollens, Cloths still find ready purchasers, but other lines are neglected.

COTTON PIECE GOODS

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8½ lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	$2.10 to 2 65
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 38½ yds. 45 inches	2.35 to 3 12½
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.50 to 1 85
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches...	1.70 to 2 35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches...	1.75 to 2 75
Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 32 inches	PER YARD. 0.16 to 0 21
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches ..	6.25 to 8.50
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches .	0 62½ to 0.77½
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2 4lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	PER PIECE. 1 40 to 1 47½
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1 57½ to 1.82½
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2 02½ to 2.47½
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2 65 to 2.85

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel	$0.17 to 0.45
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches heat	0 30 to 0.33
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0 25 to 0.30
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0 20 to 0.25
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0 13 to 0 19
Cloths—Pilots, 51 @ 56 inches	0 45 to 0 50
Cloths—Presidents, 51 @ 56 inches ..	0 60 to 0 65
Cloths—Oxnns, 54 @ 56 inches	0 50 to 0 70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 4 to 3½ lb, per lb.....	0 45 to 0 57½

COTTON YARNS

	PER PICUL.
Nos 16/24, Ordinary	—
Nos. 16/24, Medium	$35.00 to —
Nos 16 24, Good to Best	34 50 to 36 00
Nos 16 24, Reverse	—
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	—
Nos. 28/32, Medium	38 75 to —
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	38 50 to 39 50
Nos 38/42, Medium to Best	43 50 to 45 00
No. 32s, Two-fold	42 00 to 43 00
No. 42s, Two-fold	46.50 to 48.25
	PER BALE.
No. 20s, Bombay ..... Nom.	—
No. 16s, Bombay ..... Nom.	—

METALS.

Some little activity was seen in various kinds of Iron about a week ago and a fair amount was sold to arrive. The sinking of the *Denbighshire* in Kobe is reported to have had a marked influence on the market, as most of her cargo of Iron had been recently contracted for. Wire Nails are again in fair demand, but other lines are without enquiry.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ½ inch	$3 60 to 3 70
Flat Bars, ¾ inch	3 70 to 3 80
Round and square up to ¾ inch	3 15 to 3 30
Iron Plates, assorted	3 10 to 3.20
Sheet Iron	4.35 to 4 50
Galvanized Iron sheets	8.50 to 8 75
Wire Nails, assorted	5 30 to 5 65
Tin Plates, per box...	6 00 to 6 25
Pig Iron, No. 3	1 42½ to 1 45

KEROSENE.

This market has been rather more active of late, and a fair trade has been done. No arrivals since our last, but the first tank steamer (*Clam*) is now due.

Chester...	$1.70 to 1 75
Comet	1 60 to 1 70
Devoe	—
Russian Anchor	1 60 to 1 62½
Russian Moon	1.67½ to 1.60

SUGAR.

There has been but little business doing in Browns during the week, but owing to the small stock prices are very firm. Whites have enjoyed quite a brisk trade and rates show a rising tendency.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	$4 25 to 4 30
Brown Manila	5.10 to 5 20
Brown Daitong	4.00 to 4 05
Brown Canton	4 05 to 4 20
White Java and Penang	6.80 to 6 90
White Refined	7 55 to 9 20

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last issue was of the 13th instant, since which date settlements on this market are 1,614 piculs, divided thus: *Hanks*, 9 piculs; *Filatures*, 1,137 piculs; *Re-reels*, 227 piculs; *Kakeda*, 227 piculs; *Oshu*, 14 piculs. In addition to these figures, Japanese shipments have been 71 bales, making the total export for the week 1,700 piculs.

The movement noticed in the postscript of our last Circular did not develop to any great extent on account of the typhoon weather which has interrupted telegraphic communication with abroad. It was followed up to a certain point by sundry buyers who have taken a quantity of silk into godown; which, however, is not yet all inspected, shippers waiting for news from their headquarters. At the same time, the decline in prices may be considered checked, although there is no rise to note at present. Should news be favourable when the lines re-open, we may see a steady and perhaps advancing market; should the news be unfavourable, the decline will probably be renewed, as holders are getting rather anxious about the large stock which they have to carry.

Arrivals come in freely, and despite the large business done during the week, there is no reduction in the figures of our stock list.

Exchange has remained unaltered during the week, closing steady at quotations, as news comes in saying that the U. S. Senate have adjourned without settling the silver question. Such being the case, bankers are uncertain how silver will go when communication is restored, and are very firm at present rates.

There have been three shipping opportunities since we last wrote. The Canadian mail steamer, *Empress of Japan*, 13th instant, took 43 bales for the New York trade; the English mail steamer, *Ancona*, 14th instant, had 929 bales for France, and the P.M. steamer *City of Peking*, which sailed yesterday morning, carried 285 bales for the United States trade. The present figures are 10,798 piculs, against 20,758 piculs last year and 16,520 piculs at the same date in 1891.

Hanks.—Only one small purchase of *Maibashi* at $570. A parcel of *Chichibu* is now in treaty at $590, and probably good medium *Shinshu* could be done at the same price. Stock in this department is very small and attracts but little attention.

Filatures.—A large business in these, principally fine and medium sizes, although latterly some full sizes are said to have been taken into godown with a view to shipment to the United States. In fine sizes, Best *Sumitomo* has been done at $820; Best *Shinshu*, $790, with others in proportion down to ordinary *Shinshu*, medium size, at $700. In full sizes, *Tokosha* and similar silk are quoted at $725, with *Hiranosha* and like quality, $745.

Re reels.—Some business has been done, but no very large transactions Price paid is $685 for *Five Girl*, *Tortoise* and equal quality. No. 2 and lower quality have been done at prices ranging from $660 to $620.

Kakeda.—These have been cheap and a fair amount of business has been done at low prices. Extra S. Y. fine size, $740; good No. 1, like *Daruma*, $705; ordinary chops, *Bacupi*, *Musume*, etc., I., $660; II., $630; III., $600.

Oshu.—One purchase is said to have been made of *Hamatsuki* on late terms, but the exact price is not recorded.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK.)

Hanks—No 1	$620 to 630
Hanks—No 2 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	600 to 610
Hanks—No. 2½ (Shinshu)	590 to 600
Hanks—No. 2½ (Joshu)	580 to 590
Hanks—No 2½ to 3	570 to 575
Hanks—No. 3	560 to 565
Hanks—No. 3½	550 to 555
Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers.....	820 to 830
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	760 to 770
Filatures—No 1, 10/13 deniers	780 to 800
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den	740 to 750
Filatures—No 1½, 10/14 deniers	730 to 740
Filatures—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 den	720 to 730
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	700 to 710
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	690 to 700
Filatures—No 3, 14 20 deniers	—
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—(Oshu) Best No. 1	690 to 700
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	680 to 690
Re-reels—No. 1½, 13/16, 14.17 deniers...	650 to 660
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers.....	620 to 630
Re-reels—No. 2½, 14/18 deniers	610 to 615
Re reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	600 to 605
Kakedas—Extra	730 to 740
Kakedas—No. 1	700 to 710
Kakedas—No 1½	660 to 670
Kakedas—No 2	630 to 640
Kakedas—No 2½	610 to 620
Kakedas—No 3	580 to 590
Kakedas—No 3½	—
Kakedas—No. 4	—
Oshu Sendai—No 2½	—
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	670 to 680
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	630 to 640
Sodai—No. 2½	—

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Export Raw Silk Tables to 20th Oct., 1893

	Season 1893-1894. Piculs.	1892-93. Piculs.	1891-92. Piculs.
Europe	8,159	8,092	5,610
America	2,375	12,335	10,468
Total { Bales / Piculs	10,534 / 10,798	20,427 / 20,758	16,078 / 16,510
Settlements and Direct Export from 1st July	12,300	23,650	17,750
Stock, 20th October	14,600	9,100	15,050
Available supplies to date	26,900	32,750	32,800

WASTE SILK.

There has been rather more doing in this branch, settlements for the week being 625 piculs, divided thus: *Cocoons*, 40 piculs; *Noshi*, 186 piculs; *Kibiso*, 297 piculs; *Sundries*, 102 piculs. No direct shipments this week.

The market remains very dull and the stock is increased to large dimensions. Dealers are now more anxious to sell, but they will not come down sufficiently to induce general trade.

There have been two shipping opportunities since we last wrote, the *Empress of Japan* taking 66 bales of *Pierced Cocoons* for the Eastern States and the English mail steamer *Ancona* getting 101 bales various *Wastes* for Europe. The present export figures are 6,188 piculs against 6,955 piculs last year and 5,358 piculs on the 20th October, 1891.

Pierced Cocoons.—Very little done, best quality being absent from the market. Arrivals of common sorts continue, but without finding buyers.

Noshi.—Rather more doing, ordinary to medium being done at prices ranging from $68 to $73. One or two parcels of *Oshu* taken at $135, while one lot of *Joshu*, common, was done as low as $65.

Kibiso.—Some few purchases have been made; common *Filature*, $95, with *Oshu*, $90 and *Zaguri* at $60.

Sundries.—The only transaction has been a line of *Boseki-wata* at $25. In other sorts, nothing done.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW WASTE).

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	$145 to 150
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	135 to 140
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	125 to 130
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	140 to 145
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	115 to 120
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	105 to 110
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	95 to 100
Noshi-ito—Hoshu, Good to Best	120 to 130
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	85 to 90
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	75 to 80
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	65 to 70
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	110 to 115
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	100 to 105
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	70 to 80
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Good to Fair	40 to 45
Kibiso—Joshu, Middling to Common	30 to 35
Kibiso—Hachoji, Good	30 to 35
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	20 to 25
Kibiso—Nerr, Good to Common	—
Mawata—Good to Best	—

Export Table Waste Silk to 20th Oct., 1893:—

	Season 1893-94. Piculs.	1892-93. Piculs.	1891-92. Piculs.
Waste Silk	4,239	5,854	4,298
Pierced Cocoons	1,949	1,101	60
	6,188	6,955	5,358
Settlements and Direct Export from 1st July	7,400	13,200	8,900
Stock, 20th October	18,300	17,500	15,200
Available supplies to date	25,700	30,700	24,100

Exchange has remained at last quotations, at one time a little weaker but steady at the close:—LONDON, 4m/s. Credits, 2/5⅞, Documents, 2/5⅝; 6m/s. Credits, 2/6. NEW YORK, 30d/s. U.S. $59¾; 4m/s. U.S. $60¾. PARIS, or LYONS, 4m/s. fcs. 3.13, 6m/s. fcs. 3.15.

Estimated Silk Stock, 20th Oct., 1893:—

Raw.	Piculs.	Waste	Piculs.
Hanks	110	Cocoons	1,150
Filatures	8,360	Noshi-ito	3,850
Reelers	4,600	Kibiso	7,723
Oshu	1,480	Mawata	89
Tsuzuma Kinds	120	Sundries	488
	30		
Total piculs	14,600	Total piculs	18,300

TEA.

Another dull week in this market. There has been a light intermittent enquiry resulting in but little business as holders ask too high a price for the leaf now on the market and refuse to accede to buyers' offers.

	Per picul.
Common	$12 to 13
Good Common	14 to 15
Medium	17 to 18
Good Medium	19 to 20
Fine	22 to 23
Finest	24 to 26
Choice	27 to 29
Choicest	31 to 35

EXCHANGE.

Exchange, which weakened a few days ago, has again steadied, and remains unaltered

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	2 5⅞
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	2 5⅞
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	2/5 7/8
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	2/6-2 6/8
On Paris—Bank sight	3 06
On Paris—Private 4 months' sight	3 13 14
On Hongkong—Bank sight	Par
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	½ % dis
On Shanghai—Bank sight	71⅞
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	73⅛
On America—Bank Bills on demand	58⅛
On America—Private 30 days' sight	59⅛
On America—Private 4 months' sight	60⅛-6⅛
On India—Bank sight	Nominal
Silver (London, 17th)	33 1/16

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NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, OCT. 28TH, 1893.

BIRTHS

At No. 48, Settlement, on the 22nd inst., the wife of JAMES PENDER MOLLISON, of a Daughter.

At the Niche, No 156 Bluff, on the 22nd October, the wife of Captain J. TURNER HARRISON, of a Daughter.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE *Jiyu* has been suspended again this week.

THE reported resignation of Count Goto, Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, is denied.

THE Law of Admonition has during the week been enforced against several *soshi* resident in Yokohama.

MR. KOMURA JUTARO, a Councillor in the Japanese Legation in China, left Tokyo on the 3rd inst. for his post.

THE Autumn Regatta of the Yokohama Amateur Rowing Club was held in rather cold and stormy weather on Saturday last week.

MR HOSHI TORU has been advised to resign his seat in the Lower House by over one hundred and forty of his electors.

THE British Minister to Japan and Mrs Fraser, are said to have left London on the 29th ult in the *Australia* for Japan.

THE mortal remains of Mr. Henry Barlow, a very old resident of Yokohama, were interred in the Cemetery on Sunday.

H.B.M.'s SUPREME COURT at Shanghai has reversed the decision of the Court below in the *Chishima-Raveuna* Appeal

THE Minister of the Navy has issued a notification defining the classification of torpedo boats as follows:—Torpedo boats of a displacement of over 70 tons each, first class; boats between 20 tons and 70 tons, second class; and boats under 20 tons, third class.

DYSENTERY and typhoid fever are epidemic in several of the Southern prefectures. Many cases are also reported from Tokyo

THE concert organised by Mrs. Irwine took place on Tuesday evening at the Public Hall and proved a most enjoyable affair.

THE case of the Rev. Mr. Tamura, the author of the "Japanese Bride," is still the subject of heated controversy in native Christian circles.

THE EMPEROR has returned to Tokyo, having inspected the whole of the autumn manœuvres of the Imperial Body Guards in Gumma Prefecture.

THE Franco-Japanese Law School, Tokyo, held its graduation exercises on the 21st inst. M. Boissonade delivered an address on the occasion.

THE publication of the *Hokuriku Mimpo*, of Toyama Prefecture, was suspended by the Authorities on the 19th inst. for the usual offence

COUNT ITAGAKI left the capital on Saturday last in order to assist the candidate of his Party in the approaching election in the Fifth Election District of Miyagi Prefecture.

THE net profits of the Kobu Railway Co. during the past half-year amounted to *yen* 54,000, of which the Directors propose to declare a dividend of ten per cent. per annum.

H.I.H. PRINCE KOMATSU AKIHITO, Commander-in-Chief of the Imperial Body Guard, will command the troops of the Tokyo garrison at the Imperial birthday review on the 3rd prox.

MR. DUN, the U.S. Representative, stumbled and sprained his ankle when landing the other day at the French Hatoba. Several official dinners have been postponed in consequence.

HIS EXCELLENCY MUTSU MUNEMITSU, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, and Madame Mutsu have issued invitations for a ball at the Rokumeikan on the 3rd prox., in honour of the Emperor's birthday.

THE Flower Shows at Dangozaka were opened on the 25th inst., but though the figures and groups appear to be completed, the chrysanthemums are only in the bud stage and will not be at their best for a week or ten days yet.

DETAILS of the damage caused by the recent inundations are coming in slowly. The state of affairs in the devasted districts is most deplorable. Many villages have been entirely wiped-out, and the loss of life is very great. Assistance is being extended both by Government and private agencies to the sufferers.

HIM THE EMPRESS visited the Fine Art Exhibition arranged at the Tokyo Charity Hospital, on the 24th inst. After inspecting the hospital wards and the exhibition rooms, Her Majesty presented a donation of $1,000 to the funds of the institution.

THE Tokyo members of the Great Japan Society have determined to bring the organization within the purview of the Law of Political Associations. It has also been decided to form a social Club with the object of investigating the scientific aspects of Mixed Residence

THE Marquis of Salisbury, we are informed by telegraph, says the present is not the time for Great Britain to doff her armour and appear weak in the eyes of foreign nations, especially when one remembered what was passing in Asia and in the Mediterranean, he advocated a strengthening of the Navy; the Italian Government, in order to meet military expenses has increased taxation by 40,000,000 lire; the Washington gold reserve has fallen to $83,000,000 and Secretary Carlisle warns the Government to expect a deficit of $50,000 if the present condition of affairs continues; a commission is sitting in Paris, consisting of two French and two British delegates, to discuss the boundaries of the buffer state between Burmah and Siam; Marshall MacMahon and M. Gounod, the composer are dead; the Russian Squadron in the Mediterranean have been enthusiastically received at Toulon, but the Russian Government is throwing cold water on the affair; the British Mediterranean Squadron were fêted at Taranto in Italy, but the British Government likewise desires the affair to be considered non-political; Mr. Asquith advocates the forwarding of the Newcastle programme alone in the next session; the Shanghai Cotton Mills have been entirely destroyed by fire; the silver debate in the U.S. Senate has resulted in a compromise, the silver Democrats having resolved to drop the fight against the Repeal Bill, but a later message says that the President will have no compromise, nothing, in short, but repeal; M Gerard replaces M. Lemaire as French Minister at Peking.

THERE is at length an improvement to note in the Import trade, especially in the Manchester department. Notwithstanding a distinct rise in values, Yarns are in fair demand, especially Doubles, though there is but little change in the demand for Shirtings, and only small lots of T.-Cloths have been taken. Fancy Cottons continue in some request, and quite a brisk business has been done in Velvets, though at unchanged rates. Some life has at length been infused into the Woollen trade, activity appears in Mousselines "to arrive," and there are also buyers of Blankets and Italian Cloths. A better tone prevails in the Metal market, Plate and Sheet Iron being in fair demand at better prices, and Wire Nails continue to be sold at slightly higher figures. There has not been a great deal done in Kerosene, and a large quantity of Russian Oil has arrived during the interval. The Sugar trade has again become lively, and for the qualities most in request a stiff rise has had to be paid, Takao sorts having advanced as much as 40 cents per picul, and extensive operations have very much reduced the stock. There has also been considerable activity in Whites, and all brands are held for more money. There has only been a small business in Tea, the purchases of leaf being confined to medium and common grades at late rates. The Silk business shows a falling-off compared with the previous week, largely due, perhaps, to the break in telegraphic communication with abroad, which lasted during the greater portion of the interval, assisted by the unsettled state of financial affairs in America. Meantime, the stock is piling up on this market, there being now nearly 16,000 piculs of unsold Silk, with a large quantity up country ready for transport directly there is the smallest chance of selling it. Prices are about the same, though holders, being anxious to be moving, are not difficult to deal with. After the above was in type, we learned that business began to move briskly, though at lower prices, and several parcels have been settled. There is very little life in Waste Silk, and the stock will soon be up to 20,000 piculs if a movement is not shortly made. Exchange has risen slightly on the week, but rates do not appear to be strong.

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THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The acquittal of the accused in the Soma case and the curious complication to which the case has given rise, have been the principal topics of conversation during the week under review. We have already reproduced the substance of some interesting articles in the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* dealing with the positions of the different metropolitan papers on the case in question. As our contemporary observes, this case has taught journalists as well as their credulous readers a powerful lesson as to the danger of accepting gossip and hearsay evidence without due caution and reflection, though it is not perhaps to be expected that the salutary effect of the lesson will be durable. Papers like the *Nichi Nichi* even suggest that the Judges might have used more caution in taking up the case at all, or having taken it up, they might have saved the public much unnecessary excitement by using more judgment in the selection of witnesses. But the case of the late Viscount Soma having long been the subject of widespread doubt and suspicion, it was, in our opinion, perfectly right that the Judges should take every possible step to find out the true facts of the case, and that it was better that they should have erred on the side of needless caution than that they should have given any cause, however unwarranted, to the public to complain of their unwillingness to investigate the matter as thoroughly as possible. As it is, no paper, except perhaps the perverted *Jiyu Shimbun*, refuses to acknowledge that Judge Okada has conducted himself throughout in a most exemplary manner. With regard to the released prisoners in the case, the papers are agreed in holding them answerable in the Court of morality, not indeed, for the murder of their late lord, but for their illtreatment of him during his life time. On this point all papers are united, and the moral culprits are advised to withdraw themselves from the management of their master's household. As to Nishigori and his confederates the papers do not seem to know as yet what to think of them. But an opportunity to form a true conception of their characters and their motives in originating the case which has caused so much excitement will be soon afforded by their trial on the charge of false accusation. It may also be added that the *Choya Shimbun* advises the Tokyo Local Court to make public the report of the preliminary examination of the Soma case. But the law does not allow such a course.

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The Soma case has furnished the *Fiji Shimpo* with an opportunity to discuss the question of the financial management of noble families in general. It may seem a little singular that a paper, which is well known for its consistent and thoroughgoing opposition to the maintenance of any artificial barriers of free intercourse between men and men, should show any solicitude for the continued prosperity of the privileged class in question. By way of explanation, our contemporary observes that, although it is most uncompromisingly opposed to the creation of new peers, it entertains different views with regard to the former *daimyo*, the real nobility of the realm. Our contemporary of course includes in the category of desired nobles the former *kuge*, who certainly yield nothing in point of illustrious descent to the territorial lords. Now the *Fiji* holds that the preservation of these ancient and illustrious families is as desirable as the preservation of those shrines and temples which add so much to the position of the Empire from historical and artistic points of view. It gives, therefore, no small pain to the Tokyo journal to observe that many of these noble families are in danger of their property and social position on account of the mismanagement or more frequently the incapacity of their stewards and servants. These latter are entirely made up of the former vassals of the respective noblemen, and true *samurai* as they are, they are most of them so completely ignorant of business matters that they are helpless when once they get into the hands of adventurers or sharpers. As to the masters of these noble families, they are mere children in monetary affairs. Under such circumstances our contemporary thinks it a matter of national importance that something should be done to place the noble families above the reach of crafty speculators. The Government, indeed, has not left the matter unheeded, and a certain portion of each nobleman's estate is registered as hereditary property and placed beyond his independent control or disposal. But this provision is not adequate, and our contemporary thinks that the object in view could be efficiently attained, if a number of men with wealth and enjoying the confidence of the public could be induced to form a company for the purpose of undertaking the management and care of noblemen's estates But there is little hope of such a company being formed; and as a measure more easy of execution, our contemporary proposes that the estates of noble families should be entrusted to the control of a consultative body elected from the former vassals of each family. Our contemporary cannot but be aware that exactly or nearly the same system is now being followed with eminent success in the case of several families of the former *daimyo*; and so its intention is no doubt to recommend its general adoption.

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The recent disastrous inundations in South-Western Japan still continue to receive a large amount of journalistic attention. As detailed reports are received from the devastated localities, injuries done to life, habitation, and the crops are found to be greater than at first anticipated, both in points of area and degree. The papers have opened subscriptions for the relief of the sufferers, but the funds obtainable from this and other private sources are inadequate to meet the requirements of the case. Apart from the relief of the people in distress, large sums of money are needed for repairing the river embankments and roads. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, the *Kokkai*, and a few other leading papers in the capital, consequently, urge upon the Government the necessity of taking upon itself the responsibility of using the surplus in the Treasury for meeting immediate demands by way of relief to the sufferers and the repairs of the damages done to embankments and roads. It is no time, say these papers, for the Government to show any hesitation for fear its conduct might not be approved by the Diet. These journals also advise the local authorities to take the prompt and effective measures in their power to give relief to the poor sufferers under their care.

* * *

The Japan Educational Society has just received a check in its prosperous career by the simultaneous retirement of the Ministers of State from its honorary membership. That society, as already stated in these columns more than once, has lately become an instrument of political opposition to the present Minister of Education under the guidance of a few ambitious persons who harbour some private grudge against Mr. Inouye Ki Such being the case, the Educational Society and its guiding spirits are not well spoken of by the papers. The *Choya Shimbun*, for instance, regards the retirement of the Cabinet Ministers as a death blow to it. The society—says that paper—is no longer devoted to educational matters; it has now become a purely political association, and its journal is filled with articles directed against the policy of the Government. The *Yomiuri Shimbun*, which is not ordinarily inclined to criticise unfavourably any set of persons attacking the Government, makes an exception in the case of Mr. Tsuji and his followers. They are declared to be vulgar agitators, and the members of the Educational Society are recommended to drive these persons out of their fold, and restore their society to the important and useful position it used to occupy in the field of education until it began to be employed as an instrument of political agitation. The *Mainichi Shimbun* alone congratulates the society on the retirement of the Cabinet Ministers, for the event may prove a step to the entire independence of that body from official control Our contemporary welcomes the event from a political point of view also. The Ministers have little to fear from the opposition of the Educational Society, and yet they have taken a joint action against that body. Now the Progressionist paper hopes that they will follow the same principle of action in the political field.

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The party organs are careful not to commit themselves to any definite opinion as to the use of the surplus in the way suggested by independent papers. In fact they have thus far entirely refrained from touching this topic. The *Mainichi Shimbun* has commenced a series of articles on the subject of immediate repairs to the embankments and roads, and it may be expected that the question just alluded to will be discussed before the essay is brought to a conclusion. But thus far no allusion has been made to that feature of the subject. Our contemporary holds the Government responsible for the disastrous inundations in recent years. The ever increasing destructive force of these floods is stated to be the result of the Government's faulty policy in the management of rivers and forests. To enumerate a few of the principal points by way of illustration, the Progressionist organ refers to the transfer to the charge of local taxes of the burden of keeping river courses in repair; to the indiscriminate sales of timber from under the Government control; and to the neglect of the authorities to plant the denuded mountains with trees. These and other courses equally attributable to the Government have, in the opinion of the *Mainichi*, led to the increase of disastrous inundations since the Restoration. Our contemporary then proceeds to discuss the methods that should be adopted for the prevention of disastrous floods.

* * *

The strong movement made by the principal citizens of the capital for the abolition of the special system of Municipal Government, is enthusiastically taken up by the organs of the Progressionist party. The special system practised in the three cities of Tokyo, Kyoto, and Osaka is this: that whereas in the case of other municipalities the functions of Mayor are discharged by a separate and elected official, the office is, in the case of the above mentioned cities, combined to the person of the Governor. This system, it is claimed with apparent justice, gives rise to various inconvenient results in practice, because the functions of Governor and Mayor very often come into collision. For instance, when there arises a dispute between the elective governing body of the municipality and the *Fu* authorities and an appeal is made to the Court of Administrative Litigation, the Governor, who is the chief of both sides at the same time, has to appear in the double character of plaintiff and defendant. Petition for the abolition of this system has been repeatedly presented to the Diet, and it every time received the unanimous approval of the House of Representatives. But the House of Peers has always proved obstinately opposed to the proposal. The citizens of Tokyo are, therefore, advised by their Progressionist friends to devote their energies to interviewing the members of the Upper House individually and explaining to them the reasons why the change proposed is absolutely necessary.

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Writing upon the memorial, which the *Toho Kyokai* (Oriental Association) recently submitted to the Cabinet, relating to the opening of a conference in Tokyo between the delegates of Japan, England, Russia, and the United States for the consideration of the regulation of fisheries in the North Pacific, the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* approves the proposal as a desirable one. Our contemporary, at the same time, draws attention to the fact, that whatever arrangements may be made between the countries named above, its practical enforcement depends upon the strength of each Power. It consequently urges the importance of increasing the fighting capacity of the Empire to the necessary point.

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EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE "JIJI SHIMPO" ON MIXED RESIDENCE.

THE *Jiji Shimpo* seems to be sorely vexed at our comments on its recent article dealing with the origin of the present neo-anti foreign tendency in Japan. Our worthy contemporary appears to resent it as an act of impertinence on our part that we should attempt to discuss the secrets of internal politices which, being a foreigner, we are presumed to be incapable of understanding, and charges us with frequent misstatement of facts and errors of judgment. It then goes on to observe that its language in regard to the manner in which the Government's change of educational policy in 1881-1882 acted upon public opinion, was not misleading, but so perfectly plain that it is impossible to mistake its import Nobody, says the *Jiji*, would doubt that reference was here made to the general effect which the change of educational policy in question had upon the community as a whole. We do not doubt that such was the meaning intended by our contemporary, but we still persist, and we believe every Japanese capable of understanding his native tongue will agree with us, in regarding its language as decidedly misleading. Here are the words used by it:—"Perhaps the authorities themselves did not expect at that time that it [the change of educational policy] would lead to such results. Education may be compared in its action to alcoholic liquor. But while the effects of liquor manifest themselves in the short space of five or six minutes, the action of education is more slow, its results being only felt after an interval of six to ten years. The conservative tendency of the last few years, and the rise of the present anti-Mixed Residence movement, are the effects of an educat on liquor which the authorities forcibly prescribed in 1881-1882." Does not the passage just quoted at least leave the reader in doubt whether the writer alludes to the direct effects of education or the indirect effect it produces upon the general public? However, this discussion about language is immaterial, since our contemporary has avowed that it did not mean the direct effect of education; and we would not have dwelt upon the point at this length, had not the *Jiji* attempted to conceal the fault of its original language by charging us with incompetence to understand Japanese.

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The *Jiji's* principal point of complaint against our comments on its article is this: that, either in ignorance of the real state of affairs or from a desire to defend certain persons, we have referred to the doctrine of *Kokusui hoson* as the cause of the present neo-anti-foreign tendency. Now our contemporary maintains that the doctrine of *Kokusui hoson* was one of the effects of the reactionary educational policy adopted by the Government in 1881-1882. Since we may not be familiar with the actual state of affairs at that time, the *Jiji* condescends to conduct us into the inner side of Japanese politics fifteen years ago. It alludes to the loud clamour made by the people in 1878-1880 for the establishment of a National Assembly, and to the alarm of the Authorities at the extreme views advocated by the politicians outside the Government. The Cabinet Ministers, though they were in favour of the introduction of a constitutional system, thought it absolutely necessary to counteract the tendency to radicalism by reviving the old system of the Confucian philosophy as the basis of national education. The reactionary policy of the Government is said to have been so thoroughgoing that English was driven out of the curriculum in primary schools. Our contemporary even states that the Authorities did not allow a commercial academy at Yokohama to give instructions in English. In those days the Government, continues the *Jiji*, exercised vast influence over the political world, and the reactionary policy introduced by it with so much zeal in the educational sphere soon had an effect upon society at large. Old conservatives, who had long been forgotten by the nation, gradually emerged from their hermitages, and began to swell the stream of reaction by establishing various associations and starting journals. The *Jiji* will not disclose the names of these persons and the associations and parties they formed, because there is no use for a foreigner like ourselves to attempt to know such secrets of Japanese politics. But our contemporary tells us that the blame of originating the reactionary movement must be laid at the door of the Government of that time. Concerning Count Ito and Count Inouye, the Tokyo journal gladly recognizes that the object of their lives has been and will be to promote the progress of Japan. But they are accused of a lack of courage to carry out their progressive ideas. In 1881-1882, they were no doubt secretly opposed to the revival of the old system of education, but they were not influential or courageous enough to openly resist the adoption of such reactionary policy. Several years after this—observes the *Jiji*—they became powerful in the Government, and in order to redeem their failure of 1881-1882 they put forth all their exertions to promote the civilization of their country, even going to the length of introducing fancy balls. Our contemporary, therefore, gives them credit for having always been in favour of a progressive policy, but blames them for their occasional inability in the past to effectually restrain the conservative propensity of their colleagues. If we are not satisfied with its explanation, our contemporary promises us to favour us with more of the history of the present anti-foreign movement. In conclusion, the *Jiji* advises us that, if we have any ulterior motive in the discussion of this question, we had better remember the Japanese proverb which says that silence is better than speech (*Iwanu wa iu ni masaru*).

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We have no desire to enter into discussions on what our contemporary calls the secrets of Japanese internal politics. Neither have we time or material at hand to attempt anything like an exhaustive analysis of the causes that have been at work to bring about the present state of affairs. But with all respect for the extensive information possessed by our worthy contemporary on the subject under discussion, we see no reason why we should change our original attitude towards its "simple and sweeping statement of the *origo mali*." Broadly speaking, the conservative tendency that commenced to manifest itself in educational and social fields in 1881-1882 was an unavoidable reaction against the sweeping and radical changes introduced during the preceding decade and a half, and so far as its origin was concerned had little or nothing to do with the alleged change of educational policy on the part of the Government. If such change was really made, it may be regarded as only one of the different ways in which the reactionary movement began to manifest itself. But for several years the movement in question was not very strong, and it was not until the so-called doctrine of *kokusui hoson* (preservation of the excellent phases of the Japanese national characteristics) was zealously advocated by a large school of thinkers that the reactionary movement began to assume an essentially anti-foreign tendency,—a tendency which has not certainly been restrained by writings like those of the *Nippon* and some other journals in the capital. If to this internal cause of the movement, are added the sense of wrong, fancied or otherwise, which the Japanese certainly entertain against foreigners, we believe we have done something to explain the new-anti-foreign movement which now threatens, under the guidance of Mr. Oi and others, to sway the minds of the lower classes of the people.

REPORT OF THE IRON FOUNDRY COMMITTEE.

THE Iron Foundry Committee lately visited Kamaishi, says the *Nippon*, to inspect the iron mine there; they have now returned and forwarded their report to Mr. Saito, Vice-Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, who is at the same time Chairman of the Committee. The Report is said to substantiate the investigations carried out by the mining engineers of the Noshomusho, Messrs. Ozuka and Noro, some years ago, and this not only with regard to the iron mine of Kamaishi but also those of Sennin and Akadani. A rumour goes to the effect that the Report contains the statement that the quantity of mineral in those mines is fully adequate to supply material for the Foundry established to meet the requirements of this country. The failure of the Kamaishi mine, when it was conducted by the Government, is ascribed by the Committee to the following points:—

Inaccuracy of the investigations with regard to minerals contained in the iron mine
Narrowness of sections worked.
Insufficiency of the supply of fuel and coal.
Inconvenience of transportation
Insufficiency of demand for the mineral
Costliness of pig-iron
Want of experience on the part of experts.

In other words, the Committee are said to be of opinion that the material in the Kamaishi mine is abundant, and that the failure of the Kamaishi mining undertaking experienced some years ago was traceable to causes with which the quantity of the mineral contained in it had nothing to do.

SNIPE.

SNIPE appear to have come down from the north in goodly numbers, and several good bags were made in the neighbourhood of Yokohama and Tokyo on the opening day, two very young gunners getting 83 birds between them. We find the following in a Straits paper:—"Snipe are giving good sport in Krian. On the Sunday before last Messrs. Birch, Bird, and Wallich, shooting for an hour and three-quarters in the afternoon, got 53½ couple at Parit Buntar, and the next morning, on the same ground, the same three guns bagged 121½ couple, Mr. Birch getting 56½ couple to his own gun."

"PURSUIT OF A POACHING VESSEL."

THE *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* and the *Yomiuri* give an account, which they nevertheless regard as somewhat exaggerated, of the stopping of a poaching vessel. The Japanese war-vessels *Takao*, *Naniwa*, and *Takachiho* are now cruising along the coast of the Kuriles, apparently with the design of preventing the approach of poachers. On the 17th ult. one of the ironclads entered the Bay of Shikotan in the Kuriles, the other two having been anchored in the Harbour of Nemuro. A party of officers who had landed with the intention of proceeding to the village office, met on the road a Japanese sailor presenting a miserable appearance, who approached and implored their protection, explaining that he had been engaged by a foreign vessel but that he had fled from her unable to bear the ill usage to which he was subjected. He was taken to the ironclad, where a conference of the officers appears to have been held as to the manner of disposing of him. The result was that they decided to restore him to the ship from which he said he had fled, a decision concerning which no explanation is given in the papers from which we quote. Accordingly, the *Takao* started for Anama, another port in the Kuriles, when the foreign ship was said to be lying and delivered the man to her, after which the war-vessel joined her associates at Nemuro. When this affair of the sailor was reported to the officers of the other two ironclads, it assumed quite a new complexion, the general opinion being entirely opposed to the course taken by the captain of the *Takao Kan*. It was therefore decided that the *Takao* should once more start for Anama and observe the movements of the foreign ship. Not content with this, one of the remaining two vessels, the *Naniwa*, set out three days later for the same port, with a police inspecter on board. The two Japanese war-vessels approached the foreign ship and ordered her to deliver up the four Japanese sailors she had on board, and also to quit the port at once The foreign vessel persisted that it was impossible to comply with this demand, since her captain was away and she was awaiting his return, but this objection being overruled, her crew consented at last to quit the port at 6 o'clock the next morning. Some time after dark on the same day, it was discovered that the vessel

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had stealthily slipped away, whereupon a small steamer was sent in pursuit, and she was overtaken at last despite her attempts to elude the pursuit and her incessant sounding of an alarm to summon rescue. The four Japanese were than taken out of her and she was allowed to proceed on her way. The vessel was the *Arctic*, which had originally started from Hakodate for Copper Island and its vicinity on a sealing expedition about the beginning of July, after having engaged five Japanese sailors, and procured provisions and hunting implements. Off the coast of Copper Island she hunted for two or three months, during which she lost two boats and one Japanese sailor during foggy weather, and afterwards met a Russian cruiser which took away her papers, on the ground that she was poaching in Russian territorial waters.

JAPAN AND THE CURRENCY PROBLEM.

SINCE the free coinage of silver has been stopped in India, writes the *Kokumin*, the question what should be done about the currency system of Japan has become the burning topic of the hour. Among those who advocate the maintenance of the present system the names of Count Okuma, Mr. Fukuzawa, editor of the *Jiji Shimpo*, and Mr. Taguchi, editor of the *Keizai Zasshi*, stand prominent, while Count Matsukata, Mr. Tajiri, Vice-Minister of Finance, and Mr. Sakatani, Vice Director of the Mint Bureau, are known as advocators of the gold standard. That this problem is at present attracting the deepest attention both of the Government and of the public at large may be easily inferred, if we observe how many societies have been specially organized for the purpose of discussing the subject and how many others are now carrying on similar investigations. These are, for example, the Currency System Investigation Society, organized by the officials of the Financial Department, and the Union Investigation Society, organized by noted economic thinkers either within or without the Government service, such as Messrs Sakatani, Soyeda, Taguchi, Wadagaki, and a few officials in the Statistics Bureau. The recent meeting of the United Chambers of Commerce of Japan held at Kobe, an abbreviated account of whose proceedings has been given in these columns, resolved to intrust the Chambers of Tokyo, Kyoto, Osaka, Kobe, and Nagoya with the duty of inquiring into the subject, in consequence of which resolution, the Tokyo Chamber is said to be actively pursuing the investigation, with eminent economic and statistical authorities not in the Government service as its councillors. Finally the Government itself has just organized the Currency System Investigation Committee Regulations, and it is believed that the members of Committee will be appointed in a few days.

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As to the men likely to be appointed on the Committee, the *Kokumin* gives the following names:—Viscount Yuri, Messrs. Kawata Koichiro, Sonoda Kokichi, Tsuchiko Kinshiro, Noritake Kotaro, Tajiri Inajiro, Sakatani Yoshio, Soyeda Juichi, Nakakuma Keizo, Tomita Ginnosuke, Komuchi Tomotsune, Shioda Okuzo, Matsuda Gengoro, Nakano Buyei, Koganei Ryosei, Wadagaki Kenzo, Amano Tameyuki, Shiba Shiro, Taguchi Ukichi, and Oshima Sadamasu. The *Kokumin* adds a note to the effect that judging from a conversation which a certain Radical member of Parliament is said to have lately had with Mr. Tajiri, Vice-Minister of Finance, the opinion of the Department appears to be already settled in favour of the gold basis, although Mr. Tajiri made no definite declaration in that sense.

THE DYSENTERY.

DYSENTERY, we read in the vernacular press, which originally appeared in Kyushiu, has now become so prevalent that, passing through Shikoku and the central portion of the main island, it has at last arrived at Kanagawa. This epidemic, says a high medical authority, usually attains its culminating point two or three years after its first appearance. This was the case in Osaka, where the disease developed great violence this year. At first chiefly persons in the higher circles were affected, but great hygeanic precautions being taken by them, the epidemic gradually left them and next went to the middle and lower classes, who have suffered severely from the disease this year. To show the progress made by the epidemic during the past four years in Osaka, the following returns may be of interest, 1890, 64; 1891, 632; 1892, 4,463; 1893 (up to Sept. 25th) 12,268. In Tokyo there were 59 patients in 1890, 80 in 1891, 108 in 1892, and 70 up to Sept. 25th of this year. The same medical authority is said to be apprehensive lest the serious state of affairs that prevailed in Osaka this year should visit Tokyo, unless great precautions be taken for the effectual suppression of the epidemic, which, as shown above, has already taken root in the capital.

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The Central Sanitary Association of Japan is adopting a very commendable measure with reference to this epidemic. Messrs. Goto, Chief of the Sanitary Bureau, Home Department, Nagayo, and others of not less note, are at present engaged drafting a memorial on the subject to the Home Department, in the name of the representatives of the Sanitary Association. The memorial will be finished in a few days. The authors will point out the urgent necessity of taking steps to check the spread of the disease, which they consider more to be dreaded even than cholera, inasmuch as while cholera is exotic to Japan, being a product of tropical regions, and is usually very short in the duration of its prevalence, dysentery, being indigenous, will continue to afflict the nation unless efficacious measures be taken to suppress it. Moreover, as dysentery establishes a much more obstinate hold on sufferers than cholera does, 100,000 dysentery patients are considered by the writer to be equivalent to half a million cholera patients, from the standpoint of expense. Such being the case, these medical authorities deem it most imprudent as well as dangerous to let the disease run its course alone without making a radical official effort to stamp it out, however difficult it may be now a-days to obtain an appropriation from the Treasury. As to the real cause of the epidemic, they say they are not yet clear, being, in fact, engaged in conducting investigations on the subject; but, in the meanwhile, they think the preventive measure now in force may prove efficacious provided they be carried out with care and vigour. Experience shows that they were very successful in Tokushima Prefecture some years ago when the epidemic prevailed there.

CURRENT TOPICS.

THE *Jiji Shimpo* is responsible for the statement that of late some of the principal members of the present Ministry have begun to associate much with those of the preceding Cabinet, with whom they have not been on friendly terms since they came into office. The alleged revival of friendly intercourse between the statesmen of the Military and Civil sections is regarded as an indication that an important change has been made or is about to be made in the policy of the Government. The *Jiji's* informant seems to think that the Cabinet has little confidence in its ability to manage the Diet by following a conciliatory policy towards the Opposition, and that it has, consequently fallen back upon the support and cöoperation of the so-called Military statesmen and their followers. For our own part, we place no confidence in this rumour, neither does the *Jiji* seem to attach much importance to it.

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The question whether or not the Great Japan Union comes within the purview of the Law of Political Associations, which has been under the consideration of the authorities, has been decided in the affirmative sense. On the 19th instant Mr. Yokobori Sanshi, *Kanji* of the Union, was summoned to the Metropolitan Board of Police and told that the Government would henceforth consider the Union a political association and treat it according to the above mentioned law. This means a temporary paralyzation of the anti-Mixed Residence movement. Among the numerous restrictions placed by law upon the actions of a political association, the most inconvenient is that it is forbidden to take any concerted action with another association. It is believed by some persons that these inconveniences will ultimately induce the members of the Great Japan Union to dissolve these respective parties and amalgamate them into one political party under the programme of the Union. Whether such a result is possible or not remains to be seen, but so far as the Oriental Radicals are concerned, it is stated that they will dissolve their party and devote themselves entirely to the promotion of the cause represented by the Great Japan Union.

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The *Chu-ó Shimbun* mentions a report that while recently at Mito, Count Itagaki had occasion to give vent to his feelings about the Progressionists, whom he is said to have pronounced extremely treacherous, inhuman, and wrong-headed allies. He warned, the report continues, his local followers against the flattering persuasions of these false-hearted advocates of popular rights. The National Unionist organ regrets that the Radical leader has not had the courage to denounce the Progressionists in the presence of the Kyushu members of his party.

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There is a rumour that the Radicals have decided to undertake no counter campaign against the opponents of Mixed Residence, their object being to let the movement die a natural death from the absence of any opposition to stimulate its activity.

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The talk of some important changes in the *personnel* of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha has been revived by the *Kokumin Shimbun*, which states that, although the secret is confined to only one or two most influential officers of the company, it is a fact that a certain powerful statesman is enthusiastically advising the company to displace the present staff at headquarters by men more or less under his own control. The company has of course the right to reject this advice, but it is reported that there are certain circumstances which make it extremely awkward for it to do so.

FLY-POISON—FRAGANT, BEAUTIFUL, AND CHEAP.

WE commend the following wonderful story from the *Louisville Journal* to the attention of our readers. It is worth making careful note of:—"'Come inside a minute,' said a Fourth Avenue dealer in pianos, yesterday afternoon. 'I have discovered the greatest fly-trap on earth and I want to show it to you.' He led the way to an instrument at the rear of the store on which was a newspaper. On the paper had been placed a bunch of sweet peas. At least a thousand dead flies were lying on the paper in the immediate vicinity of the bunch of flowers. 'I threw these here by chance,' he continued, 'and in about ten minutes I happened to notice that every fly that alighted on the flowers died in a very short time.' Even as he spoke a number of the insects which had stopped to suck the deadly sweet had toppled over dead. They alighted with their usual buzz, stopped momentarily, quivered in their legs, flapped their wings weakly several times, and then gave up the ghost."

THE TOKYO COUNCIL AND MUNICIPAL COUNCIL ON WATER-WORKS.

THE Tokyo City Assembly has determined to celebrate the inauguration of Water-works on the 22nd instant. It may be thought strange that the Assembly should think itself obliged to undertake such a business on this occasion when more than 3 years have already elapsed since the actual commencement of the works of construction. The Assembly has, indeed, a special motive of its own for having arrived at such a conclusion, according to the *Hochi*, while the City Council has also another of its own. The latter, says our contemporary, on whom the chief responsibility rests for the

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construction of the Water-works, seeing that the works of construction are far from being likely to be completed within the remaining 2 years, (for less than a tenth part of the whole has been completed to-day, although more than 3 years have already elapsed from the inauguration of the Works,) aims, in conducting this anachronistic ceremony, at impressing the public with the real difficulty of the Works, and of arousing a notion that the difficulty being such it is not unreasonable that the Works of construction are not so forward as might be expected by outsiders. In other words, the object kept in view by the Council is to lighten and evade the responsibility which rests on its shoulders, with regard to the work of construction. Quite a different motive or, more properly, an entirely opposite motive, inspires the Assembly in attempting the ceremony. The Assembly intends to impress the citizens with what promptitude the works are being conducted by the Council, to make them comprehend when the works are likely to be completed at the present rate of progress, and to what a loss they will be subjected in consequence. In short, the object kept in view by the Assembly, in inducing the citizens to inspect the actual condition of the works, is to apply a stimulus to them and to make them exert themselves in the matter, and in that way to expedite the completion of the works. Whether the citizens will sympathise with the Council remains to be seen, but if the issue be of the sort entertained by the Assembly, the Council will appear to be caught in its own trap.

ACTIVITY OF SPINNING INDUSTRY IN JAPAN.

THE *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* writes of the present prosperous condition of the spinning companies of Japan. In consequence of the prosperous state of affairs in the country districts since the fall of last year, the markets have began to assume a very active character. This is especially true of cotton yarns, for so brisk have been the transactions in this class of goods that no spinning company has found trouble in disposing of its productions. These satisfactory conditions have been apparent in the dividends declared by the various spinning companies for the first half of the current year, which were as follow:—

	Per Cent. per Annum.
Tokyo Spinning Company	10
Hirano Spinning Company	20
Izumi Spinning Company	15 8
Settsu Spinning Company	20
Osaka Spinning Company	10
Miye Spinning Company	14
Shintings Company	20
Kanagafuchi Spinning Company ...	7
Owari Spinning Company	10
Amagasaki Spinning Company.....	13.6

If the result of the business during the first half of the year has been thus satisfactory, the prospect for the remaining half seems to be even more so. For the weaving industry, which was in a somewhat depressed state during the first six months of the year, has to a great extent recovered its activity since then, which cannot fail to have a favourable effect on the spinning industry. To show how far profitable the spinning industry is at present, the *Nichi Nichi* gives the following estimates relating to a bale of No. 20 yarn of left twist, which sells for 92 *yen* in the Japanese market:—

	Yen.
One bale of No 20 yarn of left-twist..	92
Price of middling Bombay Cotton ..	54
Cost of spinning	10
Allowance for waste, &c.....	8
Balance Profit	20

There is thus a profit of 20 *yen* for every bale of yarn, or 15 *yen* or least, if the estimates be calculated as low as possible. Thus a company producing 1,000 bales of yarns every month reaps a profit of 15,000 *yen*. This estimate is far from being merely hypothetical, being fully corroborated by returns of profits already gained by the various factories since entering the half-year. It is alleged by trustworthy authority that the Osaka Spinning Company has already gained within this short interval of time 60,000 *yen*, the Hirano Spinning Company 40,000 *yen*, while the total of profit which the Miye Company derived during last month alone amounted to 25,000 *yen*. It is confidently believed that the dividends for the coming half-year will be considerably above 20 per cent, for the better companies, and 15 per cent, for those less fortunate. The *Nichi Nichi* concludes its article by warning those engaged in this industry not to be so far led away by present prosperity, which cannot be expected to last long, as to increase the number of spindles without due deliberation.

COUNT ITAGAKI'S FAVOURITE PROVED A DETECTIVE.

THE story briefly referred to in these columns that Count Itagaki has been an unconscious victim of having fed a canker in his own bosom for years, requires some further elucidation in order to convey an intelligent explanation to the reader. The name of the political detective who has succeeded in wearing the sheep's disguise from 1886, or for about 8 years, is Noguchi Takazumi, as has been already mentioned. His possession of an 80-*yen* cheque, says the *Choya*, led to the discovery. A steward of the Count thought it strange that he should possess such a sum, and pressed Noguchi for an explanation. Noguchi at first pleaded several plausible reasons for the fact, saying that he had got it from an uncle, but the steward was too sharp to be put off in that way. So hard did he press Noguchi that the latter was at last brought to bay and confessed that he was a political detective. The vexation of the Count on the discovery may well be imagined, for Noguchi was a great favourite of his; indeed he not unfrequently made the man write letters requiring strict secrecy, and allowed him to sit in a room where important consultations were held by the leading members of the Party. The reason why Noguchi had so well succeeded for more than 8 years in throwing dust in the eyes of the members of the Radical Party, was due to his crafty mode of doing business. He did not, for instance, forward his report directly to his superiors, but at first conveyed the message to a friend of his in local service, from whom his report was indirectly submitted to the superiors in Tokyo. The treatment to which he was subjected on this discovery by the younger and more impatient members of the Party was of a most contemptible character. Some placed a drawn dagger before his eye and urged him to atone for his iniquity by committing suicide; others forced open his mouth to spit into it; while others even went to the length of pouring dirty water upon his face, to make it pure, they said.

AT A FRIENDLY MEETING OF JAPANESE.

A CERTAIN official of the Tokyo Post and Telegraph Office being on the eve of removal to a similar office in Nagoya, his friends lately organized a farewell meeting at a tea-house in Kobikicho, Tokyo. Address and reply having been finished, there ensued various kinds of entertainment, as farces, story telling by professionals, and other things usual on convivial occasions in Japan. While the guests were enjoying themselves highly and circulating the glass merrily, there entered the room the head of a certain section of the Department of Communications, his robes of ceremony replaced by the garb of a *soshi* vendor of sheets with songs called *soshi-uta* printed on them, his head covered with *amigasa*, some newspapers in one hand and a flag in the other. He came in singing a *soshi* song, and having finished it amid the cheers of the convives, he proceeded to deliver a speech after the fashion of his prototype in the street. While the oration was in full progress, the speaker indulging in eloquent diatribes against the Government, a clamour was heard in the direction of the vestibule, and the hurried steps of heavy boots heralded the entry of constables who marched into the room, clutched the speaker's arm and demanded in peremptory tones why he spoke in a manner detrimental to public peace. The other angrily replied that the room was for purpose of private entertainment, and that no constable had any right to interfere with what was done there. Meanwhile, the audience, starting to their feet, surrounded the disputants and sought to pacify them, urging the pretended *soshi* not to insult the constable, and telling the constable that the whole affair was a joke. But presently some one with sharper eyes than the rest detected that the uniform of the constable was peculiar, and that the buttons were made of gilt paper, while the cap and sabre were different from those worn by ordinary constables. This was soon followed by the discovery that the constable, like the *soshi*, was a pretender, and that his interference had been duly planned for the amusement of the convives. Of course the delight of the assembly was unbounded at finding themselves so successfully tricked.

CANTON INSURANCE OFFICE, LIMITED.

THE following is the report presented to the shareholders at the twelfth ordinary general meeting, held at the offices of the general agents, Hongkong, on the 21st October:—The General Agents and Consulting Committee have pleasure in submitting to the shareholders closed accounts for the year 1892, and an estimate of the present year's working to the 30th ultimo. 1892 Account.—The balance at credit of this account in $422,718.27, out of which the sum of $209,855.12 has already been paid for a dividend of 10% to shareholders, and a bonus of 20% to contributors of premia. Subject to the approval of shareholders, it is proposed to dispose of the remaining balance of $212,863.15 by adding to reserve fund $120,000, thereby increasing it to $850,000, paying a final dividend of $4 per share, and carrying forward the sum of $52,863.15 to 1893 account. 1893 Account.—This account shows an estimated balance at credit of $489,214.00. Consulting Committee.—Since the date of the last general meeting the General Agents and Consulting Committee have had to deplore the deaths of Messrs. T. E. Davies and J. S. Lapraik. The seat rendered vacant was offered to and accepted by Mr. S. G. Bird. Messrs. Dalrymple, Sassoon, Gillies, Chater, and Bird retire, but offer themselves for re-election.

PROHIBITION OF RICE EXPORTATION FROM KOREA.

TELEGRAPHIC intelligence despatched from Jinsen on the 20th inst. at 6.15 a.m., and received by the *Asahi Shimbun*, states that the Korean Government issued a notification on the 20th inst. to the effect that the export of rice is prohibited for thirty days after the 21st inst. in accordance with the 37th Article of the Trading Rules. The plea is that great distress prevails in Korea by reason of the unsuccessful harvest this year.

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Another message sent from the same port at 4.06 the following afternoon, says that negotiations are being conducted between the Korean Government and the Japanese Representative, Mr. Otori, in connection with the prohibition of the export of rice. The edict was enforced at the three Korean open ports on the 19th prox.

"NOT THE MAN FOR GALWAY."

A WASHINGTON telegram says:—Eastern newspapers tell a story of a dramatic scene between Congressman Goldzier and Milton E. Perkins, a consular applicant from Chicago, which is alleged to have occurred in Private Secretary Thurber's office recently. Young Perkins, who is said to be an ex-Tennesseean, is responsible for the published version. He avers that Congressman Goldzier invited him to come to Washington and take a consular place, and that when it came to giving him an introduction to the President, Mr. Goldzier suddenly contracted a case of "cold feet" and dropped out of the game. This happened in Private Secretary Thurber's office. According to the published story, Perkins warned the north side congressman that only the high regard he held for the President's home kept him from "smashing" Mr Goldzier. He invited the congressman to avail himself of the Lafayette Park in which to settle the difficulty, Marquis of Queensbury rules; but Mr. Goldzier declined. This is the Perkins side of the story. Congressman

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Goldzier said:—"Perkins lived once at the Virginia hotel in Chicago and thought for that reason I ought to support him for consul to Nagasaki, Japan. He notified me that he had made an appointment for me to call on the President last Thursday in company with Congressman Richardson of Tennessee without previously consulting me. I went to the White House, for it was the only opportunity I had of seeing him, and when I met him there at the appointed hour I politely told him I could not indorse him. He was disappointed, but made no demonstration such as he speaks of. Later he wrote me a note asking me to contribute $50 toward his expenses while in Washington."

THE NECESSITY OF BIMETALLISM.

"The need of universal bimetallism and an internal control of money is now the most important question before the world. We are stopping silver purchases and all the nations which still have free coinage will promptly follow India's example. All these nations will need gold and the United States must also increase largely its gold reserves. The 285,000,000 inhabitants of India may suddenly become inspired with the belief that silver shortly has no value, that gold alone is the desirable thing to have, the sole evidence of wealth, and they will then 'run for gold.' The English are having a forcible 'object lesson' on the insufficiency of the gold supply. Our purchases of gold, though only about $35,000,000, have already sent the Bank of England's discount rate up from 2½ per cent., at which it stood a month ago, to 5 per cent., which it reached on the 24th inst. Where would it go if we should buy, at whatever premium was necessary to get it, $50,000,000 or $100,000,000 more? It is certain that if universal bimetallism is not adopted the United States must increase its gold reserve by several hundred millions of dollars. Where will it come from, and to what point will the Bank of England raise its rate to hold its gold? This object lesson will be a more efficient educator of English financiers and statesmen, on the sufficiency of the gold supply, than would tons of volumes containing the most learned and conclusive arguments of experts and statisticians. How long would the Gladstone government, which opposes bimetallism, last with a bank rate of 6 or 7 per cent. caused by the insufficiency of gold?"—*Engineering and Mining Journal.*

YOKOHAMA LITERARY SOCIETY.

The first regular meeting of the present season was held on Friday 20th, when over 100 members attended. The chief event of the meeting was a most interesting paper on Korea prepared and read by Lieutenant Perkins, U.S.M.C. In this paper, Korea, its people, climate, scenery, houses, army, government, and many other things were graphically described, while many amusing anecdotes garnished the more solid literary fare. The next item on the programme was an able review of Andrew Lang's "Letters to dead Authors," written by a lady-member, and read on her behalf by the President. This paper varied by excerpts from the letters to Thackeray, Dickens, Sir John Maundeville, Thocritus, and Herodotus, evoked a round of applause. The evening closed with a portion of "Jenny Brown's" troubles admirably recited by one of the junior members. The musical numbers comprised:—Overture to "Zampa." "Under the Yew-tree" (Mrs. James Walter); Gounod's "Spring" (Mrs. W. W. Campbell); "Death of Nelson" (Mr. S. E. Unite); and two movements of Mendelssohn's symphony to the "Lobgesang"

THE FUJIN KYUFU KAI.

A very largely attended concert took place on Saturday afternoon at the Ya-yoi Kan, Shiba Park, under the auspices of the above Society Now no one can have more sympathy with the objects of this association than we have ourselves, or sincerer wishes for its prosperity. At the same time, it is impossible to speak highly of Saturday's musical performance. The brass band played very indifferently; in one piece the discords were positively painful, and suggested the suspicion that there was some mistake in the score. Mr. Nōshō's solo on the piano, again, would scarcely have done credit to a little girl in her teens, and false notes, imperfect phrasing, and weakness of touch were observable throughout. The Chinese music and the koto-playing were better, though we have heard more finished performances. One English song was given by a Japanese lady, with piano and violin accompaniment; and as soon as she overcame the nervousness which interfered with her rendering of the first stanza the singer acquitted herself creditably. The piano, we may remark, seemed to us a poor one, and this should be taken into account. The pleasantest items on the programme were a graceful dance by a charming little girl, who earned great applause, and some games and singing by a bevy of the funniest little babies in the world, who looked inexpressibly comic and winning in their gorgeous robes as they went through their *Kindergarten* exercises. In fact, they got the lion's share of the honours.

THE RADICALS AND THE FIFTH SESSION OF THE DIET.

The Radical members of the Diet now in Tokyo recently held a meeting, at the party's head quarters, to discuss the Bills which are to be introduced in the coming session." After deliberation, they adopted, provisionally, Bills on the following questions:—

1. The Carrying out of Treaty Revision.
2. Amendment of the Government of *Fu* and *Ken*.
3. Amendment of the Government of District Divisions (*Gun*).
4. Amendment of the Government of Towns and Villages.
5. Amendment of the Newspaper Regulations.
6. The Establishment of Elementary Technical Schools and the Kyoto University.
7. Amendment of the Middle School Regulations
8. Reduction of the land tax and the re-assessment of the taxable value of land.
9. Imposition of tax on the Bank of Japan
10. Amendment of the Tariff Law.
11. Reforms in the Navy.
12. Amendment of the Law of Registration.
13. Amendment of the Law of Houses
14. Amendment of the Law of Election.
15. Abolition of the Peace Preservation Regulations.
16. Disposal of the Surplus.
17. Establishment of a Local Assembly in Hokkaido.
18. Abolition of the Admonition Regulations.
19. Amendment of Law, No. 84, 1889.
20. Enactment of a Game Law
21. Abolition of the Special System of Municipal Government.
22. Extension of Steam Navigation.
23. Interference in Elections
24. Amendment of the Law of the Constitution of Law Courts.
25. Abolition of Import duty on Cotton.
26. Encouragement of Sericulture.

The measures are to be finally adopted at a general meeting of the Radical members of the Diet, which will be called together before long. The following questions are said to be still under consideration:—

1. Colonization.
2. Riparian improvements.
3. Settlement of Hokkaido.
4. Police organization.
5. Forestry administration.
6. Protection of marine products.
7. Amendment of the Income Tax Law.
8. Tax on *Saké*.
9. Tax on tobacco.
10. Tax on confectionery.
11. Tax on ships and vehicles.
12. Partial abolition of export duties.
13. Aid to public education.
14. Ports and harbours.

SOME OF THE IRONCLADS OF THE JAPANESE NAVY.

In the summer of this year, writes the *Nippon*, several of the first-class ironclads in the Japanese Navy formed themselves into a squadron and started for a cruise along the coasts of China, Manchuria, and northward to Russian Siberia. The greater part of the voyage was safely accomplished and glad letters were sent by the officers of the fleet to their families and friends. They were therefore waited for with eagerness when another mail arrived bringing news of a very different character. The officers of the *Itsukushima Kan* wrote that on the home-ward voyage the engines had suddenly broken down. Progress was out of the question, but fortunately the accident had happened within Japanese territorial waters, and it was found possible to make for Kagoshima, where some temporary repairs having been effected, the ship proceeded to Nagasaki, there to be patched up sufficiently to steam to the Yokosuka Docks. This vessel of war, observes the *Nippon*, developed need of considerable repairs on her voyage out to Japan from France, where she had been built. She appears to be doomed to constant misfortune. As for the officers of the *Matsushima Kan*, they wrote that some injury having been suffered in the propeller shaft, it had become impossible to return direct to Yokosuka, and the vessel had been docked at Nagasaki for repairs. This vessel, says our contemporary, is the newest in the Navy, having arrived in Japan only last winter. The cruise was her maiden one. The *Itsukushima*, *Matsushima*, and *Hashidate* are the strongest ships of the Japanese Navy. The last named, however, is still in course of construction at Yokosuka. She is to be equipped with 65-ton guns, but a difficulty has been experienced, seeing that there is no crane in Japan capable of lifting a gun of that weight. This, says rumour, is one cause why the completion of the ship has been delayed. In another paragraph the *Nippon* greatly modifies the above indictment. The repairs of the *Itsukushima*, it writes, have completed and she is now *en route* for Bakan. The rumour about the injury to the propellor of the *Matsushima* prove to have been an exaggeration: she is not sufficiently injured to cause delay. As for the *Hashidate*, her building has proceeded rapidly, and she made her trial trip a few days ago. But the *Nippon* allows its diatribes to stand.

HOW KOREA IS GOVERNED.

Mr. Omiwa Chobei, formerly Japanese Adviser to the Korean Mint, recently gave at Nagasaki on his way home expression to his opinion of politics in the peninsular kingdom. There are Ministers of State and other imposing official titles in Korea—says Mr. Omiwa—but they are little better than clerks and errand boys. Everything from the important affairs of State down to the trifling details of economy in the royal household, is personally attended to by the King himself. His Ministers are simply charged with the execution of his orders. The King is even said always to carry about him at the waist a bundle of keys for the royal store-houses. Those foreigners, therefore, who regard Korean Ministers of State as though they were invested with high political functions and responsibilities, are said to make a serious mistake. When Mr. Oishi, late Japanese Representative at Sōul, was negotiating with the Korean Foreign Office on the question of indemnity, the Minister of Foreign Affairs for some reason had brought upon him the displeasure of the King and was consequently forbidden for a time to approach the royal presence. The Korean Minister was thus in an awkward dilemma; on the one hand, he was hard pressed by the energetic Japanese Representative; while, on the other, he had neither discretionary power enough to deal with the question at hand nor was he permitted to seek an interview with the King to ask for royal instruction. He was, therefore, left no other choice than to put off a definite answer on whatever pretext presented itself to his mind. Not only does the King interfere with the details of administration, but the Queen is said to possess similar power almost to the same degree. Whenever she is pleased with any measure proposed to her by one of the officials about court or in the Government, she instantly gives her sanction to it and causes it to be carried out. This apparently independent power enjoyed by the royal spouse makes the confusion worse confounded, and there seems to be no hope either for unity or stability in Korean administration. But this unsatisfactory state of affairs is concealed under the disguise of imposing official titles and ranks, and it requires a long residence

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and keen observation to become aware of it. The Chinese Resident, Mr. Yuen, is said to have mastered the situation completely. He does not deal with the Korean Foreign Minister as his equal; he merely tells him to say so and so to the King, and when he thinks that there is not time enough to use the ordinary medium of communication, he goes direct to the King himself and transacts business with him. This is said to be the secret of the vast influence exercised by Mr. Yuen in the Korean capital.

THE JIKATSU KENKYU-KAI.

THE Jikatsu Kenkyu-kai (Self-supporting Investigation Society) is, says the *Nippon*, a society organized by Mr. Katabuchi Taku for the purpose of enabling poor, enterprising youths to pursue their studies without relying on others for support. The Society has existed for years, and the object kept in view by it appears to have been attended with success thus far; for already more than a dozen members of this unostentatious body have succeeded in entering higher institutions, 3 in the Military Academy, 1 in the Dendrological course of the College of Agriculture, and the rest in preparatory schools either for the Military or Naval Academies. Mr Katabuchi is thoroughly earnest in the work he has started. He himself sets the example to his followers by drawing jinrikishas in the streets or by selling fuel and doing other humble work. He marks out an occupation for his disciple according to his physical capacity. A robust fellow would be made to draw jinrikishas, another of less strong constitution to turn himself into a newsboy or a milk-distributor, and a third, judged to be of a mechanical turn, to engage in work suited to his capacity. The day's business for self-maintenance being done, the members of the Society return to their union home, where they are left free to pursue their own respective studies. The founder of the Society is said to declare that 4 hours' labour a day are sufficient for any member to support himself and to attend to study. The *Nippon* calls the attention of the less strong-minded youths who are depending on others for their own study to this fact, and urges them to exert themselves.

A BIG CENTIPEDE

THE following story which is produced as received by the *Foochow Echo*, is equal to many of the tall tales of a similar description to be found in the *Yomiuri Shimbun*:—'On the 2nd instant on a hill side in the neighbourhood of Inghok a centipede of extraordinary size, measuring about two yards in length and eight inches round, was seen coming out from between two very large rocks, causing them to roll down the hill and smash six houses at the bottom of it, killing at the same time twenty of the inmates. The rolling down of the stones caused streams of water to follow them down the hill which are still running. The centipede had on several occasions been seen by people in the neighbourhood casting out luminous vapours and on more than one of these occasions a very brilliant stone was seen in the vapour which the creature swallowed back again. The terrified people did not dare to touch it."

CURRENT TOPICS.

MR. TSUJI, formerly Vice-Minister of Education and now President of the Japan Educational Society, and his followers have brought themselves into public derision by their selfish and ill-advised opposition to the popular Minister of Education. They no doubt expected that their agitation would have had the effect of weakening the position of Mr. Inouye Ki in the Cabinet, but in this they have been cruelly disappointed. The Japan Educational Society having been turned by these malcontents' into a machinery of political intrigue, those Ministers of State who had their names among its honorary members have just sent in simultaneous notices of their severance of all connection with it. These Ministers are Count Ito, Count Kuroda, Count Inouye, Count Oyama, Count Goto, Mr. Mutsu, and Mr. Yoshikawa. Condemned by public opinion and deserted by the principal members of the Cabinet, the malcontents in the educational sphere have little chance to work mischief.

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A rumour is being circulated in the capital to the effect that a change is impending in the *personnel* of the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce. Count Inouye, it is stated, is exerting himself for the purpose of effecting the change in an amicable and satisfactory manner. Gossip even goes so far as to enumerate the probable successor of Count Goto. Two names are mentioned—those of Viscount Nomura, former Minister to France, and Mr. Mayeda Masana, a Member of the House of Peers and whilom Vice-Minister of Agriculture and Commerce. It is believed that Count Goto will in all probability be followed to retirement by Mr Saito Shuichiro. A certain journal states that Count Goto will not accept any sinecure, but that he will create for himself a formidable position in the Opposition by bringing about him what followers he can by means of money and persuasion.

THE MONETARY SYSTEM INVESTIGATION COMMISSION

THE following appointments to the Commission for the Investigation of the Monetary System, have been announced in the *Official Gazette*:—

To be President—Viscount Tani, Member of the House of Peers.
To be Vice-President—Mr. Tajiri Jujiro, Vice-Minister of Finance.
To be Kanji—Mr. Hayakawa Senkichiro, Private Secretary to the Minister of Finance.
To be Members—Mr. Wakamiya Seion, Director of the Bureau of Commerce and Industry in the Department of Agriculture and Commerce; Mr. Hara Kei, Director of the Bureau of Commerce in the Department of Foreign Affairs; Mr Wadagaki Kenzo, Professor in the Imperial University; Mr. Sakatani Yoshiro, Accountant in the Department of Finance; Mr. Suyeda Iuichi, Acting-Director of the Bureau of Inspection in the Department of Finance; Mr. Kanai Nobu, Professor in the Imperial University; Mr. Kawata Koichiro, President of the Nippon Ginko; Viscount Hotta Seiyo, Member of the House of Peers; Mr. Obata Tokujiro, Member of the House of Peers (Imperial nominee); Mr. Watanabe Jiukichi, Member of the House of Peers (representative of the highest tax-payers); Mr. Sumoda Kokichi, President of the Yokohama Specie Bank; Mr. Shibusawa Eiichi, President of the First National Bank; Mr. Masuda Takashi, Manager of the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha; Mr. Shoda Heigoro, Manager of the Mitsubushi Firm; Mr. Taguchi Ukichi, Editor of the *Keizai Zasshi*; Mr. Watanabe Hiromoto, Member of the House of Representatives (Independent); Kawashima Jun, Member of the House of Representatives (*Domei* Club); Mr. Maki Bokushin, Member of the House of Representatives (National Unionist); Mr. Kurihara Ryoichi, Member of the House of Representatives (Radical); and Mr. Takata Sanaye, Member of the House of Representative (Progressionist).

* * *

It is stated that some of the members of the Commission have under contemplation the despatch of a special Committee to India and the United States to study the question *in loco*. The above 23 members being classified, there are 6 officials, 5 each from the two houses of the Diet and also from the business circle, and 2 professors. The vernacular press adds that the Government at first intended to ask either Count Okuma or Count Matsukata to accept the post of President, but as neither was judged likely to consent, the choice at last fell to Viscount Tani.

GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS.

THE returns of traffic receipts and working expenses on the Government Railways for the year ending June 30th are very favourable. We have not yet examined the full report, but find in the *Kokkai* some extracts of an interesting character. The gross earnings for the year were 4,580,632 *yen*, and the working expenses, 2,166,199 *yen*, the net profit this being 2,414,433 *yen*. Compared with the figures for the preceding period of twelve months, there is an increase of 470,491 *yen* is gross receipts, and a reduction of 260,701 *yen* in working expenses, the latter being due chiefly to the fact that in the preceding year heavy expenses had to be incurred in consequence of injury caused to the Tokaido line by the great Ai-Gi earthquake. It will be seen that the working expenses amount to only 47 per cent. of the gross earnings, an excellent showing, which disposes effectually of the theory that the Japanese are not capable of carrying on an enterprise economically.

TAKASAGO AND HIS 150 FOLLOWERS VERSUS MR. YOSHIDA KOHEI

MR. YOSHIDA KOHEI, an ex-member of the Diet from Gifu, lately experienced some somewhat rough treatment at the hands of Takasago, a once famous wrestler, and his followers, numbering more than 150. Mr. Yoshida is a native of Takasu, a small town close to the mouth of the Kisogawa. He came to Tokyo some years ago with Mr. Hayakawa of a neighbouring village to lay before a certain Minister of State some grievance which the people of his district desired to have remedied. For two weeks they stayed in Tokyo, but they could not find an opportunity of seeing the Minister, since they were without any one to act as intermediary. At last, however, they were enabled to achieve the much desired interview, through the aid of Takasago, though it is somewhat difficult to understand why, in view of the public character of their business, as indicated by the vernacular press, they were compelled to rely on a wrestler for access to a Minister of State. The interview obtained, they went home with the good news that they had succeeded in the object of their visit to the capital. Whether owing to their hurry to get home or what, it appears that they forget to convey to Takasago even a word of thanks for his trouble, nor did they remedy this omission even after their return. Takasago was much offended. He did not forget the slight, and he recently found himself in a position to resent it on the occasion of a wrestling tour that brought him, with more than 150 followers, into the neighbourhood of Takasu. When his party reached that town, Takasago called upon Mr. Yoshida and asked him to procure for him a place for the wrestling performance, that favour to be by way of return for the good offices performed by the ex-champion wrestler some years previously. Mr. Yoshida's reply to this request seems to have been very cool. He treated the matter with indifference and told the applicant that his trouble had already been repaid. This highly incensed Takasago. He warned Mr. Yoshida that he should repent of his conduct and went away in great indignation. Now seriously alarmed, Mr. Yoshida resolved to concede what he had been asked. He therefore sent his clerk to the inn where Takasago and the party were lodging and asked him to pardon what had just taken place. Takasago, however, would not listen to this solicitation. He told the clerk to inform his master that Takasago would call at his house in a day or two with his disciples to thank him for the kind reception received that morning. Additional force was imparted to this menacing reply by a sound thrashing administered to the unfortunate messenger at the hands of several of Takasago's disciples, who, not content with a mere beating, threw the man out of the window of the second storey of the inn. The clerk, maimed and bruised, carried back the unwelcome tidings to his master, who thereupon thought it best to give his enemies the slip, and went away at once to Arima spa. After his flight, the feelings of the inmates of his house may well be imagined They lived in hourly dread of a visit from the wrestlers. On the second day after the commencement of the wrestling performances, the wrestlers, including the celebrated Konishiki, Nishinoumi, and others of less note, to the number of above 150, were led by Takasago to Mr. Yoshida's house. Arrived there, they demanded in voices of thunder to have an interview with the master. Thereat the rest of the family fled away in extreme consternation, with the exception of Mr Yoshida's eldest son, who boldly resolved to face the danger. Fortunately, however, several of Mr.

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Yoshida's relations and neighbours came to the rescue on learning the intelligence from the family who had fled away at the first alarm Through their intermediation, the wrestlers consented to withdraw in peace It is said that their wrath was at last quieted by a present of three big casks of saké, several flags, and some other things. The conduct of Mr. Takasago and his large-thewed friends will not commend itself to peace-loving folks generally, but we venture to predict that many Japanese will find much to like in the wrestlers' open manner of redressing their supposed grievances.

BANKERS' AGITATION ABOUT THE EXTENSION OF TERMS OF BANKS.

BANKERS have renewed the agitation, says the *Jiji*, to have the terms of the respective national banks throughout the land prolonged; the present terms expiring in two or three years, as has been mentioned in these columns. The greatest difficulty which those banks have to encounter in the event of the terms expiring within the prescribed period of time, consists in the redemption of bank notes. To meet this difficulty, the Financial Department has devised that the Bank of Japan shall be made to advance the required amount as a loan to the banks, which, in return for it, shall bind themselves to refund the loan within a certain period, after which they shall have been reorganized as private banks. Persuaded by this suggestion of the Department, the bankers gave up for a while the agitation, though not quite satisfied in their hearts as to the arrangement. Since then, however, opinion has arisen on the one hand among the bankers that a private bank can by no means be qualified to succeed a national bank; while, on the other, the Bank of Japan has declared that so long as the successors to the national banks be not officially recognized after the expiration of the terms of the latter, the Bank cannot undertake to advance the loan required for the redemption of bank notes. Such being the case, the plan of the Department is likely to prove a failure, for it would not be an easy matter to settle the qualifications of banks after the disorganization of national banks, and the procedure of their successors. Seeing this state of things, the bankers have now come to think that the simplest and easiest way to meet the difficulty is to prolong the terms of national banks. This was the unanimous opinion expressed at the meeting of the Union bankers of the North East and Hokkaido, held at Sendai some weeks ago. Some bankers are said to be of opinion that the maintenance of national banks or some time is not only useful in consequence of the redemption of bank notes, but is not less so from the present condition of the national economy, which, in the judgment of these bankers, is said still to require the existence of such banks. These bankers therefore advocate the maintenance of the present national banks till the 50th year of *Meiji*, 1917. At any rate, the meeting of the Union bankers which is now being held at the Clearing Hall, Sakamoto-cho, will give some further information on this subject.

ABOUT THE SUBSIDY TO THE NIPPON RAILWAY COMPANY.

As everybody knows, the Government has guaranteed the profits of the Nippon Railway Company up to 8 per cent. a year for 15 years, computed from the opening of the line for traffic It follows naturally, in consequence of this compact, that in any section where the proceeds that accrue fall far short of that percentage, the Government is obliged to make good the deficit out of the Treasury. For certain reasons of its own, the Company has lately asked the Government to pay them in a lump sum the guaranteed subsidy of a good many years to come. They calculate the average on the basis of the Company's estimates for the 27th fiscal year. Based on the estimates of that year, the total amounts to some 6 million *yen*, but of this the Company has cut off 1½ million *yen*, and so the actual sum which it wishes to get from the Government is about four and a half million *yen*. The application first forwarded to the proper authorities has been transferred by them to the Cabinet, when, after due deliberation, it has been decided, says the *Nippon*, which is our authority in this matter, to approve the request of the Company and to place it for discussion at the coming session of the Diet. The *Nippon* held an opinion on the amount to be granted by the Government, and declared more than once in its columns that even though the Company has cut off a million and a half from the total obtained on the basis of the 27th year's estimate, there is still an over estimation of from one to two million *yen*. It is a patent fact to all, argues our contemporary, that the 1st and 2nd sections (that is the line up to Shirakawa station) no longer require the aid from the Government, and as for the 3rd section (that is the Shirakawa—Sendai line) the aid to be defrayed out of the Treasury should be small. For the 4th section (Sendai—Morioka) it is confidently believed that the aid will not be required after the lapse of 3 or 4 years, and as to the 5th section (Morioka—Aomor), considered to be the least profitable along the line, no sharp intellect is needed to discern that on the extension of the Hokkaido Railway and the completion of the Aomori—Hirosaki line, the yield on that section will greatly increase and will, in consequence, tend to reduce, year by year, the amount of the Government aid required. Even for this least profitable 5th section, it being apparent that (till the expiration of the term under stipulation) the Government will not be required to give its aid, no difficulty will be experienced by it in reducing the amount asked by the Company by a million and a half *yen* or even 2 million *yen*. In other words, the *Nippon* is of opinion that the proper amount which the Government should give the Company may be reduced as low as 2 million and a half *yen*. The business prospects of the Company being so full of hope, our contemporary thinks that had the Government consented to the request of the Company based on the estimate of the 27th year, it would not have escaped the charge of being unfaithful to the national treasury and negligent in its method of financial arrangements. The news therefore that the Cabinet has resolved to repeal its first decision and has begun to renew its inquiry into the matter, is hailed by our contemporary with great satisfaction

THE FLOODS

We take from the *Nichi Nichi* the following return of the outcome of the inundations up to the 21st inst. In Okayama 141 persons perished, 100 are missing, 80 *ken* and 9 other minor breaches of embankments were made, about 1,346 houses were washed away or ruined, 4 bridges collapsed, several head of cattle were wounded or killed outright, 350 houses were submerged, and about 2,000 persons are being fed by the local government. Tottori reports 142 persons killed or wounded, 42 missing; 6,410 *ken* of embankments destroyed, 402 houses washed away, 169 *ken* of bridges demolished, innumerable cattle killed, 735 *ken* of road in ruins, and numbers of houses submerged; 5,000 persons are being fed at the public expense. At Oita 153 perished or received severe wounds, 42 are missing, embankments broke in 15 places and 230 *ken* are destroyed; about 978 houses were washed away, and the bridges are nearly all gone, 3 head of cattle were killed, nearly all the roads are in ruins, about 4,510 houses are submerged, innumerable farms are ravaged, 144 vessels were wrecked, and one harbour destoyed; 2,294 persons are receiving government aid. Ehime lost 66 persons and several are missing, many embankments collapsed, 792 houses were ruined, about 700 *cho* of farmland was devastated and 176 boats were wrecked. Two hundred and seventy-eight *ken* of embankment fell in Tokushima and breaches were made in 19 other places 19 houses and 1 bridge were washed away, about 300 houses being submerged. Fifty-six persons were killed or injured in Hyogo Prefecture, the embankments that collapsed were innumerable as were also the ruined roads and submerged houses, landslips were experienced in two villages; four boats were wrecked. In Hiroshima two persons were killed, embankments collapsed in three places, about 87 houses were ruined and bridges broke in 10 places; 315 *ken* of roads were ruined and slightly damaged in 9 other places; about 500 houses were submerged, 2 landslips occurred, some 2 *cho* of farm-land was ravaged and 20 wrecks occurred. Kagawa reports several deaths and several shipwrecks, Niigata 4 killed and 25 boats wrecked. Innumerable houses were washed away in Fukuoka and many boats destroyed. In Tochigi one person was killed 20 *ken* of embankment collapsed, five bridges were washed away, and 60 *ken* of roadway left in ruins, Kochi lost 8 persons, many embankments were destroyed and several houses submerged. Seven hundred and twenty-eight *ken* of embankment broke away in Toyama, while 195 houses and 34 bridges were ruined. Shimane reports innumerable roadways, bridges, and embankments ruined, about 50 houses washed away, while the extent of farmland and the wreckage of fishing boats is unknown; 3,600 persons have obtained temporary relief. About 170 persons are missing in Saga, many houses are destroyed and 14 boats wrecked. In Kumamoto 30 persons were killed or wounded, 293 are missing, 31 houses were washed away and 194 boats wrecked. One hundred and thirty-eight *ken* of embankments collapsed, one bridge was destroyed and 44 *tan* of farm-land devastated in Shiga. In Yamaguchi 2 or 3 persons were killed and 8 houses washed away. It is interesting to note the height to which the water rose in various places. At Okayama it reached 28 ft., in Oita 40 ft., in Tokushima 25 ft., in Hyogo 18 ft., in Osaka 12 ft., in Tochigi 9 ft., in Shimane 49 ft., in Saga 8 ft., in Miyazaki 18 ft., and in Yamanashi 6 ft.

ALLEGED BREACH OF THE COMMERCIAL TREATY BETWEEN JAPAN AND CHINA.

A CASE has lately been brought before the Hakodate Appeal Court by Mr. Misaka, a member of the local bar, on an alleged breach of the Commercial Treaty between Japan and China by a Chinese merchant residing at Hakodate. The 15th Article in the Treaty expressly provides that the merchants of the two countries shall be allowed to buy goods at the mutual treaty ports, and to ship them, after having passed them through the inspection of Custom Houses and paid the required duties but that they shall not be allowed to buy goods in the interior. Should a merchant of either country be found purchasing, in person, goods in the interior, the goods shall be forfeited and the merchant shall be delivered to the proper authorities. The case submitted to the Hakodate Court alleges that Cho Son-san, a Chinese merchant resident in that port, has committed an act which is calculated to fall under the 15th Article, and this charge is based on the following points:—That the aforesaid Chinese merchant purchased through his proxy Watane Tosaku, in the latter part of last month, 800 *koku* of *Kombu* at Suisho-to, Nemuro, from Kaneyoshi Kanekichi, and shipped them to Hakodate. That the same Chinese merchant purchased through his Japanese proxy, Sato Heiki, 1,625 packs of the same material from Igarashi Kyuzaburo, Okinebu-mura, Nemuro, and had them transported to Hakodate. The accuser considers these charges as having been substantiated, and therefore brought the matter before a Prosecutor of the Hakodate Local Court, on the 12th instant. The Prosecutor, however, rejected this charge on the ground that the accused himself had not personally effected the purchase, nor was the alleged act recognizable as having been detected on the spot while it was being committed; it could not therefore be recognized as an act amounting to a breach of provisions of the 15th Article. The accuser was dissatisfied with this judgment of the Prosecutor of the Local Court, and has appealed to the Chief-Prosecutor of the Appeal Court of the Port. The *Hochi Shimbun* (our authority in this matter), says that the accuser has decided to have what he considers a proper explanation of this question, and is ready to submit the

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case to the judgment of the Supreme Court in the event of it being rejected by the Hakodate Appeal Court. The question, says our contemporary, being a grave one, has no little relation to the maintenance of the national rights, and should not be regarded with inattention.

NOTABLES ON MIXED RESIDENCE.

THE metropolitan papers, especially the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* and the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, continue the publication of interesting accounts of interviews with distinguished public men on the subject of Mixed Residence. The former journal reports a characteristic interview which its representative had with the old Count Katsu. The writer has eminently succeeded in reproducing in his account the racy and peculiar phraseology which makes the commonest talk of the Sage of Hikawa so interesting. Why, the Count is reported to have asked ironically, make such a fuss about Mixed Residence when the thing so much dreaded is actually practised all the same? What England, America, and other countries are doing, Japan ought to do and can do. He has no fear about the consequences of admitting foreigners into the interior; but he has grave doubts whether there is in Japan at the present moment a statesman who is strong enough to undertake the task of Treaty Revision without paying any regard to what people choose to say about him. He is not a great man—the old Privy Councillor continues—whose actions and motives are understood by his contemporaries. What he (the Count himself) did in the latter days of the Tokugawa Government has been completely understood by his countrymen in the short space of twenty-six years, but it takes fifty or even a hundred years to comprehend the actions of a really great man. Such a man pays little attention to the senseless criticism of the public. Is there such a man now in Japan? asked the Count again and again.—Viscount Tani was ambiguous in his answers to the questions put him by the *Nichi Nichi's* representative. His observations, as the writer remarks, recall to our mind the evasive writings of the *Nippon*, which is believed to be more or less under his influence. He declares in one place that he does not regard the opening of the interior for Mixed Residence as in any way dangerous; but in another place he expresses his fears of such a course "at a time like the present, when the *samurai* spirit of the nation is on the decline and official discipline is lamentably relaxed." He thinks with the *Nippon* that the people are now too much under an influence or a tendency to overestimate foreign ability and civilization to make them bear their part in a direct competition with foreigners with proper dignity and self-respect. He denies most emphatically that, in opposing the immediate opening of the country for Mixed Residence, he and his fellow thinkers are not actuated by any anti-foreign sentiment. In the present condition of the mind of the nation, the Viscount does not believe it possible to revise the existing treaties: in order to attain that object both the Government and the people must have the resolution even to fight with the treaty Powers when they refuse to accept Japan's just demands. For the present, therefore, he seems to think that the only course possible for Japan is to enforce the existing treaties more rigidly. As to the question what to do with the Mexican treaty which allows Mixed Residence, Viscount Tani replies that that treaty is not worth consideration. Such in brief seems to be a full resumé of his rather evasive remarks on the subject.—Viscount Enomoto, ex-Minister for Foreign Affairs, expresses wonder how sober-minded men could seriously advocate opposition to the admission of foreigners into the interior. He thinks that the present anti-Mixed Residence movement is simply a temporary phenomenon destined to be swept away in due course of time. He, consequently, does not deem it at all advisable to make any counter movement against it; such a course would only serve to give it an importance to which it has no claim. In conclusion he remarks ironically that all the endeavours which the promoters of the movement are making will have no other result than to give a nap to the Minister of Foreign Affairs.—Of the other personages thus far interviewed by the *Nichi Nichi's* reporter, men like Count Higashi-kuze, Vice-President of the Privy Council, Marquis Hachisuka, President of the House of Peers, Viscount Tanaka Fujimaro, Privy Councillor, and others declare themselves positively antagonistic to the present anti-Mixed Residence movement. Viscount Sano expressed himself more or less in sympathy with the movement, but he distinctly admits the justice of granting Mixed Residence in return for the abolition of Consular Jurisdiction. Two others, Viscounts Kaiyeda and Nire, ex-Minister of the Navy, declined to express any opinion on the subject. The *Yomiuri Shimbun's* representative is working among less aristocratic circles. Mr. Watanabe Hiromoto, an Independent member of the House of Representatives, Mr. Matsuoka Kôki, an Imperial nominee to the House of Peers, Mr. Ukichi, editor of the *Keisai Zasshi*, Mr. Hatoyama Kazuo, a Progressionist member of the House of Representatives, and Mr. Kono Hironaka, leader of the Radicals in the House of Representatives, are thoroughgoing advocates of Mixed Residence, while Mr. Ohigashi Gitetsu and Mr. Kawashima Jun, both leading *Domei* Club members of the House of Representatives, are inclined to place more or less restraint upon the residence of foreigners in the interior. Space does not permit us to reproduce the comments of all of these distinguished men; we must be content with a brief allusion to the opinions expressed by Messrs. Taguchi and Kawashima as representatives of the respective schools of thinkers mentioned above. Mr. Kawashima Jun, though in favour of imposing certain limits upon the residence of foreigners in the interior, has no respect for the present agitation against Mixed Residence. Like Viscount Enomoto, he regards that movement as a temperary phenomenon of no great importance. He laments that both the Government and the people have shown a conspicuous want of fixed ideas on the subject of foreign policy. After dwelling much upon the injustice of the existing treaties, and the importance of revising them, Mr. Kawashima goes on to observe that, it being the united desire of the nation to revise the treaties, the Government is bound to take immediate steps to approach the Powers concerned with a definite proposal to that end. Should the Japanese demands be refused by the Powers, Mr. Kawashima would advise the Government to fall back upon the policy of rigidly enforcing the existing treaties and denying to foreigners such privileges as are not granted by express stipulations. He then gives an outline of the basis on which the treaties should be revised. Concerning Mixed Residence, he would recommend a system of gradual opening. At first Mixed Residence is to be admitted, according to his scheme, only in the towns where are situate the City or Prefectural Governments. Within the limits of these towns, foreigners are to be allowed to possess land and houses. But they should not be permitted to own mines, railways, farms, forests, etc. Mr. Taguchi Ukichi is one of the most consistent and enlightened writers on the question of Treaty Revision in general and on Mixed Residence in particular. Not only is he not opposed to Mixed Residence, but he is a strong advocate of the speedy opening of the country to foreigners. He observes that, when he first fought with the opponents of Mixed Residence in 1879, nearly the whole nation was opposed to him. But ten years after, in 1889, the cause so zealously advocated by him was taken up by the Progressionists, and now it has been definitely adopted by the Radicals also. Thus the tendency of the time is fatally against the opponents of Mixed Residence, and the editor of the *Keisai Zasshi* has no manner of doubt that the Great Japan Union will be incapable of achieving any practical result. What is the use, he asks, of opposing Mixed Residence, when foreigners, if they wish it, may at any moment obtain all they want by becoming naturalized subjects of Japan? For, although there is as yet no law of naturalization in this country, naturalization is actually granted to such foreigners as may desire it. That very few foreigners have availed themselves of this privilege is a proof, in Mr. Taguchi's opinion, that foreigners, even after the opening of the interior, will not come to this country in such large numbers as some people seem to apprehend. For his own part, nothing would please him more than to see a large number of foreign capitalists come over and invest their money in industrial and commercial enterprises here. Neither would he oppose the purchase of land and shares by foreigners; on the contrary, he believes that nothing could be more beneficial to Japan. His only regret is that foreigners are not likely to invest their capital here in any large amount. Some people fear that the presence of foreigners in the interior might imperil the unity of the Japanese nation. They are told that their apprehensions are entirely without foundation. They are advised to ask for themselves what injury the colonies of Germans in Moscow and St. Petersburg have done to the unity of the Russian people, or what evil has followed from the settlement of Italians in London. Mr. Taguchi is of opinion that the continuance of the foreign settlements is fraught with danger to the peace of the country. The extension of the system of foreign settlements has been, in his opinion, the primary cause of the fall of India and the Philippine Islands into foreign hands. The settlements, he says, are like so many alien states within the country, and as they grow in population and in wealth, they may cause serious trouble in case of a foreign war. In this context he refers to the case of the model settlement at Shanghai, which insulted the sovereignty of China by declaring neutrality at the time of the Franco-Chinese war. With regard to Professor Inouye and other traducers of their own race, Mr. Taguchi evinces supreme contempt for them, and after administering them some sharp but well-deserved rebukes, he dismisses their arguments as unworthy of serious refutation. It will be seen from what precedes, that, with one or two exceptions, even those conservative persons, who of all others might be expected to oppose the admission of foreigners into the interior, are by no means in sympathy with the present movement against Mixed Residence, while the attitude of the educated classes generally toward it is one of contemptuous indifference. The prevailing notion among those Japanese who lead the progress of their nation is that the Great Japan Union had better be let alone, as it has little chance of gaining a permanent footing in the country. So far as that association is concerned, it is understood among well informed circles that the aim of its promoters is not so much to oppose the admission of foreigners into the interior as to create out of the agitation on the question a powerful political party in opposition to the *Jiyu-to*. As the real character of the agitation becomes known to the public, the inevitable result will be the gradual cooling of the interest which the rural population is now believed to take in the movements of the Great Japan Union.

A PROJECT FOR A CONFERENCE BETWEEN JAPAN, RUSSIA, ENGLAND, AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

THE *Toho Kyokai* (Oriental Association), which numbers among its members some of the most influential personages in Japan, has just taken a noteworthy step. It has presented to the Minister President of State, through its President, Count Soyejima, a memorial urging upon the Government the importance of opening communications with the Governments of England, Russia, and the United States for holding a conference in Tokyo on the subject of the regulation of fisheries in the North Pacific. The memorial refers at the outset to the importance of adopting measures for the protection of the seal fishery off the coasts of Chishima (the islands). That object cannot be attained unless the usual three-mile limit of territorial waters be extended. That the three-mile limit no longer satisfies practical requirements is re-

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cognized by all writers on international law and it is actually disregarded by the great Powers of Europe and America, as shown by the results of the Paris Arbitration on the English-American Behring Sea trouble, as well as by the recent convention between England and Russia regarding the regulation of seal fishery in the North Pacific. The question—continues the memorial—is of particular importance to Japan, for since the settlement of the Anglo-American difficulty and the conclusion of the Anglo-Russian Convention just alluded to, the seas in the vicinity of Chishima have become the principal centre of sealing operations. Not Japan alone is interested in the question, however. The arrangements which have now become operative for regulating the fisheries in the North Pacific are all of a temporary nature, and sooner or later the whole question will have to be reconsidered by the Governments concerned. It is, therefore, believed by the members of the *Toho Kyokai* that the Governments of Russia, England, and the United States would be favourably disposed towards a proposal for the opening of such a conference. Even if England and the United States be disinclined to take part, Russia at least is confidently expected to agree, since the results of the Paris Arbitration have been as injurious to her as to Japan. Recently when Mr. Inagaki Manjiro, author of "Japan and the Pacific," and a member of the *Toho Kyokai*, travelled in Siberia, he had occasion to discuss the subject with the acting Governor of the Amoor districts, and the latter declared himself in favour of the course now proposed. Apart from the protection of the seal fishery off Chishima, the projected international conference would serve as a means of defining the limits of territorial waters and elevating the position of Japan among the nations of the World. The memorial lays much emphasis on the last mentioned phase of the question. It alludes to the adventurous policy which Cavour pursued at the time of the Crimean war, and to the success that crowned his courageous efforts to raise the status of Italy in Europe. Japan is impatient to conclude equal treaties with the great powers and to take the same position as that occupied by them. But in point of fact the *Toho Kyokai* observes, however, unwelcome the admission may be, that Japan is relegated to the circle of second rate countries. Hence it is of vital importance that she should take every step calculated to contribute, however little, to the elevation of her prestige among the nations of the world Considered from this point of view, the course now proposed is pronounced to be of the utmost importance to the Empire.

MR. SHIBUSAWA EIICHI INTERVIEWED BY THE AGENTS OF THE P. AND O. CO.

Mr. Joseph, the Hongkong Agent of the P. & O. Company, writes the *Hochi*, called some weeks ago on Mr. Shibusawa, in company with the agents of the Company both of Yokohama and Kobe, in order to ask his opinion as to the present undertaking of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha to open a new service to Bombay. Mr. Joseph opened the conversation with the remark that it was by the exercise of no ordinary pains that the Company has come to attain the present position of virtually monopolizing the navigation to Bombay. Beside the P. & O. Company, there are two more, an Austro-Hungarian and an Italian Company, but though these have been doing business for many years, they are still very much troubled for lack of cargo. If to these, said Mr. Joseph, a new company is to be added, nothing is more clear than that as a result of competition, the companies will be plunged into general ruin. A manager of the Yusen Kaisha told him, said he, that it was at the earnest request of the Japanese spinners that the Company resolved to undertake the new service, but if so he doubted whether the spinners had not been imposed upon by Mr. Tata of Bombay, for it is clear that while the price of raw cotton rises, that of yarns must fall, as a result of the competition in transportation, and that, in consequence of it, the import of Bombay yarns which has recently been diminishing will be augumented once more. This is exactly the point which Mr. Tata is secretly contriving to attain, and Mr. Joseph asked Mr. Shibusawa to convey these points to the spinners of the country. Mr. Shibusawa then proceeded to state his own opinion on the matter. This undertaking of the native spinners, Mr. Shibusawa said, was no hasty arrangement, but their cherished aim for more than 10 years; and it has at last begun to be realized. The enterprise of the Yusen Kaisha, on the other hand, is of no fickle character, but is, to some extent, due to the present immoderate charge for freight, a charge which Mr. Shibusawa considers as entirely out of proportion to the facility of transportation. The Yusen Kaisha by no means aims at robbing the P. & O. Co. of its prestige, and its enterprise is simply an outcome of natural economic conditions Mr. Shibusawa was not aware whether the Japanese spinners had been imposed upon by Mr. Tata, but he could not share the opinion entertained by Mr. Joseph as to the result of the present undertaking by the Yusen Kaisha. Of course such a result as depicted by Mr Joseph might come about if the competition were of a reckless character having no regard to their respective interests, but so long as the business were conducted with ordinary prudence, no such fear need be entertained. The Japanese spinners would not be afraid even if more or less increase did ensue in the import of Bombay yarns as a consequence of the fall of freight, but if at the same time the raw cotton can be imported cheaply, then the loss would be more than compensated for by the gain. The Hongkong Agent then said that in the event, however, of competition unhappily arising, the Japanese Transport Company and his Company might suffer great loss, while the Chinese alone, in consequence of the reduction of freight, would reap the benefit by obtaining the yarns cheaply from Bombay or elsewhere. Yes, replied Mr. Shibusawa, such a result cannot be avoided in case the competition arises, but if the agents of the company do not like to bring about such a thing, the only mode for them is to forbear from engaging in a reckless competition. Mr. Shibusawa regretted that the P. & O. agents had sought the interview, for he could not regard their conduct in the matter as perfectly becoming in them as English gentlemen. Japan may indeed be called a child of England in many respects; in the spinning industry and navigation for instance. Japan regards England as a model in such business, and she has been steadily attaining a great development in them. As father and teacher to Japan, England ought to encourage and assist her development in these matters, but that very father and teacher, far from having any such tender regard, now intends to thwart her development by placing obstacles in its way. Can that be the duty of a father and a teacher? Such conduct on the part of Englishmen whose country is walking proudly in great strides throughout the world as the Queen of the Sea,—do they not feel ashamed of it in their hearts? Here the interview ended, and the Agents left Mr. Shibusawa, apparently not much contented with the result.

JAPANESE AND CHINESE LACQUERS.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* has some interesting remarks about the comparative merits of Japanese and Chinese lacquer. During the administration of the Tokugawa Regency, when lacquered wares were in great favour, much attention was bestowed on the cultivation of trees from the sap of which the chief ingredient of lacquer is obtained. Many were the feudal lords who caused the trees to be cultivated in their fiefs, some even going so far as to grant sums in aid for that purpose. After the Restoration lacquer wares fell for a time into neglect, and in consequence the area of land devoted to cultivation of the lacquer tree became greatly reduced. If neglected by their own countrymen, however, lacquered wares were from the first much esteemed by the people of the West, and their export gradually increased till they now constitute one of the staples of the outward trade. But as the demand for the wares developed in foreign markets the artizans in Japan found themselves confronted by a serious difficulty, namely, insufficiency of the lacquer tree. This defect, however, has been made good to some extent by the import of the sap from China, a device resorted to in such noted centres of lacquer manufacture as Aizu, Shizuoka, and Kishiu for more than 10 years past. One advantage which the Chinese article is said to possess over the Japanese is cheapness, but on the other hand its use has involved serious drawbacks. Partly owing to reckless competition among the artizans to produce cheap wares, and partly owing to the temporary convenience of cheap material, the fame of Japanese lacquer has now declined perceptibly in the West. Pure Chinese lacquer is said to be not much inferior to Japanese, but the article in its imported form is distinctly bad, owing to adulteration with honey or maple oil. At present the principal districts where the sap is produced in Japan are Echizen and its vicinity; but though the home-grown article is greatly superior in quality to the foreign, the price is many times dearer and the workmen are consequently tempted to employ the imported sap. Only artizans who are honestly desirous of displaying the true beauties and excellence of Japanese wares use the home article, regardless of price. The *Nichi Nichi* calls the public attention to this point and strongly urges the abundant cultivation of the lacquer trees, as the sole way of maintaining the credit of Japanese lacquer wares and of stopping the ingress of the foreign material.

A MAN OF MANY PARTS.

A young man of decidedly various parts is Dr. Hayward Hayes a graduate of Maryland University, U.S.A., and not very long ago a poor unknown clerk in a Baltimore drug-store. He is now Surgeon-General to the Siamese Army, and Household Physician to the King. He is director of all the hospitals in the Siamese kingdom, and head of the National Educational Institution, (!) which he has modelled on the public schools of Baltimore. As if this were not enough to do, he fills up his Sundays and spare time by preaching to the natives and foreign residents, for in addition to being a doctor and a schoolmaster, he is besides a regularly ordained minister of the Presbyterian Church.

MEN OF AFFAIRS.

In the interval between the second and third sessions of the Diet, the business men of the empire formed an association having its headquarters in Tokyo, which promised to exercise a considerable influence in the political world. But the public heard little about it subsequently, and the general supposition was that it had died a natural death, or been dissolved after the accomplishment of its immediate objects. But the *Nippon* asserts that the association is now about to be re-organized, and that its members in the Diet will hold themselves aloof from all political parties, and play an independent rôle under the name of *Jitsugyo Dantai*.

KOREAN RICE.

Telegraphic intelligence from Fusan, Korea, received in Tokyo on the 24th inst. says that the Japanese Chamber of Commerce at that port has passed a resolution to despatch a deputation to the Zenra and Keisho Provinces for the purpose of investigating the actual condition of the rice harvest, and to discover whether the Korean Government, was justified in issuing a notification prohibiting the export of rice from Korea, in accordance with the Trading Rules, by reason of a failure in the crop. What action the Commercial Chamber will take against the Peninsular Government will depend upon the result of this enquiry.

ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS.

Various rumours continue to be circulated about the Government's programme of administrative reform. The *Nippon* recently stated with every semblance of confidence that the reforms would be promulgated this month and would go into

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force from the 1st of next month, but the same journal now asserts that the promulgation will be on November 1st and that the reforms will go into operation at once. It also adds that the largest reduction of expenditure in connection with the reforms will be in the Department of Finance, the next largest in the Foreign Office, after which will come the Educational Department, the Department of Justice, the Department of Agriculture and Commerce and the Department of Communications, in that order, the smallest financial change being in the Department of Home Affairs.

THE SOMA CASE.

THE prisoners in the Soma case has been acquitted. It is stated that some of the Judges connected with the trial of the case will be brought before the Disciplinary Tribunal.

* * *

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* of this morning has it that Mr. Nishigori Gosei, his wife Koyama Toki, Advocate Okano, his Counsel, and a person named Yamada Jubei were arrested at six o'clock on the afternoon of the 24th inst. Summonses were also issued for two men, Miyachi Mohei and Tsuda Kanjiro by name, who are at present absent from Tokyo.

* * *

A disciplinary court has been organised before which Preliminary Judge Yamaguchi, of the Tokyo Local Court, who is suspected of having had a secret meeting with Mr. Nishigori at a restaurant, named Shimamura, at Tori Shichome, Nihonbashi, is to appear to answer the charge preferred.

* * *

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* makes a serious charge against one of the Judges connected with this case. "Although," says our contemporary, "we have not been ignorant of the rumours circulated about a certain Judge and the originator of the case, namely, that bribery has been offered to the former and that secret conferences have been held by the two, we have refrained from alluding to these stories till to-day, because it is not our practice to publish rumours of this nature without first making thorough enquiries about their trustworthiness. According to the inquiries now instituted by us, it appears that a certain Judge connected with the case, and the plaintiff, have frequently held secret meetings at a tea-house in the vicinity of Nihonbashi, under the assumed names of Yamada and Nishiki respectively. We have been told that, besides the Judge, some other individuals are concerned in these meetings. On further inquiries, we shall announce in a few days the names of all the persons concerned."

* * *

Our contemporary also states that Nakada Taichiro, who, it will be remembered, assisted Mr. Nishikori in rescuing the late Viscount Soma from the Lunatic Asylum at Sugamo, and who has been one of the principal witnesses against the prisoners in the present case, visited the Shitaya Police Station on the night of the 21st instant and confessed that the evidence give by him about the case was all untrue. It is stated that he had been hired by Mr. Nishikori with a promise that he would be paid 300 *yen* for his services. But Mr. Nishikori has not only failed to fulfil the promise, but has even begun to treat his accomplice with coldness. This, it is stated, is the reason why Nakada has decided to make the confessions. But this report is denied by some other papers, which state that, according to their inquiries at the Police Office, Nakada has not visited any of the Police Stations.

* * *

Mr. Idokawa Chu, another opponent of the retainers of the Soma family, on the 23rd inst. brought against two of the prisoners, Shiga Naomichi and Aota Kozo, a criminal charge of having illegally confined the late Viscount.

* * *

We are now in a position to supplement with some details the bald statements in our Thursday's issue concerning the conclusion of the Soma case and the curious complication which has arisen out of it. It was about 4 p.m. that the verdict of acquittal was served upon the prisoners in the case, Mada Mishiyama Ryu, and Messrs. Aota Tsunazo, Ishikawa Eisho, Endo Yoshikata, Shiga Naomichi, and Nakai Tsunejiro, who were at the same time released from confinement. The two accused, Viscount Soma Jun-in and Mr. Izumida Tanemasa, his steward, who had not been placed in confinement, received the verdict of acquittal at about 6 p.m. The verdict runs as follows :—

[Names and addresses of the eight accused precede.]

The murder case instituted against the above mentioned accused has been investigated in a preliminary court, and whereas there is not sufficient evidence to establish the fact that, conspiring together in the month of February, 1893, the accused administered poison to the late *Yuiamm* Viscount Soma Masatane and thereby caused his death at 6 a.m. on the 22nd of the same month, the said accused are hereby acquitted of this charge, and at the same time Nishiyama Ryu, Aota Tsunazo, Ishikawa Eisho, Endo Yoshikata, Shiga Naomichi, and Nakai Tsunejiro are set at liberty, in accordance with the provisions of Art. 165 of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

This verdict is dated 24th October, 1893, and signed by Judge Okada Seikyo and Clerk Yokoyama Yoshitomo of the Tokyo Local Court.

* * *

The case has ended exactly as the sober portion of the public has expected from the beginning. The news of the acquittal of the accused has, however, caused no small surprise to the unthinking public, which credulously clung with ardour to the absurd tales disseminated by the partisans of Nishikori. Some papers, which have been conspicuous for their partiality to Nishikori, seem to be dissatisfied with the verdict of the preliminary court and console themselves by reflecting that law is not identical with nature's justice.

* * *

What has surprised the public far more than the acquittal of the accused, has been the arrest of the original informant Nishikori, his counsel Okano, Nishikori's wife, Judge Yamaguchi (who assisted Judge Okada in the examination of witnesses in the present case), Yamada Jubei, a tailor, and the two *soshi*, Tsuda Kanjiro and Miyaji Mohei. The tables have been completely turned round. The warrants for the apprehension of these individuals, excepting Judge Yamaguchi, were issued almost simultaneously with the announcement of the verdict of acquittal. It had been supposed that Judge Yamaguchi would be arraigned before a disciplinary tribunal on account of his frequent meetings with Nishikori while the Soma case was in progress. But the authorities are said to have been placed in possession of sufficient facts to consider him as an accomplice in the conspiracy conducted by Nishikori and his partisans for prosecuting the retainers of the Soma family on a false charge of murder. He was, consequently, arrested on the 25th instant at 12.30 a.m. Yamada Jubei, the tailor of foreign clothes, is reported to have served as a medium between Judge Yamaguchi and Nishikori. He was present at most of the secret meetings held by the latter at a secluded tea-house named Shimamura-ya, in close proximity to Nihonbashi. It is also stated by the *Nichi Nichi* that Judge Yamaguchi and Nishikori are old friends, and that their acquaintance with each other dates from the time when several years ago the latter was prosecuted by the Soma family on a charge of forgery, the former being the Judge charged with the trial of that case. On the 25th inst. a search was made by the Judges of the Local Court in the houses of Nishikori, Okano, and Yamada.

* * *

The *Nichi Nichi* relates many particulars relating to the secret meetings of Yamaguchi and Nishikori. They met in all seven times in the months of September and October. Their conversations are not reproduced; perhaps they are not known. But our contemporary mentions that the words "Soma," "Judge," and "preliminary examination" were distinctly overheard.

* * *

The retainers of the Soma family are not yet entirely at rest, for Mr. Idogawa has brought against them a criminal charge of having illegally confined the late Viscount Soma and thereby caused his death. It is, however, believed that this suit will not be taken up by the Public Procurators of the Tokyo Local Court.

* * *

After writing the above, the *Tokyo Tsushin Sha* (News Agency) has forwarded us some further particulars concerning what may be called the Nishikori Case. We are told that the celebrated anonymous confession which created such general excitement, was a forgery concocted by Nishikori himself in concert with Miyaji Mohei and Tsuda Kanjiro, *soshi* who have been already put under arrest.

* * *

Concerning Judge Yamaguchi, it is stated that the circumstance of his secret meetings with Nishikori was first discovered by his colleague Judge Okada. It appears that Judge Okada was requested to attend one of these meetings, but he firmly declined to do so. According to the Tokyo News Agency, the rendezvous is said to have been the house of one Kato Yoshijiro, keeper of a *ten-pura* restaurant (where fish and other articles of food fried in oil are served). Whether these meetings were separate from or identical with those stated by the *Nichi Nichi* to have been held at the Shimamura-ya, remains yet to be ascertained. Judge Yamaguchi is said to have confessed all shortly before his arrest.

THE NEW BRITISH MINISTER TO MOROCCO.

MR. SATOW, the new British Minister to Morocco, arrived at Tangier on 29th ult., from Gibraltar, on board Her Majesty's gunboat *Bramble*. Mr. Satow landed at four p.m. amid a salute of seventeen guns from the town batteries. At the landing-stage the British Minister was received by the Moorish Commissioner for Foreign Affairs, the Basha, who was accompanied by an escort of thirty soldiers, the Customs and Port officers, and the members of the British Legation and Consulate, while the various foreign Ministers were represented by their secretaries and interpreters. A large number of British subjects, natives, and foreign residents were also present. The flags on all the Foreign Legations were hoisted in honour of the British Minister.

BARQUE ASHORE.

MESSRS WARNER, BLODGETT & Co., in their circular dated Manila, 4th inst., say],—"Just as we go to press, the captain and crew of the Norwegian barque *Alexandra*, 977 tons register, have arrived and report that their vessel was driven ashore near Capones, during the typhoon of 30th ultimo. and that she has become a total wreck. The *Alexandra* was condemned and sold here on the 2nd August. She has been fitted up for a voyage to Hongkong, at which port it was the intention of her owners to repair or sell her."

OSAKA WATER-WORKS.

A TELEGRAM from Osaka dated the 23rd inst., received by the *Jiji Shimpo*, announces that public tenders for the iron pipes for the Osaka Water-works have been opened with the following results :—For 12-feet pipes £35,878, 14s. 6d. (highest) Messrs. Favre-Brandt & Co., and £33,431 19s. 1d. (lowest) Mitsui Bussan Kaisha; for 9-feet pipes £35,600 (highest) Naigai Yotatsu Kaisha, and £32,380 (lowest) Messrs. Dressing & Co. (?). All the tenders were rejected after consideration, and it was announced that tenders will be again solicited on the 30th inst.

THE FLAGSHIP.

IT has been decided by the Admiralty, says the *China Mail*, that H.M.S. *Imperieuse* will not recommission at Hongkong. She will probably arrive here from the north about the end of November, and will then return to England. It is not yet decided whether H.M.S. *Barfleur* or H.M.S. *Centurion* will replace her as flagship on the China Station, but the latter is most likely to be sent out. The *Cen-*

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turion is an armoured twin-screw battleship of the first class, with 14 guns, and is at present stationed at Portsmouth. The *Barfleur* belongs to the same class. She is at Chatham.

THE SOMA CASE AND THE METROPOLITAN PRESS

THE *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* reviews in an interesting manner the attitude of the different metropolitan papers on the Soma case which has just been brought to a conclusion. It was in the beginning of July last a rumour was first circulated in Tokyo to the effect that the Soma affair was about to be revived. The paper which was the first to allude to this affair was, as might have been expected, the *Nippon*, which it its issue of July 7, published a poem which hinted that the coffin at Aoyama contained nothing but rice and that the ghost of the late Viscount Soma was still lurking in the neighbourhood of Atarashibashi. But the doubtful honour of taking up the matter in earnest and making a powerful appeal to the credulity of the public, belongs to the *Jiyu Shimbun*, which published the famous anonymous confession on the 19th of the same month. So the *Nichi Nichi* begins with the Radical organ in its review of the positions of the different metropolitan papers on the Soma case. The *Jiyu's* conduct from beginning to end has been characterised—says our contemporary—by a lamentable lack of sobriety and judgment and a total disregard of the grave responsibility attaching to a paper of its position. The *Jiyu* has also been very inconsistent and changeable in its attitude. In publishing the above mentioned confession, it did not hesitate to declare that it placed the fullest confidence in every particular recorded in the document; but in a libel case brought against it, its editor was so shameless as to state in court that he had inserted the document in his paper simply because it had been forwarded from the Tokyo News Agency, and that he did not necessarily believe in its reliability. Some other instances of the rash and inconsistent conduct on the part of the *Jiyu* do not escape the critical eye of the *Nichi Nichi*, but it is not necessary to enter into any more details. For it is readily conceded by every sober observer that the *Jiyu's* conduct throughout the case in question has been a discredit to the great party which it professes to represent.

* * *

The other leading papers in the capital which are open to serious criticism on account of their attitude toward the Soma case, are, in the opinion of our contemporary, the *Choya Shimbun*, the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, and the *Hochi Shimbun*. These journals so far descended from their usual standard of morality as to open their columns for the ventilation of most childish and incredible stories connected with the case, and in some cases wilfully pandered to the credulity and ignorance of the lower classes. Of the minor papers, the *Chu-ô Shimbun*, the *Kaishin Shimbun*, and the *Yorozu Chôhô* have been most conspicuous for the rashness with which they espoused the cause of Nishikori and his partisans, and the eagerness they showed in soiling their pages with filthy matter relating to the private life of some of the individuals connected with the case.

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The *Nippon* and the *Kokkai*, though not entirely free from blame, have not owered their dignity to such a length as the papers above alluded to. The *Nippon*, as already stated, was the first to make a mysterious allusion to the probability of foul play on the part of the Soma retainers, but it has in some degree atoned for its error in this respect by the cool and sober attitude it has subsequently maintained about the case. The *Kokkai*, too, though it occasionally lent its columns to the dissemination of false rumours, has succeeded in maintaining impartial views, so far as its editorial columns were concerned.

* * *

Those leading papers which have remained entirely neutral and dignified about the case, are the *Jiji Shimpo*, the *Kokumin Shimbun*, and, to a less extent, the *Mainichi Shimbun*. The last named paper, however, laid itself open to just censure for an unfair attack on the *Jiyu Shimbun* with respect to the Hoshi affair and the alleged attempt by the Soma family to corrupt the Radical organ. Of the minor papers, the *Tokyo Asahi Shimbun* and the *Miyako Shimbun* are praised for their exemplary conduct throughout the progress of the case.

* * *

Writing on the result of the preliminary investigation of the case, the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* seems to complain that the Court was rather rash to institute proceedings on the slender basis of an anonymous confession and the so-called evidence produced by Nishigori mainly on hearsay. The Judges connected with the case are not, hints our contemporary, free from the charge of having so far lost sight of the dignity of their posts, as, in condescension to popular prejudice, to waste time and public money in summoning witnesses whose evidence could not and did not possess the slightest value to the cause in hand. The case has not been unproductive of some beneficial results. It has, in the *Nichi Nichi's* opinion, served to remind both ministers of the law and the organs of public opinion of the grave responsibility they respectively owe to society

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In another article, our contemporary, while exonerating them from any intentional maltreatment of their late master, holds the steward and assistant steward of the Soma family morally responsible for want of judgment in their conduct and a certain remissness in caring for the comfort of the unfortunate nobleman.

THE IRON FOUNDRY INVESTIGATION COMMITTEE.

THE fourth meeting of the Iron Foundry Investigation Committee was held on the 23rd inst. at the Noshomusho, says the vernacular press. The report on the inspection of the two mines of Kamaishi and Sennin was first read, but the points embodied in the report being complicated and difficult, it was proposed to hold another meeting on the 25th, when a definite decision would be given on the report. This was approved without a division, and was succeeded by a motion by Mr. Sengoku to ask the opinion of the presiding authorities as to when the investigation on the foundry business was to be completed and whether, by postponing it till the opening of the coming session of the Diet, the Government contemplated placing the matter before the deliberation of the Diet. The motion was opposed by Mr. Asaka, who maintained that as the Committee was bound to accomplish the investigation satisfactorily, there was no need to ask the opinion of the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce as to the limit of time when the investigation was to be finished. A division being taken, this opinion of Mr. Asaka's was rejected by a majority of 10 to 8. Mr. Wada then proposed that the opinion of the Government should be asked as to whether it intends to place the foundry business under its own management or to leave it to private enterprise. The motion was approved unanimously. The Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Saito, Vice-Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, informed the Committee that the Minister being on duty in the Department, he would undertake to ask him personally for an answer to their question. The Minister replied to the effect that the questions being of grave import, it was difficult to give any definite reply to them on his own consideration, but that by submitting the matter to the deliberation of the Cabinet, the required explanation would be made at the next meeting. The meeting then adjourned.

MEETING OF THE UNION BANKERS' ASSOCIATION.

A MEETING of the Union Bankers' Association of the Kwanto districts, and not of bankers throughout the country as we have mentioned previously, is now being held at the Clearing Hall, Sakamoto, with Mr. Shibusawa Eiichi in the Chair. The Assembly decided to petition the Government to erase the 5th Art. of the National Bank Regulations, and to abolish the Savings Banks Regulations. The main reason given for the cancelling of the 5th Art. is said to be due to the great inconvenience felt by them in consequence of its forbidding any bank to lend a sum exceeding 10 per cent. of the whole capital, or of the total paid-up capital, to any single person or company, or to employ that sum for discounting purposes. These provisions are deemed essential by the Authorities, so as to provide against any bank being seriously affected in the event of the bankruptcy of a single person or company. The inconvenience resulting from this rule, however, appears to be more than any benefit that may accrue from the restriction. The *Jiji*, for instance, writes, when a bank, say, of 100,000 *yen* capital, enjoying great credit among mercantile circles and patronized by first-rate customers be prevented from granting a loan of 10,000 *yen*, nothing could be more inconvenient either to the Bank or its customers. The other restriction forbidding the employment of the same sum for discounting purposes is considered by the bankers as even more hampering. Out of sheer necessity, banks have not unfrequently been obliged to elude this restriction by resorting to various expedients and the bankers are therefore of opinion that if the provisions be as practically ineffectual as they are obstructive, they had better be struck out of the Regulations. Moreover, they think that, as there are at present various stringent restrictions imposed upon banks, apprehension need be not entertained of their safety, even if these provisions be annulled. The meeting decided not to arrive at any definite opinion in regard to the redemption of Bank notes, in view of the fact that the Department of Finance is now engaged in drafting regulations for the transference of the business of national banks to private banks, while the Union banks of Tokyo and Yokohama are holding conferences with the Bank of Japan on the same subject. The discussion being carried on within closed doors, the vernacular press can give no further information.

THE "JIYU SHIMBUN."

THE *Jiyu Shimbun* was suspended on the 25th instant, its issue of that morning being deemed prejudicial to the public peace and order The offending matter is no doubt contained in those notes in which our contemporary casts most provoking and injurious reflections upon the Judges charged with the preliminary examination of the Soma case. The Radical organ has shown in the present instance its characteristic rashness by indulging in intemperate language against Judge Okada on account of his alleged meetings with Nishikori. It is unnecessary to note that the Judge charged with complicity with Nishikori is not Mr. Okada but Mr. Yamaguchi. Since, however, the *Nichi Nichi* had stated that a certain Judge connected with the Soma case had held secret meetings with Nishikori, the Radical organ jumped to the conclusion that it must be Judge Okada, and making no doubt of that matter indulged in invectives against him. We would advise the leaders of the Radical party to effect thorough changes in the *personnel* of the staff of their organ, for otherwise it will be utterly impossible for the latter, after its lamentable episodes, during the last few months, to regain the confidence of the public.

DELIVERY OF MAIL MATTER IN YOKOHAMA.

THE *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* has taken the trouble to send a special representative to Yokohama to enquire into the alleged discontent of the native merchants of the port in reference to the distribution of foreign mails. He ascertained beyond question of doubt, that the whole affair had no real foundation, and that the paragraph which appeared in the vernacular press emanated from the pen of a joker or else from a person who entertained some personal or private enmity against the Post Office towards the officers directly concerned with foreign mails. The attention of the Department of Communications has been drawn to the matter, and the chief of the foreign mail section was requested to give a full explanation of the system upon which the section managed the distribution of mail matter in the port. In reply, the chief official said that the custom was to

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distribute the foreign mail along with the home letters, in cases when the foreign mail arrived at a convenient opportunity. A delay of 30 minutes or an hour, would, however, arise on such occasions, owing to the foreign addresses having to be translated into Japanese. The system, therefore, had its inconveniences. The speedy delivery of foreign mails was considered of great importance, and long delays are always avoided as they cause much annoyance and inconvenience to both native and foreign merchants in Yokohama. The Post Office therefore devised a scheme, which they put into execution on the 13th of last month, by which a special delivery was made of all foreign mails which had not been prepared for distribution when the time for the home mail delivery arrived. There was no necessity at all why this special delivery should be confined to native merchants, so the Concession and native town were treated in a similiar fashion. The *Nichi Nichi*, although it regrets to find that there are only two or three Japanese merchants who have correspondence direct with America and Europe, cannot consider it strange that the majority of foreign mails arriving at Yokohama should be conveyed as quickly as possible to the merchants within the Concession, or that few or no letters addressed to Japanese merchants are sent though the special after-delivery.

A PRIZE ESSAY.

A WELL-MEANING missionary in Shensi recently offered prizes for essays on 'Worshipping God' and 'Scientific Research' to the B.A.'s or *hsiu-ts'ai* assembled in Hsi-an Fu for taking their next degree. Among the candidates was a disciple of the scoundrel Chou Han, who instigated the murders and persecutions in Hunan; and this is a specimen of his composition :—

"I the writer your mean friend wish you to know that England is the most slippery, deceitful, and venomous of the nations on the earth. She forced into China her opium in order to cleverly rob people of their wealth. England has emptied our purses, but after impoverishing, she injured us. And now to add insult to injury she comes to disseminate a depraved religion so as to lead their minds captive and taking away the hope of the poor. Every vile means is used, eyes are gouged out, hearts cut out for making medicine to befool the people. Now an attempt is made to hoodwink *scholars* by examining them on bad subjects. But I exhort you not to listen to such pratings and so injure your consciences." Here follows a polished quotation from the Sacred Edict—always held up as the Imperial estimate of Christianity. "The Emperor out of his goodness wished to pity these strangers from afar but we won't. For 2,000 years this great nation has revived the teachings of Confucius and Mencius, but recently numbers have been led astray by the depraved Christian religion. Of course, we all know God but he is not the Jesus of these people. Jesus was merely a clever doctor who performed some clever clinics like our divine physician Hua To." And the paragraph concludes with this: "Call it what you please; whether Roman Catholics or Protestants, they are all beasts."

But possibly the most interesting paragraph is the following :—

"These few insignificant nations that lie on the outskirts of the illustrious land are thorny and wild and all barbarous. Before the European countries existed China was sage-educated. The teachings of Confucius at last reached unto their barbarity and reaching reformed them. England alone forgets from what she sprang. Even now it is only a small island on the borders of Europe. Yet an Englishman ventures to come and instruct *us!* Why; we have been her teacher. At present the learning of Europe, naming Astronomy, Geography, Science, Arithmetic, Chemistry, Electricity, Light, Mechanics, is in the opinion of the enlightened of China a mere toy for children. The recently erected telegraphs railways and ships have conveyed to Europe the doctrine of our sages. For have not European scholars come to China and translated into the languages of the West the whole of our classics for their instruction and so have been fulfilled the words 'wherever the sun and moon shine, wherever frosts and dews fall, all living beings unfeignedly honour and love Confucius.' Truly if England does not speedily repent China will rise in wrath and at one angry breath England will cease to be."

RUMOURED SERIOUS ILLNESS OF PRINCE BISMARCK.

THE *Jiji Shimpo* has it that a telegram was received in the capital from Berlin on the 25th inst. to the effect that Prince Bismarck, ex-Chancellor of the German Empire, is in a perilous condition, and the Emperor William has ordered his Grand Chamberlain to despatch a third message to inquire into the condition of the distinguished patient.

NEW "CHINA-MUTUAL" STEAMSHIP.

THE *Oolong*, a steel steamer built by the London and Glasgow Engineering and Shipbuilding Company, Limited, for the China-Mutual Steam Navigation Company, Limited, has had her trial trip. Runs on the measured mile were made both with and against the tide; the mean speed obtained was 13·3 knots, the engines working up to 85 revolutions and indicating 2,400 horse power, everything working smoothly. There was an entire absence of hot bearings.

CUSTOMS RETURNS.

THE following is a summary of the Customs Returns for September, showing the foreign trade of the empire for the month :—

	1892 SILVER YEN.	1893. SILVER YEN.
Exports	10 543,729 850	7,630,168 880
Imports	6.073,117,180	7,809 971 470
Total exports and imports		15,440 140.350
Excess of imports		179.802 590

CUSTOMS DUTIES.

Exports	161 964 228
Imports	286 251 449
Miscellaneous	11,396 080
Total	459,611 757

TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS TO AND IMPORTS FROM VARIOUS FOREIGN COUNTRIES

	Exports. Silver Yen.	Imports. Silver Yen.	Total Silver Yen.
Great Britain	605,60..190	3,623,319,760	4,228,953,950
France	2,118,579,310	201,460,340	2,320,049,650
United States of America	1,626,449,090	442,987,740	2,069 436 830
Hongkong	1,338,574,770	513,4 1 910	1,852,086,680
China	798,834 050	753,994 830	1,552,828 880
Germany	180,004 600	757,047 760	947,052,360
British India	259,444,440	527,606,360	787,051,000
Russia	63 169,300	227,787 080	291 956,380
Korea	125,840,670	98,657,190	224,16 860
Italy	189,210 970	6,530,040	188,74 .010
Belgium	1,930,890	88,048 960	90,021,850
Switzerland	27,453,000	54,809 570	82,266 570
Austria	78,073,680	2,049 120	80,622 800
Canada & other British America	68,103 440	688,380	68,791,820
Australia	99,581,390	32,949,460	62,46..850
Philipine Islands	3,307 000	42,009 290	46,316 290
Hawaii	19,490,930	—	19,490 930
Siam	10,700	27,355,300	27,375,000
Holland	4,701 180	6,228,260	10,929 240
Spain	250,000	2,691,460	2,941,460
Sweden & Norway	—	2,217,400	2,217,400
Turkey	526,200	89 220	615,420
Peru	338,000	—	330,000
Denmark		99,860	99,860
Portugal	—	12,000	12 000
Other Countries	80,101 570	396,584,260	476,685 690
Total	7,523,571,290	7,809,971,470	15,333,542,760

TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS AND IMPORTS FROM AND TO EACH PORT

Yokohama	5,018,389 570	3,717 772,090	8,807,781,990
Kobe	1,769,801,260	3,489,653 590	5,259 057,850
Osaka	91,103 910	362,469,750	453 573,660
Nagasaki	360,694,600	204,348,850	467,043,450
Hakodate	95,824,830	—	95,824 830
Niigata	5,058,720	1,351,830	6,923 590
Shimonoseki	30,331 4 0	33,083 890	63,085 300
Moji	119,581,210	—	210,583 210
Hakata	19 .240	—	191,240
Karatsu	220,000	—	220,000
Kuchinotsu	135,780,000	—	135,780,000
Misumi	22,073 500	—	22,073 500
Idzumizaka	814,460	550,870	1,365,330
Shishimi	677 720	694,600	1,372 320
Sasuna	495,430	544 500	1,039 930
Otaru	8,694 700	—	8,694 700
Specie and Bullion — Exports			1,046,386,380
Specie and Bullion — Imports			791,669,710
Total			1,838,056,090
Excess of exports			254,716,670

VALUE OF EXPORTS AND IMPORTS BY JAPANESE MERCHANTS AND GOVERNMENT.

By Japanese Merchants — Exports		1,108,423,810
By Japanese Merchants — Imports		1,175,976,010
Imported by Government		20,188 500

THE NEW O.B.C.'S ADVANCES.

A LONDON paper says :—Mr. Thomas A. Welton, liquidator of the New Oriental Bank Corporation, in reply to a correspondent who had called attention to the advance made by the bank to the Gatling Gun Company, states that, having referred to the memorandum of association, he finds that the directors had power to makes advances in the United Kingdom as well as in the East. Consequently the operation was not ultra vires.

THE HONGKONG PRAYA RECLAMATION.

SOME of the marine lot-holders on the Praya at Hongkong have presented a petition to the Government praying for a suspension of the Praya Reclamation Works for some years. The reply received is to the effect that after due consideration of the memorial, the Governor regrets that he is unable to comply.

THE GOVERNOR OF MACAO.

REFERRING to a report that Senhor Horta e Costa will shortly be appointed Governor of Macao, the *Extremo Oriente* expresses the hope that the report may be true as Senhor Horta e Costa would make a good Governor and is thoroughly acquainted with the requirements of the colony. The administration of Senhor Custodio Borja has not been altogether favourable for the colony, and his departure will not be generally regretted.—*Daily Press.*

MRS IRWINE'S CONCERT.

MRS. IRWINE wishes to express her best thanks to the ladies and gentlemen who so kindly contributed by their musical services to the success of the concert held in the Public Hall on the 24th inst.; to the lady seatholders who assisted her in distributing tickets; to the Japan Brewery Co., the Club Hotel, and Messrs. Harding & Co. for refreshments for the Band; and to Mr. L. Boehmer for two magnificent palms kindly lent for the occasion. The total receipts amounted to $528 50, and after deducting $109 08 for expenses, a cheque for $419 42 has been handed to Mr. Edward Whithall, the Hon. Treasurer of Christ Church.

THE FRENCH FLAGSHIP.

WE (*China Mail*) learn from private sources that the French flagship *Triomphante* will return to Europe about January. Admiral Humann, who goes home then, is likely to secure promotion for his special services in Siam. The new flagship will be the *Bayard*, which was out on the China Station as Admiral Courbet's flagship in 1885. Admiral Humann's successor will be Admiral de Maigret, formerly Chief of the Staff to Admiral Courbet.

CHINA AND AMERICA

YUNG YU, the new Chinese Minister at Washington, has, says an American paper, forbidden the members of the legation to accept social courtesies or hospitality from any American so long as the strained relations between the United States and China due to the Geary law continue to exist. Mr. Yung Yu, by the way, is not a man of the highest rank in China. He began his official life in a minor position in the custom-house, but rose rapidly by his own merits. His present mission is considered a high tribute to his diplomatic talents.

THE "MARTHA BOCKHAHN."

THE German barque *Martha Bockhahn*, Captain Meincke, from Philadelphia to Kobe with a cargo of kerosene, recently reported by telegraph as dismasted, has arrived here, says the *Hongkong Daily Press*, in distress, having lost her fore-topmast and sustained other damage in a typhoon on the 6th inst, south of Formosa. She had encountered two typhoons previously, one on the 27th ult. and the other on the 30th, and had come through them safely. The *Martha Bockhahn* is a steel built vessel.

SHANGHAI JUBILEE.

AT a meeting of the Committee of General Purposes held at the Council Board Room on the 16th instant, a programme of ceremonies and processions to take place during the Jubilee Holidays, 17th and 18th November, was arranged and adopted, subject to such modifications as may hereafter be found necessary

THE FLOOD FUND.

WE beg to acknowledge the following sums for the sufferers by the recent floods :—

Gustave Gibert, Esq.	$10	L. F. R.	$ 5
E. B.	5	Edwin Dun, Esq.	25
B. P.	5	M. de Bunsen, Esq.	10

THE "CHISHIMA" CASE.

MR. RICKETT, the Agent of the P. & O. Company, received a telegram, on Wednesday which contained the following :—" Judgment reversed —costs are given in favour of the Company both Courts."

A NEW GOVERNOR FOR TOKYO.

THE *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* states that Mr. Tomita, Governor of Tokyo, was yesterday released from his post at his own request, his position being given to Mr. Miura Yasushi.

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A NEW-OLD VIEW OF EXTRATERRITORIAL JURISDICTION.

THE *Chishima-Ravenna* question recently discussed on appeal before the Supreme Court in Shanghai, became the occasion for an expression of rather interesting views by Mr. FRANCIS, Q.C., one of the Counsel for the appellants Those who have followed this case know that one of the points raised is the right of a British Court in Japan to insist that a Japanese subject bringing suit before it against a British subject, shall submit to the jurisdiction of the Court in respect of any counter-claim that may be advanced by the British subject. Japan denies that the Court has any such right. She affirms that the British Government has no original jurisdiction within Japanese territory; that any jurisdiction possessed by it is delegated—*i.e.* delegated by the Emperor of JAPAN—and that since the Emperor of JAPAN never delegated to British tribunals in his empire competence to try cases in which Japanese subjects are defendants, a British Court cannot claim that competence under the authority of any British law or British Order in Council. We do not propose to discuss this matter here, since it has been already discussed at length in these columns. We merely state its outlines for the sake of a clear understanding that what has hitherto been under dispute is solely the amount of jurisdiction of which the Emperor of JAPAN divested himself for the purpose of delegating it to foreign tribunals within his territories; the fact of such jurisdictional competence having been acquired by a process of conventional delegation, has never seemed open to discussion. But Mr FRANCIS does not think so He takes a much more radical view of the matter. His theory is that Japan never delegated anything, but that several things were taken from her by *force majeure*, among them being her inherent right of jurisdiction. She was "compelled" to submit that "all foreigners coming within the territory of Japan should be wholly and entirely under the laws of their respective countries, and within the exclusive jurisdiction of the Courts of their own countries." "It was not a delegation," he told the Supreme Court in Shanghai; "it was not a concession: it was a right claimed to be exercised by Christian nations, which then for the first time came into contact with her, and it may be fairly said to have been imposed upon her by force as a condition upon which she was admitted into the great family of nations. He denied entirely that the word 'delegation' could, under any circumstances, or from any conceivable point of view in connection with the matter, be used in connection with the jurisdiction that HER MAJESTY exercised in China and Japan. It was in no sense a delegation. It was in no sense derived from the Emperors of CHINA or JAPAN in their respective countries. It was claimed as a right by Great Britain, and that right had been acceded to and consented to in the form of treaties." We do not suggest for a moment that Mr. FRANCIS's definition of Great Britain's claims in such a matter has any official authority. But it is entitled to consideration, as coming from so distinguished an advocate, and as embodying so curious a creed. There prevails among many Englishmen, and other nationals too for the matter of that, a kind of off-hand notion that it is really very silly and very sentimental to assign to Japan any voice in the interpretation of the treaties made by her with Western Powers, and that the only sound practical method of dealing with her is to interpret the treaties without reference to her and in whatever manner seems most expedient in the eyes of Occidental wisdom. The logical basis underlying such a doctrine is that Japan was not voluntarily a party to the conclusion of the treaties; that she signed them under compulsion; that she had nothing to do with regulating their contents, and that the terms they embody are in no respect an expression of her volition, but are simply a *résumé* of the situation as shaped by the Occidental Powers, subject to whatever rendering subsequent experience or expediency might suggest to those Powers. There is, indeed, a certain reluctance to state the doctrine in that harsh form. Mr. FRANCIS himself shrinks from the spectre of international bullying which he conjures up. He talks of Japan, in 1859, having "obtained entrance into the family of nations by conditions that were forced on her," just as though Japan had wanted to buy entrance and had been compelled to pay a huge price for it. It makes one sorry to see a man of Mr. FRANCIS'S ability embarrassed so palpably by his own propositions. He wishes to believe that there was a bargain, however one-sided, between Japan and Western Powers, but, at the same time, the necessities of his argument drive him to assert that the more or less free agency without which a bargain is impossible was absent, and that it was a case of force entirely. For our own part, we have always thought that Japan's resumption of foreign intercourse in 1859 was not of her own choice, but we have also thought that in regulating the conventional terms of that resumption she was, theoretically at all events, recognised as a "high contracting party." Her ignorance of the form in which the treaties should be cast betrayed her into great errors, but it has never before been alleged, as Mr. FRANCIS now alleges, that her free agency was not theoretically recognised, within certain limits, in negotiating the terms of the treaties. She had to conclude treaties of amity and commerce, but the treaties themselves were regarded as "contracts" the stipulations of which were fixed by mutual consent. Mr. FRANCIS out-herods HEROD. He declares that all foreigners in Japan are "wholly and entirely under the laws of their respective countries and within the exclusive jurisdiction of the Courts of their own countries" But the officially recorded interpretation of the treaties by the United States of America, for example, contradicts the former contention, and the treaties themselves contradict the latter, since they reserve to the jurisdiction of Japanese Courts all cases in which Japanese subjects are defendants. It may confidently be predicted, we think, that the British Government will not take Mr. FRANCIS's view of the matter. If Japan had no voice in regulating the terms of the treaties, if they were forced upon her, and if all inroads made by them upon the domain of her Sovereignty were "rights claimed to be exercised by Christian nations," then, of course, it becomes at once absurd to pretend that Japan is bound to observe the stipulations of the treaties one moment after she feels herself able to disregard them. If they were forced upon her against her will, she is indisputably entitled to shake them off so soon as such a step seem feasible What Western Government will impale itself upon the horns of that dilemma, we wonder?

THE RUIN OF OKAYAMA.

WE make a Special Appeal to-day to the benevolence of the public on behalf of the unfortunate sufferers from the inundations that have recently ravaged the town and prefecture of Okayama. The extent of this truly distressing calamity is perhaps not fully realised; our readers are scarcely aware of the ruin that has actually been wrought, and the grave anxiety which prevails in regard to the immediate future. The letter we have published from the Rev. J. H. PETTEE tells part of the sorrowful tale. We now supplement his information with some additional particulars, and leave it to our readers to determine whether the occasion is not one which calls for the exercise of prompt and willing generosity on their part.

For the last year and a half Okayama has been slowly reviving from the effects of the flood which devastated it in July, 1892, when a countless number of houses were swept away and hundreds of lives destroyed. Just as recovery was in a fair way of being accomplished, a second disaster of the same kind, but far more serious than the previous, overwhelmed the unhappy place, which now lies entirely under water. From the beginning of October rain poured down continuously, and by the 15th of the month the floods overspread the province. The rivers Asahi, Takahashi, and Yoshii filled rapidly, and in less than twelve hours the water stood twenty feet above its normal level. Embankments were crushed, and innumerable houses were washed away with numbers of little children and old men in-

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side. The whole town of Okayama was soon totally submerged; and when we form a picture to ourselves of what this really means, the evidence of mere statistics becomes almost superfluous. Suffice it to say that according to the latest returns one hundred and forty-one persons are known to have perished, a hundred more are missing, over five hundred feet of river-banks are breached, one thousand four hundred houses have disappeared, and four bridges have collapsed. All this, be it noted, is in the town of Okayama alone, where upwards of two thousand persons are now being fed by the Local Government. From the *ken* we hear that four hundred and fifty deaths have been reported, that nearly two thousand houses are demolished, and that no fewer than thirty-five bridges and nine English miles of river-banks have been swept away. It is comparatively a small matter that the beautiful Park, too, of which the Okayama people were so justly proud, is to-day a mere morass, ruined past hope of restoration. The condition of the survivors is most pitiable. Wives have lost their husbands, children their parents; and it is heartrending to see these hapless little creatures wandering hither and thither in their soaking clothes crying for food and shelter. In Tokyo, of course, the greatest anxiety exists among those whose homes are in the ruined town; for many are entirely without letters from their friends, and know not whether to attribute their silence to the utter destitution in which they have been plunged, or whether to fear the worst.

This, then, is the state of things; and it is on behalf of the poor folk whose miseries we have thus briefly sketched that we ask the help of our readers. Some twenty well-known Okayama men, residing in the Capital, have organised a Relief Association to save as many as possible from famishing, the funds collected being sent to Mr. CHISAKA, the Governor of the province. We, on our part, invite subscriptions for the same purpose, which will be duly acknowledged in our columns. The need of help is urgent, and we need say no more. We are confident we have said enough to ensure a prompt and generous response.

THE VON FRIES AFFAIR.

A TRAGEDY has just occurred in Shanghai of so singular a nature as to justify us in venturing upon a few comments suggested by the details that have already appeared in the leading organ at that port. Much, of course, has necessarily been suppressed; the facts made public appear, in consequence, almost too strange for fiction; it is therefore permissible to try and throw what light we can upon the subject.

Some years ago, the two brothers LUDOVIC and SIGMUND VON FRIES, assistants in the Imperial Maritime Customs, married two sisters; young, attractive, and most accomplished ladies, Countesses of Austria, and fitted in every way to adorn the highest society. About the elder brother and his wife we need not speak; they have nothing to do with the present case The marriage of SIGMUND was not a happy one. There may be women in the world who would have submitted to his peculiarities uncomplainingly, and there is no doubt that for a considerable time Madame ON FRIES bore her lot with a good grace; eventually, however, her position became intolerable, and she sought to free herself from a yoke she felt she could endure no longer. She succeeded in procuring a divorce during a stay in the United States, and some time afterwards was married to Mr. E. F. BENNETT, of the British Consular Service in Shanghai, at the Union Church, Kobe. The announcement of the marriage was naturally received with astonishment; it was known that SIGMUND VON FRIES was alive and well in China, and it was not known that any divorce proceedings had taken place. This we have on the authority of the *North China Daily News*. "It being understood," says our contemporary, "that no steps for divorce had preceded this ceremony—even if a divorce were possible under the Austrian law—the matter was freely discussed, and it was recently reported that the lady had been seeking to become naturalised as a Japanese subject." In other words, the story virtually went that Madame VON FRIES had openly and frankly committed bigamy, even going so far as to announce the fact in the public newspapers; Mr. BENNETT and the officiating clergyman bearing their parts in the play with a full consciousness of what they were about. Of course this was incredible upon the face of it; and we are in a position to state, not only that the American divorce was effected with all due forms of law, but that Mr. BENNETT had recourse to the very highest legal advice procurable, and acted with the full knowledge of his superiors. But the weak point in his case appears to be this, that divorce is not provided for under Austrian law. Madame VON FRIES was an Austrian subject and a Catholic, and no decision of a Divorce Court in the United States or any other country is recognised by Austrian law as affecting the position of an Austrian married couple. It is true that Mr. BENNETT was married to Madame VON FRIES in the official presence of the Austrian Consul himself; but then the Austrian Consul at Kobe is also the British Consul, and, we fancy, has little or no acquaintance with Austrian jurisprudence. The tragic suicide of the husband, however, opens the way for a final settlement of the difficulty. The two persons in question will presumably be re-married, and this time there will be no doubt as to the validity of their union.

Divorce laws in America provide a terrible number of pitfalls for the unwary. It is a common saying that a man may be a husband in one State and a bachelor in another. But there is a worse position even than this. In that case a man who wants to be considered a bachelor will be careful to avoid the State in the eye of whose law he is married. Far worse is the position of an Englishman who goes to America in order to get a divorce on grounds which would not be admissible in England. For the result is that (supposing the divorce granted) his wife receives her freedom while he himself remains bound. She has no husband, but he has a wife; and if, on returning to England, he were to marry again, his marriage would be invalid in English law, and he himself a bigamist.

THE LORDS AND THE CONSTITUENCIES.

NOW that the Home Rule Bill has been put out of the way, temporarily at any rate, by its rejection in the House of Lords, two leading features of the situation stand out very prominently to the most careless observer. In the first place, we have this fact; that had Mr. GLADSTONE desired above all things to provide the Peers with the gravest and most overwhelming reason for rejecting his monstrous measure—had his object been at once to coerce them into doing what they have done, to justify them before the country in doing it, and to render their possible failure to do it an act of treachery to the United Kingdom—he could not have devised a better method than that policy of gag and guillotine by which the Bill was forced through the House of Commons. No one knew what the Bill was going to be when the present representatives were sent to Westminster: the Bill that was brought forward was not the Bill that is now before the country: its most contentious clauses have never been adequately discussed, while some have never been discussed at all: amendments on the Report stage were not even put to the vote: the financial provisions have caused alarm even among Gladstonians, and been received with indignation, real or simulated, by the Irish: and the ridiculous Ninth Clause is scarcely defended by Mr. GLADSTONE himself. That such a state of things should have come about in a Parliament where England has a majority of 70 against the Bill, and Great Britain a majority of 15, is a fact that may well cause bewilderment to the chronicler of the future, and the explanation offered, viz., the transcendent personal influence of a single man, whose tyranny is without parallel since CROMWELL turned the House of Commons out of doors, itself requires to be explained. And yet the fact is there. "The superstitious constitutionalist," writes the *Spectator*, "who has moved heaven and earth to get a free Parliamentary ut-

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terance for Ireland, waves his hand, and all the corresponding rights of the larger island disappear in an instant. Yet the Union was of the nature of a treaty. If one party to it is to be set free from its obligations under it, it is only common fairness that the other party to it should be equally set at liberty to reconsider the contract. But no; what is sauce for the goose is not in this case sauce for the gander; the difference being that Mr. GLADSTONE favours the goose and has no sympathy whatever with the gander. The wrongs of Ireland have a fascination for him, and the wrongs of England have none The 'pure Scotchman' only asks himself what Ireland and Scotland and 'gallant little Wales' think on this subject, and feels no compunction at all in blotting altogether out of the political account what the country which merely happens to constitute the backbone of the United Kingdom desires the Parliament of the United Kingdom to consider." That the more moderate and rational Gladstonians do not see this as well as anybody it is impossible to believe. A large proportion of the Dictator's following are notoriously half-hearted about the whole matter, and wish it were well swept out of the way. The majorities ranging from 30 to 44 or thereabouts are hereby partially explained. Members felt they were safe with their constituencies in voting with the Government they had been returned to Parliament to support, and they knew well enough that the crazy measure they themselves distrusted would be rejected by the House of Lords. So far, then, the position of the House of Lords is as strong as could possibly be wished.

But there is another element of strength in the position of the hereditary legislators; a negative one, it is true, but one not to be overlooked. There is absolutely no enthusiasm for the Disruption Bill in the constituencies. The Radicals and the Labour Party and the other political juntos have all their own axes to grind. They care nothing, absolutely nothing, for Irish Home Rule, except to get it out of the way; and if they imagine that Irish questions can be got out of the way by passing a Home Rule Bill, they must have turned very deaf ears to the frank declarations of Mr. REDMOND and Mr. SEXTON, who laugh at such a measure being final. Nay, the very provisions of the Bill itself are such as to preclude finality: it bristles with unsettled points, it leaves an indefinite margin for future struggles, and there will always be the eighty genial members from the Distressful Isle to disturb the balance of power at Westminster and exercise a preponderating vote on matters purely English. That any large body of constituencies can be enthusiastic over a Bill which puts such a gag on England is humanly impossible; the cry of 'Justice to Ireland" is played out; even the advocacy of Home Rule, in order that decks may be cleared for action in other departments, is shown to be based on a fallacy. The Bill itself shows it; and in the absence of any great popular feeling, such as that produced by the Reform Bill of 1832, the Repeal of the Corn Laws, or Catholic Emancipation, the Lords would indeed be traitors to their trust in giving way. And there is no such feeling in the country, as will be shown when the time comes for a Dissolution of the present GLADSTONE Government, and Mr. GLADSTONE reaps the harvest he has sown in Scotland by his attitude on the Disestablishment of the Kirk. We conclude with the parting kick administered by the *Saturday Review* to what has been, perhaps, the biggest legislative bugbear of the century:—

> And here, too, we may gladly take our leave of a Bill not more detestable in itself than in its associations with the corruption of political life, the debasement of Parliament, and indelible disgrace of once honoured names. Conceived in the sin of a baffled statesman's traitorous animosity against the country which has rejected him, and brought forth in the iniquity of the most profligate confederation of faction that England has ever known, its career has been marked at every important step by some new outrage upon national institutions, and some fresh affront to the national self respect, until, long before the hour appointed for its final expulsion from the Legislature which it insults, its fate was so certain and so well deserved that even its supporters did not dare to raise a whisper of anticipatory protest against it, and the greater part of the public had already dismissed it from their minds. Nothing quite resembling the execution of political justice on this particular offender—nothing, we mean, which resembles it in the circumstances of its public reception—is recorded in our history The House of Lords has rejected more than one momentous, and more than one mischievous, measure, but it has never done so before, without arousing more or less of popular feeling against itself, if also some in its favour. Nor has it ever before thrown out a measure which has excited any large share of any other feelings save those of approval on the one hand, dislike on the other But the spectators of the rejection of the Home Rule Bill are divided, no (as has been the case with all previous incidents of the same "historic" kind) between joy and regret, or between exultation and anger at its fate, but simply between satisfaction and indifference; and the hatred, intense as it is, which the Bill itself provokes as a dishonest and disastrous political project is as nothing compared with the scorn excited by it as a botched and bungled piece of legislative work. Never before, in short, has an impudent intruder into a House in which he had no business been so deservedly kicked into the street, and assuredly never before has the descent of such an one to the bottom of the door-steps been watched by so thoroughly unsympathetic a crowd.

PEOPLE ONE WOULD LIKE TO PARODY.

A PLEASANT article in the *Speaker* by Mr. QUILLER COUCH, entitled "A Plea for Parody," suggests certain obvious and profitable reflections. There are some persons who condemn the parody *sous tous les rapports*, to whom it is a thing abominable in itself, the lowest degradation of wit, as Philistine and as indefensible as a pun. These are the apostles of culture; the very elect in the kingdom of good taste; whose highest encomium of a couplet or a picture is "distinctly precious," and whose sense of humour is, to say the least of it, exotic. Of course no one with a healthy instinct of the seemly can approve the application of parody to every composition which may appear upon the surface to invite that exercise of playfulness. We are in full accord with Mr. COUCH, for instance, in condemning the man who parodied POE'S 'Annabel Lee' in stanzas on a 'Cannibal Flea'; and witty as the Gladstonian version of the Athanasian Creed undeniably is—brilliantly witty, even—its defenders, we are willing to believe, are few. GEORGE ELIOT, under the "ponderously skittish" pseudonym of THEOPHRASTUS SUCH (the phrase is Mr. COUCH'S) condemned all parody as a debasement of the moral currency; but GEORGE ELIOT took a painfully serious view of life, and could not see that even parody might be used as a convenient vehicle for the edification of that thoughtless world which wearied of propagandism in prose.

Among famous parodists stand out the Brothers SMITH, joint authors of 'Rejected Addresses.' Nothing could be happier than the imitation of style and trick and mannerism in some of these charming poems. BRET HARTE is another. Who has not chuckled over his uproariously funny travesty of 'Jane Eyre,' his capital take-off of the paragraphic style of VICTOR HUGO, his excellent 'Dweller on the Threshold' in the very key of BULWER, and his exquisite take-off of CONFUCIUS? Mr. SWINBURNE, whose chime and swing and wealth of rolling words lend themselves most aptly to burlesque, is himself a parodist of power, as all who remember his 'Disgust,' in ridicule of Lord TENNYSON'S 'Despair,' will cordially acknowledge. Mr ANSTEY, the foremost parodist of the day, is generally admitted to have been successful in subjecting IBSEN to this transfiguring process, and he has done it cleverly, no doubt, though the result is a little tedious To our thinking Mr ANSTEY'S most brilliant hit is to be found in 'The Fellow Travellers,' where he makes PODBURY reel off a sentence of Spencerese so perfect in its imitation of the philosopher's crabbed, harsh style, and so splendidly meaningless and nonsensical when analysed, as entirely to impose upon poor CULTCHER, who takes it for a true extract from the 'Synthetic Philosophy.' Now to parody HERBERT SPENCER is something of an achievement, and places Mr. ANSTEY in an elevated niche at once. Mr. MALLOCK, again, has a pretty turn for the art—that is if, as we think, the following specimens can legitimately be included under it. Here, for instance, is a recipe to make a poem in imitation of Mr. BROWNING:—

> Take rather a coarse view of things in general. In the midst of this, place a man and a woman, her and her ankles tastefully arranged on a slice of Italy, or the country about Pernic. Cut an opening across the breast of each until the soul becomes visible, but be very careful that none of the body be lost during the operation. Pour into each breast as much as it will hold of the new strong wine of love: and, for fear they should take cold by exposure, cover them up quickly with a quantity of obscure classical quotations, a few familiar allusions to an unknown period of history, and a

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half destroyed fresco by an early master, varied every now and then with a reference to the fugues or toccatas of a quite-forgotten composer. If the poem be still intelligible, take a pen and remove carefully all the necessary particles.

If that is not parody, it is at all events a very good description of the way to make one. Mr. COUCH, we notice, says that nobody has ventured to parody MATTHEW ARNOLD. But what will he think of this?

Take one spoilfull of involuntary unbelief, which has been previously well flavoured with self-satisfied despair. Add to this one beautiful text of Scripture. Mix these well together; and as soon as ebullition commences grate in finely a few regretful allusions to the New Testament and the Lake of Tiberias, one constellation of stars, half-a-dozen allusions to the nineteenth century, one to Goethe, one to Mont Blanc or the Lake of Geneva, and one also, if possible, to some personal bereavement. Flavour the whole with a mouthful of "faiths" and "infinites," and a mixed mouthful of "passions," "finites," and "yearnings." This class of poem is usually concluded with some question about which we have only to observe that it shall be impossible to answer.

We do not remember ever having seen a parody of CARLYLE; but the man who can burlesque SPENCER would surely find the Sage of Chelsea a far more amenable subject. One of the happiest parodies of Dr. JOHNSON, in our view, was from the pen of Dean BUTCHER of Shanghai, published in the long-defunct Shanghai Charivari, *Puck*. The Dean also contributed a delightful parody of 'Sandford and Merton,' as good as any of BURNAND'S; though it must be confessed that the worthy DAY does not require much alteration to be put in parody-guise. Among moderns, WILKIE COLLINS is an excellent subject. BRET HARTE has attempted him, though curiously enough with entire ill-success. But the portentous mystery attending every act, even the most trivial, of COLLINS'S delightful characters, the atmosphere of boguyism which pervades his most realistic scenes, and the thrilling titles of his chapters—'The Shadow of the Woman:' 'The Housemaid's Face,' and so on—call loudly to the parodist for treatment. ANTHONY TROLLOPE, Mrs. OLIPHANT, Mrs. GASKELL, and Mr. NORRIS are pretty safe: HARDY, however, is perilously susceptible, and 'Tess' fell a victim to the *Saturday* in its most truculent vein. There is one more, however, whom not to parody is sin. When will the parodist arise who shall scourge and lash GEORGE MEREDITH? A man who can insult his readers with such a phrase as "the utter nightcap negative," or "wandered seriously light in heaviness," or "a bladder-block of elastic lumber," deserves tortures more than humorously lingering. One fancies him laboriously concocting his involved, half-meaningless cacophonies with a complacent smile; one hears him exclaim "Ah, that will fetch them!" as he devises a sentence of bristling hideousness or impudent affectation; one sees him hugging himself over the be-puzzlement of his votaries, and his own further exaltation as a master of thoughts too deep to be clothed in intelligible language. The thing is a trick, and an unworthy one. He imposes on those who imagine that a crabbed, obscure, periphrastic style implies profundity of ideas; that outer darkness is a proof of inner light; and a tortuous, prickly, and affected idiom the sure concomitant of most cultured and delicate perceptions. And oh, the pity of it, when we think of his grand stories! The attitude of his admirers reminds us of the village congregation who, having long known and reverenced the old rector who invariably preached over their heads, expressed their contempt for his successor because they understood every word of his sermons. It is the gross artificiality, the palpable posing, of the man that irritates one in reading MEREDITH; and while there is a clique who applaud, so long will there be a contortionist to make them stare. But, in the name of all purity and clarity of style, who will come forth and parody this man as he deserves?

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom]

THE FLOODS IN TOTTORI

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Tottori and vicinity has just been visited by a heavier flood than the oldest inhabitants remember ever to have seen. On Saturday, 14th inst., heavy wind and rain. At 8 p.m. waters began to rise and continued till 6 p.m. Sunday. During the 22 hours the city had become almost entirely submerged. Yesterday boats and rafts plied the streets vigorously, carrying food and drinking water and rescuing those whose houses were in danger. This morning the streets are passable in most parts of the city. Some of the sights are appalling. The loss is universal, but how great cannot yet be certainly stated. Investigation will be made to-day by the city officials. At present writing it is known that in the city about ten houses have been quite destroyed and two persons killed. By night we hope to know more about the condition of the city. This much I send by first mail. Telegraph lines are so damaged that it may be a day or two before the condition of the surrounding country is known.

Yours truly, GEO. M. ROWLAND.

Tottori, October 17th.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—No detailed report of the flood has come from Hōki to-day. The rough statement of "numberless dead and wounded" in Kurayoshi (*cho*), the most flourishing town in eastern Hōki, has just reached the police head-quarters. This is enough, however, to indicate, what has been surmised, that the western part of Tottori *ken* suffered more than the eastern part. Chief of Police Motoyama, starts early to-morrow morning to make official investigation in the western part of the *ken*. As the telegraph lines are badly damaged the full details, however, will not be at hand probably for two or three days.

There is sure to be much distress for several months, and much too that the most faithful efforts of the officials will by their own confession be unable to relieve. There is a loud call for aid from private sources, and unless such aid is forthcoming many hungry mouths at the west of us will remain unfed. If any of your readers care to contribute for the relief, I shall be glad to receive and, according to the wish of the contributors, either pass over to the proper local officials or distribute personally, with as great economy as may be.

Yours very truly,

GEORGE M. ROWLAND.

Tottori, Oct. 18th, 1893.

THE FLOOD AT OKAYAMA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Few cities outside the earthquake region have suffered more since that calamity, from natural causes, than Okayama. Just as she was recovering from last year's inundation, rejoicing over her new bridges and better roads, and planning to take up the next two enterprises, electric lights and a pure water supply, came the deluge of October 14th and 15th, with heart-rending scenes of distress and wide-spread ruin. Official statistics obtained yesterday, give the following items for the city alone: Number of persons drowned 32, bridges destroyed 13, houses washed away 129, houses more or less injured 1,426. Some 900 people are still fed daily by the Government. The statistics for the *Ken*, so far as in, show 450 deaths, 1,958 houses, 33 bridges, 7 miles of roadway, and 8 miles of river bank washed away. Governor Chisaka, who barely escaped with his life and whose charming home is now little else than a mud heap roofed with thatch, told me a few days ago that $3,000,000 of public money would hardly repair the *Ken*.

The Christians organized at once for relief work, missionaries dropped their usual tasks, a formal appeal for outside help has been issued, and every thing possible done to relieve the suffering. A depot for supplies has been opened in the most devastated part of the city, where the necessaries of life are sold at cost or below, to all who prove their need.

Mr. Ishii and his orphans, though in dire distress themselves, have jumped into relief work with characteristic promptness. They march over to the city every morning, plant their flag in a mud heap, and go to work with hoes and baskets.

The whole *Ken* has been divided into four parts, and so far as funds allow, will be canvassed, and help given in the most urgent cases. A few hundred dollars is greatly needed for this pressing charity, and I desire to commend it to the readers of the *Japan Mail*. The money will be expended most economically, and the need is certainly urgent. There is also a call for clothing and *futon*.

And one further word. Let the friends of Mr. Ishii and his large family rally around that institution at this time when it is doing so much for others in distress. Gifts to the Orphanage in Okayama's dark hour will do a double service, especially if sent at once.

Yours, &c, JAMES H. PETTEE.

Okayama, October 21, 1893.

THE YOKOHAMA POST OFFICE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Will you allow me the use of your columns to call attention to what, if it falls below the dignity of a grievance, is certainly an annoyance to the residents of Kyoto and perhaps of other places. It has come to be a regular thing on the arrival of the U.S Mail steamers for our newspaper mail to be sent down from Yokohama one mail—eight or ten hours—earlier than our letter mail. What the reason for this is I do not know. It is conceivable that a steamer might arrive in Yokohama so shortly before the departure of the train that the whole mail could not be distributed; but how such a thing could happen regularly, and why the printed matter should be hurried off to the neglect of the letters, are mysteries which we would fain seek your help in solving. I have such admiration for the remarkable progress which the Japanese have made in postal matters, that I am loath to write in criticism of them, it is only the hope that you will assure them that it is our letters that we wish first and foremost of all, that I consent to become a

October 17, 1893. GRUMBLER.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In your to-day's issue I noticed under the heading "The Yokohama Post Office" that the printed matter from America for Kyoto reaches its destination much earlier than the letters, and to answer this statement I beg to bring to your notice the following facts:—

The American mail, as well as Canadian mail, is always despatched from this for Nagoya, Kyoto, Osaka, Kobe, and Nagasaki by the first train which may be available for the purpose.

To cut my explanation short, I will give below a table showing how American mails lately arrived, were forwarded to the above-named places:

Date.	Steamer.	Received at Yokohama office.	Train leaves Yokohama.
Sept. 18th	*City of Peking*	1 p.m.	10.40 p.m.
Sept 30th	*China*	Noon	10.40 p.m.
Oct. 8th	*Belgic*	1.30 p.m.	10.40 p.m.
Oct. 16th	*Peru*	8.30 a.m.	12 35 p.m

In conclusion, I would add that the Kyoto mail being comparatively small, we put letters and prints together in one bag, or two, according to circumstances.

I remain, Sir, yours respectfully,

T. UNAGAMI,
Director.

Post and Telegraph Office,
Yokohama, October 24th, 1893.

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LETTER FROM AUSTRALIA.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Healesville, Victoria, September 10th.

Victoria and several of her sister Colonies are realising the truth of the saying, "He goes a-sorrowing who goes a-borrowing." It is now generally admitted that British capital has proved a curse to the Colonies and that most of the calamities which have overtaken them are to be traced to the facility with which loans were floated during the eighties. The readiness with which foreign capital was obtained resulted in a thorough demoralisation, from which it will take the colony some years to recover. It is estimated that the public and private borrowings and investments in and for Victoria during the past ten years have amounted to about £50,000,000. It is evident that the industrial resources and business skill of Victorians were not equal to the task of spending such vast sums to the best advantage. Many of the outlets for the golden stream were quite illegitimate. Inflated living, lavish and foolish expenditure on luxuries, and, what was still worse, the conviction that untold wealth was at the beck and call of the colonial, and the resultant tendency to relax efforts and to seek amusement were the effects of the steady inflow of British capital. The whole of the imported or borrowed capital was taken into the national account as wealth. Values of all classes of property were written up. Inflation of various kinds resulted in one of the wildest booms a small community has ever experienced. Few new industries were established. Labour was wastefully employed and the wages of the working man rose as a result of a natural desire to have a share in the age of gold. The gross imports of the Colony rose from 16 millions in 1875 to nearly 25 millions in 1890; while the exports, which were 14 millions in 1875, in 1890 were only 13 millions, and in 1886 and 1887, the years of the Colony's greatest apparent splendour, fell to 11 millions. In those bright years the Victorians imported in one year (1889) £1,200,000 worth of liquor. It was absurd to suppose that a community consisting of one million souls could wisely and profitably employ 20 millions or even 10 millions of new capital in one year in addition to its consumption of its own products. Prodigious sums were spent on mere whims and fancies, and one of the worst results of the handling of so much money was the improvident spirit which it fostered. In lavish expenditure the Government has always led the way. The following table showing the expenditure per head of Victoria as compared with other States is of interest: Great Britain £2 7s.; France £2 11s.; Russia £0 : 18s.; Germany £2 19s.; United States £1 5s.; Victoria (1889-90) £5 10 The Government has hitherto obtained enormous revenues from the Customs. Most of the money sent out to Victoria for investment came in the form of goods which paid heavy tolls at the Custom House. Thus if we suppose that the average duty was 12½ per cent., every pound borrowed from England would be docked at 2s. 6d. at the Customs. The enormous revenue of the Government then has not hitherto been derived from the ordinary taxpayer. The tax-paying power of the community is very limited, and now that the artificial source of supply, the imported goods of the British capitalist, is no longer available the revenue is steadily declining and the expenditure is being maintained by the accumulation of a deficit which will soon reach three million pounds. The situation is a grave one, and in order to show how fully it realises it, the Government is now submitting bills to parliament which involve the curtailing of the salaries of Ministers, members of Parliament, and public servants. Already wholesale dismissal of public servants has taken place, and it is stated that still more stringent retrenchment measures will have to be resorted to. There has been a dead stand against increasing taxation to keep up an expenditure based on taking toll on loans and borrowings. The finances of the Colony are to enter on a new era, and the amount of revenue will henceforth depend on real and not artificial sources of wealth.

A case of unusual interest has for some months past been before various law courts in Victoria. I refer to the Mercantile Bank Prosecution. It has given rise to some queer complications and even now it is not easy to see how it will end. The prosecution by the Crown of the directors and officials of the Mercantile Bank commenced early in March. The proceedings opened with a magisterial inquiry as to the nature of the evidence brought forward by the Crown Prosecutors against the directors and officials of the Bank. The contention of the counsel for the prosecution was that the defendants, knowing the bank was on its last legs (it has since failed), borrowed money to inflate the cash balance and by their false representations as to the position of the bank induced people to purchase and hold shares in the institution. Each of the defendants had a separate legal representative and consequently the preliminary inquiry occupied several months. The bench consisted of eight magistrates, seven of whom were of opinion that the evidence adduced did not warrant committal for trial. The public was dissatisfied with the decision and rejoiced to learn that the dissentient magistrate had determined to exercise his right to apply to the Attorney-General in favour of prosecution. The Attorney-General, after considering all the evidence, came to the conclusion that the charge of conspiracy to defraud brought against Sir Matthew Davies and Mr. Millidge did not rest on adequate proof. He therefore directed that a *nolle prosequi* be entered on the conspiracy charge. He furthermore stated that he did not consider that any of the sworn evidence given during the preliminary inquiry warranted his making a presentment against the accused. A week later the public was agreeably startled by the report that the Solicitor General disapproved of the Attorney-General's filing a *nolle prosequi* in the case and proposed to file a presentment himself against Sir M. H. Davies and Mr. Millidge. Mr. Isaacs, the Solicitor-General, explained himself thus:—"The question to my mind is this I find myself in the position that there has been a prosecution by the Crown up to a certain point and then one law officer of the Crown says that he declines to proceed further. I am invested by statute with precisely the same power in proceeding further as the Attorney-General, and the only question is whether I ought to exercise this power. . . . . The Attorney General's belief as to whether there is a *prima facie* case or not cannot be permitted to guide me in arriving at my own conclusion on the same subject." The action contemplated by the Solicitor General was unique in the history of the Colony. It has never before occurred that after the Attorney-General has signified his intention not to file a presentment the Solicitor General has adopted that course. But on the other hand, the action of the Attorney-General was also unique. For it has never, so far as can be gathered, occurred that an Attorney General has entered a *nolle prosequi* after a Crown prosecutor has conducted the case through its preliminary stage. A long and learned correspondence between the Attorney General and the Solicitor-General failed to bring their views into accordance. The Cabinet was perplexed what course to take. Most of the Ministers were in favour of the prosecution being proceeded with, but felt in honour bound to support the senior Crown officer. The Solicitor-General was requested to bow to the decision of his superiors, and on his refusing to take this course ordered to resign. Mr. Isaacs resigned, and in doing so enlisted the sympathy of the Colony. The Cabinet was condemned for undertaking to pronounce an opinion on a purely legal point—the statutory power of a Crown officer. It was contended that it was for the Judge before whom the case would be tried to decide whether a presentment filed by the Solicitor-General was invalidated by a *nolle prosequi* entered by the Attorney-General. The statute on which Mr. Isaacs based his claim to the right to prosecute runs as follows: Subject to the provisions hereinbefore contained, it shall be lawful for Her Majesty's Attorney-General or Solicitor-General for Victoria, or for any prosecutor for the Queen in the name of a law officer to make presentment at the Supreme Court or General Sessions of the Peace of any person for any indictable offence cognisable by such Courts respectively." Whether these words allow of a different line of action being taken by the officers referred to is a point not easy to decide. Hitherto defeated at every turn, the only course left for the party in favour of prosecution to follow was to apply to the Court for the calling of a grand jury. This was done, but owing to the fact that the application of the grand jury system to a criminal trial is a rare occurrence within the Colony, the exact method of procedure to be adopted gave both the bench and the bar considerable trouble and the progress made was painfully slow. The first difficulty which occurred had reference to the composition of the jury. One of the jurors, when about to be sworn in, declared that he was a foreigner (he is of American birth and French parentage) and hence should be exempted from serving. The Judge ruled that since the said juror could speak English he might serve. The jury proceeded to business, but on a presentment based on their decision being about to be filed, they were informed by the Chief Justice to whom the case had been referred that their proceedings had been invalidated by the presence of a foreigner in their midst. The whole proceedings had to be begun again. The decision of the next jury was not more favourable to the accused than that of the former one. The presentment was duly filed and declared to be in order. But another hitch occurred. Mr. Taylor, the leading Police Magistrate on the bench before which the preliminary inquiry was conducted, refused to issue a summons against the accused on the ground that it would involve heavy costs and harass men whom he believed to be innocent. For adopting this course he was severely reproved by the new Solicitor General, Mr. Wynne. The summonses were subsequently signed by a Justice of the Peace and are returnable on the 18th instant. The public is on the tip-toe of expectation to see how this extraordinary case will end. The action of the Crown lawyers has been most unaccountable. With the consent of the Attorney General four Crown Prosecutors were briefed to conduct the prosecution before the Police Court. They were all of opinion that a case for committal had been made out. Without even consulting his subordinates, the Attorney-General arrives at an opposite conclusion and acts accordingly. The public naturally asks why a prosecution was commenced by the Crown if it has to be relinquished midway? This has been the most extraordinary case that has ever happened. Justice seems to have been blind, Balaam's ass, pushing this way and that, but making no progress, only in this instance, whether rightly or wrongly I am not prepared to say, the public are strongly of opinion that it is not the angel of the Lord who blocks the way.

MRS. IRWINE'S CONCERT AT THE PUBLIC HALL.

The concert given in the Public Hall on Tuesday evening proved a most enjoyable affair in many ways. The Hall was well filled soon after nine o'clock, and before the concert had proceeded far nearly every vacant seat was occupied by a very appreciative audience. On the stage were grouped several clusters of ornamental and flowering shrubs which lightened up the space beneath the proscenium in a most agreeable fashion. Among them were two large Shotetsu palms, lent by Messrs. Boehmer The flowers were arranged by the Rector himself, and during the evening he ably performed the arduous duties of Stage Manager. The object of the concert was to assist the funds for the lighting of Christ Church and for the better protection of the sacred edifice from burglars, who last spring were far too assiduous in their attentions. Mrs. Irwine, wife of the popular rector, took a leading part in the organization of the function and she thoroughly deserved the splendid result which attended her indefatigable efforts.

The programme, containing many an old favourite, both vocal and instrumental, was commenced by Miss Orth, who gave a brilliant pianoforte solo, arranged for the left hand, in place of the duet originally announced. Miss Burdett-Leach's rendering of Blumenthal's "Sunshine and Rain," the second number on the programme, was very pleasing for its tender sweetness. A pianoforte solo, *a* and *b*, by Miss Laura Smith followed, and the young lady received two baskets of flowers at its close. M. Landry's song, "Maitre Pathelin," received the first encore and he kindly complied with the request. A hearty reception was accorded Mrs. W. W. Campbell as she came forward to give "Should he upbraid," Bishop's difficult but dainty *rondeau*. A most persistent recall was given, and as an encore Mrs. Campbell sang "My Spinning Wheel," which was even more entrancing than the previous song had been. The next number was Schubert's "Klavierstücke," No. 1, Miss Orth, and was a brilliant example of this accomplished pianiste's powers of interpreting the great master. The first half concluded with two songs by Dr. Meaden, R.N., a recent arrival amongst us and a welcome addition to the concert platform. He possesses a light baritone voice of pleasant *timbre*, but he has yet to become accustomed to the exigencies of the Public Hall's peculiar acoustic qualities before he can be heard to advantage. Having sung "The message," he gave as the encore "I arise from dreams of thee," the song which appeared above his name in the second half. It was rather disappointing to be thus deprived of the pleasure of anticipating another song from the gifted doctor, but time was flying fast and regrets, though very sincere, had to be hastily put aside.

During the interval the Town Band, stationed in the smaller hall, gave a popular selection from the "Beggar Student." The opening number of Part II. was a pianoforte solo "Liebestraüme," No. 3, Franz Liszt, Mrs. MacNeil. Seldom does it fall to the lot of ordinary concert goers in the Far East

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to hear such a beautiful interpretation of Liszt. The finished execution and artistically true phrasing of every passage was a revelation to even ardent admirers of the good Abbé, and from the beginning the large audience gave the performer their undivided attention. As an encore Mrs. MacNeill played a soft and exceedingly pretty piece. Then followed another treat—Song (with violin obligato by Mr. Ramseger) "Peaceful Vale," Miss Bloxham. Kalliwoda's setting of the poem was rendered in this lady's best style, finished and calmly clear. The number was encored and Miss Bloxham then sang a graceful love song, being presented at its close with two exquisite baskets of flowers. Mr. Launay has been heard to better advantage than in "Le Pardon de Ploërmel," but his great merit deserved the encore which was given. The only violin solo of the evening was Joachim's "Romanze" given by Mr. Ramseger, but it was rather disappointing as compared with previous efforts of this violinist. The entrance of Mrs. Champneys Irwine, who was down for Millard's "Waiting," was the signal for an outburst of loud applause. The exquisite song was done full justice to by this lady's beautiful voice, and it was imperatively recalled. Mrs. Irwine, however, gave in response the dainty "La jardinière du roi." The concert closed with a duet by Messrs. Launay and Landry, "Les Petits Pifferari." Appended is the programme:—

PROGRAMME.

PART I.

PIANOFORTE SOLO..... .....M ss ORTH.
SONG.....Sunshine and Rain ...BLUMENTHAL.
Miss BURDETT LEACH.
PIANOFORTE SOLO...*a.* Maiden's Song
MEYER-HELMUND.
b. Dawn.....W. MASON.
Miss LAURA SMITH.
SONG..... .....Mattie Pathelin.....F. BAZIN.
Mr. E. LANDRY.
SONG....."Should he upbraid".....BISHOP.
Mrs. W. W. CAMPBELL.
PIANOFORTE SOLO.. Klavierstücke, No. 1
SCHUBERT.
Miss ORTH.
SONG.....The Message.....BLUMENTHAL.
Dr. MEADEN, R N.

PART II.

PIANOFORTE SOLO...Liebestraüme, No. 3
FRANZ LISZT.
Mrs. MACNEILL.
SONG (with violin obligato)....."Peaceful Vale,"
KALLIWODA.
Miss BLOXHAM
SONG .....Le Pardon de Ploërmel...MEYERBEER.
Mr. P LAUNAY.
VIOLIN SOLO..... ..Romanze...JOSEPH JOACHIM.
Mr. H. RAMSEGER.
SONG.....Waiting .....MILLARD.
Mrs. IRWINE.
DUET.....Les Petits Pifferari
Messrs. LAUNAY and LANDRY.

YOKOHAMA AMATEUR ROWING CLUB.

The Autumn Regatta of this Club took place on Saturday afternoon in fine, sunshiny weather, but the atmosphere was rather cold, there being a N.-Easterly wind blowing which raised a very choppy sea outside the Breakwater and made rowing in the small boats rather difficult. Consequently the course was changed to the Red Buoy, along the Breakwater, to the mouth of the Creek, much smoother water being thus obtained. The Boathouse was gaily decorated for the occasion, while several of the yachts made a brave display of bunting, and others sailing about the harbour added animation to the scene. Mr. Brewer officiated as Starter, Mr. Pim as Timekeeper, and Mr Litchfield as Judge, while the large Committee of Management looked after the comfort of the ladies, a number of whom graced the balcony and during the intervals danced to the music of the Town Band, the programme of which was as follows:—

Selection	The Bohemian Girl.
Overture	Fra Diavolo.
March	Seventh Regiment.
Waltz	Donau Wellen.
Polka	Consolchen.
Waltz	The one Alone.
Lancers	—
Waltz	Sirenenzauber.
Waltz	Golden Beauty.
Schottische	Skirt Dance.
Waltz	Im Dammerlicht
Waltz	My Queen.
Polka	Rival.

The proceedings opened with the

SKIFF RACE—½ MILE.

Mr. R. C. Ross ..... 1 | Mr. M. Schellenberg... 2

Only the two went, Ross winning easily, the other being unable to keep his boat straight and steering out to sea. Time, 6.06.

MEN-OF WAR BOATS (Double-banked.)—2 Miles.

U.S.S. *Marion* 14-oared Cutter 1
H.M.S. *Alacrity* 10-oared Cutter 2

Only the two entries started, and the American boat, which was very much the lighter craft, won easily. The course was around the *Alacrity* and the *Polyphemus*, between the Red and Green lightships, round the Breakwater, and home. Time, first boat 22.29, second boat 25.44.

CLUB FOURS.—1 Mile.

WHITE BOAT.

Mr. W. Cabeldu (bow), 150lb. .....
Mr. J. L. Eyton, 2, 158lb. .....
Mr. J. B. Rentiers 3, 164lb. .....
Mr. G. Hood (stroke), 137lb. .....
Mr. D. McLaren (cox.), 135lb..... } 1

BLUE BOAT.

Mr. A. G. Watt (bow), 121lb. .....
Mr. H. S. Goddard 2, 125 lb..... .....
Mr. P Sorhagen 3, 149lb. .....
Mr. D. McNeill (stroke), 151lb. .....
Mr. J. Rickett (cox.), 129lb. ..... } 2

BLACK BOAT.

Mr. A. W. Payne (bow), 150lb. .....
Mr. J. B. Gibbs 2, 142lb. .....
Mr. L. Salabelle 3, 172lb. .....
Mr. A B. Smith (stroke), 156lb. .....
Mr. W. W. Campbell (cox.), 130lb..... } 3

RED BOAT.

Mr. F. H. Abbey (bow), 131lb.... .....
Mr. B J. Jackson 2, 151lb. ....
Mr. M. F. Bengen 3, 180lb. .....
Mr. G. W. Barton (stroke), 167.b. .....
Mr. K. Kingdon (cox.), 125lb. ..... } 0

GREEN BOAT.

Mr. C. V. Schmidt (bow), 125lb. .....
Mr. H. V. Henson 2, 135lb. .....
Mr. H. P. Blanchard 3, 144lb. .....
Mr. C. K. M. Martin (stroke), 159lb.....
Mr. H. Goddard (cox.), 122lb ..... } 0

White soon took the lead, with Black second and Blue third, the Green and Red being outpaced. After going about a quarter of a mile Blue wrested second place from Black, Red still last. Opposite the French mail Green also passed Black, only to fall back again shortly afterwards. Meanwhile, Blue was gradually drawing away from Black in pursuit of White. Opposite the *Esmeralda* the Green boat got into difficulties owing to the collapse of Blanchard, when the Red boat passed it. White won rather easily. Time, 8.22½.

MEN OF-WAR BOATS (All Comers).—2 Miles.

H.M.S. *Imperieuse*, 14-oared Galley ... 1
H.M.S. *Alacrity*, 12 oared Galley 2
H.M.S. *Porpoise*, 6 oared Galley 3
U.S.S. *Marion*, 6 oared Gig..... 0
U.S.S. *Lancaster*, 6-oared Gig 0

The *Imperieuse* galley led all the way round and won easily, the *Alacrity's* second, the *Marion* third, and *Lancaster* fourth. The *Porpoise's* boat which was well in gave up. The times at the finish were 22 min., 22.26, 23.12, and 23.45, the *Marion's* boat winning on time allowance.

JUNIOR FOURS.—½ Mile.

BLACK BOAT.

Mr. R. C. Ross (bow), 125lb .. ..
Mr. P. E. Webb 2, 130lb .....
Mr. M. Schellenberg 3, 150lb .....
Mr. H. S. Goddard (stroke), 125lb.. .....
Mr. J. Rickett (cox.), 129lb. ..... } 1

RED BOAT.

Mr. H. Waggott (bow), 117lb..... ...
Mr. K. Wilson 2, 110lb..... .....
Mr. A. G. Watt 3, 125lb. .. ..
Mr. B. J. Jackson (stroke), 157lb .....
Mr K. Kingdon (cox.), 125lb. ..... } 2

GREEN BOAT.

Mr. A. Bouffier, (bow), 112lb .....
Mr E. Bosshart, 2, 123lb .....
Mr. F. E. Worth, 3, 138lb .....
Mr. F. H. Abbey, (stroke), 132lb ....
Mr. W. W. Campbell (cox.), 130lb. ... } 3

BLUE BOAT.

Mr. A. Woodward (bow), 119lb. ....
Mr. A. K. Rees 2, 159lb. .....
Mr. J. B. Gibbs 3, 142lb. .....
Mr. C. V. Schmid. (stroke), 125lb. .....
Mr. G. Hood (cox.), 137lb. ..... } 0

The boats kept fairly level for about a third of the way, when Black gained a slight advantage, Red second, and Green last. At the *Marion*, Green passed Blue and went in pursuit of the other two, but could not catch them, Black beating Red by ½ a length, with Green close up. Red would have been closer up but bow was finished. Time, 7.03½.

CHAMPION PAIRS (Klein Cup).—½ Miles.

"WIDGEON."

Mr. A. B. Smith, 156lb. .....
Mr. C. K. M. Martin, 159lb..... ..
Mr. W. W. Campbell, 130lb. .... } 1

"MALLARD."

Mr. G. Hood, 137lb. .....
Mr. W Barton, 167lb. .....
Mr. D. McLaren, 135lb.. ..... } 2

This was won easily by Martin, who, getting well away and pulling a faster stroke than Barton, soon left him behind, the latter's long stroke not telling so well in the choppy sea. Time, 6.46.

JUNIOR DOUBLE SCULLS.—½ Mile.

"PEARL."

Mr. A. G. Watt, 125lb. .....
Mr. F. H. Abbey, 138lb. ..... } 1

"TERN."

Mr. H. S. Goddard, 125lb. .....
Mr. W. Goddard, 126lb. ..... } 2

Watt and Abbey got slightly the foot of the Goddards at the start, but the latter soon established about a length's lead and seemed to have the race in hand, when Abbey spurted and shortly afterwards passed the others, who went to pieces, and won easily at the finish. Time, 7.13.

SENIOR DOUBLE SCULLS.—½ Mile.

"PEARL."

Mr. A. B. Smith, 156 lbs. ....
Mr. G. Hood, 137 lbs..... } 0

"TERN."

Mr. P. Sorhagen, 149 lbs. .....
Mr. M. F. Bengen, 180. ..... } 0

This race, which would have been one of the most interesting of the day, was marred by a foul after about half the distance had been negotiated. Hood took the lead at starting, pulling about 32 to the others 26. They boats, however, kept very close together, but at the *Esmeralda* Hood had half a length lead. Nearing home the Germans put on a spurt and had gained a quarter length lead, when both suddenly stopped, a foul being claimed by Hood and Smith. The committee, after hearing both parties, decided that the race should be re-rowed at a future date.

SCRATCH FOURS.—½ Mile.

GREEN BOAT.

Mr. Wilson (bow) ....
Mr. Kingdon (2) ....
Mr. Eyton (3) ... .
Mr. Salabelle (stroke).. ....
Mr. Rogers (cox.) .... } 1

RED BOAT.

Mr. Ross (bow).....
Mr. Carst (2) .....
Mr. Abbey (3) .....
Mr. Campbell (stroke) .....
Rickett (cox.) ..... } 2

BLACK BOAT.

Mr. Woodward (bow)..... ...
Mr. H Goddard (2) .....
Mr. Cabelon (3) ....
Mr. Jackson (stroke) .....
Mr. Watts (cox.)..... } 3

Green won after a close race with Red.

At the conclusion of the Regatta the prizes were presented by Mrs. McNeill, who was afterwards presented with a bouquet, three cheers for the ladies ending the sports.

THE CRICKET WEEK AT KOBE.

SHANGHAI V. KOBE.

This match was commenced on Friday at a quarter past ten, the weather being again perfect for cricket, though a keen north-west wind made it a little chilly for on-lookers at first. Shanghai won the toss and elected to bat, sending in Main and Wood to face the bowling of Pakenham and Braess, the former starting at the tennis end. Play was slow for an over or two, both batsmen playing carefully, but in attempting a short run Main was easily run out. One for 10.

Sawyer joined Wood, and started well, but had only added 8 when he was sent back by Pakenham. Abbott came in and shaped well, but did not seem at home with Braess, who had him at last l.b.w. Two for 23. MacGregor, the next man in, added 2 and then was caught at forward short leg by Marshall. Care then came out, but in his first over from Braess was beaten with the first two balls and taken with the third, the bowler doing splendidly just at this point. Wood during this time had been playing a good cautious game, but had a life or two in the field. Wallace took Carr's place, and after adding 5 was sent back by Braess with a vicious break which completely beat the batsman.

Adams joined Wood, but lost his partner im-

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med ately, he falling to Pakenham, bowled off his pads. Heffer joined Adams, and the two put some life into the game, both hitting out freely, the former being especially vigorous. Heffer at last fell to Pakenham, and then a change was made in the bowling. Stephens going on in place of Braess, who had earned a rest. Eight wickets were down for 86, and the end soon came, Stephens bowling Adams in his first over and holding Hansen in the slips off Pakenham's next over. Total 88.

The Kobe fielding, with a few exceptions, was very good, and the exceptions referred to may fairly be attributed to the glare which was not ceable all the morning. Lucas at the wicket did admirably. As will be noticed from the extras, he did not let a ball pass him.

SHANGHAI.—1ST INNINGS.

Mr J. Mann, run out	7
Mr. A. P. Wood, b. Pakenham	33
Mr. F. H. Sawyer, b. Pakenham	8
Mr F. J. Abbott, l.b.w., b. Braess	6
Mr R. MacGregor, c. Marshall, b. Pakenham	1
Mr. R. Carr, b. Braess	0
Mr S. M. Wallace, b Braess	5
Mr. H. Adams, b. Stephens	25
Mr. F. C. Heffer, b. Pakenham	20
Mr Bates, not out	0
Mr. H. C. Hansen, c. Stephens, b. Pakenham	0
l.b.	1
Total	86

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	Overs.	Mdns.	Wds.	Wkts.	Runs.
Mr. Pakenham	25 3	10	0	5	39
Mr G Braess	24	10	0	3	45
Mr. Stephens	1	0	0	1	2

Kobe commenced their innings at about a quarter past 12, sending in Wilkinson and Marshall to face the bowling of Carr and Mann, the former leading at tennis end. Wilkinson opened well, hitting Carr's last ball for 3 and getting 3 off Mann's first ball, both leg hits. Marshall got a three in the same over. Wilkinson was let off at square leg in Mann's 2nd over. Marshall cut Mann for a 3 to the boundary Play was quiet for a time, and then Wilkinson got Mann to leg 3. Mann, bowling wide, was taken off, Bates going on. Wilkinson was held in the slips off the last ball (26—1—3).

Lucas then joined Marshall, and the two played steadily, remaining at the wickets until tiffin was called, when the score stood at 33.

Tiffin was finished about 2 o'clock, and after the opposing teams had been photographed a start was made, the two not outs facing the old bowlers. Play was quiet for an over or two, Marshall scoring 3 in the slips and Lucas making 5 from two good cuts off Carr, but was run out in attempting a risky 2 (2—49—9). Stephens joined Marshall, but was not at home with the bowling, being beaten by Bates with a beautiful ball (3—55—6). Lightfoot now partnered Marshall, and a good stand was made, both batsmen playing carefully and stealing runs as opportunities offered. In one over from Bates, Marshall skied two balls in succession, but tame attempts to catch them did not come off. With 70 up, a change was made in the bowling, Abbott relieving Carr at the Pavilion end. Play after this was not very lively for some time, but some excellent fielding occasionally compensated. The score slowly rose to 80, the last 10 runs taking about 15 minutes to get. Runs came faster after this, but, thanks to some good fielding by Wallace, Wood, and Sawyer, the scoring was kept down.

With the score at 85, Marshall hit a ball to mid-on which was nearly held by Carr, but the 3 produced brought the score to 88 for 3 wickets, equal to the Shanghai total. At this point Wallace relieved Bates at the Pavilion end Runs came slowly from both batsmen, a good hit to leg by Marshall bringing up the century. Just at this point a great piece of fun was witnessed, the wicket-keeper demonstrating the wicket by a vigorous effort but without the ball

Mann now relieved Abbott at the tennis end, and the latter took Wallace's place at the Pavilion end. In Mann's first over Lightfoot made a splendid cut, but Sawyer fielded the ball in an exceedingly smart manner, and it was nearly a case of run out. Mann then tried an over of lobs, but they were not very difficult to play. A 2 to Marshall brought 110 on the board. Adams relieved Abbott, his last ball producing 3 to Lightfoot. Mann continued his lobs, but without effect, each batsman scoring off him. Lightfoot was let off, however, by Heffer, an attempt at a lofty catch failing, the fieldsman having to face the sun in the attempt. The bowling, at no time difficult, now became very soft indeed, and frequent threes resulted, the score rising rapidly to 130, at which point Lightfoot was again missed off Mann by Carr at long on, the fieldsman barely reaching the ball. Bates was then given another trial instead of Adams

With 140 up, Carr relieved Mann, but nothing resulted except a number of byes, which brought 150 up. Heffer relieved Adams, but the change came from Bates, who caught and bowled Marshall, the latter having made 60 by patient cricket (162—5—60). Pakenham joined Lightfoot, sticking Bates to leg for 1, and got a 3 off Heffer which brought up 170. This brought on Hansen, Lightfoot being missed off his first ball, and again from his second. Pakenham was also missed in Carr's next over, and the hit brought up 180 However, he skied a ball from Hansen and was held by Carr (186—5—13). Five minutes for refreshment were much enjoyed by the fielders.

Robinson joined Lightfoot and got Hansen away to leg, but Wallace fielded the ball splendidly and saved the boundary. A single to Robinson brought up 190, but with the score unaltered he was bowled with a break by Carr (190—6—2). W. Braess joined Lightfoot, and got his first ball nicely to leg for 1, and made a good cut off Hansen, which was well saved from a boundary by Wallace. He then got a 3 to leg off Hansen, bringing up 200, and Lightfoot got the next ball away for 3. Braess was out to the third ball of Bates' next over l.b.w. (209—7—10). Miller went out and fell to Carr in his first over (212—8—0). Hitchcock, next man in, played steadily, and the score rose to 222, when Lightfoot was bowled by Bates, having made 80 (222—9—80). G. Braess, last man in, played out time with Hitchcock

KOBE.—1ST INNINGS.

Mr. Marshall, c. and b. Bates	60
Mr Wilkinson, c. Carr, b. Bates	13
Mr. Lucas, run out	9
Mr Stephens, b. Bates	6
Mr Lightfoot, b. Bates	80
Mr Pakenham, c. Carr, b. Hansen	13
Mr Robinson, b Carr	1
Mr W Braess, l.b.w. Bates	10
Mr Miller, b. Carr	0
Mr. Hitchcock, not out	0
Mr. G. Braess, not out	0
b. 22, l.b. 5, w. 2	29
Total	223

In magnificent weather this match was continued on Saturday morning, Kobe sending in their two "not outs," Hitchcock and W. Braess, who were opposed by Carr and Bates, the former opening at the tennis end. Carr was well on the wicket, and in his second over took Braess, who played on, after 1 had been added to the score, Kobe's total thus reaching 223.

KOBE.

Mr. Marshall, c and b. Bates	60
Mr. Wilkinson, c. Carr, b. Bates	13
Mr Lucas, run out	9
Mr Stephens, b. Bates	6
Mr Lightfoot, b. Bates	80
Mr Pakenham, c Carr, b, Hansen	13
Mr Robinson, b Carr	1
Mr W Braess, l.b.w. b. Bates	10
Mr. Miller, b Carr	0
Mr Hitchcock, not out	0
Mr. G. Braess, b. Carr	1
b. 22, l.b. 5, w. 2	29
	223

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	Overs.	Mdns.	W des.	Wkts.	Runs.
Mr. Carr	35.2	8	0	3	58
Mr Mann	10	0	1	0	30
Mr Bates	26	6	1	5	53
Mr Abbott	9	3	0	0	20
Mr Wallace	4	0	0	0	12
Mr. Adams	3	0	0	0	10
Mr Heffer	4	1	0	0	12
Mr. Hansen	7	2	0	1	19

Shanghai, with an arrears of 135 to wipe out, commenced their second innings by sending in Mann and Wood to face the bowling of Stephens and Pakenham, the former leading from the Club end. Play was steady, both batsmen playing cautiously and few runs were made, the fielding being very good. Wood fell in Stephens's third over, being beaten by a ball which broke right across the wicket (5—1—0). Sawyer joined Mann and a splendid stand was made, the finest cricket of the day being shown by these batsmen, who played a very cautious and correct game, neither taking any liberties with the bowling. Several good hits were made, but, thanks to Wilkinson, Hitchcock, and Lightfoot many runs were saved.

Mann at last fell to Stephens, bowled off his pads (31—2—24). Sawyer was now joined by Abbott, and a further exhibition of good cricket was given, every effort being made by both batsmen to play the bowling and get safe runs. With 30 up, a double change was made in bowling, Marshall going on in lieu of Pakenham, and Braess in lieu of Stephens. Braess, who had done exceedingly well throughout the week, was evidently tired. He could not get on the wicket at all and was hit about rather freely, the score rapidly rising to 49, at which point Marshall bowled Sawyer for a well-played 21 (59—3—21).

MacGregor, next man in, hit out freely, and with 80 up another change was made in the bowling, Stephens going on in place of Pakenham, who had previously relieved Braess. The change was successful, Abbott being held by Lucas off the new bowler. Abbott had played splendidly, and had made a great change in the prospects of the game (85—4—25).

So far the batting had been very good, as the scores of 24, 21, 25 show. Carr joined MacGregor, but was caught after making 1 by Lucas off Stephens (92—5—1). Wallace joined MacGregor and started well, but after playing for a few overs he was also out to Stephens, caught by Hitchcock (108—6—6)

At this stage an adjournment was made for tiffin, and on resuming play about two o'clock the "not out" MacGregor was joined by Adams, and the game became very exciting, there being four wickets to fall, and 27 runs being required to prevent the single innings defeat. Stephens had one ball to finish his over when the adjournment took place. After delivering this a change was made in the bowling, Wilkinson going on for an over in lieu of Stephens who relieved Marshall at the other end. Wilkinson's over was very exciting, for after delivering four balls well off the wicket he bowled Adams, who had contributed 3 (116—7—3).

Heffer, next man in, quickly retired bowled by Stephens (118—8—1).

MacGregor, who had been playing a plucky game right through, for which he deserves the highest praise, was now joined by Bates, and matters became very interesting, as only 19 runs were wanted to save the innings defeat, and the Kobe team played up well to stop the runs. Bates hit a three off Pakenham, who had relieved Wilkinson, but in the same over was caught in the slips (124—9—3). Hansen, last man in, joined MacGregor, but had no chance to score, Stephens bowling the latter with the last ball of his over, the total being unchanged, Kobe thus winning the match by an innings and 7 runs.

The Shanghai team played up well, and deserve great credit for their plucky effort to prevent defeat. Kobe's fielding was very good, though at times some slight slips were made, and the team may justly be congratulated on the result of their latest contest. There were many spectators to witness the finish, and the success of the local team was well received

SHANGHAI.—2ND INNINGS.

Mr. J. Mann, b. Stephens	24
Mr. A. P. Wood, b Stephens	0
Mr F H. Sawyer, b. Marshall	21
Mr. F. J. Abbott, c. Lucas, b. Stephens	25
Mr R. MacGregor, b. Stephens	36
Mr. R. Carr, c. Lucas, b. Stephens	1
Mr. S. M. Wallace, c Hitchcock, b. Stephen	6
Mr H. Adams, b. Wilkinson	3
Mr C. Heffer, b Stephens	1
Mr. Bates, c. Stephens, b. Pakenham	9
Mr H. C. Hansen, not out	0
l.b. 3, w. 5	8
	138

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	Overs.	Mdns.	Wides.	Wkts.	Runs.
Mr. Stephens	32	15	3	7	38
Mr Pakenham	24	11	1	1	42
Mr. G. Braess	7	1	1	0	12
Mr. Marshall	13	3	0	1	26
Mr. Wilkinson	8	0	0	2	5

H.B.M.'s SUPREME COURT.

SHANGHAI, 14TH OCTOBER.

ON APPEAL FROM H.B.M.'S COURT FOR JAPAN, AT KANAGAWA.

(IN ADMIRALTY)

Before N. J. HANNEN, Esq., Chief Justice, and GEO. JAMIESON, Esq., Assistant Judge

BETWEEN THE PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, DEFENDANTS AND APPELLANTS, AND THE IMPERIAL JAPANESE GOVERNMENT, PLAINTIFF AND RESPONDENT.

Mr. Francis, Q.C., of Hongkong, Mr. J. F. Lowder, of Yokohama, and Mr. A. P. Stokes (Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master) appeared for the P. & O. Company; while Mr. H S Wilkinson, Crown Advocate, Mr. M. Kukwood, Yokohama, and Mr. H. P. Wilkinson appeared on behalf of the Imperial Japanese Government.

The hearing of this case was resumed this morning.

On the re assembling of the Court, Mr. Wilkinson referred their Lordships to some other statutes and authorities bearing out his arguments of the preceding day.

Mr. Francis, Q.C., then proceeded to conclude his summing up for the appellants, and at the close of a long and able address, which lasted just an hour and a quarter, thanked the Court in the following terms for the careful consideration which had been given to the case:—I have nothing further to add, my Lords, but on my own behalf and I think I may take the liberty of saying on behalf of my learned friends who are strangers in this Court, I must thank your Lordships for the gracious words in which you granted our admission to this Court and for the careful attention and great courtesy with which you have listened to our arguments during the progress of the case from beginning to end. I thank your Lordships.

The Chief Justice—The judgment of the Court will be reserved, but I wish, before adjourning to

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say this, that as we have been thanked by Mr. Francis for having admitted him and the other learned gentlemen in this case, I think that we, on the other hand, have derived quite as much assistance from them as we have possibly conferred any benefit upon them by their admission. I thank you all, gentlemen, most sincerely for the way in which you have argued the case, and for the very careful manner in which it has been laid before us and for the very able arguments on both sides to which we have been treated.

The Court then adjourned.

GLORYING IN THE GOSPEL.

SERMON PREACHED ORIGINALLY IN JAPANESE AT THE OPENING SERVICE OF THE TOKYO MISSION IN THE TEMPORARY HALL, NO. 13, SHINSAKANACHO, KYOBASHI, SEPTEMBER 24TH, 1893 BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, THE REV. SATORU KATO.

I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth. —*Rom. I., 16.*

Man is a creature of passion, and the movements and sensibilities of our species form a very essential and a very important part of our nature. It is regrettable that human passions have taken a wrong direction and are too generally exercised in opposition to their original design. We often see human beings glorying in that of which they ought to be ashamed, and we see them ashamed of that in which they ought to glory; we see them pursuing unblushingly the paths of folly and sin; whilst they are ashamed of the way of holiness of Christ and of the gospel. When, however, regenerating grace takes place, a beneficial change is produced, —old things being renewed. And then our passions are in the proper direction and brought under the controlling influence of the truth.

In the particular case of Paul the Apostle, these observations are evidently illustrated. He previously stood as a leader of persecutors to imprison all he could find who called on the name of Jesus. He did not blush to witness the horrid murder of the first Christian martyr. A mighty moral revolution in all his character and motives was effected as soon as he had been completely changed through regenerating grace. He blushes with shame at the remembrance of his former position. But no longer is he ashamed of Christ and of the gospel. He said: "What things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ. Yea, verily, and I count all things to be loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus, my Lord." Not only do we now behold the Jew become a Christian, but we behold the persecutor become an apostle, and pledging himself to be the advocate of that faith which he previously madly destroyed.

The case is not merely a story of the apostolic period, but I beg to refer this to my actual position, past and present. Most of my brethren in the audience this morning are aware of my experiences. Now I desire to bear testimony for my divine Master in the imperial city, Tokyo, as if it was in Rome. "For I am not ashamed"—I was once, more or less, but I am not now—"I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth."

Let us consider the nature and the ground of the gospel and the reason for it which we assign. What then is the gospel? It is represented, in short, in the term "Christianity." In this country, Christianity was occasionally misinterpreted by many leading men of our churches and outside as a theory of religion. No doubt, Christianity embraces a system, an elaborate system of theology. But the religion is Christo centric, that is Christianity rests upon Jesus. "The debate," says Strauss, "as to the truth of Christianity has at last narrowed itself into one as to the personality of its Founder." Christianity, whether or not you accept it as the mainspring of your life, is—a fact. This raises the question, what do we really know of Jesus? This enquiry was made not only in the spirit of subversive scepticism, but from an earnest desire to know the truth about the great Nazarene. As a matter of fact, however, the works of Prof. Huxley, Col. Ingersoll, Mr. Spencer, Prof. Tyndal, &c., are extensively translated into Japanese, and their objections are widely known in the empire. I may also say that on this account we are more familiar with the antagonistic views of so called modern thought than the ordinary ministers of Christendom.

If the facts about Jesus are known to be facts, it is not necessary to seek to confirm this knowledge by *a priori* reasoning. This claim for such proof is absurd to a philosophical student of history like Prof. Huxley. He holds that "there is nearly always a soul of truth in things erroneousness," and that that soul may be found by a careful search for it. The soul of truth in the history of Jesus may be found by a careful study of the New Testament writings themselves. But many of our people want to take the mere word of a few eminent scholars such as Renan or Huxley on this subject and are not willing to examine the original documents themselves in the Bible. Even Shintoists and Buddhists have borrowed these views in order to oppose Christianity. But we ridicule their efforts, as our religion cannot be destroyed unless theirs be first destroyed by the same means. Prof Inouye of the Imperial University, a profound gentleman, personally called, it is said, upon Mr. Spencer and Prof. Huxley frequently when he resided in London. But in the recent Inouye controversy, he urged a strong argument on the ground of abuses in the church. He should then be satisfied if its existing errors are corrected. Mr Inouye is not, however, an iconoclastic opponent of the Christianity of the original documents. His statements are simply related to the political affairs of this country. He says Christianity cannot stand hand-in-hand with the *Kokutai* or the basis of this nation's history. But, Mr. Inouye does not oppose the narrative of the gospel. I believe that Jesus Christ would say to Mr. Inouye who acknowledges the fact of the gospel, the words which fell upon the Jewish lawyer's ear, "Thou art not far from the Kingdom of God." Critics of Christianity should go to the fountain-head and ascertain for themselves.

The Christian Churches in Japan have had trying experiences for some four years past through Unitarianism and the Higher Criticism. I am acquainted with them to some extent. These radical views do no damage to Christianity in its nature, but it is lamentable that so many Christians here gave up the study of the Bible, the foundation of their faith and duty. In this respect, Dr. Brooke Herford, once the Martineau of America, at a farewell banquet on his leaving Boston for London, remarked: "We want more Bible reading amongst us. Our fellowship lacks too much the outspoken religiousness which is as the A, B C. of religious life in other churches." This recalls Dr. Orville Dewey's saying, some thirty years ago:—"Unitarianism has forgotten that man is a sinner." Especially, it should be noted that the men in Tokyo rejected the miracles of Jesus, but approved those of Buddha. In regard to miracles I should state now: To prove that any being comes from God on a special mission, miracles are required; that is to say, the special display of the divine power. But we are unable to explain further supernatural events, though we accept them as a mystery.

In the realm of truth, a difference such as home and abroad cannot be maintained. Christ was the picture of what man was in the ideal of God. The personality of Christ is our model. This is true of all the human race. From the incarnation of the eternal Logos unto the suffering, death, resurrection, and ascension of our Saviour, all is substantially and correctly recorded in the New Testament. We are unable to know of Jesus without the New Testament. I dare not say the Bible is partly true. I have been a student of scripture for more than sixteen years and frequently searched it with remarkable thoroughness as is my habit on every subject. Gold is proved in the fire, and still gold is gold. And finally I hold of the Bible that the Bible not only contains the truth, but is the truth. I am not speaking of science this morning, however. We would not have the gospel of Christ without Holy Writ. The Bible itself, nevertheless, is not salvation, but the true record of the fact of salvation.

Salvation is a much larger thing than a mere escape from hell. Salvation is valuable not only that a man rise from hell, but that he may thereby develop his fullest manhood and lead a manly life. To men considered as sinners, *i.e.* both guilty and corrupt, the gospel brings a remedy. The vicarious atonement of our Lord is certainly of the utmost importance in connexion with our salvation. The remedy, however, is of saving benefit only to those by whom it is embraced. I am not tempted this morning to treat this point in theological terms.

At any rate, since the Protestant belief of Christianity was introduced into this country in 1859, it has been presented and accepted in a one-sided manner; that is to say, sometimes faith overcomes duty and sometimes duty has been esteemed higher than faith. They not seldom forgot that "the Lord Jesus Christ has laid His people by His grace under new obligation to keep the perfect law of God." There are two respects in which we may view religion; namely, belief and character. The Christian religion includes both, that which no other religion believed in the world does. There is a dualism in the religion of theism, and it will be apparent that both elements are essential. These two elements, moral and doctrinal, although always separable in thought, have been regarded as inseparable in reality. The foundation of all practical religions is the doctrines that are believed. There will not be much heartfelt worship of God without a belief in His existence, as is the case with the Unitarians in this country. Such service will have as little value as the being in whom we have faith has reality. On the contrary, a living faith in the existence of an Almighty Ruler who created the universe will have a powerful result to bring us near to Him and draw out our affection toward Him, provided we see in Him those moral ideas embraced in our idea of God. We must believe that God is near to us, before we can come to consider ourselves as under obligation to love and obey Him. Accordingly, the doctrines of religion have always exerted great influence upon the conduct and character of men.

Notwithstanding, there is a faith which does not affect our daily character. Divines are accustomed to enumerate some kinds of faith. I would attempt to refer you, however, to one of them which is necessary on account of the present tendency. Many in this country have a so-called historical faith, or the assent given to truth, evidence of which understanding is unable to resist. So it is said, that "the devils believe and tremble;" and it is conceived that a man may be able to give the most distinct exposition of the arguments for Christianity, while in his will and affections he is an enemy to the Cross of Christ. A man returned to his home after he had mounted to the top of Fuji and boasted to his wife that he clearly saw eight provinces from the cone. And the wife questioned him: "Did you see our house then?" "No," said he. "But," said she, "we clearly see Mount Fuji from our porch." Something like this illustration, so many became acquainted with higher thoughts and forgot their own standing amongst the people. At any rate, the church tolerates too readily misconduct in her members. I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, but we cannot glory in that of the existing conditions in our churches. We have recently received important advantages from the attacks of Prof. Inouye and others, as a matter of fact.

But the good works which flow from faith are required in the gospel. They are performed in the spirit of a Christian, from the motives suggested by a firm persuasion of the truth of gospel. Good works therefore are described in Scripture as the fruit and evidences of faith, the necessary effect of the operation of the Spirit of God. James says, "Show me thy faith by thy work; faith without works is dead, as the body without the spirit." And he concludes that a man is justified not by faith *only*, *i.e.*, by such a faith as does not produce what Paul had stated to be the constant effect of true faith, but by that faith which is made perfect by works. But we have heard a considerable number of Christians saying; "We cannot perform so many works because our means are limited." This notion is thoroughly wrong. Are good works then only the duty of wealthy people? Do you not know that the people in extreme poverty are doing some charities toward one another in the East End of London or the Nagamachi of Osaka? First of all, a man who has accepted the gospel must do good toward his neighbours according to the example of Christ. Selfishness is not the standpoint of salvation. A man who merely seeks to escape from burning fire, without positively acting-out his faith, though it negatively prevents some evils, is not truly considered as a child of God following the example of our Lord and Saviour.

"Then why, O blessed Jesu Christ,
Should I not love Thee well?
Not for the hope of winning heaven;
Nor of escaping hell;
Not with the hope of gaining ought;
Not seeking a reward;
But as Thyself hast loved me,
O ever-loving Lord."

We believe Christ saves us from the control of sin, and at the same time, the efficiency of His regenerating grace awakes us to do more and more good works. "Every one of us needs the kind word, the helping hand. Oh for the spirit of charity! All the graces have done virtuously, but thou, O Charity, excellest them all."

We ought not to put a good face on the gospel with pulpit expressions and with exhortations in prayer meetings. The gospel should be glorified through the souls resting upon Christ, laying hold of Him, flying for refuge to Him, coming to Him, trusting in Him, receiving Him. If it be not so, although we proclaim the gospel, yet in practice we are ashamed of the Living Master. But the faith of every man is the intellectual ground of the action of will. A man must know or believe something before he does or desires anything. As a matter of fact, however, Christians have always claimed for Christ that he was the *ideal example* for men; so that any honest imitation of Christ, however incomplete, is better than the complete imita-

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tion of Buddha or of Confucius. We are intensely ashamed of our incompleteness, yet we glory in the absolute and perfect type of our gracious Lord. He is our Crown. May the grace of God rest upon us in order that we may testify to the gospel of Christ with our belief and character —Amen.

THE OKAYAMA FLOOD.

Official statistics secured yesterday, says a correspondent of the *Kobe Herald* of Tuesday, give the following items for Okayama city alone:—Number of persons drowned in the flood, 32; bridges destroyed, 13; houses washed away, 129; houses more or less injured, 1,426. At least 900 people are still fed daily by the Government.

Returns are largely in for two of the three provinces in this *Ken*. These show 450 deaths, with 28 seriously injured, 1,958 houses, 33 bridges, 7 miles of road-bed, and 8 miles of river bank washed away. Also 2,200 other houses injured and 3,670 acres of cultivated land partially destroyed. It is feared that full statistics will nearly double these figures. The Governor, on whom I called a few days ago, says it will take $3,000,000 of the public money to repair the *Ken*. The *Sanyo Shimpo* has opened a subscription list and secured about $100.

The Roman-Catholics suffered very badly and the French Sister is not yet back in her house. Mud was two feet deep in their chapel and school-room. The *Chu Gakko* and Normal School also received a thick layer of mud, and will hardly be able to reopen this month

The Christians have organized for relief work, issued an appeal for outside help, and are using very discreetly what funds come to them. Among other methods, they are opening a depot for supplies at Bancho, the most afflicted quarter of the city, where they will sell at or below cost, the necessaries of life.

Mr. Ishii and his orphans march over into the city every morning, stick their flag into a mud heap, and go to work with hoes and baskets. The missionaries have dropped their regular work for a time, and are giving assistance in various ways.

We here at the seat of war are very grateful for your leader in Wednesday's paper calling for contributions. It is utterly impossible without further assistance to meet the pressing calls for help that come from every direction. This relief work is organized for the whole *Ken* and is working in a remarkably shrewd manner in order to dodge deceit, and supplement, not cross, Government aid. I can assure you any funds sent down will be most economically expended, and will be most thoroughly appreciated.

Okayama, October 21st 1893.

DESTRUCTION OF THE SHANGHAI COTTON CLOTH MILLS.

Yesterday morning, says the *N. C. Daily News* of the 20th inst., occurred at Yangtsepoo the largest fire which has been known in Shanghai since the conflagration on the French Concession in 1879, when property to the value of Tls. 1,500,000 was destroyed. On the present occasion the fire totally destroyed the Shanghai Cotton Cloth Mills on the banks of the Whangpoo, and the loss is estimated at at least Tls. 1,000,000. The land on which the mills stood measures 280 *mow* and the main building had a frontage of 550 feet one way and 80 feet another and was three stories high. In this building which was shaped like ⊔, on the lower floor at the N.W. end were the scutching machines, and with these the cotton was treated by beaters which made some 1,400 revolutions a minute, and as the cotton was treated, it came out of the machines in soft downy rolls which were wound on rollers. It was in this room that the fire commenced; it is supposed that the fearful rapidity of the machines caused the outbreak through some hard substance coming in contact with the beaters which generated a spark and the cotton being then in a condition of high inflammability immediately caught fire which spread rapidly. This was at about 9.20 a.m. In a few minutes the flames ascended the tower which served as a staircase at the corner of the building, and in five minutes the flames inside it at the top could be seen from the Yangtsepoo Station. There was no time to do anything, but Mr. Worthington, the assistant in the Weaving Department, asked the aid of the Fire Department which was refused, the locality of the fire being out of the Settlement From the scutching room, the flames ran along the lower floor of the building facing the road and ascending to the second storey, worked along back till they caught the engine house which joined the main building at the back. This was soon in a blaze as was the upper storey and roof the main building. From the engine house the flames spread to a large godown and store room, which contained among other things a quantity of oil. The building was on the right, but the flames also jumped across to the ginning mill on the left and set fire to it. Joining this latter was a long two-storied building containing ungined cotton, and it in turn joined a building facing the river, and parallel to the main building. Continuing this line there was another building also containing cotton, the two last buildings being connected by a bridge. The fire spread to these two and gutted them, but the ginning mill was a long time before it finally succumbed, the fire not getting a good hold of it till after all the other buildings had been thoroughly destroyed. Then the flames rushed along with amazing rapidity and the heat was so great that people standing at least fifty yards off had to retire. Immense volumes of smoke issued from the doomed building, while the flames shot out many feet from every window in it. While the godowns facing the river were on fire, sparks fell on the wharf and set fire to that, and the Chinese had to let it burn. They had a steam engine on the premises and took it to the wharf, but when the engineer attempted to blow the whistle, he broke it and disabled the engine. Under the circumstances nothing could be done of any moment, and the flames had full control, notwithstanding the puny efforts of the Chinese with leaky buckets and basins of water to extinguish them. Piles of wood and material belonging to a contractor who was putting up a new building inside the square formed by the other buildings, were burnt as was also a row of shanties against the edge of the bank, but strange to say three trees between these and the other burning buildings were scarcely damaged. The last building to burn was the engine house of the ginning-mill although it joined the ginning-mill and was between it and the main engine house which were burnt at an early stage, while a pile of straw on the river bank between which and the main buildings were the stables which were not burnt, caught fire. Last of all the coals caught fire and were burning brightly last night Other freaks of the fire were noticed, for instance, most of the scaffolding round the new buildings which were surrounded by the fire was not burnt, while in the interior of the space occupied by the walls of this building, a cart caught fire, and the pillow head of a stone rammer had fire in it. Walls fell down all over the place, with a shock that shook the ground for yards round, and scarcely a piece of unburnt timber was left anywhere, rafts, beams, windows and window frames sharing the same fate.

Many foreigners visited the scene and Inspector Wilson with a force of Sikhs was early on the spot and was the means of saving a small quantity of cloth. The Mills, we learn, were not insured, the mandarin in charge having concluded that it was a waste of money, so that when the last policies ran out, he would not renew them, with the result that when he found the place on fire he attempted to throw himself into the flames. Through this fire some 4,000 people are thrown out of employment, and when the fire was discovered upwards of 2,000 women and girls were at work within the buildings. Fortunately all escaped without injury of any kind.

There were 27,000 spindles in the main building, some 12,000 being of English and the rest of American make.

ALGIERS-UP-TO-DATE.

It is hot, very hot, as we climb painfully the steep stone steps from the quay to the colonnaded street. The sun's rays beat on our heads with pitiless ardour, the breeze is as dry and scorching as a whiff from an open oven. It is anything but a delectable day to explore a city set on a steep hill. The thermometer registered some fantastic degree in the shade on the quarter deck, as we lay just now in the harbour, gazing with all our eyes at the white city of Algiers. In fine, the simoon from the desert is blowing.

We proceed to prove the truth of the Italian proverb that only fools and Englishmen cross the square at mid day; though to this list, in Algiers, must be added the Arab, who literary swarms in the blinding sunlight of the Place Royale, where the great white mosque is set among the palms To-day, in Gallicised Algiers, the boulevards and the desert are strangely intermixed. Here are brazen flower-girls, offering one wired roses; there is a group of Kabyles from the interior, draping themselves in a dirty blanket, and regarding you with inscrutable eyes from under a dubious turban. A smart cavalry officer, lighting a cigarette as he sips his absinthe at a begilded café, suggests the Boulevard des Capucines; while over yonder, waddling up the narrow street, are the ungraceful forms of some Mohammedan women, in their white yashmaks and voluminous trousers. There are, in addition, Moors, Jews, British tourists, American globe-trotters, Spaniards, Germans, Italians, Maltese, and lots of dogs. The stone colonnades, sheltering shops containing the *article de Paris*, remind one at every turn of the Rue de Rivoli; while yonder white-domed mosque, with its foreground of green palms, where the faithful are doffing their shoes and entering in to pray, is a sight by no means familiar to Western eyes.

And we, too, are minded to enter in, but we are not permitted to tread the sacred floor of the mosque with covered feet. Our stockings we are graciously permitted to retain; but on the subject of boots and shoes the grey bearded janitor is inexorable. So we all sit in a row on the top step, and tug at our buttons and laces. Some of us, like Hamlet, are "fat, and scant of breath," and the little ceremony, performed on a broiling day, is perhaps not conducive to a meditative and a prayerful mood; but we are all unshod at last, and may descend the step or two which leads into the interior. At the first blush, it must be owned that the great mosque is a disappointment. Its proportions are faulty; the walls are bare, and meagrely smeared with whitewash; there are no altars; there is no music; there is nothing to sit upon; and the floor is spread with a carpet whose hideosity proclaims a British manufacture. There are no shadows, no mystery, no reserve. Pattering about in our stockinged feet, we stumble inadvertently over several of the faithful, who are taking a noonday siesta on the floor. Outside, in the inner courtyard with the tuft of green trees and the fountain, a particularly grimy follower of the Prophet is taking a leisurely bath. The great mosque apparently serves as an hotel and a lavatory, as well as a place of Divine worship.

No one has taken a fancy to any of our shoes, it appears, when we presently emerge into the glaring square; and thus, perhaps, is as well, as someone—the Energetic Person—is of opinion that, before all things, we should explore the Arab quarter. "This," as he proceeds to explain "is the real Algiers. None of your French café and colonnades; but real Arab shops and houses." And, as the sequel proved, he might have added, "real Arab smells."

To walk the street in broad daylight with one's nose firmly gripped between one's thumb and forefinger may be an admirable expedient from a hygienic point of view, but the attitude, it must be owned, does not conduce to the attractiveness or the dignity of half a dozen of her Majesty's subjects afoot on a foreign shore; but to this shift we are speedily put as we toil up the unutterably filthy steps which form the streets leading to the Casbah. Rich, rare, and complicated are the odours which assail our nostrils at every turn, and hotter and hotter grow the sun's rays as we near the top of the steep hill. But salvation is at hand in the shape of two ramshackle flies which we find at the summit, and in a trice the Energetic Person, who arose from his slumbers this morning at 5.45 to construct a plan of campaign for the day, has stowed us away into the dilapidated carriages with their ragged fringed awnings, and we are off to an Arab fair some five miles away. Our road lies downwards into the town, then eastwards, in a compact cloud of choking white dust, on a road as straight as a ribbon. On one hand is a plain, at one point converted into a race-course with a grand stand, and beyond, the ridge of hill known as Mustapha Supereiur, where the villas of the foreign residents are dotted against the bluest of blue skies; while on our left hand is a ragged fringe of suburban *cabarets*, barracks, shops, and what not, and further on, a stretch of brown scrub-land, and the sapphire coloured Mediterranean.

The Arab fair, when we finally alight, is the weirdest of weird sights. Sheep, goats, and lambs are the principal merchandise, and with truly Oriental cruelty, these animals are thrown on the ground, with their four legs tied tightly together, or their heads bound together with ropes, while over them helpless bodies haggle groups of gesticulating Arabs, attired in drab blankets of dubious cleanliness, and with their heads encircled in folds of yellowish linen. Not a tree is visible, and, save for the deep azure of the sky, there is not a spot of colour to be seen. Animals, Arabs, tents, ground, and dust are all one uniform tint of greyish drab. Wandering in and out of these groups of bipeds and quadrupeds, watching these sons of the desert squat round a cauldron, gnawing their grimy bread and warming their goat's milk over a fire of twigs, or singing their interminable, discordant songs to the accompaniment of a tom-tom, we begin to think the "gorgeous East" is somewhat of a misnomer. We had buoyed ourselves up with hopes, as we cloaked on

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that dusty drive, of something more grateful to the eye, more suggestive of things luxurious and tropical than this stretch of ditty sand swarming neutral-tinted men and beasts—terms which in some instances it would be gross flattery to pretend were not conve tible. Far more quaintly picturesque is the little Mohammedan cemetery, with its domed white tombs shining among the cypresses, which we pass on our drive back to Algiers. It is a shady and a pleasant spot, for trees are set about everywhere among the resting places of the dead, and the quick are represented by groups of Arab women, who carefully veiled, are chattering, gossiping, and munching on the very steps of the tombs. Seated, a Mohammedan woman looks picturesque enough in her stiff wide trousers and flowing veil, but her strange waddling movement when she walks—curiously like that of a vagrant goose—is totally destructive of romance in Western eyes in regard to the Oriental young person.

But time is flying by, and the Energetic Person is jogging our elbow. Have we not often, in the intimacy of lazy afternoons and starlit nights, announced our intention of penetrating within a real Mohammedan harem, and have we not repeatedly threatened him with our dire displeasure if he failed to arrange the little voyage of discovery for us in the land where the curious customs of the Prophet obtain? All this we admit, but plead for a little lunch of fruit and ices, and things one drinks through a straw, at one of those smart cafés on the front which give on the blue waters of the bay. And we have hardly finished our *sorbets*, when lo! a draped and beturbaned individual is at hand, who for a consideration of a few francs is not above showing us his harem and its beauteous contents. We start in a small procession—for the Energetic One does not mean to let us out of his sight—stepping briskly enough through the narrow shady streets of the Arab quarter, and pursued by the curious glances and mild chaff of the picturesque loafers in the open shops and the Arab cafés. But Hassan, our elderly Mohammedan, strides imperturbably along. We presently stop at a Moorish door in a narrow alley, and entering in, we are first of all conscious of darkness, then of a strange, mixed odour, and then of a house built in the courtyard style, with narrow gallaries, out of which are the living rooms. And now the men of our party are waved into an apartment on the ground floor, last they profane, with their glances, the intimacy of Arab home-life. They, to be sure, may not gaze upon the beauty of the odalisque. Hassan leads the way, and we, palpitating with excitement, follow after to the first gallery. A dingy muslin curtain is pushed aside, and we find ourselves in a small windowless narrow chamber, more like a large cupboard than a room, in which the fresh air of heaven has not penetrated since it was built. It is unostentatiously furnished with a narrow divan covered with a dingy cretonne, and having a small army of equally dubious looking cushions; with a blurred gilt mirror and a tall cupboard of the vilest European manufacture. Two women rise to meet us, without their veils, and wearing tawdry Oriental dresses. These ladies are apparently of the same age, their skins are wrinkled and brown, each of them has had the misfortune to lose a front tooth or so, and their height is something under five feet. Though they live in a French province, they knew nothing of the Gallic tongue, and we, on our part having no Arabic, the conversation is restricted to imbecile nods and smiles. We eagerly inquire of Hassan if these are the ladies of his harem. Well, one of them—the nymph who has lost two of her front teeth—is his wife; the other is his mother-in-law, or his grandmother, or his aunt. It is a bitter disappointment. Have we penetrated to this malodorous interior to find a man living, forsooth, with one wife and an elderly female relative? Alack! It is even so. But we are not permitted to take our leave without being urged to purchase several pink gauze scarves and embroidered jackets which the wriekled dames produce with astonishing celerity from a box under the divan. We would give something, too, to escape the inevitable "coffee and sweets" which Hassan insist on our tasting when we descend to the lower regions. We are all in a row, now, the Energetic Person grinning with delight at our complete *désillusionnement*, seated on cushions on the floor, and uncertain what to do with our nether extremities, as uncomfortable as if we were at a picnic, and having our doubts of that Turkish coffee which our elderly guide is warming in a pan. We wish that he would desist. We are too polite to say so, but we do not like the looks of those two glass jam-pots, nor do we appreciate the mawkish and sickly condiment which Hassan proceeds to administer to us in a spoon, exactly as our nurses were wont to administer the necessary powder disguised in alluring jam. O, that spoon! How long has it been stuck in that dusty jam-pot, and into how many mouths has the inexorable Hassan thrust it? . . . One of us, at least, is determined to make a bold dash for liberty and the open air. By the beard of the Prophet, the spoon is actually travelling round for the third time, with some fresh and still more doubtful concoction! There is a bold movement, a sudden sortie, and two of us are out in the open street.

We hurry on, away from Hassan and his terrible *confiture*, his sham harem and its appallingly stuffy odours, until we reach the French part of the city. And here, against a background of palms, and in front of the large and wholly modern Opera-house, we are presented with a strange picture of Algiers-up-date. At first there is nothing to be seen but a dense crowd of burnoused Arabs, gazing, with their inscrutable gaze, at something which is invisible to us. The young bloods of the native *quartier*, stately pater familias, white bearded grandfathers, all stand with folded arms and knitted brows, peering under their white head dresses in picturesque groups on the open square and on the steps of the Opera-house. It is a silent crowd; there is not a word, not ribald laugh, not a jest, not a smile. We push forward, anxious to see what is interesting so much this grave and silent congregation of Orientals.

And there, standing on her head on a wabbling globe, while a fiddle and a cornet squeak forth a threadbare tune, is a middle-aged, angular, unclothed female acrobat. The thin cheeks are daubed with paint, the muscular limbs are covered only with pink flesh tings, a remnant of cotton velvet is stretched on this poor Frenchwoman's body. The "pity of it"—the degradation of this woman of the ruling race in the eyes of these Arabs—is sufficiently obvious. The moral which these Orientals draw from the dreary little scene is one which Europeans may well reflect on. There are sidelights which are not pleasing in Algiers-up-to-date. —E.H.D. in the *World*.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

The Yokohama Chess Club meets at the Club Rooms No. 88, Main Street on Mondays and Thursdays from 5 to 11 p.m.

The Tokyo Chess Club meets at the Hotel Métropole on Tuesdays from 1 to 11 p.m.

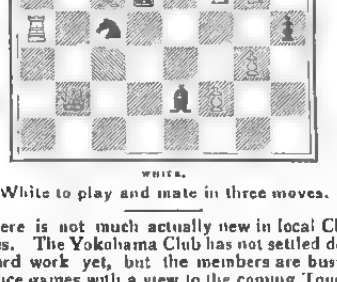
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 92.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—Kt — K B 4	1—P × Kt
2—Q — K B 7	2—P × Kt
3—Q — K 6, mate	
	if 1—P — Q 4
2—Q — K Kt 6, ch.	2—K × Kt
3—K × P (Q 3), mate.	

Correct solutions received from W.H.S., Omega, J.D., J.W.E., and O.B.

PROBLEM No. 94.
By J. POSPISIL.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in three moves.

There is not much actually new in local Chess circles. The Yokohama Club has not settled down to hard work yet, but the members are busy at practice games with a view to the coming Tournament and Championship contests, and to a possible match with Tokyo.

The young club in Tokyo displays a fine, youthful vigour. There are already over twenty members and the open tournament is in progress, several games having been played with varying success.

The game of long-bowls between Nagasaki and Yokohama is now resumed with the restored telegraphic communication: and probably the combatants will hammer away with renewed zeal after a period of enforced idleness.

We transcribe the following game from the *British Chess Magazine* and commend it to the attention of our local experts who may have to give or receive odds in the tourneys of the coming winter.

A fine game, recently played in a private match between two members of the North London Chess Club.

REMOVE BLACK'S K.B.P.

NOTES BY C. E. RANKEN.

WHITE. Mr. A. C. Jackman.	BLACK. Dr. J. W. Hunt.
1—P to K 4	1—Kt to Q B 3
2—P to Q 4	2—P to K 4
3 P to Q 5	

White may also get a good game by 3—P x P, Kt x P; 4 P to K B 4, Kt to B 2, 5—B to Q B 4, K Kt to R 3, 6—Q to Q 4, etc.

	3—Kt to K 2
4—P to K B 4	

An inferior continuation, for Black should have replied with P x P, 5—B x P, Kt to Kt 3; gaining time by attacking the Bishop.

	4—Kt to K Kt 3
5—Kt to K B 3	

Giving up the Pawn purposely thus early for the sake of attack, which was certainly courageous.

	5—P takes P
6—B to Q 3	6—P to Q 3

. . . . . B to B 4 would be met by 7—P to K 5, and if then Kt to K R 5; 8—Q to K 2, etc.

7—P to K R 4	

Mr. Jackman's assault is both spirited and original for this opening; most players would probably have Castled here.

	7—B to K Kt 5
8—P to K R 5	8—Kt to K R 5

. . . . . Black's effort to retain the extra Pawn leads him into a bad position. The Knight should have gone to K 4, which would render the check of White's B useless; if instead White took the P with B, then 9 . . . . . , B takes Kt; 10—P takes B, Q to B 3 seems unobjectionable.

9—B to Kt 5 ch.	9—Kt to B 2

. . . . . Better for him, perhaps, would have been 9 . . . . P to B 3; 10—P takes P, Kt takes P ch.; 11—K to B sq, Q to Kt 3, etc.

10—Kt to K 5 ch.	10—P takes Kt
11—Q takes B	11—P to K Kt 4

. . . . . The only and better alternative was, of course, B to K 2, in which case if 12—Q to K 6 ch., K to B sq; 13—Q takes P, then B to Q 5, 14—Q to Q 4 (if Q to K 6, then Q to Kt 4), Kt takes P ch.; 15—K to B 2, Kt to K 6, with a good game.

12—Q to K 6 ch.	12—K to Kt 2
13—Q takes P ch.	13—Q to B 3
14—Q takes B P ch.	14—B to K 2
15—B to Q 2	

Much stronger than P to K 5 at once, which would let the Black Queen via B 4 into his position; but the best move of all perhaps was R takes Kt, and then B takes P; for if the B K thereupon went to B sq, White would play B to K 5, with an irresistible attack

	15—K. takes P ch.

. . . . . Looks at first like a resource, but it would not have saved him from ions an examination will easily show.

16 -K to K 2	16—P to B 6 ch.
17 K to B sq.	17—K to R 3
18—P to K 5	

Dr. Hunt points out that if 18 B to B 3, then Kt to K 6 ch; 19 K to K sq, B to Kt 5; 20 B takes B, Kt takes P ch, &c.

	18—Q to B 4
19—B to Q 7	

To prevent Q to Kt 5, which might be rather troublesome; the prevention, however, leads him into a still more risky position.

	19—Q to K 5
20—Kt to B 3	20—Q takes B P
21—R to Q sq.	21—Kt to K 6 ch.

. . . . . Dr. Hunt thinks he could have drawn the game now by perpetual check, but we do not see how he could, for after 22 . . , Q to Q 6 ch; 23 K to B 2, Q to Q 5 ch; 24 K to Kt 3, he has no more checks, and White threatens to win the Q by B takes P ch

22—K to B 2	22—Kt takes R ch.
23—R takes Kt	23—Q takes P

. . . . . Black had originally intended to play B to K B sq here, but then B to Kt 4 would still have given White the best of it; and though the text move loses, it does not appear that Black could have saved the game

24—P to Q 6	24—B to Q sq.
25—Q to B 4	25—Q to Kt 3 ch.

. . . . . If B to Kt 3 ch; 26 K to Kt 3, threatening B takes P ch, and mate in a few moves.

26—B to K 3	26—Q to Kt 7 ch.
27—R to Q 2	27—Q to B 8
28—Q to K B 7 !	28—Q to K R 8

. . . . . Black might have considerably delayed, though he might not have averted, the final catastrophe by B to Kt 5 here.

29—Q to B 8 ch.	29—K takes P
30—B to K 8 ch., and mate in four or five moves.	

Dr. Hunt justly remarks that there are not many odds receivers who would have played like Mr. Jackman in this game.

ECZEMA.—Book on "Skin Trouble," sent free for One Stamp by Messrs. NORTH & RAE, Limited, Yokohama.

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LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, October 18.

The Marquis of Salisbury, speaking at Preston, said that the passing of the Home Rule Bill would tend to weaken the prestige of Great Britain in every country in the world. He said this was not a time, when one remembered what was passing in Asia and in the Mediterranean, to doff our armour and appear weak in the eyes of foreign nations.

October 19.

The Italian Government has increased taxation to the amount of 40,000,000 lire to meet military expenses.

October 20

The depletion of the gold reserve in the Treasury at Washington continues, and is now below 83,000,000 dollars. Secretary Carlisle has notified the Government that if the present condition of affairs continues a deficit of 50,000,000 dollars will be probable at the end of the year.

London, October 22.

A Commission has been appointed and is now sitting in Paris, consisting of two French and two British delegates, who are discussing the boundaries of the buffer State between Burmah and Siam.

London, October 24.

The Democratic Senators in the U.S. Senate have arranged a compromise whereby the purchase of 4,500,000 ounces of silver monthly will be continued for another year. All the silver bought after the passing of the compromise measure, along with the silver representing Seigniorage, will be coined into standard dollars Paper money under the value of ten dollars, except silver certificates, will be withdrawn from circulation and silver coin or certificates will be substituted. It is stated that the President will sanction a Bill to this effect.

Later.

It is denied that President Cleveland approves of the compromise said to have been arranged in regard to silver, but that he still insists on the absolute repeal of the Sherman Act. The silver Democrats have informed the silver Republicans that the Democrats have decided to drop the fight against the repeal of the Act.

[SPECIALLY TELEGRAPHED TO THE "JAPAN DAILY MAIL."]
[FROM THE "N.-C. DAILY NEWS."]

London, October 16.

The Russian Squadron visiting France arrived at Toulon on the 13th instant, and had an immense reception. Admiral Avellan, commanding the Squadron, received a perfect ovation as he passed through the streets on the way to the hall where the Mayor of Toulon held a reception. Here cordial speeches were made, dwelling upon the union that existed between France and Russia. The enthusiasm was unbounded, and the day's festivities were brought to a close by a grand banquet in the evening.

October 17.

Fêtes, balls, and banquets in honour of the Russian fleet continue at Toulon, but, *The Times* says, notwithstanding the creation of a Russian Squadron in the Mediterranean, Great Britain will never surrender her predominance in that sea.

Frequent party conferences have been held since the Senate adjourned, and the issue in respect of the repeal of the Sherman Act is still uncertain. Senator Allen, who spoke for fifteen hours, is not a repealer, but a member of the silver party.

October 18.

The British Mediterranean Squadron which has arrived at Taranto, in Italy, received salutes, the national anthems were sung, and the multitude of persons lining the shore cheered vociferously. The British Government deprecate construing the appearance of the Squadron in the Gulf of Taranto as a counterblast to the visit of the Russian Squadron at Toulon.

October 19.

Marshal MacMahon is dead.

The Russian officers who went up to Paris from Toulon were received by enormous crowds who were transported by enthusiasm. M. Carnot, in receiving the Russian officers, dwelt warmly on the ties of friendship between the two nations, which, he said, were growing stronger every day. Admiral Avellan was created Grand Officer of the Legion of Honour, and several other officers were decorated.

The fêting of the British Fleet in the Bay of Taranto continues.

October 20.

Mr. H. H. Asquith, Q.C., Secretary of State for the Home Department, in a speech at Glasgow, rectified an impression created by Mr. Gladston when, in Midlothian, he intimated that the Government would re-introduce Home Rule next Session, this at present not being intended. Though Home Rule would be steadfastly kept in view, the Session would be devoted to the realization of the Newcastle programme.

M. Gounod, the French composer, is dead.

M. Carnot, in telegraphing to the Czar, referred to the friendship and sympathy uniting France and Russia. The Czar, in reply, confined himself to an expression of pleasure at the Russian Squadron returning the visit of the French Squadron to Cronstadt.

October 21.

At the instance of Russia, the obsequies of Marshal MacMahon at Les Invalides were hastened in order that Admiral Avellan might attend.

The Emperor William wired from Berlin to the widow of the deceased Marshal a warm message of condolence.

The Marquis of Salisbury, speaking at Ormskirk, insisted on the necessity of maintaining the strength and efficiency of the Navy for the protection of the coasts and of commerce.

(FROM "LE COURRIER D'HAIPHONG")

Paris, October 8.

M. Gerard replaces M. Lemaire as French Minister at Peking.

After an interview with the King of Siam, M. le Myre de Vilers has wired to President Carnot, expressing the good wishes of the King and assuring him that the terms of the treaty will be adhered to strictly.

Paris, October 8.

Two new regiments of cavalry have been raised.

The Congress of French workmen have passed a patriotic resolution.

The rumour of warlike preparations on the Alps is officially denied.

The author of the Barcelona bomb outrage has been shot; the affair has caused great uneasiness in Spain.

Paris, October 9.

Marshal Macmahon and Ferdinand de Lesseps are dying.

King Humbert will review the English and Italian fleets.

Berlin brokers have advanced 40 millions to Italian banks.

Paris, October 11th.

A despatch has been received from King Humbert expressing his affectionate recollection of the glorious part played by MacMahon in the war of 1859, and the hope that he may long be spared to enjoy the gratitude of the Italians and the admiration of the valiant French Army.

The English fleet will shortly visit Cherbourg.

[GOUNOD, CHARLES FRANÇOIS, composer, was born at Paris, June 17, 1818. After the usual course of training in musical science, and the probationary attempts in composition common to professional novitiates, M. Gounod became known as a lyric composer for the stage by his pastoral of "Philemon and Baucis." This was followed by "La Nonne Sanglante," "Sappho," a cantata, and "La Colombe." Although these works contained unquestionable marks of genius, none achieved success. Indeed, few composers who have risen to eminence have had more failures at the outset of their career than the author of one of the most successful of modern operas, "Faust," which, although not actually the first successful work of Gounod, took all the lovers of operatic music by surprise. What rendered his success more remarkable was the fact that, though Goethe's masterpiece had been previously set to music a hundred times, not one of these efforts was considered worthy of the theme. M. Gounod is the composer, amongst other works, of a comic opera founded on Molière's "Médecin malgré lui," produced in London by the English Opera Company under the title of the "Mock Doctor;" of "La Reine de Saba;" "Mireille," brought out in London in 1854; "Romeo and Juliet," produced at Paris and London in 1867; and "Polyeucte," produced at the Grand Opéra, Paris, Oct 7, 1878. He was elected a member of the French Institute, section of Music, in May 1866, and was promoted to the rank of Commander of the Legion of Honour in Aug., 1879. His opera, "The Tribute of Zamora," was produced at the Grand Opéra at Paris on April 2, 1881; and in the following year his sacred work, "The Redemption," was produced at the Birmingham Musical Festival. In 1885 his new oratorio, "Mors et Vita," was produced at the Albert Hall, and a second performance, by special command of the Queen (who was present), took place in Feb 1886. M. Gounod is at present engaged on a great work on "Joan of Arc," which he is said to be writing in the Cathedral of Orleans.—*Men of the Time*.]

[MACMAHON, Marie Edmé Patrick Maurice de, Duc de Magenta, a Marshal of France, ex President of the French Republic, born at Sully, July 23, 1808, derives his descent from an Irish family who risked and lost all for the last of the Stuart kings. The MacMahons, carrying their national traditions, ancestral pride, and historic name to France, mingled their blood by marriage with the old nobility of their adopted country. This member of the family entered the military service of France in 1825, at the school of St. Cyr; was sent to the Algerian wars in 1830; while acting as aide-de-camp to Gen. Achard, took part in the expedition to Antwerp in 1832, attained to the rank of captain in 1833; and, after holding the post of aide-de-camp to several African generals, and taking part in the assault of Constantine, was nominated Major of Foot Chasseurs in 1840, Lieut.-Col. of the Foreign Legion in 1842, Colonel of the 41st of the Line in 1845, and General of Brigade in 1848. When, in 1855, Gen. Canrobert left the Crimea, Gen. MacMahon, then in France, was selected by the Emperor to succeed him in the command of a division; and when the chiefs of the allied armies resolved on assaulting Sebastopol, Sept. 8, they assigned to Gen MacMahon the perilous post of carrying the works of the Malakoff. For his brilliant success on this occasion he was made Grand Cross of the Legion of Honour; and in 1856, was nominated a Knight Grand Cross of the Bath. Gen. MacMahon, who took a conspicuous part in the Italian campaign of 1859, received the bâton of a Marshal, and was created Duke of Magenta, in commemoration of that victory. He represented France at the coronation of William III, of Prussia, in Nov., 1861, was nominated to the command of the 3rd *corps d'armée* Oct. 14, 1863, and was nominated Governor-General of Algeria by decree Sept. 6, 1864. In this capacity he inaugurated a new system, the tendency of which was to create an Arab kingdom. It proved, however, a complete failure. The French and other European colonists became so dissatisfied, that in 1868 a large number of them left for Brazil, while thousands of the natives perished from hunger. A great outcry was raised in France against the Marshal, whose policy was also severely censured by Mgr. de Lavigerie, Bishop of Algiers. On the breaking out of the war with Prussia, Marshal MacMahon was entrusted with the command of the First Army Corps, whose head-quarters were at Strasburg. On Aug. 6, 1870, the Crown Prince of Prussia attacked the united Army Corps of General MacMahon, Failly, and Canrobert, drawn up in a position at Woerth. MacMahon had under him 50,000 men in all, and occupied a strong defensive position on the slopes of the Vosges, but the French line was turned by the Prussians at two points, and their left and centre broken, notwithstanding a desperate charge of cavalry which was ordered by MacMahon as a last resort. MacMahon retired on the following day to Saverne, next to Toul (23th), Rheims (31st), and Rethel (22nd). On the 30th his forces were again defeated by the Prussians, being driven back from Beaumont beyond the Meuse, near Mouzon. He was chief in command at the battle of Sedan (Sept 1), but received a severe wound in the thigh at the beginning of the engagement, whereupon the command devolved on General Wimpffen, who signed the capitulation. MacMahon was made a prisoner of war, and conveyed into Germany. Having recovered from his wound, he left Wiesbaden for France, March 13, 1872, and was nominated in the following month Commander-in-Chief of the Army at Versailles. He successfully conducted the siege of Paris against the Commune, and ably assisted M. Thiers in reorganizing the Army. In Dec. 1871, he was requested by the Parisian Press Union to become a candidate to represent Paris in the National Assembly, but he refused to accept the nomination. On M. Thiers resigning the Presidency of the Republic, May 24, 1873, he was elected to the vacant office by the Assembly. Of the 692 members who voted, 390 voted for Marshal MacMahon, who immediately afterwards accepted the Headship of the Executive, his consent being carried back to the Assembly, couched in a letter which was a model of manly straightforwardness and modesty. "A heavy responsibility," he wrote, "is thrust upon my patriotism, but with the aid of God, the devotion of the army, which will always be the army of the laws and the support of all honest men, we will continue together the work of liberating the territory, and restoring moral order throughout the country; we will maintain internal peace and the principles on which society is based. That this shall be done I pledge my word as an honest man and a soldier." He at once proceeded to form a Conservative administration, his Ministers being the Duc de Broglie, Foreign Affairs and Vice-President of the Council; M. Ernoul, Justice; M. Beulé, Interior; M. Magne, Finance; General de Cissey (who remained *par interim*), War; Vice-Admiral Dompierre d'Hornoy, Marine and Colonies, M. Batbie, Public Instruction, Public Worship, and Fine Arts; M. Deseilligny, and M. de la Bouillerie. The Septennate was voted Nov. 19, 1873, when the National Assembly, by 378 votes against 310, entrusted him with the exercise of power for seven years. On May 16, 1877, Marshal MacMahon addressed to M. Jules Simon, the President of the Council, a letter reproaching him with incapacity. This compelled the latter to resign and a new ministry was formed. Duc de Broglie became President of the Council, M. de Fourton, Minister of the Interior, the Duc decazes remained at the Foreign Office, and General Berthaut retained his post as Minister of War. The Chamber of Deputies was immediately prorogued and the Senate, by a small majority, resolved to exercise the power conferred by the Constitution, by concurring with the President of the Republic in a dissolution. Accordingly, the Marshal dissolved the Chamber of Deputies by a decree dated June 25, 1877. After a period in which the government "screw" was mercilessly applied, the elections for the new Chamber were held throughout France on October 14, resulting in the return of 335 Republicans and 198 Anti-Republicans, the latter classed as 89 Bonapartists, 41 Legitimists, 38 Orleanists, and 30 "MacMahonists." The Republican majority refused to vote the supplies, and after a brief interval of hesitation the Marshal came to the conclusion that M. Gambetta's famous alternative—*se soumettre ou démissionner*—must be acted upon. Accordingly he yielded to the Republican majority and a new ministry was formed under the presidency of M. Dufaure, with M. Léon Say as Minister of Finance, and M. Waddington at the Foreign Office. Thus the period of uneasiness—the prolonged crisis—that began on May 16, was peacefully brought to a close on Dec. 14, 1877. The Senatorial elections at the beginning of 1879 gave the Republican party an effective working majority in the Upper Chamber. M. Dufaure's Cabinet was at once pressed to remove the most conspicuous Anti-Republicans among the generals and officials. Marshal MacMahon refused to be a party to these measures, and, seeing that resistance was idle, resigned on Jan. 30, and was succeeded by M. Grévy. As President of the Republic, Marshal MacMahon was decorated with the insignia of various foreign Orders.—*Men of the Time*.]

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MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, Nagasaki, and Kobe ..	per N. Y. K.	Friday, Nov 3rd
From America	per O. & O. Co.	Saturday, Oct. 28th.*
From Canada, &c. ..	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Oct. 30th.†
From America	per P. M. Co	Sunday, Nov. 5th ‡
From Europe, via Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Wednesday, Nov. 1st §
From Hongkong ..	per O. & O. Co.	Thursday, Nov. 2nd ‖
From Hongkong ..	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Nov. 5th.
From Hongkong ..	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, Nov. 9th.
From Europe, via Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Friday, Nov 10th.

* *Oceanic* left San Francisco via Honolulu on October 10th. † *Empress of India* left Vancouver on October 16th. ‡ *City of Rio de Janeiro* left San Francisco on October 20th. § *Nurnberg* left Hongkong on October 26th. ‖ *Belgic* left Hongkong on October 26th. The English mail is on board the steamer *Gerda* which left Hongkong on October 25th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, Oct. 28th.
For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Oct. 30th.
For Victoria, B.C., and Tacoma, Wash. ..	per N. P. Co.	Monday, Oct. 30th.
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki	per N. Y. K.	Tuesday, Oct 31st
For Europe, via Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, Nov. 3rd.
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Saturday, Nov. 4th.
For Europe, via Shanghai	per M. M. Co	Sunday, Nov. 5th.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, Nov. 10th

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Imperieuse (10), flagship, Captain J. M. McQuhae, 21st October,—Hakodate.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, M. Fukui, 21st October,—Yokkaichi 20th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,034, H. Walter, 21st October,—Otaru viâ ports 16th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Ekstrand, 21st October,—Kobe 20th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Aikoku Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,067, Furukawa Yaichi, 22nd October,—Honolulu, General.—Oiye.

Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 386, Shimadzu, 22nd October,—Nemuro, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, J. Nirei, 22nd October,—Yokkaichi 21st October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Verona, British steamer, 1,878, C. H. S. Tocque, 22nd October,—Hongkong 13th, Nagasaki 18th, and Kobe 21st October, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Tsukuba Kan (8), Japanese corvette, Captain T. Kurooka, 23rd October,—Yokosuka 23rd October.

Volute, British steamer, 2,348, Stott, 23rd October, —Batoum, Petroleum.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Pender, 24th October,—Otaru viâ ports 19th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, Y. Arai, 24th October,—Yokkaichi 23rd October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sessiu Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,011, Hayashi, 24th October,—Kobe 23rd October, General.—Nada Kogio Kabushiki Kaisha.

Victoria, British steamer, 1,991, J. Panton, 25th October, Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B C., 3rd October, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

China, British steamer, 2,600, Wm. Ward, 25th October,—Hongkong viâ ports 17th October, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Pytam, British steamer, 1,802, Thompsen, 25th October,—Liverpool viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, T. Sakai, 25th October,—Kobe 24th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,219, Wilson, 26th October,—Kobe 24th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Continental, German steamer, 765, Schall, 26th October,—Manila viâ Kobe, 21,000 bags Sugar.—Raspe & Co.

Denbighshire, British steamer, 1,662, Davies, 26th October,—London viâ ports, General. Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Hankow, British steamer, 2,359, West, 26th October,—New York viâ Shanghai, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, M. Fukui, 26th October,—Yokkaichi 25th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Harima Maru, Japanese steamer, 436, Kawamuro, 26th October,—Bonin Islands, General. Nippon Yusen Kaisha

Setsuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,012, Kawano, 26th October,—Kobe 25th October, General.—Kabushiki Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, R Tippe, 27th October,—Otaru viâ ports 22nd October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hinode Maru, Japanese steamer, 789, G. Sofuye, 27th October,—Kobe 26th October, Coal.—S Asano & Co

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, Y. Arai, 27th October,—Yokkaichi 26th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tsukushi Maru, Japanese steamer, 636, J. Will, 27th October,—Shimonoseki, Coal.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, J. Nirei, 27th October,—Kobe 26th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha

Yokohama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,298, Swain, 28th October,—Shanghai and ports 22nd October, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Calédonien, French steamer, 2,500, Flandin, 28th October,—Marseilles viâ ports, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

DEPARTURES.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, Y. Arai, 21st October,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 684, M. Matsumoto, 21st October,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Akashi Maru, Japanese steamer, 856, Sakata, 22nd October,—Shinagawa, General.—Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

Ramore Head, British steamer, 2,913, McCalmont, 22nd October, Sydney viâ Newcastle, General.—Smith, Baker & Co.

Sydney, French steamer, 3,450, Augé, 22nd October,—Shanghai viâ Kobe, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Alacrity (4), despatch-boat, Commander Callaghan, 23rd October:—Kobe.

Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 386, Shimadzu, 23rd October,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,034, H. Walter, 23rd October,—Yokosuka, Light.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Ekstrand, 23rd October,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Porpoise (6), cruiser, Captain C. L. Burr, 23rd October,—Kobe.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, J. Nirei, 23rd October,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha

Niobe, German steamer, 1,666, E. J. Pfaff, 24th October,—Hamburg viâ ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Polyphemus, British steamer, 1,803, R. F. Scale, 24th October,—London viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,580, C. Anderson, 24th October,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, Conner, 24th October,—Shanghai viâ ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, M. Fukui, 24th October,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sessiu Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,011, Hayashi, 25th October, Shinagawa, General.—Nada Kogio Kabushiki Kaisha.

Matsumaye Maru, Japanese steamer, 478, Higo, 25th October,—Nemuro, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 934, Y. Arai, 25th October,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Victoria, British steamer, 1,991, J. Panton, 26th October,—Hongkong viâ Kobe, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co

Aikoku Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,067, Furukawa Yaichi, 26th October,—Kobe, General.—Oiye.

Kumamoto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,240, Olsen, 26th October,—Niigata and Sakata, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,168, Crichton, 26th October,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. Young, 26th October,—Otaru viâ ports, General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Setsuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,011, Kawano, 27th October,—Shinagawa, General.—Kabushiki Kaisha.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, M. Fukui, 27th October,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Clan Buchanan, British ship, 2,072, Geo. R. Harris, 28th October,—New York viâ ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru*, from Otaru viâ ports.—44 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Omi Maru*, from Kobe:—2 passengers in second class and 26 passengers in steerage, and 200 convicts for Hakodate.

Per Japanese steamer *Aikoku Maru*, from Honolulu:—Messrs. Benson, Joyce, and Holgate in cabin; Mr Morton and 71 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—3 passengers in second class and 34 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Verona*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. Rutter, Mr Buchanan, Miss Buchanan, Messrs. P. Remedios, E. W. Tate, H. V. Dickinson, Lias, W. W. G. Ross, A. B. Walford, Lieut. Anderson, and Mr. and Mrs. B. O. Squier in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, from Otaru viâ ports:—4 Japanese in cabin; 40 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Victoria*, from Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B C.:—Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Syme Thomson, Master F. Thomson, Mr. J. Muirhead, Mr. Geo. Candlin, Mr. J. H. Chesney, and Mrs. Germain and 3 children in cabin; 90 passengers in steerage

Per British steamer *China*, from Hongkong viâ ports: Mr. H. Baumgarter, Mr. W. Rowland, Jun., Mr. Tung Too Lun and native servant, Mr. C. B. Howard, Mr. N. Denke and Japanese servant, Lieut. Ivanosky, Miss May Morgan, Mr. E. Oswald Kenyon, and Mr. and Mrs. D. Howie in cabin. For San Francisco: Mr. W. Melchers, and Messrs. A. and R Baumgarter in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Sendai Maru*, from Kobe:—Miss Tristram in cabin; and 27 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, from Kobe viâ Shiwotsu:—Captain Y. Yabe in cabin; Mrs. N Yabe, Mrs. F. Yabe, and the Misses Yabe (2) in second class, and 9 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. M. Kirkwood, Mr. T. B. Glover, Captain Itow, M. K. Ohta, Mr. Wong Fung Yung, and Mr. O. Sasaki in cabin; Master Sasaki, Mr. R. Matsumoto, and Mr. S. Yamaguchi in second class, and 25 passengers in steerage. For San Francisco: Mr. N. Thelmann, Mr. N. Sinclair, and Mr. G. B. Perkins in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per French steamer *Sydney*, for Shanghai viâ Kobe:—Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Vianna, Miss J. Bladd, M. Gomez, Mr. Jas. Ferreira, Lieutenant Arbouin, Messrs. Pottecher, Sasias, J. Charpentier, Henri Gautier, A. Adal, E. Guignard and boy, Neo Hong Hee, J. Mulkay, Pelayo de Miquelerena, Mr. and Mrs. Ichihara, Messrs. S. Uchida, L. H. Petersen, and Hara Shukichi in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, for Shanghai and ports.—Miss Bashueff and servant, Mr. and Mrs. Bagin and child, M. and Mrs Smalley, Mr and Mrs. Bremner and 3 children, Mrs J. G. Weston, Rev. Mr. Jerome, Lieutenant F. Iwanoff, Captain Edwards, Messrs. Witkowski, H. W. Lee, Rospopoff, P. H. Powers, U. Lee Jui, T. Tokuhisa, H Lohlein, S. Marcus, and H. Komura in cabin; Mrs. and Master Tsuye, Mr. and Mrs. Takagi, and Mr. Meidelrath in second class, and 37 passengers in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, $50 000 00.

Per French steamer *Sydney*, for Shanghai viâ Kobe:—Raw Silk for Europe, 869 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 71 bales. Treasure for Shanghai, $100 000; for London, $22,000.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, $1,500.00.

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Omi Maru*, Captain J. W. Ekstrand, reports:—Left Kobe the 20th October at noon; had from moderate to strong N.W. and N.E. winds and fine weather; passed Oshima

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at 8 30 the same day, had same weather. Arrived at Yokohama the 21st October at 6 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Aikoku Maru*, Captain Furukawa Yaichi, reports:—Left Honolulu the 5th October at 6 p.m.; experienced moderate N.E. trade winds until the 19th; thence S.E. gale with heavy sea, lat. 30 00 N., long. 147.00 E.; thence to port fine weather; steamer *Mowera* on reef, doubts as to whether she will get off are entertained.

The Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, Captain Nirei, reports:—Left Yokkaichi the 21st October at 9.15 p.m.; had fine, clear weather and moderate north-easterly breeze to strong gale with heavy sea up to Rock Island, which passed at 9.05 a.m. on the 22nd; thence to port wind greatly moderated. Arrived at Yokohama the 22nd October at 3.30 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, Captain Pender, reports:—Left Otaru the 19th October at 4 p.m. and arrived at Hakodate the following day at 11.15 a.m.; experienced strong W.S.W. winds with heavy head sea and cloudy weather. Left Hakodate the 22nd at 8 a.m.; had light S.W. winds, fine and moderately clear weather throughout the passage to Ogimohama, where arrived the 23rd at 6 a.m. Left again at 10.30 a.m.; had light variable winds with dull, cloudy weather to Inuboye-saki, which was passed at 0 13 a.m. on the 24th; thence to port strong N.N.W winds accompanied with rainy and thick weather. Arrived at Yokohama the same day at 11 a.m.

The British steamer *Victoria*, Captain John Panton, R.N.R., reports:—Left Tacoma, Wash., the 3rd October at 9 a.m. and Victoria, B.C., the 4th at 6 a.m.; strong S.W. to N.W. gales with heavy head seas were experienced throughout the passage.

The British steamer *China*, Captain William Ward, reports:—Left Hongkong the 17th October, Nagasaki the 21st, and Kobe the 23rd. While passing through Bingo Channel, passed the remains of about 30 Japanese.

The Japanese steamer *Sendai Maru*, Captain Sakai, reports:—Left Kobe the 24th October at 6 a.m.; had gentle to moderate north to east-north-easterly breeze and clear weather with easterly swell. Arrived at Yokohama the 25th October at 1.5 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Fushiki Maru*, Captain J. Wilson, reports:—Left Kobe the 24th October at 43 0 p.m.; experienced moderate east to north-east winds to arrival at Yokohama the 26th October at 6 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, Captain R. Tipple, reports:—Left Otaru the 22nd October at 4 p.m.; had moderate to fresh south and south-westerly, fine weather with westerly swell until arrival at Hakodate the 23rd at 9.10 a.m. Left the 25th at 8 a.m.; had light winds and fine weather, arrived at Ogimohama the 26th at 6.10 a.m. Left the same day at 11.40 a.m.; passed Inuboye the 27th at 2.5 a.m. Arrived at Yokohama at 1 p.m.; experienced light winds and fine weather.

The Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, Captain Nirei, reports:—Left Kobe the 26th October at 10.15 a.m.; had fine, cloudy weather and strong N.W. winds. Arrived at Shiwotsu at 1.30 p.m. and left at 5.50 p.m.; passed Oshima at 0 25 a.m. on the 27th; had strong north to north-westerly winds with heavy sea; passed Rock Island at 4.17 p.m.; thence to port calm and moderate easterly breeze and fine weather. Arrived at Yokohama the 27th October at 11 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, Captain Swain, reports:—Left Woosung the 22nd October at 10.20 a.m.; had light easterly and north-east winds, fine, clear weather, and smooth sea up to arrival at Nagasaki the 23rd at midnight. Left again the 24th at 7.30 a.m.; had continued light north-easterly winds and fine, clear weather, arriving at Shimonoseki the same day at 8.50 p.m. in company with Austrian Lloyd steamer *Marie Valeria*. Left again the 25th at 1.5 a.m.; had continuance of light easterly and north-easterly winds and fine, clear weather and through Inland Sea, arriving at Kobe the same day at 8.50 p.m. Left again the 26th at midnight; had light variable winds and fine, clear weather; passed Oshima at 8 50 a.m. on the 27th; thence moderate to light north-easterly winds and fine, clear weather up to arrival at Yokohama the 28th October at 5 a.m.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS

The past week has seen a slight improvement in the Import Trade. Single Yarns continue to move off in small quantities while Doubles also meet with a fair demand, notwithstanding the recent rise in prices. Enquiry for Shirtings has fallen off, but there are purchasers for small lots of T-Cloths. In Fancies, quite a brisk trade has been done in Velvets at unchanged rates, while in Woollens, Mousselines are being sold "to arrive" and there are a few buyers of Blankets and Italian Cloths.

COTTON PIECE GOODS

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8⅓lb, 38½ yds. 39inches	$2.10 to 2 65
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 38½ yds. 45inches	2.35 to 3 12½
T Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1 52½ to 1 85
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches	1.70 to 2 35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	2.75 to 2 75
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 32 inches	PER YARD. 0 16 to 0 21
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22inches	6.25 to 8.50
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42 3 inches	0 65 to 0 78
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2 4lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	PER PIECE. 1 40 to 1 47½
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1 57½ to 1.82½
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.02½ to 2.47½
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2 65 to 2.85

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel	$0.27 to 0.45
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0 30 to 0.33
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0 25 to 0.30
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0 20 to 0.25
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 9½ yards, 31 inches	0.13 to 0 19
Cloths—Plain, 54 @ 56 inches	0 35 to 0 50
Cloths—Pheasants, 54 @ 56 inches	0 60 to 0 65
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0 40 to 0 70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 4 to 3½lb, per lb	0 45 to 0 57½

COTTON YARNS.

	PER P CUL.
Nos 10 24, Ordinary	—
Nos. 16 24, Medium	$35.25 to —
Nos 16 24, Good to Best	36 25 to 36 25
Nos 16 24, Reverse	—
Nos 28 32, Ordinary	—
Nos 28 32, Medium	38 00 to —
Nos 28 32, Good to Best	38 50 to 39 50
Nos. 38 42, Medium to Best	45 00 to 47 00
No 32s, Two fold	43 00 to 44 00
No 42s, Two-fold	47.50 to 49 25
	PER BALE.
No 20s, Bombay	—
No 16s, Bombay	—

METALS.

Practically no change to report in this market, although a rather better tone prevails. Plate and Sheet Iron are in fair demand and prices show a rise, while Wire Nails continue to find ready purchasers at somewhat firmer rates. Other lines remain neglected

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars ¼ inch	$3.60 to 3 70
Flat Bars, ½ inch	3 70 to 3.80
Round and square up to ¾ inch	3.15 to 3 30
Iron Plates, assorted	3.20 to 3.30
Sheet Iron	4 45 to 4 60
Galvanized Iron sheets	8.50 to 8 75
Wire Nails, assorted	5 40 to 5 75
Tin Plates, per box	6 00 to 6 25
Pig Iron, No 3	1.42½ to 1.45

KEROSENE.

Buyers do not seem anxious to operate and the week's transactions have been few and small. Holders are firm and prices show no change. Russian oil has arrived in abundance, the two tank steamers *Clam* and *Volute* having come into port on the 20th and 23rd inst. respectively. Their aggregate cargo amounts to about 111,000 cases and 5,500 tons in bulk.

Chester	$1.62½ to 1 65
Comet	1.60 to 1 62½
Devoe	—
Russian Anchor	1 60 to 1 62½
Russian Moon	1.57½ to 1.60

SUGAR.

Browns have enjoyed a fairly lively week for the time of year, and prices for some grades show a smart rise. Demand has been principally in Takao sorts, causing their value to advance 40 cents per picul. Stocks are small, being reduced to about 11,700 piculs, of which 11,000 are Takao. Whites have also experienced an active week and prices have an upward tendency.

	PER PICUL
Brown Takao	$4.65 to 4.70
Brown Manila	5.25 to 5 30
Brown Daitong	4.05 to 4.10
Brown Canton	4.10 to 4 25
White Java and Penang	6.90 to 7 00
White Refined	7 55 to 9 20

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last issue was of the 20th instant, since which date we have settlements on this market of 751 piculs, divided thus: *Hanks*, 19 piculs, *Filatures*, 580 piculs; *Rereels*, 122 piculs; *Kakeda*, 30 piculs. Direct shipments have been 19 bales, making the total export trade of the week 770 piculs.

The above figures show a falling off of business here, principally due to the break in telegraphic communication and also to the still unsettled state of financial affairs in America. Europe continues to send in a few orders at low prices; but our American friends seem tied hand and foot until the currency question is settled and the future of silver determined. A few days ago there were symptoms of revival of demand from New York, but it has all passed away again, and we are once more waiting for the silver men to settle their differences.

Supplies come in freely and the heavy stock begins to press hardly upon the holders who are anxious to move; but they are on the alert and would soon put up prices, if any general demand ensued. There is no doubt that producers are losing money at present quotations and will struggle hard to recoup some of their losses, should trade revive.

Exchange has advanced a little during the week, but we do not think it particularly strong at to day's rates.

There has only been one shipping opportunity since we last wrote, the French mail steamer *Sydney*, 22nd instant, taking 869 bales for Europe. This departure makes our present export figures 11,687 piculs, against 22,677 piculs last year, and 18,063 piculs at the same date in 1891.

Hanks.—Very little doing, two or three small parcels of *Hachoji* being the only entries in the list.

Filatures.—As usual, the bulk of the trade has been in this class. Prices are more or less irregular, but prime chops are firmly held for high prices such as, at present, shippers cannot afford to pay. In fine sizes, Extra has been done at $820; best No. 1 are held for $780, but probably some reduction can now be made on these figures; No. 1½, $740; No. 2, $700. In full sizes, $750 has been paid for *Choshinsha*; $745 for *Kaimeisha*; $725 for *Tokosha*; *Rujokan* and similar grades, $735; good *Koshu*, $730.

Rereels.—A comparatively small business; *Koriyama*, $685; medium *Joshu* and *Bushu*, $625; *Tortoise* chop, $685; *Kanra*, $690. Holders would like to be moving, but in the absence of demand from the American market, they must perforce sit still a little longer.

Kakeda.—Prices without change. Dealers tried at one time to make them a little firmer, but without success. We quote Extra, $740; No. 1, $700; No. 1½, $660; No. 2, $630; No. 2½, $600.

Oshu.—Nothing has been done, but some transactions are said to be pending in *Hamatsuki* at prices ranging from $620 to $630, for good medium silk.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK.)

Hanks—No. 1	$620 to 630
Hanks—No 2 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No 2 (Joshu)	600 to 610
Hanks—No. 2½ (Shinshu)	590 to 600
Hanks—No 2½ (Joshu)	580 to 590
Hanks—No 2½ to 3	570 to 575
Hanks—No 3	560 to 565
Hanks—No. 3½	550 to 555
Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers	800 to 8.0
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers Num.	760 to 770
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	760 to 780
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den	740 to 750
Filatures—No. 1½, 10/14 deniers	730 to 740
Filatures—No 1½, 13/16, 14/17 den	720 to 730
Filatures—No 2, 10 15 deniers	700 to 710
Filatures—No. 2, 14 18 deniers	690 to 700
Filatures—No. 3, 14 20 deniers	—
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—(Oshu) Best No 1	690 to 700
Re-reels—No 1, 13/15, 14 16 deniers	680 to 690
Re-reels—No. 1½, 13 16, 14 17 deniers	650 to 660
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	620 to 630
Re-reels—No 2½, 14, 18 deniers	610 to 615
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	600 to 605
Kakedas—Extra	730 to 740
Kakedas—No 1	700 to 710
Kakedas—No 1½	660 to 670
Kakedas—No. 2	630 to 640
Kakedas—No. 2½	610 to 620
Kakedas—No 3	580 to 590
Kakedas—No 3½	—
Kakedas—No 4	—
Oshu Sendai—No 2	—
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	650 to 660
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	610 to 620
Sodai—No. 2½	—

Export Raw Silk Tables to 27th Oct., 1893.—

		Season 1893-1894.	1892-93.	1891-92.
		Bales.	Bales.	Bales.
Europe		9,028	8,736	5,867
America		2,375	13,586	11,708
Total	Bales	11,403	22,322	17,575
	Piculs	11,687	22,677	18,063
Settlements and Direct Export from 1st July		Piculs. 13,100	Piculs. 24,900	Piculs. 19,550
Stock, 27th October		15,700	9,800	15,350
Available supplies to date		28,800	34,700	34,900

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WASTE SILK

No great life in this market, but settlements amount to 591 piculs, divided thus: *Noshi*, 374 piculs; *Kibiso* 217 piculs. No shipments on Japanese account this week.

The market continues dull, the stock being further increased. Dealers are nervous and anxious to be moving; but they will not reduce their prices to buyers' terms at present.

There have been two shipping opportunities since we last wrote, the *Benlawers*, 20th instant, getting another instalment of *Pierced Cocoons* for New York, and the *Sydney*, 22nd instant, taking 122 bales for Marseilles. These departures make the present export figures to date 6,579 piculs, against 8,179 piculs last year and 6,170 in the previous year.

Pierced Cocoons.—No business this week, the remaining stock being unattractive and of poor quality.

Noshi—Some purchases have been made on the following basis: *Oshu*, $135; *Hachoji*, $132½; ordinary and common *Joshu*, from $65 to $70; best *Joshu* is still held for long figures and buyers very justly complain of the poor quality and dirty condition of this class of Waste.

Kibiso.—Some business in *Filatures* at $110, with *Sendai* at $90, while ordinary *Joshu* has been done at prices ranging from $35 to $27. In this branch, also, the Wastes are very dirty, being full of chrysalis and spent Cocoons, entailing much extra labour in sorting and cleaning.

In other sorts, no business.

QUOTATIONS—(NEW WASTE).

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	$140 to 145
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	130 to 135
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	120 to 125
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	135 to 140
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best Nom.	135 to 140
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good Nom.	105 to 110
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium Nom.	95 to 100
Noshi-ito—Bushu, Good to Best	120 to 130
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	80 to 85
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	70 to 75
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	60 to 65
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	105 to 110
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	95 to 101
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	70 to 80
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Good to Fair	40 to 35
Kibiso—Joshu, Middling to Common	35 to 30
Kibiso—Hachoji, Good	35 to 30
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	25 to 20
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	—
Mawata—Good to Best	—

Export Table Waste Silk to 27th Oct., 1893:

	Season 1893-94	1892-93.	1891-92.
	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Waste Silk	4,495	6,891	6,077
Pierced Cocoons	2,084	1,288	93
	6,579	8,179	6,170
Settlements and Direct Export from 1st July	8,000	14,700	10,300
Stock, 27th October	18,500	17,800	15,700
Available supplies to date	26,500	32,500	26,000

Exchange. This has risen slightly during the week; but in the scarcity of bills offering is not very strong at the following quotations:—LONDON, 4m/s Credits, 2/5⅞; Documents, 2/6; 6m/s. Credits, 2/6½. NEW YORK, 30d/s. U.S $60; 4m/s. U.S. $61. PARIS, or LYONS, 4m/s. fcs. 3.14.

Estimated Silk Stock, 27th Oct., 1893.—

Raw	Piculs.	Waste.	Piculs.
Hanma	320	Cocoons	1,250
Filatures	8,960	Noshi-ito	8,770
Re-reels	4,860	Kibiso	7,870
Takeda	1,560	Mawata	90
Oshu	160	Sundries	520
Lawsam Kinds	40		
Total piculs	15,700	Total piculs	18,500

TEA

Another featureless week has passed in this market. The small business done has been almost exclusively confined to the lower and medium grades. Stock on offer is fairly large, daily arrivals slightly exceeding sales. Prices show no change.

	Per Picul.
Common	$12 to 13
Good Common	14 to 15
Medium	17 to 18
Good Medium	19 to 20
Fine	22 to 23
Finest	24 to 28
Choice	27 to 29
Choicest	31 to 35

EXCHANGE.

On the week, exchange has shown a slight rise, but rates are not strong.

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	2 5½
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	2 5½
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	2/5½
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	2/6½
On Paris—Bank sight	3·96
On Paris—Private 4 months' sight	3·14
On Hongkong—Bank sight	½ % prem
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	½ % dis
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72½
On Shanghai—Private 10 days sight	73½
On America—Bank Bills on demand	58½
On America—Private 30 days' sight	60
On America—Private 4 months' sight	61
On India—Bank sight	104
Silver	No wire

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The BATHS are filled with a constant and never failing supply from the HOT MINERAL SPRINGS just above the Hotel, the medicinal virtues of which are too well known to need recapitulation. It is sufficient to say that whereas Visitors find many of the hot springs enervating, those at Kowaki-dani are distinctly invigorating.

One of the features of the Kaikatei is the detached Suites of Apartments, where perfect quiet and privacy can be secured. This arrangement for invalids and convalescents from the Tropics is a great desideratum, as being entirely removed from the Dining Room, Billiard Room, Bar, and Baths, while all are connected by covered passages.

To a Liberal Table are added an excellent *Cuisine* and good attendance, supplemented by a large variety of Wines, Spirits, and Malt Liquors of the very best kinds.

For the amusement of Guests, a fine English Billiard Table, by Burroughs and Watts, has been added to the Establishment, as well as Archery, Quoits, and other Games, and Ponies for riding over the hills and a Yacht for sailing on Hakone Lake can be hired.

Visitors to Kowaki-dani who bring a rod with them will be shown the haunts of the speckled Trout, a nice stream of several miles in length being within easy walking distance of the Hotel; Hakone Lake is also well stocked with a variety of fish, including salmon, and the Fishing is FREE; while Entomologists will find rare and valuable specimens in the surrounding hills, and the Flora of the district is extremely interesting to the Botanist.

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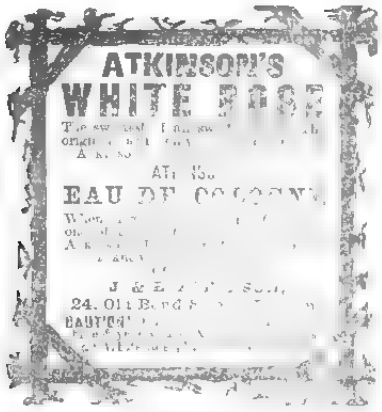

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A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER and Cheques be made payable to same: and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, NOV. 4TH, 1893

BIRTHS

At Iiiamachi, Ichome, Tokyo, on October 29th, the Vicomtesse DE BONDY of a Son

At Sendai on November 1st, 1893, the wife of Rev HERBERT W SWARTZ, M D, of a Daughter.

MARRIAGE

At 255, Bluff, November 1st, 1893, by the Rev. Clay Macauley, IDA MAY CARPENTER to Dr A. GILLMORE SMITH. No cards

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE kerosene oil tanks at Hiranuma have been completed.

THE *Jiyu Shimbun* was allowed to recommence publication on the 28th ult.

FIFTY rice-brokers, of Mayebashi, were arrested for gambling on the 27th ult.

H.M. THE EMPEROR visited the Fine Art Exhibition in Uyeno Park on the 27th ult.

A STATUE of Mr. Fukuzawa was unveiled in that gentleman's school in Tokyo, on Sunday last.

TYPHOID fever and dysentery are still very prevalent in the southern cities and prefectures.

THE concert given at the Central Tabernacle, Tokyo, last week proved a most enjoyable affair.

THE full text of the judgment in the *Chishima-Ravenna* appeal case is published in this issue.

ALL Government officials connected with the Japan Educational Society have now resigned its membership.

THE Kobu Railway Co. have declared a dividend of 10 per cent., carrying forward *yen* 4.559.050, to the next account.

THE Emperor and Empress have been pleased to grant *yen* 1,500 towards the relief of sufferers in the inundated districts of Saga Prefecture, *yen* 1,000 to Nagasaki Prefecture, and *yen* 500 to Yamaguchi Prefecture.

THE amount of damage done in Hiroshima Prefecture by the inundations is roughly estimated at over one million *yen*.

THE Ryomo Railway Co., has distributed 60,000 *yen*, as a dividend amongst its shareholders, and carried forward 4.273.669 *yen*.

THE deciding match of baseball between the U. S. Navy and the Yokohama Club took place on Wednesday, and was won by the Navy men.

THE Autumn meeting of the Nippon Race Club commences on Monday next. The entries are arger than in some previous years and good sport is expected.

MR. TOMITA, the Governor of Tokyo, has resigned. A rumour is current that it is the intention of the Authorities to appoint him President of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

SATURDAY'S sailing race between the B. division boats was declared void, owing to none of the yachts finishing within the time allowed. It was resailed on Friday and won by *Daisy*.

H M THE EMPEROR'S Birthday was suitably celebrated on Friday. A ball and several official dinners took place in Tokyo and Yokohama. A grand review of the Tokyo Garrison was also held.

MADAME MUTSU, is we regret to say, very seriously ill. She was unable to be present at the Foreign Office Ball given on the Emperor's birthday, and Vice-Minister and Madame Hayashi accordingly acted as hosts upon the occasion.

ADMIRAL IRWIN, of the U.S.N., who was ordered to Honolulu by telegraph, left Yokohama on Saturday last. The gallant Admiral was rowed from his late flagship, the *Lancaster*, to the mail-packet by the officers of the U.S. warvessels now in port, his own staff-commander acting as COXSWAIN. He was saluted as he left the anchorage.

A BOATRACE between sailors of the U S. *Marion* and *Lancaster* and a crew from H.M.S. *Imperieuse* took place over a four-mile course on Monday. The *Imperieuse* tars won by something less than a minute. A large amount of money changed hands over the affair, the Americans laying 2 to 1 on their compatriots freely, and there were many takers.

CONSIDERABLE damage was caused by a fire the payment of land tax for the 25th fiscal year which broke out on Sunday evening in the upper storey of the store and showrooms occupied by Messrs. Deakin Bros, No. 38, Yokohama.

THE football season opened in Yokohama on Monday, when an eleven of the Y.A. & A.C. defeated a team from the *Imperieuse*, by five goals to two. White, one of the Yokohama players, unfortunately broke his collar-bone towards the end of the match.

AN action for damages amounting to *yen* 800,000 raised by Advocates Egi Chiu and Takanashi Tetsushiro, counsel for Mr. Mitsui Takayasu, against Mr. Watanabe, Minister of Finance, was decided in the Tokyo Local Court on the 31st ult. in favour of the defendant.

INTELLIGENCE has been received to the effect that a torpedo boat (860 tons), one of the three new vessels which have been ordered by the Japanese Government from a firm in England, was lately completed. The Minister of the Navy proceeded to the Palace on the 27th inst. to report the matter to the Emperor. The Minister is said, under sanction of His Majesty, to have named her the *Tatsuta*.

THE commercial treaty between Austria and Korea, which was being negotiated by the Korean Government and Admiral Becker, the Austrian Ambassador, has been concluded and signed. The Ambassador was admitted to an audience of the King on the 8th inst., and on the following day he left the Korean capital for Jinsen, whence he boarded the *Kaiserin Elisabeth* for home on the 18th. It is stated that the treaty is based on that which exists between Japan and the Peninsular Kingdom. A *Chargé d'Affaires* or a Consul-General is to be sent there, and until the arrival in Korea of the new Austrian diplomatist, business will be entrusted to the German Minister to Korea.

TELEGRAPHIC communication has at length been restored, and Reuter informs us that tenders have been invited in London for two million pounds sterling for six months India Council bills; the negotiations between England and France are progressing favourably; the excitement in Paris over the visit of the Russian sailors went to absurd lengths, the visitors being kissed and hugged upon the streets; the Matabeles have been defeated and the Moors repulsed, with only slight losses to the Europeans engaged in the respective expeditions; Field Marshal MacMahon's funeral was very imposing; General Sargent, formerly commandent of the Hongkong Garrison is dead; the American Admiral in Brazil an waters has been superseded for saluting the rebel squadron at Rio de Janeiro; the Senate has passed the Sherman Repeal Bill; and the Austrian Cabinet has resigned on a question of electoral reform.

THE improvement in the Import trade noted last week has been almost entirely wiped out by a general collapse, and business may fairly be described as at a standstill. The condition of the silver market is responsible for this, buyers being much perplexed at the uncertainty prevailing, and unable in the present state of exchange to venture upon purchases that are actually needed to keep up supplies in the interior. It is needless to particularise the small transactions that have been put through, as in no commodity have they been other than of a retail description in extent. The Manchester market, the Metal trade, and Kerosene are all in the same basket, the Sugar business alone being fairly good, mainly due to small stocks and some enquiry. The principal Export has become a little more lively, and well on to 2,000 p culs of Silk have passed the scales. Holders, on the strength of the business done, try to raise values, but there are so many sellers anxious to close that they have not been able to do so, though some have withdrawn from the market and others will make no further concessions. The trade is in this condition: if a revival takes place in consuming quarters higher prices will have to be paid, whereas if no great demand shortly sets in sellers will be unable to carry the unusually large stock much longer, and will have consequently to unload at whatever rates are offered. Little doing in Waste Silk, and stock continues to increase. There has been a spurt in the Tea trade, as buyers have been willing to pay the prices for which leaf is held, and the higher grades are now scarce and dear. Exchange has further declined, though there is the smallest amount of recovery at the close.

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THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The greater portion of space in the metropolitan papers is taken up with the question of administrative reforms, particular care being bestowed upon the recapitulation of the principal features in the amended Official Organizations and sundry other Ordinances relating to official appointments, the Civil Service examinations, and so forth. The press reserves its final verdict until the changes in *personnel* consequent upon the newly issued Organizations have been completed, and until the new system has been in full force for some time. Yet, as expected by everybody, enough has been said by the Opposition papers, with a significant exception, to make it plain that they are not satisfied with the reforms just made public. It does not, however, signify much whether these papers approve or disapprove of the reforms, for it is well understood by the independent section of the educated classes that nothing short of the transfer of the reins of power into their own hands will satisfy the Progressionists and other parties opposed to the Government. The exception above alluded to is the *Jiyu Shimbun*, the Radical organ, which positively reserves the expression of any opinion on the question until after the matter has been thoroughly studied. Such a cautious attitude is especially remarkable in a paper which has not been distinguished in its past career for either caution or judgment. It must not be understood that we infer from the singular silence of the *Jiyu*, that the Radicals are favourably inclined towards the administrative reforms under consideration. But it may be safely concluded that the Radicals are not so hasty as the Progressionists in forming their judgment on the subject. It is not to be expected that they will give unequivocal approval to these reforms; but the question is whether or not they will join the Progressionists in an indiscriminate condemnation of the measures taken by the Government in this direction. It will not be long before an opportunity is afforded us to acquaint our readers with the attitude of the Radicals on the subject. We give below a resumé of the views of the leading metropolitan journals on this question.

* * *

The *Mainichi Shimbun* (Progressionist) is the most outspokenly opposed to the reforms just made public. To what do these reforms lead? They simply lead, replies our contemporary, to the reduction of a certain amount of public expenses. But what the nation desires most urgently is that the whole character and spirit of the Administration should be changed; in other words, that the present clan system of Government should be replaced by a thoroughly constitutional and enlightened Administration. This was, continues the Progressionist organ, the demand made of the Government by the House of Representatives in the last session; and so long as this demand is not complied with, the Opposition will not slacken its attack on the Cabinet. The *Mainichi* then goes on to repeat its bitter regret that the majority of the Opposition members of the Diet suffered themselves in the last session to be artfully persuaded by a few ambitious schemers into giving a respite to the Cabinet in consideration of the latter's empty promise of reform. The Opposition members of the Diet are earnestly advised not to fall into such a blunder in the coming session, and to fight a decisive battle once for all.

* * *

The *Hochi Shimbun* (Progressionist) is not so doggedly outspoken as the preceding paper. It admits that, so far as the amended official Organizations go, they show a great improvement upon the old ones, and even that they do not admit of any serious criticism. But our contemporary contends that the essential condition of reform lies in the manner in which these Imperial Ordinances are carried out in practice. So it refrains at present from giving any final opinion on the subject, but it may be safely expected that ample pretexts will be discovered by our ingenious contemporary for disapproving the reforms.

* * *

The *Yomiuri Shimbun* (philo-Progressionist) has no difficulty in finding blemishes in the amended Organizations just promulgated. More or less reduction has been effected in the number of officials, but our contemporary condemns the Cabinet's want of courage to introduce decisive reforms. Two facts are adduced to sustain this sweeping criticism. One is that the Cabinet has not been able to readjust the proportion of official salaries on a more impartial basis. All the reformative efforts of the Government in the past have tended to weigh most heavily upon the lowest class of officials, namely, clerks. The *Yomiuri's* demand is not that the salaries of the clerks should be raised, but that those of their superiors should be lowered. The other fact is that the Board of Metropolitan Police has not been abolished. The people, says our contemporary, have long been clamouring for its abolition, for, without maintaining such a costly establishment, the ordinary police affairs can be very economically undertaken by the Tokyo City Government, while the so-called higher police, namely, the political detective department, may be advantageously transferred to the Police Bureau in the Home Office. The *Yomiuri* also criticises most severely the abolition of the Bureau of Statistics and the continuance of the Mining Inspection Office. Thus our contemporary is convinced that the nation will not be satisfied with the present reforms.

* * *

The *Kokumin Shimbun* (Independent Opposition) thinks it too early to form any definite judgment upon the subject of reforms. However, so far as the amendment of the Civil Service Examination Regulations is concerned, our contemporary does not hesitate to give a warm approval to the Cabinet's actions. It is delighted to see the extraordinary privileges enjoyed by the graduates of the Imperial University for official appointment taken away from them, and the official positions virtually thrown open to free competition.

* * *

The *Choya Shimbun* (philo-National Unionist) writes in an equivocal strain. On the one hand, it states that it cannot believe itself justified in giving approval to the present reforms; while, on the other, it advises the Government to take no notice of the unfavourable criticism of the people and go its own way resolutely and courageously. We are at a loss to comprehend the true purport of our contemporary's writings on this subject. In other words, it is impossible to say whether the *Choya* means to be friendly or unfriendly towards the Government.

* * *

The *Nippon* (Independent) agrees with the Opposition papers in declaring that the revision of Official Organizations is not co-extensive with the reform of the Administration, and that mere reduction of public expenses is totally insufficient to satisfy the public. Our contemporary even suggests that the reduction of expenditure and the official staff may in some cases be detrimental to the reform of the Administration.

* * *

The *Kokkai* (Independent), while refusing the Cabinet the credit of having satisfactorily acquitted itself of the task of reform, acknowledges that those in power have done something to satisfy the demand of the people in so far as the reduction of public expenses goes. Our contemporary has much to say in praise of the changes introduced in the Civil Service Examination Regulations, though on several points it considers that further amendments are desirable. What now remains for the Cabinet to accomplish in the way of reform is, in the opinion of the *Kokkai*, that official discipline should be enforced more rigorously, or, to put it in a more concrete form, that certain officials who have proved themselves unworthy of confidence should be dismissed from office.

* * *

The *Jiji Shimpo* thinks that those in power are too honest in their attitude towards the Opposition; in other words, that they make a great mistake in taking their opponents seriously. The latter are clamouring for reforms in the Government, especially for reduction of public expenses, but their true object is not reform but mere opposition to the Government. The Cabinet does not seem to understand this open secret of political strife in this country, and honestly taking the Opposition at its word, has effected large reductions in the number of officials and in public expenses. Under these circumstances, no amount of reforms can give satisfaction to the Opposition politicians. Our contemporary is under serious apprehension that the reductions just introduced may be injurious to the despatch of business. It frequently happens in a private store or company that the true object of economy is best attained by reducing the number of employés and at the same time raising their salaries, so that they may be induced to work more diligently and conscientiously. The same must hold true in the case of a Government office. The *Jiji* is filled with serious misgivings as to the consequences of thinning the official ranks on an extensive scale without at the same time increasing the salaries of those remaining at their posts, who are necessarily called upon to do much more work than before.

* * *

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* (Independent supporter of the Cabinet) has commenced a series of able articles commenting upon the present reforms. These articles will be reproduced at some length when they have been concluded. Suffice it here to refer to the opening article, which contains general remarks upon the subject. Our contemporary states that the present reforms are more systematic and thorough-going than any hitherto carried out. So far as public expenses go, the Cabinet no doubt recognizes the right of the Diet to interfere to a certain extent, and economy having been effected to the extent suggested by the people's Representatives, the Diet will have no further cause of complaint on this score. As to the organization of the different branches of the Administration, that is a sphere in which the Cabinet will never allow the Diet's interference. Moreover, in effecting these reforms, the Government's object is not to pacify the Diet but to promote the interests of the country. Whether these reforms are beneficial or not, must be decided from the results of their operation in practice.

* * *

The conduct of Mr. Tsuji and his adherents, in trying to turn the Japan Educational Society into an instrument of political agitation against the Minister of Education, is unfavourably commented upon by the metropolitan papers. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* tells Mr. Tsuji and his zealous cooperator, Mr Isawa, that, but for their former positions in the Department of Education they would have counted little in the educational sphere. As to their official career, our contemporary does not scruple to say that the present Government is compelled to undo much of what they have done. Under these circumstances, they are at liberty to oppose the policy of the present Minister of Education, but they are recommended to do so without dragging educationalists and educational associations into the vortex of party politics. The *Choya Shimbun* writes in nearly the same strain. The *Kokumin Shimbun*, though acknowledging that the Minister of Education was perfectly justified in striking a deathblow at the Japan Educational Society, regrets that he has not proceeded in a more magnanimous and tranquil manner. Such strong measures like that which he has just taken of prohibiting all school teachers from joining that Society, will, in our contemporary's opinion, only serve to furnish a new impetus to the agitation against him.

* * *

The question of Mixed Residence continues to occupy an important position in the columns of the metropolitan papers. The *Jiyu Shimbun* has concluded its series of articles on this subject. Our contemporary observes, among other things, that the arrogance of foreigners,

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which is one of the most patent causes of the present agitation against their admission into the interior, is the result of the maintenance of Consular Jurisdiction. Bring them under Japanese jurisdiction, and our contemporary is confident that an important change will take place in their behaviour towards the people whose hospitality they enjoy. The Radical organ, while thus strongly condemning the anti-Mixed Residence movement, urges the authorities to enforce the existing treaties according to their proper interpretation, so that foreigners may be induced to desire the abolition of a system which, when rightly applied, cannot fail to be inconvenient to them.

* * *

The *Hochi Shimbun* denounces the folly of agitating against the opening of the country for Mixed Residence. Such an agitation will simply serve to supply the Cabinet with a pretext to put off the revision of treaties. The Progressionist organ advises its countrymen to unite their voices in urging the Cabinet to resume negotiations for Treaty Revision at the earliest opportunity.

* * *

The *Fiji Shimpo* is never wearied of raising its powerful voice in deprecation of the present anti-foreign movement. In a recent article, our contemporary advises the manufacturers and business men in the local centres such as Tokyo, Kyoto, Osaka, Nagoya, and so forth to set up a counter movement to the absurd agitation against Mixed Residence. If left to itself, this agitation, fears the *Fiji*, may do serious mischief to the foreign trade of the country. The manufacturers and merchants will be directly affected by such results, and they are, therefore, urged to put forth their utmost exertions to avert such a serious calamity.

* * *

Comments are appearing on the decision of the Shanghai Court of Appeal on the *Chishima-Ravenna* affair. The importance of the subject as well as the want of space here makes it advisable to devote a special note to it.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

SINCERITY AND SCRUPULOSITY.

The Japanese Codes, says the *Nippon*, have been mostly drafted by M. Boissonade. The Criminal Code and the Code of Criminal Procedure are already enforced, and in the wake of these the Civil Code had been codified under the warm patronage of the late Count Yamada and was about going to be put into execution. Owing to various causes, however, the enforcement of the last Code has been postponed by a resolution of the Diet, and it has since been placed under the deliberation of the Codes Investigation Committee specially appointed for the purpose, with Count Ito at the head. The treatment which the Civil Code is receiving at the hands of the Committee appears to be of a character far from kind, for it has been so far mutilated that its original shape can scarcely be recognized. The sentiments of the originator and framer of the Code at this state of affairs may well be imagined. M. Boissonade at last wrote a long essay in which the spirit in which the Code had been framed was given, as well as such explanations as he deemed useful for the mode of arrangement of the Code and the provisions contained therein. With the essay in his pocket, the celebrated jurist waited on Count Ito, the Premier, and taking out the document asked him to read it and to send it round to his colleagues if he thought fit. The Count, however, declined not only to read the document himself but to place it before his fellow members on the Committee; and no one could imagine why. A few days after, the Count told some one of the matter and gave his reasons for not receiving the document. This is, the Count is said to have remarked, that a moiety of the members of the Committee is composed of those who have received instruction under M. Boissonade, and so if he had received the essay, which must have contained the outpouring of the author's earnest thought, and shown it to those members, they might have been influenced by it, there being between them and the French jurist relations of such a special kind. The consequence of any such contingency would have been anything but beneficial to the objects kept in view by the Committee, for the amendments and any alteration thusfar effected with respect to the Code might not unlikely be restored once more to the shape originally drafted by M. Boissonade. Such being the case, the Count had declined, though he thought it a little unkind in him to do so, to receive the document from M. Boissonade. One of the Committee was far from being satisfied when he heard this story He admitted indeed that there are many in the Committee who are under special obligations to M. Boissonade, but then, said he, if it be remembered that they were appointed to the Committee as authorities worthy of such special treatment, they must be looked upon as scholars who are not wanting in the scholar's spirit. Because they have the notions and spirit of scholars, they have already applied a great amendment to the Code and are still doing so. He thinks, in short, that his colleagues are beyond being affected in their opinions once arrived at, even if they read this or any such essay by M. Boissonade. He even imagines that if the essay be of such a grave character its persua. would be more advantageous and less injurious to the members of the Committee. Altogether he is inclined to wonder at the precaution of the Count, which he rather regards as being over-scrupulous.

JAPANESE YOUNG LADIES' EDUCATIONAL SOCIETY.

A CONCERT will be given under the auspices of the above association, of which Princess Mori and Marchioness Nabeshima are President and Vice-Presdent respectively, on the 11th inst., in the Korakuyen, Mito Yashiki, at one o'clock in the afternoon. Should the day turn out wet it will be postponed until the 12th. Further particulars will be announced in proper course. We may add that it is proposed to devote the proceeds to the Girls' School in connection with the Association, the results of which hitherto appear to have been most satisfactory.

THE FOUNDRY INVESTIGATION COMMITTEE.

A MEETING of this Committee was held on the 25th ultimo at the usual place. The report on the inspection of the iron mines of Kamaishi and Sennin was unanimously approved by the Committee. This part of the business of the day finished, the answers to the questions, put by two members of the Committee, Messrs. Wada and Sengoku, were given in person by Count Goto, Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, as promised at the previous meeting of the Committee. With respect to the question of Mr. Wada, whether the Government intends to take the foundry under its control or leave it to private enterprise, the Count replied that, as the result of thorough investigation on this point the Government had found it better to leave the matter to the conduct of private persons, first, on the ground that the affair was a business enterprise, and secondly that competition would inevitably ensue with foreign enterprises of the same kind. From such considerations the Government concluded, replied the Count, that it would be advisable to leave the matter to private enterprise. To the other question put by Mr. Sengoku as to the limit of time in which the Government expected to conclude the present investigation, the Count declared that the Government expects to have the investigation concluded by the opening of the 5th session of the Diet, so that it may submit the result of the Committee's deliberation to the legislature. This reply evoked a question from Baron Ozawa, who said that if the Government had really decided to place the business under private enterprise as declared by the Count, what necessity was there to bring the matter before the Diet? The Count then said that the object of the Government in placing the matter before the Diet was to settle the amount of guaranteed profits to be accorded to the business. Mr. Hadano said that if the Government had arrived at such a conclusion with respect to these points, he should like to know whether the decision had been arrived at after the organization of the Investigation Committee or previous to it? The Count evaded any definite reply to the question, by saying that he could not remember on what day the decision had been arrived at, and reminded the members that the replies he had just made to the questions put to him had been endorsed by the Cabinet. He then left the room.

A NEW DEPARTURE IN LAWSUITS BETWEEN JAPANESE AND FOREIGNERS.

The Yokohama Local Court has inaugurated a new departure, says the vernacular press, with respect to lawsuits between Japanese and foreign merchants. Mr. Peter Burnside, No. 76, of the Yokohama Concession, has sued Mr. Inouye Kichitaro of Osaka in the Local Court on a claim for money which the former is said to have owed him. The plaintiff was represented by Mr. Ino Shutaro, a member of the local bar, and the defendant by Mr. Ozuka Seikichi, another barrister, while Judge Akiyama of the Court presided. Counsel for the Defendant pleaded that in consequence of the provisions of Art. X. of Civil Procedure, the claimant had no right to sue the defendant in a place where the latter was not living. Against this, Counsel for the plaintiff contended that it was not only perfectly legitimate for the plaintiff to make, according to the Regulations for Instituting Lawsuits by Foreigners, issued in 1873, the treaty port where the foreigner concerned is living, a place of legal jurisdiction, but that in accordance with the provisions of Art. XVIII. of Civil Procedure, he thought it quite proper to regard the action in question as coming under the jurisdiction of the Yokohama Court where the contract had originally been made. The Court found, on the 20th instant, in favour of the defendant, and declared that an action instituted by a foreigner should confirm with the provisions of the Civil Procedure and should consider the place where the defendant was living as the legal place of jurisdiction. It is not stated in the vernacular press whether the plaintiff has submitted to this judgment or has given notice to the Court of appeal to a higher tribunal.

INCREASE OF GAOLERS' SALARIES.

As an effect of Imperial Ordinance No. 115, lately issued with respect to increasing the salaries of gaolers, the *Mainichi Shimbun* states that the local expenditure must be affected to no small degree. To furnish an example of the case in Tokyo, the *Mainichi* has found that both in the number of gaolers and the amount of their salaries the tendency has already been toward an increase in late years. In the 24th fiscal year, for example, there were 256 gaolers with aggregate salaries of 24,576 *yen* or $8 per month on the average, but in consequence of Imperial Ordinance No. 229 issued in the previous year, in which it is provided that for gaolers of several years' service a salary from 12 to 15 *yen* should be bestowed, the average salary of gaolers serving in the Tokyo Municipality rose to 8 25 *yen* in the 25th year. The number of gaolers having been raised at the same time, the result was an increase of 29,007 *yen* in the item of gaolers' salaries. In the present fiscal year the number of gaolers being 316, the item of salaries stood at 31,284 *yen*, in spite of the average remuneration remaining stationary. The late Ordinance provided that the lowest limit of salaries of gaolers should be raised by two *yen*; and if it be supposed that 200 gaolers out of 316 are receiving the low salaries of 6 or 7 *yen*, then for 100 gaolers at 6 *yen* salary there accrues a monthly increase of 200 *yen*, while for another 100 at 7 *yen* another increase of 100 *yen*. In other words an additional charge of 3,600 *yen* per annum would be borne by the Tokyo municipality from the next year, with respect to salaries alone, and if to this the increased rate of pensions and rewards to gaolers be added, the total increase would amount to no insignificant sum.

EDUCATIONAL AFFAIRS.

A CERTAIN vernacular newspaper writes, as the opinion held by an eminent educationalist on the educational feature of the day, that the conflict of views between the educational authorities in

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and out of power, cannot but be beneficial in result. Educational matters in Japan, he holds, have thus far been conducted in a very quiet way, not because there was nothing to be said against the policy pursued so much as because there was no educationalist among the people who had weight enough to oppose the policy of the Department. Messrs. Tsuji and Izawa have filled this gap, and though agitation about educational affairs, as seen on the present occasion, may strike the public as peculiar, such things being very rare in Japan thus far, nothing is more common in the West, where the people are deeply interested about the education of their sons or brothers. That the conflict is beneficial to the real development of education may even be proved by the fact that whereas the present Minister had no particular inclination to ask the Treasury for aid toward common education, the agitation has subsequently induced him to adopt this very step.

THE CABINET AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

THE *Nippon* quotes a statement said to have been made by Count Ito to a visitor, to the effect that, as the reform of internal affairs is about to be completed, the Government will hereafter proceed to the carrying out of its foreign policy. Of even greater interest than this brief announcement of the Premier, however, are the comments alleged to have been evoked by it from a certain able official having great influence in the Cabinet—probably Mr. Ito Miyoji, Chief Secretary of the Cabinet. He is reported to have made the following remarks:—"The Premier no doubt means to say that if the reforms about to be introduced in the Administration are favourably received in the fifth session of the Diet, he will begin, early next year, to direct his attention to the carrying out of his long meditated foreign policy. But it must not be supposed that the Cabinet will be hasty in undertaking the task of Treaty Revision. So long as the people are still divided on this subject, and so long, especially, as the public mind is ready to be swayed by the absurd doctrine of the prematureness of Mixed Residence, the Government will be disposed to consider twice before resuming negotiations with the Treaty Powers. The Minister President means by foreign policy his policy towards Korea and China, or in other words his Eastern policy. His object is doubtless to realize his cherished ideas in that direction. Not until after that question has been satisfactorily disposed of, will Count Ito take up the question of Treaty Revision. In carrying out his foreign policy, he will attend to the work in person and leave little to be done by the Minister of Foreign Affairs or by the Japanese Representatives in the countries concerned. That is the reason why Mr. Otori, contrary to public expectation, has not been displaced." Such in brief is the gist of the comments on the Premier's policy, attributed to an unnamed official. The story is likely enough, although we cannot vouch for the complete accuracy of our contemporary's version.

THE GOVERNOR OF TOKYO

THE change in the *personnel* of the Governor of Tokyo has taken the public completely by surprise. Even the Secretary of the City Government and the Committee of the Municipal Council are said to have been entirely ignorant of the event, until the new Governor, Mr. Miura, presented himself at the office and made announcement of his appointment. It is stated that the former Governor, Mr. Tomita, had sent in his resignation only a few days previously on the usual ground of ill-health. Various suppositions are made as to the real cause of his retirement. One set of persons believe that he has given offence to his superiors by the partiality he has shown to the Great Japan Union and the anti-Mixed Residence movement. Another class of gossipers maintain that his resignation is to be ascribed to the unpopular action he took, in the capacity of Mayor, in connection with the contract with the Iron foundry for the supply of pipes to the Tokyo Water Works. Whatever may have been the cause of his retirement, we are happy to state that Mr. Tomita is mentioned in the press extremely favourably. Though he has not done anything brilliant, he has succeeded in winning the confidence of the public as a thoroughly upright and disinterested official.

* * *

His successor, we need not say, is a well known figure in the political field. Mr. Miura Yasushi hails from the Prefecture of Wakayama. He is some years past sixty, but he is an active man, reputed to be very clever. He has been very conspicuously associated with the Government from the time of the Restoration, having served both in the Home and Finance Departments as well as in the Senate. He is now a prominent member of the Upper House, where he enjoys the reputation of being a man of independent judgment. He is believed to be a more progressive man than his predecessor. His appointment has caused no small astonishment, because, like his friend Viscount Tani, he is believed to have sometimes opposed the Government in the House of Peers. People evidently do not know that he is a sincere admirer of Count Ito. At all events, the inhabitants of the capital are to be congratulated on obtaining such a capable Governor.

A WONDERFUL PULPIT

A MEMORIAL of no ordinary interest, says the *World*, was inaugurated a few days ago at Menheniot, the picturesque Cornish village in which the Trelawnys of Coldrenick were already located when William of Wykeham held the living. The Trelawnys have given England a good many gallant soldiers and sailors since the days of the Plantagenets, but none of them were more popular than the late Admiral Trelawny-Jago, whose virtues are to be perpetuated by the wonderful pulpit and lectern in carved oak upon which Mr. Harry Hems has been working for more than a year past. In the former are several elaborate panels in which Mr. Hems treats very dexterously a series of sea-subjects, ranging from the well-known episodes of the New Testament to H.M.S. *Enterprise* ice-blocked in a frozen sea, and H.M.S. *Raleigh* running in the teeth of a stiff gale between Australia and Cape Horn. The chief feature of the lectern is a large figure of the celebrated Bishop of Winchester.

COLLAPSE OF THE NICARAGUA CANAL SCHEME.

NEWS comes from New York, says the *Mexican Financier*, that the Nicaragua Canal Company has gone into the hands of a receiver. It appears that the company, in common with nearly all business enterprises in the United States, has been seriously affected by the financial stringency of the past few months, and being unable to secure money to meet immediate obligations, had no course left but to make a public confession of its condition. It is extremely improbable now that the company will secure a money grant from the American Congress, as, if the United States decides to make the canal, its most obvious and dignified course will be to go to work on its own account rather than resuscitate a bankrupt company. It appears, therefore, that the Nicaragua Canal and Construction Company, which at one time seemed to have success within its grasp, will swell the already long list of abortive attempts to account the manifest advantages of the Nicaragua route for an interoceanic waterway. It by no means follows, however, that the canal will never be built, and in common with all those who regard its completion as intimately associated with the prosperity of the west coast of Mexico, we hope that not many years will elapse before a company will be organized with strong financial backing to carry this important enterprise to a successful issue.

TOKYO TRAMWAY COMPANY.

THE Tokyo Tramway Company held a special meeting of prominent shareholders on the 23rd instant, to discuss the substitution of horse-power by electricity. Messrs. Mudaguchi, Chairman and Nakano, Manager, of the Company, and such important shareholders as Messrs. Mayejima Mitsu, Wakao Ippei, Watanabe Jiyemon, and lastly the advising experts of the Company, attended the meeting. After due consultation on the merits of the proposed scheme, it was decided unanimously to effect the change. The sum required is estimated at 230,000 *yen*, to meet which it was decided to increase the present amount of capital of about 400,000 *yen* to 700,000 *yen* in all. The additional shares will, it is believed, be taken up by the present shareholders, at the rate of 435 for every share now owned. The opinion of the larger shareholders being decided in this way, the matter will next be submitted to the shareholders at large, at a meeting to be held on the 4th proximo, when a final decision will be arrived at.

ST ANDREW'S SOCIETY.

THERE was a large attendance of members at the fifth annual meeting of the Yokohama St. Andrew's Society held at the Chamber of Commerce on Monday evening. Mr. J. D. Hutchinson, President of the Society, occupied the Chair. The Committee's report for 1882-93, together with the Hon. Treasurer's statement of accounts were submitted and passed. The balance at the credit of the Society is now $168.07, excluding the balance of 1892 Ball account. The Society has recovered $82.89 of the sum of $276.32 which was at the Society's credit in the books of the New O.B.C., when that institution closed its doors. The deaths of two prominent members were mourned, Mr C. D. Haliburton and Mr. W. G. Cameron. The membership of the Society at present numbers 83, of whom 29 are on the absent list. The following office-bearers for 1893-94 were elected:—President, J. D. Hutchinson; Vice-President, G. C. Buchanan-Dunlop; Committee H. Steele, J. Troup, D. McNeill, R. W. Borthwick, and C. M. Duff; Hon. Treasurer, Geo. Philip; Hon. Sec., Chas. W. Ure. It was resolved to celebrate St. Andrew's Day by a Ball on the lines of last year. Several new members were elected and the meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the chairman.

OSAKA AND YOKOHAMA WATERWORKS.

A TELEGRAM from Osaka, dated the 30th ult., received by the *Asahi Shimbun*, states that the contract for the supply of 32,200lbs. of 9ft. iron pipes for the Osaka Waterworks has been given to the American Trading Co.

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The *Boyeki Shimbun* says that tenders for the contract to supply iron pipes for repairs to the Yokohama Waterworks were received and opened at the Waterworks Office on the 30th ultimo. The following tenders were received:—*Yen* 22,077 by the China and Japan Trading Co.; *yen* 22,140 by Messrs. Raspe & Co.; and *yen* 37,000 by Messrs. Illies & Co.

BYRON UP TO DATE.

MR. MASON, late of Chinkiang, says the *N.-C. Daily News*, has succeeded in getting two London papers, the *Daily Chronicle* and the *Pall Mall Gazette*, to insert a long letter from himself vindicating his conduct. In the course of it he says that he begged the Consul to allow him to be handed over to the Chinese authorities for punishment, if by so doing he could save his servants from torture; and he winds up his letter with the following account of his motives:—"The truth concerning my action is then simply this: Young, inexperienced, and quixotic, I threw myself and my small funds with blind ardour in what I believed, and believe, a great design for the amelioration of the lot of a people whom I still regard as possessed of the grandest qualities of any nation, and the opening up to our trade of a country which others besides me know to be the finest market left in the world for our produce and shipping. Devoid of prudence, I was easily cajoled into sharing the rash precipitancy of certain of the conspirators; and although before I took any open steps at all I knew that the plot was bound to fail, and also that I was being betrayed, my honour was so far engaged that nothing remained for me but to go forward with

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my engagement and allow myself to be arrested, and submit to everything in silence rather than let cross-examination force from me the slightest incrimination of others. I have paid the price of my quixotism in the disgrace and suffering of a prison, the most shameful of odiums, the destruction of all hope or prospect in life, and destitution. Sacrifices that are glorious in a poet, and for Greece, are criminal in a clerk, and for China." That last plea is entirely delicious. But Mr. Mason forgets that Lord Byron was not receiving the pay of the Government against whom he strove. That makes some little difference.

MR. SAITO ON THE NEWLY SANCTIONED EXCHANGES.

MR. SAITO, Vice-Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, invited on the 27th ult. the Exchanges' Committee to his residence and addressed them upon the future of the recently sanctioned exchanges. Art. I of the Exchange Regulations, observed the Vice-Minister, provides that business men living in places where mercantile transactions are actively going on, may, by applying to the Government for sanction, establish exchanges for transactions in one or several kinds of staple commodities, and these provisions are based on the idea that if an exchange be established at a place where business transactions are practically non-existent its establishment will not conduce to the generating of business. Consequently, in places where the scope of commercial transactions is greatly limited, no benefit will accrue from the establishment of an exchange. When the speaker occupied the post of Chief of the Bureau for Commerce and Industry, he carried out thorough researches, based on the circumstances of various cities and towns, as to the conditions necessary for the establishment of exchanges, and submitted the results to his superiors. The reports which Mr. Wakamiya, Mr. Saito's successor, presented upon the same question bore out the conclusions previously arrived at. The Vice-Minister reminded his hearers of the responsibilities attaching to those persons upon whom the management of exchanges devolved, and he reminded them that it was their duty so to conduct matters relating to licensed exchanges as to conduce to the development of just and honest business. They must already be aware of the fact that in exchanges the promotion of individual interests alone should be strictly avoided, for exchanges were established for the public benefit, and therefore the promotion of the general credit of the merchant class should be held in view. Past experiences had taught him that not unfrequently shareholders in exchanges thought more of the realization of gain, and let the question of public interest take care of itself. Judging from past experience, Mr. Saito feared that various obstacles might be encountered by those gentlemen who had to steer their respective exchanges through the first few years of existence, but he trusted they would not confound their private with the public interest, but by exercising great prudence in their management attain the objects aimed at by the Government when these exchanges were first conceived.

DETAILED RULES FOR THE INSPECTION OF VESSELS OF FOREIGN STYLE.

THE Detailed Rules for the Inspection of Vessels of Foreign Style now in force have been thoroughly revised and improved by Ordinance No. 18 of the Department of Communications issued on the 21st instant. The amended Rules are to go into operation from the 1st of January next. The most noteworthy feature of improvement is that considerably more attention is paid to the comforts and health of passengers. It has been the constant complaint of passengers on board the steamers plying in the Inland Sea and in other arms of sea, as well as on rivers, that sufficient space is not allotted to them to sit and breathe. Under the existing Rules, the number of passengers that can be lawfully packed into a space of 6 *shaku* square is, in the case of steamers now under consideration 4 in the first, 5 in the second, and 6 in the third class. But practically even the narrow limits prescribed by law have often been set aside by shipowners, and passengers have not unfrequently been literally packed together like so many sheep or cattle. The new Rules provide for each passenger nearly six times more space, the minimum limits being for each person 9 *shaku* square in the first, 6 in the second, and 4½ in the third, class. Similar improvements are noticed in the case of the larger ships plying between the open ports and visiting Korea and that part of Russian territory which faces the Sea of Japan, as well as in the case of those ships which go to other foreign countries. It is to be earnestly hoped that the authorities will henceforth take more stringent steps to prevent shipowners from disregarding the excellent rules just issued

THE SHANGHAI JUBILEE.

AT a meeting of the Committee of General Purposes, held at the Council Board Room on the 16th ultimo, says the *North China Daily News*, the following programme of ceremonies and processions to take place during the Jubilee Holidays, 17th and 18th November, was arranged and adopted, subject to such modifications as may hereafter be found necessary:

FRIDAY, 17TH NOVEMBER.

9 a.m.—Volunteers with Band, in company with men from the ships of war willing to co-operate to assemble on vacant ground near the Customs Club, march out by Garden Bridge, Nanking Road, Maloo, Race Course, returning to Bund at 11.15 Fountain in Garden from 9 till noon.

11.30 a.m.—Public address by the Rev. Wm Muirhead delivered from raised platform on foreshore between Nanking and Peking Roads, military to form square round speaker and ladies

12 Noon.—Salute of 50 guns by Artillery and men-of-war

1 p.m.—Banquet to be given at place hereafter decided.

2 p.m.—Children's Fête, games, etc., on Race Course.

6 p.m. to 9 o'clock—Jubilee Fountain in Public Garden, illuminated

8.30 p.m.—Illumination of Bund, Nanking Road, Maloo, Garden Bridge and part of Hongkew. Torchlight procession of Shanghai Volunteer Fire Brigade. Route to be hereafter arranged

10 p.m.—Display of fireworks from three places on Bund.

SATURDAY, 18th NOVEMBER.

9 to 12 Noon.—Fountain in Public Garden.

11 a.m.—Procession of Native Guilds. Route to be arranged hereafter.

4 to 7 p.m.—A.D.C Performance for children at Lyceum Theatre

8 to 11 p.m.—Illuminated Fountain in Public Garden.

The Chairmen of the Committees are:—

General Committee	Mr. N. J. Hannen.
Decoration Committee	Mr F M Gratton.
Banquet Committee	Mr. J Macgregor.
Children's Committee	Mr J. Welch.
General Purposes	Mr. D. C. Jansen.

* * *

Meanwhile, a great deal of indignation is felt and expressed by various residents at the frivolity and extravagance of this programe. One correspondent suggests that Tls. 3,000 of the Tls. 5,000 to be spent might more practically be devoted to making the nucleus of a fund for building a Sanitarium on one of the Saddles. He writes, sensibly enough, as we think, as follows:—

"A building could easily have been started on this, and a few subsequent subscriptions would complete it. This would be a Jubilee benefit indeed to all, and one which is more urgently needed every year now Shanghai has become a place of residence to many for life, and where so many little ones, occasionally absolutely requiring a breath of fresh sea air, and who could not obtain it any other way, are growing up around us.

I am sure there are many who would like to see some tangible and lasting memento of our fast-approaching Jubilee, and not let the occasion slip by in empty and half-hearted festivities which will soon be forgotten, and the funds voted for the purpose frittered away in the passing enjoyment of a holiday alone."

THE PRESS ON THE LATEST KOREAN TROUBLE.

THE excitement caused among the Japanese residents in Korea, as well as their countrymen at home, about the proposed prohibition of the export of rice and beans from the peninsular kingdom on the ground of a bad harvest, at one time threatened to bring about another complication between the two countries. But, thanks to the prompt action of the Japanese Representative at Sōul, as well as to the friendly attitude of the Korean Government, the matter has been brought to a satisfactory issue, as already noticed in these columns. The press in Tokyo, in commenting upon this subject, seems to be agreed in welcoming the arrangement as being eminently fair and satisfactory. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, for instance, expresses the sentiments of the intelligent portion of the public, when it rejoices to receive the news of the satisfactory ending of the present trouble as an indication of Korea's friendly attitude toward this Empire. While sympathizing with the alarm occasioned to the Japanese in Korea by the proposed action of the Sōul authorities, our contemporary at the same time is ready to acknowledge it as a fact that the harvest, though not justifying apprehensions of a famine, has not been in some parts of the peninsula as good as usual. It is not unfrequent in Korea that greedy local officials prohibit the export of grain merely for the sake of personal aggrandisement. But in the present instance, the project originated from officials in the capital who cannot be accused of such mean motives. From these circumstances, the *Nichi Nichi* remarks that it would ill become the Japanese Government to resist *in toto* the measures proposed by the Korean authorities, and that, consequently, the arrangement just effected by Mr. Otori must be regarded as being the best that could be expected under the circumstances. "We do not hesitate," says our contemporary in conclusion, "to attribute the prompt settlement of the matter to Mr. Otori's experienced management and to the friendly sentiments of the Korean Government towards Japan. It is our especial delight to recognize the important service rendered by our Representative, who has been able without loss of time to protect the interest of his countrymen in Korea without giving any offence to the Korean Government in the exercise of the right reserved to it by the treaty."

THE KINGSIN LINE FREIGHTS.

"THE Look-out Man" writes in *Fairplay*:—As a specimen of the extreme length to which competition in shipping is carried in the present day, the following remarkable instance may be given. The Kingsin Line is, and for some time has been, carrying pig iron from Hamburg to Japan at 10s. per ton. As a result of this excessively low freight it pays shippers to send pig iron from Middlesbrough to Hamburg to be reshipped from there to the East, and this in spite of the large number of steamers sailing from Middlesbrough. The effect has been to cause English lines in the China Conference to lower their rates from Hamburg, where many of them touch, to 10s., at which rate they are taking all classes of measurement, and Hamburg is essentially a measurement port. So far as I can learn, the Kingsin Line is by no means disturbed at this competition, and, in fact, has gone so far, it is said, as to politely advise one of the principal English lines concerned to give its exclusive attention to its own internal affairs.

MR. HOSHI V. THE "KAISHIN SHIMBUN."

THE fifth hearing of the Hoshi v. *Kaishin Shimbun* libel case took place on the 25th ultimo. The witnesses examined were some Exchange people and the keeper of a *jinrikisha* house. Evidence given by them has brought out nothing whatever to confirm the libellous allegation preferred against the President of the House of Representatives. The facts related were merely repetitions of what had been stated over and over again by the earlier witnesses in the case. A certain amount of interest had attached to the examination of the men called to the bar on the present occasion. We allude to a broker belonging to the Tokyo Rice Exchange, Nagayama Shohei by name, who had been claimed by another witness in the proceeding to have once told the latter that he had been the means of carrying, by Mr. Yonekura's request, a present of 1,000 *yen* to a certain unnamed individual. It had, therefore, not unnaturally been expected by the counsel for the defendants as well as by the gossip-loving public,

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that some clue to the alleged corruption of the distinguished Radical might be wrung out of this witness. But such hopes were cruelly disappointed. Nagayama emphatically and totally denied that he had ever made any such declaration, and asserted in the most positive manner that he had never stooped to be the means of corruption. He was repeatedly cautioned that, if he did not tell the truth, he would lay himself open to the charge of giving false evidence, but he every time repeated the same denial and assertion. One of the counsel for the defendants was mean and absurd enough actually to request the Presiding Judge to commit the resolute witness on a charge of giving false evidence, a request which, it is needless to say, was not granted. The Public Procurator called the attention of the counsel for the defendants to the advisability of discontinuing the examination of any other witness unless there was reason to believe that such witness was in a position to give any valuable evidence. No date was fixed for the next hearing of the case; that was to be determined upon the receipt of documents from Osaka concerning the examination of some witnesses who were to have been summoned to the Local Court there.

ARREST OF USURERS IN KYOTO.

THE Kyoto Police have lately taken a decided step with usurers in that city. The Branch of the Hiroshima Doaisha has been most notorious for its merciless and exacting way of conducting business. The clerks of the branch office, doing nefarious business in various parts of the city, have now been arrested on the charge of fradulent appropriation of money, and though there were about 100 persons liable, the majority appeared to have got scent of what was coming, so that little more than 40 persons are said to have been found when constables went to get hold of them. Books and documents found in offices and at the houses of these clerks have been seized, as well as a sum of about 20,000 *yen*. It is said that little less than 100,000 persons have been discovered as suffering at the hands of these usurers, including not a few persons of distinction in the city. The Kyoto Local Court is to examine these 180 persons (when the rest are caught) and the 100,000 sufferers, and the judges should indeed brace up their arms to finish the business thus devolving on their shoulders with due promptitude. But how long will it take to examine 100,000 sufferers?

VISCOUNT TANI ON THE CONTROL OF RIVERS.

WHILE confidently believing in suitable measures being applied to the devastation wrought by the recent storm in Chugoku, Shikoku, and Kyushu, the Viscount is extremely solicitous at the same time that no such scandals as have been disgracing the earthquake affair in Gifu should be repeated in this instance. He thinks also that no temporizing measure can be of any service for the control of rivers which prove so destructive year after year, and hopes that both the Government and Diet will aim, by giving due consideration to the subject, to fix a definite and far-reaching policy for the control of rivers and to adopt the most efficacious and accurate measures. As to the causes which bring about inundations in this country, the Viscount enumerates in the first place the immoderate felling of trees, then the construction of railways, and the inefficient method of gauging rainfall. The general configuration of the land makes the construction of railways peculiarly conducive toward bringing about inundations. The land being elevated along the middle part, in shape just like the back of a horse, the construction of railways running north and south cannot fail, according to the Viscount, to impede the flow of waters coming down from that elevation. The Viscount is the last person to oppose the construction of railways, and his motive in drawing public attention to this point is to convince them of the special necessity of deliberating on the relation of railway construction and inundations. The method now adopted by the authorities to gauge the amount of rainfall is considered by the Viscount too simple to be exact and reliable. A ruled pole is merely fixed upon the banks of a stream, and the amount of rainfall is estimated by looking at the elevated level of the waters as indicated by the pole. Such a method can never be precise, for, thinks the Viscount, the ratio of the rise of river surface does not necessarily depend on the amount of rainfall. Some rivers may rise to a degree quite out of proportion to the amount of rainfall, while still others may be found entirely different. In short, as the cause of inundation may not necessarily be ascribable to the amount of rainfall alone, but may also be due to changes in the rivers themselves, to embankments, and other devices, it becomes important to gauge the amount of rainfall by a precise method, and to ascertain the real causes of the floods. In conclusion, the Viscount laid stress on the necessity of establishing an independent Board of Public Works, the head of which shall be held strictly responsible for any thing undertaken by the Board; the method adopted in the time of the Tokugawa Regency. The Viscount considers that the responsibility which is now borne, if any, by those who are made to conduct works is entirely unsatisfactory. So small is the responsibility which these experts bear on their shoulders, that they are not unfrequently found attempting to embezzle illegal gains in intrigue with speculators, when they are made to conduct any works of magnitude. Unless such corrupt attempts be entirely got rid off, no efficacious result can be hoped for in the control of rivers.

THE NOSHOMUSHO AND THE TOKYO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

THE difficulty which has arisen between the Noshomusho and the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce with reference to the provisions of Art CCXXII. of the Law of Companies in the new Commercial Code, has been decided by the Codes Investigation Committee in a manner favourable to the contention of the Chamber The difficulty arose in connection with the date for the payment of share allotments. The Noshomusho contended that the exact date of final settlement should be specified, but the Chamber maintained that the article should be taken in a wider sense and that payments might be made within any given time. The argument of the Chamber was considered by many jurists as perfectly reasonable. Perplexed as to what should be done, and apparently more or less impressed with the justice of the arguments advanced by the Chamber, the Noshomusho submitted the question to the Codes Investigation Committee, which decided the matter in the sense held by the Chamber.

* * *

Apropos of this affair it may be mentioned here, says the *Mainichi*, our authority in this matter, that in the event of any difficulty being experienced by the Department of Justice with respect to an interpretation of any knotty point in the law, it used formerly to transfer the matter to the Supreme Court. Since the promulgation of the Law of the Organization of Courts, however, some judges raised objections to this procedure, urging that although they were intrusted by the Sovereign with the function of deciding law suits, they were not empowered to interpret the laws regulating executive business. This objection being sustained, the Supreme Court is now said to decline positively to undertake the interpretation of executive law for any Department.

MURDER IN IBARAKI.

A FEW weeks ago the dead body of a woman was found on a mountain path at Moto-no-hara in Niiharu-gori, Ibaraki Prefecture, with the head totally severed from the trunk. The police authorities of Tsushima took up the case and soon laid bare the motive for the crime. It appears that a man named Shimada Shimbei, aged 40 years, a rice merchant of Ibaraki, fell in love with the daughter of Kawashima Kinjiro of Minami Kambara, Niigata Prefecture, a timber broker. The woman's name was Kiku, and she was aged about 29 years. The couple came up to Tokyo and spent several days in the capital, lodging at No, 4, Kakigaracho, Ichome. The man was of a very jealous disposition and Kiku grew tried of his too constant attentions. She finally made preparations for flight Shimada's jealousy then knew no bounds, but he dissembled. He announced his intention of returning to his native place, and left the capital accompanied by his lady-love. On the way he enticed the woman to a secluded spot on the mountains in Ibaraki and there fell upon her with a short sword. Having executed his diabolical design he fled back to Tokyo and put up at his former hotel, hoping thus to conceal his crime. He was arrested, however, on the 29th ult. by a constable named Fujii, and now lies in Ibaraki prison awaiting his trial.

AGITATION IN EDUCATIONAL CIRCLES.

A DEATHBLOW has been given to the agitation against the Minister of Education. An Instruction has just been issued by the latter to all the local Governments, to the effect that teachers in schools of all kinds shall not be permitted to join any of the associations, which, though nominally devoted to educational purposes, are practically concerned with political discussions. The Japan Educational Society is no doubt included in the list of the proscribed associations. The majority of its members consisting of school teachers, the immediate effect of the present Instruction of the Minister of Education will be to deprive the Educational Society of its main support. This must be a serious blow to Mr. Tsuji Shinji and others who are bent upon employing that Society as an instrument of their political agitation against the Minister of Education. Another educational society which is being used for purposes of the present agitation is the National Education Association, of which Mr. Isawa Shuji is the guiding spirit. Of late this association has grown very prosperous, so far as the increase of its members is concerned. On the 29th and 30th ultimo, the association held grand meetings at Nagoya. It had been expected that the meeting would be attended by more than two thousand of the members; but the Minister of Education's Instruction, above alluded to, having been issued on the eve of the meeting, all the school teachers had to stay away, and the members who actually met together are said to have numbered little more than five hundred.

* * *

It is stated that the Japan Educational Society recently convened a special meeting of the members of its Council to consider the course that should be taken with regard to the Minister of Education's Instruction. It was decided that, hereafter, no political discussion should be allowed into the columns of the Society's Journal, and that the investigations which are being conducted by the Society on the question of state aid to primary schools and some other subjects should be discontinued. It is also rumoured that the educational agitators will form a new association to further their political schemes.

STARTLING INTELLIGENCE.

SOMEBODY signing herself "L.J.M.," is writing a series of articles in the *Pall Mall Budget* on "Women that I knew in Tokyo.' They contain much that is calculated to surprise the unsophisticated resident. The last instalment is devoted to a minute personal description of a lady of the Court whom we all admire and respect, but with whom we are now almost fain to sympathise. Among other things the writer describes her *jinrikisha* ride from the Imperial Hotel to Takanawa, and tells us that she passed through the Yoshiwara on her way! If ever she sees these lines she may be interested to hear that no one ever "passed through" Yoshiwara, seeing that it is a sort of fortified enclosure with only one opening to it; and that she might as well say she passed through the Crystal Palace on her way from Piccadilly Circus to Aldgate Pump, the Yoshiwara being situated several miles to the north, in quite another part of the city. This remarkable chronicler further assures us

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that the denizens of her imaginary Yoshiwara blacken their teeth first and then gild them. The fact of course is that they do neither the one nor the other. Then, after passing through Shiba Park, she found herself surrounded by paddy-fields, with coolies wading ankle-deep in mud, and met a lady riding in a *kaga* (*sic*) Paddy-fields and a *kago* just outside Shiba Park! Finally she says that the lady above referred to lives in a white house of mixed architecture. The house happens to be a particularly dark red, built in the English style.

MORE CHANGES ANTICIPATED.

It is now rumoured that the change which has been so suddenly made in the *personnel* of the Governor of Tokyo *Fu*, will be followed by some others equally unexpected. It is conjectured, for instance, that Viscount Hijikata, Minister of the Household, will be replaced by Viscount Ogyu Tsuna, a well-known member of the House of Peers. It is also surmised that Mr. Sonoda, Police Inspector-General of Tokyo, will be put on the *hishoku* list, and his place given to Mr. Kitagaki Kunimichi, Head of the Hokkaido Administration. Nobody would be more likely to do credit to the important post of Police Inspector-General than Mr. Kitagaki, and, if Mr. Sonoda is really to leave, the appointment may as to well fall upon him as upon anybody else, especially as he is understood to enjoy the well-deserved confidence of the Minister of Home Affairs. As to Count Goto, the papers seem to take it for granted that he either has resigned, or is going to do so. His frequent visits to the Premier are construed to have connection with his intended resignation. Rumour also has it that several important changes will be made in the *personnel* of local Governors.

MR. GLADSTONE AND MR. BUTT.

No speech in the House of Lords upon the Home Rule Bill appears to have been more telling or more unanswerable than that of the venerable Duke of Argyll. One point, conveyed in the form of an anecdote, hitherto forgotten or unknown, was as follows. This was about Mr. Gladstone's reply to Mr. Isaac Butt, the father of the Home Rule idea, when the latter demanded that Ireland should manage her own domestic affairs. "Until," said Mr. Gladstone, "you tell me what you mean by domestic affairs, one by one, we cannot even judge of your proposal." "I see what you mean," he said again. "You mean a separate Parliament of your own, and Irish members here to control us" Then Mr. Butt got up and mumbled something, as much as to say that he did *not* mean that. Then Mr. Gladstone pounced upon him "It is all very well for the hon. member to say that, when the blot has been hit."—"That," said the Duke of Argyll, "is the very blot which he now presents to the British Parliament, and asks the British House of Commons and the British House of Lords to swallow to the very dregs." We join with the *Spectator* in congratulating the Duke "on his rich find in that inexhaustible mine of humiliation for Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Gladstone's own speeches." And this is only one among hundreds.

CONCERT IN TOKYO.

On Saturday evening, the 28th ult., a very enjoyable concert took place at the Central Tabernacle, Hongo. Only the principal features of the concert can be mentioned, so numerous were the musical numbers on the programme. By a happy innovation these were arranged in three parts with intervals between, thus giving the audience a short opportunity for sociability. The Organ Solos, as played by Mr. Gauntlett, cannot be spoken of too highly, a variation of "Jerusalem the Golden" giving effect to great improvements made during the past summer upon the instrument used. Its volume of sound has been greatly increased by the addition of two sets of pipes, one set having been sent from Canada, and the other having been made in Tokyo, under the superintendence of Mr. Gauntlett. The playing of "National Songs," stirred the patriotism of all present, from the rising of the audience to the strains of "Kimigayo," on through the national airs of England, France, the United States, and Germany, to those less known of Denmark and Sweden. The solos sung by the Rev. H H. Coates were of a high order. He possesses a voice of great power combined with rich tone, and the Recitative of "The Last Man" was well adapted to bring out the fine quality of his lower notes. Mr. R. P. Alexander and Miss True, were kindly received by the audience, and the piano solos greatly appreciated. Part III. was exclusively devoted to Oriental Music, skilled performers upon the shakuhachi, koto, kokyu, and samisen, delighted the assembled students. Mr Tomita Heiren and others gave a choice and spirited rendering of Chinese music, which was loudly applauded; but the acme of delight was reached in the performance upon the satsuma-biwa, by the well known Mr. Kawase, whose recitative of the deeds of heroic times seemed the culmination of the evening's pleasure. The Programme is appended:—

PART I.

1.—March ... "Patinitza," ... Suppé.
Band.
2.—Piano Solo ... "Geralda" ...
Mr B. Noshō.
3.—Song ... 'The Arrow and the Song," Ciro Pinanti.
Rev H. H. Coates, B.D.
4.—Organ Solo ..." March of the Minstrels," ... Dunster.
Mr. E. Gauntlett
5.—Violin Solo ... "Etude No. 30" ... Mazas.
Miss Tanomogi
6.—Piano Solo ... "Aufschwung," ... Schumann
Miss True.
7.—Fantasia ...
Band.

PART II.

8.—Piano Duett ... "Valse Brillante," ... Bovy-Lysberg.
9.—Mazurka ...
Band.
10.—Organ Solo "Jerusalem, the Golden," with variations
Mr. E. Gauntlett. Spark.
11.—Piano Solo ... "Impromptu in E. flat," ... Von Schubert.
Mrs. R. P. Alexander.
12.—Song ... "The Last Man," ... Callcott.
Rev. H H Coates, B.D
13.—Organ Solo..." National Anthems of Various Countries."
Mr. E Gauntlett.
14.—Fantasia ... Meyerbeer.
Band.

PART III.

15.—Shakuhachi Solo "The Waning Moon." Mr. Araki Kodō.
16.—Koto, Kokyū, and Samisen ... "Kogō"
Miss Machida Sugise and others.
17.—Japanese Music ... "Battle Song."
Band.
18.—Chinese Music ... (a) "Suihichō."
(b) "Sekkoden."
(c) "Nanachō."
Mr. Tomita Kenen and others.
19.—Koto, Kokyū, and Samisen ... "Tamagawa"
Miss Machida Sugise and others.
20.—Satsuma Biwa Solo ... "Kogō" ... Mr. Nishi Kōkichi.

ABOUT THE NEW SERVICE TO BOMBAY.

In consequence of the Yusen Kaisha's having resolved to undertake a regular service between Japan and Bombay from the 7th instant, the Bombay and Hongkong agents of the P. and O. Company lately came over here, and they in company with the Yokohama agent of the Company called on the Yusen Kaisha on the 16th ultimo, to ask the idea of the Japanese navigation company with respect to the new service. They are said to have declared to the officers of the Company with whom they held conversation, that even if the present rate of freight of 17 rupees per ton of cotton be reduced to 13, 10, or even to only 1 rupee, their Company could not give up the service which had been undertaken by it for years. The business they came for having been concluded, the two agents of Bombay and Hongkong started home on the 19th instant.

* * *

The stipulation between the Yusen Kaisha and the Union Spinners of Japan with respect to the transportation of raw cotton from Bombay has at last been concluded at Osaka. The stipulation is to hold good for one year to come. The terms of this contract have been based on the resolutions which the Union Spinners' meeting proposed some months ago to the Nippon Steamship Company. Besides some alterations effected in the phraseology of the proposed contract, some new conditions have been included. They are to the effect that the total amount of raw cotton transported from Bombay shall be 75,000 bales at the freight of 13 rupees per ton, that of that amount the Union shall hold themselves responsible for 50,000 bales, but the remaining bales shall be left out of the pale of their responsibility. For this a similar reduction of freight is to be made in case when, through competition, other companies reduce their freight; the ship applied for the service shall touch ports along the coast of China and shall transport cotton from that country at a rate 25 per cent. lower than that charged at present; and that in case two officers of the Union are to go over to Bombay or China once a year they shall be taken on board free of everything but their food during the voyage.

THE "JIJI SHIMPO" ON MIXED RESIDENCE.

The *Jiji Shimpo* has again referred to our reply to its protests against our comments on its original article on the subject of Mixed Residence. As may be expected, our contemporary stands to its guns, and is not a bit inclined to give way. Now the points at issue between the *Jiji* and ourselves may be summarised as follows:—The reactionary conservative tendency which first began to manifest itself nearly fifteen years ago is attributed by our contemporary to a certain educational policy which it claims to have been adopted by the Goverment of the time for political purposes, while we maintain that that reactionary tendency was a natural consequence of the sweeping and radical changes that had been introduced since the Restoration in every department of national life; and while the *Jiji*, as a logical consequence of its erroneous presumption, seeks to hold the Government responsible for the present anti-foreign movement, we, on our part, are inclined to believe that the neo-anti-foreign tendency, though remotely connected with the reactionary conservative tendency of fifteen years ago, is principally and immediately traceable to the propagandism of the picturesque doctrine of *kokusui hoson*, combined with the sense of wrong entertained by the Japanese against foreign nations generally. Now that the two sides of the question have been repeatedly propounded, we do not think it will be productive of any good to continue the controversy. So we beg to be allowed to dismiss the question with the above statement of the points at issue between ourselves and the *Jiji*. Time has not yet come when questions of this nature can be considered in all their manifold bearings in anything like an exhaustive and authoritative manner.

THE LATE GENERAL SARGENT.

Reuter informs us, writes the *China Mail*, that one more of the old veterans has passed away. Lieutenant-General John Neptune Sargent, C.B., who commanded the China District about ten years ago, and was succeeded by General Cameron, has joined the majority. General Sargent was very popular during his stay in Hongkong, and those who were present on board the steamer when he and his family left the Colony will not readily forget the hearty send-off they got, when the late Mr. Ryrie read the address from the members of the community to the General and his wife. The General was a bit of a hero, and is mentioned in Kinglake's "Crimea." He also took part in the North-China War.

NORTH BORNEO AFFAIRS.

The *London and China Express* says:—There have been various rumours in the air since the arrival in London of Rajah Brooke, as to his arranging to take over the territory of the British North Borneo Company. These have not yet taken any concrete form. On the one hand it is stated that Rajah Brooke would be willing to treat if invited, a fact which is scarcely likely to occur, on the part of the company. On the other it is said Rajah is contemplating making an offer, but what are said to be his views are too low to offer any temptation to the shareholders.

NIKKO.

From a private letter from Nikko we learn that the weather is now delightful and appears to be quite settled, and that the autumn tints are coming on in all their beautiful varieties of colour. The relics of the Shoguns Iyemitsu and Iyeyasu, which have been on show during the past month, will be returned to the storehouse after the 10th of November, up to which

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date they will be open to public inspection. There is no better time in all the year than the present to visit Nikko, the air being so crisp and bracing, and, as the roads and mountain paths are dry, walking can be indulged in with much pleasure and benefit. Now that Nikko is so well equipped with comfortable foreign hotels, the disagreeables attending residence in cold weather in Japanese buildings are entirely obviated.

DISPOSAL OF EXHIBITS LEFT UNSOLD AT THE WORLD'S FAIR.

ONLY a few days are left, writes the *Shogyo Shimpo*, before the World's Fair at Chicago is closed, and the grave question presents itself, how to dispose of the articles sent by Japan which are left unsold. Thinking it a good opportunity to extend the foreign commerce and to display the artistic talent of Japan, neither the Government nor the people spared money or pains in sending exhibits to Chicago. The grant of 600,000 *yen* asked by the Government from the Diet in connection with this affair, was consented to unanimously. Such zeal exhibited both by the Government and the Diet could not fail to impart a stimulus to the people whose minds were already full of enthusiasm in regard to the Exposition. The result, however, is a bitter disappointment, and our contemporary ascribes it in the first place to the excess of articles exhibited, and also to the unlucky disturbance of the American money markets. The latter, being a natural outcome of economic conditions, the effect of which is shared by all, may be passed over as an unavoidable evil, but for the former the Government and the managers specially despatched by it are held responsible by the *Shogyo Shimpo*. The excess of exhibits naturally resulted from an awkward manner of arrangement. They were not classified according to their kinds, but were put on different shelves according to the places whence they came. The result was that articles of the same sort were scattered over various parts of the room, which made it exceedingly difficult for any visitor to look at them. Al these things must have conduced to the unpopularity of the Japanese section, which was entirely beyond what was expected, for any favour that has been enjoyed by Japan in the present enterprise was confined to the single instance of tea-houses. The total value of the Japanese exhibits is estimated at a million *yen*, but only 100,000 *yen* worth is said to have been sold, and the question is how to dispose of the remaining articles. Should the system of disposal be misconducted, the result would not only be disastrous for the interests of exhibitors, many of whom are said to have invested their whole fortune in their exhibits, but the future of the Japanese foreign commerce must also be affected to no small degree. The *Shogyo Shimpo* does not doubt that some suitable step will be taken in this business, but the question being one of such grave importance, it considers itself obliged to call the attention of the authorities to this point.

CRICKET IN ENGLAND.

THE cricket season is rapidly nearing its end, says the *World* in a recent issue. On Saturday the last of the three great matches between England and Australia was concluded, and the final contests in the competition for the county championship are now being fought. Like the earlier match at Lord's, that at Manchester between England and Australia was drawn; but as the home country was successful at the Oval, the Colonists will be obliged to return without the coveted laurels. If there had been somewhat less of the "block, block, block" system at Manchester, the match might have been brought to a definite termination; but the object of latter-day cricketers appears to be to stay in as long as they can, and to let the score and the match take care of themselves. Sooner or later the "professional" players who are addicted to these methods will find that they have made a serious mistake. It was singular to see a team which did not include a single man from the champion county going into the field to represent England; but the fault in that matter does not rest with the selection committee. Yorkshire is easily first in the competition for the county championship, and its position has been won by good sterling cricket. The county of many acres relies exclusively upon native-born cricketers, and this fact makes its success certainly none the less acceptable to lovers of the game throughout the country. Moreover, Yorkshire cricket is generally free from the charge of timidity or over-caution, which may fairly be laid against some teams. Surrey had been prëeminent for so many years that it was quite time another county should supplant it, and so add to the interest of the competition; and no county is more worthy of the honour than that which now holds it. In Mr. Jackson, Peel, and Wainwright, Yorkshire has three of the best all-round cricketers of the day, and their colleagues are well fitted to be associated with them. No such scene of excitement has been witnessed on the beautiful cricket-ground of Clifton College as that which supervened at the conclusion of the Gloucestershire and Surrey match, when the former county proved victorious with a balance of thirty-three runs, the first Gloucester victory over Surrey for eight years. The crowd cheered and cheered again; and Dr. W. G. Grace carried young Townsend (the hero of the match) round the tent shoulder-high. The victory was all the more remarkable as the champion was standing out in view of the England match at Manchester. Townsend is a son of Mr. Frank Townsend, who played for many years, and who is now resident in North Devon. In the match the young bowler, not yet out of his teens, took nine wickets for a hundred and twenty-nine runs. He is a slow bowler, with a very puzzling break.

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS IN TOKYO.

SINCE the fall in Exchange, all imported goods have advanced considerably in price, causing the markets to become dull and lifeless. Drugs and chemicals, however, seem to be unusually buoyant in tone just at present, notwithstanding the fall in the sterling price of the dollar. A large proportion of the drugs and chemicals used in this country are imported from Germany, where they are produced at much cheaper rates than in Great Britain, though the quality is said to fall somewhat below the English standard. The present market price of common chloroform, according to the native press, is 85 *sen* per 1 lb. and special chloroform *yen* 1.25. Alcohol has generally advanced in price since the Alcohol Regulations were promulgated, and now the market rate is *sen* .15, .20, .25, and .50 per pound against previous rates of *sen* .9 to .25. Hydrochloric acid, for medical use, is now *sen* .15 per 1lb. and for chemical use .45; æther is *sen* 50; carbolic ammonia 55; tartaric acid 1.75; glycerine, .35; gutta-percha, 2.50; quinine .60 per 1oz., boric acid .35 per 1lb., hydrochloric Acid .38., pure antimony 7.50. powdered opium .85 per ounce; antipyrine fetches *yen* 1.20 per oz., and morphine *yen* 2.80 or 3. As there is always a good demand for these drugs and chemicals, they are generally sold without loss to the importer though occasionally some cases are rejected at the Laboratory. German manufacturers are, it seems, paying much attention just at present to the Pharmacopeia Japonica which is based, with some exceptions, upon the Pharmacopeia German III.

MR WADA ON THE COAL SUPPLY OF JAPAN

THE question of how long the Japanese coalbeds will last, has been taken up by Mr. Wada, ex-Chief of the Mining Bureau, at the late meeting of the Geographical Society of Japan. According to the investigations conducted in the Mining Bureau, he discovered that within the five years ending 1891, the increase in the demand for coal was more than 400,000 tons, an average increase of 80,000 tons per year To this increase must now be added the contracts recently effected by Mr. Hori Motoi with an American merchant for the export of 100,000 tons of Poronai coal to the U.S., while, at least, another 100,000 tons will be exported by the Japan Mail Steamship Company to Bombay. Another thing that should be taken into account in this respect is the growing activity of the native industry, and the increase of railway enterprise. Taking these factors into consideration, Mr. Wada estimates that within five years the annual demand for coal will not fall short of five million tons. Turning to the question of supply, he finds that if the Kyushiu and Hokkaido coal fields be excluded, there remains only a small quantity of smokeless coal in Ki and one other bed. Another expert said Mr. Wada estimates the Japanese coal beds to only last another 30 years, but Mr. Wada cannot agree with this opinion. Still he is inclined to think that within a half century the Japanese coal supply may probably be exhausted. Such being the actual state of affairs, he recommends the economizing of the coal, even if the authorities do not go to the length of advocating the imposition of export duties on coals sent abroad.

YAMASHIROYA WASUKE.

YAMASHIROYA WASUKE was a native of Choshiu, and his family name was Nomura. During the internecine troubles at the period of the Restoration, he distinguished himself greatly under the banner of Choshiu, but when peace was restored he laid aside the sword and became a merchant, dealing in silk and other articles of importance. He opened shops both in Tokyo and Yokohama and carried on an extensive business. While engaged in foreign commerce he also took large contracts for the supply of goods to the Japanese Army. Count Yamagata, then simply General Yamagata Kyosuke, was Vice-Minister of War, and Mr. Nomura, being on intimate terms with the latter, enjoyed considerable facilities in the conduct of his business, since he was able to obtain advances of very large sums—as much as 300,000 or even 700,000 *yen*—from the War Department, on account of orders for the supply of goods to the Army. With the intention of still further extending his commercial business he went to Europe, and while staying there, he included a charming lady among his friends, and led a decidedly luxurious life. The Japanese Representative in the country where he was staying regarded his way of life with suspicion, and reported his conduct to the home Government of the day. This aroused some unfavourable criticism among the members of the Government, who considered that too generous treatment had been extended to him, and the Vice-Minister of War, convinced of the justice of these views, and uneasy about the money advanced to Wasuke, sent a message desiring him to return home as quickly as possible. On his return he was pressed hard to refund the sums advanced to him on account of warlike stores, and he found himself in a very tight place, not knowing how to meet his obligations. At last, out of sheer desperation, he forged bills bearing the seal and name of Mr. Kinashi, then accountant to the Army, and attempted by these means to rescue himself from his embarrassing situation. But his scheme being detected, he saw himself at once ruined and disgraced. Suicide alone remained, and one day he took his life in a room of the Army Department. This was in 1872. Wasuke had made preparations for his fate He had previously told his confidential clerks that if the worst came to the worst, he should be forced to disembowel himself. So on the day of his suicide, a telegram was despatched from his shop in Tokyo to the branch store in Yokohama to the effect that the master had acted in accordance with his previous resolution, which telegram was fully understood by the people in Yokohama. Wasuke's death put an end to all hope of recovering the advances made to him by the War Department, whereupon the military officers of Satsuma extraction attempted to employ this as a pretext for removing from office their Choshu colleagues, namely, Count Yamagata, Viscounts Torio, Miura, and others. Under the leadership of Kirino Toshiaki they urged the elder Saigo to dismiss those officers who they said, had disgraced their position. Great was the confusion

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in the Army. Saigo was at that time a Field Marshal and occupied the post of Commander-in-Chief of the Imperial Body Guard, the next in command being Count Yamagata. Persuaded of the justice of Kirino's argument, Saigo advised the Count to resign, which he did at once. Having accomplished this part of the business, Saigo then summoned Kirino and his fellow agitators and asked them, in dignified language, whether, after the resignation of Count Yamagata, they had still any complaint to prefer or representation to make. They all replied that they were perfectly satisfied, and so the agitation in military circles subsided. Several Choshiu officers, however, were officially reprimanded in connection with the Wasuke affair, which was not finally brought to a conclusion until 1876. Wasuke having been originally a *Samurai* was a man of high spirit. His adoption of a commercial profession did not affect his views of moral responsibility, and when he found himself unable to discharge his obligations, he did not hesitate to commit suicide. It was, however, stated at the time that if those at whose instance the money had been advanced had not insisted so urgently on his making immediate restitution, in order to avoid unpleasant consequences to themselves, means might have been found of settling the affair. Wasuke was a man of great ability, and his death was much regretted by the late Mr. Kido, especially as the latter had been absent from Tokyo at the time, being one of the Emperor's suite on His Majesty's Progress in Kiushu. It is said that the European lady whose charms had seduced Wasuke from economical paths, came to Japan some years afterwards and paid a tribute of tears to his memory. This Wasuke affair was in truth one of the earliest instances of clan rivalry after the Restoration. Unfortunately, the nation has not yet seen the last of such troubles. Thus the *Keizai Zasshi*.

COMPLAINTS OF THE YECHIGO FOLKS ABOUT THE FREIGHT MANAGEMENT ON THE NAOYETSU LINE

MR. KOTEDA, Governor of Niigata, in company with a few influential business men of that locality, lately called upon Mr. Suzuki, Vice-Minister of Communications, and, subsequently, on Mr. Matsumoto, Chief of the Board of Railways, in connection with a general complaint preferred by the people of Echigo that the rates of freight on the Naoyetsu line, in other words, on the section running northward from the Usui Pass, are far higher than those charged on the section running to the south of the Pass. For example, whereas on the northern section the charge for one 6-ton waggon, capable of containing 100 bales of rice is 20 *yen* per 100 miles, on the southern section it is only 12 *yen*, showing a difference of 8 *yen* for the transportation of 100 bales over only 100 miles. The chief cause of this striking discrepancy, apart from an absolute difference in rates, is the absence of any provision on the northern section for the exclusive use of waggons, a defect due apparently to nothing except bad management. In view of this comparatively high rate of freight in sending staples from Echigo to, say, the vicinity of Takasaki, it is found cheaper to despatch goods by steamer from Niigata to Yokohama, a very circuitous route, and thence to convey them to their destination by railway. It is also alleged that the freight for a given quantity of goods from Tokyo to Uyeda, a distance of 120 miles, is somewhat cheaper than the charge for the same quantity of goods from Naoyetsu to Uyeda, which is only one half the distance between the latter and Tokyo. It is natural that a state of affairs so injurious to the development of the Hoku-yetsu region should be resented by the inhabitants, and that they should be employing every possible means of effecting a change.

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To this complaint of the Hoku-yetsu people, the reply of the Chief of the Railway Board is said to be that although the rate of freight on the Karuizawa-Naoyetsu line may appear higher than the rates on the other sections, it is in reality cheaper, so far as concerns actual income to the railway, there being no return goods on that line. Should the rate be reduced the earnings of the line would not suffice to pay the working expenses. The Railway Board thus finds itself in a dilemma out of which no easy exit is apparent. Still, for goods conveyed in quantities, a reduction may be made to a certain extent provided that a contract be concluded between the Railway and the owners of the goods. This reply has suggested various investigations which the Hoku-yetsu representatives now in Tokyo are busily conducting.

AMENDMENT OF TOBACCO TAXATION REGULATIONS.

THE *Nippon* states in its issue of yesterday, that among other business done at the late Chief Tax-Collectors Meeting in the Financial Department, it was decided to impose a tax on imported tobacco. The imposition of taxes on imported goods has already been urged by some economists, but the authorities, erroneously regarding them as of similar nature to transit duties, have thus far not considered themselves justified in imposing taxes on imports. The *Nippon* is overjoyed to think that as a consequence of the spirit of national assertion, the public have come to recognize the unreasonableness of such a step, and that by amending the Tobacco Taxation Regulations the Government has undeceived itself in this matter and has set a good precedent. It is said that, on the morrow of the execution of this amendment, about 300,000 *yen* will accrue as an additional revenue to the Treasury. The *Nippon* advises both the Government and the Diet to impose similar taxes on such imported goods of magnitude as iron, sugar, petroleum, woollen and cotton fabrics, &c. These taxes should yield an increase of 5 million *yen* to the National Treasury. This practical triumph being attained in finance, it would be easy to recover tariff autonomy; while the administrative measures arising out of the present Treaty being carried on boldly and fearlessly, the recovery of judicial autonomy would be attained beyond any doubt. It is on such considerations that we, says the *Nippon*, are entirely satisfied with the amendment of the Tobacco Regulations.

THE ATTRACTIONS OF WHITEWASH.

A MISSIONARY stationed at one of the South Sea Islands determined to give his residence a coat of whitewash. To obtain this in the absence of lime, coral was reduced to powder by burning. The natives watched the process of burning with interest, believing that the coral was being cooked for them to eat. Next morning they beheld the missionary's cottage glittering in the rising sun white as snow. They danced, they sang, they screamed with joy. The whole island was in confusion. Whitewash became the rage. Happy was the coquette who could enhance her charms by a daub of the white brush. Contention arose. One party urged their superior rank, another obtained possession of the brush and valiantly held it against all comers; a third tried to upset the tub to obtain some of the precious cosmetic. To quiet the hubbub more whitewash was made, and in a week not a hut, a domestic utensil, a war club, or a garment but was as white as snow; not an inhabitant but had his skin painted with grotesque figures; not a pig that was not whitened; and mothers might be seen in every direction capering joyously and yelling with delight in the contemplation of the superior beauty of their whitewashed babes.—*Missionary Chronicle*

A NEW RESOURCE FOR NATIONAL INCOME.

THE *Hochi Shimbun* calls the attention of the Government to what it calls a new resource for the national finance. It consists simply in the imposition of a tax on *saké* brewed for home consumption. Our contemporary points out the gradual diminution of the quantity of this liquor brewed by regular brewers, and on the other hand the amount of *saké* brewed for home use. In two years from 1877 to 1879 the average total of *saké* brewed for sale was about 5,200,000 *koku*. This fell to about 4,300,000 *koku* from 1878 to 1880, while coming to 1890 the figures stand as low as 3,170,000 *koku*. On the other hand, the rate of tax imposition gradually increased, for while in 1877 the rate was only 1 *yen* per *koku*, this became doubled in 1878, while at present it stands as high as 4 *yen* per *koku*. Turning to the brewing of *saké* for home use, it is found that while in 1883 the total applicants for permission to brew were only 670,000, they increased to 840,000 in 1887, and 948,000 in 1890. For home consumption the tax is only at the rate of 80 *sen* per *koku* for one applicant, to brew liquor to an amount under 1 *koku*. It is a point which is worth the consideration of financiers, says the *Hochi*, that, while the amount of *saké* for sale continues to fall so significantly with the increase of tax, the amount of the same for home use is advancing at such a rapid rate. This provision for home-use *saké* was originally for the purpose of conferring a benefit on the poor, but an investigation into the real state of affairs appears to reveal a fact which is far from upholding the end at first kept in view. The poor have no power to brew *saké* for their own use, and the benefit intended to be given them is merely enjoyed by those above the middle stratum of society. The result is that while the poor are, as it were, paying an indirect tax to the amount of 4 *yen* per *koku* or 4 *rin* for 1 *go* of their evening potation, the tax which those who are so well off as to brew *saké* for their own use is only 8 *sen* per *koku* or only ·8 *rin* per *go*. The *Hochi* therefore suggests that the tax at the rate of 3·4 *yen* should rather be charged for the brewing of home use liquor. Even if the number of applicants fall to say 650,000, which was the figure for 1883, the revenue accruing from this new resource would not fall below 2,000,000 *yen*.

A HORRIBLE BEAR-STORY FROM HOKKAIDO.

THE following harrowing account of the deaths of a woman and a man in Hokkaido, who were killed by a bear, is taken from the *Choya Shimbun*. The woman who met with this awful death was the wife of Teramoto Tauchisaburo, a farmer in Mochiki-mura, Atsuta-gun, Ishikari, and the man a young villager named Suyeda Iwanosuke. The family of Teramoto consisted of his unfortunate wife and 3 children, the eldest being a boy of some six years old. On the 16th of this month, the family having dined in the usual way, the husband went to an adjoining field to resume work begun in the morning. His wife then put to sleep her youngest child, a baby born this spring, and its elder sister, a girl not yet quite three; the little urchin of six having run out to accompany his playmates. The woman intended joining her husband in the field after washing the utensils. As she was about to go to a brook hard-by, she heard the two horses of the farm, which had been left to browse in the field, running past at full speed, and apparently in great agitation. Thinking this curious, she looked in the direction whence the horses had fled, and saw a huge bear running at a quick trot in pursuit of the horses. Terribly frightened at this unexpected spectacle, she shut the door of the house and ran inside. But the bear must have caught sight of her figure, for, maddened with frenzy, most probably from want of food, the beast burst through the door by force, and caught hold of the woman by the neck, just as she had reached the place where a *hibachi* was standing. The animal caught her up, seized her, and carried her away into the thicket from which it had originally emerged. In the meantime, the noise of the horses impressed the husband with the idea that they must have been pursued by a bear, and he, poor man, totally unconscious of what was going on in his own house, turned his steps towards home, anxious for the safety of his family. His astonishment knew no bounds when he found, on reaching the house, that the door was shattered to pieces and that a stream of fresh blood led to the side of the *hibachi*, where he also saw a piece of his wife's clothes apparently torn away. The poor man raised an alarm. Some 30 villagers responded to the call, and on learning what had taken place, at once undertook to pursue the bear. Guided by the blood, the party, armed with ready weapons, entered the thicket, but the track of blood being soon lost, they were utterly at a

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loss. As the day darkened, they decided to return to their village, to resume the pursuit next morning, consoling poor Teramoto as they departed. Some hours after their return, the villagers heard the terrible howl of the bear from the hill close by, but though they were prepared to shoot the beast if he dared to approach the village, he did not quit his lurking-place during the night. On the morrow, the party, reinforced by a dozen men, again set out to search for the bear, Suyeda Iwanosuke, a young man of impatient temper, being most earnest in the fearful business. He advanced in the van of the party some half a *cho* ahead, but his enthusiasm cost him his life. As he was groping about in a thick tangle, far in advance of the party, he was suddenly brought face to face with the monster. Not a whit daunted, he at once unsheathed a blade he carried with him, and dealt the beast a desperate blow. The bear, made still more furious by the wound, at once sprang upon him and brought his assailant to the ground by a powerful down thrust of his paw. The rest of the party, who arrived at the spot in the meantime, on hearing the cries of the young man, were entirely unnerved at this terrible sight, and without even attempting to rescue the unfortunate youth, fled the place in utter consternation. They conveyed the news to the Police Station in the next village, on which a constable hastened to the spot accompanied by the villagers. When they reached the place where the youth had been left combating with the beast, they saw that the latter had disappeared but had left behind him a ghastly spectacle. All that remained of the courageous youth was a mutilated corpse, the upper part above the abdomen being entirely gone. A search was then made for the remains of Teramoto's wife. Guided by torn pieces of clothing and other fragments they at last succeeded in discovering the corpse. The face was torn right away as well as the two thighs and the right leg. The lamentation of her husband at this sight and the cries of the bereaved children when the remains were taken home, had better be left to the imagination. The services of seven skilled men were secured, and aided by an Ainu bear-hunter they resumed the work of hunting and revenge. It was moonlight on the evening of the 18th when the party reached the spot where the remains of Teramoto's wife had been discovered. When they reached the place a black dog owned by the Ainu began to howl, and the party knew that the bear must be lurking somewhere about the spot. No one could detect, however, where the bear lay, for the overshadowing trees darkened the place. The Ainu, however, took aim in a certain direction and fired. The report of the rifle was followed by a heavy fall from a great height, and then the party saw the beast coming toward them in great fury. But another shot was fired, and the animal fell. When the villagers carried the remains of the beast home, it was discovered that the wound inflicted by the daring youth who had been killed was 4 inches long and over the right eye. Had the villagers been gallant enough to assist the lad, the beast might have been killed at that time, and perhaps saved the life of the young man. The bear measured over nine feet in length.

CONTROL OF RIVERS.

Now that tidings of woe and devastation are pouring into the Home Department from the afflicted localities in consequence of the recent inundations, it may be interesting to know what notions the Government is entertaining about the control of these unruly rivers. The Government is indeed paying due attention to this point. It has made the subject of special study some effective method of controlling 11 rivers which the Government considers as particularly liable to devastate the adjacent districts situated along their banks. With a view of still more perfecting the plan of river control the Government appointed some time ago a special Committee organized by eminent men either in or out of Government service. The Committee held its first meeting shortly after its organization, and the result of the deliberation clearly indicates the wisdom and prudence of the Government in appointing the Committee. The Committee decided to advise the Government to carry out special and precise surveys on those rivers difficult to control; to fix subsequently definite plans as to the method of controlling them, and then to arrive at some definite decision as to the best way of defraying the necessary outlay. To carry out precise surveys for each of the ungovernable rivers is no an easy matter, there being no minute trustworthy map in Japan; that prepared by the General Staff on scale of 1-20,000 being the best now obtainable. Even this, however, can be of no particular use for the purpose, and consequently it is required to delineate an accurate, precise map for each of the rivers in carrying out the suggestion of the committee. The labour involved in the task being considerable, the Department has thus far only been enabled to accomplish the investigations on the two rivers of Tone and Yodo. The expenses required for the effective control of these two rivers alone are immense, if the plans of the engineers who have conducted the surveys on those rivers are to be followed. The main plan for the control of the river Tone is to lead the waters now pouring into the sea mostly by the old river course into the new river course. For so doing, it is necessary to widen the bed of the latter to a considerable extent, and it is estimated that altogether about 40 million yen will be required for carrying this plan into practice. For the management of the Yodogawa, it is proposed to lead the lower course of that river away from running through the City of Osaka, and to lower, at the same time, the normal level of the waters of Lake Biwa; moreover, for regulating the egress of the waters of the Lake into the Yodogawa, sluices of massive size are to be constructed in the connecting link between the Lake and the river. The expense required for this plan of the Yodogawa is estimated at about 15 million *yen*. The vernacular press, from which we have gathered these particulars, says that the plan for the river Tone is not likely to receive the approval of the Government, but that for the other is. The Government is indeed apprehending that the estimates for only two rivers being so immense, should all the 11 rivers be controlled in the most effective way as suggested by the Committees, it may be necessary to double the national loan as it exists to-day.

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Mr. Furuichi, Chief of the Public Works Bureau, is said to have declared in the first meeting of the Committee, of which he is one of the most prominent members, that the system of constructing embankments thus far resorted to as a means of preventing inundations can not be considered a policy of far-reaching character. Instead of pursuing such a plan, the policy of constructing embankments as deemed suited to the nature of the stream and of the land through which it runs should be followed. Owing to the want of engineers, there are not at present reports on the conclusive surveys of those rivers the most essential material for fixing a policy of how they should be managed, and consequently it is not possible to undertake the works of controlling those special rivers within a certain prescribed period of time. An opinion is said to be of some force in a certain quarter that the system resorted to with the Yang Tsze Kiang in China, which leaves the waters of the river to overflow unrestrained through the gaps left in the embankments of the river, should be adopted here.

THE "ITSUKUSHIMA-KAN"

THE *Hochi Shimbun* gives the following account of the *Itsukushima-Kan*, about which some rather unfavourable stories are occasionally disseminated by the vernacular press. The construction and general equipment of the vessel are of the first order, but a slight defect is apparent in the engine-room, the boiler tubes under certain conditions being liable to contract. But this should not be laid at the door of those concerned in the building of the vessel, for it is really unavoidable. The defect is due to the boiler being constructed upon an entirely new system. When the *Itsukushima* was being constructed a newly invented boiler-steel was greatly in favour, and the Japanese Navy resolved to adopt it. All went well for more than six months after the vessel's completion, and it was very easy to obtain a pressure of 11 to 12 kilogrammes. Subsequently, however, the officers discovered steam issuing from the interstices of the tubes very frequently. This was at once communicated to the ship-yard where the vessel had been constructed, and an explanation asked. The reply received made it clear that, owing to the excessive shrinkage of the steel, the tubes, whenever cool air entered, upon the furnaces being fed, suddenly shrank, thereby producing interstices at the junctions. This contingency was not foreseen even by experts who have been engaged in shipbuilding for a long period. The defect is not experienced by the *Itsukushima* alone, but shared by vessels of other countries that have adopted the same class of boiler. In England alone, for instance, more than 70 vessels are said to be so affected. However, as a newly patented invention to provide against the shrinkage has since been made by some expert, the new process has been adopted for the Japanese vessel, a new boiler being at the same time substituted for the old one. Our contemporary adds that it obtained the above information from an experienced officer in the Japanese Navy.

UNVEILING A STATUE OF MR. FUKUZAWA.

A STATUE of Mr. Fukuzawa, the famous educationalist, was unveiled on Sunday last, at a friendly meeting of the *alumni*. The ceremony took place in the hall of the Institution, the statue being placed in the centre. The guests of the day included many distinguished personages, both within and without the Government. Mr. Obata, a member of the House of Peers, opened the proceedings by stepping forward in front of the veiled statue, and reading the following address as President of the Institution:—"A pine-tree of centuries' growth is lofty and grand to look upon; a spring of ever gurgling water gives an inexhaustible supply. A master who is to furnish a model to his pupils must also be lofty in virtue, so as to induce them to look up to him with deep veneration. He must also be exhaustless in the supply of knowledge, ever ready to satisfy his pupils' thirst for instruction, if he would have them love him as a father and respect him as a master. It is more than 30 years since our master, Mr. Fukuzawa, opened his institution, in order to equip the rising generation with knowledge necessary for their conduct in life. Already over 10,000 students have studied here, many of whom, after their graduation, obtained important positions both in and outside the Government service. Our master is indeed a man whose image will be bequeathed to posterity. So full of modesty is he, however, that he would not readily give his consent when the proposal to erect this statue was made to him. Some time after, however, our master became acquainted with a famous sculptor, Mr. Oguma Ujihiro, and he allowed himself to be persuaded into compliance with our desires. We then earnestly urged him to consent to his statue being placed within the precincts of our Institution. Our earnest solicitation was not in vain, and we at once obtained the sympathies of over a thousand others. In October of the current year the work of casting the statue was completed, after unremitting labour which had extended over three years and ten months. We therefore resolved to carry out the ceremony of unveiling the statue on this auspicious day, the 29th of this month. The features, spirit, and varied abilities and accomplishments of our master are all typified in this statue, and now as I, Obata Tokujiro, am going to unveil the statue on behalf of the projectors, a solemn sound of music is heard, the sound which appears to combine the sighing of a pine-tree when it is swayed by the wind and that of a stream when it sends forth its mighty volume of waters." The address was received with cheers, and the sculptor then delivered a

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brief speech bearing upon the work he had so satisfactorily accomplished. He concluded his remarks by stating that his part of the task was done, and he handed over the statue to the care of Mr. Obata, as the representative of the projectors. The statue was then unveiled by Mr. Obata. The falling of the veil disc osed Mr Fukuzawa, life size, in a sitting posture, garbed in the Japanese *haori* and *hakama*. The statue is admirably executed, and is a perfect represent-at.on of the famous pedagogue and publicist. Mr. Fukuzawa was greeted with cheers as he rose to address the assembly. He said, Gentlemen: For what purpose is this statue made? If it is as a commemoration of me, I am exceedingly puzzled to know the reason for it. You whose fr endsh p I have long enjoyed must know well that I am not a man who is pleased because my own statue has been set up. I surmise that the statue is cast not in memory of me but of that of the *Keiogijuku*. Should it be really so, I am very glad. For I take it as an augury that you desire the continuance of the institution, and therefore you take upon your shoulders the obligation of carrying it on. The institution is far from being rich, but it possesses a good site which is valued at 200,000 *yen*, besides having an endowment of 60,000 *yen* from those interested in its welfare, as well as buildings and other items of property. Its maintenance may therefore be considered well provided for. Nor should its maintenance prove difficult. Turning my attention to the general tendency of the public at large, I find that if it is not carried along by a rash and precipitate current, it shelters itself under a bigoted conservatism. There is in Japanese society no adjusting power between these two extremes. For what scholar is there whose opinion may be regarded as a guiding star; what statesman whose conduct may be taken as a model; what journalist whose arguments are influential enough to regulate the conduct of others? Japanese society is, in short, comparable to an assemblage of puny worms. To make such fellows carry Japan upon their backs is as useless as to attempt to force a spineless man to carry a heavy load. Amidst this general confusion of med ocracy, our institution alone has taken the middle road,—not rushing to either extremity of precipitate progress or bigoted conservatism; and it is, I am proud to say, indeed rich in the spirit of independence and self-reliant self-help. It is my belief that upon this institution devolves the gallant duty of supporting Japan upon its own shoulders. The maintenance of the institution is not difficult; but even if it were, it should still be carried on for the sake of Japan. I earnestly hope that the institution, to which this statue now belongs, may be preserved for many ages to come.

THE RADICALS AND THE PROGRESSIONISTS.

In spite of the wishes which the members of the *Domei* Club are said to entertain for reconciliation between the Radicals and the Progressionists, events are certainly unfavourable for such a project. Whatever may be the secret inclination of the principal persons on both sides, the younger and more impetuous portions of their respective followers are daily going more and more to the extremes of personal attack and vilification. These follies are absent from the pages of the organs of the two parties. Some time ago, the *Jiyu Shimbun* began to publish a series of libellous notes about Count Okuma, alleging that he was guilty of some base and specious conduct in connection with the sale of a mine belonging to Mr Nabeshima Magorokuro. Count Okuma wrote a line to Count Itagaki, and the publication of the obnoxious series of notes was at once given up in the columns of the Radical organ. The matter seemed to have thus ended without attracting any wide attention. But subsequently the story was taken up by a minor illustrated paper, the *Yorozu Choho*, which has flatly refused to comply with Count Okuma's request to insert his correction of the errors in its version of the affair. It might or might not have been in retaliation of the repeated insults offered to the Progressionist leader, but it is a fact that the *Kaishin Shimbun* recently charged Count Itagaki with having sold the Ichinokawa Mine in the Prefecture of Ehime to a certain foreigner at Kobe. The note is headed with the words, "Traitorous Conduct of Count Itagaki," in exceptionally large and clear type. An allegation of this description, in the present state of national sentiment, cannot fail to do serious injury to the popularity of any political leader. The charge preferred against Count Itagaki has been duly denied, and no sober persons attach any importance to the idle stories published in a third-rate sheet like the *Kaishin Shimbun*. But some of the younger members of the Radical party evidently could not regard the matter in that light, and they organized a lecture meeting for the purpose of being avenged on the Progressionists. They secured the cöoperation of Messrs Tatekawa Umpei, Kanamori Tsurin, Shioda Okuzo and a few other well-known members of the party. They seem, however, to have artfully concealed the true character of the meeting from these persons, who would not have given promise of taking a part in it had they known that a childish personal attack was to be made upon the Progressionist leader. The meeting was to take place on the 30th ultimo, and it was on the preceding morning that the leading members of the party learned the true character of the affair from advertisements in the papers. Mr. Takekawa and others at once refused to have anything to do with the meeting, while its organizers were urged to desist from making any personal attack on Count Okuma. The meeting actually came off, but it ended in a farce, a few boyish speakers having indu ged in some idle invectives against the Progressionist party.

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There is an inclination on the part of certain papers to give another interpretation of the above mentioned lecture meeting. They seem to think that several distinguished members of the party were at the bottom of the affair, and that the proposed attack on Count Okuma would have been certainly made by a number of well known Radicals had not their leader strongly urged them to desist from such an impolitic course. We think differently of the affair; but it is a fact that the feelings of antipathy between the two parties have reached a dangerous point.

FIRE AT MESSRS DEAKIN BROS., YOKOHAMA.

About a quarter past nine o'clock on Sunday evening, fire was discovered breaking through the roof of the premises occupied by Messrs. Deakin Bros., at No. 38, Yokohama. The alarm was at once conveyed to the Fire Brigade Station and Supt. Kipling immediately turned out with his steamer and three hose reels. When he arrived upon the scene, preparations were made to attack the seat of the fire wh ch was between the ceiling and the roof on the side nearest the Turkish Bath-house. It was some little while ere the fire could be reached, and by this time it had commenced to spread downwards. Floods of water were poured upon the conflagration and by a quarter past eleven o'clock all danger was over. The damage done to the stock in the showrooms below is rather extensive, the amount to be credited to water being of course the arger. The fire is attributed to a defective flue by some, while others lean to the idea that it was generated through the electric light fittings. A peculiar feature is that the mantel-piece of the store is not in any way blackened or damaged by the fire, while the flooring beneath is charred in places. It may be mentioned that the upper part of the premises were occupied respectively by Messrs. McWilliams and J. J. de Souza, and both had to find shelter elsewhere last night. The property was insured.

THE VON FRIES AFFAIR

We have had our notice drawn to two discrepancies which appeared in our recent article upon this curious business. In the first place, we spoke of the Mesdames von Fries as Countesses of Austria. It appears that these ladies are only half-sisters, and it is the elder only who has the rank of Countess, her maiden name having been Orsich. Madame Sigmund von Fries, her sister by a later marriage of the mother, was a Fräulien Brandstetter, and she has no title. We have also received adverse comments upon the statement that the Kobe marriage was solemnised in the presence of the Austro-Hungarian Consul at that port. The first, which reaches us from a source of high authority, traverses our assertion that the officer in question acted upon the occasion "in his capacity of Austro-Hungarian Consul." The second, which is of even higher authority still—in fact, the highest possible—assures us that "the Austrian Consul was not present at the marriage ceremony." The third—an Austrian official despatch which has been shown to us—also denies that the writer was there, and affirms that he knew nothing about it until some time afterwards. We beg to express our regret that any discomposure should have been occasioned to the Consul for Austro-Hungary by the publicat on of a contrary version, which is now clearly proved to have been inaccurate.

KOREAN AFFAIRS.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* has a telegram from Soul, Korea, dated the 27th ult., to the effect that negotiations between the Korean Government and Mr. Otori, Japanese Representative, in connection with the prohibition of the export of rice from Korea have concluded. Rice will not be exported from Fusan and Gensan, but the Korean Foreign Minister, at the request of the Japanese Minister, will petition the king to allow the export of rice from Jinsen. Imported rice passing though the ports of Fusan and Gensan will be free from duty.

* * *

The *Jiji Shimpo* states that a telegram has been received in Tokyo from Jinsen, Korea, to the effect that the attitude of the Korean Go- in connection with the prohibition of the export of rice has been changed, and that it is likely the step will not be put into operation.

THE EMPEROR'S BIRTHDAY.

Yesterday being the Birthday of the Emperor, His Majesty received a large number of distinguished person in audience. Refreshments were provided in the Ho-o Hall. H.I.M. the Empress-Dowager and H.I.H. the Crown Prince were also received by His Majesty.

* * *

The weather in Yokohama was everything that could be desired for holiday-making, warm, bright and almost windless. The display of bunting in all the principal thoroughfares was most profuse, the Japanese national standard greatly predominating. Holiday was held in the Banks and stores, and in all hongs where preparation for mail-day could, in any way, be put aside. A cricket match took place on the Y.C. & A.C. ground, of which a report is given elsewhere. A sailing match also took place in the Bay. An Imperial salute was fired at noon, while the warships in harbour also dressed-ship; and later in the day the French flagship *Triomphante* paid the usual entering salute. The Governor of Kanagawa gave a grand banquet in the evening to members of the Consular body and leading foreign and Japanese merchants.

* * *

The review of the troops of the Tokyo garrison, which was to have taken place at the Aoyama Parade Ground on the 3rd inst., was abandoned owing to the condition of the ground caused by the heavy rain of the previous night.

IMPUDENCE IN EXCELSIS

Louis Morningstar is a twelve-year-old lad who has travelled much, and that much principally at the expense of other people. The American phrase "dead-beat" is pretty comprehensive in its way, but in our opinion Charles Dickens's "Artful Dodger" alone conveys to the rational mind any idea of the queer compound of American and German parentage which has just been landed at Yokohama by the O. & O. steamer *Oceanic*. He is without doubt a most abnormal development of the familiar

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City Arab of the home lands, for the precocious intellectual alertness which distinguishes that strange offspring of City life, is writ large in this youthful globe-trotter's manner of looking at and treatment of the world He has been very "much abroad" these last four years, having seen Paris, various portions of Spain, St. Petersburg, and the homelier towns of Germany, before reaching America. His mode of getting along is rather startling in its impudence; free rides on trains and steamboats, with free feeding thrown in wherever possible, being the order of procedure. In answer to a question put to him in this office on Thursday, he quietly stated that failing to obtain a pass from the head office of any railway or steamship company, he merely boarded the train or steam-boat and proffered his request to the persons in charge. If they refused, why, then he stayed all the same. Summary ejection at any station along the route was a matter of small concern; he only waited till the next conveyance came along. Another pleasing phase of his character is the nice discrimination which he shows in choosing his fellow-passengers. On steamboats he will only travel in the cabin, so he says; the idea of the steerage is preposterous to him. At Honolulu the adventurous youth was received by the Queen Liliokulani, and received an autograph photograph from her hands, besides some flowers. Other ladies similarly bestowed floral mementoes upon him. It is the boy's intention to make a circuit of the globe, at everybody's expense but his own—and there seems every possibility of his intention succeeding, seeing how complaisant people have become lately towards helping such individuals along—and on his return to New York he will write the usual book. After that he has some airy notion of settling down to work, but we fear his experience will teach him some far easier mode of supporting life. At present Master Morningstar is putting up at the Grand Hotel. He hopes to leave Japan by the *City of Rio de Janeiro*. Among his impedimenta, we might mention, is a 44-calibre Bulldog-revolver.

THE CHIT SYSTEM.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Hongkong Daily Press* writes:—"The Hongkong Hotel Company have advertised that on and after a certain date no chits will be received, but they have apparently completely forgotten to intimate an all round reduction in prices That such must follow is surely only right and reasonable. The present high charges are admittedly the consequence of ruinous credit. If that is abolished there is no reason or excuse for maintaining such prices. Let the cash system have a fair trial by all means; it would be an inestimable blessing to the community; but natural advantages which follow must not be withheld. Neither do I see any good reason why the prices should merely be *averaged* a little lower. No chits, no credit; no credit, no bad debts. We ought therefore only to be called upon to pay a reasonable percentage of profit on everything—not a profit of 75 per cent. on one thing and only 5 per cent. on another. The Hotel Company must deal fairly and equitably with the public, or this innovation, instead of being a benefit, will be an injustice and annoyance."—By all accounts, Hongkong is not the only place where hotels suffer from the chit system, though little sympathy can be felt for the sufferers seeing that they have the remedy in their own hands.

A DISAPPOINTMENT.

IT is well known to our readers that for some weeks past a theatrical entertainment, for charitable purposes, has been in rehearsal under the auspices of the French Legation. The programme was to have consisted of two French pieces—'La Petite Sœur' and 'Les Deux Timides'—and two scenes from the 'School for Scandal;' the responsibility of getting up the latter having been undertaken by Mr. W. G. Bayne. It now appears that, owing to a ball which is to come off the same night at the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, Mr. Bayne's promised coadjutors have withdrawn from their engagement to support him, and the consequence is that the project has had to be given up. This is a great disappointment to the promoters of the entertainment, who were particularly anxious that an English piece should supplement the French comediettas.

M. ZOLA IN LONDON

M. ZOLA has arrived in London as the guest of the Institute of Journalists. To a representative of the *St. James's Gazette*, who asked what sort of an impression London had produced upon him, M. Zola answered:—"Well, the first one was of prodigious appetite. We came in late last night and had a late but excellent dinner. This has impressed my wife and myself very favourably indeed. After dinner we went for a short time to the Alhambra, where I saw little of the spectacle, but where I was delighted with the building; it is absolutely charming, and we have nothing like it in Paris. That was the second pleasing impression. But the great joy was reserved to me this morning when I saw the fog; as one ought to see Russia with her snows and Italy even with the fevers, so one must see London with fog accompaniment. That was really fortunate, and I take it as another sign of the kindness with which I am received here, for I am told that up to a couple of days ago you had sunshine. Of course we went for a drive, and I have found London quite up to her reputation: the place is immense. Nobody expects prettiness here; London's business is to be immense, and it is immense. I am absolutely astounded at its size. And I find besides that the architecture has been unjustly abused. I think the big houses look very fine and dignified, and the smaller ones, with porticoes and bay windows, are quite charming. The red bricks bring in a very pleasant note, and I understand now the scarlet jackets of your soldiers. You want this colour as a set-off to your atmosphere. Even your omnibuses—which are, no doubt, anything but beautiful in sunshine—help to brighten the landscape in foggy weather. But there, I may as well say that I am prepared to be delighted with everything in London. The welcome I have received here is so unexpectedly flattering and so kind that it would be sheer ingratitude were I disposed otherwise. It is quite unprecedented for journalists to be received as we were last night at Victoria Station. I was quite moved by the greeting we have received, in our own language, at the hands of so eminent a man as Sir Edward Lawson. I cannot tell you more to-day—see the number of visitors waiting to be received; but any time you will care to hear more I am at your disposal. What do I think of the English? Well, from what I have seen of them until now, 'Je les trouve beaux, bons, excellents!'"

"THE JAPANESE BRIDE"

A TRANSLATION of "The Japanese Bride" has been advertised for some time, but no sooner did it appear than its sale was interdicted by the Minister of Home Affairs on the ground that its contents were prejudicial to public morals.

* * *

A large number of prominent Christians of Tokyo, according to the *Kirisutokyo Shimbun*, met in the rooms of the Young Men's Christian Association on the 14th ultimo to discuss the case of Mr Tamura, the author of the above work. Evidently, the metropolitan Christians are too impatient to wait till the meeting of the general synod of the Church in July next, when the matter will be finally disposed of. The meeting of the 14th instant is reported to have come to a decision that another attempt should be made to induce Mr. Tamura by moral persuasion to make a public avowal of his error; that, in case the attempt should fail, the question should be discussed at public meetings and in the press; and that other methods should be employed for starting a strong public demonstration

* * *

A report comes from Osaka that the recent conference of the Church authorities at Osaka discussed the same subject and decided unfavourably to Mr. Tamura. Messrs. Maktoka Tetsuya and Miyakawa Kazuo were elected a Committee to give some moral advice to the condemned author.

* * *

The *Kirisutokyo Shimbun* (the *Christian*), of the 20th ultimo, refers to the *Kobe Herald*'s comments on the subject, and observes that the Kobe paper is the first defender Mr. Tamura has found in Japan. Our religious contemporary refrains on the present occasion from repeating any detailed criticism of the book, for the errors with which it is replete have been minutely pointed out in its own columns and in those of another religious paper, the *Fuku-in Shimpo*. It, however, proceeds to remark that the principal ground on which it is opposed to "The Japanese Bride" is not that it contains erroneous statements, but that the tone in which it is written entirely lacks that earnest desire of effecting good which alone can excuse one in exposing the defects of one's compatriots before the eyes of foreign nations. Our contemporary consequently fails to see any reason why Mr. Tamura's action in publishing his book should not be denounced by his countrymen, and especially believers in Christianity. He deserves all the more to be denounced because he occupies the important post of pastor of a Church.

AN INTERNATIONAL BOAT-RACE.

A VERY interesting sporting event took place on Monday afternoon upon the Bay, between two fourteen-oared boats manned by men from H.M.S. *Imperiense* and the U.S. war-vessels now in port. The course was four miles in length and the race throughout was keenly fought. The *Imperiense* boat forged ahead at the start and managed to keep this lead to the finish, when the British tars were declared the winners by something less than a minute. The course took just 34 minutes to row. The affair caused a great deal of enthusiasm among the Naval men of both nationalities.

BUDDHIST RITUAL.

A CORRESPONDENT is anxious to know the name of some book dealing descriptively and explanatorily with the ceremonies observed in Buddhist temple services. Books about the legends, the doctrines, the opposing sects, the literature, and the ecclesiastical organisation of Buddhism are plentiful enough; but where such a work as our Correspondent refers to is to be found we have no idea. Perhaps some of our readers may be able to answer the question.

MR. KIN KA CHIM.

THE *Hochi Shimbun* says a telegram has been received in the capital to the effect that Mr. Kim, ex-Korean Minister to Japan, has been arrested in Söul on suspicion of being connected in some way with Mr. Omiwa, ex-Japanese Adviser in the Korean Mint. It will be remembered, the *Hochi* adds, that Mr. Kim was suspected of having drafted the representation presented by Mr. Omiwa to the King of Korea.

THE FUTURE OF RAW SILK.

AT the close of a long and admirably composed article upon the present prospects of the raw silk markets of Japan, the *Fiji Shimpo* strongly advises the Japanese producers to hold on to their new staple and not lose heart at the low prices which are at present prevailing. The United States market is only temporarily disorganised, and the *Fiji* thinks that the demand for Japanese silks will revive and surpass its former extent as soon as the silver difficulty is arranged.

FIRE IN SHANGHAI.

AN extensive fire broke out on the French Concession, Shanghai on the morning of the 27th ult. About 130 Chinese and 177 French houses were destroyed. The Insurance companies interested are the North British and Mercantile, Commercial Union Northern, London and Lancashire, Imperial, New Zealand Union of London, China Fire, and Straits, with lines to the total extent of from Tls. 60,000 to

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Tls. 70,000. A child of eight and a youth of eighteen unfortunately lost their lives through falling into the city moat.

We gratefully acknowledge the following subscriptions to this fund :—

Gustave Gibert, Esq.	$10.00
J. E. B.	5 00
B. B.	3.00
L. F. R	5 00
Edwin Dun, Esq American Minister	25.00
M. de Bunsen, Esq. H.B.M. Chargé d'Affaires.	10 00
M. Senkiewicz, Minister for France	30.00
Graham Hall, 33, Kamiu-bancho	15 00
Chevalier de Martino, Italian Minister	40 00
H E. Hitrovo, H.I.R.M.'s Minister.	30.00
Messageries Maritimes Co.	15.00
X.Y.U.	5 00
"Cito," Tokyo	15.00

TAXES ON SHIPS, CARRIAGES, AND CONFECTIONERY.

There are not a few taxes in Japan, observes the *Hochi*, that require revision, but of these none are in need of more urgent revision than the taxes imposed on ships and carriages. The revenue accruing from the first named is about 260,000 *yen*, while from the second source the taxes amount to 670,000 *yen*. Thus their aggregate does not exceed one million *yen*. They weigh heavily upon persons engaged in their re-repective businesses, however; but this point has up to the present been disregarded by the legislature. The *Hochi* thinks this very strange indeed. The tax on confectionery is also very burdensome and serves but to oppress honest confectioners, for unscrupulous ones easily elude the imposition. That the tax is eluded by dishonest men is evident from the fact that while the consumpuon of sugar is increasing, the amount of tax on collected confectionery is decreasing. The confectioners have taken steps to petition the Diet to have the present Regulation revised. The total amount of revenue derived from the tax on confectionery was about 620,000 *yen* in 1891, and the petition asks that the taxes be now reduced by one-third.

SIGNALLING WITH THE SHORE.

In a report, just issued, the Postmaster-General of Great Britain says:—Last summer a series of interesting experiments was made between the Island of Flat Holm in the British Channel and the mainland, a distance of three miles, for the purpose of testing the possibility of communicating by telegraph with an outlying rock lighthouse without laying a cable between the two points. It might often be the case that the violence of a storm and the continual chafing of a cable on the rocks would sever the communication at the very moment when there was the greatest need for its existence. In order to test the experiment a wire was erected on the mainland parallel with another on the island, and by means of strong currents sent through the former, and by induction through the air, signals were transmitted to the wire on the island, and telegraphic messages were exchanged. Although such means of communication cannot be regarded as of practical value at present, the day may come when science will surmount existing difficulties and open up a cheap and effective means of communicating with these outlying spots.

COUNT OKUMA ON TREATY REVISION.

The *Kokkai* publishes an account of an interview which a certain person is said to have had with Count Okuma on the subject of Treaty Revision. The visitor being of opinion that, unless Japan feels herself strong enough to take independent action in case her alliance may be requested by England, the Imperial Government cannot be too cautious in accepting any overtures on the part of that Power Count Okuma expressed himself in approval of that view. He then goes on to remark that in order to attain the object of Treaty Revision, the Government must be prepared to lead, and not follow, the people. On the subject of customs tariff, the Count declares himself in favour of reserving the Power of determining the schedule of duties by independent legislation. America, he says, attaches much importance to the question of tariff; but the other Powers of the West are inclined to attach less importance to the subject. Lastly, with regard to the rates of duties, the Count states that it will be sufficient reason to raise them to three times their present amount.

BIG FIRE IN CANTON.

Advices have reached the *Chung Ngoi San Po* to the effect that 4 p.m. on the 21st instant a disastrous fire broke out at Chan Chuen, a busy town near Canton. It originated in a small hut at Sanhü and spread rapidly to the neighbouring buildings, consuming upwards of 200 houses occupied by the poorer classes. A number of bamboo ware, rice, and paper shops and boat-building yards were also burnt. The firemen turned out promptly and exerted themselves to the best of their ability to put out the fire, but they did not succeed until 9 o'clock p.m.

NEW BISHOP FOR JAPAN.

It has been understood for some time past that two new Bishoprics were to be established in connection with the Church Missionary Society, in Southern and Northern Japan respectively, to one of which, as recently announced, the Rev. H. Evington, M.A., was appointed. The other, we now learn, has been conferred upon the Rev. James Barton, M.A., vicar of Holy Trinity, Cambridge. It is not yet known which of the two bishops will be stationed here.—*Rising Sun.*

THE CEYLON V. STRAITS CRICKET MATCH.

The first match in this interport contest resulted in a draw very much in favour of the Straits eleven. Colombo made 168 in the first innings and the Straits 216. In the second innings the Straits contingent scored 146 for seven wickets and then declared their innings closed. Colombo then went again to bat and had scored 138 runs for nine when time was up and play finished. Anthony, of the Straits team, made a century not out.

IMPERIAL GRANTS.

We read in the *Official Gazette* that Their Imperial Majesties the Emperor and Empress have been graciously pleased to make the following grants towards the relief of sufferers by the recent inundations:—*Yen* 3,500 to Okayama Prefecture, *yen* 2,500 each to Tottori and Oita Prefectures, *yen* 1,500 each to Shimane and Fukuoka Prefectures, and *yen* 1,000 each to Kumamoto and Ehime Prefectures.

MYSTERIOUS DISAPPEARANCE.

A home correspondent of the *Daily Press* writes:—Lieut. M. A. Cockcraft, well known in Hongkong as the navigator of H.M.S. *Tyne*, left this ship at Chatham six or seven weeks ago to take his chronometers to Greenwich. This he did, and after depositing them there he has not been heard of since. This has never been published yet, as the Admiralty, who are making inquiries, have kept him on the ship's books, even in this month's Navy List.

TRADE IN INDIA

The *Times of Ceylon* of the 9th ult. says:—Trade in India is said to be reviving, and money is becoming dearer, with a consequence that exchange is rising steadily. The rupee is quoted 1/3 $\frac{3}{32}$ to-day, and shows a tendency to rise still further. We hear that the Indian Government has withdrawn all the silver it possibly can from the Banks, in order to starve them into paying higher rates; but whether this is true we cannot say.

H.M.S. "PEACOCK."

A Court of Inquiry, says the *China Mail*, is to be held on board H.M.S. *Victor Emanuel* upon the grounding on a rock at Cape Patience of the H.M.S. *Peacock* on 30th August. Cape Patience is on the Japanese coast. The *Peacock* is now in dock. Her false keel is very badly damaged.

ELECTION DISTURBANCE.

A telegram despatched from Sendai on the 2nd inst. at 11.40 a.m., and received by the *Nippon* states that some two hundred disorderly Progressionists created a serious disturbance in connection with the election of a representative in the Lower House for the Fifth District of Miyagi Prefecture, and some Radical electors and *roshi* have been wounded.

SUPERSEDED.

The once-celebrated steamers of the Guion Line are gradually resolving themselves into scrap. The *Wyoming* is to proceed to the East Coast, where she will be broken up. Her sister, the *Nevada*, is reposing "rustfully" in the Alexandra Dock, Liverpool. The *Alaska* and *Arizona* are running regularly on the Atlantic, but their arrival and departure is no longer the theme of newspaper scribes. No longer do the local reporters burst into eloquence over the "magnificent ocean liner."

SHANGHAI PARI-MUTUEL.

From the advertisement referring to the Pari-Mutuel, it will be noticed, says the *Shanghai Mercury*, that the Stewards of the Race Club have decided to deduct no less than ten per cent. commission from the winnings during the forthcoming meeting, instead of the customary five per cent. It will be interesting to watch the effect of this change upon the receipts.

THE WICKET-KEEPER.

The sporting journal named *Cricket* draws attention to the definition given by Webster's Dictionary of a "wicket-keeper.' It is hardly credible, but Webster defines him thus:—"Wicket-keeper.—The player in cricket who stands with a bat to protect the wicket from the ball" But Noah Webster was an American, and probably did not know better.

HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB.

The annual meeting of the Hongkong Jockey Club proved rather an exciting affair, objection being taken to an item in the accounts appearing under the caption of "legal expenses." Strong expressions of opinion were indulged in by the participants in the discussion, but eventually the accounts were passed and the rest of the business of the meeting was disposed of quietly.

H.M.S. "HYACINTH."

H.M.S. *Hyacinth*, which was transferred last year from the China squadron to the Pacific station, is, says a British Columbia journal, now reclassed under orders from the Admiralty, and instead of being a fourth-class cruiser will be known as a screw sloop. Her complement of men will be 168 instead of 176 as formerly.

NEW PEERS AND A DECORATION.

On Monday the Emperor was pleased to elevate to the peerage Mr. Kono Togama, a Privy Councillor, and Mr. Hayashi Tadahiro, with the titles of Viscount and Baron respectively. At the same time H.E. Mutsu Munemitsu, Minister of Foreign Affairs, was decorated with the First Class of the order of the Sacred Treasure.

MR YOKOI TOKIWO.

The Tokyo News Agency informs us that Mr. Yokoi Tokiwo, one of the most distinguished Christian thinkers in Japan, will be elevated to the peerage with the rank of Baron in consideration of the services rendered to the country by his deceased father Yokoi Heishiro.

EXEMPLARY.

At the Shanghai Mixed Court recently a gambler, under remand, charged with attempting to use a sword on a Sikh policeman on the 16th of September during a gambling raid, was sentenced to 300 blows, three months' cangue, and deportation.

THE WORLD'S FAIR.

The *Official Gazette* says a telegraphic message was despatched by a Japanese Government Commissioner at Chicago on the 30th ult. at 11.30 p.m. stating that the World's Fair was formally closed on the day of despatch of telegram.

"FROM THE FIVE RIVERS."

We acknowledge receipt of a copy of the above work from the publisher, Mr. William Heinemann, of London.

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THE "HAROLD" AND "ECHIGO MARU" COLLISION.

THE question arising out of a recent collision in the Shanghai river has been settled out of Court, a result which, though satisfactory on the whole, is disappointing in some respects. The facts of the accident were peculiar. The *Echigo Maru*, a steamer belonging to the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, was lying at anchor in the river, with a light at the fore and another at the stern. According to British maritime regulations, a vessel at anchor shows only one light, which must be twenty feet above the deck. But modern authorities are agreed that a better system in practice is to show two lights, one in the fore part of the ship and one in the rear, by which means not alone the mere fact of a vessel's presence is indicated, but her outlines also are shown. When we say "modern authorities," we refer especially to the Maritime Conference held recently in Washington, when a modification of the old rule in that sense was unanimously approved. Between the recommendation of a body of experts, however, and its embodiment in national regulations, there is often a long interval. The Washington counsel is not traversed by any one, but it thus far remains merely a counsel, not having been translated into a law binding upon European and American masters of ships. Japan, however, being in the advantageous position of having to frame new laws upon many subjects with Western experience and Western wisdom to guide her, embodied the Washington recommendation in the "Rules to Prevent Collisions at Sea," passed by her Diet two sessions ago. She has not, so far as we know, conveyed to foreign States any intimation of the fact, and her apparent failure to do so is severely commented on by some critics, who claim, not unjustly, that if Japanese ships follow a system different from that generally followed in given circumstances, however superior the system may be, due means of publishing her singularity ought to be adopted. Be that as it may, a Japanese ship has to observe Japanese laws, and the *Echigo Maru*, in observance of them, lay at anchor in the Shanghai river showing a light at her fore and a light at her stern. Meanwhile, a sailing vessel, the *Harold*, coming up the river, signalled for a pilot, and seeing presently two lights, supposed them to be the lights shown by two pilot boats in reply to her signal. She therefore steered to pass right between them, deeming it quicker to go to them than to await their coming to her, and of course instead of passing safely between two pilot boats, she crashed into the *Echigo Maru* amidships. No great damage was done, but still there was damage, and at once the question arose, who should be held responsible. The *Echigo Maru* folk said that they had been acting in strict accord with the laws of their country, and that, for the rest, the system pursued by them was recognised by the highest authorities as the most effectual for preventing collisions. The other side contended that they recognised only British law, which, for the rest, had the sanction of long practice not by British ships alone, but by the ships of all maritime nations in the West. Neither party urged, however, though both might have done so, that as the accident occurred in China's territorial waters, Chinese laws alone were applicable. There being no such laws, it was probably considered useless to raise the point. Appearances at one time indicated that the matter would come up for legal argument in open Court, but whether the amount involved—some two or three hundred taels—was thought too small for serious dispute, or whether both parties were wise enough to eschew litigation, a settlement was finally made on the basis that the *Harold* should make good the damage suffered by the *Echigo Maru*. Virtually, therefore, the point seems to have been conceded that a Japanese ship obeying the *dicta* of Japanese law under the circumstances related, is not accountable for any consequence that may result from a difference between that law and the laws of other countries. But we are by no means sure that the issue in this particular instance admits such a general interpretation. For it is pretty plain that whatever the master of the *Harold* thought about the meaning of the two lights, he acted rashly in endeavouring to steer between them. The *Echigo Maru's* dimensions make it impossible that the lights can have been more than about 240 feet apart, and to steer across a space of eighty yards in a river with a strong current running, must always be counted rather risky navigation. Hence we are not sure whether the master of the colliding ship surrendered to a sense of his own rashness, or whether he recognised the inadmissability of the legal plea. Therefore it seems a pity that the question cannot be submitted to the touchstone of judicial examination. What law, for example, should be observed by ships lying at anchor in Japanese ports? Suppose that a Japanese vessel entering Yokohama ran into a British ship riding at anchor there and showing only one light, could a Japanese Court, being moved to grant damages against the Japan vessel, rule that the British ship's procedure had been proper and sufficient?

Mamma—"Oh, Bertie, here you are again, all covered with mud from head to foot." Bertram (in tears)—"It isn't my fault. I was sailing on a plank, when Willie Meigs gave me a push, and over I went." Mamma "Well, what are you crying so about? Is it painful to be covered with mud?" Bertram—"No, it ain't; but I thought that if I came in laughing you would whip me."

ECZEMA.—Book on "Skin Trouble," net, free for One Stamp by Messrs. NORTH & RAE Limited, Yokohama.

THE "SAKATA MARU" STRANDING CASE.

THE Court of Enquiry, held by the Mercantile Marine Board to investigate the circumstances attendant on the stranding of the *Sakata Maru* near Inuboye in August last, does not appear to have erred on the side of severity either in the terms of its finding or in the degree of punishment inflicted upon the master of the vessel. The result of the enquiry, which appears to have been thoroughly exhaustive and very ably conducted, shows that, early on the morning of the 26th of August, the ship passed Kinkwa-san Light at a distance of seven miles; that during the whole of the succeeding day no land was sighted, while the weather was foggy at intervals, increasing to dense fog at nightfall; that at noon there was a variation of seven miles in the ship's position as worked out by such observations as it had been possible to take and by dead reckoning—and although the weather had been such as to render good observations at least difficult, the master seems to have adopted the result obtained by the former without allowing himself to be influenced by what was (under the circumstances) the very marked discrepancy between it and the result obtained by the latter; and that, shortly after nine o'clock, when the vessel, according to the master's reckoning, should have been at a distance of nearly thirty miles from Inuboye Light she took the ground about twelve miles to the north of it. Kinkwa-san is one of the most prominent points of observation on the voyage between the Hokkaido and Yokohama, if not the most prominent; and as in navigation it is always important to take all advantage of every point of departure, and still more so on a coast so liable to dense fog as is the entire north-east of Japan, it was primarily the duty of the master himself to verify the ship's position in passing the light on this particular point, if indeed it was not his duty to have been on the bridge from the time the light was sighted. This duty, however, he seems to have left entirely to the second mate, although he came on the bridge to alter the course after the result of the mate's observations had been reported to him. The course was altered to one which he had found on a previous voyage had set him in shore about four miles, a distance nearly sufficient to have caused the stranding of the ship on that occasion, though fortunately ill-consequences were then averted by Inuboye Light being sighted at a distance of nineteen miles—thus allowing ample time for turning the ship outwards. Notwithstanding this experience, sufficient to have taught a man of ordinary prudence the necessity of extreme caution, even under the most favourable circumstances of weather, the ship was pushed at night at full speed through thick fog, no thought of

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using the lead being entertained, apparently, until it was too late. The Court found that the master was guilty of negligence of duty, of want of prudent attention to his duties, and of careless navigation. We find some difficulty in apprehending the refinement of the distinction to be drawn between the terms of the first two findings, but it does not seem to us that a pretty strong adjective would have been misapplied if prefixed to the leading substantive in both cases, while in the terms of the third finding the word "reckless" might not unfairly have been substituted for the milder "careless."

The results of the casualty were serious, and might have been much more so had it not been for the energy and eminent skill with which remedial steps were taken. The ship remained for nearly a whole month ashore on an open coast exposed to the full force of an easterly gale, and had such occurred during that time she must undoubtedly have become a total wreck. As it was, fortune favoured the salvers, and she was ultimately got off and safely docked at Yokosuka. The expense to the company, though trifling compared with what the loss of the ship would have meant, must have been heavy, but it will have been well incurred if it teaches the inadvisability of employing insufficiently paid services in posts requiring the very highest degree of skill and care. A more pernicious policy, or one more detrimental to the very best interests of such a company as the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, carrying on an immense trade on coasts so fraught with every danger as are those of Japan, cannot easily be imagined. There is no lack of thoroughly competent navigators and seamen, possessed of mature local experience, but their willing and efficient service cannot be looked for, especially on such a line as that between Yokohama and the north, where dense fog in summer and blinding snow in winter demand the utmost degree of vigilance, when that service is inadequately remunerated. Foreigners have little or no interest in the northern lines of the company. Foreign passengers are few and far between, and the cargo carried is Japanese property covered by Japanese insurance-policies. But a bad name gained in one branch may only too quickly extend to others, a large part of the earnings on which is derived from foreign support, and then foreign insurance companies may be found looking askance at the risks offered to them even in the best appointed steamers in the company's fleet. Even a moderate interest on the capital dropped in the present instance might represent a large fraction of a liberal annual remuneration to a zealous, careful, and experienced master. What would it have amounted to had there been a total loss?

"*A GREAT NATIONAL QUESTION.*"

THIS is the title of an interesting brochure on the question of Treaty Revision recently issued from the office of the *Kokumin Shimbun*. The author is Mr. HITOMI ICHITARO, a very clever young writer on the staff of that newspaper. Like most of the writers of the school to which he belongs, Mr. HITOMI is not altogether free from the charge of affectation and prolixity in his style of writing. The work, however, is upon the whole well composed, and certainly deserves the attention of every student of current politics in Japan. The author begins at the very threshold of his subject and reviews at some length the history of treaty making in the latter days of the TOKUGAWA Government. In this portion of the work we find nothing particularly worthy of notice, though the author is entitled to much praise for the interesting manner in which he marshals dry facts. Coming down to the early years of the present era, Mr. HITOMI finds much to criticise severely in the foreign policy of the new Government, especially in regard to the interpretation and enforcement of the old treaties as well as the conclusion of new ones. The first blunder which HIS MAJESTY'S Cabinet committed in this direction was the grant of self-government to the foreign settlements of Osaka and Kobe. Another and more serious mistake for which the *Meiji* Government is blamed is that it has failed or neglected to insist on the right interpretation of extra-territoriality. But this question will be noticed more at length later on. The statesmen of the new *régime* have not, says the author, shown themselves more skilful in the art of treaty making than their predecessors of pre-Restoration days. To illustrate this charge, Mr. HITOMI points to the Austro-Hungarian treaty of 1869, and to the conclusion of equally unfavourable treaties with such insignificant countries as Hawaii and Peru, just on the eve of the departure for the Occident of the IWAKURA Mission, one of the objects of which was to give notice of the revision of the existing treaties. The author then proceeds to examine the successive efforts of the Government to extricate the country from the humiliating position in which its ignorance of foreign affairs placed it. In reviewing this history of grievous failures, frequent occasion occurs to refer to the overwhelming influence exercised by the late Sir HARRY S. PARKES over his colleagues, and to the stout opposition which he always presented to Japan's demand for Treaty Revision. Neither is there any omission of expressions of gratitude for the warm sympathy shown towards Japan by men like General GRANT, Mr. YOUNG, Sir JOHN POPE HENNESSY and Sir EDWARD REED. The Revision Programmes of Count INOUYE and Count OKUMA are severely criticised, though towards that of Count OKUMA more or less sympathy is manifested. The Progressionist leader, says our author, does not deserve the hatred he received from his countrymen on account of his scheme of revision. He is entitled to much praise for the conclusion of an equal treaty with Mexico, and for successfully insisting on the right interpretation of the Most Favoured Nation clause. Approval is also given to his policy of negotiating separately with different Powers hitherto united in a strong confederacy against Japan.

The author thinks that the time is now ripe for the resumption of negotiations to solve this knotty problem. It is not to be expected that a writer on the staff of an ultra-Opposition paper like the *Kokumin Shimbun* should have any good words to say about the present Ministry. Yet unfriendly as he is towards the Cabinet generally, Mr. HITOMI nevertheless acknowledges that what he calls "the negative confidence" of the people in the Government is now steadily increasing; in other words, that, although the people do not believe that the Cabinet will be able to effect any remarkable good, they do believe that it will not do much evil. Being thus satisfied that the administration of internal affairs is now in comparatively trustworthy hands, the people are directing their attention, hitherto engrossed by domestic politics, to the foreign affairs of the country. Thus the present moment is pronounced most favourable for the Government to resume the question of Treaty Revision. Moreover, the Ministry now in power is under special obligations to take prompt action for re-opening negotiations, since it is composed of statesmen who have been from the first inseparably connected with the problem. Moreover, if affairs at home are eminently favourable for approaching the matter in earnest, the same may be said of affairs abroad, for the attitude of foreign nations is more friendly towards Japan than it has ever been before. In support of the latter assertion, the author refers to the sympathetic writings of English papers like *The Times* and *Industry* on Japanese subjects generally and on the question of Treaty Revision in particular. The articles alluded to by him appeared for the most part in these two journals some years ago. He also mentions in this context writings about Japan by men like Sir EDWIN ARNOLD and Mr. HENRY NORMAN. The time being thus ripe for the opening of negotiations with the Treaty Powers, Mr. HITOMI proceeds to consider the preliminary measures which must be taken by the Japanese Government. The first of these measures is to ascertain the views of the people on the question, and to elaborate a scheme of revision along lines desired by the nation at large. Secondly, the Cabinet Ministers must be firmly united on the question. Dissensions in official ranks were always one of the causes of past failures. Lastly, the work of elaborating

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the scheme of revision should be assigned to a commission composed of men of all shades of opinion. The statesmen suggested for this purpose are Count ITO, Count INOUYE, Count KURODA, and Mr. MUTSU representing official circles; and Count ITAGAKI, Count OKUMA, Mr. FUKUZAWA, and Viscount TANI, as representatives of non-official classes. When these measures of preparation are completed, success will have been half achieved.

The existing treaties, according to our author, are virtually dead letters. He contends that both Commodore PERRY and TOWNSEND HARRIS assured the officials of the TOKUGAWA Government that, on the expiration of the term stated in the treaty, Japan should be free to revise it according her own views. In the letter addressed to the SHOGUN by the President of the UNITED STATES and brought over by PERRY, it is stated that, "after opening the country for five or ten years, if it be deemed disadvantageous to your country, Your Highness may revert to the old system of seclusion." HARRIS also assured the Bakufu officials that, after the expiration of fifteen years, they would be at liberty to take whatever course they might think fit.* Such being the case, it is argued that it was not the intention of those who drew up the existing treaty between Japan and America to insist upon maintaining it upon the expiration of the specified period. The other Powers having merely copied the American treaty, the author contends that whatever applies to that treaty applies equally well to the rest. Apart from this question as to the original intention of the makers of the existing treaties, Mr. HITOMI lays emphasis upon the fact that such covenants no longer suit the condition of the country, Japan has entirely outgrown them. Then going back once more to the days when the present treaties were concluded, he alludes to the fact that their original model was a treaty which HARRIS had signed with Siam on his way to Japan. It was a great humiliation for Japan to be treated even in those days on the same level with a country like Siam. How much more is it unjust to leave her in the same position now, when she has made such vast improvements in every direction? He bitterly complains of the iniquity of delegating to the same position as Siam the Japan of to-day, with her 700 newspapers and magazines; 18,000 books yearly published; 26,000 primary schools; 1,800 higher schools, including universities and colleges; 270,000 fighting men, including 4 182 officers and 10,534 non-commissioned officers; and 35 serviceable men-of-war. He also draws attention to the influential position which his country occupies in this part of the globe, and declares that the balance of power in the East is in her hand.

A special chapter is devoted to the consideration of the subject of extra-territoriality. The maintenance of Consular Jurisdiction is not only a disgraceful blot on the sovereignty of the country, but has created several nests of wickedness and vice in the form of foreign settlements. These settlements, in the author's opinion, are so many refuges for Japanese thieves, robbers, gamblers, and prostitutes. There these dregs of society find safe shelter under roofs protected by foreign Consuls. He also charges Consular officials with partiality and prejudice in the administration of justice. With regard to the interpretation of extra-territoriality, he invites his readers to examine with him all the stipulations in the treaties bearing upon this point, and remarks that, strictly speaking, the privilege of extra-territoriality extends only to cases arising out of the relations between individual foreigners and Japanese. Foreigners are not exempted from the observance of administrative laws, for the treaties do not confer the privilege of extra-territoriality in their relations to the State. The *Meiji* Government is severely blamed for neglecting to insist upon this just and literal interpretation of extra-territoriality. In abolishing such an iniquitous system as that now prevailing, no resort should be had to half measures like the appointment of foreigners to sit upon the Japanese bench. A comparison is also made between Japanese Judges and foreign Consuls, and it goes without saying that the verdict is extremely unfavourable to the latter. In another chapter, the author discusses the question of tariff autonomy. He belongs to that class of Japanese writers who insist on the recovery of tariff autonomy in the sense that Japan shall have free hands to determine her schedule of duties by legislation and not by convention. His writing on this point is neither accurate nor reasonable. He observes, for instance, that all the countries of Europe and America have full freedom to change their rates of customs duties at will, which, of course, is quite untrue. However, not protection but revenue is his evident aim, for he contends that the import duties should undergo an average increase of from 15 to 20 per cent, without reference to questions of productive or manufacturing competition. Speaking of the abortive treaty concluded by the late Viscount YOSHIDA KIYONARI with the United States Government in 1878, by which that Government agreed to restore tariff autonomy to Japan in the sense required by the author, in return for the opening of a few additional ports for foreign trade, he notes that if the attitude of a great foreign Power towards Japan was such fifteen years ago, when the latter's trade had reached only one-third of its present volume, it is not to be supposed that the other Powers concerned would make much difficulty now. But in this hypothesis he neglects one vital factor, namely, that the United States has virtually no interest in Japan's import trade.

We come now to the most interesting portion of the book, namely, the chapter on Mixed Residence,—a question which to-day engrosses public attention in Japan. The author strongly criticises those who think that it is as yet too early to open the country for Mixed Residence. To attempt to recover judicial and tariff autonomy without granting the privilege of Mixed Residence, would be to demand not an equal but an unequal treaty; for the Japanese enjoy in the dominions of the treaty Powers the privileges which they are now invited to withhold from all foreigners. Such a course of action in neither sanctioned by justice nor possible in practice. Those who insist on any procedure of the kind must be regarded as opponents not of Mixed Residence but of Treaty Revision. The abolition of Consular Jurisdiction means the removal of machinery very serviceable in the interests of foreigners; while the recovery of the tariff autonomy cannot but cause them some inconvenience by bringing about a general increase in the rates of custom duties. It is evident, therefore, says the author, that foreigners will not under any circumstances consent to give up the present system without some adequate compensation. Those who think that they will be guided by abstract principles of right and justice form an over-high estimate of the moral standard of Western peoples. Mr. HITOMI is persuaded that the nation as a whole is in favour of opening the interior for Mixed Residence. In the Diet it is approved by the Radicals, the Progressionists, and the *Domei* Club, that is to say, by a large majority of the Representatives. Its opponents include only a few politicians who have forfeited the confidence of the nation by their improper conduct, a small coterie of Conservatives, one or two time-serving Professors of the University and a few timid priests and ignorant peasants. Broadly they may be divided into two classes, namely, those who oppose the admission of foreigners from scorn, and those who oppose it from fear, and the great majority belong to the latter class. Their apprehension may be classed under the three headings of racial rivalry, religious competition, and economic war. The question of races is large. No man can easily foretell which race is destined to emerge victorious. The struggle has just begun, and is likely to continue undecided for many centuries to come. Evidently it were altogether premature to pronounce any verdict as to which race is superior and which inferior. Nothing is more sincerely regrettable in our author's eyes than the fact that some Japanese are so mean-spirited and craven as to maintain that the race to which they themselves belong is inferior to European and American races. Among Occidentals, there is a tendency to judge the Japanese by stan-

* Record of Conversation between Harris and Toki Bamba-no Kami and other Bakufu Ministers.

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dards derived from knowledge of the labouring classes, or to draw pictures of Japanese ladies on the lines of Japanese prostitutes. Yet, even among foreigners, those who have come into contact with the better classes of Japanese have a high opinion of this nation. The author then undertakes to compare Japanese with Occidentals morally, intellectually, and physically. Morally, he pronounces them equal, if not superior, to Europeans and Americans. In honesty, law-abiding disposition, friendliness, patriotism, and in the relations between parents and children, the Japanese are certainly not surpassed by any other nation, though in the relations between husband and wife, the author frankly confesses that Japan has something to learn from the West. Yet, even in that sphere, the Japanese are comparatively free from the vice of sacrificing love to money which is so common in Europe and America. Again, there exists in Japan what is called the *Samurai* spirit. It is the salt of Japanese morality. This is the spirit that distinguishes the Japanese police and custom house officials so favourably from their *confrères* in the United States. In power of physical endurance the Japanese may yield the palm to Occidentals, but they are conspicuous for industry and thrift. In intellectual endowments, too, the author finds no reason to think the Japanese inferior to Europeans. For in addition to a universally admitted and very remarkable capacity of assimilation, they have already furnished indications of no mean inventive power. This last contention is illustrated by references to recent inventions for naval and military purposes, as well as to the original researches of men like KITAZATO, OGATA, and so forth. Moreover, Japanese students studying at the various seats of learning in Europe and America have proved themselves quite capable of competing with Occidental youths. What, again, has been the experience of Japanese in competition with foreigners in Japan? The author takes the case of foreign teachers, missionaries, and physicians. In the various schools it has been proved by experience that foreign instructors are by no means superior to Japanese. As to missionaries, their place is being more and more taken by Japanese. Finally, with regard to foreign doctors, excepting some German experts like Dr. BAELZ and others, the Western physicians, now in Japan, especially the American, are said to be far inferior to their Japanese *confrères*. Coming to the question of physique, our author cannot say that the Japanese are equal to Europeans, but he claims for them sound characteristics in which they compare favourably with Occidentals. Their power of procreation is one of these. At the present rate of increase, the population will double in the next hundred years. Thus, all things considered, the author can not believe that the Japanese are inferior to Occidentals. He also undertakes to refute the common notion that the opening of the interior would be followed by a large influx of foreigners, and then, proceeding to speak of religious competition, he tells the cowardly Buddhist priests that they need not fear much from the opening of the country, since even now foreign missionaries are freely allowed to preach the Gospel everywhere in the empire, while the number of propagandists which the foreign Missionary Socities are capable of sending out is obviously not unlimited. As to merchants and others, their only object being gain, little danger exists of their exercising any religious influence on their Japanese neighbours. The Buddhists are now thinking of sending propagandists abroad, but if the country is fully opened for foreign residence, these zealots will have materials at hand, and can begin their task without leaving their own shores. Lastly, as to the economic war, Mr. HITOMI assures his countrymen that they have little to fear from the competition of foreigners. As a matter of fact Mixed Residence exists at present. Foreigners are even now able to carry on business in the interior. But the truth is that few openings offer for the investment of foreign capital. Mines are owned either by the Government or by wealthy private persons, and agriculture under foreign management would not be profitable. As to the possession of villas and other residences, past experience proves that there is nothing inconvenient in that. Thus from every point of view, Mr. HITOMI thinks that little danger is to be apprehended from Mixed Residence. But with regard to the Chinese, he is positively opposed to the grant of such a privelege to them. That nation alone the Japanese have reasons to fear. If the Chinese be admitted into the interior, they will prove dangerous competitors for Japanese in manufacture, in labour, and in trade. In military and scientific departments the Japanese have nothing to fear from Chinese competition, but in the fields above specified Chinamen are admitted to be formidable rivals, and to be also objectionable fellow-citizens for many reasons.

As to the ownership of real property, the author is in favour of granting that privilege to foreigners upon the abolition of Consular Jurisdiction. But the point should be settled, he thinks, by legislation and not by treaty.

One of the most potent reasons why foreigners are opposed to the revision of the treaties, is that they already enjoy nearly all the privileges that could be conferred by new treaties. Consequently, the author calls upon the Government to enforce the strict letter of existing treaties. Four points are enumerated in this context. First, foreigners should never be allowed to go beyond treaty limits without passports. Secondly, the infraction of any Japanese law by a foreigner should be strictly dealt with. Thirdly, foreigners now living unlawfully in the interior should be sent back into the settlements. Fourthly and lastly, houses and lands owned by foreigners outside the settlements should be confiscated, and all Japanese who have assisted foreigners in the purchase of these properties should be punished.

In the concluding chapter, the author treats of the procedure to be followed for revision of treaties. The Japanese Government has hitherto failed to accomplish the task, because it has not approached this problem in real earnest, that is to say, with a resolution to appeal, if necessary, to the last resource. Two courses can be followed by the Government. One is to demand the revision of the existing treaties on a basis of absolute equality, and at the same time to give the different foreign Governments notice as to the consequences of their refusal to concede Japan's demand. Such an intimation would assume something of the following form:—First, as the Japanese are convinced of their right to have the treaties revised, refusal on the part of any foreign Government to effect revision will produce most undesirable consequences on the social and commercial relations between that Government's nationals and the Japanese; secondly, if the revision of the present treaty on an equal footing be refused, the Japanese Government will thenceforth withdraw from the subjects or citizens of the refusing Power the privilege of travel in the interior on the plea of sickness or scientific research, such of the said subjects or citizens as may be living in the interior being at the same time ordered back to the settlements; thirdly, the refusal of Japan's demand would be followed by confiscation of all property in the possession of the subjects or citizens of the particular Power or Powers concerned, and fourthly any foreign Government refusing Japan's demands must be prepared for the consequences of refusal in the event of war in the East. The alternative course of action is to give notice to the different Powers that the treaties will cease to be operative after a certain fixed date. The author quotes from an article in *The Times*, and observes that, denunciation of the existing treaties being approved by the great London journal, England would not oppose such a course of action on the part of the Japanese Government. The author's idea is that the first plan should be adopted at the outset, and that, if it fail, the existing treaties should be rigorously enforced, and simultaneously the second plan, namely, that of denunciation, should be carried out. In the event of the treaty Powers threatening Japan with war, the nation is urged to accept the challenge and fight for its honour and independence. Such are Mr. HITOMI'S views. We reproduce them for the most part without comment, though they invite some criticism

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chiefly with regard to the unsympathetic attitude which he seems to attribute to Foreign Powers. The interest of the book, as we think, depends primarily on the fact that it embodies the views of an intelligent section of the Japanese nation, and that it is certainly the most carefully reasoned and best informed treatise on the subject hitherto published in Japan.

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE RELIGIOUS PRESS.

An interesting display of material concerning the moral and religious condition of the nation lies before us in the religious periodicals of the month. We have not sufficient space to summarize it fully. A glance at some of the more important and timeworthy subjects only can be given.

* * *

The subject which, while it is not of the first importance, is most generally dealt with in the press of the month, is the now notorious and proscribed little book, "The Japanese Bride" and its author, Rev. Naomi Tamura. Mr. Tamura has been tried by his presbytery, the First Presbytery of Tokyo, and been found guilty of an intent to degrade his fellow countrymen in the eyes of foreign peoples. He has been sentenced to make public recantation of his errors of statement, in more than five newspapers, the recantation to be written by a committee of presbyters. We learn that the Presbytery was equally divided over the question, Was Mr. Tamura's fault one of *malice prepense* or not? and that the question was answered in the affirmative by the vote of the moderator. The accused has appealed to a higher church court. On the 22nd instant the Sukyabashi (Mr. Tamura's) Church was to have a meeting to decide upon its own future relations to the "Church of Christ of Japan." Information of its action has not yet reached us. "The Voluntary Young Christians"(?) of Tokyo met on the 14th inst., and resolved, unanimously, to antagonize Mr. Tamura, for the reason that he persists in carrying his case to a higher court in spite of the protests of various associations, friends, and others. They declare that they will compel his resignation from his pastorate, by personal interviews, and by appeal to society to cease all intercourse with him. Among comments on the case our attention has been called to an article in the chief Presbyterian organ, the *Fukuin Shimpo*, in which the writer says that, the "Japanese Bride" is a foolish work in itself, it deserves neither the notoriety it has gained nor the judgment of the Presbytery. Yet, since it was written by the pastor of a church, it acquired factitious importance and had to be officially condemned. In reviewing the action of the Presbytery, the *Fukuin Shimpo* regrets the confusion which took place among the presbyters at their session. Many influential men were present and tried, but with little success, to quiet the meeting. The sentence moreover was a vain thing. It should not have been said that Mr. Tamura had disgraced the nation by his falsehoods, but rather that Christians should be loyal to the State and that Mr. Tamura had violated the duty of loyalty. Also, it is a good thing if sinners repent, to lessen their punishment. But the Presbytery did not seek to bring about the offender's reformation, it aimed only at his punishment. Again, regard for forms rather than a really moral spirit seems to have directed the Presbytery. The critic says he speaks as a friend of the presbyters and knows how much they were beset by difficulties in their discussion through the five days the trial lasted. The Congregationalists' paper, the *Kurisuchokyo Shimbun*, remarks that had a foreigner published the "Japanese Bride" we should despise him. How much greater then, is our contempt for one of our fellow countrymen who issues the book in a foreign land. The book has met with universal denunciation with the single exception of the judgment of the English journal, the *Kobe Herald*. This paper is usually indifferent to religious matters. In the present instance it laughs at the Japanese Christians, and finds no reason in the book for the anger of patriotic Japanese. The few minor mistakes deserve only ridicule. The Japanese should not be so nervous. They cannot bear criticism; they seek only praise. This journal accuses the Japanese of trying to conceal their defects. Even the *Japan Mail* notes the errors of the book, continues the congregationalist writer. We are not concerned, he adds, about the facts in the book. The *spirit* of the author is what troubles us. If Mr. Tamura had written under an excessively earnest desire to help his countrymen the case would be different, but evidently he had no such purpose. Common sense condemns him, even though he did not violate the canons of his Church. The Buddhist periodicals do not pay much attention to this subject, so engrossing to the native Christians. We note the following judgments among them. In the *Hansei Zasshi* this: "Tamura has been the object of many attacks, has met with the laughter of foreigners, and has gained some money. This Tamura has miserably fallen. He cannot live even among Christians, his book is prohibited in the market, and he loses his position. Of course this must be his fate." *Dento* says: "We pity Tamura, but we pity also such Christians as oppose him. These are not sincere in their anger; they take this opportunity merely to make a display of a patriotism they do not feel."

* * *

Passing from the stir made over the hapless literary venture of Mr. Tamura, our attention is next arrested by considerable comment upon the contribution to the World's Religions Conference, from Rev. J. I. Yokoi, of Tokyo, in answer to the question "What is Christianity?" The magazine of the Greek Catholics, *Seikyo Shimbun*, sympathizes with Mr. Yokoi's great hope for a union of Christian sects, but cannot accept either Mr. Yokoi's principle or methods; not because of a narrow sectarianism, explains the magazine writer, Mr. Kisaburo Ishikawa, but from a really unpartisan conviction. Present Protestantism is directed by a rational theology whose origin and stimulus lie in the great rationalistic reaction against Roman Catholicism, which took place in the 16th century. Protestantism is rationalistic and philosophic. It is now largely dependent upon modern scientific speculation. But Christianity is neither philosophy nor science. Mr. Yokoi would save Christianity from rationalism. His purpose is good, but his thought is itself purely rationalistic. His reasoning is an emphasis of the Protestant mood. His views are those of a philosopher, not of a man of religion. Evidently he is not interpreting Christianity, but is creating only another form of Christianity. Christianity is the fountain of life. This cannot be discerned by apology or a demonstration. This life comes only through acceptance of dogma (divinely given to, and received from, the Church). How can God be known independently of such teaching? How can Christ be known, except by revelation from God? Christ was king, and chief priest, but also prophet. The Lord Christ was Life, and was also Truth and Way. This is Christianity, and Christianity is taught only by Christians. The essence of Christianity lies in faith, hope and love, it is true, but these virtues made known only though Christianity. Dogma is the vehicle of the religion of Christ. The Prophets before, and the apostles after, Christ were clothed with authority like Christ, to teach truth. The truth of life for the world now can come only though Christ and his apostles. The Unity and Trinity of God is known only through dogma. If that goes, the fountain and root of Christianity is gone also. The great mistake of the reformers of the 16th century was to rebel against divinely authorized teaching. For this reason the history of Protestantism has been a history of calamities and misery. Mr. Yokoi would perpetuate this mistake. Moreover, the real tendency of Mr. Yokoi, is to go to the extreme of putting Christianity upon the basis of practical ethics. That would ruin the religion of Christianity. Mr. Yokoi does not accept the doctrine of the Atonement. This doctrine being absent from his idea of Christianity, his Christianity becomes so different from ours that we can hardly criticise it as Christianity. We are glad to see him pleading for a return to faith and love, but he alienates us in his denial of Atonement. Nevertheless he is urgent for self denial and sacrifice in behalf of what he elevates as Christian principle. After this manner the Greek Catholic deals with the leading liberal orthodox Christian contribution from Japan to the World's Religious Congress. Buddhism too, we observe, has something to say concerning Mr. Yokoi's noticeable paper. In *Bukkyo*, after giving a summary of Mr. Yokoi's reasons for writing his article, and his proclamation that all Christians should now come under one banner, a writer adds, it is rather late for Mr. Yokoi to make this plea for religious unity. The plea is good, but Buddhists were long ago convinced that all men of good character, although differing intellectually from one another, might unite in one religion. Mr. Yokoi deals with his subject in this way: Christianity is the religion of its Founder; in Christ's teaching no other than religious and ethical elements enter; in essence Christianity may be taken as faith, hope, and love; Christinity differed from other religions in teaching by character and life rather than by mind. Mr. Yokoi, continues *Bukkyo*, is a brave, bold writer, says that Paul was Paul, and that Paul was fallible and at times was in error; that Paul's opinions are often in conflict with the thought of to-day. Mr. Yokoi thinks, however, that Christ was a perfect man and he is captivated by him. Taking this attitude, Mr. Yokoi remains on a level with all conservatives. Why not admit the fact that Christianity is only Christ's interpretation of Judaism? After all that Mr. Yokoi has so bravely attempted, we have as the result but another, a Yokoiean, interpretation of Christianity. Does not this essayist see that theism (the writer of this Summary is told that the word theism as here used means the doctrine of an extra-mundane, a personal God) that theism is the great obstacle to the spread of Christianity? Almost all philosophers oppose theism. Mr. Yokoi should not evade his rational responsibilities. Theism is the basis of Christianity. Of course philosophy does not settle things, but the reason has sway in philosophy. Philosophy and Religion must not be confounded with each other. When we meet with rational difficulties in religion we are not to set them aside as theological and not religious. Mr. Yokoi tends to do this. True, it may be admitted that religion and morality are not independent one of the other, yet religion is not morality. Now since Mr. Yokoi knows very well that Christianity cannot stand securely upon the theological foundation, he seeks to make Christ himself the basis of the Christian religion. In doing this, however, Mr. Yokoi should know that he is paying much greater homage to a man than to the truth. Unitarians are extreme in their sceptical and critical attitude, tending to ignore the essence of religion, but they have the merit of serving truth rather than men. However, we are surprised at the bravery of Mr. Yokoi's essay in the present age of religious revolutions. It is not his fault that he does not pass certain limits. Christianity is responsible for that fault. It is to be acknowledged that Christians are clever in applying the gains of modern civilization to their own ends, and in securing thereby a widening influence upon human society. Buddhists might well profit by the example Christians set. Nevertheless, after all we must say that Christians are fundamentally wrong, and that they perpetually wander outside the domain of truth.

* * *

The readers of this Summary remember doubtless, the general excitement aroused last spring by the essay on "The Collision between Education and Religion," written by Prof. Inouye of

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the Imperial University, and published in many Japanese periodicals. In the current *Dento* (Shingon Buddhist), Prof. Inouye defends his essay against some of its assailants. He claims that Christianity is not a universal religion. It cannot be, he explains, because of its many errors concerning God and the Universe, and its hostility to modern science. Secondly, it is said that to oppose Christianity is to be an obstinate conservative, that to accept it is to be a progressive thinker. This is not true, because in Europe almost no serious attention is now paid to Christianity. Through Biblical criticism Christianity has been relegated to the ancient mysteries. Next, Christianity is anti-national. Doubtless many individual Christians are patriotic, but historically Christianity has been opposed to the State. Professor Inouye adds that he does not antagonize individualism among the people of Japan, but that that is part of a question wholly removed from his present discussion. Finally, among the people of the West, loyalty and filial piety do not have the place or receive the service they get in Japan. The Professor avers that he did not deny these virtues to the people of Christendom; he spoke only of their relative exaltation among them and among the people of the East.

* * *

Of the more important leading articles of the month's press we notice the following:—In the *Fukuin Shimpo* a writer on "Christian and Buddhistic Literatures," remarks that the progress of Europe has accompanied the spread of Christianity; that in Japan the same result is to be wished. Christian literature is growing here. The editor of *Kokko* (not Christian) wrote that almost all the young literary men of the Japan of to-day are Christian, a fact to be regretted. We, says the Christian writer, are delighted over the fact. Yet, much of the country's literature is still poisonous. Buddhist literature is very weak, and its journals are fast disappearing. Once, the country's literary life was protected by the hands of the priests, but that was during our Dark Ages. Now a new force has come in, Christianity. Buddhism keeps us in this world. It is retrogressive. Christianity is progressive. It leads us to a higher life. In the Japan of the past, Buddhist literature had dominion; hereafter the literature of Christianity will take its place. There is a strong plea for the need of the awakening of spiritual life among the Japanese people by a writer in a recent number of the *Kirisutokyo Shimbun*. The nation's material progress is great. The world is peaceful and Japan is lulled to rest by songs of peace. The only emotion strongly active among us is that arising from conservative nationalism. Even this is directed chiefly by politicians and priests. It is natural that national progress should chiefly occupy our thoughts. But this alone would degrade us. Listen to the rumours of bribery in places, and see the other vices abroad among us. It seems to be as difficult for us to get spiritual food as for travellers in a desert to get water. The people should know that human life has an eternal meaning and destiny. We need spiritual life, life by faith. In Christianity only can true satisfaction for the nation be found. In the *Nichiyo Soshi* (Episcopalian) the former pariah classes of Japan, the *Eta*, find an earnest friend. He says that during the Tokugawa period the *Eta* and actors were on about the same social level. During the present period, *Meiji*, the *Eta* were received into society by law. Yet while actors have been really welcomed into society, the *Eta* are still socially outcast. Many *Eta*, however, work hard and are financially independent. As a class they are much nobler than the actors. Society is cruelly unjust. *Eta* are not yet allowed to enter our homes. Their children are ostracized in the public schools. The parents have no social privileges. Our sympathies go out to them. Their name should no longer burden them with disgrace and contempt. In *Bukkyo*, Buddhism and Christianity are compared with the conclusion by the writer that Buddhism is far better fitted to survive in the struggle for existence among religions than Christianity. These two forms of religion are the only ones now which can hope for universal dominion among men. At present, according to statisticians, the former faith numbers 486,000,000 followers, the latter 431,000,000. But consider these two religions from within. The writer continues his argument at length, claiming to show that Christianity finds its sphere in emotion which always ends in superstition; that, in emphasising man's insignificance and God's absolute sovereignty, Christianity destroys all true sense of individuality. Buddhism, on the contrary, leads man away from mere sentiment, arouses his intellect, induces him to grapple with the needs of this life by his own reason and thus secures for him continual personal progress. His article closes by summoning Buddhists to arise and go forward remembering the saying that religion is not amplified and extended by religion itself but by man, that the teachings received from the holy ones of the past are good, but that the men of to-day must themselves reach forward to higher things than have come from the ages gone. Another writer in the same magazine seeks to impress upon Buddhists the duty of studying the Sanscrit language. In Europe this study has been carried to a high degree of success. It is the mother language of the Indo-Europeans, but for the Japanese it is the original language of their Sacred Scriptures. As yet but few Japanese have felt the importance of this study. Even such Sanscrit scholars as Mr. Nanjo cannot get any help in prosecuting this important work. The schools of the sects do not approve of efforts made to stimulate this study. In none of the schools are there Sanscrit teachers. We depend upon Chinese translations of our sacred writings, and we go no further. Worse than this, the few Japanese who have studied Sanscrit are fast disappearing; Kenjo Kasawara and Hogen Yoshitzune have died, and we have recently heard of the death of Onjo Higashi in India, where, for the last five years, he has been preparing himself to lead us into a knowledge of the originals in which the truth was embodied. How much this is all to be regretted! Interesting articles on "Evolution and Christian Doctrine," and on "Sectarianism" appear in the *Jiyu Kirisutokyo Shimbun* (Universalist). In the same magazine there is a "New View of Christ," by Mr. K. Hinoto, who exhibits Jesus as the "personification of conscience" by which man may be led to acceptance of love as the law of life. In *Shinri* (German Evangelical), Mr. Minami continues his explanation of "Stumbling Passages in the New Testament." His subject for the month is the separation among relatives spoken of by Christ as one among the effects of his gospel, for example, the conflict at times arising between duty to truth and duty to parents. Mr. Minami draws an interesting parellel between the act of Jesus in sacrificing himself for his truth and the sacrifices often made by the *Samurai* of old Japan for the sake of loyalty to their masters. With the latter, duty to fathers, mothers, and family, often gave way to their duty to their lords. Dr. Christlieb in the current *Shinri*, gives another of his valuable disquisitions in ethical philosophy. In *Shukyo* (Unitarian) Rev. W. J. Lawrance writes upon the "Awakening of Buddhism." Prof. Onishi treats of the "Authority of the Reason," showing how in time of intellectual and spiritual perplexities it must be obeyed. Prof. Saji continues his critical review of the life of Sakya Muni, and Mr. Tsuchiya emphasizes the need of "Mental Fortitude" in the midst of clamour and doubt.

* * *

We find many interesting minor items of news and signs of the present nationalistic mood which merit record were space for them at command. A speculative monthly has appeared among the Greek Catholics, *Shiukai* (Intellectual Sea) published from the Suruga-dai School. A letter from a Buddhist high priest in Ceylon to *Bukkyo* speaks of the restoration of the ancient Shrine of Sakya Muni, urging the Japanese Buddhists to assist Sir Edwin Arnold in the efforts he is now making to this end. The rumour that Hongwanji supports the "Anti-mixed Residence" movement is denied in the *Hansei Zasshi*. In the same journal the suspected sale by the Kamakura Engakuji, of its Five Hundred Rakan images for the purpose of defraying Mr. Shaku Soen's expenses to the World's Congress at Chicago is doubted. This paper also bewails the neglect which has lately befallen the beautiful grounds of many important temples. It tells too of great confusion in a Christian Church at Tottori and an appeal to the police on the part of incensed citizens on account of the declaration by the preacher that the will of God is higher than the law of any earthly monarch. Some students have aroused great excitement in a Middle School of Shimane ken because they refused to worship a temple they visited in Shikoku. The faculty of the school, at the instigation of other students, have demanded reasons for this lack of reverence. An article on "Nikko and Foreigners" in *Dento*, blames Buddhist priests severely because they have leased temples to foreign summer visitors. The temples have been filled with the sounds of organs and of Christian hymns. The excuse that the priests are compelled by financial stress to do these things does not hold good. The honour of the nation should be to the priests far above their own love of ease. In several journals the moral condition of the Hokkaido is made the object of much solicitous comment. For lack of temples and religious care the people are sinking deeply into moral degradation. The guardians of the nation's higher life should give careful attention to this neglected province of the empire.

CORRESPONDENCE.

YOKOHAMA POST-OFFICE.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—I beg to inform you that, during 28 days commencing from the 1st November, 1893, grand statistics will be taken in this office in conformity with the Postal Union Convention.

During the above named period the closing hours for out-going mails will be a little earlier than usual, and also the delivery of foreign mails will be somewhat delayed, while the same process is required for the incoming mail.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

T. UNAGAMI.
Director.

Yokohama, October 31st, 1893.

LETTER FROM CHICAGO.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Chicago, October 5th.

In the October issue of the *Ladies' Home Journal*, Palmer Cox sings of the "Brownies in China and Japan," and in one of his amusing illustrations represents the little folk as clambering about the Daibutsu at Kamakura.

The following book, judged by the previous work of its author, will undoubtedly prove very instructive and interesting.—A Japanese Interior. By Alice M. Bacon, author of "Japanese Girls and Women;" 16mo., $1 25. A book of equal value and interest, describing, from personal observation, Japanese home and school life, theatres, travelling, hotels, temples, food, dress, dolls, festivals, wrestling contests, curio men, fireworks, the climate, earthquakes, etc. It is published by Houghton, Mifflin and Co.

A pamphlet by Mr. Sho Nemoto is published under the auspices of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union. It contains "the translated telegrams and letters exchanged in Japan relative to Miss [Mary Allen] West's sickness and death," also Miss West's lecture on "Citizenship": it costs only 15 cents.

Mrs. Morimoto, Tokyo, was one of the guests of honour the other day at an international reunion of the King's Daughters in the Woman's Building. She and her husband have just opened a Japanese store on 55th Street, and are doing well. "A Japanese emporium," too, has been opened at 139, Wabash Ave, to sell off World's Fair goods "at a very low price because we cannot afford to ship them back."

S. Watase, Ph.D., has been promoted from the

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position of "reader" to that of "instructor" in cellular biology in the University of Chicago.

C. Matsudaira, K. Tawara, and S. Tsuda were among a large party of Foreign Commissioners and others who witnessed the pageant of the "Veiled Prophet" at St. Louis. Chung Kyung Won and Pak Yong Kin, representing Korea, were also there, and naturally attracted a great deal of attention to their "queer" costume. The "Veiled Prophet" posed this year, not as a wise man from the East, but as "a Mikado of Japan, sitting in a *papier mache* temple, attended by gorgeously addressed mandarins" (*sic !*).

Imperial Japanese Commissioner Fejima is announced to return at once to Japan, but Commissioners Matsudaira and Yamataka remain

In the programme of the "Cumberland Presbyterian Presentation," during the Congress of Religions, were short addresses on "Missionary Work in Japan," by Mrs A. M. Drennan and Yone Hara. Last Sunday evening Mrs. B. C. Haworth, in Japanese costume, spoke at the Sixth Presbyterian Church, in this city.

Japan has received lately a large number of awards in various departments at the Fair. In architecture, Shusei Kikuma and the Imperial Japanese Commission (for the Hoōden) are mentioned; and the latter receives also an award in the Department of Transportation.

In jewelry, mention is made of B. Kugitani, Takejiro Kutsutani, Manzaburo Muramatsu, T. Miyata, Y. Tawabo, S. Mikai, K. Takaki, M. Hirazoka, T. Kaneko, J. Sato, T. Shioisu, H. Takei, and S. Hayashi.

In the Department of Electricity is the following list:—

Japan—Imperial University, Tokyo, seismographs and accessory apparatus, model of an earthquake. Department of Engineering Imperial University, Tokyo, automatic electri-current recorder.

In various sections of the department of liberal arts are the following lists:—

Japan—Department of War (Medical Bureau) Japan, field pannier med cal held pannier for nfantry, reserved field pannier Yakichi Horiguchi, Tokyo, tooth picker.

Japan Kansai Trading Company, Kyoto, Japanese house; Sanitary Bureau, Health Department, Japan, quarantine station, Red Cross Society, Japan, map.

MUSIC—JAPAN

M Suzuki.	Dembei Nakagaki.
Educational Department.	Dembei Sakata.
Shinsuke Sasatani	

PHOTOGRAPHS—JAPAN.

Loda Ichida.	Ryonosuke Honjo.
S. Mihara.	Department of Agriculture and Commerce.

The next lists are not perfectly intelligible, as they have been mutilated in copying and printing.

Japan—Macaroni—Fu Chzatti Somen Kaisha, Shiraishi Kosan Kaishi, K. Ikeda, Kyotokaisha, and M. Suzuki, Starches—Y Ishinaka, Y Morake, T. Nakashima, L. J. K Shirad, Isaburo Suzuki, and T Watanabe. Vermicell—S Matsuda, Yamato Somen, and S. Nishimura; Izabura Suzuki, rice flour; Tobada Wheat Gluten Manufacturing Company, konjek flour, amc Kanzo Shavi, amc.

Japan—Macaroni: K. Kaida, G Miki, S. Sato, and Ikeda Somen-gio kaisha; Loyo Shigemura, vermicelli.

OILS—JAPAN.

S. Inagaki.	K. Kobayashi.
Shozo Watanabe.	Reshi Tanizawa.
S. Harioka.	I. Kitaburo.
Toshi Seiro Kaisha.	T Kochi, representative for Katagari
Sanjuro Tsukushi.	S. Kiyosuye
G. Aiga.	
Y Aranaka and twenty-two others.	Matsugoro Tsukushi.
	Kusutaro Fukaia
S. Matsumar.	J. Takaoka.
M. Hodono.	Gihei Nakamura.
Y Higa	I. Inowaru.
M Nishimura.	K Maeji.
Majojiro.	Shozo Watanabe.
Shinbei Ikenaja.	Bumpiro Serada.
Yoshisaburo Kobayashi	K. Myeda.
Shinbei Ikenaya.	

In the Mining Department:—

Japan—Kenejiro Aibara, Tokyo, collection of minerals; Imperial Geological Survey, typical soils of the province; Imperial Geological Survey, Japanese minerals and fossils, Mobuchi Oide, Takayi, managanese ores; Kanejiro Aibara, Tokyo, quartz and topaz; Mining Bureau Department, collect ve exhibition ores; Agriculture and commerce and their products.

No exciting news has come lately from Hawaii The people there seem pleased with the appointment of ex-Congressman Willis as U.S. Minister, but object to that of Ellis Mills as U.S. Consul General, on the ground that he, as Mr. Blount's secretary, was too favourable to the royalists. From Samoa comes a report that trade is dead and politics unsettled.

There is still no immediate prospect of a vote by the Senate on the Repeal Bill. There has lately been a rumour of a bargain between the ultra-protectionists and the silverites. Senator Don Cameron, of Pennsylvania, has made a violent speech against repeal; and several prominent Republicans of that State have been engineering a scheme which will give free coinage under modified conditions and ensure the defeat of tariff reform. The pan-American bimetallic convention, now in session in St. Louis, is expected, of course, to give a "boom" to the cause of free coinage of silver.

President Cleveland has appointed Mr. R. E Preston, Director of the Mint, who, as Acting Director, incurred the hostility of the silver men on account of some interpretation of the silver purchase law. The President evidently "loves him for the enemies he has made."

The Democrats of Massachusetts seem to hang their fate on a Russell. Four times (thrice successfully) they have run William E. Russell for Governor: this year they have put up for that office ex Congressman John E. Russell.

An insane man the other noon in the gallery of the Board of Trade of this city caused a panic by firing into the crowd of brokers on the floor below. Three persons, one a woman, were wounded, but no one fatally.

Again there is quite a list of calamities, in which, however, this time no dreadful railroad accident appears. The casualties include a $1,000,000 fire at St. Joseph, Missouri; the burial alive of thirty men in a collapsed mine in northern Michigan; a $500,000 fire in the destruction of Boyd's Theatre at Omaha, Neb.; and a terrible gale along the shores of the Gulf of Mexico. The last caused an awful destruction of property and life in Pensacola, Mobile, New Orleans, and minor places. This morning's dispatches estimate for Louisiana alone a loss of 2,000 lives and $5,000,000 worth of property: but this estimate may prove too big.

The Archduke Ferdinand of Austria has been in the city, has done the Fair, and gone East. He was more successful here than in Japan in the preservation of a strict *incognito*, and eluded even Chicago reporters!

The recent special events at the World's Fair have been Odd Fellows' Day; Indian Day (with ex-President Harrison present); Irish Day (with eloquent speeches by Lord Mayor Hanks, of Dublin, and others, a letter from Gladstone, and plenty of Hibernian enthusiasm); banquets by and to Sir Richard Webster, who has returned to England; a banquet by the Siamese Commissioner in honour of the fortieth birthday of the King of Siam, and the receipt by Mrs. Potter Palmer of a magnificent souvenir album from the Queen of Siam. Great preparations are making for "Chicago Day" (Oct. 9), which, of course, is to be the biggest day of the whole six months. It is hoped that on that day the Exposition will become absolutely free from both floating and bonded debt. During the last few days, however, on account of the damp and cold weather, the attendance at the Fair has fallen off somewhat.

On and after Oct. 10 children under 12 years of age will be admitted to the Fair for 10 cents; and inmates of orphan or half-orphan asylums will be admitted free on certain specified days.

The Congress of Missions opened Sept. 28th and closes to-day. During part of this time Evolutionists, Sunday Rest, Patent and Trade Mark Congresses have also been in session. The Congress of Missions took up first the subject of home missions and then that of foreign missions: the women began with a separate meeting, but afterwards united with the men. Among the papers and addresses have been the following:—"Denominational Comity and Coöperation," by Rev. Geo. W. Knox, D.D., of Tokyo; "Medical Mission Work," by Mrs. Isabella Bird Bishop, of Edinburgh; paper (subject not given), by Miss Ella McGrose, of Japan; "The Century of Modern Missions, a Prophecy of Final Triumph," by Joseph Cook; "Missionaries, their Aim and Work," by Rev. George Washburn, D.D., of Roberts College, Constantinople; address (subject not given), by Pres. Kosaki, of the Doshisha; "Responsibility of Christian Governments, as to Human Slavery, by Gen. B. R. Cowen; "The Bearings of International Law on Religious Toleration," by Dr. Reid, of China; and "The Power of the Spirit," by D. L. Moody.

Your correspondent wished to secure Dr. Knox's paper for the *Mail* readers, but was unable to do so, as the papers were not given out for publication, except in very few cases. The *Herald*, however, contained the following extracts, of interest to many in Japan, from Dr. Washburne's address:—

A missionary can gain more converts by practicing in his everyday life the life of Jesus Christ than he can by preaching. It is often better missionary work to import a plough than tracts, to help a fisherman mend his net than to read a chapter on the sin of worshipping idols; far better to help a heathen dig a well than to sit idly by and read the ten commandments; far better to read and study the Koran than to always read the Bible, if the missionary is in the land of Mohammed

The Protestant missionaries do not build as strong missions in a foreign country as Catholics. Catholic missions are under the head of the propaganda at Rome and young priests are made bishops and given full power to build up a church. On the other hand, the relations of Protestant missionaries and the natives are unsettled and unsatisfactory

The true aim of missionary work is to make Christ known to the world. Nothing is foreign to this work which reveals his spirit or a characteristic of his kingdom, and nothing essential to it which is peculiar to any sect, race or civilization.

In the Patent, Trade-Mark, and Copyright Congress, Japan was represented by Imperial Commissioner Matsudaira. An elaborate plan "for an international union for the protection of industrial property and its developments" was presented and discussed.

In Wisconsin as well as in Michigan a practical basis has been formed for the union of the Regular and Freewill Baptists. Such unions will be more numerous and necessary after the Parliament of Religions.

The University of Chicago has opened with a larger staff of teachers and a larger body of students than last year. It has felt the hard times, but has fortunately not been seriously hampered. The convocation sermon was preached by Rev. S. J. McPherson, D.D., of this city, on "Christ, the Hero of Common Life." Sunday afternoon Henry Drummond spoke in the University chapel on "The Elements of Life," which he counted as three, *i.e.*, *work, prayer, love*. At the regular convocation exercises the Walker Museum was formally donated and received; Pres. Harper made a report on the past, stated the present condition, and outlined the future work and needs; and Henry Drummond gave an address on "Evolution."

This famous scientist and Christian is giving at the Immanuel Baptist Church, of this city, a series of lectures on the general subject of "Evolution," with specific reference to these six topics,—"Body," "Mind," "Language," "Mother," "Father," and "Christianity." They will undoubtedly be of great value.

THE WORLD'S PARLIAMENT OF RELIGIONS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT).

Chicago, September 30th.

As the World's Columbian Exposition will always stand in general history as one of the grand and culminating achievements of the nineteenth century, so the World's Congress Auxiliary ought to stand ever as a very important element thereof. The Exposition proper emphasizes directly the tremendous and wonderful material progress of the world: the Auxiliary, with its motto of "not things, but men; not matter, but mind," is displaying the marvellous progress of humanity, intellectually, morally and spiritually. In the programme of the Auxiliary the Religious Congresses have been, and are, productive of a great uplifting of the mind to the highest moral and spiritual planes of life and action.

According to the original resolution providing for these Religious Congresses, their purpose was "to unite all religious against all irreligion; to make the Golden Rule the basis of this union; to present to the world the substantial unity of many religions in the good deeds of the religious life; [and] to provide for a World's Parliament of Religions, in which their common aims and common grounds of union may be set forth, and the marvellous religious progress of the nineteenth century be reviewed." With this lofty purpose in view, it was eminently fitting, that an entire month should be practically devoted to various congresses under the general head of "religions." Of this time seventeen days were allotted to the Parliament of Religions, and proved scarcely sufficient for the extensive and varied programme provided. During all those days the public interest showed no signs of waning.

The first day (Monday, September 11th) of the Parliament of Religions was given up to addresses of welcome and responses. All these sounded the key-note tuned to the thoughts of the Fatherhood of God, the Brotherhood of Man, kindness, gentleness, and love. The principal words of welcome were spoken by Hon. Chas. C. Bonney, President of the World's Congress Auxiliary, and Rev. John Henry Barrows, D.D., Chairman of the General Committee on Religious Congresses, to the latter of whom great credit is due for the masterly way in which he planned, conducted, and concluded this Parliament. In his address of welcome he not only singled out the representatives of each faith and cult with appropriate words, but he also, in his welcome to the Shinto high priest, added:—"This city has every reason to be grateful to the enlightened ruler of the Sunrise Kingdom." Among the responses to the kind words of welcome, the Orient was represented by Rishi Shibata, of Japan; Hon. Pung Kwang Yu, of China; P. C. Mozoomdar, of India; Archbishop Redwood, of New Zealand; H. Dharmapala (Buddhist), Suami Vivekananda (Brahmin), Mr. Nagaskar (Brahmo-Somaj), Mr. Jandhi (Jainst), and Miss Sorabji (Christianized Parsee), of India. Thus, with Baptist and Buddhist, Congregationalist and Confucianist, Jew and Jainst, Methodist and Moslem, Parsee and Presbyterian, Friend and Fire-worshipper, *et al*, on the same platform, the Parliament was formally opened.

The programmes of the next sixteen days were arranged, not in details, but, in general, according to this progressive plan:—Tuesday, September 12, was devoted to papers on the Divine Nature; Wednesday, Man; Thursday, Essential Character

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of Religion; Friday, Systems of Religion; Saturday, Sacred Books of the World; Sunday, Religion and the Family; Monday, Religious Leaders of Mankind; Tuesday, Religion and Science, Arts and Letters; Wednesday, Religion and Morals; Thursday, Religion and Social Problems; Friday, Religion and Civil Society; Saturday, Religion and Love of Mankind; Sunday, Present Religious Condition of Christendom; Monday, Religious Reunion of Christendom; Tuesday, Religious Union of the Whole Human Family, Elements of Perfect Religion as set forth in the different Historic Faiths.

Inasmuch as the bare programme of the Parliament filled almost two columns of the Chicago *Herald*, I cannot be expected to reproduce it here, and shall attempt only to mention the most important and interesting features with occasional necessary comments and explanations. And I may state here, as well as anywhere, that the Japanese representatives won universal respect for their gentleness and courtesy.

On the first day the existence and nature of a Divine Being were ably discussed from various standpoints by such eminent scholars as Dr. Alfred W. Momerie, of London; Father Hewitt, of N.Y.; Dr. Valentine, of Gettysburg; and Hon. W. T. Harriss, of Washington, D.C. "The Theology of Judaism," "Idealism," and "Hinduism" were also presented.

The second day was one of the most interesting of the entire session. Mr. Mozoomdar spoke of the "Brahmo-Somaj;" the Archbishop of Zante, on "The Foundation of the Orthodox Greek Church;" Hon. Pung Kwang Yu, on "Confucianism; Kinza Hirai, on "The Real Position of Japan toward Christianity;" W. Noguchi, on "Buddhism;" Reiichi Shibata, on "Shinto;" and Rev. P. S. Moxom, D.D., of Boston, and others on "The Soul and Immortality." The Chinese and Japanese speakers were greeted with tremendous enthusiasm, and made good presentations of their subjects. Mr. Hirai, using the English language fluently and accurately, maintained that Japanese opposition to Christianity was due, partly to the prejudice aroused in former times by the political intrigues of the Catholics, native and foreign, and partly to the unjust political treatment which Japan has received, and is still receiving, at the heads of so-called Christian nations. The audience, overlooking his fallacious censure of the whole for the sins of a past, enthusiastically applauded his eloquent and burning words, especially on treaty-revision, of which they thus acknowledged the justice.

The third day was also a "big day," and included able addresses by Cardinal Gibbons, on "The Needs of Humanity supplied by the Catholic Religion"; Rev. Dr. Edward Everett Hale, on "Spiritual Forces in Human Progress"; Joseph Cook, in "Certainties on Religion"; Dr. Lyman Abbott, on "Religion Essentially Characteristic of Humanity"; and "Buddhism in Japan" by H. Toki, who gave a paper chiefly historical and statistical.

The programme of the fourth day included a number of valuable papers in the line of comparative religion. Nearly all systems of religion were presented in one way or another: among the papers may be noted one on "Confucianism," by Kung Hsien Ho, of Shanghai, and one on "Buddhism in Siam," by Prince Chandidrat, of that country.

The subject of the Scriptures, as literature and as power, how far inspired, etc., was the special topic of the next day. Dr. Briggs made a strong plea for "The Truthfulness of Holy Scripture," as an infallible guide for the salvation and redemption of mankind. "Buddhism" was presented again by Bunriu Yatsubuchi.

On the first Sunday of the period of the Parliament's session two of the papers read were especially appropriate to the day:—"The Divine Element in the Weekly Rest Day," by Rev. Dr. A. H. Lewis; and "The Religious Training of Children," by the late Father Axarias. The latter, however, was not confined to the matter of Sunday-School training.

On Monday, Sept. 18th, the chief speakers were Col. T. W. Higginson, on "The Sympathy of Religions"; Bishop Dudley, of Ky., on "The Historic Christ"; Dr. George P. Fisher, of Yale, on "Christianity, a Religion of Facts"; H. Dharmapala, of Ceylon, on "The World's Debt to Buddha"; Mr. Modi, on "Parseeism"; Shaku Sogen, of Japan, on "The Law of Cause and Effect as Taught by Buddha"; and Rev. (Mrs.) Marian A. Murdock, of Cleveland, Ohio, on "Woman in the New Testament."

The next and eighth day of the Parliament was also a notable one. The prominent features were a letter from Lady Henry Somerset; a contribution from Prof. Max Muller on "The Greek Philosophy and the Christian Religion"; by Prof. A. B. Brace, of Scotland, on "Man's Place in the Universe"; on "Religio-Scientiæ," by Sir William Dawson, of Montreal, an extemporaneous address on "Music, Emotion, and Morals" by Rev. H. R. Haweis, of London; "Hinduism" by Suami Vivekananda, of Bombay; and "A Religious as Distinguished from a Moral Life," by Prof. S. W. Scovell.

On Wednesday, September 21, Mohammed Alexander Webb was greeted with cries of "No," "No," "Shame," when, in the course of an address on "The Spirit of Islam," he undertook to defend polygamy. An impromptu plea for toleration by Rev. H. M. Field, D.D., of the New York *Evangelist*, was received with hearty approval. Great interest was also manifested in addresses by Rev. Ida C. Hultin, on "The Essential Oneness of Ethical Ideas;" by Prof. C. H. Toy, of Harvard University, on "Religion and Conduct;" by Pres. Kosaki, of the Doshisha, on "Christianity in Japan: Its Present Condition and Future Prospects;" by Rev. Isaac T. Headland, on "Religion in Peking;" and on different views of reconciliation and redemption.

The general topic, "Religion and Social Problems," for the next day was very closely followed. The only great deviation from this subject was a paper on "Buddha" by Rev. Zitsuzen Ashitsu, of Japan. A preliminary feature was a letter from Mr. S. Horiguchi, Secretary of Indo Bussekı Kofuku Society, of Tokyo, with reference to the restoration of Buddhist holy places in India. Opportunity was also given to Mr. Theo. F. Seward to explain his organization, called "Brotherhood of Christian Unity," on the basis of love to God and man under the leadership of Jesus Christ. Prominent Christians of all denominations allied themselves therewith. The general topic of the day was discussed in various phases, some of which were:—"Christianity and the Social Question," by Prof. F. G. Peabody, of Harvard; "Religion and the Erring and Criminal Class," by Rev. Anna G. Spencer, of Rhode Island; "Women in India," by Miss Sorabji, of Bombay; "Christianity as a Social Force," by Prof. R. T. Ely, of the University of Wisconsin; "Islam and Social Conditionersity," by Mohammed Webb; and "Individual Efforts for Reform not Sufficient," by Prof. C. R. Henderson, of the University of Chicago.

This same general subject was continued the following day with "Religion and Wealth," by Rev. Washington Gladden, D.D.; "Crime and the Remedy," by Rev. Olympia Brown; "Churches and City Problems," by Prof. A. W. Small, of the University of Chicago. This day's programme also included "The World's Religious Debt to Asia," by Mr. Mozoomdar; "Religion in the Hawaiian Islands," by Rev. E. P. Baker; "What the Bible has Wrought," by Joseph Cook; addresses concerning the Negro race and religion; and a discussion of methods of missionary work. Representatives of Christianity, Brahmanism, Buddhism and Brahmo Somaj, from India, China, Japan, and Turkey, were participants. Among the Christian speakers were the Rev. Geo. T. Candlin, of Tientsin (in Chinese costume) and Rev. B. C. Haworth, of Kobe. At a woman's meeting on the same day Rev. Mr. Candlin and Kinza Hirai were among the speakers.

Saturday, Sept. 23, was devoted principally to the subjects of international sympathy and arbitration. In this connection two papers dealt directly with the "Chinese question:" one on "International Justice and Amity," by Rev. S. L. Baldwin, D.D., of New York; the other on "America's Duty to China," by Pres. W. A. P. Martin, of Peking.

Sunday's programme was concerned with "The Present Religious Condition of Christendom," and comprised only a few addresses by Dr. Geo. F. Pentecost and others.

The last three days of the Parliament were truly the "crowning days" which perfected the whole. On Monday, September 25th, Rev. Mr. Candlin Spoke on "The Bearing of Religious Unity on the Work of Christian Missions;" Rev. Dr. Philip Schaff, on "The Reunion of Christendom;" Pres. B. I. Whitman, of Colby University, on "Interdenominational Comity;" and papers were read, on "A White Life for Two" (by Miss Frances E. Willard) and on "The Love of God in Man" (by Elizabeth Cady Stanton). Miss Willard's paper was a picture of pure and happy life for both man and woman, whether single or double.

The programme of Tuesday, September 26th, contained, among numerous papers and addresses, an impromptu talk by Julia Ward Howe;" "The Attitude of Christianity to other Religions" by Prof. W. C. Wilkinson, of the University of Chicago, "The Message of Christianity to other Religions" by Rev. J. L. Dennis, D.D, of N. Y. City; "The World's Religious Debt to America," by Mrs. Celia Parker Woolley, of Chicago; "The Future of Religion in Japan," by Nobuta Kishimoto, of Okayama; "Benefits of Buddhism," by H. Doki, "Arbitration Instead of War," by Shaku Soyen, of Japan; and "Synthetic Religion," by Kinza Hirai.

Wednesday, September 27th, was the closing day of the great Parliament of Religions. The morning and the afternoon were devoted to the regular programme; the evening was given up to "farewells." The programme included "Christianity and Evolution," by Henry Drummond; "The Elements of Universal Religion" by Rabbi E. G. Hirch, of this city; "The Religious Unification of the Human Race," by Rev. W. R. Alger, of Boston; "The World's Parliament," (a poem) by Mrs. L. Ormiston Chant, of England; "The Baptists in History," by Rev. G. C. Lorimer, D.D., of Boston; "Christ, the Ultimate Centre of Religion," by Bishop Keane, of Washington, D.C.; and "Christ, the Unifier of Mankind," by Rev. George Dana Boardman, D.D., of Philadelphia. The last three were eloquent and inspiring addresses, full of Christ.

The "farewell" programme of the evening comprised five minute speeches by representatives of every faith, creed and cult, together with songs by the Appollo Club of this city. China spoke through Hon. Pung Kwang Yu and Rev. Mr. Candlin; Japan through Kinza Hirai, as spokesman for the Buddhist priests, and through Reiichi Shibata, representative of Shinto. The last speeches were made by Dr. Barrows and Mr. Bonney: and the benediction was pronounced by the former with the appropriate words,—"Peace on earth and goodwill towards men."

The World's Parliament of Religions may properly be called a magnificent triumph for Christianity. It was conceived, born and reared in a Christian mind and heart; it was managed and conducted in a Christian Spirit of the utmost patience and toleration; it resulted to the praise of true Christianity; and it culminated in the glorification of Jesus Christ and his teachings.

I append, in some cases a synopsis, in other cases excerpts, and sometimes the full texts, of several papers, addresses or speeches, by Japanese, or pertaining to Japan, or of unusual general import:

Buddhism.—By Bonriu Yatsubuchi.

The radiating light of the civilization of the present century to be seen in Europe and America is reflected on all corners of the earth. My country, already opened to international intercourse, has made rapid progress owing to the efforts of Americans, for which I return many thanks. It is a hard thing to interpret a religious discourse or to tell in a foreign language the peculiar characteristics of a religion; I hope you will listen patiently to what I shall say. What is Buddhism? Buddhism is the doctrine taught by Buddha Shakyamuni. The word "Buddha" is Sanscrit, and the Japanese Satori, which means understanding. Indeed, it has three meanings—self-comprehension to let others comprehend, and prefect comprehension. Self comprehension is to awaken one's self and to attain the realm of truth by one's own effort. To let others comprehend means the work of transition—that is, to let others understand by one's own wisdom—that is, humanity. When wisdom and humanity are developed thoroughly by one he may be called Buddha, or perfect comprehension. In Buddhism we have Buddha as our saviour, the spirit incarnate of absolute self sacrifice and divine compassion, and the embodiment of all that is pure and good. Buddha was a man as we are, but he, unlike us, knew the truth of the universe and cultivated the higher elements of his nature. Buddha was one who was developed from a lower being. So when we attain the ultimate point by gradual development there should be no place that is not lightened by the light of our enlightened mind, and we can save the world by using our power freely. That being who has humanity and wisdom in perfection is Buddha. The heart of my country, the power of my country, is Buddhism. The Buddhism that we know is not known to the world. Some take Buddhism to be Polytheism, and some idolatry, and some pessimism, and some a barbarous religion. The object of the world's Parliament Religious is to give life and light to the struggling material world, so I attribute Buddhism with that object.

The Law of Cause and Effect, as Taught by Buddhism.—By Shaku Soyen.

NO BEGINNING, NO ENDING

The Rt.-Rev. Soyen Shaku of Japan was presented as the author of an address on "The Law of Cause and Effect as Taught by Buddha." The little Japanese in his gorgeous robes bowed to the audience while Dr. Barrows read his essay. A summary follows:—

Buddhism considers the universe has no beginning, no end. Since if we trace back to an eternity absolute cause cannot be found, so we come to the conclusion that there is no end in the universe.

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All the religions apply more or less the causal law in the sphere of human conduct, and remark that the pleasure and happiness of one's future life depend upon the purity of his present life.

But what is peculiar to Buddhism is, it applies the law not only to the relation of present and future life but also past and present. As the facial expressions of each individual are different from those of others, men are graded by the different degrees of wisdom, talent, wealth, and birth. It is not education nor experience alone that can make a man wise, intelligent, and wealthy, but it depends upon one's past life. What are the causes or condition which produce such an immense difference? To explain it in a few words I say it owes it allegiance to the different quality of actions which we have done in our past life—namely: We are here enjoying or suffering the effect of what we have done in our past life.

If you closely observe the conduct of your fellow beings you will notice that each individual acts differently from others. From this we can infer that in future life each one will also enjoy or suffer the result of his own actions done in this existence. As the pleasure and pain of one's present actions, so the happiness or misery of our future world will be the result of our present action. We enjoy happiness and suffer misery, our own act on being causes. In other words, there is no other cause than our own actions, which make us happy or unhappy. Now let us observe the different attitudes of human life. One is happy and others feel unhappy. Indeed, even among the members of the same family we often notice a great diversity in wealth and fortune. Thus various attitudes of human life can be explained by the self formation of cause and effect. There is no one in the universe but one's self who rewards or punishes him. The diversity in future stages will be explained by the same doctrine. Heaven and hell are self-made. God did not provide you with a hell, but you yourself. The glorious happiness of future life will be the effect of present virtuous action.

According to the different sects of Buddhism more or less different views are entertained in regard to the law of causality, but so far they agree in regarding it as the law of nature independent of the will of Buddha and much less of the will of human beings. The law exists for an eternity without beginning, without end. Bodily health, material wealth, wonderful genius, unnatural suffering, are the infallible expressions of the law of causality which governs every particle of the universe, every portion of human conduct.

As I have already explained, our sacred Buddha is not the creator of the law of nature, but he is the first discoverer of the law who led thus his followers to the height of moral protection. Who shall utter a word against him, who discovered the first truth of the universe, who has saved and will save by his noble teaching the millions and millions of falling human beings? Indeed, too much approbation could not be uttered to honour his sacred name.

The Real Position of Japan towards Christianity.—By Kinza Hirai.

There are very few countries in the world so misunderstood as Japan. Among the innumerable unfair judgments, the religious thought of my countrymen is especially misrepresented, and the whole nation is condemned as heathen. Be they heathen, pagan, or something else, it is a fact that from the beginning of our history Japan has received all teachings with open mind; and also that the instructions which came from outside have commingled with the native religion in entire harmony, as is seen by so many temples built in the name of truth with a mixed appellation of Buddhism and Shintoism; as is seen by the affinity among the teachers of Confucianism and Taoism, or other isms, and the Buddhists and Shinto priests; as is seen by the individual Japanese who pays his other respects to all teachings mentioned above; as is seen by the peculiar construction of the Japanese houses, which have generally two rooms, one for a miniature Buddhist temple and the other for a small Shinto shrine, before which the family study the respective scriptures of the two religions; as is seen by the popular ode,

Wake soboru
Fumoto no michi wa
Ooke redo,
Ona ji takine no
Tsuki wo mimkana.

Which translated means:—"Though there are many roads at the foot of the mountain, yet if the top is reached the same moon is seen," and other similar odes and mottoes, which put in the mouth of the ignorant country old woman, when she decides the case of bigoted religious contention among young girls. In reality, Synthetic religion, or Eclecticism, is the Japanese specialty, and I will not hesitate to call it Japanism.

But you will protest and say, Why, then, is Christianity not so warmly accepted by your nation as other religions?" This is the point which I wish especially to present before you. There are two causes why Christianity is not so cordially received. This great religion was widely spread in my country, but in 1637 the Christian missionaries, combined with the converts, caused a tragic and bloody rebellion against the country, and it is understood that those missionaries intended to subjugate Japan to their own mother country. This shocked all Japan, and it took the Government of the Shogun a year to suppress this terrible and intrusive commotion. To those who accuse us that our mother country prohibited Christianity, not now, but in a past age, I will reply that it was not from religious or racial antipathy, but to prevent such another insurrection, and to protect our independence we were obliged to prohibit the promulgation of gospels.

If our history had had no such record of foreign devastation under the disguise of religion, and if our people had had no hereditary horror and prejudice against the name of Christianity, it might have been eagerly embraced by the whole nation. But this incident has passed and we may forget it. Yet it is not entirely unreasonable that the terrified suspicion, or you may say superstition, that Christianity is the instrument of depredation should have been avoidably or unavoidably aroused in the Oriental mind, when it is an admitted fact that some of the powerful nations of Christendom are gradually encroaching upon the Orient and when the following circumstance is daily impressed upon our minds, reviving a vivid memory of past historical occurrence. The circumstance of which I am about to speak is the present experience of ourselves, to which I especially call the attention of this Parliament, and not only this Parliament, but also the whole of Christendom.

Since 1853, when Commodore Perry came to Japan as the ambassador of the President of the United States of America, our country began to be better known by all western nations and the new ports were widely opened and the prohibition of the Gospels was abolished, as it was before the Christian rebellion. By the convention at Yeddo, now Tokyo, in 1858, the treaty was stipulated between America and Japan and also with the European Powers. It was the time when our country was yet under the feudal government; and on account of our having been secluded for over two centuries since the Christian rebellion of 1637, diplomacy was quite a new experience to the feudal officers, who put their full confidence upon western nations, and, without any alteration, accepted every article of the treaty presented from the foreign governments. According to the treaty we are in a very disadvantageous situation; and amongst the others there are two prominent articles, which deprive us of our rights and advantages. One is the exterritoriality of western nations in Japan, by which all cases in regard to right, whether of property or person, arising between the subjects of the western nations in my country as well as between them and the Japanese are subjected to the jurisdiction of the authorities of the western nations. Another regards the tariff, which, with the exception of 5 per cent. *ad valorum*, we have no right to impose where it might properly be done.

It is also stipulated that either of the contracting parties to this treaty, on giving one year's previous notice to the other, may demand a revision thereof on or after the 1st of July, 1872. Therefore in 1871 our government demanded a revision, and since then we have been constantly requesting it, but foreign governments have simply ignored our requests, making many excuses. One part of the treaty between the United States of America and Japan concerning the tariff was annulled, for which we thank with sincere gratitude the kind-hearted American nation, but I am sorry to say that, as no European power has followed in the wake of America, in this respect our tariff right remains in the same condition as it was before.

We have no judicial power over the foreigners in Japan, and as a natural consequence we are receiving injuries, legal and moral, the accounts of which are seen constantly in our native newspapers. As the western people live far from us they do not know the exact circumstances. Probably they hear now and then the reports from the missionaries and their friends in Japan. I do not deny that their reports are true; but if a person wants to obtain any mistakable information in regard to his friend he ought to hear the opinions about him from many sides. If you clearly examine with your unbiased mind what injuries we receive you will be astonished. Among many kinds of wrongs there are some which were utterly unknown before and entirely new to us—heathen,—none of whom would dare to speak of them even in private conversation.

One of the excuses offered by foreign nations is that our country is not yet civilized. Is it the principle of civilized law that the rights and profits of the so-called uncivilized or the weaker should be sacrificed? As I understand it, the spirit and the necessity of law is to protect the rights and welfare of the weaker against the aggression of the stronger; but I have never learned in my shallow studies of law that the weaker should be sacrificed for the stronger. Another kind of apology comes from the religious source, and the claim is made that the Japanese are idolaters and heathen. Whether our people are idolaters or not you will know at once if you will investigate our religious views without prejudice from authentic Japanese sources.

But admitting, for the sake of argument, that we are idolaters and heathen, is it Christian morality to trample upon the rights and advantages of a non-Christian nation, colouring all their natural happiness with the hard stain of injustice? I read in the Bible: "Whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also;" but I cannot discover there any passage which says, "Whosoever shall demand justice of thee smite his right cheek, and when he turns smite the other also." Again, I read in the Bible: "If any man will sue thee at law, and take away thy coat, let him have thy cloak also;" but I cannot discover there any passage which says, "If thou shalt sue any man at the law, and take away his coat, let him give thee his cloak also."

You send your missionaries to Japan and they advise us to be moral and believe Christianity. We like to be moral, we know that Christianity is good, and we are very thankful for this kindness. But at the same time our people are rather perplexed and very much in doubt about this advice. For we think that the treaty stipulated in the time of feudalism, when we were yet in our youth, is still clung to by the powerful nations of Christendom; when we find that every year a good many western vessels engaged in the seal fishery are smuggled into our seas; when legal cases are always decided by the foreign authorities in Japan unfavourably to us; when for some years a Japanese was not allowed to enter a university on the Pacific coast of America because of his being of a different race; when a few months ago the school board in San Francisco enacted a regulation that no Japanese should be allowed to enter the public school there; when last year the Japanese were driven out in wholesale from one of the territories of the United States of America; when our business men in San Francisco were compelled by some union not to employ Japanese assistants or labourers, but Americans; when there are some in the same city who speak on the platforms against those of us who are already here; when there are many men who go in processions hoisting lanterns marked "Japs. must go;" when the Japanese in the Hawaiian islands are deprived of their suffrage; when we see some western people in Japan who erect before the entrance of their houses a special post upon which is the notice, "No Japanese is allowed to enter here," just like a board upon which is written, "No dogs allowed;" when we are in such a situation, is it unreasonable—notwithstanding the kindness of the western nations, from one point of view, who send their missionaries to us—for an intelligent heathen to be embarrassed and hesitate to swallow the sweet and warm liquid of the heaven of Christianity? If such be the Christian ethics, well, we are perfectly satisfied to be heathen.

If any person should claim that there are many people in Japan who speak and write against Christianity—I am not a hypocrite and I will frankly state that I was the first in my country who ever publicly attacked Christianity—no, not real Christianity, but false Christianity, the wrongs done toward us by the people of Christendom. If any reprove the Japanese because they have had strong anti-Christian Societies, I will honestly declare that I was the first in Japan who ever organized a society against Christianity—no, not against real Christianity, but to protect ourselves from Christianity and the injustice which we receive from the people of Christendom. Do not think that I took such a stand on account of my being a Buddhist, for this was my position many years before I entered the Buddhist Temple. But at the same time I will proudly state that if any one discussed the affinity of all religions before the public, under the title of Synthetic Religion, it was I. I say this to you because I do not wish to be understood as a bigoted Buddhist sectarian. Really there is no sectarian in my country. Our people well know what abstract truth is in Christianity, and we, or at least I, do not care about the names if I speak from the point of teaching. Whether Buddhism is called Christianity or Christianity is named Buddhism, whether we are called Confucianists or Shintoists, we are not particular;

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but we are very particular about the truth taught and its consistent application. Whether Christ saves us or drives us into hell, whether Gautama Buddha was a real person or there never was such a man, it is not a matter of consideration to us, but the consistency of doctrine and conduct is the point on which we put the greater importance. Therefore, unless the inconsistency which we observe is renounced and especially the unjust treaty by which we are entailed is revised upon on equitable basis, our people will never cast away their prejudice about Christianity in spite of the eloquent orator who speaks its truth from the pulpit. We are very often called barbarians, and I have heard and read that Japanese are stubborn and cannot understand the truth of the Bible. I will admit that this is true in some sense, for, though they admire the eloquence of the orator and wonder at his courage, though they approve his logical argument, yet they are very stubborn and will not join Christianity as long as they think it is a western morality to preach one thing and practice another.

But I know this is not the morality of the civilized west, and I have the firm belief in the highest humanity and noblest generosity of the Occidental nations toward its Especially as to the American nation. I know their sympathy and integrity. I know their sympathy by their emancipation of the coloured people from slavery. I know their integrity by the patriotic spirit which established the independence of the United States of America. And I feel sure that the circumstances which made the American people declare independence are in some sense comparable to the present state of my country. I cannot refrain my thrilling emotion and sympathetic tears when ever I read the Declaration of Independence. You, citizens of this glorious free United States, who struck when the right time came, struck for "Liberty or Death," you, who waded through blood that you might fasten to the mast your banner of the stripes and stars upon the land and sea; you, who enjoy the fruition of your Liberty through your struggle for it; you, I say, may understand somewhat our position, and as you asked for justice from your mother country, we too ask justice from these foreign powers.

If any religion teaches injustice to humanity, I will oppose it, as I ever have opposed it, with my blood and soul. I will be the bitterest dissenter from Christianity, or I will be the warmest admirer of its gospels. To the Promoters of the Parliament and the ladies and gentlemen of the world who are assembled here, I pronounce that your aim is the realization of the Religious Union, not nominally, but practically. We, the forty million souls of Japan, standing firmly and persistently upon the basis of international justice, await still further manifestations as to the morality of Christianity.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

MARINE COURT OF INQUIRY.

TOKYO, SATURDAY, October 28th.

THE STRANDING OF THE "SAKATA MARU."

The Court assembled this morning at the Mercantile Marine Bureau of the Department of Communications (Teishinsho), to deliver its finding upon the circumstances attending the stranding of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha steamer *Sakata Maru*. Mr. Ito, President of the Court, first gave the judgment in Japanese, and then Mr. J. M James read the following translation in the English language. Captain Giese was present in Court.

STATEMENT

The *Sakata Maru* was an iron screw-steamer of 1,369.25 net register, 162 nominal horse power, owned by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha. The Master was Julius J. Giese, a German subject.

An enquiry into the circumstances attending the stranding, which took place near Inuboye-saki, province of Shimosa, on the 26th August, 1893, was held, and the import of the statement given by the Master was as follows:—

The *Sakata Maru* left Akkeshi, province of Kushiro, for Yokohama at 7.50 a.m. on the 24th August, at 1 a.m. On the 26th inst., Kinkwa-san Light (province of Rikuzen) was sighted, right ahead, bearing S.W. by compass, deviation 4° Easterly, when the course was altered to S.S.W. by compass, deviation still remaining 4° Easterly; at this time the patent log indicated 312 miles from the Daikoku Shima, in Akkeshi Bay. At 3.30 a.m. Kinkwa-san Light was abeam, the patent log showing 332¾ miles. At that time, Henry Walter Walker, the Second Officer, on watch, took the bearing of the Light, which was W.N.W. by compass, and from the "four point bearing," verified the ship's position, which was 7 miles distant from the Light. At that time, as the Master was not on the bridge, the Second Officer reported the bearings, and distance from the light to the Master, who came on the bridge, and shaped the course S. by W. ½ W. by compass, the deviation on this course being 3° Easterly

The weather on that day was variable with fog at intervals, and towards night the fog became more dense. The wind was from the northward, and no indication of land was seen during the whole day. At noon, the patent log showed 398 miles from Daikoku shima, or 65¾ miles from the position when Kinkwa-san Light was abeam. At noon, the ship's position by observations was, latitude 37° 12′ N., longitude 141° 32′ E. The longitude was worked out from the sights by the Second Officer, taken about 8.20 a.m., and the latitude, from the meridian altitude by the Master and the Second Officer. The noon position worked up from the observations placed the ship 7 miles eastward from that of the dead reckoning calculated from Kinkwa-san. The Master considered the observed position the most reliable, because he could not see the land; whereas, if the dead reckoning had been correct, the land ought to have been visible, as the weather was clear. He steered the same course, going at full speed, and expected to sight Inuboye Light on the starboard bow, at about 9 30 p.m and to be abeam of it at midnight. At 8 p.m., the patent log showed 457 miles. Shortly after this time, the Master was on the bridge with Abe Toshinari, the Third Officer on watch, and it was his intention to take soundings at 9.0 p.m. At this time, discovering that the patent log had fouled something, he went aft to examine it, and whilst coming back to the bridge again, he felt the ship touch the ground at 9 14 p.m. Immediately he gave the order to stop the engines and reverse; but the ship slewed round to N E. only, and did not come off. Then the ballast tanks were pumped out, the engines were worked at full speed ahead to try and move the ship but without avail. The place where the stranding took place was on the beach, sandy bottom, about 12 miles northward from Inuboye-saki. At first the water did not come in except in the No. 1 hold (forward compartment), but afterwards the lower part of the stern was damaged. After great exertion and using every possible means for getting the ship off, she eventually came off on the 23rd September about noon, and steamed with her own engines for about one hour, at a speed of about 4 knots, until meeting the *Sendai Maru*, which took her in tow and arrived with her safely at Yokosuka at 3.0 a.m. on the 24th.

JUDGMENT.

The Court, taking into consideration the statements made before the Court of Inquiry by the parties interested in this case and the entries in the ship's log, is of opinion as follows:—

First.—The Master stated that the ship was distant 7 miles from Kinkwa-san Light when it was on the beam bearing, and that this was verified by the four-point bearing, by the Second Officer, on watch. This statement has not been verified by any sufficient evidence. Moreover, having been in such an important place for fixing the ship's position as Kinkwa san offered, the Master ought to have verified the ship's position himself instead of entrusting that duty entirely to the Second Officer on watch. This is considered negligence of his duty.

Second.—The Master also stated that at noon he fixed the ship's position by the observations which he relied upon, as he could not see the land at that time, but the weather on that day, having been for the most part overcast and foggy, good observations of the sun could not be obtained, and also the land, about 18 miles off, from the ship's position by dead reckoning, could not be sighted. From the time when a straight course was shaped from the ship's position off Kinkwa-san for Inuboye, at 3.30 a.m. until noon, there was only a run of 8½ hours, yet a difference of 7 miles in longitude between the position by the observations and that of the dead reckoning was shown.

Notwithstanding this, the Master fixed the ship's position at noon solely from the observations taken by the Second Officer without apparently having any doubt in his own mind on the matter. This is deemed to be a want of prudent attention to his duties.

Thirdly.—No land was visible during that day, and at night the ship was still steered on her course although in a thick fog. The course, from the dead reckoning position was a dangerous course, taking the ship too close to Inuboye saki

On the previous voyage, on the 22nd July, when the ship was steered on the same course as in this case, namely S. by W. ½ W. by compass from Kinkwa-san, bearing W.N.W. by compass, distant 7¾ miles, when Inuboye saki Light was first sighted at a distance of about 19 miles, the ship was found set inshore, or westward, about 4 miles. Notwithstanding this experience, the Master did not change the course towards the offing, or try to ascertain quickly the ship's position by sounding, or reducing the speed in such a thick fog, but continued on at full speed. This is deemed to be careless navigation.

In conclusion, the Court is of opinion that the stranding was caused by the fact that the Master did not take into account the southerly in-taking current which exists in the locality between Kinkwa san and Inuboye-saki, and also that he was careless in navigating in foggy weather as he did.

The Court therefore recommends, according to the Section No. 10 in the General Regulations for the examination of and granting certificates to Masters, Mates, and Engineers of vessels of Foreign Form and Construction, that the Certificate of Master of the First Grade (No. 138) of J. Giese, the Master, be suspended for a period of three months.

(Signed) Y. ITO, President.
(Signed) T. YOKOI, Assessor.
(Signed) T. OSHIMA, Assessor.

I hereby approve of this finding.

(Signed) KURODA KIYOTAKA,
Minister of State for the Department of Communication.

Tokyo, October 28th, 1893.

H.B.M.'s SUPREME COURT.

SHANGHAI, 25TH OCTOBER.

ON APPEAL FROM H.B.M.'S COURT FOR JAPAN, AT KANAGAWA.

(IN ADMIRALTY)

Before N. J. HANNEN, Esq., Chief Justice, and GEO. JAMIESON, Esq., Assistant Judge.

BETWEEN THE PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, DEFENDANTS AND APPELLANTS, AND THE IMPERIAL JAPANESE GOVERNMENT, PLAINTIFF AND RESPONDENT.

Mr. Francis, Q.C., of Hongkong, Mr. J. F. Lowder, of Yokohama, and Mr. A. P Stokes (Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master) appeared for the P. & O. Company; while Mr. H S. Wilkinson, Crown Advocate, Mr M. Kirkwood, Yokohama, and Mr H P. Wilkinson appeared on behalf of the Imperial Japanese Government.

Judgment in this appeal was delivered this morning.

Chief Justice Hannen said:—

This is an appeal from H.M.'s Court for Japan.

The suit was brought by the plaintiff under the Admiralty jurisdiction of the Court praying that the defendants might be ordered to pay the damage caused by the sinking of the *Chishima Kan* by their steamer the *Ravenna*, which the plaintiff alleged was wholly to blame for the collision which had occurred between the two vessels.

The defendants, in their answer, denied that their steamer was to blame, and alleged that the collision was brought about solely by the fault of those on board the *Chishima Kan*.

They then moved that they should be allowed to file a counter-claim against the plaintiff, that the suit and counter-claim should be heard together, and that the plaintiff be ordered to give security to abide by and perform the decision of the Court on the counter claim. The Judge of the Court below refused this motion upon grounds which may shortly be stated as follows:—

The collision occurred at a spot within the territorial waters of Japan where the law of Japan applied; that by that law plaintiff could not be sued for the tortious acts of his servants; that therefore if the defendants established the allegations of their answer they would not be entitled to any relief against the plaintiff, and that therefore they ought not to be allowed to file a counter-claim.

The decision of the Judge rests upon his finding that the spot where the collision took place was one where the law of Japan applied

The actual spot is, I believe, not in dispute, but the defendants contend that it being upon the highway of nations, not in a bay, harbour or estuary, it is not a spot at which the law of Japan applies but a spot at which an Admiralty Court must apply the Law Maritime; that by the Law Maritime the owner is answerable for the tortious acts of his servants; that if they establish the allegations of their answer, they will be entitled to relief against the plaintiff, and that therefore the Judge of the Court below was wrong in refusing them leave to file a counter claim.

The place of collision was undoubtedly upon the highway of nations. We know that at the present time almost every mail steamer going from China

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to the western side of the Continent of America passes the spot where the collision took place, and we know as matter of history that when the entrance to the Inland Sea was stopped the right to enter and pass through it was asserted by force of arms by England, France, Holland, and America, and such right admitted by the Government of Japan. The collision then took place at a spot upon the highway of nations, and this in my opinion is the same as saying that it occurred at a spot which, for the purposes of the law administered in the Court for Japan and in this Court (when sitting as Admiralty Courts at any rate), must be considered as the high seas.

I come to this conclusion from a careful consideration of all the cases which were cited to us, but the case of the *Saxonia* appears to me to be exactly in point. There the collision took place in the Solent, about half a mile distant from the Isle of Wight and three or four miles east of Yarmouth. It seems to me that so far as the spot of the collision is concerned this is as nearly analogous to the spot where the *Chishima* and *Ravenna* collided as it is possible to be, and the Court of Admiralty and the Privy Council held that this was a spot at which the Local Law did not apply, the Master of the Rolls, in delivering the judgment of the Court, saying—"We are of opinion that this collision must be considered to have taken place on the high seas in a place where a foreign vessel has a right of sailing without being bound by any provisions of the Statutes enacted to govern British ships."

There are cases which have been quoted by the Counsel for the plaintiff as authorities against this view, but I do not think it necessary to go into them further than to say that they are all reconcilable if we take the doctrine to be that a ship when sailing on the highway of nations is to be taken as on the high seas, but that it is otherwise when she leaves the highway and enters a bay, harbour, or estuary in the territory of a State.

The collision then must be deemed to have taken place upon the high seas at a spot where the Law Maritime applied. The Law Maritime is that the owner of a ship doing damage to another is liable for the negligence of his servants. (The Chartered Mercantile Bank of India *versus* the Netherlands Steam Navigation Company, L.R. 10 Q.B.D. per Lindley, L.J. at p. 545.)

The plaintiff in the present case, if it had been brought in a Vice-Admiralty Court in H.M.'s dominions or in the Admiralty Court in England, would have been liable on the counter claim, and therefore the reasons for his refusal to allow the counter-claim to be filed given by the Judge of H.M. Court for Japan do not apply.

Subject to the objections more particularly urged by Mr. Kirkwood, I think the Court for Japan ought to have allowed this counter-claim to be filed. I have therefore arrived at this point—"Subject to the provisions of the Order in Council and upon the principles and in conformity with the Law in force in and for England" (I am quoting the words of the Order in Council of 1865, s. 5), this counter-claim ought to be admitted

Then we are told by section 4 of the Order in Council of 1865 that the jurisdiction we exercise shall be exercised in accordance with this provision (amongst others) "*and not otherwise*"

This seems to me to meet all Mr Kirkwood's objections except such as rest on the Order in Council and Rules themselves.

It might possibly be suggested that neither the Court for Japan nor this Court has any jurisdiction to try this case at all, it being a case where the Emperor of Japan alleges that he has reason to complain of a British subject, and such a case does not seem to me to have been provided for specifically in the Treaty or the Orders in Council or the Rules.

But the plaintiff by coming to the Court avers that we have jurisdiction, and it is not denied by the defendants. The plaintiff has invoked the jurisdiction of the Court for Japan and it can only be exercised in accordance with the Law of England and subject to the provisions of the Orders in Council and Rules. Now what are the provisions of the Orders in Council and Rules which would direct the Court for Japan to refuse leave to file a counter claim in this case? Sec. 127 of the Order in Council of 1865 gives the Judge of H.B.M.'s Supreme Court power to frame Rules as to the admission of counter claims, and under this Rule he framed Rule 55. It cannot be argued that the words of this Rule, if taken according to their natural meaning, do not give the Court power to allow the defendants to file a counter-claim in this case, but it is said that if read by the light of the Treaty this Rule cannot refer to Japanese plaintiffs

If a Rule of Procedure admits of two constructions one of which is manifestly repugnant to the Treaty and the other is not, we must not adopt the construction which is manifestly repugnant to the Treaty, but I find nothing in the Treaty which makes Rule 55 manifestly repugnant to it. There is nothing said about counter-claims, but it is said (Art. VI) that cases shall be decided equitably. Every Court in England considers that cases cannot be decided equitably unless counter-claims are admitted, and I therefore come to the conclusion that there is nothing in the Treaty repugnant to Rule 55 which contemplates their admission.

In accordance then with Rule 55 leave may be given to the defendants to file a counter-claim "if under the circumstances of the case" the Court thinks fit. Under this rule there is no doubt a discretion in the Court to allow or refuse the application for leave to file a counter-claim. Ought we in our discretion to refuse it? The discretion is of course a judicial one, and I find that in the case of the *Hochung* and *Lapwing* a similar motion to the present one was made, was opposed, was argued, and granted by the Court. The case went on appeal to the Privy Council, and as far as I know, the power to give the leave and the right exercise of the discretion of the Court in giving it were not questioned. That was a case of a Chinese ship—not a man-of-war—but I see no reason for refusing the defendants leave to file a counter-claim simply because in this case the plaintiff is the Emperor of Japan. I hold that we have the power, and the reasons urged against our exercising it do not at all satisfy me.

The Court of Admiralty in the *Newbattle*, L.R. x, P.D. p. 33) had a discretion to suspend or not the proceedings in the cause until security was given by the plaintiff—a foreign Sovereign—to answer the judgment in the cross cause, but they did not think that the fact of plaintiff being a Sovereign Prince justified them in refusing to suspend the cause. For the reasons there given, I hold that we ought to exercise our discretion by allowing the counter-claim to be filed.

Then comes the question whether we can and ought to order security to abide by and perform the decision of the Court upon the counter-claim, to be given by the plaintiff.

The reasoning by which I have arrived at the conclusion that we have the power to allow the counter-claim to be filed leads me also to the conclusion that we have the power to order security to be given. I hold, therefore, that under Rule 55 we have the power.

The Admiralty Court in England in the *Newbattle* (*ubi supra*), when it had the power to compel a Foreign Sovereign to give security to answer the judgment in a cross action, in its discretion exercised this power by ordering that the cause be suspended until this was done. So I conceive that we are bound to follow this case and order the security asked for to be given.

It has been argued that the Emperor of Japan ought not to be considered as coming within the meaning of the words "Foreign Sovereign" when he comes into H.B.M.'s Court for Japan. I suggested during the argument and I now feel convinced that the only interpretation we can properly put upon the words "Foreign Sovereign," is—a Sovereign of some State other than Great Britain.

It has also been argued that H.I.M. the Emperor of Japan must be treated as the "Sovereign" in H.B.M.'s Court for Japan. I agree with the Judge of the Court below that "the Sovereign" in that Court, and in every English Court, is and must be Her Majesty the Queen. In holding this we intend no discourtesy to His Imperial Majesty, and its being so held is in my opinion in no way derogatory to his dignity.

Every Sovereign in the world is treated in an English Court as of equal dignity, but "The Sovereign" when mentioned in our Courts, must be understood to mean Her Majesty the Queen of Great Britain. We have moreover the satisfaction of knowing that if we are wrong in this or any other point of our judgments, we may be set right by H.M.'s Privy Council, to whom no doubt an appeal will be carried.

The Assistant Judge and myself have arrived at practically the same conclusion, though upon somewhat different grounds;—the judgment of the Court is that the appeal motion be granted with costs here and in the court below

The following was the judgment of the Assistant Judge, Mr G. Jamieson:—

This is an Appeal from an Order of the Court for Japan refusing leave to the defendants to file a counter-claim in a suit instituted by the plaintiff to recover damages in respect of a collision which took place on the 30th November, 1892, between the steamship *Chishima*, a public war-vessel of the State of Japan, and the steamship *Ravenna*, a vessel belonging to the fleet of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company

The circumstances of the case and the grounds upon which the learned Judge in the Court below refused the motion have been fully stated in the judgment of the Chief Justice just read.

The first point to be considered is whether this collision did occur in the territorial waters of Japan in such way as to make the law of Japan, whatever it may be, applicable to the case. I leave out of consideration all question of extra-territoriality and for the purposes of the argument I shall assume that the collision took place between two private vessels carrying the flags of the respective countries.

First as to the locality itself. This is described in the judgment of the court below as follows:—"Prior to and at the time of the collision both vessels were in a narrow channel, known as the Gogoshima Straits, between the Islands of Musuki and Gogo. These islands are in what is called the Inland Sea of Japan, a succession of land-locked bays, extending for about 240 miles east and west. This sea has four entrances, two extremely narrow, the third under two miles in width, and the fourth with two branches, the wider of which is about four miles wide. The Island of Gogo referred to in the answer is close to the northern shore of Shikoku, which is one the four large islands of Japan, and which forms the southern boundary of the eastern portion of the Inland Sea. The channel between Gogo and Musuki described in the answer as the scene of the collision is not two miles wide and the place of the collision itself is less than three miles from the nearest part of Shikoku. On these data," continues the learned Judge, "it is impossible to contest the proposition that the collision occurred within the territorial waters of Japan."

But the question arises, admitting that in ordinary geographical and international parlance these waters are the territorial waters of Japan, which I do not at all dispute—is the Inland Sea as a whole or is the precise part of it where the collision occurred in truth Japanese territory so as to impose Japanese law upon all persons and vessels found within it?

I shall first consider it in respect of the fact that the collision occurred within 3 miles of the shore, but not in any port or harbour of Japan. The leading case on this head is the *Franconia* (R. *v* Keyn, L.R. 2 Exch.). The prisoner, a foreigner in command of a foreign steamer had been convicted at the Central Criminal Court of manslaughter. The vessel under his command had run into and sunk a British steamer on the high seas within 2½ miles from Dover beach, and a question of law was reserved as to whether the Court had jurisdiction. For the prisoner it was argued that being a foreigner in a foreign vessel on the high seas he was not subject to the jurisdiction of any Court in England. For the Crown it was contended that as both vessels at time of collision were within 3 miles of the shore the offence was committed within the realm of England and was triable by the English Court. The point at issue was thus stated by Brett, J.A.:—"The great question argued was whether the 3 miles of open sea next the coast are or are not a part of the Territory of England, meaning thereby, a territory in which its law is paramount and exclusive. . . . . The only evidence suggested is that by the law of nations every country bordered by the sea is held to have as part of its territory, meaning thereby a territory in which its law is paramount and exclusive, the three miles of open sea next to its coast; and therefore that England among others has such territory. The question on both sides has been made to depend upon whether such is or is not proved to be the law of nations." It was held by the majority of the Court that the English tribunals had no jurisdiction, and the following propositions may I think be deduced from the judgments:—

1.—The Legislature of any country may, consistently with the principles of international law extend any or all of its municipal law over the open sea within three miles of its coasts so as to bind all persons found thereon subject to rights of free navigation by ships of other nations.

2.—It will not be assumed that by virtue of the law of nations alone, the municipal law of a country does so extend. Whether it does so or not and to what extent is a question of fact, to be determined as to England by the terms of the particular statute in question or by the practice in common law and as to foreign countries by such proof as may be laid before the Court.

3.—In the absence of specific legislation it will be presumed that the municipal law of a State does not extend to those parts of its territorial waters which are at the same time high seas, but it will be presumed that it does extend to all the ports, harbours, and rivers of every State.

In the judgment of Chief Justice Cockburn which in effect became the judgment of the Court, stress is continually laid on the necessity of keeping distinct the right of the Legislature to make laws so as to bind foreigners within the 3 mile limit—and the right of the courts to exercise jurisdiction wit-

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out such legislation. The former is affirmed in strongest terms the latter is equally strongly repudiated. Not less marked is the distinction drawn between the 3 miles of open coast and the territorial waters composing the ports, harbours, and rivers of a State. These latter are in every sense the territory of the nation just as much as the land itself is, and the reason of the thing is quite obvious. When a foreign vessel enters the port of a State she voluntarily puts herself within the jurisdiction just as much as a traveller crossing the frontier by road or rail. She comes as a guest seeking hospitality, she owes a temporary allegiance during her stay to the sovereign power, and *per contra* she is subject to all the obligations and entitled to all the immunities which the municipal law of the country imposes or confers. She is, to use the language of Brett, L.J., in the Chartered Mercantile Bank v. N I S.N. Co., L.R. 10 Q.B.D p. 536 when speaking of the *M. Moxham*, within the "exclusive jurisdiction" or the "sole territorial jurisdiction" of the State, and although that State may in some cases be content to waive the exercise of its undoubted jurisdiction in favour of the flag, as in R. v. Anderson, that does not affect the principle in the least. But this reasoning does not apply to a vessel merely skirting the coast of a country in pursuance of a peaceful voyage, whether bound for a port in that country or not. So long as she is on the highway of nations she is where she has a perfect right to be without any leave or license from the State, whether within the three mile limit or without. It is only when she turns aside to enter the port, when she leaves the public domain of the high seas and enters on the private territory of the State, that she becomes subject to the municipal law. Where precisely that line is to be drawn may perhaps sometimes be a difficulty, but it must be determined by the particular circumstances of each case. If the port lies up a river or in a bay protected by outlying headlands usually termed *fauces terræ* it may doubtless begin at a much greater distance than 3 miles from the actual port itself.

The preamble to the Territorial Waters Jurisdiction Act, 1878, passed in consequence of the decision in *R. v. Keyn*, emphasises I think the distinction here drawn. "Whereas the rightful jurisdiction of Her Majesty extends and has always extended over the open seas adjacent to the coasts of the United Kingdom" (that is to say whereas the Queen has and has always had power to make and enforce laws exercising to every person within those waters), "and whereas it is expedient that all offences committed in the open sea within a certain distance of the coast by whomsoever committed be dealt with according to law (that is and whereas it is expedient the criminal law of England should be extended so as to include all persons, foreigners as well as British, a thing which was never done before, though it might have been done), "Be it therefore enacted," etc. And even in thus extending the law the British Legislature has had regard to the rights and susceptibilities of other nations whose ships navigate these waters, because it is provided that no criminal proceedings against a foreigner under that Act shall be instituted without the consent of one of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State.

To apply this now to the case before us. Supposing the *Chishima* had been a private Japanese steamer and that the law of Japan had been similar for instance to the law of Spain, as stated in the *M. Moxham*, the plaintiff would have had to prove not merely what the law of Japan was, but also that the Japanese Legislature had as a matter of fact, made that law applicable to all vessels within the 3 mile limit. Viewing the locality therefore as having occurred on the high seas within 3 miles of the coast, I think the defence set up on behalf of the plaintiff fails, inasmuch as the affidavit does not show that the municipal law of Japan has been made to extend to those waters where the collision occurred.

In the next place, does it make any difference that the collision happened in what is known as the Inland Sea of Japan? Can the whole of the large body of water termed the "Inland Sea" be considered as a port or harbour of Japan, for this is what it must amount to if Japanese municipal law is, without more, to be held applicable to all vessels found within it? I do not think so. It has been assumed in the argument and I assume it here, that the Inland Sea is open to the free navigation of the ships of all nations, that it is in fact part of the ocean highway. Vessels may freely pass through it without leave or license from Japan. It extends as stated in the judgment of the Court below, some 240 miles from East to West, and it might be added it is in some places open sea 60 or 80 miles wide from North to South. One port open to foreign trade, namely the port of Kobe mentioned in the answer, lies within it, the other port Nagasaki, to which it is stated the *Ravenna* was bound, lies without. Can it on any reasonable construction be contended that a vessel entering the Inland Sea, say at the western entrance, is necessarily entering the port of Kobe? She may pass through and leave by the extreme eastern exit without ever coming within sight of Kobe at all. It is no doubt true that she must in the course of such a journey frequently pass close to land, and through narrow straits, but I fail to see any material distinction between such a course and that of a vessel passing through the Solent or the Irish Channel. I therefore think that the case of the *Newbattle* (L.R. 10 P.D. 33) is exactly in point and that the counter claim will lie.

But it is next contended that, assuming this to be so, if this suit had been brought in the High Court of Admiralty in England, the Court for Japan is a Court of limited jurisdiction and is bound down

(1) By the terms of the treaty between Great Britain and Japan

(2) By the Orders in Council under which it is constituted.

(3) By its own Rules of Procedure, and that under the terms of these the Court has no power to entertain counter-claims against Japanese subjects and *à fortiori* none against the Emperor. It was also contended as it was contended in the Court below that the Emperor of Japan has sovereign rights in that Court, and is entitled to be treated as "the Crown."

This last point has been fully answered by the Court below and I need say only that I entirely agree with what is there said.

It was argued at great length before us by plaintiffs' counsel that as all jurisdiction exercisable in Japan by the Queen is derived by delegation from the Emperor of Japan and as the Emperor has never authorised British Courts to entertain claims against Japanese subjects, the Court for Japan has no power to entertain counter claims against them when they appear as suitors.

Passing by the contention that Her Majesty's authority in Japan is derived by delegation, which however I do not admit as a correct account of its origin, let us see what the Treaty has to say as to suits between Japanese and British subjects. The articles in question are Arts. V. and VI. of the Treaty of 26th Aug., 1858. Art. V. deals with criminal offences and declares that Japanese subjects guilty of any criminal act towards British subjects shall be tried and punished by the Japanese authorities according to the laws of Japan and similarly British subjects committing any crime in Japan shall be tried and punished by the Consul or other public functionary authorised thereto according to the laws of Great Britain.

Art. VI. refers to civil suits and is worded very differently. "A British subject having reason to complain of a Japanese must proceed to the Consulate and state his grievance. The Consul will inquire into the merits of the case, and do his utmost to arrange it amicably. On like manner if a Japanese have reason to complain of a British subject the Consul shall no less listen to his complaint, and endeavour to settle it in a friendly manner. If disputes take place of such a nature that the Consul cannot arrange them amicably then he shall request the assistance of the Japanese authorities that they may together examine into the merits of the case and decide it equitably."

It might, I think, be argued not unfairly that there is here express provision to enable the Consul in the Consular Court to entertain suits as a Court of Arbitration or reconciliation even against a Japanese defendant when both parties come "amicably" before him, that is I take it voluntarily submitting to the jurisdiction. He is authorised, in fact, to treat Japanese defendants just as he treats British. In any case it seems clear, comparing the two clauses, that a greater latitude was allowed to the British officer in civil than in criminal matters. In practice the mixed jurisdiction prescribed in the latter part of Art. VI. has been abandoned by mutual consent, and the general rule followed both in Japan and in China, where the terms of the treaty are identical is that the defendant is to be sued in the Court of his own nationality. But if it appears that the Court for Japan is authorised under the Order in Council to entertain counter-claims at all no objection would seem to be to their application to Japanese plaintiffs merely on the score of the Treaty.

The Order in Council of 1865, under which, as modified by the Order of 1878, the Court for Japan and this Court were constituted, provided (Art. 117) that suits brought by foreigners (including under that term subjects of the Emperor of Japan) against British subjects should be determined according to the provisions of that Order and the Rules made under it applicable to the case. Rule 55 gave the courts discretionary power to entertain counter-claims and to order a plaintiff in any case where it might see fit, to give security to abide by and perform the decision of the Court on the counter-claim no distinction being drawn between British and foreign plaintiffs. It appears from the records of this Court that there was at first some uncertainty as to the practice that ought to be followed when the plaintiffs were Chinese or Japanese. In the case of the steamship *Ocean*, the plaintiffs were Chinese subjects whose vessel the *Fusing* had been sunk by a collision on the high seas with the British steamship *Ocean* which had herself sustained damage. In that case leave to file a counter-claim was refused on the ground that it came too late, but he Judge, Sir Edmund Hornby, having found both vessels to blame, ordered that the damages sustained by both should be referred to the Registrar and that each should bear half the total loss according to the usual Admiralty rule, remarking that he did this under his "equitable jurisdiction," though no counter-claim had been filed, and expressing at the same time a doubt whether a counter-claim would lie against a Chinese plaintiff. In a later case, however, the *Hochung v. Lapwing*, tried in 1881, which was also a case of collision between a Chinese owned and a British owned steamer, the Court gave the British defendant leave to file a counter-claim by cross petition against the Chinese plaintiffs and ordered the latter to find security to answer the counter-claim. This case went on appeal to the Privy Council and is reported in L.R. 7 Appeal Cases 512, the appeal, however, being on another point, but it must be taken until overruled as regulating the practice under Rule 55.

By a later Order in Council, which came into force on 31st December, 1881, Art. 117 of the 1865 Order in Council was repealed and the whole practice as regards suits brought by foreigners and as regards counter-claims against them by British defendants was specifically provided for. It was however, contended in the Court below on behalf of the plaintiff in this suit and successfully, that being the Mikado of Japan he was not a "Foreigner" within the meaning of the Orders in Council, the term there being defined as "a subject of the Emperor of China or of the Mikado of Japan, or a subject or citizen of any other state in amity with Her Majesty," and that therefore the provisions of Art. 47 of the 1881 Order in Council do not apply to this case. If this contention is right, and I think it was, the question remains on what terms is the Emperor of Japan to be admitted as a plaintiff, and what rule as the Orders in Council now stand, is applicable to the conduct of the case? It must be either Rule 55 or Rule 339, and I incline to the opinion that the latter is the proper Rule to apply. This Rule gives the Court liberty in "all matters not in these Rules expressly provided for," to follow the procedure of the superior Courts, and in Admiralty suits that of the Admiralty Court in England. In either case there is power given to the Court to entertain a counter-claim and to order security if it think fit.

Viewing the position as a whole, it appears to me that this is a suit for which no provision has been made either in the treaty or in the Orders in Council or in the Rules. The treaty is a contract between the Queen and the Emperor of Japan to regulate dealings between their respective subjects, but containing no reference to the exercise of the sovereign rights of either. In pursuance of that contract the Queen has created a Tribunal in Japan for the determination of matters in difference between British subjects and between foreigners and British subjects and for the punishment of crimes and offences committed by British subjects in Japan. It has also pleased Her Majesty to declare this Court to be a Vice Admiralty Court, and to have for and within Japan and for vessels and persons coming to and within Japan, "all such jurisdiction as for the time being ordinarily belongs to Vice Admiralty Courts in Her Majesty's possessions abroad." The Emperor now voluntarily comes into this Court, and asks the aid of the Court to recover damages against a British steamer which he alleges has sunk one of his war-vessels. The defendants by their answer allege that the collision was wholly due to the negligent navigation of the plaintiff's vessel, and that not only do they not owe anything to the plaintiff, but that he owes them a large sum for damages caused to their vessel by the collision and they ask that this counter-claim of theirs be admitted and adjudicated on along with the original claim. The question is, has the Emperor of Japan any right as he contends, to ask that his claim be determined wholly without reference to the damage sustained by defendants and that he be at liberty to recover his damages even in the event of both vessels being found to blame leaving the defendants to the chances of an action in the Japanese

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Courts against the wrong-doer. Stated thus plainly it seems to me to be a proposition very difficult to support on any principle of justice or equity. If this Court has jurisdiction in the suit at all must it not be taken that the plaintiff comes in on the same terms as he would come in to any Court in Her Majesty's dominions, that is as submitting to the jurisdiction of the Court so that all proper orders may be made against him, and thus enable the Court to do complete justice between the parties? Must he not when seeking justice be held as offering to do justice? Had this suit been brought in the High Court of Admiralty in London, as it might, the case would have been identical with that of the *Newbattle* (assuming the collision to have happened, as we hold it did, on the high seas), and the plaintiff would have been required as a condition of going on with his suit to deposit security for the defendant's counter-claim. Is there any reason why he should have greater privileges here, because he avails himself of the judicial machinery constituted under the extraterritorial clauses of the Treaty for the trial of suits between his own subjects and British subjects? I think if the Court can entertain the claim, it can also entertain the counter-claim, and I think the occasion is a proper one for the exercise of the discretion of the Court to order security.

It was lastly argued before us that in the event of our being of opinion that the Rules of the High Court of Admiralty applied, we could not in any case order security to be given because the defendant's ship had not been arrested nor had bail been given. As the Chief Justice is of opinion that Rule 55 of our own Rules does apply, the point does not arise, but I may say that I read the correspondence between the parties which is made part of the record as amounting to a contract that each shall waive his strict legal rights as to security in favour of the other, accepting a simple "undertaking" in place of more formal bail. The plaintiff does not arrest the ship but simply asks for an "undertaking" to defend the suit and to pay such damages as may be awarded. The defendants give this undertaking and express a hope that the plaintiffs will give a similar undertaking to meet damages and costs on the counter-claim This in turn the Japanese Government agree to do "subject to the existence of any right to counter-claim and to demand security therefore." The existence of this right has now been established and the undertaking becomes therefore absolute. Each side has pledged its word to the other to abide by the decision of the Court and declared itself satisfied, and on this basis I think the case should proceed.—*N.-C. Daily News.*

IN THE U.S. CONSULATE-GENERAL COURT FOR JAPAN.

Before W D. TILLOTSON, Esq., Consul-General and Judge —MONDAY, October 30th, 1893.

ALLEGED BREACH OF POLICE REGULATIONS.

Mr. George E. Rice, was charged this morning in this Court, "that on the fifth day of October, 1893, he unlawfully, and wilfully, in a wheeled vehicle, to wit a *jinrikisha*, under the direction and control of the said George E. Rice, did travel, ride, and pass in, upon, and over a certain portion of the roadway of Awa cho, between Nagasaki-cho and Honcho dori, in violation of a public notice placed in public view in said Awa-cho by the proper authority, prohibiting such travelling riding, or passing" The complaint was laid by Joshiu Arasuke.

Defendant pleaded not guilty.

Joshiu Arasuke was the first witness. He was sworn and then testified:—I am a policeman of Kanagawa *Ken*. On the 5th of October, about noonday, I was on duty near No. 87, the Oriental Hotel. I saw the defendent coming along towards me. The street named Awa-cho was under repair at this time and was closed to the passage of horses, cattle, and vehicles of every description.

A police notice-board of "No thoroughfare" was at this point brought into Court.

Questioned by the Court, witness said that this board was erected at the entrance to Awa-cho. Continuing, he said: I do not know who the person was that erected the board, but it was placed in its position by order of the Prefectural officials of Kanagawa. When the *jinrikisha*-man who was pulling defendant arrived at the entrance to Awa-cho he stopped and told defendant that he could proceed no further. The man attempted to put the shafts of the vehicle down, but defendant told him to go on. I shouted to the *jinrikisha* man that the board prohibited the passage of foreigners in vehicles down the street, and if the man went past the board and down the street I would punish him. The defendant, who spoke Japanese very well, told the *jinrikisha* man not to take any notice of the policeman but to go on to No. 86. When the *jinrikisha* reached No. 86, Mr. E. J. Moss's place of business, the defendant alighted and told the *jinrikisha*-man to carry some of the parcels which were in the vehicle into No. 86. After having some conversation with a person at No. 86, and the parcels having been conveyed into the place, defendant returned with the *jinrikisha* to Main Street (Honcho-dori). I at once approached the *jinrikisha* with the intention of taking down into my note book, the name and address of the drawer. Defendant, however, intercepted me, and prevented my doing so. He said the matter did not affect the *jinrikisha* man, and besides he had not used the road as a thoroughfare, and therefore had not committed a breach of the regulations. I still attempted to obtain the man's name, but defendant said the matter did not affect the drawer at all, as he, defendant, had given the man the order to go on. Defendant then flourished his umbrella and calling for an *atoshi* ordered the *jinrikisha* to proceed. This was all that happened then.

Witness wished to supplement this evidence with later details, but His Honour said that the facts of the case had now been related before the Court, while all parties concerned had seen the sworn statements which had been put in, so it was unnecessary to take up the time of the Court further simply because witness desired to tell a long story.

Witness persisted that he only wished to supplement his account of the affair by a few later details.

His Honour held that witness would only be introducing irrelevant matter if he proceeded further, and the witness stood down.

Nishiya Seishichi, the *jinrikisha* drawer, was then sworn.

Defendant having no objection, the sworn statement of the man taken by the Japanese police authorities was handed in, the Court being of opinion that it would save time, especially as defendant had read the statement.

The document was as follows:—

The undersigned having been summoned to day to appear, and upon the appearance at the Station was inquired of the fact that the undersigned had taken in his *jinrikisha*, about noon of October 5th, this year Mr Rice, an American, of No. 75, Main Street, and on the way to No. 107 Bluff, said Rice told me that he want to call Mr. Moss's place, No. 86 Main Street, and turned a cross-road But the said road was undergoing repair, and a placard for preventing passing of carts is posted, so I told Mr. Rice who did not listen to me and at last entered the prohibited place. I make answers as follows:—About noon of Oct. 5, 1893, I was in the regular *jinrikisha* stand in front of No, 75 Main Street, Settlement. Mr. Rice, the master of said No. 75, engaged me as usual to take him from there to No. 107, Bluff, and back. I proceeded with Mr Rice in my *jinrikisha* when I was told that he want to call at Mr. Moss, No. 86, Main Street. When—I turned to the cross road near No 86, I found a notice prohibiting the passing of carts and so I stopped in front of boundary line, and told him that I cannot take the *jinrikisha* further in, but said American said "Yoroshii, yoroshii" (all right, all right) and would not listen to me, and entered about 4 *ken* into the prohibited place where I lowered the shafts. Mr. Rice seemed to have a little angered, and jumped out and was to enter Mr. Moss's place shouting to bring the articles in the *jinrikisha*. I told him I could not take the *jinrikisha* in when the policeman ordered to stop The policeman told me if I violate the prohibition I shall be punished. The policeman on duty followed us and it appeared that he entered something in his pocket book. Mr. Rice also told the policeman that the fact that the *jinrikisha* was taken inside was upon his order. He told me to take cart out. Mr. Rice had finished some business at No. 86 and upon his order I took him by the Main Street to 107, Bluff, and back to No 75. Thus I violated the regulations

There is no discrepancy and the above is the true statement.

(Signed) NISHIYA SEISHICHI.

October 5, 1893.

To UDARA MASARU, Esq., Chief of the Settlement Police Station.

This concluded the case for the prosecution.

Defendant was then sworn. He said:—My name is Geo. E. Rice, and my place of business is at No. 75, Main Street. I am defendant in this matter. My firm had some business to transact with Mr. E. J. Moss about the beginning of the month, and he was very anxious to obtain from up certain articles. It so happened that they arrived at the office just as I was about to leave to go home for tiffin, so I had them placed in a *jinrikisha*. I proceeded up Main Street until I reached the corner at No. 86. There I saw a bar extended across half of the street; but the space left was wide enough for a *jinrikisha* to pass. The drawer hesitated a little, but only a few seconds and then passed on for about three parts of the way towards Mr. E. J. Moss's store. Finding the work too hard for him owing to the street being under repair, I stopped the vehicle and got out. I had gone a few paces when the man became aware that a policeman was calling to him. He drew my attention and turning round I saw a policeman at the opposite side of the street, at the back entrance to the Oriental Hotel. As I was then near to Mr. Moss's door I held up my hand and said in English, "It is all right." In less than a minute thereafter the packages were all taken from the *jinrikisha* and the vehicle was pulled back to Main Street. I followed in a moment and got into the vehicle. An *atoshi* came up and I went along towards the hill homewards. I then noticed the same policeman at the side of *jinrikisha* carrying a book in his hand and talking either to myself or the *jinrikisha* drawer. I do not understand much Japanese, and did not know what the man was saying, so I told the *jinrikisha* man to go ahead, as I was in a hurry. I deny that I wilfully entered that roadway. I supposed I had a perfect right to enter the street for the purpose of transacting private business at a house situate upon it. I did not know that any regulation existed to prevent a resident in the street from carrying on his business, and as I had been requested by Mr. Moss to do this business I was practically his agent. The roadway was mostly repaired, with the exception of putting some sand on top of the stones. At that time, too, all the workmen were at the lower end of the street; and between Mr. Moss's door and Main Street there was nothing whatever besides myself and my *jinrikisha*. As a matter of fact, I did not see the notice board at all; on my way back from tiffin I did observe it, and all I could read was "No thoroughfare" I made no attempt to make a thoroughfare of the street, that is, to go through the street from one end to the other, and never had any intention of so doing. I only wished to go to Mr. Moss and then back again. This contention of mine, that I had a right to go into the street on private business is borne out, I hold, by a paragraph in the Austro-Hungarian Treaty of October, 1869, Art. 3, Section 5.—"No wall, fence, or gate shall be erected by the Japanese around the place where Austro-Hungarian citizens reside, and nothing shall be done there which may prevent free egress or ingress." I think that is can be brought forward and supported by the most-favoured nation clause.

His Honour—I think this is not evidence, and need not be taken down, it is more in the form of a pleading. Have you anything further to offer in evidence?

Defendant—Yes; the *jinrikisha* man came to me afterwards and said he had been fined $1 95. He said he was very poor and could not pay the fine, so I gave him the money, and here is the receipt for it.

The receipt for the money was here handed to the Bench.

Mr. E. J. Moss was next sworn. He said in answer to defendant:—My name is E. J. Moss, my place of business is at No. 86. I remember that on the 5th of this month the street upon which my office fronts was in course of repair. During the time these repairs were being done I noticed the the board now in Court. During all that time I went in and out of the street, sometimes in a *jinrikisha* and sometimes walking. On one occasion the *jinrikisha* man and a native friend carried the vehicle over the rougher part of the road, but that was on account of the roughness of the way.

To the Court—During this time also, customers came to my place, sometimes in *jinrikisha* sometimes walking

His Honour—Was any objection made to them?—No objection was ever made to their entry or to mine. On the 5th of Oct. Mr. Rice had occasion to deliver to me some parcels which I had ordered from his firm. I was not present at the time he called, but my clerk informed me that they were delivered by Mr. Rice that day.

His Honour—I desire to take time to consider the evidence which has been given this morning, and shall now adjourn the Court till 3 o'clock, when I shall deliver judgment.

The Court assembled at three o'clock, when His Honour delivered the following Judgment:—In this case the defendant, a citizen of the United States, is charged with violating an order of the Japanese authorities prohibiting traffic over a certain street in the city of Yokohama, known as Awa-cho, while said street was undergoing repairs, by causing a *jinrikisha* to be hauled upon and over said street. Citizens of the United States are bound to observe and obey all rules and regulations promulgated by the Japanese Government, so long

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as they are reasonable and do not conflict with the rights granted by the Treaties.

The Court finds in this case that on the fifth day of October, 1893, as stated in the complaint, the said street, known as Awa cho, between Honcho-dori and Nagasaki-cho, was undergoing repairs, and the Japanese authorities had placed a notice, in English, at the entrance to the said portion of said street prohibiting the passage over said portion of said street of cattle, horses, and vehicles, and also a bar had been put up reaching half way across said street; that the said defendant having business at the business premises known as No. 86, Settlement, abutting on said portion of said street, did cause a vehicle known as a *jinrikisha* to be hauled or drawn upon and partly over said portion of said street. It is necessary from time to time to repair streets and in order to do so it is frequently necessary, partially and sometimes wholly, to prohibit traffic over the same. Streets are, however, public property and in repairing them it is the duty of the authorities to cause as little inconvenience as possible to the public and whenever possible a passage way should be left for egress and ingress of residents of the street as well as those having business with them. The authorities have no right to entirely close a street if it can possibly be avoided. The repairs of the particular street in question seem from the evidence to have been of an ordinary nature, and therefore it appears to the Court that there was no necessity for closing the street except to the general public, and the evidence shows that persons having business there did pass over the prohibited portion of same street without objection on the part of any one. So it seems that it is owing to a superabundance of official zeal that the complaint was entered against this defendant. It is not claimed that the defendant did any damage to the street or in any way interfered with the repairs then going on. From the evidence, I have to find that the defendant was lawfully there and, therefore, not guilty.

FOOTBALL.

YOKOHAMA v. H.M.S. "IMPERIEUSE."

The local football season of 1893-94 was inaugurated on Monday afternoon, when a match took place between teams from H.M.S. *Imperieuse* and the Y.C. and A.C. The weather was delightfully pleasant, calm and sunshiny, but the attendance of spectators upon the ground was meagre in the extreme. The Navy kicked off, playing with a slight wind in their favour, but with the sun in their faces. Within ten minutes of the start the visitors obtained the first goal with a low shot from the left, Yokohama being taken rather by surprise. Elated with this success the Navy men played up strongly and securing the ball rushed it down the ground; Kenny tried to save his goal and seized the leather in his hands, but before he had had time to dodge out and clear his lines he was rushed through, and the Naval team secured their second goal. Yokohama had by this time settled down to work and some pretty give-and-take play followed the fresh kick-off. Both goals had been threatened and cleared ere the Yokohama team got control of the ball and rushed it down the ground. They forced the leather close up to goal and a scrimmage resulted, from the midst of which McNeill finally extricated the ball and by a capital shot notched the first point for the home side. Soon afterwards, Yokohama had another try at scoring, but the ball went high and fell over the bar. For about five minutes the game was kept moving from side to centre, and then McNeill sent the ball in again and equalised matters—two goals all. The Navy played very well together for the next few minutes and twice Kenny was called upon to save his goal from dangerous rushes from the left. Shortly before half time the visiting forwards sent the ball over the bar again. Yokohama had up to this time been playing one man short, but when play was resumed White took the vacant position on the left wing. With the wind in their favour, Yokohama showed to better advantage, though the want of practice in all the men was easily discernible. From a throw-in well down in the back lines the local forwards rushed the ball up to their opponents' goal. It was returned, but Edwards securing it sent us a hot shot and scored the third goal for his side. Again the leather was kicked off by the Navy, and for while it was kept travelling up and down pretty rapidly, then Edwards ran down the ground, unchallenged till near the full-back line. He managed to keep the ball away from his tacklers and finally sent in a hot shot. It went wide, and nothing resulted. Soon after, Yokohama secured a throw-in and McNeill made a plucky attempt to secure another goal. The wind, however, carried the ball and it scraped the top of the posts. The home team were not to be denied, and White shortly afterwards sent in a winning shot—4 to 2. The fifth goal for Yokohama was secured by the same player, who was shortly afterwards, we regret to say, placed *hors de combat* and retired from the field with an injured shoulder. Only a few minutes of play remained, and the whistle blew before either side had scored another point. The style shown by both teams was very creditable considering that it was the first game played this season, the pity is that another cannot be looked forward too before the *Imperieuse* leaves for the south. The teams were as follow:—*Imperieuse*, Goal, Pascoe; backs, Leatham and Dewar; half backs, Chaing, Taylor, Elliott; right wing, Phillips and Dagnall; left wing Waters and Rout; centre, Boothby. Yokohama—Goal, Kenny; backs, Pearson (Capt.) and Sino; half-backs, Arnould, Barton, A. Cabeldu; and right wing, Edwards and Mair; left wing, White and McNeil; centre, P. Morriss.

BASEBALL.

Played on Wednesday afternoon. The Navy team as usual showed up well, and on the Yokohama side Mr. Shirasu carried off the honours, having put out 8 men in the neatest possible manner, and assisted in putting out three more. During the game Mr. Shirasu made two double plays:—

U.S. Navy.		Runs.	Outs.
Mr. Pratt	2B	4	2
Mr. McGill	P	3	2
Mr. Riley	C	2	4
Mr. O'Connor	3B	2	1
Mr Quimby	LF	0	5
Mr Frank In	RF	2	0
Mr. Hoff	1B	1	4
Mr. Eberley	RF	1	4
Mr Martin	CF	0	4
		15	27

Yokohama.		Runs.	Outs.
Mr Anderson	P	1	3
Mr. Conroy	C	0	4
Mr Merriman	RF	0	0
Mr. Tilden	1B	0	5
Mr. Morse	3B	0	4
Mr. Edwards	SF	2	2
Mr. Blanchard	LF	1	2
Mr. Tapper	CF	1	3
Mr. Shirasu	SS	1	3
		6	27

Innings.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
U.S. Navy	2	0	0	2	3	0	3	1	5	—15
Yokohama	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	3	0	—6

CRICKET.

YOKOHAMA v. THE NAVY.

In capital cricketing weather this match was played on Saturday, the shore team winning by 45 runs, though in the first innings there were two absentees and in the second two men did not bat. The totals were small, and only two individual scores are worth mention, Dickinson's 39 in the first innings, and Walford's 45 in the second. The first innings of the Yokohama team was peculiar, for after Walford had been sent back for a single, Dickinson saw White, Duff, Tate, and Mollison retire without scoring before he was bowled by Phillips; then Mair kept up his wicket and made 5 while Edwards and Layard batted but without scoring, the end showing a score of 48—including 3 extras—got by three players. The Navy then went in and scored 54, the only double figures being got by Meaden (15) and Thomas (12). In the Yokohama second innings, Walford made the best score of the day (45), Mollison next with 15, and Mair, Edwards, and Tate contributing 9 each, the innings closed for 103. In the Navy's second innings Meaden got 18, but the total only amounted to 52, which left the Yokohama men the winners by 45. Following are the scores:—

YOKOHAMA.

First Innings.		Second Innings.	
Mr. Walford, c. sub., b Taylor	1	not out	45
Mr. Dickinson, b. Phillips	39	b Phillips	8
Mr White, c. Daves, b. Taylor	0	b. Taylor	0
Mr. Duff, c. and b. Taylor	0	c. Leatham, b. Taylor	1
Mr. Tate, c. and b. Taylor	0	c. Thomas, b. Taylor	9
Mr Mollison, b. Taylor	0	c. Biewicz, b. Taylor	15
Mr. Mair, not out	5	b. Phillips	9
Mr. Liss, absent	—	b. Taylor	0
Mr. Edwards, b. Phillips	0	not out	9
Mr. Layard, b. Phillips	0	did not bat	—
Mr. Libeaud, absent	—	did not bat	—
l.b. 3	3	b. 6	6
	48		103

Bowling Analysis.

	B.	R.	M.O.	W.	N.B.
Mr. Taylor	40	9	4	5	
Mr. Biewica	25	27	—	—	—
Mr. Phillips	15	9	1	3	

	B.	R.	M.O.	W.
Mr. Taylor	100	36	5	5
Mr Phillips	60	28	4	3
Dr Meaden	30	15	—	—
Mr. Leatham	10	3	—	—
Mr. Olivier	15	15	—	—

NAVY.

1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
Mr. Olivier, b. Walford	0	b. Liss	5
Mr. Phillips, run out	0	b. Liss	0
Dr Meaden, c Edwards, b. Walford	15	l.b.w., b. Liss	18
Mr Taylor, b. Liss	1	c. Mollison b Tate	0
Dr. Biewica, l.b.w., b. Liss	0	l.b.w., b Tate	0
Mr. Leatham, c. and b. Liss	8	c. Tate, b Liss	10
Mr Compton, b. Liss	0	c. Mair, b. Tate	2
Mr Thomas, run out	12	b. Liss,	0
Mr Morris, c. Mollison, b. Walford	4	not out	5
Mr. Cay, b Walford	1	b. Liss	0
Mr Daves, not out	8	b. Walford	2
l.b. 4, w. 1	5	l.b. 2	2
	54		52

Bowling Analysis.

	B.	R.	M.O.	W.	N.B.
Mr. Walford	66	26	8	4	—
Mr. Liss	65	23	4	4	2

	B.	R.	M.O.	W.
Mr. Walford	32	5	3	1
Mr. Liss	80	25	4	6
Mr. Tate	60	20	4	3

XI. VERSUS XXII.

A most enjoyable game was played on Friday between teams captained by Mr. E. R. Morriss (XI.) and Mr. J. P. Mollison (XXII.). The sides were picked up with some pleasing discrimination, the principal qualifications for inclusion in the XXII. team being that players were supposed to be either over forty or under twenty years of age, or else could show a measurement of 40 inches round the waist, or, failing this, could boat of a residence of over 20 years in Japan. Notwithstanding these trivial limitations, Mr. Mollison's team proved too tough a lot for the supposedly more agile and expert eleven to conquer. Once on twice during the day, it must be allowed, the disparity between some of the XXII. was most amusingly emphasized, particularly when a brawny six-foot player of ample proportions was replaced at the wicket by a bashful-looking youngster of about eleven years. But the plucky lad could give points to several of his rivals, both with the bat and in the field; of this more anon. The day was gloriously fine and the wicket, though soaked through by the heavy rains of the preceding twelve hours, rapidly dried under the influence of a genial sun.

Libeaud and Garfit went in first on behalf of the XXII. to defend the wicket against Philip and E. Morriss. After a few singles, and a treble from Garfit, Libeaud drove the ball to the Pavilion boundary for 4, but the men were soon after separated, Garfit being caught by Philip off Morriss—10—1—14. Trevithick, next man in, contributed four by some bold hitting ere his balls were disturbed by a splendid ball from Morriss—15—2—4—and then Litchfield went in. He skied Philip and was caught out by the same bowler—15—3—0. Libeaud was joined by Mollison, but the partnership was very short, Libeaud being clean bowled by Philip—19—4—9. Dodds was next in, and he quickly lost the company of Mollison, who was bowled by Philip ere he had had time break his duck—19—50—0. Tyng was also sent back to the Pavilion in quick time, a ball from Morriss breaking in across his wicket when he had only scored a double—26—6—2. Then Dodds was caught out next ball by Kenny, off Philip—26—7—5. Then Shaw and Gulland came together. The former contributed 8 to the score ere being caught by Walford—32—18—4—Shaw getting bowled next ball by Philip—32—9—0. Some changes in the bowling now took place, Allcock and Campbell going on. The next few men, Cabeldu, Carew, and Fardell made some sixteen runs between them, and the first real stand against the bowling was made by Tennant and Coutts, both men getting into double figures. The latter knocked up a useful 17 ere Kenny caught him out, and he was loudly cheered as he left the field. Gordon joined Tennant but was caught and bowled Morriss, and soon after an adjournment was made for tiffin, Tennant being still in. The telegraph board by this time registered 78—14—0. Ross, who made a capital total of 25 by some good play, was the first man out after tiffin. His place was taken by Noel, but the newcome's life was short, one single only being placed to his credit, ere Campbell scattered his stumps. The score had by now crept up to 125. Master Murray Mollison took Noel's place, with Tennant still at the opposite wicket. The little lad defended his wicket well, and the score ran up quickly to 152, Tennant hitting freely to the boundary whenever the chance offered. Mollison was finally caught out by Allcock, off Philip. He deserved the cheering which greeted him as he came in, for he had secured six runs—1,2,1,2—by most judicous play—152—17—6. Master Tyng took the vacant place, but Tennant did not stay in long with him, P. Morriss catching him out, off Philip—157-18—55. The outgoing batsman's score included seven 4's and four 3's, an admirable peformance for a new-comer on his first appearance on the Yokohama ground. Soon after the whole side were out, the XXII.'s score closing for 160

It was about a quarter to three o'clock as the

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XI. went to bat, and they were all out within a little over an hour. With the exception of Kenyon, who went in first along with Mair and was third man out, none got into double figures. The bowling was in the hands of Ross and Libeaud for the whole of the innings, the former bowling 68 balls and taking 5 wickets for 32 runs; the latter bowling 65 balls and taking 4 wickets for 15 runs. The large number of fielders naturally precluded any free hitting, but Philip and P. Morriss both made a boundary each, and Kenny lifted the leather over the fence once. The XI. followed on, Duff, who played substitute in the absence of Walford from the ground, and Allcock going to wicket first Allcock was dismissed for five, and then Mair joined Duff. Some stand was then made against the fielders, Mair making 13 before being caught and bowled by Ross, Duff in the meantime was not idle. He was still in when the failing light caused stumps to be drawn, having scored 44 altogether. When the game closed the XI. were 49 runs behind. Scores:—

THE TWENTY-TWO.

1ST INNINGS.

Mr. A. S. Garêt, c. Philip, b. E. Morriss	4
Mr. Libeaud, b. E. Morriss	9
Mr Trevithick, b. E. Morriss	4
Mr H C. Litchfield, c. and b. Philip	0
Mr. J. P. Mollison, b. Philip	0
Mr J. Dodds, c. Kenny, b. Philip	5
Rev T. S Tyng, b. E. Morriss	2
Mr A. Shaw, b. Philip	0
Mr. Golland, c. Walford, b. Philip	4
Mr. A. Cabeldu, b. Philip	0
Mr. W H. R Carew, c. Barton, b. Allcock	7
Mr H. Fardel, c. Barton, b. Philip	0
Mr. H. Tennant, c. P Morriss, b. Philip	35
Mr. Coutts, c. Kenny, b. Campbell	17
Mr W Gorden, c. and b. E. Morriss	0
Mr. W. Ross, c. Morriss, b. Mair	25
Mr Noel, b. Campbell	1
Master M. Mollison, c. Allcock, b. Philip	6
Master Tyng, c. Kenny, b. Campbell	3
Mr N. Shaw, b. Campbell	0
Dr. Munro, not out	0
Extras	9
	160

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	B.	R.	M.	WKTS.	W.
Mr. Philip	225	36	22	9	5
Mr E R Morriss	210	61	6	5	—
Mr. Kenyon	5	2	—	—	—
Mr. Campbell	84	34	7	4	—
Mr. Allcock	25	23	2	1	—
Mr. Mair	90	5	2	1	—

THE ELEVEN.

1ST INNINGS.		2ND INNINGS.	
Mr. Mair, b Ross	3	c. and b. Ross	23
Mr Kenyon, c. Libeaud, b. Ross	24	not out	0
Mr. Campbell, run out	0		
Mr. E. R Morriss, c. Munro, b. Libeaud	6		
Mr G Philp, b. Ross	6		
Mr G. W Barton, b. Libeaud	0		
Mr B H. Pearson, b. Libeaud	4		
Mr P. Morris, b. Libeaud	6		
Mr Kenny, b. Ross	8		
Mr. Allcock, b. Ross	0	l.b.w., b. Libeaud	5
Mr. Duff, sub., not out	0	not out	44
Extras	2		
	49		67

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	B.	R.	M.	W.		B.	R.	M.	W.
Mr. Ross	68	32	2	5	Mr. Ross	65	43	2	3
Mr. Libeaud	65	25	6	4	Mr. Libeaud	65	19	5	1

YOKOHAMA LITERARY SOCIETY.

RECOLLECTIONS OF YOKOHAMA IN THE SIXTIES.

A most interesting paper entitled "Recollections of Yokohama in the Sixties," was read on Friday evening by Mr. A. J. Wilkin, before the usual fortnightly meeting of the Yokohama Literary Society. Mr. A. J. Wilkin was one of the pioneers of the Settlement, and his reminiscences, relating as they do to the opening years of the modern era of Japan, are of exceptional value, for he gathered his experiences and impressions at first hand. In the course of a lucidly written essay Mr. Wilkin remarked that when in the autumn of 1863 he prepared to leave London, Japan was invested in the eyes of all Europe with all the romance which pertained to a people who had been, as it were, suddenly discovered, and who were also entirely different from the rest of the world; but it had also obtained an unenviable notoriety. The barbarous murders, bloody assassinations, and desperate assaults,—of which some fresh occurrence was ever and anon reported,—led to the belief that residence in Japan was one fraught with no ordinary danger. Indeed, some of the principal London insurance offices declined to insure Mr. Wilkin's life, and it was only after he had paid an extra premium that he obtained a policy. Mr. Wilkin's outfit included, among other things, a double-barrelled gun, an Enfield rifle and sword-bayonet, and a brace of revolvers. He arrived in Yokohama on a bright Christmas Day, and the mail-ship was signalled by the old U. S. sailing frigate *Jamestown*. The bay was full of foreign men-of-war—the British vessels had but recently engaged in the Kagoshima expedition. Mr. Wilkin was taken by his friends to a bungalow on No. 90, and this residence is still standing. He returned to Shanghai after a three week's stay ashore, in order to bring from China the baggage and other things which he had left there. Owing to stress of weather, the vessel on which he travelled put into the harbour of Shimoda, which has an interest in the fact that it was one of the three ports opened to trade by the abortive treaty of 1854; there was then to be seen some traces of the U.S. Consulate established there. It was here also, said the speaker, that a Russian frigate was wrecked by the ground rising beneath her in the earthquake of 1854. Mr. Wilkin then went on to describe the picture which Yokohama presented in 1863, with its scanty foreign buildings, which for the most part were of the bungalow type and merely Japanese houses improved by glass in the sliding doors, and windows, and sometimes having fixed divisions to the rooms. Fire-places were rare, and foreigners used *hibachi* in the place of stoves. The British Legation was housed in shaky two-storied buildings at No. 20, and at No. 19 was situate Head quarters House, an equally unpretentious place. Of the buildings then extant and which still stand, there only remain the bungalow at No. 90, Christ Church and the Parsonage, Dr. Hepburn's at 39, and the front house on No. 11. Rents ran as high as $300 to $400 a month for very meagre compounds. The Japanese town was small and the swamp very extensive. The Benten Shrine in Benten-dori was then in a grove of trees. The Customs House was a collection of small wooden buildings in which the officials sat at their duties on the mats. For all that, the port had been opened 4½ years, and the worst of the roughing of it was over; the time when if you went out to dinner with a friend you took your plate, knife, and fork along with you, was over; and yet, even in those days, a certain amount of "cliquism" existed. Roads, lighting, police, and sanitary arrangements were of the most primitive description, and remained so for some time. The Municipal Council, which was formed in 1865 and lasted some two and a half years, made a lot of improvements. It was not, however, till 1870, when Mr. Brunton had their superintendence, that the roads were properly made. The New Road was completed about 1866, and from that time on traps came into vogue. The advent of the foreigner had not had much influence upon the Japanese then, and every one wore the native dress and *kowmage*. Two sworded men swarmed everywhere, and officials exercised a complete surveillance over all the transactions of the people, at times seriously hampering trade by prohibiting supplies of silk and other produce. Mr. Wilkin then went on to describe the innumerable murders of foreigners by two-sworded men, which were so prevalent during the sixties, and gave most interesting details of the principal attacks upon the foreign legations in Yeddo. Having detailed the difficulties experienced in learning the Japanese language in those days, no dictionaries or grammars being available, Mr. Wilkin said his business life was entirely different then to what it is now. There was only a mail in and out once a fortnight, and there was also no "iron-wire" round the merchants' neck telling of the hourly fluctuations of the European markets. Time too, with the Japanese, was even less of importance than it was even at the present day, and the dollar was exchangeable at 5/-! They were good old times indeed, even if the arrangements of life were rather primitive and rough. The mail, for instance, was distributed in the British Consulate (now the gaol) by the first man who boarded the packet. Those who were not present at the distribution found their letters waiting for them lying on the floor! Although strictly confined to treaty limits many a good riding party was arranged, after the mail was gone, within the zone, and of course everyone was fully armed. Mr. Wilkin had many a stirring incident to tell of visits as well as life in Yeddo, which in those days was a sealed city except for those connected with the Legations. He also told of the coming of the foreign troops to Yokohama and their encampment on the Bluff, the gradual development of the place and its trade; the Shimonoseki affair, the Restoration, etc. He gave a vivid description of the state of alarm which prevailed in May, 1863, when all the women in the place were placed on the ships for safety and the men massed at No. 11 to prepare for attack. He told of the great fire of Nov. 26, 1866, and many another interesting story of the early times, and concluded by saying that in spite of all their drawbacks, he had tender memories of those old days in the Sixties.

Mr Griffin, President of the Society, returned Mr. Wilkin many hearty thanks for the paper, of which the audience had heartily approved. The following was the full programme: Koto, "Shochikubai," Miss Ayai; Paper, Mr. Wilkin; Koto, "Kaida," Mrs. Nakamura; Instrumental duet, (piano and organ) Mr. and Miss Sale; Song "Left Untold," Miss Rice; Reading from Black's "Young Japan," Mr. E. S. Booth; Japanese National Anthem Japanese ladies; pianoforte solo "Fra Diavolo" (Auber), Mrs. Brouwer.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the CHESS EDITOR.)

The Yokohama Chess Club meets at the Club Rooms, No. 88, Main Street on Mondays and Thursdays from 5 to 11 p.m.

The Tokyo Chess Club meets at the Hotel Métropole on Tuesdays from 1 to 11 p.m.

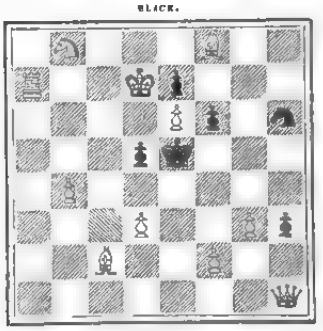
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 93.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—Kt — K Kt 6	1—K — K 5
2—Q — B 6, mate	
	if 1—K — Q B 5
2—B — Kt 8, mate	
	if 1—Kt — K 3
2—Kt — K 7, mate	
	if 1—Kt — K 5
2—Kt — K B 4, or B — Kt 8, mate	
	if 1—Kt any other move.
2—Kt — K B 4, mate.	

Correct solutions received from Omega, W.H.S., J.D., Digamma, W.D.C., J.W.E., C.H.H.W., and O.B.

PROBLEM No. 95.
BY H. CUDMORE.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in two moves.

The prospectus for the Handicap Tournament in the Yokohama Chess Club is out. Play to commence next week and the tournament to be finished by 28th February, 1894. Two prizes, presented. Entries close 6th November and the Handicap Committee will at once proceed with their work. We trust the members will fill up the list of entries without delay and play off the games as fast as possible. The contest for the Champion-ship Cup follows in December.

The Yokohama Chess Club has sent a challenge to the Tokyo Chess Club for a friendly match. We hope soon to hear that the same has been accepted, and that the contest will follow at no distant date.

The last number received here of the *Illustrated London News* tells us decisively that the great Columbian Chess Congress in New York will not come off. This is very disappointing, especially as some of the European masters had already made their way to New York. We hope, however, that before they return to Europe there will be some play between them and the great American players, Hodges, Delmar, Lipschutz, Showalter, etc. Perhaps even the celebrated Steinitz might be induced to enter the lists again, to say nothing of the enterprising Lasker.

We give this week a correspondence game played in Europe last winter. It derives special interest from the fact that the gentleman who played Black is one of the most accomplished amateurs now residing in Tokyo. The way in which Black draws by perpetual check is very fine.

CORRESPONDENCE GAME.

KING'S BISHOP GAMBIT.

WHITE. (Tyrol.)	BLACK (Riviera.)
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—P to K B 4	2—P × P
3—B to Q B 4	3—Q to K 2

This move of Black is irregular; and, as it turned out not a happy defence.

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4—Q to K B 3	4—P to K Kt 4
5—P to K R 4	5—Q Kt to B 3
6—P × P	6—Kt to K 4
7—Q to Q B 3	7—Q × P
8—Kt to K R 3	8—Q to R 5 ch.
9—Kt to B 2	9—Q to Kt 4
10—Kt to Q R 3	10—B × Kt
11—P × B	11—P to Q B 3
12—P to R 4	12—Kt to K 2
13—B to Kt 2	13—P to Q 3
14—Q to Kt 4	14—Q × P

.. .. With a view to continue the assault by Kt to B 5 ch., which is frustrated by the next move of B to B sq., White now getting a formidable attack.

15—B to K B sq.	15—Q to Kt 3
16—Castles (Q side)	16—P to Kt 3
17—B to K 2	17—R to K Kt sq.
18—P to Q 4	18—Kt to Q 2
19—B to R 5	19—Q to K 3
20—P to Q 5	20—P × P
21—K R to K sq.	21—R to Kt 4
22—B to Kt 4	22—Q to R 3
23—P × P	23—Kt to K 4 !

.... Now playing for a draw and anticipating the next six moves.

24—B × B	24—R × B
25—Kt to K 4	25—R to Kt 7
26—Kt × P ch.	26—Q × Kt
27—Q × Q	27—Q R × P ch.
28—K to Kt sq.	28—Q R × B ch.
29—K to R sq.	29—Q R × P ch.

Drawn Game.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, October 27.

Tenders are invited for two million pounds sterling for six months Indian Counsil Bills payable at London in sterling.

Negotiations between England and France are proceeding satisfactorily.

London, October 30.

In the debate in the Senate, all the silver amendments have been rejected, and the passage of the Sherman Repeal Act is expected to be accomplished immediately.

London, October 31.

The Senate has passed the Sherman Act Repeal Bill by 43 against 32.

The Austrian Cabinet has resigned owing to opposition in the Reichstrath to electoral reforms.

London, November 2.

The Matabeles have been defeated in several successive engagements, Lobengula having retreated, and is now being pursued.

The House of Representatives has passed the Sherman Act Repeal Bill, which has been adopted by the Senate, and was signed by President Cleveland forthwith. The bill differs from the House of Representatives' bill, inasmuch as it commits the Government to bimetallism whenever such a course shall become feasible,

London, November 3.

Five thousand Matabeles attacked the Chartered Company's column and were repulsed; five hundred being killed and wounded. The Chartered Company's loss in killed and wounded was nine. The Liberal newspapers accuse the Chartered Company of having organized a campaign in order to annex the Matabele Goldfields. The Unionists and Conservative papers consider their annexation imperative.

[SPECIALLY TELEGRAPHED TO THE "JAPAN DAILY MAIL."] (FROM THE "N.-C. DAILY NEWS.")

London, October 23.

The excitement in Paris over the visit of the Russian squadron is unabated, the Russian sailors when driving through the city being constantly kissed by the bourgeois and workmen of the capital with great effusion.

It is stated that failing the passage of the repeal of the Sherman Act, President Cleveland will suspend the Silver Purchase Act.

The Matebeles have been defeated at Indiamus Mountain, where they experienced a loss of a hundred killed, our loss being Captain Campbell killed. United columns are now advancing upon Bulawayo, Lobengula's Kraal, which is situated in the same latitude but 150 miles west of Fort Victoria, in Matabeleland.

October 24.

The funeral of Field-Marshal MacMahon was a most imposing pageant, Her Majesty the Queen, the Prince of Wales, the Emperor of Germany, the King of Italy, and a number of Russian naval officers sent wreaths. Lord Dufferin represented the Queen and Colonel Talbot the Prince of Wales, and all the other Sovereigns sent representatives.

The Spaniards have defeated the Moors at Melilla.

General Sargent, formerly Commandant of the Hongkong Garrison, is dead.

There is a hitch in the Anglo-French negotiations with regard to the buffer State between Burmah and Siam.

October 27.

The Democrats dropped the compromise previously telegraphed on finding that it was not approved of by President Cleveland.

The American Admiral in Brazilian waters was superseded instantly for saluting the rebel squadron at Rio de Janeiro.

The reported hitch in connection with the buffer State is untrue.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, Nagasaki, and Kobe ...	per N. Y. K.	Friday, Nov. 10th
From America	per P. M. Co.	Sunday, Nov 5th.*
From Hongkong ...	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Nov. 5th.†
From Hongkong ...	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, Nov. 9th.‡
From Europe, via Hongkong ..	per M. M. Co.	Friday, Nov. 10th.
From America	per O. & O. Co.	Friday, Nov. 17th.
From Canada, &c. ...	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Nov. 27th

* *City of Rio de Janeiro* left San Francisco on October 29th.
† *Ancona* left Hongkong on October 27th. ‡ *Empress of China* eft Hongkong on November 1st.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For America ...	per O. & O. Co.	Sunday, Nov. 5th.
For Europe, viâ Shanghai	per M. M. Co	Sunday Nov 5th.
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki	per N Y. K.	Tuesday, Nov. 7th.
For Canada, &c. ...	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, Nov. 10th
For Hongkong ...	per P. & O. Co	Saturday, Nov. 11th.
For America	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Nov. 14th
For Victoria, B.C., and Tacoma, Wash...	per N. P. Co	Monday, Nov. 20th.
For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Nov. 27th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Nan Chang, British steamer, 1,052, Finlayson, 28th October,—Hongkong, Sugar and Teakwood.—Butterfield & Swire.

Alberta, British steamer, 2,342, Davis, 29th October,—Middlesboro' viâ ports, General.—Smith, Baker & Co.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, Marshall, R.N.R, 29th October,—Vancouver, B.C., 16th October, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Ning Chow, British steamer, 1,735, G. L. Gratton, 29th October,—London viâ ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Thisbe, Austrian steamer, 1,872, J. Covarich, 30th October,—Batoum viâ Kobe, Petroleum.—Browne & Co.

Oceanic, British steamer, 3,808, W. M. Smith, 31st October,—San Francisco 10th October, viâ Honolulu 18th, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Mogul, British steamer, 1,827, T. Golding, 31st October,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlil & Co.

Gerda, German steamer, 1,243, Ehlers, 1st November,—Hamburg viâ ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Nürnberg, German steamer, 2,007, H. Walter, 1st November,—Hongkong 26th October, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Itsukushima Kan (12), Japanese cruiser, Captain K Ijichi, 2nd November,—Kobe 31st October.

Belgic, British steamer, 2,695, Wm. H. Walker, 3rd November,—Hongkong viâ ports, 26th October, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Petrel (4), U S. gunboat, Lieutenant-Commander Book, 3rd November,—Behring Sea viâ Hakodate.

Daphne (4), gunboat, Commander G. H. MacArthur, 3rd November,—Hakodate.

Triomphante (12), French flagship, Captain Borel de Bretizel, 3rd November,—Kobe.

Glenartney, British steamer, 1,943, J. McGregor, 3rd November,—London viâ ports, General.—Jardine, Matteson & Co.

DEPARTURES.

China, British steamer, 2,600, Wm. Ward, 28th October,—San Francisco, viâ Honolulu, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co

Continental, German steamer, 756, Schall, 29th October,—Hongkong viâ Moji, Light.—Raspe & Co.

Verona, British steamer, 1,878, C. H. S. Tocque, 29th October,—Hongkong viâ Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, Marshall, R.N.R, 30th October,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Denbighshire, British steamer, 1,662, Davies, 31st October,—Yokosuka, Light.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Priam, British steamer, 1,802, Thompsen, 31st October,—New York viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Mogul, British steamer, 1,827, T. Golding, 1st November,—Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Imperieuse (10), flagship, Captain J. M. McQuhae, 1st November,—Kobe.

Esmeralda, British schooner, 130, Harrison, 1st November,—Guam, Stores.—Captain

Alberta, British steamer, 2,342, Davis, 2nd November,—New Caledonia, Light.—Smith, Baker & Co.

Oceanic, British steamer, 3,808, W. M. Smith, 1st November,—Hongkong, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co

Oread, British barque, 774, W. Robertson, 2nd November,—San Francisco, Rice.—Captain

Ning Chow, British steamer, 1,735, G. L. Gratton, 3rd November,—London viâ ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co

Nürnberg, German steamer, 2,007, Hugo Walter, 3rd November,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, from Vancouver, B.C.:—Rev. D. L. and Mrs. Anderson and family, Miss Ida Anderson, Mr. J. S. Anderson, Mr. R. S. Anderson, Rev. N. Arnetvedt, Rev. W. H. Austen, Mr. E. W. Ashworth, Mr. C. H. Balfour, Mr. C. A Black Miss E. M. Barr, Mr and Mrs. D. E. Brown, Miss Brazier, Captain F. J. Brown, Mr. E. H. Burr, Miss A. Burn, Rev. R. and Mrs. Davidson, Mr. A. M Davidson, Mr. A. M D'Iharamsi, Mr. Douglas Dick, Miss Gress, Dr. Gaye, Mr. C. M. Gottfried, Mr. and Mrs. Alf. Guedes and servant, Rev. C B. and Mrs. Haworth and children, Mr. J. Henniker Heaton, M.P., Mr. John Hill, Mr. and Mrs. H M Hiller and children, Miss Holand, Mr. A. Hoosien, Mr. H. W. Hoyles, Mr. A. L. Hoyles, Mr. Hulbert, Miss E. Hulbert, Mr. Hunter, Mrs. Jamieson, Miss Jamieson, Mr. Edward Kassell, Mr. Kawabe, Mr. Kendal, Mr. D. Kimball, Mr. T. Kodama, Mr. John T. Milne, Mr. B K. Morton, Miss B. Nelson, Mr. Marriott Parkinson, Mr. and Mrs. Franklin D. Peton, Rev. N J. Plumb, Mrs. Post, Mr. G. H. Potts, Mr. Raspe, Mr. C. Rudolph, Mr. Saku, General and Mrs Simpson, Mr. and Mrs. W. M. G. Singer, Mr. and Mrs Stuggs and daughter, Mr. S. V. R. Thayer, Mrs Thayer, Rev. M. Verbeck, Rev. P. H. Underwood, Miss Volckmar, Mrs. L. B. Welb, Mr. and Mrs. Whitehead, Mr. W. A. Wilson, and Mr. Worthington in cabin; and 442 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Oceanic*, from San Francisco:—Miss Ida Carpenter, Mr. Colin Henderson, Mr. Wang Hung Ting, Mrs. Wang Hung Ting, Dr. John Fryer, Rev. E. Faber, Miss Grace V. Cornell, Mr. Chas. Cornell, Mrs D. R. Churchill and maid, Mr. Taru Makino, Baron Giovanni de Riseis, Count Alfredo de Frassineto, Mr. Thomas S. Leake, Mrs. Leake, Mr. A W Evans, Hon. Pung Quong Yu, Rev. H. Dharmapala, Miss Mary Whitney, Mr. and Mrs. Springer, Hon. S. Tegima, Mr. A. Amano, Mr. R. Shibata, Mr. G Ashitku, Mr. R. Takano, Mr. S. Tanaka, Mr. H. Ushida, Rev. Abbé E. Danforth, Colonel T W. Waller, and Mrs. Waller in cabin. For Hongkong: Mr Chang Gun Hing, Mr. James Meldrum, Mr. J. N Mody, Rev. E. E. Fix, and Mrs. Fix in cabin. For Shanghai: Mrs. S. H. Danforth, Mr. John Fryer, Jun., Rev. R. O. Irish, Mrs. Irish, Mrs C Gilchrist, Rev. Conrad Bolwig, Mrs. Conrad Bolwig, Miss Martha J Gasterton, Miss Kate C. Woodbuk, M D., Miss Frances E. Leiberg, Mr. E A. Probst, Mrs E A. Probst, infant, and child, Dr. H. G. Whitney, Mrs. Whitney, Master Henry Whitney, Master Paul Kennear, and Miss Florence Kennear in cabin. From Honolulu: Miss Patten, Mr. F. S. Blunt, Mrs. Blunt, Mr. Paul Hentschel, Mr. John Gillig, Mrs. Gillig, Mr. H. M. Gillig, Mr. Henry Takashima, Mr. Clay M. Greene, and Mr. Frank L. Unger in cabin.

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Per German steamer *Nürnberg*, from Hongkong:—Mrs. E. G. Blockhuys, Mr. Graf Quadt (Secretary to the Imperial German Legation), and servant, and Professor von Wenkstein in cabin; Messrs. D. Lee, Low Tock San, and Kung Hen in second class; Dr. Med. Kimura in third class, and 37 Chinese on deck.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *China*, for San Francisco viâ Honolulu:—Mr. and Mrs. Henry W. Andrews and child, Lieut. Adams, U.S.N., Mrs. Adams, Mrs. H. H. Barrol and child, Mr. G. Baur, Mr O. Bergman, Mr. A Baumgarten, Mr. R. Baumgarten, Rev. W. H. Daniels, Mrs. Eberle and child, Mr. C. Grunwaldt, Mr. H. Grun, Mr. E. Grosser, Mr. B. C. Howard, Mr. Charles B. Horard, Admiral Irwin, U.S.N., Mrs. Irwin, Miss Irwin, Lieut. Ivanovsky, Mr. John Irwin, Jun., Mr. J. M Laure, Miss May Morgan, Mr. W. Melchers, Mr. J. R. Moore, Mrs. Perkins, Ensign Parmenter, U.S.N, Mrs. Parmenter, Mr. Geo. B. Perkins, Mr. R. N. Potts, Mr. Wm. Rowland, Jun., Lieut. Retaillian, Mr. C. Savitsch, Mrs. F. B. Stevenson and child, Mr. W. Sinclair, Mr. N. Thielmann, Mr G. Thummler, Dr. W. E. Taylor, U.S.N., and Mr. E. Voight in cabin.

Per British steamer *Verona*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Major and Mrs. Farmer, Lieut. J. B. Blakeway, Mr. W. E. Gamble, Lieut. Anderson, Mr. F. E. Cox Edwards, Mr. and Mrs. O Münch, infant, and amah, Hon. Mr. and Mrs. Galton, Miss Galton, Miss Dunn, Mr. Dobie, Mr. Macarthur, Miss Deyo, Mr. Ac, Mr. H. T. Chope, Mr. and Mrs. Guy Senior, the Misses Senior (2), Mr. Frank Senior, and Mr. G. H. Hodges in cabin; and 5 Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Mogul*, for Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C.:—Mr. Thompson in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *China*, for San Francisco viâ Honolulu:—

	SAN FRANCISCO.	TEA NEW YORK.	CHICAGO.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	897	1,315	1,117	1,056	4,385
Hyogo	185	—	1,331	—	1,516
Yokohama	1,883	978	1,919	1,332	6,112
Hongkong	198	—	—	148	346
Amoy	—	4,574	—	—	4,574
Total	3,163	6,867	4,367	2,526	16,933

	SILK. SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	HARTFORD.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	—	142	—	142
Hongkong	—	115	—	115
Yokohama	—	194	—	194
Total	—	451	—	451

Per British steamer *Verona*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Silk, 480 bales; Waste Silk, 69 bales.

Per British steamer *Mogul*, for Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C.:—

	TEA. PACIFIC COAST.	NEW YORK	CHICAGO.	CANADA.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	60	1,783	2,716	624	—	5,138
Hyogo	—	—	1,037	—	—	1,037
Yokohama	237	259	—	—	—	496
Hongkong	82	—	—	1,003	—	1,085
Amoy	—	18,372	686	—	—	19,258
Total	379	20,569	4,439	1,627	—	27,014

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS

The slight improvement in the Import Trade reported in our last has been suddenly checked, and the past week has been very dull in most lines. Doubtless this is principally owing to the trouble some condition of exchange, as, until sure of their ground, holders prefer to keep their goods and await developments. Demand for Yarns has collapsed entirely, only 10 bales of Bombay having changed hands. Cotton Piece goods are in a similar condition, the week's business being confined to a small purchase of Turkey Reds. Neither Fancies or Woollens have met with buyers, and everything appears at a deadlock.

COTTON PIECE GOODS

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8½ lb. 38½ yds. 39 inches	$2.10 to 2 65
Grey Shirtings—9lb. 38½ yds. 45 inches	2.35 to 3 12½
T Cloth—7lb. 24 yards, 32 inches	1 52½ to 1 85
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches	1.70 to 2 35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.75 to 2 75
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 32 inches	PER YARD. 0.16 to 0 21
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	6.25 to 8.50
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 12 3 inches	0 65 to 0 78
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	PER PIECE. 1 40 to 1 47½
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1 57½ to 1.82½
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.02½ to 2 47½
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2 65 to 2.85

WOOLLENS

	PER YARD.
Flannel	$0.27 to 0 45
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0 30 to 0 33
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0 25 to 0.30
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0 20 to 0.25
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 32 inches	0.13 to 0 19
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0 35 to 0 50
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 0.65
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0 40 to 0 70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 4 to 3½ lb, per lb	0 45 to 0 57½

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos 10 24, Ordinary	—
Nos 16.24, Medium	$35.25 to —
Nos 16 24, Good to Best	34 25 to 36 25
Nos 16 24, Reverse	—
Nos 28 32, Ordinary	—
Nos 28 32, Medium	38 00 to —
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	38 50 to 39 50
Nos. 38/32, Medium to Best	45 00 to 47 00
No. 32s, Two-fold	43 00 to 44 00
No. 32s, Two-fold	47.50 to 49 25
	PER BALE.
No. 20s, Bombay	—
No 16s, Bombay	—

METALS.

The Metal market presents nothing worthy of remark since there has been no business at all during the week Sheet Iron and Wire Nails which met with buyers last week have once more joined the ranks of the "neglected."

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ¾ inch	$3 60 to 3.70
Flat Bars, ½ inch	3 70 to 3.80
Round and square up to ¾ inch	3 15 to 3.30
Iron Plates, assorted	3 20 to 3.30
Sheet Iron	4 45 to 4 60
Galvanized iron sheets	8 50 to 8 75
Wire Nails, assorted	5 60 to 5 75
Tin Plates, per box	6 00 to 6.25
Pig Iron, No 3	1 42½ to 1 45

KEROSENE.

Buyers have been operating at a fair pace in this market and prices have an upward tendency. Comet Oil—supplies of which have run very short—is especially strong, while holders of Russian Oil are trying for higher rates—notwithstanding an arrival of 54,000 cases ex steamer *Thisbe*, which has still further augmented their large stock.

Chester	$1.6 ¼ to 1 65
Comet	1 60 to 1.62½
Devoe	—
Russian Anchor	1 60 to 1 62½
Russian Moon	1.57½ to 1.60

SUGAR.

Browns continue in good demand, but owing to small stocks holders choke business off by asking too high prices. Whites move off at a medium rate but show no change in value.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	$4 65 to 4.70
Brown Manila	5.25 to 5.30
Brown Datong	4.05 to 4.10
Brown Canton	4.10 to 4 25
White Java and Penang	6.90 to 7 00
White Refined	7 55 to 9.20

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last issue was of the 27th ultimo, since which date settlements on this market amount to 1,581 piculs, divided thus:—*Hanks*, 10 piculs; *Filatures*, 854 piculs; *Rereels*, 433 piculs; *Kakeda*, 240 piculs; *Oshu*, 44 piculs. In addition to these purchases, direct shipments have been 66 bales, making the total export trade of the week 1,650 piculs.

At last the welcome news has arrived that the Sherman Act has been unconditionally repealed, and the immediate effect was to send exchange down with a run and induce considerable purchases on the part of foreign operators; in addition to the settlements noted above, a large quantity of silk has been taken into godown which has not yet been definitely settled, buyers waiting for advices from the home side before "weighing and paying." Latest telegrams from abroad are of a dull tone, and the relief from financial pressure in the United States has not yet had its expected good effect upon trade there. Naturally, the dislocation has been so great that the patient will take some time to recover; and delay will probably occur before things resume their normal course. In Lyons, also, the market is reported dull and inanimate, with no enthusiasm so far. Should this state of things continue, it is probable that a good deal of the silk now in godown may be rejected; or only settled at a reduction in price.

Of course our native friends are on the alert, and are trying to push prices up accordingly. To-day some of them are off the market altogether, while others ask prices which preclude business. Taking the situation all together, it is still one of much doubt and uncertainty. If any general revival takes place in the foreign markets, we must see an upward course in prices here. Should the demand still hang fire, the heavy stock will force sellers into being current once more, in spite of the low exchange now ruling.

Arrivals have kept pace with sales fairly well, and the stock is about 16,000 piculs, allowing for the transactions which are now pending and the many parcels which have not yet been actually sent into godown.

Exchange.—This of course fell suddenly in sympathy with silver; but the rates are irregular, pending further developments and close at something above the lowest point touched during the week.

Since we last wrote there have been two shipping opportunities, the American and English mails of the 28th and 30th ultimo. The first named, s.s. *China*, took 194 bales for New York, while the *Verona* had 480 bales for Europe. (The *Nuernberg*, which left this morning, will probably have some cargo on board, particulars of which will be given in our next.) These departures bring the present export figures up to 12,377 piculs against 23,996 piculs last year and 18,519 piculs at the same date in 1891.

Hanks.—A small business in these, consisting of 10 bales No. 1 *Shinshu* at $610. Stock in this department is small and held by strong hands. To day holders refuse to sell at all, preferring to wait and see what the next two or three days bring forth.

Filatures.—As usual, more than half the settlements have been in this class and higher prices have been paid for fine sizes. Among the transactions are good No. 1 *Mino*, $780; No. 1½, $760 and others in proportion. *Utsunomiya* and *Ueen* brought $800. In full sizes, *Gakosha*, $760; *Hakuzuru*, $740; *Shunmeisha*, $725 are fair specimens of prices paid. At closing, holders prevent further business by asking an advance on these figures, which so far buyers are not ready to pay.

Re-reels.—A fair amount of business has been done at irregular prices. Best *Kanra* said to have brought $710, with *Tengensha*, 5 *Girl* and similar chops at $690. Altogether quotations for these are certainly advanced, but we do not think them very strong at the advance.

Kakeda.—Business has been done upon the old lines; Best, $730; No. 1, $700; No. 1½, $670; No. 2, $640; No. 3, $610. Holders now ask more, of course, but a day or two of inaction will make them current again.

Oshu.—Some few parcels of medium *Hamatsuki* have been done at $620 and $615. Stock is small and of no particular account.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK.)

Hanks—No. 1	$620 to 630
Hanks—No 2 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	600 to 610
Hanks—No. 2½ (Shinshu)	590 to 600
Hanks—No 2½ (Joshu)	580 to 590
Hanks—No 2½ to 3	570 to 575
Hanks—No 3	560 to 565
Hanks—No. 3½	550 to 555
Filatures—Extra 12/12 deniers	800 to 810
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	760 to 770
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	780 to 790
Filatures—No 1, 3/15, 14/16 den	740 to 750
Filatures—No 1½, 10/14 deniers	750 to 760
Filatures—No 1½, 13/16, 14/17 den	720 to 730
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	720 to 730
Filatures No 2, 14/18 deniers	690 to 700
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—(Oshu) Best No. 1	—
Re reels—No 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	700 to 710
Re reels—No 1½, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	670 to 680
Re reels—No 2, 14/18 deniers	640 to 650
Re-reels—No 2½, 14/18 deniers	620 to 630
Re-reels—No 3, 13/20 deniers	610 to 615
Kakedas—Extra	730 to 740
Kakedas—No 1	700 to 710
Kakedas—No 1½	660 to 670
Kakedas—No 2	630 to 640
Kakedas—No 2½	610 to 620
Kakedas—No 3	580 to 590
Kakedas—No 3½	—
Kakedas—No 4	—
Oshu Sendai—No 1½	—
Hamatsuki—No 1, 2	640 to 650
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	610 to 620
Sodai—No 2½	—

Export Raw Silk Tables to 3rd Nov., 1893.

	SEASON 1893 1894.	1892-93.	1891-92.
	BALES.	BALES.	BALES.
Europe	9,503	8,978	6,321
America	2,569	14,643	11,708
Total { Bales	12,077	23,621	18,029
Total { Piculs	12,377	23,996	18,519
Settlements and Direct Export from 1st July {	PICULS. 14,750	PICULS. 27,100	PICULS. 20,750
Stock, 3rd Nov.	16,250	8,900	15,450
Available supplies to date	31,000	36,000	36,200

WASTE SILK.

Settlements in this branch are 628 piculs, divided thus:—*Noshi*, 414 piculs; *Kibiso*, 214 piculs.

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There has been no direct shipment on native account this week.

The stock increases but holders prove themselves very stubborn, and in some cases have put up prices to a prohibitive extent, while in other Wastes we could work at something near the quotations of last week. The specially strong point seems to be *Joshu Noshi*, good quality of which is scarce and costs very dear. *Kibiso* and other sorts are practically unchanged, but much firmer than they were a week ago, and we doubt if any concession could now be made upon our quotation list.

Since we last wrote there have been two shipping opportunities, the *Verona* taking a few bales Waste for Europe and the *Priam* a few bales Cocoons for New York. (The *Nuernberg* figures will be give in our next). The export figures to date are 6,854 piculs against 8,886 piculs last year and 7,068 piculs at the same date in the previous season.

Pierced Cocoons.—No business. The stock figures look large but consist of Waste and Spent Cocoons, poor quality.

Noshi.—There has been only a small business in this department, holders being very strong in their ideas especially for *Joshu*, and anybody requiring good quality has to pay for it. In *Oshu* and *Filature* sorts, they are more current and some good parcels could be had to-day at our quotations, but not lower.

Kibiso.—A few parcels have been settled, medium *Filature* bringing $90, with better quality at $106. *Zagouri* has been done at $60 for good quality and $50 for fair quality. *Koshu* has also been done at prices ranging from $65 to $50 and some fair quality *Joshu* has passed the scales at $36.

In other sorts, no transactions, *Mawata*, *Boshikiwata* and *Neri* failing to attract buyers at present.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW WASTE).

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	$140 to 145
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	130 to 135
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	120 to 125
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	135 to 140
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best Nom.	115 to 120
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good Nom	105 to 110
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium Nom.	95 to 100
Noshi-ito—Bushu, Good to Best	120 to 130
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	85 to 90
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	75 to 80
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	65 to 70
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	115 to 120
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	105 to 110
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	70 to 80
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Good to Fair	40 to 35
Kibiso—Joshu, Middling to Common	35 to 30
Kibiso—Hachoji, Good	35 to 30
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	25 to 20
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	—
Mawata—Good to Best	—

Export Table Waste Silk to 3rd Nov., 1893.—

	Season 1893-94. Piculs.	1892-93. Piculs.	1891-92. Piculs.
Waste Silk	4,664	7,346	6,975
Pierced Cocoons	2,190	1,540	93
	6,854	8,886	7,068
Settlements and Direct Export from 1st July	8,600	15,600	12,300
Stock, 3rd Nov.	19,100	18,200	15,200
Available supplies to date	27,700	33,800	27,500

Exchange has experienced a smart fall on the repeal of the Sherman Act in Washington. Rates are somewhat irregular, and the following quotations (which are all something above the lowest point reached this week) are more or less nominal:—LONDON, 4m/s. Credits, 2/4¼; Documents, 2/4⅛. NEW YORK, 30d/s. U.S. $57½; 4m/s. U.S. $58½. PARIS, or LYONS, 4m/s. fcs. 3.02 6m/s fcs. 3.04.

Estimated Silk Stock, 3rd Nov., 1893.—

Raw.	Piculs.	Waste.	Piculs.
Hanks	130	Cocoons	1,340
Filatures	9,370	Noshi-ito	9,100
Re-reels	4,990	Kibiso	8,060
Kakeda	1,540	Mawata	80
Oshu	180	Sundries	320
Tayasam Kinds	40		
Total piculs	16,250	Total piculs	19,100

TEA

The last two or three days have witnessed a slight spurt in this market, buyers having shown a willingness to pay current prices. The higher grades are very scarce and have to be paid for dearly.

	Per Picul.
Common	$12 to 13
Good Common	14 to 15
Medium	17 to 18
Good Medium	19 to 20
Fine	22 to 23
Finest	24 to 26
Choice	27 to 29
[redacted]	31 to 35

EXCHANGE.

Rates during the week have further fallen on account of silver legislation in the States, and, though nominal, have recovered slightly at the close.

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	2/3⅞
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	2 4⅛
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	2/4⅛
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	2/5
On Paris—Bank sight	2 94
On Paris—Private 4 months' sight	3.02
On Hongkong—Bank sight	Par.
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	1 % dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72½
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	73¼
On America—Bank Bills on demand	56¼
On America—Private 30 days' sight	58
On America—Private 4 months' sight	59
On India—Bank sight	Nominal.
Silver	31⅛

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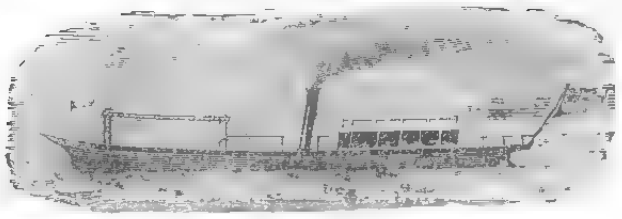

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA"

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YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, NOV. 11TH, 1893.

DEATHS

At 4.20 a.m., on the 7th instant, at Hakodate, JAMES RATCLIFFE THOMPSON, in the fifty-sixth year of his age (By telegraph)

At Shanghai on the 7th inst., JOHN MACGREGOR, of Jardine, Matheson & Co., Chairman of the Municipal Council. (By telegraph.)

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

MADAME MUTSU is steadily approaching convalescence.

MADAME NAKANO will resume her receptions from Monday next.

THE first snow fell at Hakodate and Sapporo for the season on the 7th inst.

MR KONO, one of the leading members of the *Jiyu-to*, is at present suffering from typhoid fever.

THE Yokohama Town Assembly have resolved to spend *yen* 40 304 448 in repairs to the Gas Works.

A LOAN exhibition of ancient *kakemono* and screens was on view in the Chitosero on Saturday and Sunday last.

ANOTHER base-ball match is being arranged, this time between English and American teams of the Y.C. and A.C.

A SMALL fire occurred in a Japanese house on the Nakamura Bluff on Monday, but the amount of damage done was slight.

THE Kiushu Railway Company earned *yen* 14,578 350 between the 21st and 31st ult.; a daily average of *yen* 9.691 per mile.

THE autumn meeting of the Nippon Race Club was held on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of this week, at Negishi. H.I.M. the Emperor honoured the Club with his presence on the second day, remaining till the end of the programme.

THE Government has resolved to appeal the *Chishima-Ravenna* Appeal to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council.

H.E. MR. WATANABE was thrown from his horse while riding near the Palace on the 3rd inst., and received a cut on his forehead.

THE Tokyo newspaper men are determined to push forward the revision of the Newspaper Regulations during the next session of the Diet.

THE Emperor's route to the Race Course on Tuesday was along the Bund. As His Majesty passed, salutes were fired and the crews manned yards.

THE total value of Japanese exhibits sold at the World's Fair is about $100,000; the estimated value of the whole Japanese exhibit was $1,500,000.

THE students of the Yamaguchi Higher Middle School have been creating a disturbance during the week, the actions of a certain tutor not meeting with their approval.

SEVERAL Imperial dinner-parties have been given by the Emperor during the last ten days, to field and flag officers, and to high officials in the civil departments of State.

MR. VON KREITNER, Austrian Consul, Mr H. Z. Wheeler, late of the Customs House, and Mr. E von Hirch, Austro-Hungarian Vice-Consul, have been decorated by the Emperor of Japan.

MR. JOHN MACGREGOR, head of the firm of Jardine, Matheson & Co. in Shanghai, and Chairman of the Municipal Council, succumbed to an attack of malarial fever on the 7th inst.

THERE are at present nine ships of war in harbour; three are British, two Japanese, three United States, and one French. It is probable that H.M.S. *Mercury* will remain in Yokohama for the winter.

H.I.M. THE EMPEROR has been pleased to confer on Their Imperial Highnesses Kikumaro Kuninori, and Kunihiko decorations of the Grand Order of the Rising Sun environed with flowers of the *paullownia imperialis*.

H.I.M. THE EMPEROR has been pleased to sanction the marriage arranged between H.I.H. Princess Hiroko, fourth daughter of H.I.H. Prince Kuni Kunihiko, and Mr. Sengoku Kei, eldest son of Viscount Sengoku Masakata.

IT is stated that Mr Nishimura Sutezo, ex-Vice Minister of the Agricultural and Commercial Department, has been offered the post of President of the Tanko Railway Co. Hokkaido and that he has determined to accept the appointment.

THE last race of the A division of the Yokohama Sailing Club, took place on Saturday. The *Maid Marion*, *Mary*, and *Molly Bawn* won the Championship flags and record prizes in their respective classes. The record prize in the 21-raters fell to *Daisy*.

THE total income of the Nishi-Honganji Temple during last year amounted to *yen* 171,700 in round numbers, while the expenditure was *yen* 166 459, leaving a balance of *yen* 5 241; *yen* 7,857 was brought over from the previous account.

THE opponents of Mixed Residence will hold public meetings in Osaka on Sunday next, and in Kyoto the following day, at which addresses will be given by Messrs. Abei Hankon, Oi Kentaro, and a few other prominent anti-Mixed Residence politicians. They will afterwards speak at Nagoya, Shizuoka, and in the Shikoku Provinces.

A PUBLIC meeting of Buddhists took place on the 5th inst. at the Ota temple, Yokohama. Over six hundred persons were present. Messrs. Yatsubuchi, Shaku, Noguchi, and Horiuchi, who lately returned from Chicago, where they represented the Buddhist adherents in Japan, detailed the proceedings of the Religious Convention.

MR. NOGUCHI DAIJI, a Progressionist, one of the Standing Committee of the Gifu Prefectural Assembly, was arrested in the capital on the 3rd inst. He is suspected of having embezzled money in connection with the work of repairing the damage caused in the earthquake district of Gifu, and has accordingly been handed over to the Gifu Local Court.

THE Matabeles have been completely routed by the forces sent against them by the Chartered Company and the Imperial Troops; Lobengula is in full retreat; the Spanish troops are still fighting the Moors at Melilla, North Africa; the breach of promise case against the Sultan of Johore has been dismissed on the ground that, the Sultan being a reigning sovereign he cannot be sued; a commercial treaty between Germany and Roumania has been signed; the British Ambassador at Rome, Lord Vivian, is dead. Another battle is immident with the Matabeles who are 7,000 strong, with Labengula at their head; Mr. Gladstone in the House of Commons has said that the Government was perfectly satisfied with the capacity and adequacy of the naval force at present in the Mediterranean; Sir Andrew Clark, physician, is dead.

THERE is no improvement to be reported in the Import trade as regards Yarns and Piece-goods, the condition of exchange continuing to militate against business to the almost entire suspension of transactions. There is a somewhat better tone in the Metal market, and the small trade that has been done is mainly to satisfy immediate requirements, rather better prices being obtained on account of the smallness of stocks. Kerosene is likewise looking up, and, though sales have been limited, rather better prices have been obtained, and American Oil is especially firm. The Sugar market has been fairly active, though large arrivals have come to hand, and prices have been firm for all sorts, certain brands fetching higher figures. White kinds have also been taken in considerable quantities at full rates. The Raw Silk business has somewhat increased in volume, and 2 000 piculs have been taken for the export trade, since which prices have advanced for some descriptions. At the end of the week business quieted down, and holders are generally firm. Arrivals having quite kept pace with sales, the stock remains very large. Transactions in Waste Silk have been somewhat heavier, but the stock continues to increase in consequence of free arrivals. Many holders have this week refused reasonable offers for parcels that were wanted, but how much longer they will be able to hold out is a question. The amount of Raw and Waste at present carried is greater than for many years past at this period of the season, and the time is rapidly approaching when the Japanese annual settlement takes place—when the wiping of all slates is absolutely imperative. There have been a few daily transactions in the Tea trade, and holders are firm; and for leaf exhibiting any quality high prices are demanded. Exchange has not altered much, but rates advanced on the week, though the latest move is in the direction of a decline.

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THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The *Chishima-Ravenna* appeal case has figured most conspicuously in the columns of the vernacular press during the present week. The comments of the papers on this subject having already been reproduced, it is not necessary to repeat them here.

* * *

The Opposition organs, especially those belonging to the Progressionist Party, strongly urge the Cabinet to take up the question of Treaty Revision at the earliest opportunity. The *Mainichi Shimbun*, for instance, accuses the Ministry of negligence in the discharge of its duties to the State. The Cabinet, it says, seems to have done nothing whatever in the past twelve months to bring the problem nearer to solution. Administrative reforms must have occupied much of the Ministers' attention; but they have had leisure enough to go on pleasure journeys during the summer vacation. Even with reference to the administrative reforms, the actual labour of elaborating the scheme was entrusted to their subordinates. So the Ministers are told that they cannot plead want of time as their excuse for having neglected so long to resume in earnest the negotiations for the revision of treaties, and that they are bound to explain in public their apparent disregard of the interests of their country. Our contemporary expects that such explanation will be given in the approaching session of the Diet.

* * *

The *Yomiuri Shimbun*, which is more than friendly to the Progressionist party, has an article on the same subject, of which it is not easy to find out the real purport. Ostensibly, the writer's purpose is to advise Count Ito to crown his brilliant political career with the solution of the knotty problem of Treaty Revision. But he writes in a tone of such cold mockery and sarcasm, that one can not resist the conviction that he does not mean what he says. Distinctions and honours are, in the writer's opinion, what the Premier seeks with all his energy, and these he has had thus far in sufficient quantity. But since he is as insatiable, proceeds the journalist, after honours and glory as ever, he is to be congratulated on the splendid opportunity which the question of Treaty Revision affords him for the gratification of his desire. He is advised to follow his natural inclination and close his long political career with the glory which will certainly attend a successful solution of the thorny problem under consideration.

* * *

There is a rumour that the priests of the *Shin* sect, the most numerous and influential body of Buddhists in Japan, have espoused the cause of the anti-Mixed Residence movement. The rumour is likely to be true, and indeed such an event has been more or less expected from the first. The *Kokumin Shimbun*, alluding to this rumour, regrets that the followers of Kennyu, who was so high spirited as to defy the authority of Nobunaga, should be so mean and weak as to suffer themselves to be used as tools by the petty political adventurers who are guiding the agitation against Mixed Residence. If they really fear that the opening of the country to foreigners will be fatal to their religious influence over their believers, they are told that their religion has no title to remain in the country. But they are used to talk in a tone of self-confidence, and they even propose to send out missionaries to foreign countries. If such is the real attitude of their minds, they could not take a more fatal step than to join the present movement against Mixed Residence. Our contemporary, consequently, declines to believe in the rumour.

* * *

It is a noteworthy circumstance that the *Choya Shimbun*, which has hitherto been universally regarded as a tacit sympathizer with the cause advocated by the Great Japan Union, has at last declared itself to be in favour of the opening of the country for Mixed Residence. There remain only the *Nippon* and the *Kokkai* which are at all in sympathy with the anti-Mixed Residence movement, but even these are very equivocal in their language, and they never show the least enthusiasm in defending the cause they have only passively adopted. To return to the *Choya*, it states in the present article that there is nothing to fear from the admission of foreigners into the interior. On the contrary, such a measure is believed by our contemporary to be highly beneficial for the economic development and civilized progress of the country. The *Choya* strongly criticises those politicians who endeavour to work upon the prejudice and fears of the ignorant masses. These persons love to represent their countrymen as hopelessly inferior to Europeans and Americans. It is not to be inferred that these politicians really believe their countrymen to be so inferior a race, but they have a certain political end to serve, and in order to attain the object of their ambition, they are ready to employ every means that suggests itself to their unscrupulous minds. While believing that the opening of the country for Mixed Residence to be anything but beneficial to the people, our contemporary draws the Government's attention to the importance of the laws being impartially applied to native subjects and aliens. The *Choya* fears that the Government is too prone to be lenient towards foreigners.

* * *

The attack upon Count Goto and Mr. Saito Shuichiro has become stronger, as the former continues to pay not the least attention to newspaper criticisms and the latter's resignation has not been granted. It appears that Mr. Saito's resignation was not transmitted to the Cabinet, but that it was kept in the hands of Count Goto, who has finally returned it to the Vice-Minister assuring him that there was nothing in his conduct requiring such a step. The Opposition papers are indignant at the "indifference" of the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce to public censure. They threaten to bring the matter up for discussion in the coming session of the Diet. The *Jiyu Shimbun*, the Radical organ, has said nothing on the subject, and its singular silence has provoked many practical jokes from its contemporaries.

* * *

There are indications that the Progressionist party in beginning to regain popularity. The *Kokkai* has an interesting article on the subject. Our contemporary is not unusually well disposed towards the Progressionists, but it is candid enough to recognize the reviving strength of that party and even to welcome the fact as a preventive of the civil consequences of the undisputed preponderance of any single faction. In the first three Diets, the Radicals did not command more than about 80 votes, and they were, consequently, glad to cöoperate with the Progressionists, but their numbers and popularity increasing steadily, they allowed themselves toward the close of the last session of the Diet to indulge in a hope that at the next general election they would easily obtain a working majority. The writer in the *Kokkai* was one of those who shared this hope, but prosperity turned the heads of the Radicals and made them unbearably rude and arrogant to their late allies. The public sympathy has begun to revolt against their conceit, and the popularity of which they once seemed to be the sole favourites is now deserting them to find a better successor in the Progressionists. The *Kokkai* is led to believe that the latter will so far regain their position as to hold their own ground against the Radicals. In our contemporary's opinion, it is impossible to expect that the Japanese Lower House will be divided into two large parties. There will always be a number of small parties, neither of which will alone be able to rule the House. All that can be desired for the present is, therefore, that the *Jiyu-to* and the *Kaishin-to* may be of nearly equal strength and that the balance between them may be maintained by a neutral party, like the *Domei* Club. The *Kokkai* cannot leave the subject without calling the Cabinet's attention to the fact that, whatever changes may take place in the relative strength of these parties, they are all opposed to it, and that every bye-election has resulted in victory for the Opposition. Under these circumstances, our contemporary cannot believe that the Ito Ministry will be able to continue much longer, be it ever so zealous in introducing reforms in the Administration.

* * *

The recent grand meeting of their party has furnished the Progressionist journals an opportunity to announce their policy. Their articles breathe a tone of manly independence and unflinching resolution. They declare that their party will pursue in the coming session of the Diet exactly the same policy which they have hitherto followed, namely one of opposition to the Government pure and simple. They openly state that, if any of its former allies prove false to such policy, the *Kaishin-to* will not hesitate to renounce its connection with them.

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The enthusiasm of the advocates of the reassessment of the taxable value of land is so great that they even talk of the formation of a political party solely for that purpose. Such a step, if really taken, is believed to be prejudicial to the interests of the Opposition whose ranks will be very much thinned. The *Jiyu Shimbun*, consequently, takes much pains to denounce such a project.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

FROM THE LAKES TO THE SEA.

Some interesting statistics and facts were demonstrated at the recent Water Commerce Congress at Chicago in regard to the subject of a ship canal from the Great Lakes to the Atlantic seaboard. Mr. Samuel A. Thompson, secretary of the Board of Trade of Duluth, stated that the average rate per ton mile on the railroads is about 9 mills. The average rate of the lake traffic through the "Soo" canal is one-eighth of that. The average cost of transporting freight by rail is 4.78 mills per ton per mile, while one lake steamer, the *Monola*, carries it at a cost of 0.46 mill. The Erie canal, he said, is not a good example of a canal. The lake tonnage is 30,000,000 per year. At the rates charged by railroads the cost of transporting this freight would be enormously greater than it is now. Railroad rates are always subject to competition of the lake routes, and on account of this competition the people save at least $400,000,000 every year. A ship canal to the seaboard would, he claimed, not injure the railroads. The railroads are even now in a scheme to obtain control of the lake traffic, and being unable to transport all the grain to the East themselves, they are to-day using the Erie canal and pocketing the difference between transportation by train and water. Mr. Thompson advocated that the best route to the sea would be by way of a canal around Niagara Falls, which would admit vessels to Lake Ontario. Then a canal from Oswego through New York State, connecting with the Hudson river, could utilize Lake Oneida. The total cost of the canal would be about $50,000,000. Mr. E. P. North, of New York, argued that the enlargement of the Erie canal would make a better route, as it would pass through a more populous country. Several other speakers sustained the Lake Ontario route.

ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS.

The long talked-of administrative reforms were made public on the 1st instant in an exceptionally large number of Imperial Ordinances, there being more than eighty of them in all. These Ordinances relate to the amendments of the organization of the different branches of the Administration and to the Civil Service examinations. Speaking generally, our remarks on the reforms which were introduced in the Navy some months ago apply equally well in the present instance. As on that occasion, so now, we observe in the amended Organizations (*kansei*) the same desire for simplicity and economy. In the General Rules applicable to all the De-

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partments of State, we notice that the principal features of amendments are the investment of the individual Ministers of State with more independent powers, and the deprivation of the Vice-Ministers of State of the power of representing their chiefs. We will now proceed to enumerate some of the principal reforms effected in the various branches of the Administration

* * *

In the Bureaux and Offices under the direct control of the Cabinet, the most noteworthy changes have been the abolition of the two Bureaux of Statistics and of Archives, and the combination of the Directorship of the Bureau of Decoration in the person of the President of the Legislative Bureau. The business hitherto transacted in the two Bureaux which have been abolished, will be conducted in the Secretaries' Office. The total number of officials of all ranks reduced by the amended organizations is 34.

* * *

In the Department of State for Foreign Affairs, the two Bureaux of Investigations and of Translation have been abolished, while the position of the Director of the Bureau of Trade has been raised to *chokunin* rank. The reduction of officials is put at 22.

* * *

In the Department of State for Home Affairs, no change has been made in the number or appellation of Bureaux, but a glance at the amended organization is sufficient to show that a great improvement has been effected in the apportionment of business among the different Bureaux and Sections. The member of officials reduced is 50 in the Department proper, and 6 in the Metropolitan Board of Police.

* * *

In the Department of State for Finance, the two Bureaux of Inspection and of Deposit have been abolished, and several important changes have been introduced in the allotment of business among the different subdivisions of the Department. It is in this Department, also, that the largest reduction (161 in all) in the number of officials has been effected.

* * *

There is not much to note in the reforms introduced in the organization of the Department of State for Justice. The number of reductions in the official staff is 15. More important reforms are to be effected in the various courts of law, but they cannot be carried out by Imperial Ordinance, for the position of legal officers is regulated by law. This subject is now engaging the serious attention of the Government, but we refrain from discussing it here, because it is not directly connected with the matter in hand.

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In the Department of State for Education, the office of School Inspectors has been abolished, while the number of Councillors has been increased from 3 to 5. The number of reductions in the official staff is 27. The reforms in the various educational institutions under this Department were announced some time ago, and commented upon in these columns at the time.

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In the Department of State for Agriculture and Commerce, there have not been any noteworthy changes, excepting the abolition of a few branch offices of the Bureau of Mining The number of reduction in the official staff is 25

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In the Department of State for Communications, the Bureaux of Postal Affairs and Telegraph Affairs have been amalgamated into one under the name of Bureau of Communications. The Board of Railway (*Tetsudo-cho*), which, though under the general supervision of the Minister of Communications, has enjoyed a large measure of independence, has been brought under the strict control of the Department, and it is to be hereafter called the Bureau of Railways (*Tetsudo-kyoku*), with a somewhat reduced number of officials. The reduction in the official staff of the Department has been 95.

* * *

Such in brief are the principal points in the reforms just made public. The total number of reductions in the official staff is 435, but these figures only refer to those who possess definite official rank and status. Besides the regular members of officialdom, there are a large number of men, who, while drawing salaries ranging generally between 10 and 60 *yen* per month, are not accorded full official privileges. These are *yatoi* (employés), and from the next fiscal year, these semi-officials are to be discharged. When these are taken into consideration, the list of reductions will have to be considerably extended. As to the financial result of these reforms, the data as yet obtainable are not sufficient to form any definite estimate. We may notice here that reforms having long since been effected in the Army and the Navy, these two Departments have been left untouched in the present instance.

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As to the Civil Service examinations, very important changes have been introduced in the matter of qualifications for candidates. Whereas, under the former regulations, only the graduates of certain specified colleges were qualified to undergo the higher examinations, the gate has been thrown open to all who either possess the graduating certificate of an Ordinary Middle School or are considered to have attained an equal standard of culture. They are first to be subjected to a preliminary examination, and only those who come out successful will be permitted to undergo the higher examination. The graduates of the College of Jurisprudence in the Imperial University, and those of the Law and Literature Departments in the former University of Tokyo and of the former Law School under the Department of Justice, are to be allowed to dispense with the preliminary examination.

LOAN EXHIBITION OF KAKEMONO.

The fifth loan exhibition of rare *kakemono* lent by Japanese gentlemen and merchants of Yokohama, was held in the "Chitosero," Sumiyoshi-cho, during Saturday and Sunday last. As on former occasions, the exhibition was well attended, many foreigners being among the visitors. The *kakemono* exhibited were as follow.—Takiwa (a famous Japanese woman) by Goshun; Flower and bird by Buson; A beautiful woman by Ei-itcho; shown by Mr. Go Junzo. Daruma (founder of the Zen sect) by Tanyu; Moon on the peak, sparrows and willows by Tanyu; A winter scene by Tanyu; Chrysanthemum by Tanyu; shown by Mr. Kubo Masayuki. Landscape by Ran Denshiku; Landscape by Buncho; Landscape by Tanyu; Landscape by Kaisen; Flower and bird by Nampin; from a private collection. Autumn moon and rabbit by Tsunenobu; Landscape, within a screen, by Shugetsu; shown by Mr. Hara Zenzaburo. Men under a pine by Okyo; A beautiful woman by Yosai; Crane by Toyoshiko; Goose by Buncho; Yokihi (a beautiful Chinese woman) by Sojun; Landscape by Buncho; Picture, within a screen, by Koki; shown by Mr. Mog. Yasubei. Flower and bird by Bantsu; Flower by Hoitsu; Landscape by Kwazan; Landscape by Kaiseki; Tiger by Okyo; Flower and bird in snow by Nagen; Horse by Nampin; Tiger by Renzan; shown by Mr. Ono Mitsukage. Seiomo by Tanyu; Daruma by Yosai; Pine and tiger by Ganku; shown by Mr. Mogisobei Fuken. Eagle by Tanyu; Gladiolus by Chinzan; shown by Mr. Otani Kahei. Carp by Yosai; shown by Mr. Soda Kinsaku. Landscape by Buncho; Landscape by Sorin; Fuji-yama by Hoyen; Stone image by Hoitsu; Ise temple by Zeshin; Persimmon and grape by Zeshin; Tiger by Kokei; Boys at play, within a screen, by Gyosai; shown by Mr. Ansai Tokubei. Eguchi-no-kimi by Zeshin; shown by Mr. Ozeki Teijiro. Kusunoki by Yosai; Kanon by Tanyu; Picture of Josoku by Mokuin; shown by Mr. Shimo Shobei. Wild dog by Mokusho; shown by Mr. Miyajima Yoshinobu. Carp and trout by Genki; shown by Mr. Tokuda Tasuke. Waterfall by Zeshin; Daruma by Tanyu, Landscape by Buncho: shown by Mr. Kanda Tasuke. Hunting for eagles by Kiichi; Landscape, etc., in a screen by Buncho; shown by Sho-gwa Zenbo. Baby, hen, and dog by Okyo; Flower and bird by Genki; Tiger by Chiuzan; Wild goose by Buncho; shown by Mr. Yamada Shofu. Pheasant by Okyo; Autumn landscape by Kwazan; A beautiful woman by Bosetsu; Tiger, on a screen, by Yokoyama Kwazan; shown by Mr. Yoshida Jizan. Benten by Setsushin; Landscapes by Toyohiko; shown by Mr. Shimada Itcho. Idaten by Tanyu; Nameri river by Rinko; and Fuji-yama by Bantsu; shown by Mr. Saito Riyen.

ROBBERY BY VIOLENCE ON THE RAILWAY.

An unusual occurrence in a railway-train is reported in the *Nichi Nichi*. It appears that the up-train to Sendai of the Nippon Railway Company halted at Masuda station to pick up passengers on the evening of the 5th inst., and a young man entered a first class carriage in which Mr. Kimura, engineer to the Board of Railways, was seated alone. As the train moved on the travellers got into conversation, and the new-comer vouchsafed the information that he was a clerk in the Oizumi hotel, Sendai, and was returning from a bill-collecting errand on behalf of the hotel. He asked Mr. Kimura to patronize his hotel when staying in Sendai, and then began to turn over the leaves of an account book After awhile he rose from his seat and looked out of the carriage window, and then remarked that the train would reach Sendai in a few minutes. Mr. Kimura, at this, consulted a time-table, and as he leant forward, the better to see the figures, the man stealthily approached and struck the unsuspicious engineer a severe blow between the eyes. A struggle took place between the two, in the course of which the assailant endeavoured to throw Mr. Kimura from the carriage, having kicked the door open for the purpose. Mr Kimura, though the weaker of the two, struggled fiercely. The train had by this nearly reached Sendai, and the rascal, fearing lest he should be discovered, suddenly snatched up Mr. Kimura's hand-bag containing only a few clothes, and sprang through the open door. Mr. Kimura reported the occurence at Sendai, where the train arrived within a few seconds, but the man had made good his escape. The engineer's wounds are slight, consisting of bruises and abrasions of the skin.

AUSTRALIA GETTING MORAL.

A Sydney paper says:—"The New South Wales Government has at last made a determined effort to abolish racing sweeps in that colony. Hitherto legislation in that direction has been of an elastic character. However, the following sweeping proclamation appears in a recent issue of the Sydney *Gazette*: 'In pursuance of the powers conferred by the Postage Acts Amendment Act, 1893, and of every other power enabling me in this behalf, I, John Kidd, Postmaster-General hereby order that no letter, packet, newspaper, or parcel addressed to any one of the persons, or any one of the specified below shall be registered or delivered.' For ten years past the principal of these sweep promoters has turned over about a quarter of a million annually, in sovereigns and half-sovereigns, deducting for expenses and labour 10 per cent.

THE EMPEROR'S BIRTHDAY BALL.

The Ball at the Rokumeikan on Friday night was exceptionally brilliant. The external illuminations have never been surpassed, and we doubt whether they have ever been equalled; the courtyard being a perfect network of garlands, gleaming red through the darkness, and the front of the building a blaze of crimson light. The hall was arranged to represent a highly picturesque jungle, in which lurked a tiger of chrysanthemums; a magnificent coat-of-arms in the same flowers faced the staircase upstairs, and the air was heavy with fragrant shrubs. The characters 天長節 shone over the main entrance, and 壽善萬歳 (a purely Chinese idiom, we believe), formed part of the floral decorations of the ball-room. For all this, M. Kéita Goh, who designed and carried out the embellishments with such consummate taste, deserves high praise. Their Imperial Highnesses Prince and Princess Komatsu, Prince and Princess Kanin, Prince and Princess Arisugawa (junior)

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and the younger Princess Komatsu, whose husband is now abroad, arrived about ten o'clock, and dancing commenced soon afterwards. The rooms were crowded, and, for the most part, with strangers. In fact, the Rokume kan was perhaps not the best place that could have been chosen for so large a gathering; and though the supper was sumptuous as regards both quantity and quality, the business of getting any was just a bit of a scramble. One interesting feature of State and public balls was, we regretted to observe, omitted. The arrival of the Imperial party was not heralded, as is usually the case, by the strains of the Imperial Anthem, which, indeed, was never played at all—an extraordinary oversight, seeing that the occasion was the Emperor's Birthday; nor did the Princes and Princesses enter the room in procession, but reached their places by some back way. We presume that the plan of the rooms did not favour the course which is always followed at the Imperial Hotel. All the other arrangements could scarcely have been improved. The programme was not too long, the floor was in perfect order, and the band played excellently. There were no very striking toilettes, but the average was a fair one; the Princesses, who were exquisitely dressed, and wore a blaze of diamonds, bearing away the palm.

THE FINE ART EXHIBITION IN SHIBA PARK.

It must, we fear, be owned that this much talked of show has proved a considerable disappointment to the public. The exhibits, costly and curious as many of them doubtless were, appeared singularly few in number; and the aspect of the three big bare rooms, innocent of anything that could be called decoration, the somewhat meagrely-supplied stalls on either side, the poverty, in fact, of the *coup d'œil*, and the general shabbiness of the appointments, had a chilling effect on those who went prepared to see something rather gorgeous. We think a mistake was made in not exhibiting everything at once. Certainly, the hope that people would go a second time in order to see articles that had been substituted for those at first on show, proved to be delusive. It was the fundamental idea embodied in the arrangements that was in fault. What the net result of the undertaking is we do not know; we can only trust that it has proved satisfactory, for the sake of the admirable charity on behalf of which the exhibition was got up.

HOKKAIDO.

Hokkaido, says the *Jiji*, seems to be recovering from the commercial stagnation which followed upon the withdrawal of heavy Governmental support from the island, and commercial prospects seem to be brightening, now that strenuous efforts are being made to put business affairs upon their own legs. A certain personage, who has lately returned to the capital, made an exhaustive enquiry into the resources of the island during the Summer, and he speaks most encouragingly of the various industries that have been planted there. In regard to the sugar industry, he says the material used for this industry in Hokkaido is exclusively sugar beet. For a long time the seed used in Hokkaido was raised on the island, but the crop not being quite satisfactory the two sugar factories sent for seed to Germany. To reach Hokkaido, the seed had to pass through a hot region, and this affected its vitality so much that germination and subsequent growth was not so good as hoped for. Baffled in this, the Mombetsu factory returned to the former practice of raising seed in its own plantation. Special precautions were taken, and the native grown seeds were planted again this year. The result proved successful beyond expectation. The germination and growth of the seedlings were more vigorous than in the other case, and the analysis proved that the root from native grown seed was richer in sugar than that grown from German seed. From the success obtained this year, it is quite probable that a better seed than that imported can be obtained in Hokkaido, if only due precaution be exercised in raising it. The local manufacturers are therefore hopeful of a decided progress in the sugar industry of the Island at no distant date. Moreover, sugar is now commanding a higher price than it used to a few years ago. The hemp industry, which was formerly much patronized by the Government, and languished when the support was withdrawn, is also recovering vitality. The number of farmers who plant hemp has increased considerably. They separate the bark roughly from the stem by means of water-mills, a system now much in vogue among the farmers living in the eastern part of the island, and then sell the produce to the Hemp Factory in Hokkaido, and to a still larger extent to the merchants of Omi, where hemp is very largely used for the weaving of mosquito-nets. The development of the industry is therefore only a matter of time. Rice cultivation was at first considered unsuitable for Hokkaido, except to a limited extent in the southern portion of the island, but during the last three or four years rice has become more cultivated in districts adjoining Sapporo. The enterprise received great encouragement from the present Chief of the Hokkaido Board, Mr. Kitagaki, who is an earnest advocate of the raising of rice in the island. Since his appointment the extent of trial cultivation of rice has increased very much. Even in the cold districts in the vicinity of Nemuro, where the cultivation of rice was positively given up as impracticable, not a few rice farms have begun to appear. Judging from this state of affairs, it is believed that, even though the total demand for rice in Hokkaido may not be supplied, at least the farmers will be able to supply themselves with the staple. The brightening conditions of various enterprises in the northern island have induced many emigrants to settle there recently with their families. They have succeeded in obtaining a few acres of land and even in saving more or less money. If the industrious settlers are enjoying a competence, indolent men are suffering excessively, for Hokkaido is at present no place for loafers. Hokkaido is without doubt an island where the relative diligence of men is to be taken into account. Bears used formerly to be dangerous both to man and beast, but the Government set a price upon their heads, and this worked very successfully, the ravages perpetrated by bears becoming very rare. Whether in consequence of the discontinuance of rewards or not, the bears have lately begun to renew their mischief, and many horses and cattle are said to have been killed the last two years. Mr. Hashiguchi Bunzo, an ex-manager of the Board of Hokkaido, and now engaged in the sugar industry at Mombetsu, has introduced the use of the cow-bell, which, American stock-breeders fasten to the necks of cows to frighten away wild beasts, and it is said that the Hokkaido cattle have been undisturbed by bears since then. In regard to the aborigines of the island, an opinion is entertained by some authorities that their numbers are gradually decreasing, in much the same fashion as are the Indians of America. But it seems that the actual conditions of affairs is the reverse of popular belief in such districts as Uragawa, a principal centre of the Ainu. The protection which is accorded them by the Court and Government is of a very warm character. Already the Court has given 5,000 *yen* towards the education of the Ainu, which sum has now swollen to no insignificant amount owing to the accumulation of interest. There being such a fund at their disposal, the leading Ainu are deliberating with certain Japanese interested in their well-being as to some improved method of giving instruction to the Ainu children. The organization of a special legislative body in Hokkaido to supervise its executive business is a question which has attracted the attention of politicians for years. A representative has even been made to the Diet to obtain its approbation. To make such an organization a success it should be principally composed of men who are actually engaged in one enterprise or another in Hokkaido. Not only should the members be mostly derived from the business class in the event of the institution being organized, but those in the same class should bestir themselves if they really desire to have a representative system of administration in Hokkaido. Now, whether from the nature of their businesses which do not afford much leisure, or whether from their indifference, the business men of Hokkaido have thus far been rather cool towards this question, and have left it to the care of newspapers writers and young politicians. The increase of population in Hokkaido is very steady. Twenty years ago the census returns of the whole island stood at 171,491; in the fall of last year it rose to 509,279. This increment is no doubt largely due to the immigration of people from the main island; but it must also be borne in mind that the excess of births over deaths in the island has actually been more than 20,000 per annum, the last two or three years. Judging from the present rate of increase it is believed that the population of the island will reach a million within the next ten years. The following table shows the annual increase of population:—

	Emigrants.	Total Population
1883	2,260	246,456
1884	4,656	276,414
1885	10,359	286,941
1886	9,609	303,746
1887	7,787	321,118
1888	8,586	342,232
1889	13,118	370,576
1890	15,393	406,514
1891	15,738	444,643
1892	42,708	509,279

For the six months ending June last, the total number of emigrants to Hokkaido was 24,530, of which more than a third were farmers.

THE GOVERNOR OF KYOTO.

As expected, Governor Senda of Kyoto has been released from his functions at his own request and his place taken by Mr. Nakai Hiromu, a member of the House of Peers. Mr. Senda does not seem to have enjoyed the good opinion of the inhabitants of the old capital at any period of his administration. Neither was he fortunate in his relations with his subordinates. According to report, there has been constant friction between him and Secretary Okoshi and Councillor Morimoto. What engrosses the attention of the good people of Kyoto at present is the question how to make the most of the opportunity for money-making offered by the Industrial Exhibition of 1895 to be held in their city. They believed that Mr. Senda was not the right sort of man to take care of their local interests at a juncture of such paramount importance. As soon as the news of his resignation got abroad, the inhabitants despatched a deputation to the capital to wait upon the Home Minister and offer him suggestions as to the men whom they would be glad to welcome as their new Governor. In this context, the names of Prince Konoye, Marquis Kuroda, Marquis Tokugawa, Mr. Tomita Tetsunosuke and Mr. Nakai Hiromu have been mentioned. The appointment has fallen upon the last named gentleman, and we believe that he will make a good Governor. Mr. Nakai is one of the best known characters in Tokyo. A Satsuma man, he has led a very eventful career, having served in the war of the Restoration.

MR. FUKUZAWA ON FISHERY

At the graduation ceremony of the Fishery Institution, now removed to the new premises at Mita, Shiba, from its old site at Kobikicho, Mr. Fukuzawa, editor of the *Jiji Shimpo*, who was one of the invited guests, delivered an address on pisciculture in Japan. Improvements in the method of capturing fish, said the speaker, should go hand-in-hand with the due protection of breeding and multiplication. That this is a matter of utmost necessity may be proved even by the single instance of the shell-fish known in Japan as *Awabi*. This shell-fish is much relished by Chinese, and has constituted a principal item in the fish-export from this country to China; but since the use of diving apparatus has come into vogue, the capture has been so indiscriminate that the species is gradually diminishing year by year. The methods of protection are subjects which require great attention, if success is to be attained. In this respect, the

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so called protection which is usually exercised by the local authorities, appears to Mr. Fukuzawa to be far from satisfactory. Indeed, he thinks it altogether defective. The reports of the local officers contain rather ostentatious statements to the effect that so many tens of thousands of young fish have been set free in certain ponds, or that spawn has been unusually productive in others, but Mr. Fukuzawa has never heard of any instance of the capture of immature eels, or even of precautions being taken to prevent the capture of undeveloped *tai*, a favourite fish among Japanese. For such defective protection not only the local authorities but also the Central Executive and Legislature are held responsible. Game Laws have been issued, but has similar attention, asks Mr. Fukuzawa, been given to the preservation of fish, a far more important article of food in this country? In this respect he points to England, where, though the people are chiefly accustomed to eat meat as the Japanese do fish, laws are strictly enforced for the preservation of fisheries. Being deprived of venison for a year would be small hardship compared with a failure in the *tai* supply for even a short interval of time. He presumed that most Japanese people would agree with him in this. Mr. Fukuzawa suggested that the Central Government should draw up a general rule applicable to any fishery, but that districts should be at liberty to apply such restrictions as best suited the requirements. He concluded his speech by expressing a hope that the question touched upon might be brought before the deliberation of the coming session of the Diet.

THE ACCIDENT TO H.E. MR. WATANABE.

FURTHER details of the accident which befel H.E. Mr. Watanabe, Minister of Finance, on the 3rd inst., are to hand. It appears that after being received in audience by the Emperor, he returned home, which he left, shortly after lunch, to pay a visit to his brother, the Vice-Minister of Home Affairs. Mounted on his favourite horse, he proceeded from his official residence in Nagata-cho toward the Castle grounds. When he arrived at the wide open space in front of the Nijubashi leading to the Palace, the horse, apparently startled by the multitude of people assembled there to watch the processions of the Empress-Dowager and the Prince Imperial, who had proceeded to the Palace in honour of the day, suddenly began to shy, and in spite of the efforts of its rider dashed in the direction of the Cabinet Office, whither the animal was accustomed to take its master. As his Excellency endeavoured to turn the head of the horse toward the Wadakura gate, he slipped from the saddle, and was thrown with great force to the ground. The constables accompanying the Minister, and also those on duty at the Police stand close by, came to his aid, and carried him into the Cabinet Office, where the necessary attendance was at once given by Dr. Suzuki, who was on duty there. The wound was not of a serious nature, consisting only of an abrasion of the left temple about 1 by 2½ inches in size. A bandage having been applied, the Minister was conveyed home in a carriage of the Household Department. When Dr. Suzuki took off the bandage to wash the wound, it was so well that cicatrization was already going on in some parts. Such being the case the Minister talked of attending the Ball at the Rokumeikan, but he was dissuaded by the doctor in attendance and his secretary from carrying out this intention. The intelligence of the accident was at once followed by visits from Mr. Watanabe's numerous friends, who either came in person or sent their sympathy by proxy.

ALLEGATIONS AGAINST A CAPTAIN.

THE *Yomiuri Shimbun* is responsible for the following statement relating to the Captain of the *Samoa*, while he was in the harbour of Moji, Kyushu. The steamer, writes our contemporary, entered the harbour of Moji at the beginning of the current month, to load coal. While there the Captain ordered Mr. Koga Matachiro, a merchant living at Nakanocho, Shimonoseki, to bring him 3 goats, a quantity of drinking water, and certain quantities of beef, fish and vegetables. After providing these articles as ordered, the merchant requested payment of his account, 149 85 *yen* in all. The Captain replied that he should deduct 10 per cent. as commission from the bill, but the merchant, having made no such stipulation, refused to comply with the demand. Upon persisting in this attitude the Captain had the merchant turned out of his cabin. Mr. Koga remained on the ship, however, until the chief officer and the doctor of the ship advised him to seek the aid of the Authorities to recover his money. The merchant at once laid the case before the Harbour Police Office. A constable accordingly proceeded to the ship, accompanied by an interpreter, and demanded to see the Captain. The Captain upon being interviewed replied that as the matter was a civil case he saw no reason why he should have anything to do with a police official about the affair. The policeman admitted the argument, but added that he boarded the ship only to see his countryman dealt fairly with. While the captain and the police were engaged in conversation the ship was observed to be in motion, so the policeman and the interpreter hastily left the vessel accompanied by Mr. Koga, whose bill was still unsettled. Indeed, he has furnished the goods *gratis*, at least for the present.

THE "VALKYRIE."

FROM American papers we learn that it is highly probable that Lord Dunraven's *Valkyrie* will remain in American waters till next Spring. The New York *Mail and Express* accordingly supports a proposition for an ocean race between the *Vigilant* and the *Valkyrie* next April, when the winds are strong and the seas high, to decide the question of the seaworthiness of the American boat, which has been criticized in England as a toy or mere pleasure ship, and to settle the matter of whether the last international race proved the *Vigilant* a better type of yacht than the *Valkyrie*. Lord Dunraven was interviewed on the matter before sailing for England and said:—"It is impossible to say if such a match could be made. As I understand it, the *Vigilant* is to be sold, and until we learn who her owners are to be we can tell nothing about her future. You may say that the *Valkyrie*, in my opinion, would hold her own at sea.

TRIAL OF SCHNEIDER'S NICKEL-STEEL ARMOUR FOR RUSSIA.

AN excellent statement of the conditions of a recent trial of nickel-steel armour, at Creusot, for the new Russian battleship *Erya Sviatitelia, (Three Saints)*, appeared in *The Times* of September 9th last. The plate measured 8ft. by 8ft. by 15 9in. It, therefore, probably weighed nearly 18½ tons. The conditions of acceptance were that it should receive four blows from Holtzer projectiles of chrome steel, weighing 317lbs. each, fired from a 9 4in. gun, with a striking velocity of 1,945 foot-seconds without any portion of the plate being broken off, while in no case should the "base of the projectile" enter 7.8in., measured from the face. The exact words used are "penetrate the target to a depth of as much as 7.8in." The four rounds were delivered at the corners of an imaginary square of 4ft. sides. Round 1: Had a velocity of 2,001 foot-seconds; the shot's point entered 1.4in., and the projectile rebounded "with the point smashed and the shoulder somewhat set up." "The target showed three very fine cracks running from the wound." Round 2: Striking velocity 1,948 foot-seconds; penetration of point, 10.9. The projectile rebounded, broken into numerous fragments. Three fine cracks, as before, were developed in the plate. Round 3: Striking velocity, 1,923 foot-seconds; penetration of point, 1.4in. The projectile rebounded, with the head smashed, and the cylindrical part somewhat set up. A single fine crack was developed. Round 4: Striking velocity, 1,962 foot-seconds; penetration of point 9.9in. The projectile rebounded, broken into numerous fragments. There was no fresh cracks, and the old ones were not increased. At the back the bulges behind the points of impact varied from 11in. to 1.7in. high. Behind 1 and 2 were some fine cracks. We presume that this plate passed the test. To Messrs. Schneider is due the credit of having first applied nickel to the manufacture of armour, and having been long the sole manufacturers of through-steel armour, which is now universally approved. This plate is a very good one indeed, and Messrs. Holtzer's projectiles have long been taken as the standard of highest excellence. These facts being so, it is interesting to compare the above trial with recent American and English results. In a trial which took place at Indianhead on July 11th last, a Bethlehem all-steel nickel plate, 17in. thick, was attacked by a 12in. gun, firing forged steel Carpenter projectiles with varying velocities. The second round most nearly corresponded to the result now before us. The velocity was much lower, namely, 1,495 foot-seconds, but the theoretical penetration and the shock per ton were not so much less as to prevent comparison. On the English system the theoretical conditions are as follows:—Schneider plate, 3rd round, theoretical perforation through iron 17.36in., the plate being 15 9in. thick. Bethlehem plate, 2nd round, theoretical perforation 19.12in., the plate being 17in. thick. The energies per ton of plate were respectively 483 and 425 foot-tons. The Schneider plate was therefore more severely tried as to fracture, and it may be noted that it exhibited a slight hair crack. The shot entered much more deeply in the Bethlehem, which, we think, was decidedly softer than Schneider's; undoubtedly both plates were excellent.—*The Engineer*, September 15, 1893.

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS IN TOKYO.

SINCE the fall in Exchange, all imported goods have advanced considerably in price, causing the markets to become dull and lifeless. Drugs and chemicals, however, seem to be unusually buoyant in tone just at present, notwithstanding the fall in the sterling price of the dollar. A large proportion of the drugs and chemicals used in this country are imported from Germany, where they are produced at much cheaper rates than in Great Britain, though the quality is said to fall somewhat below the English standard. The present market price of common chloroform, according to the native press, is 85 *sen* per 1 lb. and special chloroform *yen* 1 25. Alcohol has generally advanced in price since the Alcohol Regulations were promulgated, and now the market rate is *sen* 15, .20, 25, and .50 per pound against previous rates of *sen* .9 to .25. Hydrochloric acid, for medical use, is now *sen* .15 per 1lb. and for chemical use .45; æther is *sen* 50; carbolic ammonia 55; tartaric acid 1 75; glycerine, 35; gutta-percha, 2.50; quinine 60 per 1oz, boric acid .35 per 1lb., hydrochloric Acid .38, pure antimony 7.50, powdered opium .85 per ounce; antipyrine fetches *yen* 1.20 per oz., and morphine *yen* 2.80 or 3. As there is always a good demand for these drugs and chemicals, they are generally sold without loss to the importer though occasionally some cases are rejected at the Laboratory. German manufacturers are, it seems, paying much attention just at present to the Pharmacopeia Japonica which is based, with some exceptions, upon the Pharmacopeia German III.

A WORD TO THE WISE.

CHARITY—in the sense of benevolence—may be said to cover a multitude of sins; but it does not excuse all. There are probably few places in the world where there is more practical charity than in the Treaty ports of China and Japan; in which we may include Peking and Tokyo, as foreigners live in both. Now we have not a word to say against the movements that are being so constantly set on foot to obtain pecuniary aid for unfortunate persons who have suffered from disaster, for hospitals, schools, and such-like; in fact we have both supported and inaugurated them ourselves. But there is a strong feeling abroad of protest against what may be called the compulsory system. A year or two ago this was much worse than it is

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now. Any man was liable to be the dismayed recipient of ten or a dozen tickets for some projected concert, lecture, or bazaar, with a request that he would sell them to his friends. If he were sufficently inexperienced to accept them and make the attempt, he speedily found that the persons to whom he offered them had themselves a sheaf of the same articles for sale, and that all were sellers and none buyers. A fa se and foolish delicacy prevented him from returning those he had been unable to dispose of, and there was no alternative but, whether he could afford it or not, to pay for the whole useless batch out of his own pocket. There has been improvement in this of late; still, people are constantly receiving tickets they don't want for some charitable enterprise, and though the number of tickets sent may not be so large as formerly the tax is still vexatious. It does not seem to occur to these excellent philanthropists who are generally rich themselves—that those on whom they are in the habit of levying charitable blackmail are probably not so well off; that they are only in moderate circumstances, that they may have expensive families, that the long fall in silver has considerably reduced their means, and that they look upon an expenditure of four or six dollars for an evening's entertainment as a piece of unjustifiable extravagance. We submit, therefore, that there should be less moral compulsion exercised in connection with these charitable undertakings, and that those who cannot afford it should not be coerced, by such means as we have referred to, into purchasing tickets they have not the moral courage to send back. It is even expected, sometimes, that, as the object is a charity, the victim shall buy the tickets at a very much h gher price than their proper value! But charity begins at home, and, though it should not stay there, some account ought certainly to be taken of those who have the first claim on one's resources.

MORE ATLANTIC RECORDS BROKEN.

THE Cunard liner *Campania*, which passed Sandy Hook Lightship at 12.36 p.m. on the 2nd inst. and arrived at Daunt's Rock, Queenstown, at 9.6 a.m. on Friday last week, says *Fairplay* of Sept. 15, broke the record for the eastern passage, making the run in 5 days 14 hours 55 minutes. The daily performances were 460, 481, 480, 494, 490, and 406 knots, with an average speed of 20 94 knots The previous best eastward passage was made by the *Campania* in May last in 5 days 17 hours 27 minutes. The "Pocahontas" coal of Virginia, U.S., was used on the record trip just completed. The other new Cunard liner, the *Lucania*, started from Liverpool on her maiden-voyage at 0 50 a.m. on the 3rd inst., was detained 2 hours 8 minutes at Queenstown, and arrived at Sandy Hook at midnight on Friday last week, making the passage from Liverpool in 6 days 4 hours 10 minutes, and 5 days 15 hours and 37 minutes, from Queenstown. Her daily runs from Queenstown were 460, 490, 498, 516, 533, and 284 knots, with an average of 20 5 knots an hour This is a record maiden-trip westwards.

PAYING DUTY ON A WIFE.

AN American paper has the following telegram dated at Ontario on Sept. 28:—"Much indignation is expressed by leading citizens and church-goers over a report which has reached here from Vancouver, British Columbia, stating that D. McKay, the missionary, who for twenty-five years or more has been prosecuting his work in Formosa, had to pay a poll tax of $50 on his wife upon landing off the *Empress of India* at Vancouver harbour. Mrs McKay is a Chinese woman. She was converted by Mr. McKay and has been of great aid to him in furthering the work in which he has been engaged. He protested strongly against the payment of the tax on the ground that his wife was a British subject. The comptroller of Chinese immigration here, Mr Parmelee, says that the customs officer had no right to charge the poll tax in question. It was no excuse to say that the woman is a British subject. Such excuses would be made everyday, and the law would become a dead letter. It was, however, distinctly against the Chinese Immigration Amendment Act of 1887 to collect poll upon a Chinese woman when married to a man of another nationality. The wife in that case was deemed, according to the Act, to be of the same nationality as her husband. The officer who imposed the tax must have been ignorant of the amended law. At one time it would have been regular to make the collection. Mr and Mrs. McKay are on their way to Ontario, where the missionary was at one time Minister of a Presbyterian church at Woodstock.

THE SILVER QUESTION VOTE.

THE division in the political parties in the American House of Representatives on the silver question will interest many of our readers. The House, as at present constituted, consists of:—

Democrats	220
Republicans	126
Populists	8
Vacancies	2
	356

There were only two absentees at the first vote, one Republican and one Democrat. Speaker Crisp did not vote. On the adoption of free coinage amendment of 16 to 1, the orthodox free silver coinage ratio, the vote stood:—

	Yeas.	Nays.
Democrats	101	114
Republicans	12	113
Populists	8	
	124	227

On the final passage of the bill to repeal the silver-purchase clause of the Sherman law the vote stood:—

	Yeas.	Nays.
Democrats	138	78
Republicans	101	22
Populists	—	8
	239	108

While four fifths and more often a larger proportion of the Republican vote was cast on behalf of the sound money and in support of the President, the Democratic vote was nearly evenly d vided; and on one test question, the restoration of the Bland law, a majority of the Democratic members voted against the policy of the Administration.

THE "NIROKU SHIMPO."

THE *Niroku Shimpo*, a new daily whose publication has long been talked of, made its first appearance on the 26th instant. It professes to be independent of al parties and factions. The number of newspapers in the capital, says our new contemporary, is already too large; and the publication of a new one under the circumstances requires some explanation. The new journal has no ambitious object in view; its only aim in coming to life is said to be in order that it may strive to be what a newspaper ought to be. The object set before it by our contemporary is thus observed to be one far from easy of attainment. It laments that few of the existing papers have courage enough to lead public opinion, instead of taking h nts from popular inclination. It will, among other things, endeavour to guide the people along the paths of right and justice. We wish all success to our courageous contemporary, although whether or not it is in its power to realise the high standard of conduct it has set before it remains to be seen.

THE LATE MR. JOHN MACGREGOR.

SHANGHAI loses a figure of commanding influence and position by the passing away of Mr. John Macgregor. The deceased gentleman came out to China about the year 1871, and from the first took an active interest in the public life around him. For many years past he was managing partner of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. in Shanghai, and Chairman of the Municipal Council, as well as of the China Association in the Far East. Indefatigable, kind, and obliging, his able services were always at the disposal of the foreign community, which owes much to him in regard to the improvement and good government of the Model Settlement, and for his active defence of the rights and interests of foreign residents in China, as for instance, in regard to the Chefoo Convention, the Telegraph Convention, the Woosung Bar, the Sungpu outrage, and the Indian Currency Legislation. Mr. Macgregor has visited Japan on several occasions, and his death will be deeply regretted by many old friends here. We understand that Mr Macgregor succumbed to fever of the malarious type, and that the last mail from Shanghai brought news of his having been confined to his bed for about a week

VILLAGE HEADMEN IN GIFU PREFECTURE.

THE headmen of 105 villages in the four districts of Nakajima, Anpachi, Tage, and Kaisai in the prefecture of Gifu districts which have been visited with repeated calamities, asked permission to resign in a body on the 26th ult. Unlike the case of the village headmen of Chichibu district, Saitama, who similarly asked for permission to be relieved from office, the present case has elements of plausibility about it which the other lacks entirely. When these headmen, says the documents which they forwarded to the district chiefs, submitted to the Governor the result of their inspection as to the conditions of the respective villages, previous to the notes being sent to the latter pertaining to the payment of land-tax for the 25th fiscal year (the payment of the tax had been specially postponed for the Gifu people in consideration of their calamities), the Governor instructed them through the district chiefs that as certain considerations should be extended to the people who are still suffering from the effects of the repeated misfortunes, and moreover as the landowners are said to be preparing to petition the Diet to have the period for the payment of tax prolonged, the village headmen should forbear as much as possible from taking measures usually applied to defaulting tax-payers. The Governor added that he himself could not allow any definite postponement of the time, for this would conflict with provisions fixed by law. In order to assure themselves of this point, the village headmen are said to have asked the district chiefs whether without enforcing the strict measures laid down in their instructions the time of the payment of tax might be postponed? The chiefs replied that the message of the Prefect being to that effect, and moreover as the number of tax-payers failing to pay in the tax would be unusually large, it would not be a prudent way of conducting business to adopt any strict measures against them. The headmen have therefore been acting in accordance with the spirit of this reply, and their surprise may be imagined when they lately received an instruction, through the district chiefs, to take due legal measures against tax payers who failed to fulfil their state obligations. Simultaneously with the issue of this instruction the Local Office sent out collectors to the village headmen to take immediate measures to get in the tax. The headmen have therefore asked to be relieved of their functions

THE VERNACULAR PRESS AND THE "CHISHIMA"-"RAVENNA" APPEAL CASE.

THE decision of H B.M.'s Supreme Court at Shanghai in the *Chishima-Ravenna* Appeal Case, has called forth loud and, we may add, indignant criticisms from the newspapers of Tokyo. The point which engrosses their attention is, as might have been expected, that the Supreme Court has decided the Inland Sea to be the highway of nations and not the territorial waters of Japan. Other points of great importance are involved in the case, but they are nothing by the side of the one in question, and it is noteworthy that it should have roused such warm and unanimous protest from the Japanese papers. We give below a resumé of their articles on this subject.

* * *

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* pronounces the grounds upon which the Supreme Court decided in favour of the appellants to be unreasonable and far-fetched. Our contemporary criticises that Court's alluding to Orders in Council which are in abeyance in consequence of the Japanese

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Government's remonstrances, and observes that this point should be made the subject of diplomatic negotiations. As to the contention that the Inland Sea is not the 'territorial waters' of Japan, the *Nichi Nichi* remarks that the fact that it is part of Japanese territory cannot be affected by a decision of a foreign Court of Law, and that Japan is free at any time to exercise the rights to which she is entitled as exclusive owner of the piece of water under consideration.

* * *

The *Jiji Shimbun* is indignant at the presumption of the Judges of the Supreme Court at Shanghai in declaring that the Inland Sea is the highway of nations and that Japan has no exclusive right of jurisdiction over it. The Radical organ urges the Government to take firm and prompt steps to assert the undoubted rights of Japan.

* * *

The *Choya Shimbun* advises the Government to notify to the foreign Powers that in future no foreign war-vessel will be allowed to enter or pass through the Inland Sea without a special permit. Our contemporary takes this opportunity of censuring the Government for its neglect to guard the sovereign rights of the country in its territorial waters, and in support of its charge, it refers to the facts that, neither when the British sealing vessel, the *Arctic*, was pursued and nearly seized by a Russian man-of-war in the Bay of Tokyo, nor when Russian and English war-vessels confronted each other ready to fight in the same arm of the sea, did the Imperial Government take any notice of the extraordinary occurrence. Allusion is also made to the fact that the Government has allowed foreign war-vessels to enter the Bay of Tokyo, the port of Muroran, the Bay of Kagoshima and other inlets without special permission, as if these arms of the sea were part of the high seas. In another article, the *Choya* blames the Government for having brought into a foreign Court what ought to have been laid before a Japanese Court of Law. Consular Courts, says our contemporary, are competent to deal with cases in which a subject of Japan sues a subject of a foreign Power, but Japan has never delegated to those Courts a power to adjudicate in a case between the Emperor of Japan and foreign subjects. The *Choya* advises the Government even at this moment to withdraw the case from the hands of the British Consular Court and lay it before a Japanese tribunal

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The *Kokkai* also recommends the Government to notify to the foreign countries that hereafter no foreign war-vessel will be allowed to enter the Inland Sea without special permission, and at the same time to complete the defence of the entrances to it. Our contemporary observes that, the Inland Sea being surrounded on all sides by Japanese territories and communicating with the open seas by means of narrow channels, the widest of which is not more than four miles, it is as much part of Japanese territory as the land by which it is surrounded. As to the assertion of the Chief Justice of H.B.M.'s Supreme Court at Shanghai, that "the right to enter and pass through it [the Inland Sea] was asserted by force of arms by England, France, Holland and America," the *Kokkai* remarks that this is an unwarranted perversion of history. For the Shimonoseki affair had nothing to do with the question whether or not the Inland Sea was the highway of nations. The bombardment of the port by the Powers mentioned was simply an act of reprisal against the unpardonable conduct of the local chief. The foreign war-vessels did not obtain the right to enter and pass through the Inland Sea as a consequence of the operation in question, but they enjoy the right simply by the indulgence of the Japanese Government, and consequently the right may be denied to them at any moment at the will of the Japanese Government.

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The *Nippon* writes in a similar strain, and quotes the opinions of the latest European authorities on International Law in order to confirm the position it takes up about the exclusive nature of the Inland Sea.

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The *Yomiuri Shimbun* states that the Inland Sea is part of Japanese territory not only in the light of generally received principles of International Law but on the strength of incontestible facts of history. Ando Tsushima-no-kami, the Prime Minister of the Tokugawa Government, asserts the *Yomiuri*, once notified to the Representatives of England and America that the Inland Sea was part of the Japanese dominion. So that all misunderstanding may be avoided in future, our contemporary advises the Government to make the same notification once more, and this time not only to England and America but to all the other Powers.

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The *Hochi Shimbun* denounces "the astounding judgment" pronounced by H.B.M.'s Supreme Court at Shanghai. The whole nation without distinction of party or faction is exhorted by the Progressionist organ to leave nothing undone to wipe off the stain which has been placed upon the integrity of the empire

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The *Kokumin Shimbun* also urges the Government to assert the right of exclusive jurisdiction in the Inland Sea by means of diplomatic negotiations.

THE GERMAN MAIL STEAMERS.

The *Straits Times* says:—The Norddeutscher Lloyd of Bremen intends to still further enhance the attractions for passengers by their boats. The *Sachsen* is to be lengthened, and fitted up in precisely the same manner as the *Bayern*. Indeed the work is now about completed and that vessel should be here in December. The *Preussen* is to be similarly treated, but she will not be completed till next year. Besides this, the company have on the stocks two new boats that are being specially built for the eastern trade. They are the *Prinz Regent Luitpold* and the *Prinz Heinrich*, each to be of 6,500 tons, with twin screws, and capable of going fifteen knots, and they will be the first twin screw passenger steamers for eastern waters. It is, we think in the mind of the Norddeutscher Lloyd to establish a fortnightly service, and when this does come, they will run alternatively with the P. & O. steamers and will call at Penang. The German boats run direct to Southampton without the necessity of an irksome change at Colombo.

CLAIM AGAINST MESSRS. WALSH, HALL AND COMPANY

Mr. Matsumoto Origoro appeared yesterday (7th) in the United States Court, before Mr. E. J. Smithers, in support of a claim by Mr. Tsuda Katsugoro against Mr. C. P. Hall, of Messrs. Walsh, Hall & Co., for the return of bargain money amounting to $100 and for the payment of a further sum of $100 damages sustained by failure to deliver a quantity of American pine lumber for ship's decks ordered by plaintiff. From the petition and answer it appeared that the plaintiff had frequently been asked to take delivery of the lumber when it arrived, but had declined to do so on the ground that it was not up to the quality contracted for. Mr. Fllerton, however, gave evidence that the quality of the lumber was good, and this being supported by Captain Barry, his Honour gave judgment for the defendant with costs.—*Kobe Chronicle.*

DEPARTURE OF THE FIRST N.Y.K. VESSEL FOR BOMBAY

The *Hiroshima Maru* had an excellent send-off yesterday, says the *Kobe Chronicle* of the 8th inst., on departing for its first trip to Bombay. The *Kamogawa Maru*, belonging to the Osaka Shosen Kaisha, specially chartered by the Cotton Spinners' Union, left Osaka at about 8.30 a.m. for Kobe, having on board the members of the Union, Government officials, &c. The steamer was gay with flags and bunting and formed a pretty sight as she came into the harbour, where the leading officials and merchants of Kobe met her in steam launches. The whole party, numbering over two hundred, then went on board the *Hiroshima Maru*, where letters of congratulation were read, during which fireworks were sent up from the *Kamogawa* and there was much cheering from the delegation. The *Hiroshima Maru* left her anchorage about 1 p.m. and steamed slowly out, being followed as far as Wada Point by the *Kamogawa*, where a band played what we suppose is the Japanese equivalent for "Good-bye, John, don't stop long." The proceedings, which had been characterised by great enthusiasm, then terminated, the *Kamogawa* leaving for Osaka shortly after two o'clock. We learn from this morning's *Kobe Nippo* that the *Hiroshima Maru* had a cargo consisting of about 800 cases of matches, 100 tons of copper, 60 cask of camphor, 500 rolls of Japanese matting, and 550 packages of miscellaneous goods.

THE PROGRESSIONISTS.

The Progressionists held a grand conference on the 4th instant, at the Kinkikan, Kanda, Tokyo. About three hundred members of the party were present, with Mr. Maruo Bunroku in the chair. The following resolutions were adopted:—"First, that in strict pursuance of the policy of our party the evils of Clan Government should be removed, so that the object kept in view by the Opposition may be attained; secondly, that the results of the administrative reforms should be examined and steps should be taken for the accomplishment of the views of our party; thirdly, that the purposes for which the surplus is to be employed should be definitely settled, fourthly, that all the past actions of the Government which are not in accord with the Constitution should be denounced, and the Constitution be thus protected; fifthly, that the Government should be urged to enforce the treaties in a rigid manner and at the same time to attain the object of revision; sixthly, that steps should be taken to elaborate a scheme of riparian improvements on a large and permanent scale; seventhly, that administrative evils in Hokkaido should be corrected and a definite plan for the colonization of that is and elaborated; eighthly, that the slackening of official discipline should be censured; ninthly, that bad laws should be revised so that popular rights may be extended; and tenthly, that besides those thus far mentioned, endeavours should be made to carry out all the measures hitherto advocated by our party." These resolutions, which are to serve as the basis of a practical programme for the coming session of the Diet, are to be drawn up by the *Giin Shukaijo*, an association composed of those Progressionists only who have seats in the House of Representatives — When these resolutions were adopted, it happened that a telegram announcing the return of the Progressionist candidate, Mr. Sado Rikuzo, at a bye-election in Miyagi, was brought to the meeting, and its production was the signal for an enthusiastic outburst of joy at the triumph of the party. The meeting at once resolved that a telegram should be despatched to Mr. Sudo congratulating him on his success. After the appointment of the officers of the party, the meeting, which was opened at 1 p.m., was closed at a little past 6. Those assembled then sat down to a friendly reunion.

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The following morning, Count Okuma invited about 230 of his followers to a garden party at his residence. In the afternoon, they all repaired to the Kinkikan where a lecture meeting was held. Addresses were delivered by Messrs. Tsuruda Yujiro, Motoba Heiji, Kurosu Ryutaro, Yasuda Kun, Fukuda Shunjiro, Asaka Kokuko, Machida Asataro, Koizuka Riyu, Tanaka Shozo, and Shimada Saburo. Messrs. Kozuka and Kurosu were ordered by the police inspectors to leave the platform in the midst of their speeches, while a few others entirely failed to make themselves understood by the audience. A violent attack on the Government, with frequent sneering allusions to the Radical party, was the order of the day. Mr. Tanaka Shozo was in his most humorous vein, and was able to hold the attention of the audience for about an hour. His speech, however, does not bear reporting,

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for when put down on paper his fragmentary though passionate remarks appear to little advantage. He deprecated in language of strongest condemnation all idea of surrender to the Government on the part of the Opposition, and most frankly stated that the Government had too long been in power. He did not allude to the present Ito Cabinet in particular, but to the *Meiji* Government in general. Corruption of political morality was attributable to the fact that office had been monopolized by the same set of statesmen during these six-and-twenty years Everything, therefore, he thought, would come out right, as soon as the Opposition was called to power. Mr. Shimada Saburo, the most important of all the speakers, was eloquent as usual. He referred, in the first place, to the necessity of the amendment of the Newspaper Regulations, of which the most objectionable point was stated to be the provision relating to suspension. Secondly, he discussed the question of the amendment of the Law of Election. In his opinion, most of the evils now attending parliamentary elections were attributable to the clause requiring each elector to sign his name on the voting paper. This system was once tried in England and found unsatisfactory. He thus urged the importance of amending the provision in question, in the sense that the elector shall not sign his name on the voting paper. Thirdly, Mr. Shimada urged the Cabinet to reduce the rate of land tax. Fourthly and lastly, he discussed the question of administrative reforms and some other subjects. He did not refer to those recently carried out. As to the reforms in the Navy, he was at a loss to discover any abuse really and effectually remedied in that Department. Then alluding to the decision given by the British Court at Shanghai in the *Chishima-Ravenna* appeal case, Mr. Shimada was so extravagant as to assert that the Court was emboldened to pronounce such an unjust judgment, because the Japanese Government had generally failed to maintain its dignity abroad. He insisted on the strict enforcement of the existing treaties, and also blamed the Cabinet for the carelessness of the various investigations conducted by it. His speech breathed a tone of uncompromising defiance to the Government.

A CHALLENGE TO THE MONOMETALLISTS.

It has always appeared to us that whereas bimetalism exists and answers perfectly within the Four Seas of Great Britain—a shilling, valued at the price of silver, being nothing like the twentieth part of a gold sovereign—there is no reason why it should not answer equally well when extended internationally. A notable suggestion has now been made by Mr. James Platt, a well known writer on the subject. If international bimetallism is impossible, by reason of the opposition of monometallists, let the size of our silver coins be enlarged to something nearer their metallic value. "If that was done," says another correspondent, "a vast quantity of silver would be used, the stocks of silver of which we hear so much would be dispersed, and work in plenty would be found for miners in mining for more silver to supply the demand created" It is difficult to see the difference between a twelve-penny piece that is only worth eight pence, and other base coinage—the much abused Wood's half-pence of Swift's time, for example

A NEW COMMERCIAL ASSOCIATION.

The Toho Tsusho Kyokai (Oriental Inter-commercial Association) is the name of a new Association that has just made its appearance through the exertions of Mr. Arao Sei, a great authority on Chinese business affairs, and the sympathetic influence of Counts Okuma and Itagaki, Viscount Shinagawa, and such prominent business men as Messrs. Shibuzawa and Morimura. The primary aim of the association is to furnish necessary information about the business affairs of Oriental countries to those who intend to undertake any commercial enterprise in those parts—in short, to serve as a medium. The appearance of such an organization is welcomed all the more eagerly at present by the Japanese people when, in consequence of the disturbance of the money markets in gold using countries, the wide-awake merchants of China are beginning to decline business, more or less, with those places, and the shrewd merchants of this country are endeavouring to avail themselves of a golden opportunity to extend their commerce. The bye-laws, containing some 10 articles, are given in the vernacular press. The following embodies the most important points in them. The Association intends to establish its central office at Shanghai, with branch offices at several principal ports in China and other important business centres in the East and the South Sea islands. The general object kept in view by the Association is as above indicated. The Association desires to mature business men competent to engage in Oriental commerce; establish samples-exhibitions and hold special investigation meetings at suitable times, either in Tokyo or Osaka, after the required materials are collected. In order to ascertain accurately the business, commercial and industrial resources, and the routes of communication of various countries, members or experts of the Association may be specially despatched to these places. The Association will issue a monthly journal containing anything which it deems useful for business men engaged in eastern commerce. It will also act as intermediary between two nations in order to improve their intimacy, whenever such mediation is thought beneficial to both. Members of the Association are divided into three grades, honorary, special, and ordinary. An ordinary member is to pay 1 *yen* per month, and a special 5 *yen*, while an honorary member is not required to contribute any monetary aid. In return, a member will be furnished with the monthly proceedings of the Association, and will be accorded any reasonable aid in business

RETRENCHMENT IN ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENDITURE.

It is commonly believed that the Government has effected by the present reforms in administrative affairs a retrenchment of about 2 million *yen*. The *Choya Shimbun*, however, inclines to the belief that even if such a retrenchment has really been accomplished, it is doubtful whether the Government Expenditure will be reduced by such an amount. It argues the matter in this fashion. Supposing that out of the reputed retrenchment of two million *yen*, one and a half million are derived from the cashiering of officials, as is generally believed to be the case, it follows that the income accruing to the Treasury towards the War-Vessel Construction Fund, to which every military or civil servant of the country is obliged to contribute the 10th part of his income, must be affected to a greater or lesser extent. The officials who are to be cashiered in the present instance would mostly likely be those whose services are of long standing, and therefore the pension-list must be very greatly augmented. In fact, this item is steadily rising year by year It stood in 1890 at 48,418 *yen*, became 136,188 *yen* the next year, and now stands at 283,766 *yen*. Judged from this rate of increase, and taking the mean ratio of two and a half times as the datum by which to estimate the increase next year the pension list will rise to 709,415 *yen*, an increase of 425,649 *yen* over the current year. The Cabinet in power, nicknamed the "Committee Administration," is very fond of appointing committees of divers descriptions; as, for example, the Railway Investigation Committee, Engineering Committee, Foundry Business Committee, Codes Committee, Currency System Committee, and others. A member of committee being allowed special remuneration ranging from 300 to 500 *yen* a year, the expenditure entailed by these committees must amount to a considerable sum. It is said that for the Codes Investigation Committee alone over 60,000 *yen* per annum is required. Supposing that each of the seven or eight committees requires an allowance of 30,000 *yen* yearly, the total reaches 230,000 *yen*. Taking these points into consideration, the *Choya* is of opinion that the reported retrenchment of two millions will dwindle to one half It deducts from the 2,000,000 *yen*—150,000 *yen* for the decrease in the war-vessel construction fund; 425,647 *yen* for increase in the pension fund; and 240,000 *yen* allowances to committees; thus leaving a balance of 1,114,341 *yen*.

THE HOKKAIDO KOMBU TROUBLE

We are utterly at a loss to understand the real issue of the complication between certain Japanese and Chinese in regard to the alleged breach of the Japan-China Commercial Treaty on the part of a subject of the latter country, to which reference has been made in these columns. As then noted, the Public Procurator of the Hakodate Local Court decided in favour of the Chinese merchant implicated in the trouble, and the Japanese plaintiff, dissatisfied with this finding, submitted the matter to the decision of the Appeal Court existing in the port. Under the circumstances, what puzzles us most is the finding recently given by the same Local Court in a case of precisely similar nature, as related by the *Jiji Shimpo*. This time both parties concerned in the affair were of entirely distinct nationalities; the accuser was the Hokkaido Kombu Company, and the defendant a Chinese merchant named Tokushin Go, resident in Hakodate. The Company complained to the Court that the Chinese merchant had secretly purchased *Kombu* at Nemuro through a Japanese banto, and this at places where the Company had special contracts to purchase all that was produced Thinking the action of the Chinese at variance with the provisions of the Commercial Treaty between the two countries and also with those of the Union Regulations which the *Kombu* buyers and sellers in Hokkaido are under obligation to observe, the Company, to protect its interests, seized the goods which the Chinese merchant purchased. Though it is not clear from the statement in the *Jiji* which of the parties lodged the complaint before the Court, it was decided, as in the other case, that as the purchase was not effected by the Chinese in person, the alleged action did not constitute a violation of the provisions of the Treaty, and the goods seized were ordered to be returned to the owner. The Company was dissatisfied with this judgment, and therefore brought the matter before the Local Court. The latter has now reversed the judgment of the lower Court, holding that as the action of the Chinese was at variance with the provisions of the Commercial Treaty between Japan and China the Company need not return the goods it had seized. We are therefore puzzled to know which of the two findings of the Court on two precisely similar cases are to be considered correct.

TROUBLES OF JAPANESE EMIGRANTS.

Ever and anon appear in the vernacular press pitiable stories of the miseries which befall Japanese emigrants in foreign lands, miseries which principally arise through the unscrupulous dealings of their Japanese compatriots either at home or abroad. The cases of the Japanese emigrants in British Columbia and the Republic of Guatemala are still fresh in the public mind, in both of which the Japanese agents must be held primarily responsible. In a recent issue, the *Yomiuri* describes the experiences of two Nagasaki labourers who went over to Vladivostock in August last. While they were seeking work, they fell in with a Japanese named Yamato, who has been resident in the port for many years. He persuaded them to go to Australia in search of work, holding out hopes of remunerative occupation in the southern continent. They accepted the advice, and along with seven other Japanese went on board a British steamer, which Yamato said was bound to England *vid* Australia. They agreed to work their passage, and were gratified to learn that they would be paid $15 in gold per month for their services. Before leaving Vladivostock they paid Yamato a commission for his trouble. Suspicions were aroused soon after putting to sea, and when the vessel reached Manila one of the men desired the Captain to tell them of the real destination of the ship. He replied that the steamer was bound to London, and had no

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intention of calling at any Australian port. Life on board became very hard for the Japanese after this, and at a Javanese port, two of them escaped. At Colombo the Nagasaki pair likewise cleared out of the vessel, thus leaving five Japanese still on board. In Colombo the Nagasaki men were fortunate enough to meet with Mr. Nishikawa Umejiro, who is engaged in business there, and from him received protection. Such is the story which reaches Tokyo, presumably from the trader in Ceylon.

THE NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

WITH a view of strengthening its basis, the Nippon Yusen Kaisha is, says the *Shogyo Shimpo*, contemplating the reorganization of its system. This has become all the more necessary in consequence of the New Commercial Code, and also of the pressure of the times. The appointment of the President, Vice-President, and Managers of the Company is entirely under the control of the Government, because of the subsidy of 880,000 *yen* per annum which it receives, and the shareholders cannot interfere in this matter so long as the company receives Governmental aid. The higher officers have hitherto attended both to the executive and legislative affairs of the Company, but this arrangement is not in accordance with the new Code and will have to be altered. The extension of the Company's business to foreign countries also necessitates some important changes in the management, and renders a new basis of operations necessary. Count Ito, the Premier, is said to be much interested in this matter, and is believed to favour the scheme whereby the appointment of the higher officers of the company will be vested in the shareholders subject to the approval of the Government. At the same time the executive part of the business must now be separated from the legislative. It is proposed that the Court of Directors shall consist of 11 members and several of the present Directors shall be elected to this Board. The Court of Directors are to be held responsible for the control of the company's business. Besides the Directors, two business inspectors will be appointed. It is, of course, a matter of mere conjecture who will be appointed to the higher offices of the Company when those changes are inaugurated, but it is believed that besides the present incumbents, Messrs. Morioka, Yoshikawa, Kondo, Kato, Asada, and Uchida, such prominent business men as Messrs. Shibusawa, Shoda, Admiral Isobe, retired, and one or two others will occupy posts in the Company. Out of these 11 personages, the President will be elected. For the positions of inspectors Messrs. Abe Taizo and Yamamoto Naonari are likely candidates. It is further rumoured that Mr. Iwasaki Yanosuke, of the Mitsubishi, will lend his valuable services in the capacity of Councillor.

CURRENT TOPICS.

Now that Mr. Saito Shuichiro, Vice-Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, has tendered his resignation, loud clamours are made by the metropolitan papers for a similar step on the part of his Chief, Count Goto. It is stated, with what truth we do not know, that, at the Cabinet Council held at the Premier's residence on the 4th instant, Count Ito put some blunt questions to Count Goto concerning the latter's alleged connections with the Exchange agents, when the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce replied in his usual indifferent manner that he had nothing to do with the matter and that the whole blame rested upon Mr. Saito Shuichiro. Thereupon, a certain Minister, indignant at the invidious reflections cast upon the Vice-Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, is said to have most emphatically defended the honour of his protégé, saying that he (Mr. Saito) was above the reach of corruption. Another Minister, according to the rumour, is stated to have frankly declared in Count Goto's presence that he was the principal person to answer for the laxity of discipline in his Department. Nothing serious, however, seems to have resulted from what the papers call the "stormy council" of Saturday last. The story in itself is not worth reproduction, but we allude to it to show the state of feelings prevailing in the press against the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce. It is also reported that a powerful section of the House of Peers is resolved upon recommending his removal in the next session if he does not resign before that time. The *Chu-o Shimbun* even states that Count Goto has tendered, or is about to tender, his resignation. But we place no confidence in this rumour.

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The task of finding a successor to Mr. Saito as Vice-Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, seems to be no easy one. Thus far the offer, according to rumour, has been made to Governor Asada of Nagano, Governor Narikawa of Miye, Mr. Kato Takaakira of the Finance Department, and Mr. Fujita Shiro, Director of the Bureau of Agriculture in the *Noshomusho*. But these persons are said to have been by no means inclined to appreciate the honour done to them. Some believe that Mr. Asada may accept the post if enough pressure be brought to bear upon him. There is even talk of calling back Mr. Nishimura Saiezo, who was Mr. Saito's predecessor, but there seems to be little hope of catching him. Mr. Wakamiya, Director of the Bureau of Commerce and Industry in the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, is also mentioned in this context, but nothing is known as to his attitude.

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The *Nippon* is responsible for a report that the Premier is now endeavouring to gain back into the Cabinet Counts Yamagata and Matsukata. Our contemporary's informant is evidently not in touch with the undercurrents of politics, for he seems to think that Count Ito is looking out for a successor to his own position. When the day comes for him to leave the Cabinet, we may be sure that he will not go alone. As we have pointed out more than once, there would be nothing singular in Count Matsukata's joining the present Cabinet, for he undoubtedly belongs to the same school of statesmen as Counts Ito, Inouye, and others. As to Count Yamagata, he is commonly regarded as leader of the so-called Military section. Naturally he is a conservative statesmen, and in some respects his opinions may coincide with those of Viscounts Fukushima, Kabayama, and others. But his official and personal connections with Counts Ito and Inouye are such that under any circumstances he will not suffer himself to be dragged into a camp hostile to these his lifelong friends. So, although we do not think that he will enter the Cabinet for the present at least, we should not be surprised if he did so.

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Count Okuma has reason to be proud of the reviving popularity of his party in the country. In the latest by-elections at Sendai, for instance, and in Iyo, the Progressionist candidates have beaten those of the Radical party by decided majorities. At a recent garden party he gave to his followers, Count Okuma alluded to these signs of the brightening prospects of his party, and bade his guests march at an unabated pace right in the direction of the object in their view, namely the introduction of Government by party. Until that object is attained, they were told never to waste their energies in idle disputes with their allies, however much the latter might try to provoke them into such quarrels.

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The attitude of the Radicals toward the administrative reforms recently made public remains undecided. The matter is now under the consideration of a Committee that is expected to lay its report before the general meeting of the party which is to come off on the 15th inst. Some people believe that the Radicals will be in general opposed to these reforms, but that, in the case of one or two Departments, they will make exception and will not be so antagonistic as towards the rest. So far as the Navy is concerned, there is no doubt that the Radicals will be strongly opposed to the reforms introduced in that Department.

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The anti-Mixed Residence movement is not prospering half so much as people at first feared it might. It was apprehended that the promoters of that benighted movement might be received with open arms by the simple-minded rural population. But the receptions which they have thus far received in their provincial tours seem to make it doubtful whether they will ever be able to establish a footing even in the rural districts. They have been the first to recognize this truth, and with their characteristic dexterity to meet the exigencies of a sudden turn of events they have—according to the *Jiyu Shimbun*—tried and in some measure succeeded in getting the assistance of the two Hongwanji temples of Kyoto. Some influential members of the Government, anticipating the intended movement of these artful schemers, had warned the head priests of these temples against the danger of allying themselves with these political adventurers; and consequently in deference to these statesmen, the priests have not openly adopted the cause of anti-Mixed Residence. But it is reported that they have issued secret instructions to their subordinates throughout the country to give as much aid as they can to the promoters of the movement. Even with the aid of Buddhist priests, it is extremely doubtful whether they can succeed in enlisting the sympathies of the influential section of local populations.

SPECIAL EXPORT PORTS.

THE exigencies of the largely increasing trade between Korea and Japan have induced the Sanindo merchants to petition for the opening of further special export ports on the seaboard of their provinces. At present these merchants have to send their goods through Shimonoseki, and the heavy freights and export charges hampers trade to a very considerable extent. During the last session of the Diet, the harbour of Miyazu, in Tango, was opened for purposes of special export to Vladivostock, and upon this concession being granted, folks in other parts of the Sanindo petitioned that Sakaye, in Tottori Prefecture, be granted the same privileges in regard to Korea. The petition unfortunately was presented late in the session and the Diet rose ere it could be considered. The projectors are therefore resolved this autumn to send in their petition at the first possible date. Indeed, some persons have already arrived in Tokyo for the purpose of forwarding the project. A rival port to Sakaye, however, appears in Hamada, a harbour of the neighbouring prefecture of Shimane, and a deputation has been despatched to Tokyo to urge its claims for priority of attention. It is a pity that such an agitation should be set on foot, for it will render the possibility of carying either of the schemes through all the more uncertain. The harbour of Sakaye possesses one of the best anchorages along the whole coast line of the Sanindo, and the steamers of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha are already calling there regularly. The chief commodities which would be exported to Korea from this portion of Central Japan are rice, raw cotton, cotton-goods, silk, fancy-goods, wheat, and beans. It is estimated that the cost of opening the harbour of Sakaye would amount to only 2,000 *yen*, but duties collected would reach 10,000 *yen*.

THE NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

THE largest of the Japanese steamship companies has notified its shareholders that the Company's half yearly general meeting will be held on the 1st proximo. The meeting has this time a matter of special importance to deliberate upon, besides that pertaining to the usual routine, as has been previously mentioned. The principal points to be placed before the shareholders are the reduction of the present capital of Company from 11,000,000 *yen* to 8,800,000 *yen*; the election of directors, from 5 to 11 in number, from the shareholders of the Company owning more than 100 shares, and also the election of two inspectors out of those owning above 200 shares. An officer of the Company is said to have told the representative of the *Hochi Shimbun* that the contemplated reorganization of the Company on the basis of self-government was neither due

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to the advice of the Government nor to the demand of the shareholders, but was the decision arrived at by the head officers of the Company after deliberations extending over more than five years. It is believed with confidence that the measures to be discussed at the coming meeting will obtain the approval of the shareholders and the sanction of the Government.

THE TOKYO TRAMWAY COMPANY.

As previously mentioned in these columns, the Tokyo Tramway Company is contemplating the substitution of electricity for horse-power in the haulage of its carriages. The Company held an extraordinary meeting of shareholders at the hall of the Clearing House on the 4th instant, to obtain a final decision upon the matter, and, as was confidently anticipated, the scheme obtained the unanimous approval of the shareholders. The Company now intends to effect the change at the earliest possible date. Dr. Fujioka, one of the highest authorities on technical electricity in Japan, estimates that whereas 61,324.18 *yen* are required annually for horse-power, 14,700 *yen* will suffice if electricity is adopted. The Company will accordingly save 46,624.18 *yen* on its current expenses. Besides this, there will be an immense improvement in the appearance of the cars themselves. It is confidently believed that when the projected change is realized, the Company will be easily able to pay a dividend of 17 to 18 per cent. per annum, after deducting all that is necessary for current expenses, reserve, and so forth.

ESTABLISHMNT OF EXCHANGES.

The applications for the establishment of exchanges, according to the new Exchange Regulations, about which the merchants in nearly all the principal towns thoughout the country are much interested, as already mentioned in these columns, have been favourably entertained in regard to 19 places out of the total, which reaches nearly 40. These places are as follows: Rice: Kumamoto, Onomichi, Tsuruga, Ogaki, Tsu, Wakayama, Hamamatsu, Takasaki, Naoyetsu, Nagasaki, Shizuoka, Okayama. Rice and Cotton: Hiroshima, Yonago. Rice, Herring, Manures: Otaru. Rice and Silk: Yamagata. Cocoons and Silk: Mayebashi. Oils. Osaka, Otsu. Yokkaichi and Wakatsu are to be licensed shortly for exchange of rice. In regard to Tokyo (various merchandises), Yokohama (rice), and Tsuchizaki (rice), so many applications were sent in that the licenses were refused. For 26 other places the applications were rejected, the establishment of exchanges there being deemed unnecessary. No applications were received from Hakodate and Ishinomaki.

THE YAMAGUCHI HIGHER MIDDLE SCHOOL.

Affairs are still very unsettled in the Yamaguchi Higher Middle School, the dismissal of 19 lads on the 8th inst. who took part in the assault upon Professors Ihara and Ikeda, not having the sobering effect anticipated. The students have now petitioned to have their studies suspended for the time being, while they are displaying much personal animosity towards Professor Ihara, who is manager of the institution. Viscount Shinagawa is expected to visit the school at the earliest possible date, to settle the dispute, on behalf of Prince Mori, the patron of the school. It seems a great pity that school-boys are allowed to go to such lengths of indecorum, and also that their childish outbreaks of temper should be so deferentially condoned. Sooner or later submission to discipline will be an unknown quantity in Japanese schools.

THE SUPPLY OF SILVER.

In all discussions on the monetary problem it has been tacitly assumed that the world's silver deposits are nearly inexhaustible, and one of the arguments most confidently adduced against the concurrent use of gold and silver in the currency systems of the nations, at a stable ratio of exchange, is the "practically limitless supply" of the latter metal. But it is beginning to be seen that on this point too much has been taken for granted. No large discoveries of silver have been made of late, so that the large increase in the output of the white metal, which is responsible for its depreciation, must be attributed exclusively to improved methods of mining and ore-treatment. When silver mining began in the United States with the discovery of the Comstock lode in 1858, the practice of scientific prospecting and mine-engineering was unknown. There were no mining colleges, and engineers had to be got from Germany, England, and France Again, the metallurgy of silver was crude and expensive. It cost $100, gold, per ton to melt or mill silver ore, and that very wastefully. But all that has been changed. The United States if it does not lead the world in mining and metallurgy, certainly has little to learn from other nations. Ore-smelting has been carried to such perfection as to bid fair to supersede milling, and under favourable conditions 95 per cent. of the silver content of ores can be recovered by smelting at a cost of $4 to $4 50, gold, per ton In Mexico we all know that the use of powerful pumping machinery, of high explosives, air-drills, and improved methods of ore-extraction, the establishment of smelters, and the building of international railways, have rendered possible the operation of mines which baffled the energy and resources of miners no longer than a quarter of a century ago. But many of these factors, particularly the improvements in mining as distinguished from metallurgical processes, while increasing the supply of silver far beyond the immediate capacity of the commercial world to absorb it, have brought the great silver-producing regions to within a measurable distance of exhaustion. We know of no estimate of the probable duration of the silver deposits of the world at the present rate of production, but that we are not venturing a wild assertion in prophecying the rapid working out of many silver mines as proved by actual events. In the United States not a few mines have been exhausted in two or three years which under the old methods would have lasted for centuries. An American newspaper recently gave a list of several once famous western mines that have been completely worked out and abandoned. The present silver crisis, then, is due mainly to the hastening of production. The output which under the old methods would have been spread over centuries has been crowded into a few years. But as time goes on, and allowing for the increased consumption of silver in the arts and the losses from shipwrecks, fires, and ordinary wear, the world will assimilate the present excess of supply, and as many of the more paying properties will then be exhausted, capital and labour will have to go into poorer mines, with a consequent advance in the price of the product. The friends of silver may derive some consolation by reflecting on the probable healing action of the very cause that now works such wide-spread distress. —*Mexican Financier.*

THE YOKOHAMA GAS WORKS.

The Yokohama City Assembly held a meeting on the 1st instant in the hall of the Boyeki-Shokai, to consult together on matters pertaining to the Gas Works. Mr. Watanabe, Chairman of the Assembly was in the chair. Fourteen members attended the meeting and discussed the question of extension. They voted 40,000 *yen* and a fraction, towards the expense of rebuilding the office, the addition of plant, and other matters considered requisite for the improvement and extension of the works. The estimated income and outlay for the current year has been fixed at 30,690 *yen*. It was decided to appoint a Committee to inquire into the settlement of last year's accounts, and to hold a meeting after the report of the Committee has been prepared. The meeting then closed.

SUDDEN DEATH OF "HERO."

This fine race pony, says the *Shanghai Mercury* of November 4th, died suddenly to-day, from what has been pronounced to have been an attack of colic. He became ill about 7 o'clock last evening, and Dr. Whitney was at once sent for, but although everything possible was done for him, the owner, the veterinary surgeon and Mr. Dallas, the only jockey who ever rode him in a race, remaining up all night with him, he died at 11.30 to day. The news created the most intense excitement amongst racing men and very sincere sympathy will be felt with the pony's owner, Mr. Sassoon. Hero won 21 races in all, and was only defeated twice, the first time at the Spring meeting of 1892, and again at the late Shanghai meeting. He began his career at the Spring meeting of 1890.

THE HOKKAIDO ASSOCIATION.

The Hokkaido Association, organized for the purpose of advancing the interests of the island, held its general meeting on the 4th instant at the Fujimiken, Fujimicho, Tokyo, Prince Konoye, President of the Association, in the chair. Marquis Tokugawa, Vice-President, Baron Ozawa, Messrs. Shimizu, Inada, Iwaya, managers; Prince Nijyo, Messrs. Murata and Uchi, councillors, of the Association, and over fifty ordinary members attended. The Bill relating to the amendment of the bye-laws of the association was first introduced and decided upon as originally drafted. It was to reduce the yearly contributions of a member from 6 to 3 *yen*, to have a Prince of the Blood over the President to act as Superintendent, to appoint local committees in the respective districts, and other minor points of detail. This part of the business ended, the President announced that, respecting their application to the Board of Hokkaido as to the reduction of fares for emigrants on railways owned by the Government, a reply had been received to the effect that emigrants and their personal effects, and implements needed in farming and fishery, would be carried at a reduction of 25 per cent. upon the usual charges. The regular business of the meeting ended, the members adjourned to another room for dinner, in the course of which several speeches were delivered. It was agreed to hold a public meeting before long, in order to enlist members and to draw the attention of the public to the affairs of Hokkaido. The meeting broke up, after appointing several new councillors.

"THE VIRGIN'S VENGEANCE"

This is the name of a book just published at the Shueisha Printing Office, and bearing the sub-title of "An Old Story in its True Guise." It is a theological protest under the veil of a political skit, the scene of which is laid in London in the twentieth century. Those who remember Carlyle's deep-seated anxiety for "an exodus from Houndsditch" will see at a glance the idea which underlies the story. On the title-page are two mottoes; one taken from Hebrew sources, the other from Greek. The former runs as follows:—

"And the Lord said unto Moses, When thou goest to return into Egypt, see that thou do all these wonders before Pharaoh, which I have put in thy hand; but *I will harden his heart*, and he shall not let the people go."

The Greek is from Plato:—

"When I am told these stories of the Gods, I cannot bear them without pain."

The brochure is procurable from Messrs. Goodenough & Co., Yokohama, and the Shueisha Printing Office, Kyobashi, Tokyo.

AZUMA YAMA.

A local correspondent of the *Yomiuri Shimbun* reports that Azuma-yama, in Fukushima Prefecture, commenced to emit rumbling sounds about a quarter past four o'clock in the afternoon of the 9th inst A little over two hours later a violent shock of earthquake was felt. Azuma is now emitting dark smoke.

* * *

A telegraphic message concerning the same volcano received by the *Asahi Shimbun* says that Azuma has broken into eruption, and is emitting dark smoke. The eruption is supposed to have taken place near the Nuru-yu spring

NEWCHWANG.

Messrs. Bandinel in their circular dated 21st October, say:—Our last report was dated 14th ult. Large quantities of Beans are coming in daily, but prices are well maintained, and we don't think they will fall much until just at the end. We quote Beancakes, per 10 piculs, Taels 4.55; Bean-oil. per picul, Taels 3.90; Beans, per 3

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piculs, Taels 3 70. Vessels in port, *W. Siegfried Valkyrien, Contest, Rewa, Sylphiden, Elisabeth, Kweilin, Nanyang, Kaifong, Victoria, Presto, Albert, Aiwine Seyd.* Arrivals to date number 263 steamers and 26 sailers, against 299 steamers and 32 sailers last year; and 60 steamers and 20 sailers are expected to load here within the next few weeks. Navigation will probably close about 23rd November.

LI HUNG-CHANG'S SONS.

We hear, says the *N. C. Daily News*, that H.E. Li Hung-chang has deputed his second son to help in the reorganisation of the recently burnt Cotton Cloth Mills at Yangtzepoo, and that this gentleman arrived on Sunday. We believe that the gentleman in question is Mr. Li Chung-pang, really the *eldest* son of the Viceroy Li, by the late Countess, but who is termed *second* son, owing to His Excellency having adopted one of his brother's sons many years ago, having no sons of his own at the time. The so-termed eldest son is the gentleman who is generally styled Lord Li Chung-fang, ex-Minister to Japan

FRIENDS AT HOME.

The date is drawing very close on which cards to friends at home must be dispatched if they are to arrive before Christmas Day. We are reminded of this fact by the receipt from Messrs. Kelly & Walsh of a choice selection of Christmas cards in a variety of styles—neatly mounted miniature kakemono, delightful bits of Japanese scenery in water colours beautifully painted, pretty snow scenes, and so forth. But the selection is far too numerous to refer to in detail, and all we can do is to recommend a visit to Messrs. Kelly & Walsh's establishment, where the only difficulty will be to decide which is the prettiest of a prodigality of pretty things.

A CYCLONE'S RAVAGES.

At the Philadelphia Maritime Exchange, on October 2nd, it was stated that the August hurricane was the most destructive in the history of the country. The marine underwriters value the property loss to sailing vessels alone at over $4,000,000. The loss of life is placed at 564. Forty vessels foundered, carrying everything to the bottom. Five are still missing, 18 were abandoned at sea, 46 stranded, 13 damaged and the fate of 19 is unknown. The Atlantic coast, from Maine to North Carolina, is in a dangerous condition on account of floating derelicts.

NEW ORIENTAL BANKING CORPORATION, LTD. V. A. M. APCAR.

This case came up for hearing on Tuesday afternoon on an order for a re-hearing from the Tyo Appeal Court. The claim was for $195.46 with interest at the rate of 8 per cent per annum and costs, to which defendant took exception. The same arguments as were made at the first hearing were again urged by Counsel, it being finally agreed by the Judges that Mr. Dald Fraser be called before the Court to give evidence. Mr. Masujima represented the plaintiff and Mr. Sawada the defendant.

JUAN FERNANDEZ.

Is not generally known (says the *Melbourne Age*) that Juan Fernandez—the island on which Alexander Selkirk, the Robinson Crusoe of romance, lived for so many years—is at the present time inhabited. Two valleys winding down from different directions, join a short distance back from the shore, and here now stands a native village of small huts scattered round a long low one-storied building with a verandah running its whole length. In this house lives the man who rents the island from the Chilian Government, and the village is made up of a few Germans and Chilian families.

FIRE ON THE BLUFF.

About half-past twelve o'clock on Monday, fire broke out in an out-house situate on the compound of a gardener, Uhei by name, at No. 1 Takamura, Yokohama. The alarm was quickly raised, and being readily answered the fire was confined to the building where it originated, but a large quantity of dried rush, valued at about *yen* 300 in all, was damaged. The conflagration is said to have been caused by hot tobacco ashes thrown down by some workmen, and two of the men have been handed over to the police on suspicion.

PARLIAMENTARY ELECTION IN MIYAGI PREFECTURE.

A telegram from Sendai, dated the 4th inst., and received by the *Asashi Shimbun*, states that the election of a representative in the Lower House for the Fifth District of that Prefecture has resulted in the return of Mr Shudo Rikazo, a *Kaishin-to* candidate, who obtained 468 votes against 321 for cast his rival, Mr. Izawa Sakuji, a Radical.

* * *

Another message from the same town announces that a serious fight took place on the 3rd inst. at Shiogama between the *Jiyu-to* and the *Kaishin-to soshi*, and Mr. Saito Keiji, M.P., was slightly wounded during the disturbance.

THE U.S.S. "CONCORD."

The U.S. cruiser *Concord* arrived at Hongkong on the 30th ult. from Saigon and exchanged the usual salutes. She is a vessel of 1,700 tons, and carries six guns. She left South America on July 3rd, bound for China, calling at Gibraltar, Malta, Suez, Perim, Penang, Singapore, Bangkok, and Saigon. The following is a list of her officers:—Commander Goodrich, Lieutenants Sherriam, Hogg, Cottman, Leiper, Johnston, Twining, Chief Engineer Scott, Second Engineer Norton, Third Engineer Patton, Dr. McClurg, Paymaster Smith.

DECORATIONS.

Mr. H. Z. Wheeler, Appraiser in the Yokohama Custom House, and Hauptman Gustav Ritter von Kreitner, Austro-Hungarian Consul at Yokohama, have had conferred on them by the Emperor of Japan decorations of the Third Class Order of the Mirror. Mr. E. Edler von Hirch, Austro-Hungarian Vice-Consul at Yokohama, has received a decoration of the Fifth Class Order of the Rising Sun.

THE BRITISH SQUADRON.

H.M. Ships *Alacrity* with Admiral Freemantle, *Caroline*, and *Porpoise* will be at Shanghai during the Jubilee, and probably the *Archer*; while the *Severn* will be at Woosung, and will perhaps come up to the Settlement. Admiral Fremantle is at present at Chemulpo with H.M.S. *Alacrity*. The *Rattler* left Shanghai on November 2nd for Port Hamilton, but returns to Shanghai The *Firebrand* arrived at Tientsin for the winter on November 1st. The *Leander* was due at Woosung on November 3rd.

COLONEL TCHENG KI TONG.

A private letter from Tientsin, quoted by the *N. C. Daily News* states that H.E. Li Hung chang has appointed Colonel Tchêng Ki-tong, formerly military *attaché* at Paris, but now one of the deputies of the Tientsin Bureau of Foreign Affairs and an expectant Colonel of Fukien, to be one of the examiners of the repairs that have been recently done to the banks of the Grand Canal, near Tsungchow and Yungting, after the damage caused by the overflow of the Yungting river last summer

SINGAPORE INSURANCE COMPANY.

The liquidators of the Singapore Insurance Company have declared a further dividend of $7½ per share, payable on December 1st, making a total amount payable of $16½. Considering the liquidation was not taken in hand till December last year this result must be considered extremely satisfactory. We understand also that a reserve sufficiently large to meet any contingencies has been retained.—*Free Press.*

A BIG TANKER.

A new oil tank steamship, said to be the biggest in the world, lately arrived at New York and was towed to the Bayonne oil docks of the Standard Oil Company to load. She is the *Batoum* under the command of Captain Luckham. She came from Hamburg and made the trip over in 12 days 6 hours. She is of 4,053 tons burden and will carry 2,700,000 gallons of oil, or 70,000 barrels in bulk. This is 80,000 gallons more than the next largest vessel of her classes afloat. She was built by Lang of Sunderland and cost $500,000.

ISSAIKYO-ZAN AGAIN ACTIVE.

A telegram from Fukushima received in the capital states that Issaikyo-zan, in the Shinobu District of that Prefecture, commenced to rumble on the 9th inst. at 11 a.m., and emitted louder sounds at 6.35. At 2.18 and 3.04 the following morning somewhat lengthy and loud rumblings were heard. According to investigations made from a distant place, a breach is likely to have occurred near the crater made by the last eruption. No loss of life has yet been reported.

OFFICIAL APPOINTMENTS.

It is gazetted that Mr. Suyematsu, Chief Commissioner of the Legislative Bureau, has received the additional appointment of Chief Commissioner of the Pension Bureau, Mr. Den has been appointed Chief Commissioner of the Correspondence Bureau, and Mr. Hara Chief Commissioner of the Trade Bureau, while Mr. Sone has been promoted Chief Commissioner of the National Debt Bureau, Mr. Hasegawa Tameharu being made Director of the Osaka Mint.

SHANGHAI RACES.

The Shanghai meeting took place on the 30th and 31st October and 1st November, the races being fairly evenly divided, Mr. Sassoon winning 5, Mr. Ring 5, Mr. John Peel 4, Mr. Trebau 4, Mr. Uto 2, Mr. Josser 2, and Messrs. Robson, Toeg, Buxey, Gilbert, and Renny one apiece. In the Shanghai Stakes Hero was beaten by Vagrant and Bovril, but the race must have been falsely run.

MARQUIS NABESHIMA AND HIS CLANSMEN.

On Friday last Marquis Nabeshima held open house for all members of the *Samurai* class belonging to his clan. The invitations were public, and there was good cheer, a kindly welcome, and pleasant music for all comers. His lordship, who was Prince of Hizen prior to the Restoration, is, we believe, the first man in his position to celebrate the birthday of the Emperor in this genial and appropriate manner.

THE OKAYAMA INUNDATIONS.

A very charming concert is to be given at the Central Tabernacle, Hongo, at 5 p.m. on the 11th inst., in aid of sufferers from this disaster. We have seen the programme, which is a most excellent one. Mrs. Nagahara (famous for classical Chinese music), Mr. Araki Kodo (the celebrated flautist) and other artists of eminence have kindly consented to perform.

THE OPEN AIR CONCERT AT THE KORAKUYEN.

We are asked to remind our readers of this attractive fête, already mentioned in our columns. It comes off on the 11th inst., or in case of bad weather on that day, on the 12th. Good music in so beautiful a garden as the Korakuyen ought to bring a large concourse of people together.

OKAYAMA INUNDATION FUND.

The last list we published amounted to $108.00. Received since:

F. Hardcastle, Esq.	$10.00
Mrs. Batchelor, Sapporo	5.00
The Ladies of the Kofu School	10.00
Mrs. Sharland, Shimonoseki...	4.00

MR SAITO RESIGNS.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, says that Mr. Saito, Vice-Minister for Agriculture and Commerce, sent in his resignation on the 6th inst.

MR ISHI'S ORPHANAGE.

We beg to acknowledge the sum of $3.50 from Mrs. Sharland, Shimonoseki, for Mr. Ishi's Orphanage at Yokohama.

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THE "CHISHIMA-RAVENNA" APPEAL CASE.

WE presume it may be accepted as a foregone conclusion that a further appeal will be made to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council against the judgment of the Supreme Court in the *Chishima-Revenna* case, and the matter being therefore still to some extent *sub judice* is not a subject for press criticism. We shall accordingly abstain from comment on the questions involved in it; but its great importance induces us to the belief that a summary of those questions may be of interest, and facilitate the appreciation of the exhaustive and able judgments delivered by the two Judges. Cases in which, looking merely to the pecuniary point, larger amounts have been involved have, especially in Admiralty, heretofore come before the Supreme Court; but our recollection, which extends over almost the entire period of the Court's existence, fails to enable us to recall any in which the solution of more important principles was at stake or which was argued before the Court by a bar approaching in any way the strength or eminence of that which appeared on the present occasion. The final decision on these principles by the Highest Court of Appeal in England may, in the future, constitute one of the most prominent landmarks in the history of the international relations of England and Japan and of the administration of justice in HER MAJESTY'S Courts in the East.

The case arose out of an application made by the Peninsular & Oriental Steamship Company for leave to file a counter-claim against the plaintiff, the Emperor of JAPAN, in an action laid against them for the loss of one of his ships of war by collision with one of their vessels, and also for an order that the plaintiff should deposit security for costs and for the satisfaction of any judgment against him on the counter-claim. At the original hearing in HER MAJESTY'S Court for Japan, this application was resisted by the plaintiffs on four grounds: 1—That the particular rule of the Court, under which it was made, did not apply to any foreign plaintiff: 2—that, even if applicable to foreigners generally, Japanese were excluded from its operation by the terms of the treaty between England and Japan: 3—that the Emperor of JAPAN, possessing sovereign rights in the Court established, as it was, within the limits of his dominions, enjoyed the same immunity from its jurisdiction as the Queen of ENGLAND; and 4—that, failing the admission of the latter principle, the law to be applied to the case was, in accordance with one of the elementary principles of the English law of torts, that of Japan, within whose territorial waters the collision occurred, and as according to Japanese law the EMPEROR was entirely irresponsible for all acts of his servants, no remedy was provided in such a case as the present, and the English Court was therefore powerless in it. No decision was given on the first two grounds, it being held that, whatever view the Court might take of the application of the rule to foreigners of any nationality, the Emperor of JAPAN was excluded from it by the definition of a foreigner contained in the third section of the Order in Council. On the third, it was laid down in the strongest terms that the Emperor of JAPAN possessed no sovereign rights in the Court; but on the fourth, the decision was entirely in the plaintiff's favour. The defendants' application was accordingly refused, and against this refusal the appeal followed to the Supreme Court at Shanghai.

It may be well here to correct a misapprehension, which may possibly have been caused by the order in which the names of the counsel who appeared on behalf of the defendants and appellants are given in the published reports of the hearing at Shanghai. Mr. FRANCIS'S name is first mentioned, and as one of HER MAJESTY'S Counsel it might be assumed that, as such, he took precedence of his colleague. But that gentleman is a Queen's Counsel only within the limits of the colony at Hongkong. In HER MAJESTY'S Courts for China and Japan, he appears as an ordinary barrister, and being junior as such to Mr. LOWDER, it was the latter who led the appellants' case throughout the hearing. On the other side, Mr. WILKINSON, taking precedence of all barristers in China and Japan by virtue of his office as Crown Advocate, led, irrespective of his seniority at the bar, though we believe he has, as a matter of fact, considerable advantage of Mr. KIRKWOOD in that respect. The appellants' case was argued at great length by the two learned gentlemen first named. They maintained that the collision occurred on the high sea, taking the term in the strictly technical sense that everywhere it begins at low water mark, as distinct from the sense commonly given to it in the language of diplomacy and international law; that even admitting that the collision did not occur on the high sea, a counter-claim would still lie against the plaintiff, unless it could be shown, which was not and could not be attempted, that all ship-owners enjoyed by Japanese law absolute immunity for the torts of their servants in Japanese territory that was claimed by the EMPEROR. On the latter point the arguments were principally addressed to showing that though the SOVEREIGN might be exempt from an original action, a counter-claim was quite a different thing, that the latter was really a defence and part of the procedure; and that as such, the question as to whether it might or might not be entertained was to be decided by the *lex fori*, the law administered in the Court in which the original action was brought, to the exclusion of the *lex loci*, the law of the country in which the breach of contract or the tort giving rise to the action occurred; that the EMPEROR in seeking the assistance of HER MAJESTY'S Court in this instance had submitted to all the disabilities to which any suitor would have been liable, and that he could ask for nothing more than would be granted to another suitor in the Court. The Counsel for the plaintiffs and respondents, on the other hand, contended that territorial or exclusive jurisdiction extended not only to all waters within the three-mile limit, but to all enclosed waters such as the Inland Sea of Japan; that, irrespective of the Imperial status of the plaintiff in the present case, it had never been the practice and was entirely beyond the capacity of HER MAJESTY'S Court in Japan to entertain counter-claims against even ordinary Japanese suitors; that the jurisdiction of that Court was strictly limited to what was granted or delegated to the QUEEN by Treaty; and that the limits of that grant were the trial of claims against HER MAJESTY'S own subjects.

The Judgment of the Supreme Court is well worthy of the importance of the case. Both Judges were in accord in their decision on all points, though basing them on somewhat different grounds. As to the first point urged by the appellants, which was also the corner-stone of the Judgment of the lower Court, they find that the Inland Sea of Japan does not constitute Japanese territory so as to impose Japanese law upon all vessels passing through it; that it is part of the maritime highway of all nations, and therefore the high sea; that the law applicable to the present case is accordingly the Law Maritime and not the local law of Japan. The leading cases on which the Judges relied in coming to their decision were those of the *Saxonia*, in which a collision occurred between a German mail steamer and an English sailing vessel far up the Solent and close to the shores of the Isle of Wight; and of the *Franconia*, also a German mail steamer, which ran down and sank an English sailing ship, the *Strathclyde*, anchored in Dover, also close to the shore. The first appears to be much the stronger of the two cases in the plaintiff's favour, as it lays down that the collision occurred in a place where a foreign vessel had a right to be without being bound by any of the provisions of the statutes enacted to govern British ships. The proposition deduced by the Assistant Judge from the *Franconia* case seem to be somewhat in conflict with this ruling, as they assume that while jurisdiction over foreigners passing within the three-mile limit cannot be exercised without special legislation, every nation has the right to legislate so as to govern such cases. The discrepancy does not, however, affect the present case. No evidence was given of any Japanese legislation on the particular subject, and the limitation of the *Franconia* case did not therefore apply. The finding so far

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was in itself sufficient to cause the reversal of the judgment of the lower Court. There remained, however, consideration of the points on which no decision was given by Mr. MOWAT, whether a counter-claim can under any circumstances be entertained against a Japanese plaintiff, and if so whether the latter can be ordered to deposit security for the satisfaction of the counter-claim. Both these questions have been answered in the affirmative by the Judges, after an exhaustive examination of the Clauses of the Treaty, of the Orders in Council, and of the Rules of Practice in HER MAJESTY'S Courts in China and Japan framed under those Orders in Council. It is found that the Rules of Practice confer upon the Judges a discretionary power to permit the filing of counter-claims against, and to order the deposit of security from, all plaintiffs; that these Rules are not in conflict with the Provisions of the Treaty, which provide that cases shall be decided equitably; and that this being pre-eminently a case in which the relief asked would be granted in the Admiralty Court in England, so it must be in HER MAJESTY'S Vice-Admiralty Court in China and Japan. The judgment is thus entirely in favour of the defendants and appellants on all points, though in the almost certain event of a further appeal the only immediate practical benefit to them will be the deposit of security for all costs hitherto incurred by them, and for the prospective costs of the appeal. We should gladly conclude here, were it not our duty to refer to one point raised by Counsel for the respondents on which we have not hitherto touched; that which at the hearing drew from the Chief Justice the ironical compliments he offered to the Japanese Government and their legal advisers upon the astute way in which they appeared to have given the defendants an advantage while they really placed them in a very much less favourable position. On the occurrence of the collision it was entirely within the competence of the plaintiffs to have demanded the arrest of the defendants' vessel, and her detention in custody until substantial and adequate security was given for the satisfaction of all claims that the plaintiffs might ultimately establish against her owners. But the Japanese Government seemed to recognise that they were dealing with the greatest commercial company in England —possibly the greatest in the world—and an offer was made by them to accept the mere written undertaking of the Company's agent that an appearance would be entered to the action and such damages as might be awarded paid. This undertaking was given in the confident belief that it was all the security required or desired by the plaintiffs, and in their full and well-founded faith that it could ultimately if necessary be legally enforced and fully satisfied by the defendants even a score of times over. On the other hand, a similar undertaking was given by the plaintiffs, with, however, the important (but, under the circumstances, perfectly reasonable) qualification "subject to the existence of any right to counter claim and to demand security therefor." Each side thus "pledged its word to the other to abide by the decision of the Court;" notwithstanding which, an attempt was made by one of the plaintiffs' Counsel to escape from this pledge by a purely legal quibble under the Rules of the High Court of Admiralty. Of this endeavour to avoid an obligation voluntarily entered into, it is, in the very moderate language of the defendants' Counsel, difficult to speak in terms that are at once courteous and respectful, and that fairly designate its nature. We cannot sufficiently express our regret that in a trial of this importance, every word of which will be eagerly studied by Japanese practitioners, an English barrister, holding a very prominent position in this country, should have advanced such a defence on behalf of the most illustrious client that he could possibly have, or that the Crown Advocate, the leader of the English Bar in China and Japan, should have appeared to countenance it even by his silence. The members of the Bar in England form one of the proudest societies on earth. They have from time immemorial been jealous to a degree of their professional honour, and of the etiquette in practice and in pleading that has been established by long custom, and the very rare infractions of either are invariably visited with the severest professional penalties. Members of the profession whose practice lies in HER MAJESTY'S Courts in China and Japan, remembering that the eyes of the entire body of native legal practitioners are upon them—that they are, or may be, taken as models by those practitioners—ought willingly and proudly to follow the same high standard of upright and straightforward dealing with their opponents that would be rigorously enforced by their compeers in England; and always to offer the example of an English barrister at his best, not that of a pettifogging attorney at his worst. At a dinner given to the distinguished French advocate, M. BERRY, Lord COCKBURN, who presided, said:—"It is the duty of the barrister to look to nothing but his client's interests, and to use every available argument in his favour; but it is still more his duty to be careful always to fight with the sword of the knight, * * * *"—we will not finish the quotation; but we do say most emphatically that, in raising and holding by the one particular point which we have mentioned, the weapon of the plaintiff's Counsel seems to us to have been not the sword of the knight, and his use of it constitutes the only blot that lies upon a case, the whole conduct of which otherwise reflects the highest credit on everyone therein engaged.

ECONOMIC THEORY AND BIMETALLISM.

IN the September number of the *Popular Science Monthly*, Professor F. W TAUSSIG, an authority on American monetary matters, contributes an article on the interesting topic, Why silver ceases to be money. His discussion of this question is eminently fair, though his conclusions are somewhat uncertain and fragmentary, but coming as it does from one who has hitherto been counted within the ranks of the orthodox school of economists his article makes an extraordinary number of admissions. The present world-wide discussion of bimetallism will certainly result in giving us a better conception of the meaning and purpose of economic laws.

Professor TAUSSIG very properly begins his article with a discussion of the fundamental difference that separates the monometallists from the bimetallists, whether, namely, economic phenomena are wholly controlled by laws, or whether they can to a greater or less extent be affected by human agency and especially by legislation. For instance, the monometallist M. PASSY says:—"To desire, in spite of the fluctuations in the values of gold and silver arising from supply and demand, to maintain the old ratio is to desire to do violence to nature," and he concludes with an eloquent defence of natural laws in the field of economics. Professor TAUSSIG, however, throws overboard this whole contention of the monometallists. "Thirty years ago," he writes, "it was held that the general rate of wages was governed by natural laws, prices were determined by natural laws which combinations and speculators could not violate with impunity, monetary phenomena were subject to like unalterable conditions. The value of the precious metals, like that of other commodities, was determined only by their cost of production, and legislative action seeking to regulate their value and bring about their concurrent circulation must of necessity be futile."

He then frankly confesses that this view is no longer tenable and has been discarded by nearly every economist. "Even those who appeal with confidence to economic laws must admit that their operation is in many ways unlike that of physical laws. They are stated to be tendencies; they are conclusions hypothetically true, or true only in the long run. Legislation as affecting human volition is admitted to be not the least of the forces that affect human volition." With regard to money, he then comes to the following conclusion, which will certainly not prove pleasant reading to the old school monometallist. "Looking to specie alone, it is clear that convention and legislation are at least the immediate cause of its high value. If gold ceased to be used as money, and if all the gold in the world were to be used in the arts only, it is beyond question that

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its value would fall and would remain low, for an indefinite time to come; while a great and sudden extension in the use of gold for monetary purposes, such as legislation might conceivably bring about, would quickly raise its value."

In the last sentence lies the whole argument of the bimetallist that gold has appreciated and silver depreciated in value during the last twenty years. Professor TAUSSIG also specifically says with regard to the demonetizing legislation since 1873: "Germany gave up the use of silver in 1873. The United States dropped silver from her list of coins in the same year. France and the Latin Union virtually closed their mints to the free coinage of silver in 1874. Italy and Austria in resuming specie payments, the one in 1883 the other in 1893, refused to adopt any but a gold standard. If in all these countries silver had been freely coined, the price undoubtedly would not have fallen so much, and the objection to its use from the fall in its price would certainly be much less strong than it is. Indeed, there would have been little fall, if any, in the gold price of silver if the mints of all those countries had remained open to silver as they were in 1870."

So far the essay is clear and admirable; it is only when he comes to consider future action that the author hesitates to take a definite stand. This is all the more regrettable inasmuch as he does not doubt the possibility of a practicable bimetallism if only international agreement were secured. "An agreement," he says "of the great countries, such as England, France, Germany, and the United States, for the free coinage of silver at a fixed ratio with gold, would undoubtedly absorb much silver, would clear the market of heavy stocks, and would raise the price of silver in terms of gold to the point fixed by the international ratio. Such an agreement could hardly fail to bring about the concurrent circulation of gold and silver in the contracting countries, and to establish a real and effective bimetallism."

If all this is true (and who can longer doubt it?) why does not the author advocate international agreement as the only escape from the present situation? Because he finds as yet, in the present condition of things, but little to complain of. "Hitherto, the adoption of the gold standard, the drift toward restricting silver to use as a *quasi* subsidiary coin, have not worked ill." Here we cannot follow the conclusions of the writer. We see all countries of Europe and America in a state of extreme depression. Trade between the East and West is in a condition bordering upon anarchy. Large numbers of men, through no fault of their own, have lost their fortunes. India is in a state of panic, and yet "we find on the whole little to complain of." It is undoubtedly difficult for men who are removed from affairs, living on salaries, not accustomed to the rough and tumble of life, it is difficult for them to weigh all the evils arising from a wrong monetary policy; yet it is hard to see how the situation of countries could be worse than it is, or what more evidence is necessary to demonstrate the evils of gold monometallism. Universal bankruptcy is probably an impossibility, but something short of this nearly all Western countries have experienced in the last three years.

But though the writer may fail in his observation, his logic is never weak, and even in his diagnosis of the future of gold he gives the gold monometallist no hope. "The supply of gold," he says, "available for monetary use is not likely to increase rapidly in the future. The production of gold has been nearly stationary for the past twenty years. In the last two or three years an upward movement has appeared; it remains to be seen, however, whether any permanent advance will be maintained. The use of gold in the arts is apparently increasing, and is likely to continue to increase; and it absorbs a growing part of the annual supply. Meanwhile, the wealth and population of civilized countries are rapidly advancing. If stability in money is to be secured, some steady increase in their circulating medium must be provided for. If we regard gold coin alone, and consider the development of the currency to be limited to the coin or to be in exact proportion to the coin, the situation may be fairly described as ominous. There would be ground for saying, as men of science have recently done,* that eventually the gold standard will become untenable, and that silver will force its way into use side by side with gold, if not to the exclusion of gold."

THE COMING MECHANICAL POWER.

IT is now evident that one of the most perplexing problems confronting the industrial and commercial progress of mankind for a long time past, has reached a triumphant solution. There has been for the world an age of steam in which there was an advance in material production and manufacture, extension and speed of interchange of commodities and of human intercourse, such as could hardly have been dreamed of only a century ago. Yet to every well informed person the portentous fact has been steadily becoming clearer that the mechanical power upon which the present age has been dependent must fail in the near future, through the inevitable exhaustion of the sources from which it has been drawn. The world's stores of fuel, of wood, of petroleum, and of coal, are known to be limited, and the times when their limits will be reached are already in sight. How the coming man is to continue the splendid era of material achievement which the present man has initiated, has consequently been a question of profound moment to all who have speculated upon the human future. At last the answer has been given, and given in such a form that we know not only that there is to be no arrest of recent development, but that present progress may continue with an increase of means and results as much greater than those we now see, as these are greater than the power and work of the ages gone. The force of falling water transformed into electricity holds the solution to the great mechanical problem. As long as this world is able to support human life, so long, and longer, will rains fall, cataracts plunge downward from mountain heights, rivers course to the seas, and the seas rise and fall with tides and beat their shores with waves. The cunning human brain now knows how to turn this inexhaustible water-power into the mightiest force so far subjected to human use, and to send it, almost in its original might, more than a hundred miles away to do a myriad works in man's service. In other words, it is the fact that not only has electricity been made to do all the things which steam has been doing in human industry, and much more, but that the discovery of long-distance transmission of great electric energy makes possible the use of hitherto useless and immeasurable masses of flowing water. Electricity for some time, by means of ordinary fuel, has been applied to scores of industrial, commercial, and domestic uses. As a motive power it drives all sorts of machinery, in factories, in boats, on railways and even on the ordinary rural highways; it is in common service among civilized peoples for lighting streets, houses, lighthouses, mines, submarine depths, with a steadiness and brilliancy never before known; it is beginning to replace stoves and furnaces for the purposes of heating houses, railway cars, and the like; in the telegraph, telephone, and the quick transmission of intelligence it leads every other agency; and more than this, as we see recorded in a recent journal from America: "Cooking by electricity is now an assured fact. In several club-houses in the West, and also in quite a number of private residences, it has been introduced most successfully. The meats broiled by the process are so quickly cooked that there is little chance for them to lose their flavour, or their juice either, and they are for that reason almost perfectly cooked. All sorts of utensils and apparatus are now manufactured for convenience in electric cooking, as the visitor to the Electricity Building at the World's Fair will discover when he or she sees the tea-kettles, coffee-pots, saucepans, broilers, chafing-dishes, etc., which are there on exhibition. The electric oven is an admirable invention, fitted with a glass

* See *Die Zukunft des Silbers*, by Eduard Suess. Vienna, 1892. (An interesting book by one of the greatest authorities on geology and mining. He comes to the conclusion that gold must be discarded as money and silver substituted, as gold mines are gradually disappearing.—ED. *J. M.*)

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door, so that it is unnecessary to open it while the cooking is in progress, and a thermometer attached shows the exact degree of heat in use. The ovens do not heat the place where they are used, as they are of Russian iron lined with wood and ashes, thus preventing radiation. They are lighted by incandescent lamps. Electric flat-irons that one may iron with all day long are also to be had. Surely nothing more complete or convenient than this would be desired. It is almost absolutely perfect in arrangement and operation." Should this tell the whole story of course it would tell much and make the prospect for human comfort and wealth very bright. But the shadow of future failure would remain over the prospect so long as this excellence depended upon the use of the world's now rapidly diminishing stores of fuel. This shadow, however, for mankind as a whole is now dispelled. The ceaseless downpour of water and the restless sea, assure man that all he has gained from electricity shall remain his, and that they will continue to meet the demands of his maturing invention. In the United States, where the application of electricity to industry, commerce, and other regions of social activity has been carried farther than in any other part of the world: already preparations on a grand scale have been made to take advantage of this new conquest of nature A large number of waterfalls, many of which had been neglected after the introduction of steam power, are now being used to drive the improved turbine wheels from which come large supplies of electric force. Numerous towns and country districts have turned the wasting energy of cascades and streams into their machinery and homes. Especially noteworthy is the coming diversion of part of the stupendous force of Niagara Falls through turbine and dynamo into the industries of the city of Buffalo twenty miles away, and of other neighbouring communities. It is said that in the United States alone are more than two hundred millions of horse-power in utilizable falling streams, of which as yet not more than two per cent. has been taken into service. In view of all this, then, what a great future awaits those parts of the world where water-power abounds. For Japan what possibilities are in store! There is no land of equal area, in which more, or more accessible, reservoirs, of the coming mechanical power exist than here. Other lands may lose their coal, forests, and natural oil; Japan's coal beds may be gone within a century hence; but the torrents falling from the mountain heights here will continue for ages. There is no reason, other things being equal, that the industrial means of this country should not equal those of any land on the globe, and that the comfort and prosperity of its people should not advance as far as the largest ambition may reach. With the facts recently disclosed, then, mankind have been emancipated from the doubts which have long been cast over the world's industrial future. With the passing of the age of steam, the electric age has come, and it has come accompanied by the appropriation of sources of force in the world's water-power which, unlike the sources of mechanical power in the past, will remain as long as mankind shall endure. In the struggle for existence man has in the last decade thus made his greatest conquest, and assured for the race the most abundant comfort and power.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom].

A CRY OF NEED.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—The severe storm which so recently swept over this empire, causing great loss of life and property, was probably more destructive in this ken than in any other. The aspect of the country immediately after the storm was frightful; hundreds of houses were demolished, immense areas of rice fields completely ruined, giant trees torn out by their roots, and wreckage everywhere. The following is a statement of the damage, taken from the official statistics: People killed by falling houses nineteen. Seriously wounded, forty-one. Drowned, forty four, with one hundred and twenty eight unaccounted for. Four thousand eight hundred and thirty dwelling houses were utterly ruined, while three thousand eight hundred and seventy two were badly damaged, but can be repaired. Besides dwellings, about five thousand storehouses were demolished, and many more injured. A large number of junks and small vessels were lost. Thirty-seven thousand rice plots were entirely ruined and many others badly damaged. All of this destruction occurred in Saga Ken. The people are in need of help. Not only are thousands of them homeless now, but winter is coming on and they are unable to rebuild their houses. Some are also suffering for want of food and clothing. Some benevolently inclined Japanese gentlemen in this city have organized a society for the relief of the unfortunates and are now soliciting aid from their own people in Tokyo, Kyoto, Kobe, and other prominent cities of the empire. I have been requested by them to make an appeal through the *Japan Mail* to the foreign residents to assist in this good cause. In matters of this kind racial differences should be forgotten and we should all unite in giving needed assistance to suffering humanity. I am convinced that all monies given will be wisely and judiciously used. Any sum whatever will be very welcome. Send contributions to me, and I will deliver them to the proper authorities.

I have simply stated the facts of the case thinking that they themselves will be sufficient to ensure aid.

Yours, &c., R. B. PEERY.

Saga, Kyushu, October 30th, 1893.

YOKOHAMA POST OFFICE.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—I sincerely thank you for publishing, and Mr. Unagami, Director of the Yokohama Post and Telegraph Office, for replying to my note of the 17th ult., complaining of the fact that for a couple of months our printed mail matter has regularly reached us about ten hours in advance of our letters. I gratefully accept Mr. Unagami's note as an indication that he regards the state of things reported by me as something which calls for remedy, and I hereby respectfully solicit his aid in securing that remedy.

However promptly these mails may have been dispatched from Yokohama, there can be no question as to the fact that the letters are regularly delivered to us eight or ten hours after the printed matter, as a score of witnesses will testify. Furthermore, I happened to be at the Kyoto Office in the latter part of September while they were distributing the mail, and *was told by a clerk that nothing but printed matter had come on that train, and that the letters would not be down till the next morning*. Whether that was true or not I do not know; certainly the letters did not reach us till the next day. There is evidently a hitch somewhere, and in order to discover it let me call Mr. Unagami's attention to the following statement:

The *Oceanic* from San Francisco *via* Honolulu arrived in Yokohama, October 31st. The periodicals which she brought reached us about 9 a.m., November 1st, having, as I suppose, come on the train which reaches Kyoto about 5 a.m. The letters, however, did not reach us till 7 p.m., the usual time for letters which arrive in Kyoto by the 3.30 train. Now here is a particular mail, of very recent date, which Mr. Unagami can doubtless easily follow in its travels and discover *why our letters were ten hours behind our periodicals as usual*. If he will kindly do so, it will give me great pleasure to cease to sign myself a

Yours, &c., GRUMBLER.

Kyoto, November 3d, 1893.

A WARNING TO SPORTSMEN.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir, When walking yesterday near Kawajima Yama, on the hill opposite to the silk factory in the Kawai valley, a man working in the field showed me a place where the day before a sporting dog belonging to a Japanese sportsman from Yokohama had met its death through biting some bait containing an explosive, that had been laid for foxes. The people who had seen the dog described the head as quite shattered. A similar case occurred near Kobe last year, at Akashi, when a dog belonging to a foreign sportsmen was killed close to him in the same way There appears sufficient force in these explosives to cause speculation as to what would happen should a person be unfortunate enough to tread upon one. Would not the foot be shattered in the same way as the dog's head? Perhaps some of your readers may have knowledge of the nature of these explosives and could say what risk the sportsman himself runs? The place where the bait was laid was close to and level with the road leading to Sugeda, and just within some trees. I trust the authorities, whom the matter concerns, will issue the most stringent regulations possible against the laying of these "infernal" traps—harmful possibly to man as well as beast.

I understand there is nothing to warn a person of their whereabouts—the ground naturally being as little disturbed as possible.

I am, yours truly,

SPORTSMAN.

Yokohama, 5th November, 1893.

THE "CHISHIMA"-"RAVENNA" APPEAL CASE.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—I am naturally averse to rushing into print and especially in a matter in which I am professionally engaged, but after reading your severe criticism of an argument used by one of the Plaintiff's Counsel in the Supreme Court, I think it right to point out that the same argument was brought forward in the Court below, and that if one Counsel is to blame no less than five other members of the English Bar, distributed through both Courts, must share his condemnation.

You admit that the Japanese Government acted reasonably when they refused to give an undertaking unless the P. & O. Co. could show that they were entitled to security. If the Government were right in attaching the condition it was the duty of their Counsel to support it.

I am Sir, your obedient servant,

AMBROSE B. WALFORD

Yokohama, 8th November, 1893.

[Mr. Walford is, of course, quite at liberty to assume a share in the responsibility for the argument we considered it our duty to condemn. His letter, however, gives us no reason to modify or withdraw a single word we have said upon the subject. What we condemned, and still do condemn most unreservedly, is that, the plaintiff having given a written undertaking to deposit security "subject to the existence of any right to demand it" "having, to use the words of the Assistant Judge, "pledged his word to the other side to abide by the decision of the Court," his Counsel in the Supreme Court attempted to evade this obligation on the strength of a quibble wholly beside the important point originally understood to be at question between the parties.—Ed. *J. M.*]

THE "MULTIPLE STANDARD."

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—With all the discussion of the monetary situation, bimetallism, etc, I do not see any authority referring to the "multiple standard" of political economists. At present I believe, the relative values of gold and silver are fixed by bankers, according to their several needs (supply and demand, cost, etc, etc,). Sometimes, governmental rates are made. I understand that the

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"multiple standard" is based upon the actual value, represented articles in use (wheat, corn, iron, cloth, etc.), at definite periods. From these is deduced a value, represented by a name, which serves as basis of comparison for all merchandise Gold or other objects may be used as a "token," or medium of transfer; its value to be determined at fixed interests of time by recognized authorities. For example, taels are used in computation, yet I am told such a coin does not exist.

In this way great variations in the value of the medium of exchange would, presumably, not occur, inasmuch as the relative values of the staples (of human life and activities) become matter of frequent examination and determining,—in periods, possibly, of five years.

You will doubtless find this subject discussed *in extenso* by the various well-known writers on political economy.

Very sincerely, F. B. STEPHENSON.
Yokohama, Nov. 9th, 1893.

THE DANGOZAKA SHOWS

The following notes on the scenes from Japanese history and legend on view at the Chrysanthemum figure-shows at Dagozaka may perhaps prove acceptable to intending visitors. The flowers are now fully out.

First show to right descending hill. 1.—Picture in flowers representing the famous priest of Hiezan, Benkei, engaged in his nightly amusement of challenging the passers-by on the Gojo bashi at Kyoto. Having already disposed of 999 opponents he is now confronted by Yoshitsune, and being beaten in the encounter becomes his retainer. 2.—Iwami Jutaro, the Japanese Perseus, defending O Kuma from a kind of "Cheshire cat," a ghoul all grin and no body. Watching with the girl at the shrine, where she is being offered up to a supposed deity, he slays the monster which has for years devastated the country-side. 3.—Jutaro versus a snake.

First show to left. 1.—Scene from the Soga Brothers, as presented at the Kabuki Theatre. Gaining admittance by the aid of Kamegiku (properly Tora), Jūō's mistress, to Yoritomo's camp near Fuji, the Soga brothers, Jūgō and Gorō, (who rise through the stage) confront Kudō Sukeisune, their father's murderer. 2. Scene from the Kanjinchō. Yoritomo having placed guards at the exits of Kaga to intercept Yoshitsune in his flight northwards, Benkei on reaching the barrier at Ataka passes himself off as a priest (Yamabushi) with Yoshitsune (figure to the left) as his servant. The scene shows Benkei restraining his followers, who are for cutting their way through, and turning to Togashi Saemon no-Jō with his made-up story. 3. On the way out we pass Colonel Fukushima and his flowery steed planted, like an oasis, in a desert of Siberian snows.

Second show to right. The Buddhist saint Nichiren. 1. Small booth to left. Trial of strength at Komorozan between Nichiren and a Yamabushi, each claiming superiority for his own sect. The Yamabushi having, by an exercise of faith, raised a rock from the ground, Nichiren outdoes this by fixing the rock immovably in mid-air. The Yamabushi naturally became a convert to the Nichiren tenets. 2 Small booth in left corner. The fisherman Ukai Kansaku, as a taker of life, was consigned to perdition. But his ghost appearing to Nichiren at Minobu and entreating his intervention, Nichiren inscribes a sacred text on a stone and casts it into the stream, by which means Ukai's soul is saved. 4. Nichiren at Tatsunokuchi. The Hojo Tokimune, regarding Nichiren's claim that his tenets alone assured salvation as rank heresy, has sent his officers to take the saint's life at a spot near Kamakura, but the executioner's hands are stayed by a terrific storm, which seems to declare in Nichiren favour. 4. The Mongol invasion of 1281. On the left the god of wind rises to disperse the Armada. Nichiren had prophesied its coming, and it was owing to certain standards, on which he had inscribed holy texts, that the god of storms was moved to interfere and scatter the Tartars.

Second show to left. 1. Ship in storm. Kanokuniya Bunzaemon on his way from Kii to Yedo with a freight of oranges—an effective tableau. 2. Harada, Kai-no kami, retainer of the Sendai *daimyo* Date, plotted to kill the latter's heir with the object of securing the succession for his own son. While Yashio (woman to right) attacks the loyal nurse Asaoka no tsubone above, the retainer Matsumae Tetsunosuke is engaged below with a huge rat, from whose mangled corpse Harada (who rises through the floor to the left) is supposed to be emerging, the idea being that he has by magic assumed a rat's shape for the purpose of a night attack. In a small booth to the right Harada is represented undergoing trial before Itakura. 3. Princess Yaegaki, daughter of Uesugi and afterwards wife of Taketa, is escaping to her lover. She has stolen her father's casque which imparting a magic lightness to her body enables her to cross the lake. The flakes of flame apparently denote the presence of magic.

Third show to left. 1. Nara Daibutsu. At the festival to celebrate the restoration of the image, Kagekiyo of the Taira clan lay in wait in the crowd to assassinate Yoritomo. The scene here presented is his discovery and arrest by Shigetada, a Minamoto clansman. Kagekiyo, afterwards starved himself to death in prison. 2. Dan-no-ura. At this sea fight, which finally broke the power of the Taira, Noritsune smuggled out Yoshitsune for attack, who is here shown in the act of saving himself by a desperate leap from boat to boat. Noritsune about to follow in pursuit finds himself pinned by Aki-no-taro. The two were drowned clasped in a death struggle. 3. Behind is a lifeless representation of a puppet show of which the subject is the Osaka story of the loves of O-Some and Hisamatsu. 4. Murasame or Matsukaze, the girls who ministered to Yukihira's wants during his banishment at Suma no-ura.

Third show to right. 1. The priest Wada Shimpachi (right), Kusunoki Masatsura (centre), and Wada Masatomo meeting their death in a last stand against Ashikaga Takauji at the battle of Yojōnawate in the Wars of the Chrysanthemums. 2. Snow scene showing the assassination, in March, 1861, of Ii Kamon no-Kami at the entrance to his Yashiki near the Sakurada Gate. 3. Masakado (of the Soma house, which has occupied public attention so much of late) had paid the penalty for his rebellion against the Emperor in the tenth century, and his son and daughter Yoshika ia and Takoyasha, calling to their aid a magician toad, his host of hobgoblins continued to plot treason at the ruined palace in Shimōsa. The scene shows the murder of a retainer named Uto Yasukata, who had remonstrated with Yoshikado.

Fourth show to right. 1. Princess Sayo, whom her weary waiting and watching for the return of her husband was turned to stone at Matsu . 2. Kukakuji at Kyoto. 3. Sukoden. The desperate fight of the friends Rochishin (priest to right) and Shishin, who meeting after a long separation do not at first know each other, till Sashin, who brought on the fight by an attempt to rob Rochishin, recognises him by his prowess. 4. Ran maru at Nobunaga's instigation striking Mitsuhide —a scene from the Taikoki. 5. Shakyojishi, a dance, "lion on the stone bridge," often given at the theatres.

There are no figures at the Onsen Garden this year.

FESTIVITIES AT SENDAI.

[From an Occasional Correspondent].

Sendai, November 2nd.

Sendai has been the scene of a most unwonted activity and excitement during the past few days, and has not even yet completed the nondescript celebrations which are annually held in this month, and this year have been incorporated with the ordinary observance of His Majesty's Birthday. In the matter of trade Sendai is far more isolated than in politics, political interests apparently running pretty high in Miyagi Ken. Some considerable excitement has recently occurred in connection with the election of a parliamentary candidate; but for all that the ordinary foreign resident sees or hears, he might be in mid ocean sailing calmly along in the trade winds. Save only for an exceptional number of *jinrikisha* in the principal thoroughfares, and an unusual expression of animation on the majority of faces, or an occasional procession of stick armed gentry, there is little to indicate that any events of political importance are transpiring in this sleepy little, tree-en shrouded city of the hills. Yet, from your valuable journal we learn that gory conflicts have taken place, and we locally assume what knowledge we possess not, in the virtuous desire not to offend our neighbours by being behind the times.

While politics have been engrossing the serious section of the public, a mild mutiny has occupied the attention of the Second Higher Middle School, and the Birthday celebrations and military races have absorbed the interest of the garrison. With reference to the school disturbance, I notice that your information is to the effect that seventy or eighty boys have been dismissed from the school. As a matter of fact, I believe about 120 boys were *threatened* with dismissal if they did not conform to the regulations, but in accordance with custom in these cases, the required apology and promise of amendment being promptly forthcoming, the threat was withdrawn, at least so says latest information. The affair, therefore, is probably not as serious as at first reported, though the boys appear to have behaved pretty badly. The usual athletic sports had been held on the Thursday previous to the disturbance, a holiday being allowed on the day preceding and following them, the one for preparation and the other for rest. The Director was therefore of the opinion that a fourth day's holiday was unnecessary, especially as the Emperor's Birthday was so near, so the customary reading of the Imperial Rescript on education did not take place on the 31st. In the Ordinary Middle School, and in many others, it is customary I believe to read the proclamation on the 3rd November, and this seems indeed the most suitable day for the proceeding. The disturbance is indicative of the spirit which unfortunately pervades the student class to-day in Japan, and as such is to be regretted.

From an early hour yesterday morning, which hardly gave promise at sunrise of the glorious day which followed, the air was alive with the bugler's note as the various regiments were marshalled and inspected preparatory to the ceremony arranged to take place on the small parade ground near the old castle grounds, and by eight o'clock booths and stalls were occupying all the most likely sites, and streams of both countrymen and townsfolk were pouring in from all directions to the centre of attraction. A large *Torii* was erected of evergreens, suitably decorated and flanked on either hand by gay streamers, cakes and other symbols of the respect and reverence which it was desired to pay the memory of Date, the city's great founder; and beyond it the Governor's pavilion, and a shrine before which the constant brush of reverent feet was heard all day. Around the parade ground were numerous achievements in the decorative line, which did immense credit to the artistic skill and ingenuity of their military creators. There was Fukushima, rather long and thin in limb, at the top of a high green bank struggling valiantly to inscribe some particularly inarticulate and incomprehensible figures on a green below; while below, hitched to a mild and stunted shrub, was a fiery antediluvian looking beast to represent his noble horse. It was constructed of grey blankets, with raging eye, and widely spreading hoofs, and created not a little amusement. Popular stories were illustrated in a very clever manner; Daruma, the dragon, octopus, fox, and other well known heroes of history and fable were there, in sizes varying from the comparatively modest height of twelve or fourteen feet to at least fifty; while on one side the ramparts were crowned by an immense arc of scarlet blankets hedged round with snowy sheets, which the dull brain of the foreigner could not associate with anything in particular. To the artistic, nimble minded native, however, it was a graphic representation of the sun, or moon, or some other member of the solar system arising from the foam tipped wave, and as such was certainly an imagined triumph. One wing of the parade ground was devoted to the race-course where sport began about noon, but as foreigners do not appear to have been invited this year, we did not attend.

The old castle grounds are annually opened to the public for two days at this time, and though the "ground" consists of a very steep and very muddy climb of some half-hour's duration up a well wooded bluff, the view from the ancient wall at the top, some five hundred feet above the plain, is ample reward for the trouble of getting there. A magnificent range of mountains rises at one end, forming seven sharply pointed cones, and stretches close at hand on the left. Immediately in the foreground is what you know to be the city, but what looks like a wilderness of trees, broken only here and there by some building of exceptional proportions. Beyond this, rich upon rich of rice fields, yesterday basking fair and golden in the autumn sunlight, and beyond that again the sight which gladdens almost every human eye, the sea. After months of nothing but narrow streets shut in by green, that calm expanse of blue, suggesting space and freedom, was as welcome as the boisterous breeze which dashed itself headlong in our faces straight from the bosom of the smiling main. A steady stream of men, women and children, not forgetting the ubiquitous baby, toiled up and down the rugged path all day, enjoying in the law abiding placid manner of the Japanese holiday-keeper the privilege so jealously guarded all the rest of the year. In the evening fireworks were let off in abundance, and illuminations were general, the occasion being utilized to show off some transparent advertisements of Yebisu beer in a very enterprising manner. The fun has been kept up throughout Sunday, but Monday will probably see things return to their normal groove, and to Sendai it is not a very eventful one. The Vice-Minister of Education was expected here to-day.

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THE WORLD'S FAIR.

(From a Special Correspondant.)

Chicago, September 20th.

The series of Congresses held in connection with the Exposition offer a mine of intellectual interest, and are especially notable in that they are a mirror in which is reflected contemporary progress. They are, perhaps, even more valuable in what they suggest to oneself than even in specific contribution. We have had Press Congresses, Labour Congresses, Religious Congresses, Educational, Pharmaceutical, Ceramic, and all other sorts of Congresses, with some of the most noted men and women of our times on the platform, all these meetings have gone off very well, and have made one of the great features of the World's Fair.

One of the most beautiful sights at the Exhibition is an evening on the Lagoons, when the procession of gondolas sail under the illumination of 30,000 electric lights, and clouds of opal-hued mist, irridescent as if shot with jewels, hangs over the electric fountains. The golden dome of the Administration Building shone as if ribbed with fire, and the superb Macmonnies fountain, with its wonderful gleam and glitter, lends its effect to the fairy-land. The search-light swept its intense ray of illumination over the White City and the dark waters of the Lake, and the entire scene suggested the glories of that land where a sea of glass is mingled with fire. Art and nature united to produce the marvelous splendour of the scene. The combinations of coloured lights that decorated each boat would have delighted Titian and Tintoretto.

Another beautiful scene at night is the one from the Ferris Wheel on a fine, warm, starry, moonlit evening, and it is most inspiring. Immediately beneath, as the great wheel majestically revolves, one looks upon the moving panorama of the Midway Plaisance, which stretches away to the eastward, and ends in the broad stretch of illumination co-extensive with Jackson Park. Beyond all, one sees dimly the dark outlines of the lake, with the moon faintly shimmering on its surface, while to the northward are the city lights. The wheel itself is aglow with incandescent lamps, and a night ride is by most people considered more enjoyable than in the day time; though, for my own part, I like it just as well in noonday with the sun flooding every nook and cranny of the Fair, and the lake in the distance dark blue with tiny white waves, and smoky Chicago dimming the atmosphere far away in the north.

In the South Pavilion of the Woman's Building is a tiny Japanese house, with two quaint rooms in bamboo and paper, great cushions, jars and decorated walls, standing out quietly and gently amidst its somewhat bizarre surroundings. Festoons of red and white, and brilliant national emblems mark the portal, while an intricate temple of Oriental worship bids the visitor forget his western prosaicness and drop for a moment into the indiscribable tranquillity of the East and its life. On one side is a massively image of Buddha, and on the other a gilded wrestler with tendons drawn and cords dilated, cut from a block of wood seasoned for a century. Curious birds of fancy, among tangled branches of cherry blossoms, done on the costliest bits of silk, form the background in frames of embroidery worked by deftest women's hands.

The bronze work here is best shown in a centre group. The figures of which are a quarrelsome cock on a tree, and an old hen with her brood just under him. It is a large piece, executed so carefully that the tail feathers of the old disturber, flutter in the slightest draught as though they were genuine.

The paintings, also, are very beautiful, but still quaint and peculiar, equally as fascinating as they are strange. One immense panel has a war scene, full of life and action, but so curiously drawn as almost to make it incomprehensive. The colours are intensely vivid, with the same indefinite perspective that characterizes everything on these walls. The most successful landscape is a screen worked in silk. A great cherry tree, white in blossom, fills the entire foreground and apparently stretches its boughs over miles of scenery. In the distance are mountains, a river that has overflowed its banks, and half submerged houses. While according to art rules it is possibly not accurate, from the standpoint of beauty it is wonderful. As to value also, it is considerably up in the hundreds of dollars. There are scores of smaller efforts and plenty of good carvings in wood and ivory.

Throughout the whole of the Japanese Sections in the Exposition, neatness, finish, beauty and great richness, characterize all their exhibits, and this favoured land may will be proud of the diplomas and honours showered upon it.

LETTER FROM CHICAGO.

(From our own Correspondent).

Chicago, October 14th.

Rev. Wm. Elliot Griffis, D.D., is to have a paper in the December *Harper's Monthly* on "The Dutch Influence on the Social Life of New England." At the closing session of the Congress of Missions, his paper on "The Citizen Rights of Missionaries" was part of the programme. The following reference to it appeared in the *Tribune* of this city:—The paper opened with quotations from Edward Everett, at the time he was Secretary of State, and from James G. Blaine, both of whom, in effect, said all American missionaries in foreign lands were entitled to the protection of the United States Government without discrimination. The paper continued, saying:—When a missionary's life or property is endangered the Government is as fully bound to protect him as in the case of the merchant or traveler, and, in the case of loss or destruction of property, to seek to obtain redress. As the Government knows not nor inquires into the religion of its citizens, so it knows not nor inquires into his opinions regarding Christianity. The Government knows only citizens, not traders or missionaries. If American missionaries are imprisoned and their property confiscated, and little or no notice taken of it at Washington, when a whole squadron was sent to Naples to collect money for Baltimore insurance companies, then something is wrong, and the policy of the United States Government has fallen away from a high standard.—(Applause.) If a war be begun with Korea and 400 natives are slaughtered by Dahlgren howitzers and Bridgeport rifles because certain American marauders in the schooner *Gen. Sherman* have been attacked, while the Turks are allowed to burn mission premises and assault American women, then we cannot help thinking there is either inconsistency or weakness at Washington. Does the Government say it can make absolutely no discrimination between its citizens abroad? Then let us have interpretations and manifestations showing that it makes no discriminations between the great countries like Spain and the Ottoman Empire and little ones like Naples and Korea, and that its pleasure is equal, whether in acting as the dun or as the protector.

At that same session a committee of one from each denomination was appointed to arrange for an International Congress of Missions for the purpose of reorganizing more economically the missionary forces of all lands. The following are this committee:—

Dr. John Henry Barrows, Chicago, Presbyterian.
Dr. James B. Angell, Michigan, Congregational.
Archdeacon McKay-Smith, Washington, Protestant Episcopal.
Bishop Cheney, Chicago, Reformed Episcopal.
Dr. Townsend, Boston, Methodist Episcopal.
Dr. A. J. Gordon, Boston, Baptist.
Dr. John Brown Bedford, England, Independent.
Dr. Oswald, Chicago, Evangelical Lutheran.
Rev. J. Summerville, Lewisburg, Penn., Christian.
Rev. David Burrill, New York, Reformed Church of America.

The American Board, now in session at Worcester, Mass., by a vote of 106 to 24, has passed a resolution requesting the Prudential Committee to offer an appointment as missionary to Rev. W. H. Noyes, of Japan.

Minister Tateno gave a large and brilliant reception the other afternoon at the Lexington Hotel of this city. Mme. Tateno was assisted by Mrs. H. Shimamura, Miss Ume Goto and Mrs. Scidmore. The ladies, including little Mazu Tateno, were dressed in European costume.

John L. Stoddard's lectures on Japan are very interesting, and not as inaccurate as the statements of most professional travellers. The interest is largely increased by the vivid illustrations. The following is a summary of the second lecture:—"Life and Customs in Western Japan" was the subject chosen by John L. Stoddard for the entertainment of an audience that filled Central Music Hall last night. Mr. Stoddard told what he had seen in an overland journey. He had been charmed with the mountain scenery and impressed by the cleanliness, courtesy, cheerfulness, and refinement of the inhabitants. He was struck with the absence of animal life everywhere. The Japanese never eat meat, butter, bread, or milk. They subsist on fish, rice, and vegetables. He described pilgrims and their costumes and related historic memories. The lectures included descriptions of Kyoto, the ancient home of the Mikados, and sacred city of Japan; life, such as servant girls, masseurs, letter-carriers, farmers, cobblers, and carpenters. The lecturer touched upon art, lacquer, and bronze work, embroidery and music, described the amusements of the queer little people, and closed with a description of the religions of the Island Empire of worshipers and isolated shrines.

The *Inter-Ocean* has this to say concerning a book just published:—One of the best books of short stories for young persons that have been published for many a day is entitled "Chinese Nights' Entertainment," by Adele M. Fielde. It is a collection of forty stories, having much to do with Chinese folklore, which the writer says she has heard in China, told by persons who could not read. The volume is handsomely illustrated by native artists in the school of the celebrated painter, Go Leng, at Swatow. It is beautifully printed and will prove an admirable gift book for young people. G. P. Putnam's Sons.

The Ohio Synod of the Presbyterian Church by a vote of 76 to 54 refused to sustain the appeal of Prof. Henry P. Smith from the decision of the Cincinnati Presbytery which "suspended" him from the ministry for heresy. Prof. Smith gave notice that he would appeal his case to the General Assembly at this winter's session.

Recently Cornell University, at Ithaca, N. Y., has celebrated its twenty-fifth anniversary, and Williams College, at Williamstown, Mass., its centennial, each with great *eclat*.

General Lucius Fairchild, of Wisconsin, has been chosen to succeed Ex Pres. Hayes as Commander-in-chief of the Loyal Legion.

In a series of three races between the Yankee sloop *Vigilant* and the British cutter *Valkyrie*, the former came out ahead and thus won the *America's* cup.

For two days we have been enjoying windy, foggy and rainy weather, which has proved especially severe and disastrous on the Lakes, the Gulf of Mexico and the Atlantic coast.

A collision yesterday on the Michigan Central at Jackson, Mich., between two trains, filled with people coming to the Fair, has left the sad record of twelve killed and twenty-five injured.

The Union Pacific Railroad Company has been put into the hands of receivers, who are its President (J. H. Clark), its Comptroller (O. W. Mink) and a Government Director (E. E. Anderson).

The following appears in this morning's papers:—

Washington, Oct 13th.—Secretary Gresham this afternoon received the following cable dispatch from Mr Young, United States minister to Guatemala, dated yesterday: "The president of Gautemala this day declared himself dictator, dissolved the extra session of congress, assumed control of government and ordered a new election."

Stephen Bonsal, now Secretary of Legation at Peking has been appointed to the same position at Madrid; and Chas. Denby, Jr., has been named to fill the vacancy at Peking.

Ex-Congressman F. T. Greenhalge, of Lowell, is the Republican candidate for Governor of Massachusetts.

It is rumoured that one result of the recent bimetallic convention in St. Louis will be the formation of a new party composed of Populists, Silver Democrats and Republicans; and it is asserted that this party with free silver as the leading issue would sweep the South and the West. It is also reported by the press that Pres. Cleveland is getting ready for an issue of bonds. Meanwhile, the senate has accomplished nothing: it held one continuous session of 43 hours without reaching a vote. It begins to look now like a compromise on some basis not yet established.

The House of Representatives, by a vote of 200 to 101, has passed the Tucker Bill for the repeal of the Federal Election Laws.

The recent special events of the World's Fair have been Rhode Island Day; a magnificent banquet in Music Hall, where Exposition officials and representatives of many foreign nations met; Chicago Day (Oct. 9); Landing Day (Oct. 12), celebrated by the Columbus Club; Italian Day; and Minnesota Day.

The World's Fair Directors have established a ten cent rate for all children under 18 years of age; and the Board of Education has closed the public schools for one week beginning next Monday (16th).

The attendance at the Fair on "Chicago Day" was a surprise to the most sanguine. The crowds began coming two days (Saturday) before, and are still coming, as railroad rates on many lines are down to about one cent per mile. Last Saturday, Sunday and Monday especially there was a jam on all the trains and at all the depôts. The Sunday paid attendance at the Fair reached the unusually large figure of 88,050. That night and the next every available room and inch of space in hotel or private house was used for bed, cot or body, and hundreds slept, or rather lay, in doorways or vacant lots or alleys. Chairs in Saloons were let for $1.00 each. Even yet hotels and houses are crowded beyond comfort.

Oct. 9 was a perfect day; and was a holiday all over the city, where practicable. Early in the morning the people began to flock to the Fair

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grounds; and even up to six o'clock in the evening there seemed no cessation of the constant stream of humanity. The official figures show paid admissions to the number of 716 881 and a total attendance of more than 750,000 The following table may be of interest for purposes of comparison:

Fourth of July	283,273
Illinois Day	243,951
Penns. Day	203,460
California Day	231,522
Texas Day	202,376
October 7th	222 382
October 9th	716 881
October 10th	309 294
October 11th	300 277
October 12th	278,878
October 13th	221,607
Great days at Philadelphia, 1876	217,526
Great days at Paris, 1889	397,150

It is futile to attempt much of a description of that great day; it is advisable merely to mention some of the special features. Mayor Harrison rang the new Liberty Bell with the cosmopolitan rope furnished by various nations, of whom Japan supplied one part of bamboo fibre. Two teams of Indians, one Iroquois and the othe Pottawatomies, played a game of lacrosse. The old Pottawatomie chief, Pokagon, presented to Mayor Harrison the original deed by which the site of Chicago was purchased; the document was wrapped in birch bark. School children marched around the Court of Honour to represent the "reunion of the states." A night pageant of magnificent floats, depicting in allegory the triumphs of the genius of nations, the illumination of Wooded Island, and beautiful pyrotechnics picturing the destruction twenty-two years before of Chicago, and wonderful growth of the present city, capped the climax.

It was a great day, of course, for restaurants, trains, street cars and other means of transportation; and yet many had to walk weary miles before they reached home. In consideration of the tremendous crowd, the casualty record (four killed and a score or so injured) was remarkable. More than a score of children were lost, but tenderly cared for in the Service Building. It was a "big day" without question; and yet Chicago is not satisfied: She is talking and planning for an attendance of 1,000,000 on the last day!

On Oct 9 was written out a very large cheque, perhaps, the largest ever written (?) It was signed by N F Seeberger, Treasurer of the Exposition, and ordered the Illinois Trust and Savings Bank to pay to itself, as trustee for the bondholders, the sum of $1,565,310 76 in full of the bonded indebtedness of the Fair. On the same date were drawn cheques to wipe out also the floating indebtedness; so that on the 10th the Fair opened with accounts squared. At that time the total expenditures had passed the $30,000,000 mark.

The Congresses in session since my last letter have been Y.M.C.A., Y.W.C.A., Evangelical Alliance, Public Health, Waif Saving, Humane, and Athletics. In the Public Health Congress Dr. M Kagami, of Japan, treated the subject of sanitation in his country. The Humans Congress inveighed in the strongest language against the practice of vivisection.

In the Y.M.C.A. Congress, Mr. L. W. Wishard was one of the speakers to this purport:—"He said that he found the young men of the student bodies of Asia willing to investigate Christianity and to study the Bible. In Japan there were 2,000,000 young men in the higher institutions of learning and 500,000 in India. Mr. Wishard said it was the mission of the Young Men's Christian Association to stay the tide of western materialism which is sweeping over the Orient and to give to the young men in the place of the old faiths they are so generally deserting the eternal truths of Christianity. He said the great universities of the Orient should be made distributing centres for Christian truth, for as go the universities of Asia so will go Asia."

The sessions of the Evangelical Alliance have carried out successfully the platform of that organization, *i.e.*—"The furtherance of religious opinions, with the intent to manifest and strengthen Christian unity and promote religious liberty and coöperation in Christian work without interfering with the internal affairs of the different denominations."

The meetings have been a natural and logical subsequence of the Parliament of Religions. It has been proposed that in the year 1900 all creeds of Christendom shall unite in celebrating at Jerusalem the closing of the nineteenth century of the Christian Era.

A large number of awards have been made known within the last ten days. That Japan has fared well may be evident from the various lists which I append here:—

MINING.

Kihachiro Kawamoto, Kyoto, tin-foils and papers; Junhachi Kasai, Kumaguchi, marble plates; Yasubiro Makioka, table salt. Seizo Toda, Okayama, red oxide of iron.

Kumasaku Kawabata, Zenta, stibnites, dressed ore; Kudu Yo-himichi Wada, Ehime, refined antimony; Fujitagumi, Osaka, pure ant mony.

Iwasaburo Sugiyama, Okayama, collection of clays and fire brick; Hiromichi Tamate, Osaka, graphite crucibles and their accessories; Hirone Shiramura, Tokyo, graphite crucibles; Kuyi so Tomonaga, Hyogo, tiles

Imperial Geological Survey, geological map of Japan; Imperial survey of Japan, geological maps of section Kazusa, in Japan; Mining Bureau of Agr., model showing old methods of mining in Japan.

MANUFACTURES.

Hichi bei Oita, Osaka, umbrella handles; R. Miyasaki, Gifu, antlers; Bureau of Industry, specimens of metallic nettings.

Osaka—E. Harumoto, iron safe: S Yoshida, cutlery; Tetsuguchi Chigawa, scissors; S. Yoshida, cutting instruments, R Honjkyo, Hyogo, razors.

Yoshisaburo Sato, Tokyo, platform scales, letter scales; Tomosuke Yamamoto, Osaka, platform scales, Japanese scales; S. Yamamoto, Osaka, scale.

S. Hoshino, Tokyo, wooden combs: T Kawabe, Osaka, brushes, Naotaro, Nakata Osaka, tooth brushes; Otaka Sengo Kasha, Osaka, hair brushes; K Kato, Tokyo, pearl work.

Y. Gosaku, Osaka, sword; Art Iery Bureau, War Department, Osaka; Murata rifle for experiment at the Artillery committee; Y Takiyama, Osaka, Japanese sword

C Nitta, Joyemon Sato, Daijiro Kumagai, Chojiro Nitta, K. Mur, Ch Murayama, K. Tanaka, Seizo Yamamoto, leathers.

Tokyo—M. Hattori, toys, K Hasegawa, wooden toys; B Iwase dolls; Y Mauba, wooden toys; S. Misaki, Kyoto, model dolls; K Nakayama, Toyama, wooden box; K. Shimada, Kyoto, model dolls, M. Tokuda, Osaka, toys; V. Taniguchi, Kyoto, toys, paper goods, etc., H. Wada, Osaka, ornamental bags; S Wakano, Osaka, kites: S Yamamoto, Tokyo, picture books (silk); H Yazawa, Shizuoka, bamboo house, Tanaka Yaichiro, Kyoto, four sets toys (lacquer ware; Miss Roko Suda, Tokyo, fancy Oshio case (relief picture), silk Mrs. Taso Eguchi, Kyoto, fancy Oshio cabinet (relief), silk

S Tsukamoto, T. Taniguchi, Shidzuoka Seishi, S. Iketani, G Yoshu, Ichimatsu Oda, Printing and Engraving Bureau, Treasury Department Bureau, K Kumagaye, Gonzaburo, Yamaguchi, Bureau of Industry and Commerce, T. Harada, W. Harada, Osaka, B. Takimi, K. Asaina, K. Amemori, N Osaka, Bamseisha, S. Bosaho, Fujiroeisha, Goto, Idogani Seishi-Shiro, Degusse Inouye, S. Ito, Tosa Shigio Kokai, M Miyoda, K Ando, H Matsuhisa, Y Mashiba, G Nakamura, A Narita, S Akamoya, T Sato T Suzuki, M Suda, T Tone, S Takei, N Teshkawara, K. Utsume, N. Wakamie, S. Yamamoto, Yamaka Seisakusksha, I. Abe, K Fusayasu, M Tokunishi, T. Ukunishi, T. Hagihara, J. Hiroba, I. Ikiwaya, Seishi Kwaisha, I Kubota, R Kawata, Y Kondo, K. Nishio, G. Ota, Okamotseisha, Sankosha, Shosnisha, S. Shimidzu, Shuyosha, M. Takase, K. Uchiyama, T. Yoshioka, Yoshii Shigeo, Abe Paper Factory, paper, etc

S. Tshisaka, H. Yasutake, I Yasada, D Ban; I. Nassho, representative for Hayashima Busan; Hasada, Higashikumoshikgun Hananishiro Company, C Ito, N Imatani, M. Isozaki, N. Sato, Aetaro Igineau; K Shotsui, manager of Ryo on Shya. K Kondo, J. Komatsu, N Kutani, R Myado, S. Suyama, S Matsudani, I. Nakashima and three others, Y. Nakagama, S. Osawa, G. Okada, M. Ohira, K Shumadaya, K. Shimoda, fabrics of vegetable and mineral fibres.

LIBERAL ARTS

Department of Agriculture and Commerce, in commerce, trade and banking.

Tokyo—Hakurin Sugawara, album of Japanese landscape; Hakurin Sugawara, album of Japanese landscape, Kanezawa Museum, Ishikawaken, record and map

Tokyo—Department of Communications, postal systems and accessories; Interior Department of Police, History and Account of Prisons in Japan and diagram of Tokyo Reformatory buildings, records, etc., Bureau of General Affairs, diagrams showing numbers and particulars of publications and table, area of and populat on; House of Peers, method of publishing reports, Nippon Life Insurance company, table of statistics, etc.

MANUFACTURES (NO. II).

Japan—Takamatsu Chunnen, Yokohama, cloisonne enamel; J. Fujita, Toyama, bronze; T. Futatsuka, Toyama, bronze ware, T. Fukui, Tokyo, bronze work; Shiozaburo Goto, Yokohama, cloisonne enamel, Yasuteru Hanaka and Kisaburo Hirozawa, Ishikawa Ken, art metal work; T. Hattori, Nagoya, cloisonne ware; I. Hirato and I. Hasegawa. Tokyo, metal work, Hachizayemon Hayashi, Nagoya. Yonejiro Hayashi, Iwajiro Hayashi and Kyoyasu Hayashi, Fukushima, cloisonne ware; Y. Ishii Yokohama, K. Ishii, Tokyo, Y Iwato, Hyogo, bronze work, Masumon Ito, Yokohama, cloisonne; Sukogi Condo and T. Kirotani, Tokyo, art metal work; I. Koma, Toyama, bronze screen; E Kobayashi, Tokyo, metal work. Nagoya Honda Yosaburo, incense burner, cloisonne; Honda Yosaburo, one pair vases, one bowl, one plate Suzuki Yarokuu, one set tower stand, cloisonne, incense burner cloisonne, one pair vases, Taisen cloisonne; Hayashi Yasujiro, one pair vases cloisonne, box cloisonne, Imperial Mint Interior Department, gold coins, silver coins, copper metals first Nat Ind. Ex., gold, silver and copper medals, second Nat. Ind Ex, gold, silver and copper medals third Nat Ind. Ex.; Keisuke Kondo, Nagato Prefecture, copper tray Kyoto—Seki Yoshikiyo, eight pieces metal work art stic; Nishimora Yasubei, 108 pieces metal work artistic, Kanaya Gorosaburo, ten pieces metal work artistic; Hashimoto Itanshi, two pieces metal work artistic, Kupir Shei, silver incense burner, Okuno Shotaro, seven pieces art stic metal work, Mokuchi Yasunosuke, three pieces artistic metal work, Syomi Yeisuke, forty pieces artistic metal work, Sano Toyosaburo, five cloisonne wares, Yasuka San, Osaka, iron kettles, Mamei Nakamura, Osaka, tin wares; S. Kawaide, Aichi; enamelled picture; T. Komuke, Yokohama, bronze; N. Suzuki, Nagoya, cloisonne vases and censer. Tokyo—K. Kagawa, plaque, metal chiseling; Y Kashima, Y Kawaguchi, S Koyama, G Kurshu, metal work. Toyama—K Kadoha, I. Kamamori, I. Kita, bronze; R. O Komato, Ityogo, lacquered cloisonne, Kamiornow Ishikawa Ken, Z. Morinato, Nagoya, art metal work; R Matsumura and C Masuyama, Toyama, bronze and ware; Ichibei Noda, Kawaga Ken, cloisonne enamel; Sadakichi Nomura, Tokyo, art metal work, Toyama—K Nosaki C Nakawawa, Y. Nakasugi, bronze ware; K. Nakamura, Tokyo, metal work S. Nomori, Toyama, bronze; Hogen Okawa and Teikan Okawa, Tokyo art metal work, S Ohasai and S. Okamura, Toyama bronze and bronze ware R Okano Tokyo, bronze ware; T. Otaka Tokyo, metal work, Y Otaka, Tokyo, cloisonne; Masanori Kadera and Junnoyei Ota Nagoya, cloisonne wares, Katawaburo Ota, Heizaburo Ota, Haryero and Sanzo Ogawawara, Fukushima, cloisonne wares; Yasonaku Ota, Fukushima, cloisonne wares, Kaibe Hashimoto and Jiromatsu Kenshi, Ishikawa Ken art metal work, Z Sato, cloisonne ware, lacquer cloisonne Toyama—Masakichi Sasaki, bronze work, R. Shimazaki, metal work; Y. Shimosa, metal work. Tokyo—G. Sawata, metal work, K. Sano, bronze work. T. Sazuki, Nagoya, Kinsaburo Saito, Fukushima, cloisonne ware; Sentaro Sato, Yokohama, cloisonne enamel, Suiko Tanaka, Tokyo, art metal work; Toyama—I Takemura, bronze work; S Tanabe, Toyama, bronze; S. Tamino, Toyama, bronze ware: J. Tamai Tokyo, metal work; F. Takayanagi, Toyama, bronze, Shobei Tomiki, Masake Tsukamato, Takisaburo Tsukamato, Inpe, Tsukamato, Nogoya, cloisonne ware; Tsumesuke Takeda, Seisyemon Tsunekawa, Tokusabuto Tsunekawa, Seikuro Takeda, Tokushima, cloisonne ware; Mimisuke Arima and Tomoso Watanabe, Tokyo, art metal work; S. Yoshida Kisha, silver carvings; Ando Tobei, Nagoya, two collars cloisonne; Shichiroyemon Kobayashi, Niigata Prefecture, artistic steel work; K. Komai, Nuto, bronze ware, copper ware, inlaid work. Nagoya—Adachi Kinjiu, incense burner cloisonne, one pair vases; Okana Kabei, one pair vases, bowl, and incense burner cloisonne; Tsugane Koma Kichi, incense burner cloisonne and cake dish. Toshima Mura Aichi—Tanada Kanshiro, two pair vases; Yanashi Kodenji, incense burners cloisonne, one pair vases cloisonne, two jars cloisonne, bowl cloisonne; Hattori Kichibei, one pair vases cloisonne, incense burner Kyoto—N. Mabe, metal inlaid work; J. Mikami, cloisone enamel; N. Nokawa, metal inlaid work. Toshima Mura Aichi—Takeda Masajiro, one pair vases cloisonner; Takahata Jusaburo, Toshima Mura Aichi, one plate cloisonne, plate; Kodama Seizaburo, Nagoya, three vases; two boxes cloisonne. H. Tomono, Kyoto, metal inlaid work; Hayashi Taisuke, Toshima Mura Aichi, one pair vases cloisonne; Ohta Tatsujiro, Toshima Mura Aichi, umbrella handles; Kakube Tanagawa, Niigata Prefecture, copper work; Honda Yosaburo, Nagoya, vase cloisonne; Phiosaburo Yamada, Ishikawa, art metal work; Rinbai Yokoyama, art metal work; Seizaburo Toshikubo, art metal work; T. Toshisha, Hiroshima, bronze ware, R Yamazaki, Toyama, bronze ware; S Yamanake, Tokyo, bronze work; T, Kondo, Tokyo, metal work; K. Yamanaka, Osaka, bronze lamp stands; N. Yamanato, Nagoya, cloisonne wares; Hayashi Zenshiro, Tokushima, cloisonne vase; Soishiro Neshamuro, Tottori, wooden tablet; Soshi Shibayama, Tokyo, box; Takanai Honma, Niigata Prefecture, bronze. M. Morishita, Kaga, bronze work; G. Nizuno, Kaga, bronze work; S. Oseki, Yokohama, bronze; K. Watano, Kaga, bronze work; K. Watano, Yokohama, bronze work; K Yamakawa, Kaga, bronze work, Yanashi Daisaku, Koshima Muraichi, three pairs vases, cloisonne, Takeda Genjuro, Tokushima, two pairs vases cloisonne; Hayashi Hirosuk, Nagoya, one pair vases cloisonne, hanging decorations, Ohta Hiroji to, Toshima, two pairs vases. Tokyo—J. Yano, bronze; S. Shimamura, bronze; F. Sugaya, bronze; T. Tamai, bronze, K Takaki, metal works, I. Kato, metal works, incense burner; T. Takayanagi, bronze; K. Suzuki, bronze; S. Tamamoka, bronze T Endo, bronze; S. Suzuki, Yokohama, cloisonne; S. Ikeda, Kyoto, inlaid work, K Miyamoto, Tokio, metal work, silver, and gold; K. Kato, metal work, silver, and gold. M. Hiraoka, metal work, silver and gold

The following are the only awards as yet to

China—Lee Quong Kee & Co., King Lee, porcelain pipes; Chun Quan Kee, Canton, ivory, canes.

PROFESSOR MILNE, F.R.S., AT THE JAPAN SOCIETY, LONDON.

On Wednesday evening, the 27th Sept., the commodious lecture room of the Japan Society at 20, Hanover Square, London, was filled to overflowing by an expectant assembly, to hear a paper read by Professor Milne, F.R.S., &c., on Volcanic and Earthquake Phenomena. After the paper, the learned professor gave lantern views bearing on Japan. The Chair was taken at 8.30, by Professor Anderson, M.D.

The subject of the paper was Earth Movements, including movements known as secular, sudden violent movements called earthquakes, and the class of movements known as earth tremors or earth pulsations. Hitherto the secular movements, said Professor Milne, had only been the subject of observations made at long intervals, as, for example, on the coast of Sweden. In Japan, however, an instrument had been designed which would show any change that took place from day to day. Those movements resulted in the crumbling of the crust of the earth, and the formation of mountains. Any sudden interruption in this movement was announced to us as earthquake. The earthquakes in Japan were, in the majority of cases, the result of rock-fracturing rather than an explosion of steam at volcanic foc. For example, the earthquake of 1891 showed a fault on the surface of the ground extending for a length of more than 50 miles. As result of this fracture, the ground on one side of it, including even the mountains, suddenly fell relatively to the ground on the other side of it. The consequence was a shaking which extended round the whole world. It passed beneath England without being noticed, but was recorded in Germany at Berlin, Potsdam, and Wilemshaven, by Dr. Paschwitz. This year a committee had been formed by the British Association, amongst the members of which we had the well-known name of Darwin, for the purpose of investigating the slow movements which had been hitherto neglected; and whilst making these investigations there was no doubt that those relating to earthquakes, such as the one referred to, would have been given full consideration. The lecture was concluded with a description of the work which had been done in Japan in recording these neglected phenomena. These had been called micro-seismic disturbances, but they were, in the lecturer's opinion, neither "micro" nor "seismic," but long flat undulations, which ran across the surface of the ground, much in the same way that the swell moves on the surface of a large ocean; and owed their origin to influences meteoric rather then plutonic.

The extended series of photographs which were subsequently thrown upon the screen, were the work of members of the Photographic Society of Japan, illustrating with fullest diversity street scenes in Japan, the indoor and outdoor life of the country, &c., &c. Among the pictures was the celebrated Mons Excelsus et Singulares of Kaempfer, Mount Fuji. The pictures illustrating the effect of earthquake and volcanic action were very striking. One of them showed the great fault which

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caused the great destruction in 1891, when nearly 100,000 people were killed, 124,000 houses levelled with the ground, railway embankments disappeared as if they had been but heaps of sand, railways were ruined, forests slipped down for the mountain side, valleys were so compressed that the area of farms was decreased and re surveys had to be made for the purpose of assessment, and river beds enlarged. The recent floods which had taken place in this earthquake district, where many lives were lost, might very reasonably be supposed to have been caused by reason of the narrowing of the river channels by the earthquake.

There are in Japan 700 stations for the observation of earthquake phenomena, and many of these were provided with instruments which gave accurate records of the motions experienced. One of the practical results have been an alteration in the style of building. Thus the new railway piers which have been built, instead of following the ordinary rules of engineering practice, are so constructed that fracture is no more possible at any one horizontal section than at any other. Then again, the general structure in favour as to houses and public buildings was that they should rise from a basement instead of direct from the ground, inasmuch as earthquake motion was greater on the surface of the ground than a few feet below the surface. Professor Milne, the lecturer on mining at the Imperial University, Tokyo, and who has now been in Japan for 18½ years, is pursuing his earthquake observations purely for the scientific love of the subject—in recognition of which study a chair of Seismology has been established in the University, and a special bureau, whose duty it is to analyse and tabulate the records which come in for the 700 stations.

The lecturer was warmly applauded throughout the evening. Among the distinguished visitors present was Mrs. Caroline Roe, whose husband, previous to his decease in Texas, rendered such signal service in the advancement of electrical and meteorological science.

REVIEW.

From the Five Rivers. By FLORA ANNIE STEEL, author of 'Miss Stuart's Legacy,' etc. London: William Heinemann, 1893.

THIS is a book of stories about Indian life; not the life led by foreigners in India, but the life of the Indians themselves. It would be too much, therefore, to expect anything of a sensational or enthralling nature, and those who take up the modest volume in the hope of an exciting plot will certainly be disappointed. And we are not sure that the stories themselves leave a very happy impression on the mind. Some of them end very unsatisfactorily, and they all portray a social condition which goes far to justify the "Christian child" in thanking "the goodness and the grace" which was instrumental in placing its birth elsewhere than in the bosom of an Indian family. But there can be no question as to the power and the delicacy of the author's style. Her descriptions, conveyed in a few graphic words, are admirably vivid; the occasional touches of humour are not less keen for being veiled; the pathos is often deep, and there is a reserve-force in her phraseology which every now and then is very telling. Perhaps the prettiest story of the collection is also one of the most tragic—'In a Citron Garden.' The most curious is that entitled 'At a Girls' School.' Never was there, surely, such another girls' school out of India! The pupils consist of maidens, wives, and widows, many of whom are encumbered with babies. Just fancy such a scene as this; it is an excellent specimen of the author's unaffected style:—

Oh, how quiet it was up here in the long, matted corridor! One seemed to have left the stress of life behind. Through the doorways leading into darker rooms you could see groups of girls and women squatted on the floor over their low desks. Here busy over pen and ink, here murmuring from books. More circled round the terrestrial globe. An odd company: some wrinkled and old, with shaven head and white shroud; others dressed in the same fashion, but fair and fresh. Hindu widows these, seeking solace for death in life endured or yet to come. A young Sikh wife or two ablaze—ears, nose, and forehead—with jingling gold set thick with jewels. And here, sharper than any, with finger pointing to the pole, a small Bengali girl, who has been married these seven years gone, and looks a perfect child.

All this interested Fâtma not at all. She had seen it too often. Her goal lay in the end room among the second year students, who sat on benches.

"*Find the value of B in the following equation: A square plus X squared equal A X plus B,*" read out the teacher from her desk as Fâtma entered. Whereat she promptly added in English, "Bother that baby!"

It must be remembered that the B, representing baby, does not enter into equations at Girton or Somerville.

"I wonder you don't give it a bottle, Hoshiaribi?" continued the teacher, sternly, as a delicate-looking young woman, rather overdressed and overscented, took the child from Fâtma with a sigh, and retired to a corner.

"Fâtma breaks them on purpose" replied the mother, sullenly; "she says they disagree with him."

"Yea, 'tis true," assented Fâtma, gravely; "they gave him a pain in his inside, then he cries, and I have to sit up, since Hoshiaribi is always tired, and Peru is too lazy."

Teacher looked at the little sharp face and was silent. That household, consisting of disreputable, good-for-nothing Peru, who gambled away the five rupees he gained by helping to carry his wife and other students to and from the school, shiftless Hoshiaribi, who spent half her scholarship of ten rupees on her clothes; and Fâtma, whose eight annas a week for cleaning the writing-boards seemed to keep the whole going, was a perpetual puzzle to the English lady, even without the child. And with it? She felt quite relieved when Hoshiaribi came back to her equation minus the baby.

The story ends detestably, but we do not blame the author. No doubt it is all in accordance with the eternal fitness of things as they go in India. The book concludes with some extremely clever verse, some of which is in imitation of Tennyson. The following stanzas are taken almost at random from a poem entitled 'Nur Jehan.'

By a fretted marble fountain, set in broidery of flowers,
Sat a girl, half child, half maiden, dreaming o'er the future hours,
Wond'ring simply, yet half guessing, what the harem women mean
When they call her fair, and whisper, "You are born to be a queen."
Curving her small palms like petals, for a store of glistening spray,
Gazing in the sunny water, where her ripping shadow lay,
Lips that ripen fast for kisses, slender form of bounding grace,
Hair that frames with ebon softness a clear, oval, ivory face.
Arched and fringed with velvet blackness, from their shady depths her eyes
Shine as summer lightning flashes in the dusky evening skies.
Mihr un nissa (queen of women, so they call the little maid)
Dreaming by the marble fountain where but yesterday she played.
Heavy sweet the creamy blossoms gem the burnished orange-groves.
Through their bloom comes Prince Jehangir, on his wrist two fluttering doves
"Hold my birds, child!" cries the stripling, "I am tired of their play"—
Thrusts them in her hand unwilling; careless saunters on his way
Culling posies as he wanders from the flowers sweet and rare,
Heedless that the fairest blossom, 'mid the blaze of blossom there,
Is the little dreaming maiden, by the fountain-side at rest,
With the onyx-eyed, bright-plumaged birds of love upon her breast.

In taking leave of this clever book we have a piece of information to impart, in strict confidence, to Mrs. or Miss Steel. It was not Bret Harte who told us that Willie had a purple monkey climbing up a yellow stick. It was Max Adeler, and the passage is to be found in his delightful book 'Out of the Hurly-burly."

THE WORLD'S PARLIAMENT OF RELIGIONS.

(CONTINUED FROM 4TH NOVEMBER.)

CHRISTIANITY IN JAPAN; ITS PRESENT CONDITION AND FUTURE PROSPECTS.
BY HIROMICHI KOSAKI.

Progress of Christianity in Japan is quite remarkable. It is only thirty-four years since the first Protestant missionary put his foot on its shores. And it is scarcely twenty years since the first Protestant Church was organized in Japan. Yet now there are more Christians here than in Turkey, where missionaries have been working more than seventy years, and there are more self-supporting churches there than in India, where a double or thrice number of missionaries have been working nearly a century. In Japan, Christian papers and magazines are all edited by the natives, not only in name but in reality. Christian books, which have been most influential, have nearly all been written or translated by them, while in other countries it is very rare to find the native Christians writing Christian books or editing papers. Only recently the *Christian*, the most influential Christian paper in Japan, had a symposium to name fifteen books which are most useful in leading men to Christianity, instructing Christians, and giving good counsel to young people; and it is interesting to see that most of the books named are those written or translated by Japanese Christians.

Christianity in Japan has already reached a stage that no other missionary fields have ever attained. Their native Christians not only take a part in all discussions, but they are in fact leading all kinds of discussions, theological as well as practical. They are leading, not only in all kinds of Christian work, literary and evangelistic, educational and charitable, but they are also leading Christian thought in Japan. Let me relate one or two instances.

Some six or seven years ago, when we were contemplating the union of the Itochi and Kumiai denominations, the two most powerful Christian bodies in Japan, among twenty members of a joint committee appointed by the Synod of one and the General Council of the other, there were only four missionaries. When, a few years ago, the Kumiai denomination adopted a new confession of faith, the missionaries took almost no part. This confession was drawn up by a committee, consisting entirely of Japanese, and adopted in the General Council, in which missionaries took very little or no part. In Japan missionaries are really "helpers," and I should say to their credit they, in most cases, willingly take secondary position in all Christian works. All this, I say, is not to disparage the work of missionaries, but only to show the progress of Christianity among the natives of Japan.

There are now many peculiar features in Japanese Christianity which are seldom seen in other countries.

One distinctive feature lies in the peculiarity of the constituency of its membership. In other countries female members always predominate. For instance in most of the churches in this country female members are almost two to one in proportion to male members. The membership of the Congregational church in 1892 stands as follows:

Male members	170,000
Female members	350,000

But it is quite otherwise in Japan. Female members in relation to male members are nearly three to four. It is almost in inverse ratio as it is in the United States. The statistics of the Kumiai churches in the last year is this:

Male members	6,087
Female members	5,087

Another fact we may notice is the predominance of young people in our churches. You may step into any of our churches in any city or village and see the audience, and you will be struck by the great preponderance of young faces. We have not yet taken any statistics of members as to their age. But anyone who has experience in Christian work there notes this peculiarity. The last year when Dr. F. E. Clark, president of the Y.P.S.C.E., was in Japan, in advising the need of that society, he said that young people were hard to reach and were diffident and slow to take any part in Christian work. But the case is different there. In many places young people are the only people who are accessible. They are most easily reached. In most of our churches young people are most active in all kinds of Christian works, while in some churches young people are so predominant and take everything into their hands that elderly people feel often quite annoyed.

One more point is the predominance of the Shizoku or military class. They have been and still are the very brains of the Japanese people. Though they are not usually well off in material wealth, they are superior intellectually and morally. Christians in other missionary fields are usually from the lower classes. In India the Brahmins rarely become Christians, neither do the literary class in China. But in Japan the Shizoku class take a lead.

These peculiarities in the constituency of the membership of Christian churches in Japan may be accounted for by the simple fact that the males, the young and the Shizoku classes are most accessible. The Shizoku class as a body has had hitherto almost no religion, and they have been mostly Confucianists. By the last revolution they lost their profession as well as their means of support, and thus they are all unsettled in life, and so accessible to every kind of new influence and truth. Young people have also no settled opinions and are open to new truth. And so it is with men as compared with women. They are generally more progressive and hence more accessible.

These peculiarities are its strength as well as its weakness. As the Japanese Christian population is composed of such a constituency, the native Christians are more progressive, more active, more able to stand on their own feet, and more capable

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of establishing self supporting churches. But this strength is also their weakness. They are more liable to be drifted, more apt to be changed and more disposed to be flippant.

The next peculiar feature of Japanese Christianity is lack of sectarian or denominational spirit. About thirty different denominations of Protestant churches, represented by about an equal number of missionary boards, are on the field, each teaching its own peculiar tenets. But they are making very little impression on our Christians. In fact, denominations which have strong denominational spirit are getting fewer converts than those which have less. The broader their principles or spirit the greater is the number of their converts. Anyone who is at all conversant with the history of denominations knows that all over the world, other things being equal, denominations having stronger denominational spirit are making greater gains in their membership than those which have less. But in Japan it is the exception.

We have been having, at first annually, but lately once in three years, what was called "Dai Shin Baku Kwai," which was afterward changed into the Evangelical Alliance, the meeting of all Christians in Japan, irrespective of denominations or churches—the most popular and interesting meeting we have. Japanese Christians did not know any distinction in denominations or churches. But when they found out that there are many different folds, and that one belongs to his denomination not by his own choice but simply by chance or circumstance which could in no way be controlled, there is no wonder that these Christians begin to ask: Why should not we, all Christians, unite in one church?

The union movement in Japan rose at first in some such way. Though we have now lost much of this simple spirit, still Japanese Christians are essentially undenominational. You may see that the church which adopts Presbyterian forms of government refuses to be called "Presbyterian" or "Reformed" and adopted the broad name "Itchi," the "United;" but, not content even with this broad name, it has recently changed it to a still broader name, "Nippon Kirisuto Kio Kwai," "The Church of Christ in Japan."

The church which has adopted an Episcopal form of government lately dropped the name of Episcopacy and adopted instead the name of "The Holy Church of Japan." Kumiai churches for a long time had no name except this: "A Church of Christ." When it was found out that it is necessary to adopt some name to distinguish itself from other churches, its Christians reluctantly adopted the name of "Kumiai," which means "associated;" for at that time they happened to form an association of churches which was until then independent of each other. They always refused to be called the "Congregational Churches," although they have adopted mostly Congregational policy of church government.

The church union which failed lately may not be revived in any near future. But there is a hope that some day our different denominations may be united in some way.

The third distinctive feature of Japanese Christianity is the prevalence of liberal spirit in doctrinal matters. While missionaries are both preaching and teaching the orthodox doctrines Japanese Christians are eagerly studying the most liberal theology. Not only are they studying, but they are diffusing these liberal thoughts with zeal and diligence, and so I believe that, with a small exception, most of Japanese pastors and evangelists are more or less liberal in their theology.

While the Presbyterians in the United States are persecuting Drs. Briggs and Smith, the Presbyterians of Japan are almost as a body on the side of these two professors. While the A. B. C. F. M. is strenuously on the watch to send no missionary who has any inclination toward the Andover Theology, the pastors and evangelists of the Kumiai churches, which are in close connection with the same board, are advocating and preaching theology perhaps more liberal than the Andover Theology. Just to illustrate, some years ago, in one of our councils, when we were going to instal a pastor, he expressed the orthodox belief on future life, which was a great surprise to all. The members of the council pressed hard questions to him so as to force him to adopt the doctrine of future probation, as though it is the only doctrine which is tenable.

Only recently, when a bishop of a certain church was visiting Japan, he was surprised to find that a young Japanese professor in the seminary connected with his own church was teaching quite a liberal theology, and he gave him a strong warning.

As to the creeds: When the "Church of Christ in Japan" was organized it adopted the Presbyterian and the Reformed standards, namely, the Westminster Shorter Catechism, the Canon of Dort and the Heidelberg Confession of Faith. But Christians of the same church soon found them too stiff, one-sided, and conservative, and thus they have lately dropped these standards as their creed altogether. They have now the "Apostles' Creed" with a short preface attached to it.

When the Kumiai church was first organized it adopted the Nine Articles of the Basis of Evangelical Alliance as its creeds. But Christians of the same denomination became soon dissatisfied with the narrowness, and so in 1890 they made their own creed, which is far simpler and broader. But even this creed is not understood as binding to all, but only as a common expression of religious belief and prevailing among them in general.

Though Japanese Christians are largely on the side of liberal theology, they are not in any way in favour of Unitarianism or even Universalism. Some years ago there was a rumour that the Japanese were in general inclined to Unitarian Christianity. The most of our educated classes have no religion. Though they favour certain kinds of Christian ethical teachings they have no faith in any religion or supernatural truth, and thus they are seemingly in the same position as certain Unitarians. But Christians are as a whole loyal to Christ and are also characterized as evangelical. Often Unitarians and those who call themselves "Liberal Christians" are as narrow and prejudiced as some orthodox Christians. And, moreover, their beliefs are too negative. Where there are bigoted, hard orthodox Christians they may have soil to thrive on, but in such a place as Japan they will find it hard work to keep up interest enough to have any religion.

There was a time when Christianity was making such a stride in its progress that, in one year, it gained 40 or 50 per cent. increase. This was between 1882 and 1888. These years may be regarded as a flowery era in the annals of Japan. It was in 1883, that, when we were having the "Dai shin Baku Kwai" in Tokyo, perhaps the most interesting meeting in its history, one of the delegates expressed his firm belief that in ten years Japan would become a Christian country. This excited quite an applause and no one felt it as in any way too extravagant to cherish such a hope, such was the firm belief of most Christians at that time; since then progress in our churches has not been such as was expected. Not only members have not increased in such a proportion as years before, but in some cases there can be seen a decline of religious zeal and the self sacrificing spirit. And so in these last few years the cry heard most frequently among our churches has been "Awake, awake as in the days past."

To show the decline of that religious enthusiasm I may take an illustration from statistics of the Kumiai churches as to its amount of contribution. In 1882 this amount was $6 72 per Christian; in 1888 this amount ran down to $2 15, and in the last year there has been still more decline, coming down to $1 95. In amount of increase of membership there has been a proportional decline. Why there was such decline is not hard to see. Among various causes I may mention three principal ones.

1. Public sentiment in Japan has been always fluctuating from one side to another. It is like a pendulum, now going to one extreme and then to another. This movement of public sentiment, within the last fifteen or twenty years, can easily be pointed out. From 1877 to 1882 I may regard as a period of reaction and that of revival of anti-foreign spirit. During this period the cry "Repel foreigners," which was on the lips of every Japanese at the time of the revolution, and since then unheard was again heard. It was at this time that Confucian teaching was revived in all the public schools, and the Emperor issued a proclamation that the western ethical principles were not suitable to the Japanese, and were not to be taught in our public schools.

Then the pendulum went to the other side. And now another era came in. This was a period of western ideas which covers the years between 1882 and 1888. This was the age of great interest in everything that came from abroad. Not only was English eagerly taught, but all sorts of foreign manners and customs were busily introduced. Foreign costumes, not only of gentlemen but of ladies, foreign diet as well as foreign houses became most popular among all classes. Every newspaper, almost without exception, advocated the adoption of everything foreign, so that Japan seemed as if it would be no longer an oriental nation, but would become occidentalized. It was at this time that such a paper as the *Fiji Shimpo* advocated the adoption of Christianity as the national religion of Japan. It was no wonder that people poured into Christian churches and that the latter made unprecedented strides in progress.

But the pendulum swung to its extreme and now another movement came in. The sign of reactionary and anti-foreign spirit might be seen in everything—in customs, in sentiments, as well as in opinions. Then "Japan for the Japanese" became heard in all the corners of the empire. Everything that has flavour of foreign countries has been stigmatized as unworthy of adoption by the Japanese, and instead of it, everything native is praised as superior or worthy of preservation. Buddhism, which has been regarded for years as a religion of the ignorant and inferior classes, is now praised as a superior religion, much superior to Christianity, and many who once favoured adoption of Christianity as the national religion are seen publicly in Buddhistic ceremonies. Christianity is denounced as antagonistic to the growth of our national spirit, in conflict with our best morality and also as against the intent of the Imperial Edict, which was issued two years ago as the code of morals in all our schools. Conflict between Christianity and national education has become the most popular theme among certain classes of the people. A strong sense of national feeling has been aroused among all classes of people and now it is not strange that Christians also feel its influence.

And thus the doors to Christianity seem to have been closed and we have a great decline in its growth. But now, again, the pendulum has reached another end and there are signs that another era is ushering in. Every movement has rhythm, says Herbert Spencer, and this is true in the progress of Christianity in Japan.

One word as to the prospect in future. That Japan will not become a Christian nation in a few years is a plain fact. But that it will become one in the course of time is almost above doubt, and it is only a question of time. Still, "Rome can not be built in a day," and so it will take time Christianize Japan. That there are strong obstacles and great hindrances can easily be seen. It may be easy to show the reasonableness of Christianity, but to instill true Christian spirit into the heart of the people is not an easy task. We can show them more easily the folly of other religions, but too build up a true Christian church requires a long time. As it was in the time of the Apostles and prophets, so it will be in Japan that, except a certain grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it abideth by itself alone. Unless a great many precious lives must be spent in this difficult and great work we cannot hope much for its result.

I am not at all anxious about the future of Christianity in Japan, as far as its final victory is concerned. But there are many difficult problems pressing us hard for their solution. I shall here simply state these problems in a few words.

1. The first problem that comes under our notice is that of the relation be ween Christianity and our nationality, namely, our national habits and spirit. Professor Inouye and others have been raising their voices against Christianity, claiming it is in conflict with our national spirit. And this cry against Christianity has become so popular among Buddhists, Shintoists and Reactionists that they make it the only weapon of their attack against Christianity. But in my belief this problem is not so hard as it looks. What outsiders think to be the real conflict seems to us only shadow and vapour.

2. Relations between missionaries and native Christians is another problem. How must they be related? In other countries, such as India or China, such a question, perhaps, may never arise, but in Japan it is entirely different. Japanese Christians will never be satisfied under missionary auspices. To be useful to our country the missionaries must either co-operate or join native churches and become like one of the native workers.

3. Problem of denominations and church government is another difficulty. Of course we shall not entirely dispense with denominations and sects. But it seems rather foolish to have all denominations, which are peculiar to some countries and which have certain peculiar history attached to them, introduced into Japan where no such history exists and where circumstances are entirely different. And so we think we can reduce the number of denominations. But how to begin is a hard problem.

So also with the form of church government. It is needless to say that we need not or ought not to copy in any way the exact forms of church government which are in vogue in the United States or in any other countries. But to formulate a form of government that suits our country the best, and at the same time works well elsewhere, is quite a difficult task.

4. Whether we need any written creed, and if so, what kind of creed is best to have, is also a question. In all teachings of missionaries and others there is always more or less of husks mixed with genuine truth. And at the same time every form of Christianity has some excellent truth in it.

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And it is hard to make distinction between essentials and nonessentials, between creed and husks. This is a hard problem for Japanese theologians to solve.

Japanese Christians must solve all these problems by themselves. I believe there is a grand mission for Japanese Christians. I believe that it is our mission to solve all these problems which have been and are still stumbling blocks in all lands; and it is also our mission to give to all the oriental nations and the rest of the world a guide to true progress and a realization of the glorious Gospel which is in Jesus Christ.

And now, in conclusion, I may say that Christianity is from God and so it will be in all times. We may plan many things but all will be executed by the Divine will. As the saying runs: "Man proposes and God disposes." Then our prayer is and always must be: "Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done as in heaven so in earth."

The Future of Religion in Japan.

BY NOBUTA KISHIMOTO.

Japan at present is the battlefield between religion and no religion, and also between Christianity and other systems of religion. To answer the question, "What will be the future of religion in Japan?" it is best to understand the nature of this two fold-warfare. Let us study this a little.

The prevailing attitude of our educated classes toward any system of religion is one of cold indifference if not strong antagonism. Among them the agnosticism of Spencer, the materialism of Comte, and the pessimism of Schoppenhauer and Hartmann are most influential. To them God is either the product of our own imagination or, at most, is unknowable. To them religion is nothing but superstition; to them the universe is a chancework and has no end or meaning. Again, to them, men are nothing but lower animals in disguise, without the image of God in them and without a bright future before them.

The religions of Japan, whatever they may be, have to contend with these no God and no-religion doctrines. Atheism, pessimism, and agnosticism are the common enemies of all the religions now existing in Japan. If Christianity has to face these enemies, Shintoism and Buddhism also have to face the same enemy. This is the battle ground of religion against no religion in Japan.

What is the prospect of this battle? Can we, the people of Japan, be satisfied with these no-God and no religious doctrines? Surely not. Atheism, pessimism, and agnosticism are essentially negative and destructive, and as such can never satisfy the deepest cravings of the human heart. Man is naturally optimistic and feels the impulse of the possibility of infinite development. He must have something positive to make him grow, and he cannot be satisfied by anything short of the infinite. As long as man remains man he cannot but have the consciousness of self; and as long as nature, which surrounds him, remains nature, he cannot but have the consciousness of not-self. As long as man has the consciousness of not-self he is capable of being conscious of the third principle which makes possible the reconciliation of consciousness of the self with the consciousness of the not-self. Man knows that he is finite, and this knowledge makes him dependent upon the infinite.

At times this God consciousness, or human dependence on the infinite, is disturbed by doubts and disappointments. But, as a matter of fact, disturbance is not a normal state of things. The human mind is like a compass needle—it may often be disturbed, but when the full force of the disturbance is spent it will swing back to its normal and original position and point toward its own creator, the infinite God.

Thus there is not much doubt as to the ultimate triumph of religion over no religion in Japan, as well as anywhere else. It is the law of struggle for existence that the fittest shall survive, and the fittest in this case is religion.

Suppose Japan wants some religion. What will be this religion? There comes the warfare, the warfare between Christianity and old religions of Japan. If Japan is a battlefield between religion and no religion, it is also a battlefield between Christian religion and non Christian systems of religion. Shintoism, the oldest religion, represents three things in one—totem worship, nature worship, and ancestor worship. It is an ethnological religion and as such has no originator, no system of creeds and no code of morals. It teaches that men are the descendants of the gods; that is, the divinity. Again it teaches that as the universe came from the gods, it is full of the divine essence.

Confucianism is the next oldest system in Japan. It came from China. In its native country Confucianism developed to a great system. But in Japan the case is different. Here it has never developed into a religious system. It was simply accepted as a system of social and family morals. As we understand it, obedience to parents and loyalty to one's lord are the fundamental teachings of Confucianism. As our society was feudalistic in its organization, the teachings of Confucius, who lived and taught in the warlike period of Chinese feudalism, feudalism, found congenial soil in Japan. Thus Confucianism had and still has a stronghold among the higher and well educated classes.

Buddhism is the third religion in Japan. It came from India through China and Korea, and now is the most popular religion in Japan. At present there are at least ten different sects which all go by the name of Buddhism, but which are often quite different from one another.

Some sects are atheistic and others are almost theistic. Some are strict and others are liberal. Some are scholarly and others are popular. Some are pessimistic in their principles and teach annihilation to be the ultimate end of human existence. Others are optimistic and teach a happy life in a future existence, if not in the present world. But all unite at least in the one thing, viz., the law of cause and effect. "One reaps what he sows," is the universal teaching of Japanese Buddhism, although the application of the law may be different in different sects.

The last and newest religion in Japan is Christianity. We have three forms of Christianity—Roman Catholic, Greek Catholic, and Protestant; the whole Christian population being about 100,000. Of these the Roman Catholic Church is the strongest in membership; then comes the Protestant, and finally the Greek Catholic. The Protestant Christianity is already represented by thirty-one different sects and denominations. I need not stop here to tell you what these different forms and sects of Christianity teach in Japan. The point to be considered is this: In the struggle for existence between these old religions in Japan and Christianity, which will be more likely to survive—Christianity or these other religions?

Before answering this question, I must call your attention to the fact that in Japan these three different systems of religion and morality are not only living together on friendly terms with one another but, in fact, they are blended together in the minds of the people who draw necessary nourishment from all of these sources. One and the same Japanese is both a Shintoist, a Confucianist, and a Buddhist. He plays a triple part, so to speak. This must be strange to you, but it is a fact. Our religion may be likened to a triangle, which is made up of three angles. One angle is Shintoism, another is Confucianism, and a third angle is Buddhism, all of which make up the religion of ordinary Japanese. Shintoism furnishes the objects, Confucianism offers the rules of life, while Buddhism supplies the way of salvation; so you see we Japanese are eclectic in everything, even in religion.

Thus our old religions not only live together in peace but are mutually helping one another. Now Christianity comes to the Japanese and claims their exclusive faith in it. The God of Christianity is the jealous God. Here begins the battle between the newcomer and the old religions of Japan. The former is the common enemy of the latter, and so it has to face their united front.

Which will survive in this struggle for existence? Here comes the necessity and the importance of the thorough study and careful comparison of these religious systems of the world. I do not intend nor pretend to enter into this discussion, but I will simply express my own thought concerning the probable result of this struggle for existence among different religions.

There are two ways of comparing the value of different religions—namely, practical and theoretical. In either of these ways one can pick up the defects and shortcomings of different religions and make them the standard of the comparison. But this seems to be a very poor and improper method. The better and more proper way of comparing them is by placing side by side the best and most worthy teachings of different systems and then decide which is better or which is the best.

In my mind there is no doubt that Christianity will survive in this struggle for existence and become the future religion of the land of the Rising Sun. My reasons for this are numerous, but I must be brief. In the first place, Christianity claims to be and is the universal religion. It teaches one God, who is the father of all mankind, but is so pliable that it can adapt itself to any environment, and then it can transform and assimilate the environment to itself. This is amply proved by its history.

In the second place, Christianity is inclusive. It is a living organism, a seed or germ which is capable of growth and development and which will leaven all the nations of the world. In growing it draws and can draw its nutritious elements from any sources. It survives the struggle for existence and feeds and grows on the flesh of the fallen.

In the third place, Christianity teaches that man was created in the image of God. The human is divine and the divine is human. Here lies the merit of Christianity, in uplifting man, all human beings—young and old, men and women, the governing and the governed—to their proper position.

In the fourth place, Christianity teaches love to God and love to man as its fundamental teaching. The golden rule is the glory of Christianity, not because it was originated by Christ—this rule was also taught by Buddha and Laotse many centuries before—but because he properly emphasized it by his words and by his life.

In the fifth place, Christianity requires every man to be perfect, as the Father in heaven is perfect. Here lies the basis for the hope of man's infinite development in science, in art and in character—in one word in perfection.

In brief, these are some of the reasons which make me think that sooner or later Christianity will, as it ought to, become the future religion of Japan.

If Christianity will triumph and become the religion of Japan, which form of Christianity, or Christianity of which denomination, will become the religion of Japan? Catholic Christianity or Protestant Christianity? We do not want Catholic Christianity nor do we want Protestant Christianity. We do not want the Christianity of England nor the Christianity of America, we want the Christianity of Japan. On the whole, it is better to have different sects and denominations than to have lifeless monotony. The Christian church should observe the famous saying of St. Vincent: "In essentials, unity; in non-essentials, liberty; in all things charity."

We Japanese want the Christianity of the Christ. We want the truth of Christianity, nay, we want the truth pure and simple. We want the spirit of the Bible and not its letter. We hope for the union of all Christians, at least in spirit if not possible form. But we Japanese Christians are hoping, more we are ambitious to present to the world one new and unique interpretation of Christianity as it is presented in our Bible, which knows no sectarian controversy and which knows no heresy hunting. Indeed, the time is coming and ought to come when God shall be worshipped, not by rites and ceremonies but He shall be worshipped in spirit and in truth.

Arbitration Instead of War.—By Shaku Soyen.

What a glorious evening this is for Buddhists to see? The whole platform is occupied by us Buddhists only from the Orient. What a happy time this is that we see such a big gathering of well-educated ladies and gentlemen, who are assembled here with the praiseworthy object of listening to the voice of truth. I have always regarded it a high honour in my life that I had the honour of seeing you from this pulpit the last time as one of the foreign delegates to this successful parliament of religious congresses. But the happiness and honour I have this evening, in having another opportunity of addressing you, is much greater.

My subject is "Arbitration Instead of War." I am a Buddhist, but please do not be so narrow-minded as to refuse my opinion on account of its expression on the tongue of one who belongs to a different nation, different creed, and different civilization. Why? Because the truth is only one. There must be no distinction and all must be equal before the light of truth.

First, let me thank you for the success which is crowning this parliament. But allow me to assure you that this parliament is only the beginning of universal brotherhood and fraternity, though if the object be dropped now it will surely be fruitless, meritless, and come to naught. Let us hope that you and I—nay, all the people on the earth—will combine in harmony in promoting the grand project patiently and steadily. And what do you think I really mean by the grand project? It is the formation of a common family in universal brotherhood. I assure you that this project is not like a castle in the air at all, but quite hopeful.

Our Buddha, who taught that all people entering into Buddhism are entirely equal in the same way, as all rivers flowing into the sea become alike, preached this plan in the wide kingdom of India just three thousand years ago. Not only Buddha alone, but Jesus Christ, as well as Confucius, taught about universal love and fraternity. We also acknowledge the glory of universal brotherhood. Then let us, the true followers of Buddha, the true followers of Jesus Christ, the true followers of Confucius, and the followers of truth, unite ourselves for the sake of helping the helpless and live glorious lives of brotherhood

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under the control of truth. Let us hope that we shall succeed in discountenancing those obstinate people who dared to compare this parliament with Niagara Falls, saying, "Broad, but fruitless." We, the lovers of truth and martyrs of love, must not rest till success smiles upon the home of truth.

Now let me speak a few words about international law, which is the outburst of universal brotherhood in itself. Why does war take place? Is there no alternative but to appeal to swords? What excuse can there be? Why should men fight and kill each other over things that do not concern them? The nature of war is not acceptable at all. And why? Because it is only the ambition of a few men disturbing the social peace, the social order, against the course of truth. How great a story of dreadful wars and battles that have been fought in the world does history tell us? The perusal of those barbarous records is enough to make the blood of those who love truth, peace and fraternity tingle and shut the book with a crying sigh!

And now we have international law which has been very successful in protecting the nations from each other and has done a great deal toward arbitration instead of war. But can we not hope that this system shall be carried out on a more and more enlarged scale, so that the world will be blessed with the everlasting glorious, bright sunshine of peace and love instead of the gloomy, cloudy weather of bloodshed, battles, and wars?

And what is gained by war? No thing, it only means the oppression of the weak by the strong, it simply means the fighting among brothers and the shedding of human blood. The stronger gains nothing while the weaker loses everything. We very often say that we are brothers, but what a troublesome brotherhood it is where one has to be armed well against the other. Look at the present state of European Powers? What is the purpose of the Triple Alliance? Is it for the promotion of peace and love? I hope it is, because when each nation is busily engaged in defending itself against the other, at the highest expense in its power, there will be no time to think for the promotion of true peace and love.

We are not born to fight one against another. We are born to enlighten our wisdom and cultivate our virtues according to the guidance of truth. And, happily, we see the movement toward the abolition of war and the establishment of a peace making society But how will our hope be realized? Simply by the help of the religion of truth is the fountain of benevolence and mercy. It is the duty of religion and of truth to attain this beautiful project of brotherhood, and is it not our duty to become the nucleus and motive power of this great plan? It is, and we must be that nucleus and power.

We must not make any distinction between race and race, between civilization and civilization, between creed and creed and between faith and faith. You must not say "go away," because we are not yellow people All beings on the universe are in the bosom of truth. We are all sisters and brothers; we are sons and daughters of truth and let us understand one another much better and be true sons and daughters of truth. Truth be praised!

Triumph of Truth in Religions.

The following paper on "Synthetic Religion" was contributed by Kinza Riuge M. Hirai, of Japan:—

The primitive age of humanity was like the hypothetical epoch of nebula. No particular star of wisdom illuminated the mental universe of dim, cloudy expansion, and no special beam of love kept warm the shivering heart. But right in the heavens above those spots where the hazy human mind's undissoluble mist crystalized into a condensed form, the brilliant suns of religion appeared shining with resplendent lustre. One sparkles still over the blue vault in the Persian forest, while the two brightest flashing from the sky of India and, throwing their glittering light over the oriental wilderness, tinge with crimson line the white face of the snow on the purple Himalayas. One or more isolated luminaries glance toward the western seas from among the clouds hovering over the fan shaped Fuji no-yama pendant from the empyrean of sunland. Several in the celestral expanse of the flowery kingdom and in the horizons of the Arabian desert, with many others here and there, vie with one another in their splendour in the vast cosmic sphere. One—"the star of the east"—flashing first with unwonted splendour over the Mount of Olives, gradually travelled toward the European firmament and on to the skies of the new world of America

In historical ages each one of these suns, by its rapidity of revolution, or by chaotic concussion, crumbled into small fragments of sects, many of which since have discharged their heat and lost their effulgence on account of their diminutive size, and thus have produced many constellations of religion with their dependent stars, satellites, and asteroids, as we see in the present age. In such times of violent shocks innumerable souls perish by the sparks and flashes caused by the incandescent heat of impetuous excitement.

The age of concussion, however, has already passed and all faiths are now desiring to face one another in order to blend their special rays, but unfortunately there are some obstacles against this ideal hope of friendship. The Occident and the Orient are attired in their own apparel and are speaking in their own tongues which differ entirely from each other, and in so far as the costumes of them are not stripped off and their languages are not translated they will ever remain as strangers. There is still another impediment which is not of an external and physical nature but is of the most delicate quality, deeply set at the bottom of each mind—the true heart of different religions, and until this central point comes to be well comprehended one will persistently repel the other and not the slightest halo can be interchanged. Unless this essential nature is distinctly revealed and each comes to a better understanding of the other, there will never be the time of a grand union of the world's religions.

Look over the mighty universe sprinkled over with luminous bodies. Some emit a dazzling lustre and revolve from one point to another with the greatest momentum, while others shine so far away and so insignificantly that their quivering lights are scarcely visible. But, if by any means they could be approached, probably some fixed stars would be found among them. Heretofore we have investigated and compared the different religions, yet very few have discerned the true kernel of fixed star, but most of them have only discovered the outside discoloured envelope of these teachings, just like the astronomers, who through a telescope, have descried the black spots on the face of the sun and certain unusual phases of the planets, but who never could prove their real substances, or, sometimes, a fragmentary piece of scripture supplies the topic of criticism or discussion, like a small meteoric stone which is carefully analyzed and considered to be the essential part of the moon, the composition of which can hardly be determined by a single meteorite. Having the honour to be here with this great congress of religions, I consider it my duty to endeavour to discuss some few important points which are apparently contradictory in different beliefs, so that they can be synthesized and fraternized

The first question is: How can religions be synthesized? There are no two things exactly alike, and as long as we dwell upon dissimilarity nothing can be generalized. A certain attribute equally possessed by different things must be found in order to arrange them in one group under its head. The innumerable different living beings are thus classified into the animal kingdom, or the larger class of organism, and also all organic or inorganic bodies are brought under a still wider category of material substance. This very "apprehension of the one in many" is the only method by the application of which all beliefs of whatever source or phase they may be, are to be reconciled In other words, as I hinted before, if the central truth common to all religions be disclosed, we can accomplish our aim.

What common traits are there contained in the various religions? To answer this question let me examine for a little while the nature of religion and set down its definition for your consideration. It is an idle conception to think that prayer and worship, with their more or less formal ceremonies are the important characteristics of religion, for they are the mere outside paraphernalia and not the true substance which they envelope. According to my notion, religion has two forms in three stages, namely: In the first or embryonic stage it is non-ceremonious; in the second or middle stage it is ceremonious; and in the last stage it is non-ceremonious again. That of the second stage is easily recognized as religion from its being ceremonious, but at the first and last stages no visible mark of it is observed, and hence by some the existence of religion is totally denied in these two periods. But I regard the minds of the rudest barbarians and the lower animals, who are generally said to have no religion, as belonging to the first stage, and those of a certain class of civilized people, who are considered unbelievers of religion, or who call themselves non-religionists, to the third stage. These we resemble each other on the outside, for both have the non ceremonious feature, but the first is not yet clearly defined while the last is fully developed. The above statement will be found to be correct if the following definition of religion be admitted as correct.

Religion is a prior belief in an unknown entity, and no human being or lower animal can evade or resist this belief. Some one may argue that he does not believe anything unknown, but relies upon knowledge and intellect. But what is knowledge other than the result known by intellect? To know by intellect means nothing else than to know by reasoning, which is the process of deriving conclusions from the two premises. But by what means are they known, and why are they relied upon as the unmistakable basis of the argument? They must be the results of the previous deductions or instructions which also were drawn from their premises.

Thus, if we trace back in the same way and try to reach the true source of these premises, in every step of our task we confront more incomprehensible assumptions, and the farther we proceed the more we are enshrouded by the mystic cloud. Perhaps rather turning from the very verge of the present question, we will attempt to explain it by plunging into psychological queries, and will say that the foremost premises were imparted to us by the mental processes of pure logical activity. Still, we are far from the point of understanding, for the ultimate impulse which caused the mental processes awaits in the background to be satisfactorily defined. Then we will bound into physical, chemical, physiological, and next into dynamic, and finally into atomic theories, which have the most distant relations with the original question; but entering into a deeper and wider and more generalized region, we are left entirely vague, acquiring not a single clue by which to escape entanglement. We can grasp nothing during infinite duration in this realm where any logical structure is shattered to pieces.

Shall we then reject these premises because they are inexplainable? No. We cannot syllogise without them. We cannot think, will, and act without them. We must retain and rely upon them. We are forced to believe them as true without reasoning. If it is not by reasoning, then what compels us to believe them as true? We do not know why and what, for it is entirely beyond our reason. It is not the place where we say "we know," but we say only we believe something which we do not know. This is what I call *a priori* belief in an unknown entity.

This abstract definition does not cover all those faiths which are ordinarily understood as religions, for each of them has the central object or entity, be it the reason or truth expounded in Buddhism and other so called atheistic doctrines, or be it the one God taught in Christianity or the material image or even the animal of idol and animal worship, none of which is conceivable, at least to its believers.

Let us examine the nature of the above mentioned entities. First, what is the reason or truth? It is cause and effect. What is cause and effect? If we go on to strive to reach the comprehension of them we shall enter into exactly the same condition of desperate uncertainty as when we attempt to know in vain the premises of our argument, and we must be satisfied to conclude that truth is an entity utterly incomprehensible. Some will argue that truth is a creation of God, but unfortunately, this proposition is self inconsistent on its face, for it is truth that God must have ever existed before he created anything. Who created this truth before the creation and what is the difference between this first truth and the second truth created by God? And again, to create truth is itself a truth. Therefore if there was no truth before, how could any truth the created without using a truth which must have been existent?

It may be admitted that there was no truth before its creation by God. Still, there is another contradiction, for no existence of truth or non-truth is already a truth, and who created this negative truth before the creation? It may be protested that as God is an absolute, finite, unconditional, and omnipotent power, he can create by the method which is entirely beyond our human intellect; but these attributes are incompatible with one another and nullify the very existence of God.

First. Creation implies relativity in comparison with non creation and if God is creator, he loses the attribute of absolute which must not be relative. Also He is relative with the things created, or in other words, He is the relative cause in regard to the effect. Next, though the universe is unlimitedly wide and infinitely vast, yet the suns, moons, and stars are conditionally created with certain form, heat, light, etc.; human beings are conditioned into a limited space of body with their finite power of intellect, the limited length of nose, the relatively located eyes, ears, and limbs: the lower animals are under still more limited mental capacity, with certain conditioned physical power and construction, destined to live in a conditioned habitat, and all inorganic substances are still more finite, relatively limited and conditioned than the organic beings.

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If we observe the other phenomena around us we shall see that the moon transforms its phase into many conditions within limited times; the sun gives its heat and light to us in different degrees according to the different conditions; the rain falls within finite locality and the sea rolls in great storms and sleeps in pacific calmness under certain conditions, the earthquake and volcanic eruptions occur under certain conditions in a limited place, by which, and many other agencies operated from time immemorial, the present condition of the earth was conditioned as seen in the strata of the geological ages. If we are convinced that the creative mind must be conditioned, because if no condition is considered nothing can be designed, and also that the created universe in thus in the finite complexity of limited condition, we cannot think otherwise than that God is also limited, finite, and conditional, and cannot be infinite, absolute, and omnipotent.

Here is another contradiction, not on the part of God, but on our side. If our human mind is unlimited and omnipotent, the question is at once settled, but so long as no one can deny that we are limited in our intelligence, we cannot prove the divine infiniteness. For, to ascertain the dimensions of a certain object we need a standard measure, and the number of times of its adjustment determines the extent. In the same way, to value the unlimited intellect of God with our limited standard, we must continue to compute to the end of the unlimited; but as there is no end to the unlimited, we could not stop at any point, for when we cease in the middle we have not yet ascertained the unlimitedness. It is ridiculous when a person says a piece of lumber, say of 100 feet, is unlimited, stopping his measurement in the point of ten or twelve feet distance from the end. Therefore the unlimitedness of God is a contradictory conclusion, for our limited intellect does not go so far and stops at a certain place, and beyond that point we are not yet certain whether limited or unlimited.

Finally, as God is understood to have the above attributes, then the existence of such a God is itself an irreconcilable conception. Thus no one can prove logically the existence and attributes of God, and every effort toward satisfactory evidence turns to a stumbling block. Here the definition of religion, which was set down before, well adjusts this question—*a priori* belief of an unknown entity.

Let us go a step farther and decide whether the belief in the gods of pantheism or idol worship will be in another predicament. If God has a personal or animal form, or is a material idol, this notion does not prevent the faith in him being compromised with the two preceding beliefs—truth and God—for he is presumed to have a wonderful power unknown to the believers. Thus the features of the above three faiths are very dissimilar on their exterior, yet, internally, all of their followers believe in the unknown entity. And if no one can verify its substantial nature by any testimonial evidence, where is the difference among them, each of which being invariably unknown? Here will be established a perfect union between atheism and theism, for I cannot consider from the previous argument that truth was created by God, or God is a different thing from truth, and can see but one entity—truth—the connecting link of cause and effect, the essence of phenomena.

If this is the same thing with God, the terms atheism and theism mean the same thing, or both are misnomers at the same time, for both believe in one unknown entity, a fountain from which our complex and mental phenomena and their consequent physical actions flow out, a base upon which the fabrics of science and philosophy are erected. This is not only the foundation of the intellect of human beings, but also of the lower animals, because though their mental faculties cannot be compared with ours, so far as they have even rudimentary mind, they must have this unconscious belief. Much more the human infants and wildest savages are not to be excepted from this natural conviction. In the last three cases they do not realize the existence of an unknown entity and a belief in it, but they cannot live without these, as a newly born child does not recognize the existence of its parents.

If the above inference is correct, we can conclude that whether a man is a religionist or a so called non-religionist, whether he is a theist or atheist, whether a monotheist or pantheist, whether a scientist, philosopher, spiritualist or materialist, a statesman or a lawyer, whether infant or adult, whether barbarian or beast, all beings of the human and animal kingdom have, consciously or unconsciously, *a priori* belief of an unknown one. That is, they are all believers of religion. And also we can conclude that all the religions in the world have one and the same centre and are synthesized into one synthesized religion, or, if I may use the term, "entitism," which has been the inherent spirit of Japan, and is called *satori hotoke* in Japanese. The apparent contradictions among them are only the different descriptions of the same thing, seen from different situations and different views, to be observed in the way to the termination.

The relation of Buddhism, Christianity, Confucianism, Shintoism, and all the other religions of the world and their believers is like that of many lines of different railroads and their passengers. Each starts from a different point and direction, passing through different country scenes, but the final destiny is the one and the same world's fair, which will also be differently viewed by the mental situation of the visitors. Do not dispute about the distinctions of the different lines of railroad. The world's fair is not in the trains and cars, but it is in Chicago, right before you. You are in the fair. Stop your debate about the difference of religion. Kill Gautama—he is only a conductor of the train; burn his scripture—truth is not in it, but right before you. You are in truth. Do not mind Christ—he is only a brakeman. Tear up the bible—God is not in it, but right before you. You are in God.

This synthesis of all faiths is no more a vain hope. If it were ever so thought it is now known that this apparent dream was not utopian but a mirage refracted from a remote reality. Could I but have for a few moments the clairvoyant vision of the seer, and peer into the deep and subtle minds of the great men and women who are here assembled I should discover one aim and one object common to them all—the desire in love to help and teach the others, but I should also find a mental conception and hope in regard to this parliament as different in each mind as the faces of these members vary from another.

It is the dream of the Christian representatives that in assembling together these great men from China, from India, from Europe, from South America, from Japan and the islands of the sea they will, for the first time, behold with understanding the bloody cross of Christ and will enroll under the banner of the humble Nazarene, and the Christian representative is right; but there is something more.

It was the dream of the Buddhist that the clear and pure enlightenment of Gautama might be explained and comprehended by the student of the west, and the Buddhist representative is right; but there is something more.

It was the dream of the representative from the land of the star and crescent and all those Moslems who pray to Allah with their faces toward Mecca that some recognition should be held out to them as the powerful and aggressive faith which has earned its right of place among the accepted religions of the world, and the representative of Mohammed is right; but there is something more.

The clean Parsee, purified by fire, standing almost alone to day under the untarnished flag of Zoroaster, still hopes and dreams of a revival of his faith by the influence of this parliament of religions, and he is right; but there is something more.

Members of this great auxiliary assembly, there is a surprise awaiting you. The lamb and the lion shall lie down together. Looking more intently, some of us behold a strange thing—the paradox, the anomaly—the Christian a Buddhist and the Buddhist a Christian; the Moslem a Parsee and the Parsee a Moslem. The grand, far-reaching result to grow out of this parliament is not what you conceive, but, as I said before, a surprise awaits you. Out of it shall come a pure being—unfettered, naked, white, with eyes like Christ and dignity like Buddha, bearing the rewards of Zoroaster and the flaming sword of Moslem. To her the Jew bows his head, the Christian kneels, the Brahman prays; before her the habiliments of sects and creeds fall off, for she is pure and naked—she is the one truth resurrected from the mingled head and interchanged mind of the world's great parliament of religions.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

ECZEMA.—Book on "Skin Trouble," net, free for One Stamp by Messrs NORTH & RAE Limited, Yokohama.

"Sir," said a Customs officer to a tourist, "I thought you told me you had nothing but your personal wearing apparel in this trunk?"—"So I did." "Well, how do you account for the presence of a dozen bottles of brandy?"—"Oh, that's all right. They are nightcaps."

Curran, being angry in a debate one day, put his hand on his heart, saying. "I am the trusty guardian of my own honour." "Then," observed Sir Boyle Roche, "I congratulate my honourable friend on the sung sinecure to which he has appointed himself."

BASEBALL.

UNITED KINGDOM V. UNITED STATES

The English managed to beat the Americans in a very substantial fashion on Friday in the baseball match arranged among members of the Y.C. & A.C. Both teams were strengthened by a catcher from the *Lancaster's* club, and for some time the United Kingdom played a man short. The game was provocative of much genuine amusement, both to players and on-lookers, and the marvellous gymnastic feats performed by certain gentlemen in their efforts to hold or secure bases were accorded full meed of reward in the shape of comical compliments and applause. The British contingent scored in easy innings, but their opponents were "whitewashed," to quote one expressive epithet of baseball jargon, more than once. What rendered the game more than ordinarily interesting was the ingenuous mistiness which prevailed in the minds of many of the players in regard to the rules of play, "errors" were therefore frequent as well as indiscriminately shared among the crowd. Still, there is evidently a good baseball nine to be found among the Y.C. and A.C., if only members would drop their diffidence in the matter for the nonce and go in for a few practices during the summer or early autumn. Games could then be arranged with the U.S. Navy with a fair amount of certainty that a good match would result. As will be seen from the score below, Pearson, Lias, and McGill each secured 4 runs for the United Kingdom, but not any of the United States men got above 2, though several ventured. Lias and Tilden were the pitchers on either side, and McGill and Riley catchers. Score:—

United Kingdom.	Pos.	Runs.	Outs.
Mr. Pearson	3B	4	3
Mr. Tate	3B	3	3
Mr. Lias	P	4	2
Mr. Muir	LF	4	1
Mr. Walford	CF	3	2
Mr. Kenny	RF	4	1
Mr. Mellnon	2B	0	4
Mr. Edwards	SS	2	3
Mr. McGill	C	4	1
		28	27

United States.	Pos.	Runs.	Outs.
Dr. Stokes	SS	1	4
Mr. Riley	C	1	4
Mr. Tilden	P	2	2
Mr. Blanchard	3B	2	2
Mr. McWilliams	2B	1	1
Mr. Happer	CF	0	4
Mr. Hepburn	LB	0	3
Mr. Lane	RF	1	4
Mr. Gray	LF	1	4
		13	27

INNINGS.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
United Kingdom	2	3	3	2	3	4	1	1	1	—22
United States	0	0	3	1	0	4	0	5	1	—15

THE SUMA FÊTE.

The fête at Suma, says the *Kobe Chronicle*, which is given each year on the Emperor's birthday by Messrs. De Ath & Co. was more than usually successful this year. More than two hundred Japanese guests had been expected, but the guests actually present came greater three than two hundred, the number being swelled by curio dealers from Osaka and Kyoto as well as Kobe. The fête seems to be increasingly popular among Japanese, for most of those who get an invitation manage to be present, and one large firm of curio-dealers even sent as many as seven representatives!

Most of the guests arrived at Suma by the train leaving Kobe at 9.46 a.m., and walked to Mr. De Ath's grounds to the inspiring strains of the Kobe Town Band, which did remarkably well during the day, playing in the train, on the road, all day in the grounds, and even in the station on the return journey, winding up with the Japanese national anthem on the steps outside the Kobe station. The grounds at Suma looked especially beautiful in the bright sunshine on Friday, after the heavy rain of the previous day, while the Japanese and British flags and the strings of Japanese lanterns gave them a gala appearance, intensified by the bright costumes of the Japanese relieved against the dark green of the firs.

At 12 o'clock all the guests formed square, and after being addressed by Messrs. De Ath's head banto, Mr. Okuda, drank the toast of the Emperor standing, with cries of "Tenno Heika Manzai." Then came tiffin, while races, wrestling, performances by jugglers, archery, and other amusements filled up the rest of the afternoon until darkness brought the fête to an end. Mr. Okuda, the head banto, made a somewhat remarkable speech when proposing the toast of the day, seizing the opportunity of the presence of so many curio dealers and manufacturers to read them a little homily on business morality. Among other things, he referred to the

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habit among Japanese of asking much more for an article than was likely to be given for it by experienced purchasers. He said it was bad business to ask one *yen* for an article for which they were prepared to accept twenty *sen*, and he advised the dealers to make themselves acquainted with the business standards of Europe and America and try to emulate them. As he uttered these home truths the dealers looked somewhat sheepish and kept their eyes upon the ground, and though it is to be feared that the words of advice have in the main fallen on very stony soil, there is always the possibility of the good seed of business morality here and there taking root and producing more or less abundantly. At any rate, such a speech by one of their own countrymen cannot but be serviceable to the Japanese, and if it does little good at present, it at least holds up the ideal of a better state of things than now exists.

After an excellent foreign tiffin, served in the pretty Japanese summer house in the grounds, Mr. De Ath's health was proposed by Mr. Morris, and the toast was supported by Mr. F. Walsh as the oldest resident present, and also by Mr. T. Counsell, who stated that having arrived that morning he might fairly be regarded as the youngest. Mr. Counsell made a most humorous speech, saying he had enjoyed himself so much that day that he should always feel a longing to return to Japan as the one place next to Lancashire (!) in which it was possible for a man to live and enjoy his life. The toast was drunk with enthusiasm, and Mr. De Ath having responded, the foreign guests dispersed to watch the various amusements and games which were provided to pass the afternoon.

We believe that Messrs. De Ath & Co. is the only foreign firm in Japan which gives an annual fête of this character to its employés and the Japanese merchants with whom it has business transactions. The practice, however, seems a very excellent one and cannot but be of service in bringing foreigners and Japanese together and showing that their interests are identical.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[Reuter "Special" to "Japan Mail."]

London, November 4

The breach of promise case against the Sultan of Johore has been dismissed on the ground that, the Sultan being a reigning sovereign, he cannot be sued.

The Spanish reserves have been called out, raising the army to one hundred thousand for the prosecution of the war against the Moors.

London, November 8.

Lobengula, at the head of 7,000 Matabeles, having failed to make good his escape in the direction of the Zambesi, is returning to Buluwayo, and another battle is believed to be imminent.

Mr. Gladstone, in the House of Commons, said that the Government was perfectly satisfied with the capacity and adequacy of the naval forces at present in the Mediterranean

Sir Andrew Clark, Bart, physician, is dead.

London, November 9

The Matabeles were defeated with heavy loss on the 2nd November by Colonel Adams' column, our loss in killed and wounded being slight.

At the State elections in New York the Democrats have been completely defeated. Mr. McKinley has been elected Governor of Ohio.

Later.

At the Lord Mayor's banquet to-night at Guildhall, the Earl of Kimberley, in the absence of Lord Rosebery and Mr. Gladstone, said that England's relations with foreign countries were friendly, but that the growing battalions of Europe insured a condition of anxiety. The speaker, in referring to Siam, said that Her Majesty's Government was fully alive to the importance of British interests in that country.

[Specially Telegraphed to the "Japan Daily Mail."]
(From the "N.C. Daily News")

London, November 2.

The British columns operating against the Matabeles are expected to reach Buluwayo on the 4th. The Matabeles have repeatedly cut the telegraph wires.

France has granted Russia the right to use any of the French naval stations in the Mediterranean.

The correspondent of *The Times* has thoroughly inspected Toulon arsenal and reports that the French are strong enough to wipe out the present British Mediterranean fleet.

In the course of a recent speech, Redmond stated that the Parnellite members of Parliament would support the Government's English measures next year, provided that one week of the Autumn session was devoted to the grievances of the Irish evicted tenants.

London November 3.

The Matabeles have been defeated in several engagements and their forces are quite broken. Half of the Imbizo regiment is killed. Chief Lobengula has retreated, but is being pursued by two columns under the command of Adams and Forbes, who will occupy Buluwayo. The losses to the Europeans of the Chartered Company's troops is very slight. The Cape Government has asked Sir Henry Loch to cable Lord Ripon a proposal that the Chartered Company, through Mr. Cecil Rhodes, settle with the Matabele the terms of peace, subject to the control of the Secretary of State.

The House of Representatives has passed the bill repealing the Sherman Act, as adopted by the Senate, by 191 against 94.

London, November 4.

A desperate engagement between the Matabeles and the Chartered Company's forces, the principal fight of the expedition in fact, took place about thirty-five miles from Buluwayo, when five thousand Matabeles attacked the Chartered Company's column under the command of Forbes, when the latter were in laager. The Matabeles were repulsed by the deadly fire of the Europeans, and fled, leaving five hundred killed and wounded. The loss on the Chartered Company's side was three killed and six wounded. Adams, in command of the Imperial forces, arrived with his troops shortly after the battle.

[From Tonkin Papers.]

Paris, October 15th.

M. Margaine, Questeur of the Senate, and M. Lippmann, Director of the Interieur, Congo, are dead.

The Czar, the Czarewitch, and the Grand Duke Michael, on the 13th inst., visited the cruisers *Isly* and *Surcouf* at Copenhagen.

Paris, October 19th.

President Carnot says the friendship of France and Russia must give confidence and security to the friends of peace.

Paris, October 22.

A commercial treaty between Germany and Roumania has been signed.

Lord Vivian, the British Ambassador at Rome, is dead.

Clark, Sir Andrew, Bart., M.D., born on October 28, 1826, was educated first at Aberdeen, and afterwards at Edinburgh. In the extra-academical Medical School of this city he gained the first medals in anatomy, physiology, chemistry, botany, materia medica, surgery, pathology, and practice of physic. For two years he assisted Dr. Hughes Bennett in the pathological department of the Royal Infirmary, and was demonstrator of anatomy to Dr. Robert Knox in the final course of lectures delivered by that celebrated anatomist. For four years Dr. Clark had charge of the pathological department of the Royal Naval Hospital at Haslar, where he delivered lectures on the use of the microscope in practical medicine. In 1854 he took his degree of M.D. at the University of Aberdeen, settled in the metropolis, became a member of the Royal College of Physicians of London, and was elected on the staff of the London Hospital. In 1858 Dr. Clark was made a Fellow of the College of Physicians, in which he has held the offices of Croonian and Lumleian Lecturer, Councillor, and Examiner in Medicine, and Censor. He has been also Lettsomian Lecturer and President of the Medical Society of London. Dr. Clark originally intended to devote himself exclusively to the cultivation of pathology; but turned by the force of circumstances from the course on which he had entered, he has been now long occupied in the work of a practical physician. He is the author of numerous essays, lectures, and reviews, the professional portion of which refers for the most part to diseases of the respiratory, renal, and digestive organs. He was created a Baronet in 1883. He is at present Senior Physician and Lecturer on Clinical Medicine to the London Hospital, an F.R.S., an LL.D. of Edinburgh and Aberdeen (*causâ honoris*), and Consulting Physician to the East London Hospital for Diseases of Children. He has held the office of President of the Metropolitan Counties Branch of the British Medical Association, and President of the Clinical Society. Among his professional writings are:—"On the Anatomy of the Lungs," in Dr. H. Davies's work on "Physical Diagnosis," "On Tubercular Sputum," "Evidences of the Arrestment of Phthisis," "Mucous Disease of the Colon;" "Lectures on "The Anatomy of the Lung, "Pneumonia," and "The States of Lung comprehended under the term Phthisis Pulmonum" (delivered at the Royal College of Physicians in 1866), "Fibroid Phthisis" in vol. i of the *Transactions of the Clinical Society*, "The Work of Fibrinous Pleurisies in the Evolution of Phthisis" (in the *Medical Mirror* for 1870; "Renal Inadequacy;" "The Theory of Asthma;" "Neurasthenia," &c.—*Men of the Time.*]

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.

The Yokohama Chess Club meets at the Club Rooms, No. 88, Main Street on Mondays and Thursdays from 5 to 11 p.m.

The Tokyo Chess Club meets at the Hotel Métropole on Tuesdays from 1 to 11 p.m.

Solution of Problem No. 94

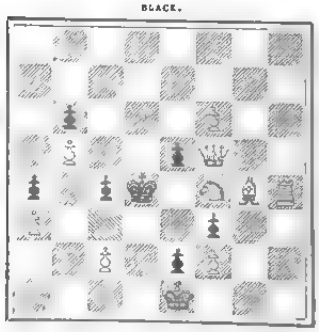
White.	Black
1—R — R 5	1—Kt × Q
2—Kt — K 3, ch	2—K — K 4
3—P — K B 4, mate	
	1—Kt (B 3) × R
2—Kt — K 7, ch.	2—K × B
3—K — K 4, mate	
	1—Kt (B 5) × R
2—Kt — K 3, ch.	2—K × B
3—Kt — K 4, mate	
	1—B × B or P × P
2—Q — K B 6	2—Either Kt × R
3—Q — K 6, mate	
	if 2—Kt — Q sq. or Q 5
3—Kt — K 7, mate	
	1—B — Q 6, B 6, or R 4
2—Q — K 5, ch.	2—K × Q
3—B — Q 4 or 6, double ch., mate	
	if 2—Kt (B 3) × Q
3—Kt — K 7, mate	
	if 2—Kt (B 5) × Q
3—Kt — K 3, mate.	

Correct solutions received from Digamma, W.H.S., Omega, J.W.E., and J.D.

Correct solution also received from O.B., but too late for competition points.

The above problem, which took the first prize in a large competition, has been highly praised by those who have been successful in unravelling its masterly combinations.

Problem No. 96.
By G. B Valle.



White to play and mate in three moves.

There is very little news either locally or from abroad. The Tournaments are going on in both Clubs, but the match between Yokohama and Tokyo has not yet been definitely arranged.

The Nagasaki-Yokohama correspondence games display no new feature. The first week in November has been occupied with fêtes and holidays. Doubtless these have interfered with the progress of this contest also.

We give below two smart games (recently published in an exchange), which we think will interest our readers.

BRILLIANT BREVITIES.

Kieseritzky Gambit.

White. Amateur.	Black. Zukertort.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—P to K B 4	2—P takes P
3—K Kt to B 3	3—P to K Kt 4
4—P to K R 4	4—P to Kt 5
5—Kt to K 5	5—B to Kt 2
6—Kt takes Kt P	6—P to Q 4
7—Kt to B 2	7—P takes P
8—Kt takes P	8—Q to K 2
9—Q to K 2	9—Kt to Q B 3
10—P to B 3	10—Kt to R 3
11—P to Q 4	11—B to Kt 5
12—Q to Q 3	12—P to B 4
13—B takes P	13—P takes Kt
14—Q to Kt 5	14—Castles (Q R)
15—Kt to Q 2	15—Kt to B 4
16—P to Q 5	16—P to K 6
17—Kt to B 4	17—Q Kt to Q 5
18—P takes Kt	18—Kt takes Q P
19—Q to R 4	19—Q to Kt 5 ch.
20—Q takes Q	20—Kt to B 7 mate.

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GIUOCO PIANO

WHITE. Fedden.	BLACK. Wayte.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to B 4	3—B to B 4
4—Castles	4—Kt to B 3
5—P to Q 3	5—P to Q 3
6—B to K Kt 5	6—P to K R 3
7—B to R 4	7—P to K Kt 4
8—B to Kt 3	8—P to K R 4
9—Kt takes Kt P	9—P to R 5
10—Kt takes P	10—P takes B
11—Kt takes Q	11—B to K Kt 5
12—Q to Q 2	12—Kt to Q 5
13—Kt to B 3	13—Kt to B 6 ch.
14—P takes Kt	14—Q B takes P
15—B to B 7 ch.	15—K takes Kt
16—B to R 5	16—R takes B
17—P to K R 4	17—R takes P
18—Q to R 6	18—R takes Q

and Black mates next move.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, Nagasaki, and Kobe	per N. Y. K.	Friday, Nov 17th
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Nov. 19th †
From America	per O. & O. Co.	Friday, Nov 24th.‡
From Hongkong	per P. M. Co.	Saturday, Nov. 25th.§
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Nov. 19th.
From America	per P. M. Co	Sunday, Nov. 26th.
From Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Nov. 27th.
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Wed'day, Nov. 29th.
From Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, Dec. 7th.

† *Oanis* (with French mail) left Hongkong on November 3rd. ‡ *Gaelic* left San Francisco on November 2nd. § *Peru* (with English mail) left Amoy on November 6th

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Nov. 12th.
For America	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Nov. 14th.
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki	per N. Y. K.	Tuesday, Nov. 14th.
For Europe, viâ Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Nov 19th.
For Victoria, B.C., and Tacoma, Wash.	per N. P. Co	Monday, Nov. 20th.
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Friday, Nov. 24th
For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Nov. 27th.
For Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Fr day, Dec. 1st.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, Dec. 8th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Plover (6), gunboat, Captain F. C. B. Addington, 4th November,—Hakodate

Ancona, British steamer, 1,880, W. D. Mudie, 5th November,—Hongkong 27th October, Nagasaki 1st November, and Kobe 4th, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Tsukushi Maru, Japanese steamer, 636, J. Will, 5th November,—Moji, Coal.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. Young, 5th November,—Otaru viâ ports 31st October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,240, J. T. Smith, 6th November,—San Francisco 19th October, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,168, Crichton, 6th November,—Kobe 4th November, General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sessiu Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,011, Hayashi, 6th November,—Kobe 5th November, General. —Nada Kogio Kabushiki Kaisha.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, Barstow, 7th November,—Manila viâ ports, 21st October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 7th November,—Moji, Coal.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, T. Sakai, 7th November,—Kobe 6th November, General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mercury (13), cruiser, Captain W. Fawkes, 8th November,—Kobe.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, J. Nirei, 8th November,—Otaru viâ ports 3rd November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,219, Wilson, 8th November,—Misumi 5th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Ekstrand, 8th November,—Kobe 7th November, General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 9th November,—Hongkong viâ ports, 1st November, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, Hamada, 9th November,—Takata, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, Conner, 11th November,—Shanghai and ports 4th November, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Benledi, British steamer, 1,481, Farquhar, 11th November,—London viâ ports, General.—Cornes & Co.

DEPARTURES

Ning Chow, British steamer, 1,735, G. L. Gratton, 3rd November,—London viâ ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Ekstrand, 4th November,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, R. Tipple, 4th November,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha

Nan Chang, British steamer, 1,052, Finlayson, 4th November,—Newchwang via Kuchinotsu, Light.—Butterfield & Swire.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,034, J. B. MacMillan, 4th November,—Bombay viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Belgic, British steamer, 2,690, Wm. H. Walker, 5th November,—San Francisco, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Calédonien, French steamer, 2,500, Flandin, 5th November,—Shanghai viâ Kobe, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Mogamikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,005, T. Idzumi, 5th November,—Kuchinotsu, Light.—Uchinakashiro

Tsukushi Maru, Japanese steamer, 636, J. Will, 6th November,—Moji, Light.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. Young, 6th November,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,246, J. T. Smith, 7th November,—Hongkong, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S Co.

Clam, British steamer, 4,100, Daniel, 7th November,—Havre and London viâ ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Gerda, German steamer, 1,243, Ehlers, 7th November,—Hamburg viâ ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Sessiu Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,011, Hayashi, 7th November, Shinagawa, General.—Nada Kogio Kabushiki Kaisha.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,358, Haswell, 7th November,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,168, Crichton, 7th November,—Otaru viâ ports, General. Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Thisbe, Austrian steamer, 1,872, J. Covarich, 8th November,—Kobe, Light.—Browne & Co.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 895, Barstow, 8th November,—Yokosuka, Light.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, T. Sakai, 9th November,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Plover (6), gun boat, Captain F. C. B. Addington, 9th November,—Kobe.

Volute, British steamer, 2,348, Stott, 10th November,—Hamburg viâ ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 10th November,—Moji, Light.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 10th November,—Vancouver, B C., Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, Hamada, 10th November,—Hachinohe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Ekstrand, 10th November,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Miss Webb, Mr. T. Counsell, and Mr. and Mrs. Bottenheim in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, from Otaru viâ ports:—26 passengers in second class and 40 passengers in steerage.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, from San Francisco:—Mr. and Mrs. W. Baynes, Mr. C. C. Trafford, Mr. F. M. Mitchell, Mrs. J. S. Reynolds, Miss H. T. Reynolds, Mr. S. T. Reynolds, Mr. and Mrs. Thos. D. Holmes, Miss Lillie Snowden, Miss H Downing, Mr. G W. Smith, Mr Ivan Gavetzky, Mr. and Mrs F. W. Playfair, Mr. R H. Crunden, Mr. C. W. Ufford, Mr. and Mrs. M. Edwards, Mr. S. Tronnson, Mr. F. H. Smithson, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. D. Pitzipios, Mr. Nakamura, Mr. T. Sone, Mr. W. Simon, Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Baynall and 2 children, Rev. and Mrs. P. Stevens, Mr Wm. Land, Mr. Stephen Maroney, Mr. F. O. Roberts, Mr S. Weinberg, and Mr. J. Anderson in cabin.

For Hongkong: Mr. W. C. Calvert, Rev W. S. Price, Mr Manuel Casuso, and Messrs John and B. Friederich in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Sendai Maru*, from Kobe viâ Shiwotsu:—One passenger in second class and 5 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, from Otaru viâ ports:—One passenger in second class and 175 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Omi Maru*, from Kobe:—Mr F. Breifelt in cabin; 17 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Mrs. Fawkes and maid, Mr F. H Fawkes, Mr. A G. Cameron, Mr. and Mrs. E. Wood, Mr. A H. Groom, Mr. and Mrs. R Becker, Mr. E. Becker, Mr. E. R. Warren, Mr. and Mrs Rogge, Mr. W. T. Wilcot, and Mrs. Hudson in cabin; 12 passengers in second class, and 186 Chinese in steerage. For San Francisco: Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Dodd, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Flood, Mr. A. H. Heath, and Mr. H. A. J. Macray in cabin. For London: Mr. A M. Reith, Mr. A. D. Lowe, Mr. J. H. Craven, Mr. T. H. Eysel, and Mr. W. S. King in cabin. For Bremen: Baron H. S. Sternburg in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Rear-Admiral Atura, Mrs. Thompson and child, Messrs. W. H. Devine, Hoop, Mura, T. Bryner, Seki, and Lau Fai Won in cabin; Mr. Imanishi in second class, and 25 passengers in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Oceanic*, for Hongkong:—Mr. and Mrs. Francis, Dr. and Mrs. Howie, Rev. J Watson, Mrs Chas. Seymour, and Mrs. D. MacHaffie and child in cabin.

Per German steamer *Nürnberg*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. L. Galland, Dr. Paul Bluemrich, Miss Porter, Mr. and Mrs Inouye, and Mr. M. Mitsuoka in cabin; 8 Chinese in second class, and 33 Chinese on deck.

Per British steamer *Belgic*, for San Francisco:—Lieut. Calthorpe, R.N., Messrs. F. H. Loring, A. E Dowler, C. Munchen, L. Rosenthal, and M. Foley in cabin.

Per French steamer *Calédonien*, for Shanghai viâ Kobe:—Mr. E. Arratoon, Colonel C. de Wogack, the Misses Donnell (3), Mr. and Mrs. Harold Sewall and boy, Mrs Mevyn Donahue, Miss Wallace, Mr. A. Valentiz, Mr. Stuart Harrison, Mr. Dumoutier, Miss Deck, Messrs. Estéve, Hacquart, U. Denkei, Pottecher, Sasias, Mr. and Mrs. A. W Beaz, Messrs. Hayagi, Tokumare, Fribourg, and Baumgarten and boy in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Miss G. Correll, Miss Stevens, Mr. and Mrs Pilzipios, Miss Kate C. Woodhull, Miss F. Lieberg, Miss M. J. Casterton, Miss K. Kennear, Miss Whitney, Mr. and Mrs. Probst and maid, Dr. and Mrs. H. J. Whitney, Rev. and Mrs. R. O. Irish, Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Horne, Mr. and Mrs. Wang Hung Ting, Dr. Henderson, Messrs. G. H. Shufeldt, Pung Kwang Yu, T. Yamamoto, T. O. Richardson, M. Raspe, Hugo Orth, A. C. Sein, C. E. Nicholas, J. A. Taylor, R. Inglis, and J. Gavetzky in cabin; Mr. and Mrs. Nomura and Miss Nomura in second class, and 40 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, for Vancouver, B C.:—Mrs. Bartlett, Mr. J. H. Craven, Mr and Mrs. W. C. Dodd, Mr. T. H. Eysel, Mr. Friend, Mr. and Mrs. Flood, Mr. J. H. Gould, Mr. A. H. Heath, Miss E. Johnson, Mr. King, Mr. A. D. Lowe, Mr H. A. J. Macray, Mr. J. McArthur, Mr. and Mrs. McBride, Mr. Murai, Mr. A. M. Reith, Baron H S. Sternberg, Mr. Schulz, Mr. J. Samson, Mr. Wilson, and Mr. Wood in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, $50 000.00.

Per German steamer *Nürnberg*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Raw Silk for Europe, 236 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 281 bales. Treasure, $60,700.

Per French steamer *Calédonien*, for Shanghai viâ Kobe:—Raw Silk for France, 1,193 bales; Waste Silk for France, 112 bales. Treasure for London, $24,000.

Per British steamer *Belgic*, for San Francisco:—

	SAN FRANCISCO.	THE NEW YORK.	CHICAGO.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	1,232	1,817	2,934	434	5,417
Hyogo	250	—	498	—	748
Yokohama	1,492	771	884	484	3,631
Hongkong	40	—	—		40
Foochow	—	—	—	301	301
Total	3,014	2,588	3,316	1,219	10,137

SILK.

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	HARTFORD.	TOTAL.
Hongkong	—	52	—	52
Yokohama	—	1,299	—	1,299
Total	—	1,351	—	1,351

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Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, $5,150 00.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—

TEA.

	CANADA.	CHICAGO AND WEST.	NEW YORK AND EAST.	PACIFIC COAST.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Hongkong	45	—	—	99	111	145
Amoy	—	—	631	—	—	631
Foochow	1,073	—	—	50	—	1,123
Shanghai	374	4,063	4,527	—	—	8,964
Colombo	—	—	—	36	—	36
Hyogo	1,531	301	—	—	—	1,832
Yokohama	2,807	425	—	60	—	3,292
Total	5,830	4,789	5,158	345	111	16,313

SILK.

	NEW YORK.	MONTREAL.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	103	—	103
Yokohama	269	—	269
Total	372	—	372

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, Captain C. Young, reports:—Left Otaru the 31st October at 2 p.m.; had strong westerly winds and high westerly sea and arrived at Hakodate the 1st November at 9.20 a.m. Left the 3rd at 8 a.m.; had strong N.N.E. gale and very high confused N.N.E. sea, arrived at Oginohama the 4th at 5 45 a.m. Left the same day at 11.37 a.m.; had moderate variable winds and fine weather. Arrived at Yokohama the 5th November at 2 30 p.m.

The American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, Captain Smith, reports:—Left San Francisco the 19th October at 5 15 p.m.; had moderate to strong westerly winds and sea most of the passage. Arrived at Yokohama the 6th November at 4 03 a.m. Passage, 16 days, 17 hours, 20 minutes

The Japanese steamer *Sagami Maru*, Captain Crichton, reports:—Left Kobe the 4th November at 4 55 p.m.; had from light variables to moderate N.E. and northerly winds, with fine, clear weather throughout the passage. Arrived at Yokohama the 6th November at 4.20 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, Captain E. S. Barstow, reports:—Left Manila the 21st October, Hongkong the 27th, Amoy the 29th, and Kobe the 6th November; had strong N.E. monsoon and high sea from Manila to North of Formosa Channel; thence moderate wind and sea to arrival at Yokohama, the 7th November.

The Japanese steamer *Sendai Maru*, Captain T. Sakai, reports:—Left Kobe the 6th November at 10 a.m. Arrived at Shiwotsu at 1 15 p.m. and left at 2 45 p.m; had moderate northerly breeze and fine weather with sea; after passing round Oshima, fresh north-westerly breeze, and clear weather throughout the passage. Arrived at Yokohama the 7th November at 5 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, Captain J. Nirei, reports:—Left Otaru the 3rd November at 2 p.m.; had strong northerly breeze and cloudy with frequent rain. Arrived at Hakodate the 4th at 9.15 a.m. and left the 6th at 8 a.m.; had strong westerly gale and cloudy weather. Arrived at Oginohama the 7th at 7 a.m. and left the same day at 2 p.m.; had strong westerly breezes and smooth sea; passed Inuboye the 8th at 4.35 a.m.; thence to port dull sky and strong south-westerly breezes. Arrived at Yokohama the 8th November at 3.15 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Fushiki Maru*, Captain J. Wilson, reports:—Left Misumi the 5th November at 11 a.m. and arrived at Muji the 6th at 7 45 a.m.; had fresh N.W. winds with cloudy weather Left again the same day at noon, taking the passage through Bungo Channel; experienced gentle N.N.E. winds with fine, clear weather to Rock Island, which was passed at 9 a.m. on the 8th; thence to port moderate S.S.W. winds with cloudy weather. Arrived at Yokohama the same day at 4.15 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Omi Maru*, Captain J. W. Ekstrand, reports:—Left Kobe the 7th November at noon; had light variable winds and fine weather; passed Oshima the same day at 8 30 p.m., had light easterly winds and cloudy weather; on the 8th at 11 a.m. passed Rock Island, had moderate S.W. winds and cloudy weather. Arrived at Yokohama the 7th November at 5 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, Captain Conner, reports:—Left Shanghai the 5th November at 8.45 a.m. and arrived at Nagasaki the 7th at 2.30 a.m.; after a fine passage with northerly winds. Left again the same day at 5.30 p.m. and arrived at Shimonoseki the 8th at 7 a.m. Left again the same day at 11 a.m. and arrived at Kobe the 9th at 6 a.m.; experienced overcast weather with light variable winds through Inland Sea. Left again the 9th at midnight and arrived at company's buoy the 10th November at 5.15 a.m.; had variable winds to Rock Island; thence to port overcast weather with rain and wind from southward.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS

The Import Trade has experienced a very dull week, owing doubtless to the unsettled condition of exchange. Yarns have been entirely neglected, not a single bale having changed hands during the week. Cotton Piece Goods and Woollens show no movement whatever. We leave our quotations unchanged, as, although prices are nominally higher, no business has been done.

COTTON PIECE GOODS

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8¼ lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	$2.10 to 2 65
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 38½ yds. 45 inches	2.35 to 3 12½
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.52½ to 1.85
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches	1.70 to 2 35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	1.75 to 3 75
Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 32 inches	PER YARD. 0 16 to 0 21
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	6.25 to 8.50
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0 65 to 0 78
Turkey Reds—2 0 to 2 4lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	PER PIECE. 1.40 to 1 47½
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1 57½ to 1.82½
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.02½ to 2.47½
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.65 to 2.85

WOOLLENS

	PER YARD
Flannel	$0.27 to 0 45
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0 30 to 0 33
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0 25 to 0.30
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0 20 to 0.25
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.13 to 0 19
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0 35 to 0 50
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 0 65
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0 40 to 0 70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 4 to 5½ lb, per lb	0 45 to 0 57½

COTTON YARNS

	PER P CUL.
Nos 16 24 Ordinary	—
Nos. 16/24, Medium	$35.25 to —
Nos 16/24, Good to Best	34.25 to 36 25
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	—
Nos 28/32, Ordinary	—
Nos 28 32, Medium	38 00 to —
Nos 28 32, Good to Best	38 50 to 39 50
Nos 38/42, Medium to Best	45 00 to 47 00
No 32s, Two fold	43 00 to 44 00
No. 42s, Two-fold	47.50 to 49.25
	PER BALE.
No 20s, Bombay	—
No 16s, Bombay	—

METALS

A slightly better tone is perceptible in this market. The week's business has been very small, but the little that has been done has been at rather better figures. The principal demand has centred on Wire Nails, of which there is but a very small stock. Holders ask higher prices all round, owing to low supplies and varying exchange.

	PER P CUL.
Flat Bars, ¾ inch	$3 70 to 3 80
Flat Bars ½ inch	3 80 to 3 90
Round and square up to ¾ inch	3.15 to 3.30
Iron Plates, assorted	3 20 to 3.30
Sheet Iron	4 45 to 4 60
Galvanized Iron sheets	8 50 to 9 00
Wire Nails, assorted	5 40 to 5 75
Tin Plates, per box	6 20 to 6 40
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.45 to 1.50

KEROSENE

Business continues on a fair scale, notwithstanding the late rise in prices. American Oil is especially firm owing to the smallness of the rapidly diminishing stock. No arrivals reported since our last.

Chester	$1.67½ to 1.70
Comet	1.65 to 1 67½
Devoe	—
Russian Anchor	1 67 to 1 68
Russian Moon	1.65 to 1.67

SUGAR

Browns have enjoyed a fairly brisk week. Arrivals have been large, but demand has been very good and prices show a slight rise. Whites also meet with ready purchasers, and have moved off at a good pace at firmer rates.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	$4 75 to 4.80
Brown Manila	5.25 to 5.30
Brown Daitong	4.05 to 4 10
Brown Canton	4 10 to 4 30
White Java and Penang	7.00 to 7.10
White Refined	7 55 to 9 20

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last issue was of the 3rd instant, since which date settlements on this market amount to 1,702 piculs, divided thus: *Hanks*, 38 piculs; *Filatures*, 975 piculs; *Rereels*. 443 piculs; *Kakeda*, 187 piculs; *Hamatsuki*, 59 piculs. In addition to these purchases direct shipments have been 287 bales, making the total export trade of the week 2,000 piculs.

As noted in our last, a large business was done on receipt of the news that the Sherman Act had been finally repealed. The activity did not last long, and during the last two or three days but very little has been done. Prices for some kinds were advanced, owing to the large business doing, and purchasing has received a decided check. Some people ascribe this to the holiday-making of the present week; others to dull news from home side, while a steadily rising exchange must count for something. Holders at the moment are firm, but we think will have to reduce their asking prices if they wish again to see a large business.

Arrivals have kept pace with sales fairly well, the present stock being estimated at 15,800 piculs, showing some reduction on the week, which will probably be obliterated by fresh arrivals at once.

Exchange.—This has risen steadily day by day under the influence of higher silver in London, the market closing strong at present quotations.

Since we last wrote there have been three shipping opportunities, the German mail *Nuernberg*, on the 3rd instant, taking 236 bales for Europe; the American mail *Belgic*, 5th instant, 1,209 bales for New York, and the French mail *Caledonien*, same date, 1,193 bales for Europe. The total export figures to date are 15,196 piculs, against 26,174 piculs last year, and 20,885 piculs, at the same date in 1891.

Hanks.—Rather more business has been done in these, but the settlements made date back to last week, although the goods have only been sent into godown recently. Prices are unchanged, the stock being very small and in strong hands, holders seeming inclined to wait for better prices.

Filatures.—The bulk of the settlements was in this class and in fine sizes quotations are nominally the same. In full sizes an advance of $10 has been paid; *Taiyosha*, $770; *Tokosha*, $735; *Kaimeisha*, $755 and others in proportion. Holders stick to their figures for the present, but we think a further advance in exchange must cause some reduction in values here.

Rereels.—A fair amount of business has been done at a slight advance on last quotations; *Fine Girl* were entered at $710 with other well-known chops at $695; $685, &c. Common sorts have been done as low as $600, but these are very poor quality.

Kakeda.—Some business has been done, and the following prices have been paid: *Daruma*, $695; *Horsehead* I, $655. with *Oxhead*, *Musume* and similar chops III at $600.

Oshu.—Some purchases have been noted in *Hamatsuki*, good quality being done at $650, with medium at $620.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK.)

Hanks—No 1	$620 to 630
Hanks—No 2 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	600 to 610
Hanks—No. 2½ Shinshu	590 to 600
Hanks—No. 2½ (Joshu)	580 to 590
Hanks—No 3	560 to 565
Hanks—No. 3½	550 to 555
Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers	800 to 810
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	760 to 770
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	780 to 790
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den	740 to 750
Filatures—No 1½, 10/14 deniers	730 to 760
Filatures—No 1½, 13/16, 14/17 den	725 to 735
Filatures—No 2, 10/15 deniers	720 to 730
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	690 to 700
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—(Oshu) Best No. 1	—
Re-reels—No 1, 13 15, 14/16 deniers	700 to 710
Re-reels—No 1½, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	670 to 680
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	640 to 650
Re-reels—No. 2½, 14/18 deniers	620 to 630
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	610 to 615
Kakedas—Extra	730 to 740
Kakedas—No. 1	700 to 710
Kakedas—No. 1½	660 to 670
Kakedas—No. 2	630 to 640
Kakedas—No 2½	610 to 620
Kakedas—No 3	580 to 590
Kakedas—No 3½	—
Kakedas—No 4	—
Oshu Senshi—No 2½	—
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	640 to 650
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	620 to 630
Sodai—No. 2½	—

Export Raw Silk Tables to 10th Nov., 1893.—

	SEASON 1893-1894.	1892-93.	1891-92.
	BALES.	BALES.	BALES.
Europe	10,937	9,339	6,967
America	3,868	16,400	13,378
Total { Bales	14,805	25,739	20,345
Total { Piculs	15,196	26,174	20,885
Settlements and Direct Export from 1st July	PICULS. 16,730	PICULS. 28,200	PICULS. 22,100
Stock, 10th Nov.	15,800	9,350	16,050
Available supplies to date	32,530	37,550	38,150

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WASTE SILK

A moderate business has been done, settlements being noted as 642 piculs, divided thus: *Cocoons*, 359 piculs; *Noshi*, 208 piculs; *Kibiso*, 75 piculs. No direct shipments this week.

The stock has continued to increase, but holders prevent business by refusing the reasonable offers which shippers are able to make. We shall see what the effect of the next week will be; a few more days of inaction, with a rising exchange, should surely produce some reduction on the price of Waste.

Since we last wrote there have been two shipping opportunities, the *Nuernberg* taking 966 piculs for Europe and the *Caledonien* following with 122 bales for the same destination. The present export figures are 8,187 piculs, against 11,692 piculs last year and 9,213 piculs at the same date in 1891.

Pierced Cocoons.—Another settlement has been made for the United States, prices ranging from $110 to $130 per picul on the basis of 75 per cent. *matière soyeuse*. There still remains a stock of about 1,000 piculs which contains very little good quality. The season would appear to be nearly over, but fresh arrivals come in daily and there may yet be some business done before the end of the year.

Noshi.—The only business done has been in *Joshu*, ordinary and common qualities, at prices ranging from $65 to $70. In other descriptions there has been no business, although holders would probably give way a little on *Filature* and *Oshu* sorts to move some of the heavy stocks.

Kibso.—A very small business, consisting of *Oshu* and *Zagouri* kinds, at prices ranging from $40 to $70 per picul. In *Filature*, nothing has been done. Some limits are in town which at present prove impracticable, as holders will not listen to reason.

In other sorts, nothing done.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW WASTE).

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	$140 to 145
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	130 to 135
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	120 to 125
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	135 to 140
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	Nom. 115 to 120
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	Nom. 105 to 110
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	Nom. 95 to 100
Noshi-ito—Bushu, Good to Best	120 to 130
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	85 to 90
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	75 to 80
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	65 to 70
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	115 to 120
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	105 to 110
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	70 to 80
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Good to Fair	40 to 35
Kibiso—Joshu, Middling to Common	35 to 30
Kibiso—Hachoji, Good	35 to 30
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	25 to 20
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	—
Mawata—Good to Best	—

Export Table Waste Silk to 10th Nov., 1893:—

	Season 1893-94.	1892-93.	1891-92.
	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs
Waste Silk	5,963	9,907	8,683
Pierced Cocoons	2,224	1,785	530
	8,187	11,692	9,213
Settlements and Direct Export from 1st July	Piculs. 9,200	Piculs. 16,200	Piculs. 12,950
Stock, 10th Nov	19,800	18,500	15,900
Available supplies to date	29,000	34,700	28,850

Exchange has advanced in sympathy with Silver at home. Present quotations are:—London, 4m/s. Credits, 2/5⅛; Documents, 2/5⅜; 6m/s. Credits, 2/5⅝. New York, 30d/s. U.S. $59; 4m/s. U.S. $60. Paris, or Lyons, 4m/s. fcs. 3.07 6m/s. fcs. 3.09.

Estimated Silk Stock, 10th Nov., 1893:—

Raw	Piculs.	Waste.	Piculs.
Hanks	100	Cocoons	1,090
Filatures	9,280	Noshi-ito	9,340
Re-reels	4,830	Kibiso	8,640
Kakeda	1,440	Mawata	90
Oshu	110	Sundries	640
Tavsaam Kinds	40		
Total piculs	15,800	Total piculs	19,800

TEA.

Nothing new to report in this market. Business has been fair, and daily sales have slightly exceeded arrivals—consequently holders are inclined to be firm. Good teas of choice quality are very scarce and find ready purchasers as soon as they arrive from the interior.

	Per Pic. L.
Common	$12 to 13
Good Common	14 to 15
Medium	17 to 18
Good Medium	19 to 20
Fine	22 to 23
Finest	24 to 26
Choice	27 to 29
Choicest	31 to 35

EXCHANGE.

During the week rates slightly advanced, but at the close there are signs of a reaction towards a drop.

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	2/4⅜
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	2 4⅞
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	2/5⅛
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	2/5⅛
On Paris—Bank sight	3.99
On Paris—Private 4 months' sight	3 07
On Hongkong—Bank sight	⅛ % prem.
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	⅛ % dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72⅛
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	73⅛
On America—Bank Bills on demand	57⅛
On America—Private 30 days' sight	59
On America—Private 4 months' sight	60
On India—Bank sight	189
Silver	32⅛

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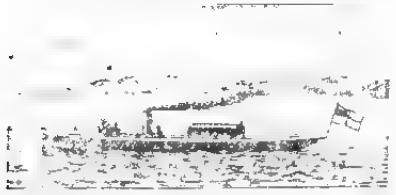

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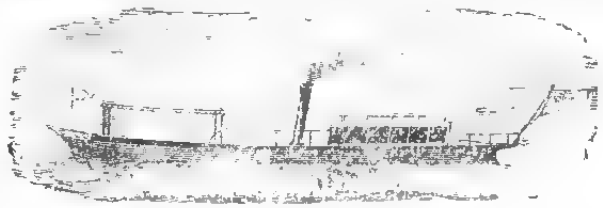

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, NOV. 18TH, 1893

BIRTH

On the 11th inst., the wife of RAYMOND DE B. LAYARD, H.B.M. Consular Service, of a Daughter.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

ADZUMA-YAMA is again emitting white smoke.

The Consolation Prize of the Sailing Club was won on Saturday last by *Isabel*.

THE English team gave the American nine a beating at baseball last week.

A FIRE which occurred at Yoshida, Totsuka, on the 8th inst., destroyed ten houses.

THE auction of races-ponies this autumn was characterised by good prices all round.

SEVERAL Ministerial dinners have been given in Tokyo by Count Ito, during the last week.

THE Government has sanctioned the establishment of the Yokohama Fish Oil Stock Co.

ELEVEN houses were destroyed by fire in the Shitaya district of Tokyo, on the 11th inst.

MARQUIS SAIONJI has been nominated by the Emperor Vice-President of the Upper House.

Two passengers were drowned by the over-turning of a ferry boat at Omiya on the 12th inst.

THE Imperial University Athletic meeting was held in Tokyo on Saturday, passing off most successfully.

SEVERAL claims for sealers and seamen's wages have been heard in the British Court this week, Captain Tousaint, of the schooner *Aurora*, being defendant. Judgments were given for plaintiffs in various amounts, but defendant declared he was unable to satisfy them, having no money.

THE Autumn meeting of the Nippon Race Club was brought to a conclusion on Saturday with the Off-day races.

SUCCESS waited bountifully upon the Kettledrum given in the Public Hall on Saturday in aid of the Union Church funds.

THE marriage of Her Imperial Highness Princess Hiroko with Mr. Sengoku Kei, took place in Tokyo on Wednesday.

GREAT changes are being effected in the Gifu Prefectural offices, over 100 persons being dismissed during the last few days.

SEVERAL earthquake shocks have been felt in Tokyo and Yokohama of late. In Nagano and Sapporo the shocks have been severe.

A PICK-POCKET has been arrested in Yokohama on suspicion of murdering his wife, from whom he had been seperated by reason of his dissolute life.

A MOST successful promenade concert and sale of work in aid of the Girls' Industrial School Tokyo, has been held in the Arsenal garden Koishikawa.

H.I.J.M.'s cruiser *Naniwa Kan* has been despatched to Hawaii to safeguard the interests of Japanese emigrants in the islands, an uprising being feared.

MR. HOSOKAWA JUNJIRO, a Privy Councillor, has received the additional appointment of Director of the Private Records Bureau in the Imperial Household.

A BOILER explosion took place on the 30th ult. in a silk manufactory erected in the Ina District of Nagano Prefecture, by which a fireman and a coolie were severely injured.

CONSULTATIONS have been held by the Governor of Kanagawa with the promoters of rival exchanges in Yokohama, and a satisfactory solution of the difficulty is anticipated.

NEARLY the whole of the village of Hijima, a small island near the coasts of Nagasaki Prefecture, has been destroyed by fire. The men were all away at the time, fishing.

THE boycott against Messrs Samuel Samuel & Co., of Yokohama and Kobe is to be more rigidly applied than before, the kerosene men uniting with the fancy goods' and other merchants.

NEWS of a shipwreck, attended by heavy loss of life, comes from Matsuye, where the *Matsuye Maru* has foundered at the entrance to the harbour. More than thirty lives have been lost.

THE Imperial Chrysanthemum Garden Party was not so crowded this year, and the guests were enabled to view the wonderful blooms with greater ease and comfort than on some previous occasions.

THE Tokushima police lately attempted to arrest a party of eight gamblers. A fight took place and although the police drew their swords and wounded eight of the men, only two were arrested, the rest escaping.

MR. OKOSHI, Japanese Consul in London has been transferred to Shanghai, Mr. Hayashi, Consul at the latter port, succeeding him. Other Consular changes are Mr. Nakagawa, Consul at Gensan, to Hongkong; K. Miyagawa, Consul at Hongkong, to Lyons; N. Hashiguchi to New York; T. Uchida to Söul; Diplomatic Probationer M. Adachi to Italy, and Messrs. E. Yamaza and K. Nagataki, Consular Probationers, to Shanghai and Fusan respectively.

THE Matabeles were defeated with heavy loss on the 2nd November; the Democrats have been completely defeated in the New York state elections; Mr. McKinley has been elected Governor of Ohio; neither Lord Rosebery nor Mr. Gladstone were present at the Lord Mayor's Guildhall banquet this year; Lord Kimberley, speaking on behalf of Her Majesty's Government, said the growing battalions of Europe insured a condition of anxiety; a bomb, with a harmless fuse attached, was discovered under an arch of Westminster bridge on the night preceding the 5th November; the U.S. Treasury has ordered the Mints at San Francisco and New Orleans to resume coinage of silver dollars to utilise the Seignorage; the bombardment of Rio de Janeiro has recommenced; Mr. Gladstone has dropped Home Rule for the present and taken up English domestic legislation; the Manchester Ship Canal is being filled with water at last; at Barcelona, recently some dastardly anarchists threw a bomb among the audience of a crowded theatre, eighteen persons, including nine ladies, were killed outright, while a fearful stampede ensued, resulting in the death of many more; Lord Spencer says that the English Government is convinced of the necessity of strengthening and maintaining the supremacy of the English Navy; *The Times* recommends the spending of a hundred million pounds, if necessary, to make Great Britain secure of the command of the sea; the meeting of Count Kálnoky, Austrian Minister of Foreign Affairs, with the King of Italy, near Milan, has caused much comment in political circles.

THERE is but little change to report in the Import trade, and business is difficult owing to the difference between the ideas of holders and the offers made. In Yarns and Piece-goods a little trade continues to be done, and in Woollens the only thing in request has been a few Blankets. All lines are firmly held, and holders steadily refuse to come to the terms held out. The slight improvement noted last week in the Metal market has been maintained, and buyers show more readiness to come to the terms of sellers, but actual transactions have only been on a small scale. Iron Bars and Wire Nails being the principal articles taken. The Kerosene trade has been brisk, and with fair sales and no arrivals of American oil the stock is a good deal depleted, and higher figures are being asked; and this latter remark applies also to Russian brands. Buyers of Brown Sugar seem filled up for the present, and the late brisk trade has toned down, but White sorts continue in fair demand, and the values of all kinds are fully maintained, holders declining offers below quotations. A falling off has to be reported in transactions in Tea, the stock having been increased by rather heavy arrivals for the time of year, and the principal complaint now is the scarcity of the better grades of leaf. Prices, however, show no change. Over a thousand piculs of Silk have been taken, but this has had scarcely any effect on the enormous stock, which presses heavily on holders, who cannot apparently reduce their asking prices to a point to induce orders from consuming quarters or speculation on the part of capitalists. A little more life has been infused into the Waste Silk trade, but the stock in hand here is immense—close upon 20,000 piculs—for the time of year especially, and as dealers say they lose on every bale they sell at present rates, it is not easy to see when and how a clearance is to be effected. Exchange has again declined.

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THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The fifth session of the Diet drawing near, the various parties are busy making preparations for the coming struggle. An impression prevails that the next session of the Diet will witness a collision between the Government and the Opposition more decisive and deadly than any before. Whether or not such will be the case, it is difficult to foretell, but it may be safely predicted that the Opposition will not be in a humour to be easily reconciled with the Cabinet. Neither will the Cabinet be so ready in the coming session to propitiate the Diet as in the last one. As to the attitude of the different political parties, the Progressionists will be, if possible, more uncompromising in their opposition to the Government. The *Domei* Club has also decided to pursue a strong policy in the approaching session. Concerning the Radicals, their true intention still remains more or less a matter of mere conjecture.

* * *

The *Hochi Shimbun*, a Progressionist organ, calls upon the members of the *Domei* Club and the Radical party to be unyielding in their attitude towards the Ministry. They are responsible, in our contemporary's opinion, for having prolonged the struggle by giving a respite to the Cabinet at the end of the last session of the Diet. Had they not declared themselves contented with the vague promises of the Cabinet, the war with the clan Government, the *Hochi* seems to think, would have been there and then decided once for all. The Progressionists were for giving no quarter, and consequently their conscience is comparatively at ease now that the Cabinet has not made good its promises to the Opposition. The Progressionist organ doubts not but that the Radicals and the *Domei* Club members of the Diet will act more wisely in the coming session. As to the policy to be pursued by the Opposition, the *Hochi* observes that there is no necessity to have recourse to any new tactics, what is required being simply to go right ahead with the same object in view for which the Opposition has laboured already so long. With regard to the criticism that the Opposition always follows the same and hackneyed policy of opposition to the Government, the Progressionist organ remarks that it is both natural and right for the Opposition to make no change in their policy so long as their common objects remain unattained. Those objects are (1) to have the administration conducted in a strictly constitutional manner, (2) to effect economy in public expenses, (3) to nourish the resources of the people, or to state more concretely, to reduce the land tax and reassess the taxable value of land, and (4) to extend the liberty of speech and public meeting as well as the right of taking part in the government of the country. The points at issue being so well defined and understood, the Opposition has simply to stand to its guns, and it is sure to gain a victory.

* * *

The *Kokkai* thinks that a death struggle between the Cabinet and the Opposition is at hand. On the one side, there is a Government, says our contemporary which is apparently incapable of taking any measure more decisive than the amendment of the organizations of the different branches of the Administration, and which instead of pursuing some comprehensive policy to divert the public attention in the right direction, delights in following some temporizing and patch-work policy. On the other, there are a number of parties which are engrossed with opposition to the Clan Government and which are too much occupied with the promotion of their own interest to think of the permanent good of the country. Such being the case, the Tokyo journal thinks that a collision between the Government and the Opposition is unavoidable. It is a lamentable spectacle that both the Cabinet and the Diet should be wasting time over such fruitless struggles when important questions, both domestic and foreign, are demanding immediate solution. But it can no be helped, and so the only hope is that the battle may be brought to a decisive point as soon as possible. Nothing could be more injurious to the country than to try to keep the contending armies from coming to decisive blows.

* * *

The changes in the internal council of the Radical party and its grand conference of the 15th instant have excited a considerable amount of journalistic attention. As to the causes that led to the recent changes in the organization of the internal council, various contradictory accounts are given in our Tokyo contemporaries but we will not refer to these reports in this place as they have been already noticed at some length, what is more worthy of attention is the question how will these changes affect the party's attitude towards the Cabinet and the rest of the parties, especially the *Kaishin-to*. Two opinions prevail among the metropolitan papers. Most of them are inclined to believe that these changes will be followed by a complete reversing of the party's policy towards the Progressionists. These papers seem to think that the Radicals under the guidance of the new council will move hand-in-hand with the Progressionists. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, and perhaps one or two others, are disposed to consider the problem more cautiously In their opinion, it is too early to think that Mr. Hoshi and his followers have so far lost their influence in the party to admit such change of front to the Progressionists. The *Nichi Nichi* states that Messrs. Suzuki Shoji, Ishida Kannosuke, and a few other new members of the internal council are intimate friends of Mr. Hoshi, who will consequently be able, through them, to guide the policy of his party The grand conference of the 15th instant has not made the situation any more intelligible. Count Itagaki's speech is pronounced by most papers as being too formal and apologetic to afford any light as to the true nature of the policy which he expects his party to follow in the coming session of the Diet. The special point of complaint against his speech is that he did not say a word as to the attitude that should be maintained by his followers towards the Progressionists. Neither is he praised for omitting all allusion to the subject of official discipline, which is receiving so much attention from the rest of the parties opposed to the Government This question was subsequently brought up by one of the special deputies, and was finally adopted by the assembly, but according to the *Yomiuri Shimbun* the majority of those having seats in the Diet are said to have opposed the motion. From this circumstance the *Yomiuri* and some other papers infer that the Radical members of the House of Representatives are not disposed to join other parties in pressing the Cabinet to dismiss from office the Minister and Vice-Minister of Agriculture and Commerce. Concerning the measures about twenty in number, which the meeting adopted for introduction in the next session of the Diet, the *Kokkai* and the *Yomiuri* point out an essential difference between them and those which the party had adopted for introduction in the last session. The difference is this that, whereas during the fourth session of the Diet the Radicals prided themselves on introducing what they called positive measures, such as the extension of steam navigation, the establishment of a university at Kyoto, and so forth, they are to concentrate their energies in the coming session to questions of negative nature alone This circumstance may at first thought suggest a complete change of policy towards the Government. But the *Kokkai* and the *Yomiuri* are inclined to believe that it is attributable, not to a change of policy toward the Cabinet, but to a desire to regain the goodwill of the young classes by advocating the reduction of the land tax and the re-assessment of the taxable value of land,—reforms the accomplishment of which requires those sums of money which the Radicals wished during the last session to appropriate to several other purposes above alluded to In short, the metropolitan papers are still doubtful as to the real intentions of the Radical party.

* * *

The Hawaiian question has received a considerable amount of attention. The prompt action of the Government in despatching a man-of-war to those islands for the protection of Japanese there has been applauded by the press, excepting the *Kokumin Shimbun*, which states that the Cabinet has done only what it ought to do, and the *Jiyu Shimbun*, which blames the Ministers of Foreign Affairs and of the Navy for not having sent out a war vessel earlier Lieutenant Sone, a retired officer of the Navy, is in Hawaii as a special correspondent of the Radical organ. He has been urging upon the home authorities the importance of stationing a war vessel in Hawaiian waters, and the *Jiyu* now states that, had his warning been duly attended to, there would have been no necessity for feeling any alarm at the present juncture.

* * *

The *Hochi Shimbun* and the *Yomiuri Shimbun* urge the Government not only to protect the Japanese in the Hawaiian islands, but to take advantage of the present opportunity to raise the prestige of this Empire and its subjects there. The former paper is very frank on this subject. It states that the present juncture affords the best opportunity for demanding the franchise for the Japanese residents. If necessary, intimidation, says our contemporary, should be employed. The metropolitan papers in general seem to be inclined to believe that the Royalists will have the upper hand in the coming struggle in Hawaii.

* * *

Concerning the *Chishima-Ravenna* Appeal case, the *Choya Shimbun* severely criticises the judgments pronounced by the Judges of the Supreme Court at Shanghai. Our contemporary advises the Government to issue an Imperial Ordinance and prohibit the passage of foreign war-vessels though the Inland Sea. Foreign war-vessels should be required to ask for permission to enter the Inland Sea by means of signals at the forts at the respective entrances thereto. Should any of the foreign Powers object to such system, the Government is urged to resort to diplomatic negotiation or to more decisive measures.

* * *

As to the question of the exclusive jurisdiction exercised by Japan in the Inland Sea, the vernacular papers mention an old diplomatic note addressed by the Government to the Foreign Powers in 1870 at the time of the Franco-German war, forbidding the war vessels of the belligerent nations to engage in any bellicose operations in the Inland Sea and in the open seas within three miles of the shore. This document, say the metropolitan papers, prove that the *Meiji* Government has never given up the right of jurisdiction in the Inland Sea.

* * *

On the subject of Treaty Revision, the *Nippon* writes that the strict enforcement of the existing treaties is a new watchword in the political world and that it is echoed by all political parties, except one. Even the National Unionists are joining in the popular cry. The Radicals alone rejected it at the recent meeting as unworthy of a party advocating the revision of treaties. They are of course severely criticised for this conduct by the conservative paper.

* * *

The *Choya Shimbun* continues to attack the opponents of Mixed Residence. These persons are distinguished for the warmth with which they clamour for a strong foreign policy, and yet they are afraid of direct contact with foreign peoples. Their inconsistency is heartily laughed at by our contemporary.

Scene—A Paris restaurant. Enter a fussy old gentleman, who, after choosing his table, beckons to the waiter, and says confidentially, "I want a really good dinner. Here's your tip beforehand. Now, what do you recommend?" Waiter, looking cautiously round and whispering in the customer's ear, "Go somewhere else!"

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EDITORIAL NOTES.

PORCELAIN SLEEPERS.

In view of wood being easily liable to rot, and its being necessary to replace it by new material after a lapse of 6 or 7 years, railway experts of the west have conceived the idea of using iron instead for sleepers. The result does not appear very satisfactory, iron sleepers failing to stand the wear and tear of traffic more than 34 or 35 years, while in some places they are as short-lived as 15 years. The latest device in the field is, according to a report from America, that of steel sleepers, which have been on trial for the last 3 years. Though no variation is yet observed, it is presumed that the new sleepers cannot last above 50 years at most. This matter has also been engaging the attention of railway-men in Japan. Mr. Matsui, of Owari, has endeavoured for years to make sleepers of porcelain, and he has at last succeeded, and secured, says the *Nichi Nichi*, a patent from the Patent Bureau. Tried at the Railway Bureau by way of experiment, this sleeper has been found more or less liable to cut deeper into the ground than its original foundation. This point, and others which were considered by the Bureau as being not quite satisfactory, were pointed out to the inventor. Mr. Matsui has, after repeated trials, succeeded in removing these defects, and the new sleepers have now been tested by the Bureau since the 28th ultimo. Although it is somewhat over-sanguine to express any definite opinion yet as to the real merit of these porcelain sleepers, the trial not exceeding a fortnight, still the results thus far obtained are said to be exceedingly satisfactory. Should these sleepers emerge triumphantly from the stiff trials to which they will be subjected, they would not only be free from any defects attending the wooden or iron sleepers, but, will become more and more solid as time goes by.

A HISTORY OF THE RESTORATION.

Five years ago, writes the *Jiji*, Princes Shimazu and Mori, and the Marquises Yamanouchi and Tokugawa (Mito) were asked by the Household Department to collect materials for the compilation of a history of the Restoration, which those houses, chiefly instrumental in the accomplishment of the Restoration, had under control. The Household intimated at the same time that to each a sum of one thousand *yen* should be furnished annually towards their expenses. The four houses at once made due preparation for the task assigned, by appointing special compilers. Finding the independent compilation of the respective materials defective in accuracy, the compilers decided to meet for consultation once a month and to furnish the requisite information upon any obscure points likely to be encountered in the course of their investigations. Subsequently the Committee established in the Household for the compilation of the lives of the late Princes Sanjo and Iwakura, was induced to join the monthly meeting in order to exchange the required references. This monthly gathering is kept up to this day. Subsequently an idea arose in the compilers' minds that it would not be a difficult task for them to compile a history of the Restoration while they were engaged in the original work of preparing the family archives, for the histories of the different houses constitute an important part of the history of the Restoration. They therefore resolved to collect materials for the history of the nation during the 41 years from the birth of the late Emperor Komei to the abolition of feudalism in 1871, and this with as wide a range as possible. The idea reached the Household, and was fortunate enough to obtain its sanction. In pursuance of this project the Household enlisted the help of almost every noble whose house had taken any part in the Restoration. In January of last year some definite organization was attempted in this important task, and Marquises Date and Hachisuka were respectively appointed President and Vice-President of the *Chuko Shi Hensan Kai* (Restoration History Compilation Society), for in the form of a Society the enterprise originally started by a few gentlemen has been consolidated. Mr. Kaneko, Chief Secretary of the House of Peers, was appointed chief manager, and the compilers at first appointed in the four different houses were made managers. But the expenses of the undertaking were very great. The Household patronized the enterprise by granting a sum of 1,000 *yen* a year, and others interested in the affair also contributed various sums. More money, however, was required if the work was to be successfully carried out. Representations were therefore forwarded either to the Court or the Diet by different individuals, all earnestly interested in the task undertaken by the Society. These attempts have unfortunately proved fruitless, but the important work so timely begun cannot now be given up, so the members of the Society, who are also members of either House of Parliament, are therefore resolved upon placing the matter before the two Houses and to obtain their approval of a subsidy for the Society. The points on which the Society is desirous of obtaining the consent of the Houses and to have sent up to the Government for approval are said to be as follow:—1. Grant of 40,000 *yen* a year from the Treasury, for seven years extending from 1894 to 1901, as subsidy towards the work of compiling the history of the Restoration. 2. To have the archives of the various Government offices opened to the Society. 3. To leave the manner of compilation of the history to the decision of the Society.

THE DAMAGE TO THE "DENBIGHSHIRE."

The damage sustained by the British steamer *Denbighshire* by the recent collision with the Osaka Shosen Kaisha's steamer *Yoshinogawa Maru*, in the harbour of Kobe, is variously estimated, some putting it at 60 000 *yen*, others at far less. The matter being still in course of negotiation between the two companies concerned, it is still mere conjecture how it will end. It is reported, however, by the *Choya*, that the Osaka Company has offered 25,000 *yen* to the Kobe Agent of the "Shire" line by way of indemnifying the losses to which the Company has been subjected. This sum of 25 000 *yen* must have been obtained by multiplying the tonnage—380—of the colliding steamer *Yoshinogawa Maru*, upon the basis of £8 sterling per ton. Such a mode of estimating the damage sustained in a collision has the sanction of English Maritime law. Besides, as every seaman well knows, the responsibility of an owner of ships with reference to the action of his captain and officers consequent on the discharge of their duties does not extend beyond the ship and its cargo, consequently the responsibility of the Osaka Company with respect to the present trouble does not extend beyond the value of the ship *Yoshinogawa Maru*. This steamer, it must be remembered, was built more than 7 years ago, and subsequently, in order to apply it solely to the service between Osaka and Shimonoseki, it has been subjected to radical renovations. It is therefore understood by all competent authorities that the ship is unsuited for any other voyage and that it may be regarded as a crippled vessel. If, however, the company owning the *Denbighshire* is resolved to have satisfaction through the medium of the Law Courts, it is needless to say that the Osaka Company must also be prepared to continue the litigation as long as is permitted by law. Till the final decision is arrived at, at least four or five years will be required, while even if a conclusive judgment be got by spending a large sum of money, the responsibility of the Osaka Company being exclusively confined to the *Yoshino-maru* in the case under consideration, the damage which the contending Company is likely to get will not differ much from that now offered by the other Company, while in the meantime the *Yoshinogawa Maru* will, in all probability, become so far worn out as to be unsuited to the ordinary purposes of navigation. It is therefore believed that the offended party will content itself with a compromise and desist from having recourse to litigation.

THE OKAYAMA INUNDATION CONCERT.

It is as well to know, in view of future contingencies, that when an entertainment is announced to take place at 5 p.m. it may be expected to begin about half-past six o'clock. Those who were not previously aware of this arrangement had the doubtful pleasure of sitting for an hour and a half on Saturday afternoon in the Central Tabernacle with nothing on earth to do. But Japanese audiences are patient, and everything comes to him who waits. The programme was opened by a young gentleman who gave a very ingenious imitation of the English hurdygurdy upon an American organ, and was rewarded with a round of applause. A piano duet, and a duet for piano and violin, followed in due course, and seemed to give general satisfaction; but to Mrs. Nagahara and her accomplished pupils, who played the well-known Chinese *Concertstück* "Chuang-tzu's Butterfly-dream," belonged the credit of arousing something like enthusiasm. Mr. Araki's solo on the flute, also, was listened to with profound attention, and rapturously applauded; and the performance of another artist, a Mr. Nishi, upon the Satsuma *biwa*, accompanied by singing, was received with due acknowledgments. The *koto* playing, too, was extremely good, and altogether the concert may be pronounced a very fair success. Financially, at any rate, it must have proved successful, as the audience was very large. Mr. Kishida delivered a very long and rather laboured speech between the parts, descriptive of the disasters in Okayama, which did not appear to make a very great impression upon his hearers.

GENERAL MEETING OF THE TOKYO SHO KO SODAI KAI.

The general meeting of the leading Tokyo business men was held at the Imperial Hotel on the 8th instant. The meeting began some minutes past 2 p.m. Previous to the regular business, Mr. Masuda, a manager of the Association, consulted the assembly as to the nomination of Mr. Oye, President of the Tokyo Rice Exchange, as chairman. This being unanimously approved, Mr. Oye took the chair, and Mr. Umeura, another manager, presented the report and accounts of the previous half-year. These were approved without any objection, and the regular business of the meeting concluded. After a recess of some minutes, Count Itagaki, who was specially invited, entered the room. All present having resumed their seats, Mr. Sonoda, President of the Specie Bank of Yokohama, rose and thanked the Count for his presence on behalf of his fellow members. The Count, in response, ascended the platform and spoke at some length on the relations between politicians and business men. He based his remarks on the premise that the relation between those two classes of people should be very close and intimate. The main idea to be kept in view by politicians, the Count remarked, should be, first to protect the rights and privileges of every individual, and second, to adjust the national economy by affording every possible convenience and facility to business men. Politicians, he went on, would by attending to the opinions of the business class become accurately acquainted with the condition of the economic world; for if not, the complete realization of the benefits of the representative form of government could not be hoped for. In short, what was primarily required was a cordial union between politics and business. He laid stress on the point that, judging from the national configuration, Japan, the characteristics of its people, and the events in their history, industry should become an economic polity to be pursued by the nation. He touched on the relative merits of the Japanese people and those of other countries with special reference to their capacity for industry; on the necessary improvement in agriculture, foreign commerce, and the extension of the present limits of Japanese navigation; and referred to the benefits which the nation had derived from having sent so many business men to the House of Representatives. The Count then descended the platform amid the cheers of the assembly. Mr. Fukuzawa, who was also specially invited, next spoke on the most important economic question of the day—the monetary system. He started with an account of the German monetary system of

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1873; discussed the relative benefits which business circles would derive from the different currencies, in which he maintained that he was convinced, all things considered, of the greater benefits accruing from the greater amount of currency. The speeches ended, guests and members repaired to the dining room and spent the evening pleasantly.

THE NICHIRENIANS.

THE Shuyeisha Printing Office is now engaged upon a large edition, in English, of a pamphlet prepared by Abbot Kobayashi Nitto, President of the Nichiren College at Takanawa, embodying a formal dissertation upon the Nichiren school of Buddhism. It will consist of a 'Digest of the Doctrines of Nichiren,' originally written by the late Nissatsu Arai, Archbishop of Ikegami, and a short Life of the Founder, contributed by the Abbot himself. There is no sect among the Buddhists of Japan more active or enthusiastic in their religious practices than the followers of the Sun Lotus, and numbering as many of their public demonstrations no doubt appear to the uninstructed passer-by, the tenets they profess have a strong metaphysical interest for all who read and think. The esoteric teachings of Nichirenism are worth study, and Abbot Kobayashi is evidently anxious that they should be studied carefully and impartially by Western scholars. Some thousands of copies of the treatise are consequently to be sent abroad for distribution among all the *savants*, religious leaders, and learned bodies of Europe. Buddhism was always a missionary religion, from the very first.

THE RADICALS.

THE Radical party is now passing through a serious crisis in its history. There have long been rumours of widespread disaffection among the Radicals on account of the almost absolute sway exercised by Mr. Hoshi in the counsels of the party. It should be observed that he and his friends Messrs. Kono Hironaka and Matsuda Masayuki, with Count Itagaki at their head, constitute the internal council of the Radical party. The shaping of the policy of the party is entirely in the hands of these four leaders, and among them Mr. Hoshi has been the guiding spirit to such an extent that the public has regarded him as the real leader. The internal council, or Cabinet, as the people like to call it, of the Radical party is accused of having systematically kept the rest of the members from party secrets, so that on several occasions they were forced to take their seats in the House of Representatives without any clear notion as to the attitude which they would be commanded by their leaders to adopt on the questions before them. Such a state of affairs naturally provoked the resentment of the bulk of the party against their leaders, specially Mr. Hoshi,—a state of affairs which has not been improved by the latter's growing unpopularity on account of his professional connection with the Soma family and his intimate relations with some Exchange people. The malcontents of the party prevailed on their leader, Count Itagaki, to convene a meeting of those Radicals who have seats in the Lower House. It took place on the 10th instant, and it was unanimously resolved that the internal council, hitherto composed of three members, should henceforth be increased to seven, besides the leaders of the party; that the members, of the council should be elected for a term of one year from amongst those having seats in the Diet; and that such Radicals as may at the time occupy the post of President of the Lower House should not be eligible, but that he should have the privilege of attending the meetings of the council whenever they take place outside the precincts of the Diet. On the following day, another meeting was held, at which the election of the internal council took place. The voting resulted in the election of Messrs. Kono Hironaka, Sugita Teiichi, Kataoka Kenkichi, Haseba Junko, Kudo Kōkan, Ishida Kannosuke, and Suzuki Shoji. The post of leader in the House of Representatives is to be filled by mutual election among the members of the Council. According to the new arrangement, Mr. Hoshi, as President of the House of Representatives, and Mr. Matsuda, as having no seat in the Diet, have been excluded from the council, and although the former is allowed the privilege of attending the meetings of the council under specified circumstances, it is at once apparent that a serious blow has been dealt to him as a leader of the party. How he will bear himself under this scarcely veiled insult is the question asked by everybody. It is even hinted that some of his thoroughgoing enemies intend to bring in a motion for his expulsion from the party at the grand conference to be held on the 15th instant. At all events, the conference of that date will be a turning point in the history of the Radical party.

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At the meeting of the 11th instant, the Radicals decided upon a provisional programme for the coming session of the Diet. As it is to be submitted to the grand conference of the 15th instant, we will refer to its details after its final adoption there.

* * *

Concerning the above reported changes in the organization of the internal council of the party, various absurd rumours are circulated. One of these is that the whole plot has been planned by Count Goto People who circulate this rumour maintain that, the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce having been alarmed at the growing insecurity of his position in the Cabinet, he thought it necessary to decide upon some bold line of action. He saw that this was his only chance in recovering a firm hold over the Radical party, for he thus hoped to convince his colleagues that he was by no means to be neglected. But in order to attain this object, it was necessary to remove Mr. Hoshi out of his way, for the President of the House of Representatives, acting in concert with Mr. Muisu, has been the medium of connection between the Government and the Radical party. So Count Goto, taking advantage of Mr. Hoshi's unpopularity, set some of his confidential agents, such as Messrs. Takenouchi Tsuna and Hayashi Yuzo, in motion to organize an opposition to his formidable enemy With Mr. Hoshi once excluded from the internal council of the party, Count Goto felt confident that it would be easy to manage the Radicals through his confidential lieutenants mentioned above. Such is the substance of the rumour. If it be true, as we strongly doubt, the daring plan attributed to the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce seems to have signally failed, for the names of his particular friends do not appear in the list of the newly-elected members of the council.

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Concerning the recent changes in the organization of the internal council of the Radical party, various rumours are started, contradicted and re-asserted. Besides the alleged intrigue on the part of the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, already noticed in these columns, it is mentioned, among other things, that the sudden change of position in the Radical party has been brought about chiefly by the exertions of the Kyushu Radicals, who are in sympathy with the Progressionists and are desirous that their party should co-operate with the latter in the coming session of the Diet. Some papers believe that these Radicals from Kyushu and the Tosa men under Count Goto's control, like Takenouchi and Hayashi, have worked in union, for, although their ultimate objects were different, they happened to be working for the moment to the same immediate end, namely, the annihilation of Mr. Hoshi's overwhelming influence in the party. Whatever may have been the motive forces at work, it seems to be generally understood that the first result of the present shifting of the centre of gravity in the Radical party will be fatal to the reputation which that party has obtained for moderation and reasonableness. The power of control has now slipped into the hands of the third-rate members of the party, and it is seriously apprehended that under their guidance the *Jiyu to* may revive that violent and unreasonable course of policy which disgraced the early years of its existence. For our own part, we do not believe it possible that so radical a change will come over the policy of the party, but it is quite possible that the Radicals may become so far uncompromising in their attitude towards the Government that there will be little to hinder their co operation with the Progressionists. Another idea that suggests itself to the mind of every observer of current politics is that, before a reconciliation can take place between the Radicals and the Progressionists, there must be more or less serious splits in the former party. Mr. Hoshi, Mr. Matsuda, and their followers, who have been foremost in attacking the Progressionists, will never consent to such a change of front. So they will most probably leave the party rather than submit to the proposed humiliation. Some people even fear that they may succeed in carrying away Count Itagaki with them.

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There are already signs that the young bloods of the party are beginning to aspire to a share in the control of the party's affairs. The young Radicals who do not possess seats in the Diet held a meeting on the 12th instant, and decided to organize a league in order to bring pressure upon the Radicals in the House of Representatives. On the following day, Mr. Kogure, representing the league, called upon Count Itagaki, but the latter is said to have refused to see him.

QUARANTINE REGULATIONS.

THE quarantine regulations, writes the vernacular press, originally drafted by the Sanitary Bureau of the Home Department, after due deliberation by the Special Committee appointed for the purpose, have obtained the private approval of the representatives of the various treaty powers. They were subsequently submitted to the deliberation of the Cabinet Council, who seem to have done nothing with it though more than three months have already elapsed since the draft was sent up. The authorities chiefly responsible for the drafting of the regulations are said to be wondering at such unusual delay on the part of the Cabinet, especially in view of the fact that other countries have begun to enforce strict quarantine regulations against ships entering their harbours since last year, in order to prevent the spread of epidemic diseases and to ensure the safety of their people. We hear, say the vernacular journals, that outside the provisions of extraterritoriality, no other regulations that are in any way connected with the treaty powers are more efficacious than the present for realizing the rights and obligations of the country on a basis of equality. It is reported, however, that that Cabinet intends to negotiate with the treaty powers on some important steps previous to giving its sanction to the quarantine regulations, and that therefore they are left untouched as a matter of expediency. Some of the vernacular journals, however, entertain doubts whether this delay is really due to such a consideration on the part of the Cabinet.

PEKING AS A TRADE CENTRE.

MR. BEAUCLERK, of the British Legation at Peking, in a recent report on the position of foreign trade in China, makes some interesting observations on the possibilities of Peking as a foreign trade centre. He says that the vast plain in which the capital is situated contains a dense population, both in the numerous large towns and villages and in the country, which is remarkable for its agricultural fertility. Horses come from Mongolia, and sheep in large quantities. For years past a railway has been projected from Tientsin to Tungchow, with an extension to Peking. If the construction of the line is ever completed a great impetus will be given to trade, for the present mode of transport by boat and cart is cumbrous and slow. The large population contains many men of wealth, apart from the Court, and the rich mandarins, merchants, and eunuchs evince a readiness to purchase foreign goods, especially clocks, watches, carpets, and fancy articles. Foreign traders would

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obtain remunerative prices for such wares, for the rich Chinese will pay any price for *articles de luxe*. To the foreign community resident in Peking its connection by rail with the port and the existence of some competition in trade would prove a great boon. During the winter months all communication with the outside world is cut off, and not even the smallest parcel can be brought nearer than Shanghai until the opening of the river in March. Two small general stores monopolize the business done with foreigners, who have to pay as much as 100 per cent. over cost price for all the ordinary necessaries of life. This tells heavily when it is considered that butter, cheese, salt, flour, tinned vegetables and provisions of all kinds are extensively used, few, excepting a small number of missionaries, being able to adapt themselves to Chinese food. Were the capital more easy of access travellers would be attracted in larger numbers and more shops and hotels would be required for their accommodation. Kerosene oil and matches would command a ready sale."

CURRENT TOPICS.

MR. SAITO SHUICHIRO'S resignation has not been granted, or more correctly, his letter of resignation was kept in the hands of the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce and never transmitted to the Cabinet. A very absurd rumour is circulated, which is to the effect that Mr. Saito's resignation was merely a farce got up by some Ministers, who meant it as a gentle hint to Count Goto that his resignation would also be acceptable. But the device having failed to produce its desired effect, these artful Ministers are alleged to have caused Mr. Saito's resignation to be returned to him. Another silly rumour is that his resignation has not been granted, because he is to be arraigned before a disciplinary tribunal. It is unnecessary to say that none of these rumours have any grain of truth

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Mr. Hosokawa Junjiro having been appointed a Privy Councillor, with the additional post of Chief of the Imperial Secretariat, he will resign his seat in the House of Peers, where he held the Vice-Presidency. Who will succeed him in that position is a question constantly asked in political circles. Viscount Tani, Prince Konoye, Marquis Saionji, Marquis Kuroda, Viscount Soga, and Viscount Okabe have been mentioned in this context. Most of these gentlemen being understood to dislike the vacant post, it is supposed by some persons, that the Imperial choice may fall on the last named person, Viscount Okabe, formerly Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs under Viscount Aoki.

* * *

Suppositions are equally rife as to the filling up of the corresponding position in the House of Representatives. Mr. Kono Hironaka, if he desire it, may easily obtain the place, but he is not in a mood to accept it. Mr. Kataoka Kenkichi is also talked of, but his chances are said to be small. Mr. Shimada, Mr. Hatoyama, and Mr. Kusumoto are the more conspicuous of the other candidates. But supposing that the relations of the various parties remain unchanged, Mr. Abei Iwane, a National Unionist, is said to be the most likely candidate.

* * *

The members of the Great Japan Union are to hold a grand meeting at Mito on the 21st instant. They could not choose a better place, for Mito was the source and centre of the fierce anti-foreign spirit of pre-Restoration days, and it is still one of the most conservative places in the Empire. If the opponents of Mixed Residence are to meet with a favourable reception anywhere in Japan, it is in this capital city of Ibaraki Ken. The *Kokkai* states that the local members of the Union, more than 1,500 in number, will bear the expenses of the meeting, estimated at several thousand *yen*. Several distinguished personages, members of the Upper House, and so forth, are expected to attend the meeting.

* * *

With regard to the movement in educational circles against the Minister of Education, it is stated that a reconciliation has been effected between the latter and his opponents. Finding that the public in general is not favourably disposed towards them, Messrs. Tsuji, Isawa, and other leaders of the movement are believed to have considered it advisable to beat a retreat. A certain common friend of both parties found it an easy task to remove the misunderstanding between the Minister of Education and his opponents. Mr. Tsuji is reported to have told a representative of the *Hochi Shimbun* that, Mr Inouye Ki being understood to be still in favour of obtaining state aid for the primary schools, there is no longer any necessity to oppose him.

HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS.

WE are informed on good authority that telegraphic messages were received in Tokyo on Tuesday, to the effect that, according to rumour at Washington, instructions have been issued by the United States Government to its Representative in Hawaii, acquainting him that America will neither annex nor protect these islands. The telegram further states that on the 12th instant the Secretary of State announced in the Senate that the former U.S Minister at Honolulu had exceeded the powers vested in him in deposing the Queen, and that, consequently, there is nothing to prevent Her Majesty from regaining the throne from which she had been unlawfully excluded

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Since writing the above, we have been informed by the Tokyo News Agency that a telegram was received in the capital from Washington on the night of the 13th instant, saying that "the United States Government has decided to despatch some war vessels in a few days, to Honolulu, in order to get a definite answer from the Hawaiian people as to one of three courses that are open to them—either to place themselves under the protection of the United States, or have their country annexed by the States, or establish an independent republic." This telegram is evidently unreliable in the light of the later telegrams above alluded to.

* * *

We are also informed that H I.J.M.'s *Naniwa Kan*, lying in the port of Shinagawa, received orders on Tuesday morning to proceed to Hawaii. She at once proceeded to Yokosuka, where she was to leave for her destination early on Wednesday morning, after making all necessary preparations. It is believed that a telegram was received at the Foreign Office on the night of the 13th instant, to the effect that a disturbance is feared in Hawaii.

THE WORLD'S FAIR DEBTS PAID.

IN the *Chicago Herald* for Oct. 10th there is a jubilant article from which we take the following statements. On the day before, "Chicago Day,' there were more than 760,000 paid admissions. The *Herald* says :—

The financial skies of the exposition are as bright and clear as yesterday's dawn. There is now not a cloud on the horizon. The last dollar of a threatening debt that hung like a pall over the fair was swept away yesterday

Treasurer Seeberger signed the biggest cheque in the morning that has been drawn against the exposition's funds since the books were opened, more than three years ago. It was one of the biggest cheques ever written in Chicago—$1,565,310 76—representing the last payment on the $4,500,000 issue of bonds, including the interest that had been piling up since last February.

To day the rich men who reached for their bank-books and put up money to finish the fair when it was staggering helpless under a debt that threatened to crush it, will be paid back in full. All other creditors were satisfied last week. The gates were opened on May 1 with a heavy burden hanging on the exposition Its weight was felt in every quarter. What the debt was has never been ascertained, but it reached nearly $9,000,000. Even the turnstiles seemed to be clogged by it. They worked laboriously For more than a month the fair scarcely paid operating expenses, not to mention reducing the load that lay on the shoulders of the managers Then the turnstiles were greased by fresh arrivals, and for months they have been singing a merry tune Treasurer Seeberger took some savage swipes at the pile of unpaid vouchers in his iron vault, and reckless men began predicting that the fair would at least pay its debts with the receipts of the closing week. Crowds of a million a week soon began to be a common thing, and then the managers set their hopes on clearing off all the debts on Chicago day

Saturday afternoon Mr. Seeberger sent a waggon ful of money to the Illinois Trust and Savings Bank in anticipation of the big cheque he drew yesterday. He shifted funds from several other banks until he had several fortunes more than a million in the steel vaults at La Salle and Adams streets Careful estimates had been made of the number and amount of claims that would be presented for payment before Chicago day.

Yesterday morning the first deposit was made on which creditors have no claim. The day opened with nearly $200,000 in the strong boxes.

"That is our first deposit since the debts were paid," Mr Seeberger remarked. "We will now begin to pile up money for ourselves. So far we have been taking care of the contractors who built the fair and the boodlers who came to our rescue when we were stranded last spring. They are paid off now, and from this time on we will put away money to meet the expenses of tearing down the exposition.

"I believe we will have at the lowest calculation $1,500,000 in bank when the fair closes. The estimate is much higher than early calculations, I know, but, allowing for all disappointments, I believe our surplus will reach that amount I cannot see how the attendance during October can fall short of 6,000,000, and allowing for all operating expenses and other charges against us, I feel sure that the balance will be, as I stated, $1,500,000 on Nov. 1."

THE DEATH OF "HERO."

"DAYBREAK," in the sporting column of the *N.C.-Daily News* thus refers to the great pony :—

DEATH.

At the Stables near the Grand Stand, on Saturday, the 4th November, at 12 o'clock mid-day, HERO: the pony of the century.

This was the announcement that greeted the racing public when they arrived to enjoy the Off-day's sport on Saturday and the news cast a gloom over all those who have any love for animals' "Died in harness" could be hardly more appropriately applied, for not so very many hours before, this magnificent pony won his sixth Championship, a race in which he never was beaten The trouble commenced with colic at 5 p m on Friday morning, and no one in his senses can possibly put the death of this celebrated racehorse down to anything but sheer mismanagement. Dr Whitney was not called until 7 a.m. and the case was then becoming too complicated All that mortal aid could do was done, but without avail, and the pony ultimately succumbed to mortification of the bowels induced by paralysis, Once before the pony suffered from colic immediately after the races; this should have been a lesson; had he been let down gently and in the usual way, I believe he would now be standing in his stall fit and well. According to the Race Book, Hero has only lowered one record, and that was for the three-quarter mile, his name not appearing oftener in this respect is simply owing to his having won his races cantering, and when he has been 'cherry ripe" no one can say what time he might not have done had he been ridden out. What pains me when thinking of the grand old skewbald is that he was ever beaten, he really never was on his merits, and it is a great pity with such a record that he was ever started when not in bloom No one could sympathise with his owner more than I do, and knowing what his feelings must be I am not surprised at his declining to have a post-mortem, but I am glad to hear that a monument is to be erected, and I hope it will be in a prominent position on the Race Club property, setting forth the heroic deeds of this so correctly named animal - the grandest China pony that ever carried silk—HERO: the pony of the century.

THE LARGEST CARGO STEAMER IN THE WORLD.

A NEW twin-screw steamer, which is by far the largest freight steamer in the world, was launched on September 23rd from the yard of Harland & Wolff at Queen's Island, Belfast, and is intended on completion to take her place in the White Star cargo fleet. This vessel, which is named the *Cevic*, is of her following dimensions :—Length, 500 feet; breadth, 60 fee; depth, 38 feet. Ber estimated registered tonnage is 8,315 gross, 5,935 net. Total capacity of holds is 14 089 tons. She will be fitted for the accommodation of 800 head of cattle on the upper and bridge decks, and will in addition have permanent stalls for 20 horses in the centre of the upper deck The *Cevic* will be fitted with two complete sets of triple expansion engines driving separate propellers, so that the chances of total breakdown will be reduced to a minimum, and every improvement that can devised in respect of ventilation, fresh water supply, etc., conductive to the safe carriage of horses and live stock will be provided.

METALS.

MESSRS. S. W. ROYSE & Co., in their report dated September 30th, say :—The Pig Iron trade is in anything but a satisfactory state at present. Only small business has been doing throughout this month, and that only for spot delivery, but prices are well maintained, the fluctuations for

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the last three or four weeks at both Glasgow and Middlesbrough having been quite unimportant. Shipments from Glasgow are somewhat less than at this time last year, but stocks at Middlesbrough have latterly been decreasing somewhat. Makers at Middlesbrough though fairly well off for orders for early delivery, are rather wanting to sell forward, but buyers are difficult to find for any position, although somewhat lower prices would probably be accepted for forward delivery. Copper has shown more life, and advanced considerably during the first half of this month but has since receded, and closes steady at an advance of about £1 per ton. Tin also advanced £2 per ton during the first fortnight, but has since lost nearly all this. The fluctuations in Lead and Spelter have been small, and metals close with—if any change at all—a slight easing tendency.

THE ORIENTAL CONGRESS IN LONDON

DR. EDKINS has been giving the Royal Asiatic Society in Shanghai a most interesting and valuable account of the late meetings of the Oriental Congress in Burlington House, Piccadilly, under the Presidency of Max Müller. The Doctor describes Professor Müller as a hale and vigorous man of sixty-nine—he certainly does not look it—and speaks in appreciative terms of his learning, ability, industry, and animation of style. All the same, Dr. Edkins finds a good deal to criticise in the President's opening address. Both China and India, according to Max Müller, grew up in unbroken isolation, and developed their own ideas. The ancient literatures of these two countries are home-grown and home-spun, and thus, when we find them agreeing with other literatures, especially in their philosophical and religious aspects, "they inspire us with the same confidence as when two mathematicians working quite independently arrive at the same result." This is a view which Dr. Edkins cannot admit for a moment. He says:—

The art of writing was in existence in India and possibly came from the West, as the President himself tells us, before the time of Alexander's invasion in the Sutra period. The Confucian early philosophy taught the Persian dualism. The Taoist religion, as developed by Laotze, reveals Indian features. The Chinese written characters are really of Babylonian origin, as many now believe in Europe and in China. Then, as to the monosyllabic nature of Chinese speech, it does not stand alone in this feature. The Tibetan, Siamese, Burmese, and Cochin Chinese languages are also monosyllabic. Nor do the Chinese stand alone in speaking with tones; their neighbour languages possess tones and must be allowed to bear a sisterly relation to the Chinese. In China and in India the ancient mode of writing numbers was from left to right, giving a value of 10 for example to one if written one place to the left and 100 if it is written two places to the left. This economy in writing numbers was in existence before Alexander's conquest and the principle of local value involved was Babylonian. Mathematical knowledge spread from Mesopotamia to the East and in the nations of that part of the world where commerce flourished taught the trader this principle. In the West, Egypt, Greece, and Rome failed to take hold of it till the Arabic conquest when it was introduced into Europe for greater convenience in writing and in calculation and gladly accepted. This principle of local value was assumed to be Arabian and Indian, but in fact it went from Mesopotamia to India and then returned westward to Arabia and so to Europe.

Such facts disprove the theory of isolation in my opinion. Besides we have evidence in the mythology of the Vedas. Varuna is the same with the Greek Oceanos viewed as a very ancient God. Agni, God of fire, or Vesta, is the son of Ormuzd. Mitra, the sun God, is in Persian Mithras. Yama, the Hindoo God of death, is the Persian Jemshid, an ancient King of Persia who preceded Zoroaster. Trade by land and sea conveyed a knowledge of foreign mythologies by means of the pictorial art. The early Assyrian empire, the Babylonian empire, and the Persian empire, all had a marked effect in spreading knowledge. It was the impact of new ideas which woke up the power of philosophic thought in India, and led the Brahmin intellect to elaborate the Nyaya, the Vedanta, the Sankhya, and the Buddhist systems of thought.

The extremely interesting theory which finds a close connection between Accadian and Chinese—invented, we believe, by Terrien de la Couperie, discovered independently from the Accadian side by the Rev. J. C. Ball, accepted by Dr. Edkins, and pooh-poohed by Dr. Legge—was duly honoured in a paper by Mr. Ball; and Mr. Gladstone sent a contribution entitled 'Archaic Greece and the East.' This was read and somewhat criticised by the President. Mr. Gladstone claimed that Homer had an energetic and methodical conception of the obligations of his country to the East, and that in the characters of Achilles and Ulysses we possess embodiments of the Greek temperament in its two-fold aspect. Achilles is pure Greek: Ulysses is fundamentally Phœnician. The author concluded his paper by enumerating fifteen examples, taken from Homer, of Greece borrowing from Assyria. These were principally mythological. Dr. Edkins characteristically observes:—

This paper of Mr. Gladstone seems to show how plainly the times in which we live are advancing towards unity in the history of thought. Greece the originator of European thought borrowed from Asia and particularly from Mesopotamia and Egypt. Looking at this matter from the Chinese point of view, we find there are many proofs that in ancient China before Buddhism there was borrowing from Western Asia in each successive age. In Chuangtze, B.C. 300, the northern and southern ocean are mentioned. The Babylonian trinity appears in the *Tao Te-ching*. Venus is the Goddess of the West mentioned in the romance of the Emperor Mu. The astrology of Babylon is found in the *Chow li*. The art of writing of the Chinese and their earliest astronomy are visibly like the early writing and astronomy of Babylonia. The same thing occurred in Eastern Asia that occurred in Greece. The source of civilised and superstitious ideas in both cases was Western Asia.

Which is the Babylonian trinity that is found in the 'Tao Tê Ching'? Does Dr. Edkins mean the *I, Hi, Wei* that misled Rémusat and the early Jesuits, or the First, Second, and Third of Chapter 42?—At the conclusion of the lecture, Mr. Hannen, in proposing a most cordial vote of thanks, expressed a difference of opinion with Dr. Edkins upon the latter's view that Confucianism had had a greater influence upon the development of Japanese thought than Buddhism. Mr. Hannen's long residence in Japan had taught him that Buddhism exercised by far the greater power. Mr. Hayashi, the Japanese Consul, on being appealed to, said that though Confucianism was much studied by the cultured classes, and had much influence over them, it was Buddhism that ruled the nation; a view which was very happily illustrated by Mr. Dallas, who referred to the influence upon the educated classes in Europe of Aristotle's Ethics, which was insignificant when compared to the far more extensive power of Christianity.

THE OSAKA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ON THE EXTENSION OF THE JAPAN-KOREAN TRADE.

THE Osaka Chamber of Commerce, which has appointed a committee for the purpose of carrying on investigations pertaining to the extension of commerce between Japan and Korea, held a special meeting on the 9th instant, to discuss the report submitted by the committee, and has decided to forward a written representation to the authorities thereon. The principal points which the Chamber holds essential to the extension of commerce between the two neighbouring countries are reported by the *Shogyo Shimpo* as follows:—1. To apply to the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs for permission to hold direct correspondence with the Japanese Consuls stationed in Sôul, Gensan, Fusan, and Ninsen. 2. To induce the branch offices of Japanese banks established in the Korean capital and the three ports to open banking facilities with the Japanese banks existing in Shanghai, and to send written statements from the Chamber to those concerned to attain that end. With regard to the first of the two points, the opinion of the Chamber is said to be that great exertions should be made to revive the commerce between Japan and Korea, which has been gradually dwindling since 1890. In order to attain this end, the commercial conditions of that country should be accurately ascertained from the best authority, *i.e.* from the Consuls stationed at the respective commercial towns of Korea. This important information is at present obtained through intermediaries; a method which the Chamber considers highly inconvenient and interferes with active and prompt transactions. The Chamber therefore desires that on all points relating to the commerce of Korea, such as the variety of goods constituting the import and export trade of that country, the quantity, price, &c., thereof, facilities should be opened to the Japanese merchants of holding direct correspondence with their Consuls in Korea without passing through the hands of the Foreign Office. As to the second point, relative to the opening of banking facilities, the Chamber is of opinion that whereas such facilities are at present pretty satisfactorily afforded between Japan and Korea, or between the former and China, several Japanese banks having established branch offices either in Korea or in China, or in both, there is at present no banking communication between the branches in Korea and those in Shanghai. The shrewd Chinese merchants are enjoying that convenience, and this, in the opinion of the Osaka Chamber, is an important point in which the Japanese merchants are outwitted by the Chinese, and one of the chief causes that have brought about the unequal conditions under which Chinese and Japanese transacts business with Korea at present. Banking correspondence once established, in the first place, the Japanese merchants will begin to enjoy greater convenience in sending goods brought from abroad to Korea, and they will be enabled to maintain competition with the Chinese merchants; secondly, fish and other marine products caught by Japanese fishermen may be sent direct to Shanghai without transhipment at Nagasaki, as is done now; thirdly, the profit derived from the export of rice and beans from Korea, now chiefly enjoyed by Japanese merchants, may be secured forever; fourthly, exchange rates between China, Japan, and Korea, now so divergent and complicated, may become uniform when correspondence is once opened between the Japanese banks in Korea and China.

SATURDAY'S PROMENADE CONCERT.

THE open-air *fête* at the Korakuyen on Saturday afternoon was brilliant, and may be characterised as in every way a success. The sun was bright and warm, the music good, and the assembly unusually gay. Among the more prominent guests were observed Their Imperial Highnesses Princess Komatsu (junior) and Princess Kanin; Princess Mori, Princess Sanjo, Countess Oyama, the young Princess Iwakura, and a large number of other noble and distinguished ladies. Marchioness Nabeshima, Vice-President of the Girls' Industrial School, was, we regret to learn, prevented from being present by indisposition. The costumes of these ladies were extremely handsome; special admiration being attracted by the gorgeous Japanese Court dresses worn by some of the Ladies of the Court in attendance on the Imperial Princesses. Mr. Fukuchi's play, written for the occasion, met with unbounded approbation. It was a very clever production, and its pathos caused a considerable number of sensitive souls in the audience to weep bitterly. The actors dressed for their parts among some bushes at the back of the stage, the intricacies of their toilet being watched with much amused interest by quite a crowd of peepers. The jugglery did not come off; indeed, there was scarcely time for it. The 'work' offered for sale was creditable to the industry of the pupils, and some of the embroidery was pretty enough; but we fail to see why Japanese girls should be encouraged to reproduce those most hideous relics of the worst possible European taste, Berlin-wool mats in scarifying colours—things that are now to be found only in cheap lodging-houses at the seaside. The air grew chilly towards five o'clock, and the beautiful garden then emptied rapidly.

"PHANTOM LAWS"

NOW is the reign of law, writes the *Nippon* in a rather sarcastic tone, and for everything and every purpose there is a law prepared, complete in all necessary details and containing a goodly array of articles. For all that, however, the efficacy of some laws seems rather questionable, while not a few met with unexpected obstacles ere they came into force. There are others whose enforcement has been postponed, with no definite prospect of the period of abeyance being terminated. Such statutes our contemporary calls "phantom laws," and then quotes a long

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list of them. The biggest of the phantom laws are, it says, the Civil Code and a section of the Commercial Code. The Bourse Regulations were once included in this category, but they were recently resuscitated and have now become living law. The *Nippon* finds another "phantom" in the Petroleum Regulations promulgated some ten years ago. Issued as Notification No. VI. in 1883, the Regulations were suspended soon after. Ten years have gone by since then, and for more than half the length of time that has elapsed since the inauguration of the *Meiji* Government, the Regulations have been lying dormant. These poor Regulations are subjected to the still more humiliating treatment of being entirely forgotten, not only by the general public, but even by those merchants who are engaged in the rock-oil business. The reason the Regulations have come to be neglected in such a way is to be found, according to the *Nippon*, in one provision expressly providing that the petroleum used for illumination should not be inflammable at a heat below 30° Centigrade. This provision affected the interests of foreign resident merchants engaged in the import of oil, and they strenuously exerted themselves to have it erased. How far the agitation was efficacious the *Nippon* cannot say definitely, but that it must have been successful to a certain degree is evident, for the Government, a few weeks after, issued another Notification postponing the enforcement of the Regulations till further notice. Now whether or not it is better to surround the sale of this oil by heavy restrictions, our contemporary does not care to discuss, but what it thinks strange is the way in which a law of the country was tampered with. Should a law be framed fitted for the purpose in view, it should be carried out decisively, no matter what objection or obstacle be presented by a limited number of interested persons; but if, on the contrary, it should be discovered to be unsuitable, it should be abolished without hesitation. The *Nippon* thinks it a disgrace to the country and especially unbecoming to the present ministry, that a law should be laid aside for more than 10 years, neither being revived or revoked. Reforms of the administration should not be confined simply to amending the organization of the Government departments; all blots of this description should be speedily attended to. The attention of the Diet is similarly called to this point. Rather than produce many inconsistent laws, the *Nippon* advises the legislative body to remove any defects found therein, and to aim at amending them into perfect and efficient instruments.

THEATRICAL AND MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT.

A CROWDED and brilliant audience assembled yesterday evening in the Hakubutsu Kwan, Tora-no-mon, to witness a performance by some ladies and gentlemen of Tokyo. The hall is not very well suited for purposes of this description, as its acoustic properties are bad, and the seats are all on a level; so that those sitting towards the back can neither see nor hear satisfactorily. But the excellent enunciation of the players went far to mitigate this defect, and the result was a very enjoyable evening. The first piece on the programme was a comedietta entitled 'La Petite Sœur.' The story is pretty and touching, but the selection of it was scarcely happy. Beautifully acted, but tedious, was, we believe, the general verdict. Not all the vivacity of the actors was able to prevent it from dragging. And yet the talent on the stage surprised most people. Mlle M. de B. showed herself a finished actress in the part of *Louise*, while it was difficult to believe that Mlle J. S. was a *débutante*. Her *aplomb* was wonderful, and a little judicious training will do much to improve the great natural gifts that she undoubtedly possesses. M. de B made a delightful notary, though he certainly looked nothing like sixty years old, and M. C. did the very best he could with a part that was scarcely worthy of him. The interlude which followed was, in our opinion, the most delightful part of the entertainment. M. Dütrich entranced his audience by his beautiful rendering of two *morceaux* for the violin by Wieniawski and Vieuxtemps respectively, being accompanied on the piano by M. Ehmann. Then came a novelty—a Gavotte of Glück's played on seven kotos by as many young Japanese ladies. The effect was charming, and showed what a fine instrument the koto really is. The third piece, too, delighted everybody, being selections from Handel, Moszkowski, and Sitt, by an orchestra of violins consisting of six Japanese ladies and one gentleman—pupils, we believe, in the Academy of Music. The farce which concluded the entertainment was only moderately farcial, but certainly livelier than the opening piece. M. de B. was very comic as one of the 'Deux Timides,' and M. C. was seen to excellent advantage as the other. Mlle. M. S. played a youthful hoyden with immense *verve* and spirit, and Mlle. E. D., who has never previously, we believe, graced the French stage, was warmly welcomed when she appeared in the character of a *soubrette*. The orchestral music, we may add, was excellent, and everybody seemed pleased. Their Imperial Highnesses Prince and Princess Kanin and Princess Komatsu honoured the performance. Count and Countess Ito, Mr Mutsu and various other notabilities were also present.

TROUBLES OF THE SODO SECT.

THE Sodo sect of Buddhists is notorious for its internal dissensions, which, dating from several years past, have at last reached their culminating point. The trouble is due to the rivalry for supremacy between the two centres of the Sect, and, as a consequence, a persistent endeavour on the part of one of them to become independent. This is not the first time that the tranquility of the community has been disturbed. It was subjected to similar dissensions previous to the Restoration, which were only set at rest in 1872 by the intervention of the late Mr. Okubo, who was at that time Minister of Finance. But his far-sighted eye enabled him to discern that unless some definite step was taken for future emergencies, the disturbance which had been fortunately settled by him would break out again as soon as opportunity occurred. Convinced of this, he made the head-priests of the two centres of the Sect draw up and sign a document embodying certain solemn oaths, one provision of which set forth that any head-priest of either of the two centres in Noto and Echizen, that should endeavour to become independent should be considered as an offending party and be liable to compulsory retirement from his position. This ingenious measure proved highly efficacious, and though an ambitious head-priest either of the Echizen or Noto centre might have secretly conceived the idea of sundering the connection between the two, in matters not directly relating to religious affairs (for the scheme, as may be gathered from the above, was not to set up any distinct creed), being debarred by the provision which two head-priests are obliged to obey, the outward peace has not been ruffled for a long time. The provision indeed is at present not only morally binding on the two head-priests, but is also legally so, for when the Home Department notified the various sects of officially acknowledged religions in Japan, *i.e.* Buddhism and Shintoism, in 1886, to draft regulations which each of them deemed essential for the effective management of its own affairs, the two head priests of the Sodo centres, after consulting together, inserted the provision in the draft of regulations for use in their own sect. The draft having obtained the sanction of the Department, it follows that the provision expediently provided by the late Mr. Okubo is now legally binding on the two head-priests. Such being the case, one may well imagine that all attempts on the part of either of the two to secure severance of the connection between their respective centres would have been abandoned altogether. The head-priest of the Noto centre, however, began to resume the agitation some years ago in the teeth of the very provision for the insertion of which to the bye laws of the Sodo Sect he must be held at least responsible. The head priest of the Echizen centre at once despatched an epistle to his brother priest, in accordance with the provision, and urged him to retire from office. This advice the other refused to accept and consequently the Sodo Sect has become noted for unusual disturbances during the last few years. Reluctant to interfere with religious affairs, the Home Department, though exceedingly regretting such a state of things, abstained from taking any step. Fearing, however, that the Sodo Sect might be plunged into anarchy, the two central seats being engaged in so sharp a contest, the Department eventually appointed two influential priests of known integrity and impartiality to restore order and tranquility in their community. But the task they had undertaken proved too great for them, for not only were they unable to suppress the disturbance, but the quarrel actually grew more and more embittered. The Department, observing this, had finally to exert its civil influence, and the Minister issued on the 8th instant a public instruction that any priest found behaving at variance with the church regulations should be subjected to discipline in accordance with the provisions of the regulations. At the same time, the Department despatched Mr. Abe, Chief of the Bureau of Ecclesiastical Affairs, and Mr. Tsuzuki a councillor of the Department, to the head priest of the Noto Sodo centre, to rebuke him for his conduct. On a subsequent day he and the two priests appointed to control the affairs of the Sodo Sect were summoned to the Home Office, where Count Inouye, in the presence of two officials of the Department, ordered the head priest to resign his position in accordance with the provisions of the Church regulations, and in compliance with the letter forwarded to him by the head-priest of the other centre. The head-priest is said to have acquiesced in this injunction, and to have written on the spot a note declaring that he would resign his post. At the same time, the Minister advised the two priestly managers of the Sect to be upright and impartial in dealing with subordinate priests who have acted with the head-priest of the Noto centre. The *Nichi Nichi* (from which and the *Jiji* we have gathered the foregoing particulars) adds that of over fourteen thousand temples of this Sect which are scattered throughout the country, more than eight thousand, being dissatisfied with the agitation of the Noto Centre, sent a deputy to the Home Office to have the dispute between the two centres settled in accordance with the spirit of the regulations which all the priests in the Sodo Sect are bound to obey. Their petition, however, came a little too late, and could serve no particular purpose, as on the very day the delegate presented himself at the Home Office with the written representation of his co-agitators, the Office had already given its decision and settled the matter. We are still a little curious to know what, after all, was at the root of the disturbance, and what the head-priest of the Noto centre has to plead in extenuation for the agitation which he stirred up in the face of the prohibitory provision.

POLITICAL RUMOURS.

THE Imperial News Agency, which is believed to be under the control of the Progressionist party, has supplied the vernacular press with an item of news which has attracted considerable attention. It is as follows:—"There being indications that the various sections of the Opposition will express dissatisfaction with the administrative reforms recently introduced, it may well be imagined that the coming session of the Diet will be an extremely stormy one. Further, the recent changes in the organization of the internal council of the Radical party make it impossible for Mr. Mutsu to influence the policy of that party. From these circumstances, a collision between the Ministry and the Diet is now regarded as inevitable. Such a prospect of affairs cannot escape the quick eyes of the Cabinet Ministers, who, after repeated secret consultations, have come to the decision that an alliance should be formed with the statesmen of the Military Section, such, for instance, as Count Matsukata, Viscount Kabayama, Viscount Shinagawa, and Viscount Takashima, and that upon the close of the coming

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session of the Diet a coalition Cabinet with these statesmen should be formed. This proposal is said to have been made by Count Inouye and eagerly approved by his colleagues."

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The *Nippon* also states that on the 14th instant at 3 p.m. a secret meeting took place between Counts Yamagata and Matsukata, on one side, and the principal members of the Cabinet, on the other, including Counts Ito, Inouye, Saigo, Goto, and Kuroda, and Mr. Ito Miyoji. As to the place of meeting, our contemporary is not certain, but states that it must have been at the residence of either Count Ito or Count Saigo. We (*Japan Mail*) are inclined to regard this news with suspicion. Our own information goes that no such conference took place on that day or indeed at any other date. As to Mr. Ito at least, we are certain that on that day he was not in Tokyo, being more agreeably engaged in the pursuit of game at Nikko.

* * *

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* has an interesting note on the subject. Our contemporary declares that there is no truth in the rumour about the proposed alliance between the present Cabinet and the statesmen of the so-called Military section. Ever since the formation of the present Cabinet, there has been intercourse between its members and their predecessors, but such intercourse, says the *Nichi Nichi*, has now become less frequent than formerly. As to Count Yamagata, his time is divided between Mejiro and Oiso, and he seems to have little inclination to meddle with politics. The rumour above alluded to takes its rise, in our contemporary's opinion, from the erroneous notions which the politicians of a certain party entertain about the relations between the Cabinet and the Radical party. These persons believe that the Cabinet had relied upon the support of the Radicals, but that, there being now no hope in that direction, the Ministers have fallen back upon the alliance of the so-called Military statesmen. Count Ito, says the *Nichi Nichi*, is too sagacious not to know the folly of building any hope upon the support of the Radical party. He knows well enough that the past history of that party does not allow it to become a tool of this Ministry. The truth is the present Cabinet has not counted, and does not count, upon the support of any particular faction. As to the recent changes in the internal council of the Radicals, our contemporary does not believe, with the rest of the metropolitan papers, that these changes indicate the decline of Mr. Hoshi's influence in his party. Among the newly elected members of the council, there are several who are on especially intimate terms with Mr. Hoshi, and consequently, through these persons, he is still capable of effectually influencing its policy. The changes in question will probably be of some use to pacify the provincial members, who are understood to have some prejudice against the President of the House of Representatives Count Itagaki is said still to repose boundless confidence in Mr. Hoshi, and the rest of the Radicals know full well how unwise it would be to cause a split in their party,—a split which will only serve to increase the influence of the Progressionists.

THE LATE MR. JOHN MACGREGOR.

We noticed in a few lines the death of Mr. John Macgregor at the time the news reached this port by telegraph, but the following, containing further particulars, appears in the *N.-C. Daily News* of the 8th inst. between black rules:—It is impossible to exaggerate the loss to Shanghai by the melancholy and untimely death at half-past ten yesterday morning of Mr. John Macgregor, at the age of fifty-two. It is not too much to say that there was no man in Shanghai, and has been no man for a long time, more thoroughly valuable to it. Of his loss to the great firm of whose Shanghai branch he was the head, it is not for us to speak, though it was a great thing for Shanghai that that firm had him as their representative here. John Macgregor was a leading man by nature as well as by position, and it was universally felt that he was in his proper place when he was at the head of any movement, any concern, any society. His loss is and will be universally felt and for a long time. Not only was he a first-rate Chairman of the Municipal Council, but his intelligence, his business aptitude, his power of grasping the important points of a subject, his knowledge of human nature, made him an invaluable leader and referee in graver matters, as his geniality, his wide sympathy, and his straightforwardness made him welcome everywhere in our social life. In his cool judgment, his power of rapid decision, and his pertinacity when he was sure of his ground, he was a typical Scotsman, but there was no narrowness or illiberality in his character. If he was fond of power, it was the fondness that accompanies the consciousness of capability to lead, and his natural masterfulness was softened by his affability and courtesy to all. It will be many years before he will be replaced, and before the void his death leaves in a very large circle of friends all over China will be filled. John Macgregor came out to China to the great house of Jardine, Matheson & Co. twenty-four years ago. He was first in Hongkong where his abilities and his love of hard work soon made him conspicuous. Much more of his life has been spent in Shanghai than in Hongkong, and it was as a Shanghai man that we are proud to regard him. He rose gradually to the position of partner in the firm, and Manager in Shanghai. He returned from home last year, apparently in perfect health, and rapidly resumed the leading position earned as much by his personal qualities as by his commercial standing. It is hardly a fortnight since he was taken ill, and only a few days since his illness was known to be serious. On Monday grave fears were entertained of his condition, but it was hoped, but vainly, that his fine constitution would pull him through. He is to be buried at half past three this afternoon, and there will no doubt be a general suspension of business, for there can be hardly anyone who will not wish to join in paying the last respects to so popular and indeed indispensable a fellow-citizen and friend. We have spoken of Mr. Macgregor's services as Chairman of the Municipal Council, but they were equally valuable in the Chamber of Commerce, and it must not be forgotten that to him virtually is due the strong position taken by the Shanghai branch of the China Association. But there was hardly anything in the life of Shanghai in which he did not take an interest, and before very long assume a leading position. He was seen everywhere, he knew and had a pleasant word for everyone, and while he was essentially a strong man, with a vigorous personality and opinions of his own, he can hardly have made an enemy. Death has dealt hardly with Shanghai in removing John Macgregor.

STORM IN NEMURO PROVINCE.

To-day's *Official Gazette* has the following telegram despatched from Sapporo on the 15th inst at 6 p.m.:—A violent gale swept over the Province of Nemuro on the 12th, and about eight boats engaged in obtaining *kombu* near Daraku Island are missing. Several vessels coming from that island were also wrecked and a large number of persons drowned; three corpses being cast up on the beach on the 15th. A steamer is to be hired by the guild of *kombu* gatherers to search for the missing men. The *Gembu Maru*, at anchor in the port of Nemuro, was blown on to Benenjima, but sustained no injury. One seaman was lost in the port of Nemuro.

UNION SPINNERS AND KOBE FOREIGN MERCHANTS.

Since the union spinners have agreed with the Nippon Yusen Kaisha with regard to the opening of a regular service to Bombay, to import raw cotton from that port, every member of the union is prohibited from purchasing his cotton from any one not in the union. This agreement has affected, writes the *Shogyo Shimpo*, the business of several of the foreign merchants of Kobe to no small extent, they being liable to lose their customers in the future. In order to continue transactions with the principal spinners in the Kei Han district, there is no other way open to them but to join first the Nippon Union Spinning Company and next a body of spinners who have recently commenced to import raw cotton direct from Bombay. In fact Messrs. Lucas & Co., and several others are said to have applied for admission into that body. The Union Spinning Company has no particular objection to the admittance of foreign merchants into their society, though it may be considered strange to admit into any corporation of spinners any one who is not a spinner by profession. The society, it is said, intends to admit the foreign merchants as "provisional" members. For that purpose it is reported to be at present engaged in drawing up regulations for its new recruits.

THE FRENCH FLAGSHIP.

The French ironclad *Bayard* replaces the *Triomphante* on the China Station. The latter vessel will not return to France at present, but will be kept in reserve at Saigon. Admiral de Maigret, ex-Flag Captain to the late Admiral Courbet, will come out in the *Bayard*, replacing Admiral Humann, who returns home. Captain de Vaisseau Granier replaces the present commander of the *Inconstant*. The new commanders of the *Comète* and *Lion* respectively are Lieutenants de Maudet and Gauchet. The ironclad *Bayard*, which is to relieve the *Triomphante* as French flagship in these waters, says the *N.-C. Daily News*, has been here before. She was built of wood and iron at Brest in 1880, is 266 feet long and 57 feet broad, her displacement being 5,880 tons. Her speed is 14½ knots.

NOTICE TO MARINERS.

The following notice to Mariners in reference to the establishment of a Fog Siren to the North East Shantung Promontory lighthouse in the Chefoo District of the China Sea, has been issued by the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs:—Notice is hereby given that a First Class Siren has been established at this station, and that during foggy or thick weather it will give two blasts, each of about two and a half seconds' duration (high note, low note), in quick succession every two minutes. The former Fog Signal of this station, which was 2 guns fired with an interval of 10 minutes if a vessel's signal continued to be heard, will not be given in future unless the Siren be disabled.

PROFESSOR MILNE IN LONDON.

Referring to Professor Milne's lecture before the Japan Society, a report of which we have already published, the *L. & C. Express* says:—"Professor Milne, at the meeting of the Japan Society certainly made a subject, which at first sight seems highly scientific, into a most popular discourse by the method in which he treated it. He kept his audience in good humour, and, assisted here and there by a witticism, had them with him all the way. The excellent series of photographs of "things Japanese" also tended to enliven the most crowded meeting the Society has organised."

CHESTNUTS.

A globe-trotting correspondent writes to a Hongkong paper:—"What I do like about your English newspapers is their originality. I came over to Yokohama, and found one of the papers there full of 'Sport and Anecdote, by an Old Fogey,' and all about Dickens at Doncaster and Methusaleh after the flood; in Kobe I saw the same thing again; I fled to Shanghai, and there it was again; and now I find even the Hongkong morning paper turning on the same old wheeze. What price chestnuts?"

BASEBALL.

A baseball match was played on Thursday afternoon, on the Cricket Ground, between teams from the U.S.S. *Marion* and *Petrel*. The *Petrel* nine took the lead in the first innings, making 7 runs to the *Marion's* 6, then luck deserted them, for throughout the whole of the six innings that followed they only made one run. The *Marion* team did not assume a lead till the

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fourth innings, and then they steadily drew ahead. When the match finished the score stood *Marion* 19, *Petrel* 8, for seven innings each. Kircher and Nicholson played well for the *Petrels*, Norriss, Mahoney, and Franklin equally well for the *Marion* team. The nines were composed as follows:—*Marion*—Norriss, s.s., Mehrtens, t.f., Franklin, 1b., Mahoney, 2b., Sullivan, 3b., Anderson, p., Conroy, c., Eberle r.f., Rook, c.f. *Petrel*—Kircher 1b., Nicholson, 3b., Walker, r.f., Briggs, s.s., Hassenger, p., Connell, l.f., Harriss, c., Cashaw, c.f., and Van Norman, 2b.

* * *

The Match between the United Kingdom and the United States teams came off yesterday, but the Englishmen were "not in it" this time with their cousins, as will be seen by the appended scores:—

United States.	Pos.	Runs.	Outs.
Mr Pratt	2B	5	3
D Stokes	2S	6	2
Mr. Franklin	1B	6	2
Mr. Tilden	P	5	2
Mr Riley	C	5	2
Mr Hoff	3B	3	2
Mr. Morse	LF	0	7
Mr. Merriman	CF	2	5
Mr. Eberle	RF	3	3
		35	29

United Kingdom.	Pos.	Runs.	Outs.
Mr. Edwards	1B	1	3
Mr. Lias	P	5	1
Mr McGill	C	5	0
Mr. Tate	3B	2	0
Mr. Pearson	2S	3	4
Mr Ross	2B	1	4
Mr. Layard	RF	0	5
Mr. Kenny	CF	2	1
Mr. Black	LF	0	5
		18	27

	Innings.									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
United States	5	4	4	5	3	1	0	6	7	—35
United Kingdom	4	0	6	0	0	3	3	0	2	—18

MR. MURATA TAMOTSU AND THE FISHERY COMPANY.

MR. MURATA TAMOTSU, an eminent member of the House of Peers, and equally celebrated for his earnestness on the fishery question, some time ago consented to become President of the Japan Fishery Company, as was mentioned in these columns at the time. At his inaugural meeting he declared that he was prepared to sacrifice private interest, and apply himself to promoting the prosperity of the Company to the utmost of his ability. It might well have been expected by the public that such an announcement would be followed by the realization of at least a tithe of what was promised. People are entirely taken by surprise, therefore, when they are now told that Mr. Murata has asked to be relieved from the presidency; and that the Company has complied with his request. The principal reason that has induced Mr. Murata to take such an entirely inconsistent step, is said to be the great inconvenience to which he is subjected on account of his being the Chairman of the Fishery Investigation Committee, a position which requires him to look at fishery affairs purely from a public point of view; and the fulfilment of such function is liable to clash with the duty required of him as President of the Fishery Company. The managers of the Company have deliberated whether the request of their President should be consented to, and they have, says our authority the *Hochi*, at last decided in the affirmative, thinking the course which Mr. Murata wished to take with regard to the Company was unavoidable. But we suspect that there must be something else which has obliged Mr. Murata to take such a step, besides that avowedly given, for when he had consented to become the President of the Company he was already Chairman of the Investigation Committee. It is not in a man of Mr. Murata's ability to excuse himself by saying that he could not have foreseen the consequences which he discovered after having once undertaken the business.

* * *

The Fishery Company, which was believed to have received an access of stability by the appointment of Mr. Murata as its president, has become once more a centre of suspicion, now that that support has been withdrawn. The principal shareholders of the Company are intending, says the *Nichi Nichi*, to hold an extraordinary general meeting to discuss the course to be pursued by the Company. One of the most important points which the Company should settle, to secure its prosperity, is to place the greater part of its shares under the control of those persons who will be able to stand the great vicissitudes to which such a Company is likely to be subjected. For however stable the business pursued by the Company may be, it cannot be denied that an element of adventure is included in it. It is of the utmost importance that a crisis should be borne with patience. Not unfrequently, at present, shareholders unable to stand the strain make their discontent felt by the managers, and so compel a hopeful enterprise to be given up. With the view of obviating such obstacles, two or three influential shareholders are said to have asked the Company to have the control of its business entrusted to them, while others have proposed to bring the old shares of the Company, to the amount of 400,000 *yen*, into their own possession. These points will be settled, it is said, at the special general meeting to be held in a few days.

MEETING OF THE FISHERY INVESTIGATION COMMITTEE.

THE second meeting of the Fishery Investigation Committee, which was held at the Noshomusho on the 14th instant, was attended by Mr Murata, Chairman, and all the members of the Committee. Count Goto, Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, delivered a speech on the occasion. After thanking the members for the diligence evinced in the business entrusted to them, he said that of the various investigations accomplished by the Committee at the previous meeting, several were being carried into practice, the results of which would be reported by the manager of the Committee. The expenses for the building of a ship to be devoted to fishery investigations asked for by the Committee, the Count went on, had been deemed important both by himself and his colleagues in the Cabinet, and he believed that when the budget for the 27th fiscal year was introduced by the Government for the consent of the Diet, that item would appear in it. The manner of preparing statistics on fishery, and the control of fishery poachers, were all referred to by the Count in very high terms. He remarked that they should be made a basis of a future policy. He concluded his remarks by asking the Committee to deliberate on several other points newly transferred to the Chairman of the Committee. Mr. Fujita, Chief of the Bureau of Agriculture, and at the same time a member and manager of the Committee, made a report, in his latter capacity, on the points entrusted by the Department to be investigated by the Committee the result of the practical execution of those investigation which had been accomplished by the Committee at the previous meeting and on other matters. Questions put by the Department to the second meeting of the Investigation Committee were in regard to: (1), investigation of fishing grounds, and policy to be pursued with respect to fishing experiments; (2), mode of employing ships to be used for the purpose of investigations; (3), investigations pertaining to the quadrupeds that live in the sea; (4), investigations pertaining to the multiplication and preservation of marine products; (5), investigations as to the manufacture of salt; (6), and one other point relating to the bye-election of members of a certain Committee connected with the investigation of some important fishery questions. After consulting together as to the allotment of these questions to the various members, the Committee rose, to re-assemble on the 6th instant.

THE NIPPON IRON CASTING COMPANY'S WORKS.

THE Nippon Iron Casting Company is under contract with the Municipality of Tokyo to supply iron pipes to be used for the construction of the Tokyo Water-works. At first, public discontent was very active against the Company, blaming it for delay in the making of pipes, pipes which they further condemned as being imperfect in workmanship. In order to remove all causes of unfavourable criticism, the Company has since removed from its old site to Tsukijima, and entered upon its business with greater ardour and application than before. The result is reported by the *Nichi Nichi* as quite satisfactory. The smaller pipes from 12 to 4 inches in diameter, now in course of construction there, are excellent in workmanship and are said to cope perfectly well with imported pipes. Of the 150 pipes of 12 inches that have been subjected to hydraulic pressure tests one only was formed imperfect, the rest standing a pressure of 250 pounds. The larger pipes of 42 inches, cast subsequently, have also been found satisfactory. The total number of hands employed in the factory is about 300, but of these about half are carpenters and bricklayers. The total quantity of pipes cast has not exceeded thus far about 7 or 8 tons a day; but as the necessary plant has now been completely fixed and as the number of skilful hands is increasing, it is expected that the casting of 40 tons or so per day will be an easy matter before long. The Company is under obligations to the municipality to furnish pipes of varying sizes to the amount of 2,000 tons up to the 4th of December next; if it fails to do so the Company is to be subjected to the penalty of furnishing the three-thousandth part of the amount originally contracted for. The Company is prepared to meet this penalty, being of opinion that failure to produce the stipulated amount of pipes was due to the inexperience of its hands, which is unavoidable owing to the circumstances of starting business, and also to the incompleteness of the plant. Of the plant now being put up in the works, three or four descriptions were patented by Mr. Totake, Chief of the Committee of the Company. These pieces of machinery are very highly spoken of in the *Nichi Nichi*. Indeed, they are said to be so far superior to the machines applied to similar purpose in Europe in point of simplicity and convenience, that a workman totally inexperienced in such work may become an efficient hand after a month's application. More than 30 hands have been lately recruited who, till they become thoroughly acquainted with their tasks, are to be paid from 18 to 20 *sen* a day.

"ON ANOTHER MIRACLE."

MR. PERCIVAL LOWELL last evening discoursed before the Yokohama Literary Society upon the walking on swords miracle, one of the three great miraculous acts of the ancient cult. Mr. Lowell has a pleasant descriptive faculty, albeit rather flippant, and his paper would have been a greater literary success had he curbed his fancy more in the matter of puns. The essay, which dealt with a performance of the rites at a place near Hachioji, was received with applause by the crowded audience. Mr. Lowell is leaving shortly for Boston, U.S.A., and the President (Mr. Griffin), in returning thanks for the pleasure accorded by the lecturer that evening, wished him a pleasant voyage across, a good time at home, and a speedy return to Japan. The musical programme was as follows:—Organ and piano duet, "The Pilgrim's March" (Mendelssohn); Piano solo, "The Flying Dutchman," (Wagner), Miss Mendelson; Song, "Der Wanderlied," Mr. Seel; violin solo, "Priere à la Madone," (Lenard), Mr. J. W. Jewett; Song, Mrs. Campbell; Organ and piano duet, "Nocturne" from Mendelssohn's "Midsummer Night's Dream;" Song, "Ho, jolly Jenkin" ("Ivanhoe," Sullivan), Mr. S. L. Goldman; Song, "In Old Madrid," Miss Webb; Piano solo Thalberg's "Home sweet home," Miss L Smith. Mrs. Campell and Mr. Goldman were encored for their songs.

THE ARITHMOMETER.

A MACHINE, says the London *Times*, bearing the name Arithmometer, and possessing remarkable capabilities for printing and adding up figures, has recently reached this country from the United States. It is the invention of Mr. Burroughs, and consists of a metallic case about 12 inches deep and 10 inches wide, with a sloping top, upon which is a keyboard resembling that of a typewriting machine. The keyboard has a number of buttons or keys, each

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representing a figure, and these are actuated for pounds, shillings, and pence just in the same way as a typewriter. After the required amount in one line has been imprinted by the types through an ink riband, on to a continuous paper at the rear of the machine, a lever is moved which restores the parts to their normal position, and the operator goes on with another line of figures. Line after line can be added, as in a long bill or an account book, and when all the sums have been printed, a key is pressed down, and the lever again brought into operation, when the sum total of column of figures is correctly printed, the amount in fact, being mechanically added up. Pounds, shillings, and pence are placed in their proper order in all the columns, the amounts coming out in clear, bold type. The internal mechanism appears as a somewhat complex assemblage of levers and wheels, but the whole is a beautiful mechanical product and a most ingenious invention. It is said to be capable of setting down and adding up figures representing any amounts under one million pounds, and the way in which the pence are mechanically converted into shillings and carried forward, and the shillings into pounds, is most remarkable. The machine is stated to be largely in use in the United States by bankers, merchants, and others who have given strong testimonials as to its efficiency and utility.

EXCHANGE PROBLEMS IN TOKYO.

Two distinct bodies, writes the vernacular press, have applied for the establishment of an exchange in Tokyo. One of them wishes to have an exchange for transactions in oils, cotton, and salt, and is projected by Mr. Amenomiya and fifty-five others. This body of applicants is commonly styled *shinshi-ha* or gentlemen's party. The other application is from Mr. Ioka and over one hundred and fifty others who wish to have an exchange for transactions in salt, sugar, oils, manures, cotton yarns, cotton, metals, grain, and cotton goods; this combination is known as *jitsugyo-ha*, or business men's party. These two have forwarded their applications to the Noshomusho in due form, but as the establishment of more than one exchange in one place for transactions in the same kinds of commodities is expressly forbidden in Art. II. of the Bourse Regulations, the Authorities have been obliged to reject both applications. The Authorities expected by so doing that the two projects would be amalgamated and their organizers would send in a joint application. The Noshomusho was disappointed in this, for not only was no compromise arrived at, but, on the contrary, the rivalry of the two bodies became more embittered; and the result was that they once more sent in separate applications. To such a selfish and unreasonable proceeding, the Authorities were at liberty to accord rigid treatment; but having more consideration for the interests of the projectors than for the persons concerned, Mr. Wakamiya, Chief of the Bureau of Commerce and Industry, after deliberation, contrived what he considered a practical scheme for bringing the vexatious affair to a satisfactory conclusion. The plan is to submit the matter to the arbitration of Mr. Wakamiya (himself,) Mr. Miura, Governor of Tokyo, and Mr. Shibusawa, President of the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce. In other words, the two parties are to leave the matter unconditionally in the hands of these gentlemen, and to prepare a fresh application in unison. The three arbitrators are to deal with the business in their individual capacities, but as the originator of the idea is himself Chief of the Bureau of Commerce and Industry, he will abstain from stating his own views. If, therefore, the ideas of the other arbitrators coincide or are brought to some form of compromise, all will be well; but in the event of any divergence in their views, nothing remains, according to this scheme of Mr. Wakamiya, but to give up this form of settling the difficulty, and to have recourse to some other method, if another method there be. Messrs Miura and Shibusawa, and the gentlemen's party have approved of the arbitration. Leading members of the business men's party were summoned to the Noshomusho to give their opinions on the arbitration scheme a few days ago; but they refrained from giving any definite answer. They promised, however, that the result of a conference with their colleagues should be forwarded by the 17th inst. It is hoped that the complication which is deterring the establishment of an exchange in the capital of the Empire, while scores of local cities and towns have obtained charters for these exchanges, will shortly be settled satisfactorily.

JAPAN MEDICAL SOCIETY.

THE Japan Medical Society, lately organized chiefly through the exertions of Dr. Takagi, Surgeon-General to the Navy, Dr. Nagayo, a Councillor to the Household and President of the Japanese Sanitary Society, and Dr Hasegawa, M.P., held its first meeting on the 13th instant at the Office of the Tokyo Medical Society, Sakamoto-cho, Tokyo. About a hundred medical practitioners attended, many of whom expressly came from various localities to be present at this inaugural assembly. At the outset of the meeting the President and Vice President of the Society were elected, with the result that Dr. Takagi and Dr. Hasegawa secured the greatest number of votes for the respective offices. Deliberations on the bye-laws of the Society were next held, after which several addresses were delivered. The speakers were Dr. Kitagawa, President of the Aichi Hospital, Dr. Hasegawa above mentioned, Dr. Watanabe, a medical practitioner in Tokyo, Dr. Ikoma, Chief of the Gumma Hospital, and Dr. Nagayo. With the single exception of the last speaker all spoke in a discontented tone of Japanese physicians in general and their mode of conduct. One speaker was indignant at the undignified and sordid behaviour of Japanese doctors, and remarked that it was to elevate their status that the present Society had been organized. Another dwelt on the prevalence of effeminate and inactive habits among physicians in general, habits that had characterized them in olden days in strong contrast to the spirited and noble manners of *samurai*; and regretted in vehement tones that it was owing to the want of vigilant attention on the part of the family that the Soma mystery was left in the same mysterious state as at the beginning. The members then repaired to the Seiyoken, Uyeno Park, where a friendly meeting was held. In short, writes the newly-born journal *Nitoku*, the Society, mostly composed of medical practitioners not in Government service, appears to aim at enhancing and asserting the rights of the faculty both politically and socially. Meetings were to be held daily for some days to deliberate on subjects submitted from various localities. Among others the following was one of the most conspicuous, serving to show some of the prevailing evils now vitiating Japanese medical circles. "Any medical practitioner who is proved to have committed one or more of the following acts shall not be admitted into the Japan Medical Society:—1. Anyone who has employed another who is not a licensed medical man as assistant. 2. Anyone who has subsequently helped a druggist in his business. 3. Anyone who has given his written diagnosis to a patient without examining him. 4. Anyone who, blinded by money, has neglected the public interest for his own selfish purposes, and has invited unfavourable public opinion upon the medical circle in general

TREASURE TROVE AT FOOCHOW.

THERE is a story current amongst the Chinese of the discovery of a large amount of treasure on a hill near the foreign residences at Foochow It is said that this treasure was brought by perhaps more than one wealthy man and secreted in coffins on this hill in Nantai at the time of the Taiping rebellion, where it has remained ever since, the parties to whom it belonged having apparently disappeared from the face of the earth. After all these years it became known somehow or other, that a vast amount of treasure had been hidden away, and a determined, though unsuccessful, search was made for it by many people. At length Wong-heng-lee, a rice merchant, well known as a good and just man, prayed to his tutelar deity to reveal to him the whereabouts of this treasure. His prayer was answered. The spot where the treasure was to be found was disclosed to him, and he is enriched to the extent of two millions of dollars. On making special enquiries about this story we learn that it is substantially correct. The value of the treasure may possibly be exaggerated, but that it was very considerable there is no doubt. A good deal of it was in gold. The silver was chiefly in old chopped Spanish dollars. The whole was hidden away in coffins.—*Echo.*

WOMEN IN JOURNALISM

THE woman in journalism is becoming more and more pronounced. The latest journal to gather a lady into its fold is none other than *The Times*, which has appointed Miss Shaw as its Colonial editor. Miss Shaw has already made her mark as an authority on matters Colonial, and her letters home from South Africa and Australia have stamped her as an authority to be reckoned with. . . . . This lady, says the *Star*, is reported to have had one peculiar experience which she did not weave into any of her interesting articles. She was travelling through Western Queensland when she came upon a shearers' camp. Here was a good opportunity of learning all about the shearers' strike, which had brought Queensland to the verge of civil war. Dismounting, she entered into conversation with the shearers, and finding that one was a remarkably well informed and intelligent man, she invited him to come into a neighbouring hut, where she could interview him without interruption, and note down his answers to her questions. His reply was disconcerting—"No, miss; I'm not going in there without a witness."

COURTS MARTIAL

ON the 8th inst. a Naval Court-Martial was held on board H.M.S. *Victor Emanuel* at Hongkong. The President was Captain R. F. Henderson, C.B, H.M.S. *Severn*; and the other officers composing the Court were:—Commander E. P. Ashe and Lieut. A. E. Rawnsley, H.M.S. *Victor Emanuel*, and Lieut.-Com. H. J. D. Laxton, H.M.S. *Peacock*. Mr. F. R. Waymouth, Secretary to the Commodore, acted as Judge Advocate. Gunner Griffiths, of the *Pigmy*, was tried for neglect of duty in not examining a machine gun after prize-firing, through which neglect a boy named Rose was killed. The Court severely reprimanded Mr. Griffiths.—A blue-jacket named Warren, from the *Peacock*, was charged with using insulting language to the First Lieutenant of that vessel. He was convicted, and was sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment.

A CURIOUS APPARATUS.

PROFESSOR PELLAT, of the Paris Sorbonne, has invented an apparatus for preventing collision between trains. It consists essentially of a travelling paper impregnated with iodide of potassium. A platinum stylus moves over the paper, and when a current of electricity passes through the stylus and paper the iodide is decomposed, leaving a blue mark on the paper, as in the chemical telegraph of Bain. This current is sent by the moving train in the following manner:—The wheels press down pedals placed at intervals along the rails and complete the circuit of a battery connected with the platinum stylus and paper of the apparatus which is situated in the signal cabin. The marks thus made on the paper indicate the position of the train, and enable the signalman to trace its course along the line. He is thus better able to control the signals.

PROFESSIONAL FOOTBALL.

IN an article on professionalism in "Football," *The Times* says:—It is on record that a Scottish half-back was lured into England on a two years' lease for £500. For this sum he was expected to play matches of course only during sixteen months. Only the other day again an old member of the Blackburn Rovers signed

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with Everton for, it is said on excellent authority, the substantial emolument of £250 down and £5 per week. The secretary of the famous Sunderland team (which heads the League) tells a story that is on a par with these proofs of the desirability of a talent at football. A Scotsman of repute as a player wished to join the Sunderland men. Asked as to his terms, he replied, "£150 down, £150 a year, and a situation of £70 per annum in a sh pbuilding yard."

SOCIALISTS AND PLAYING CARDS.

ACCORDING to a Berlin contemporary, some Socialists of rigid principles, who are nevertheless zealous card players, have for some time been grieved in conscience at the pictures of kings and queens upon their cards. An enterprising Berliner has produced a novel pack of cards, from which all offensive figures are excluded. The cards hitherto bearing the pictures of the four kings are occupied by four symbolical personages, and are labelled Liberty, Equality, Fraternity, and Solidarity. The four queens have also disappeared, and their places are taken by four allegorical females, who are named "Free Labour,' 'Righteousness," "Peace," and "Unity." The four knaves are allowed to remain. The four aces are replaced by "Manufacture," "Mining," "Navigation," and "Agriculture."

STEAMER ASHORE.

ON the 4th inst., a telegraphic advice was received by Messrs. Dodwell, Carlill and Co., Hongkong, the agents, that the steamer *Edendale* (Capt. Humphrey), bound from Hongay with coal, was ashore on a sand bank at Cape Cam, near the entrance to the Haiman Straits. Further news received next day from the captain held out the hope that the vessel would be floated during the day. Two Chinese gunboats, despatched from Hoihow, were in attendance, and lighters had been sent for. Should any difficulty, however, be experienced in floating her (which is not anticipated) it is probable that the coal would be thrown overboard, as by the time the lighters arrived the *Edendale* might sink into the soft bottom and make the task of getting her off more difficult.

A SLIP.

THE *North China Daily News*, in the course of a very suggestive and prettily-written article on 'The Charm of Possession,' observes—"After we have eyed a thing for weeks, mentally arguing the *pros* and *cons* that would justify or condemn its purchase, with what a feeling of rapture do we bring it home at last conscious of having served our term of probation for it as Jacob served his for Leah." But Jacob did not serve any term of probation for Leah, nor did he experience any feeling of rapture when he brought her home; on the contrary, he was one of the most disgusted men in Padan-Aram. Our contemporary must rub up its Genesis.

BIG FIRE IN NAGASAKI PREFECTURE.

THE *Fiji Shimpo* says that a report sent by the Governor of Nagasaki to the Central Government states that about 8 o'clock in the evening of the 5th inst., flames burst from a house at Kijima, in the South Matsu-ura District of that Prefecture and being fanned by a strong gale soon spread to the adjacent buildings. No less than one hundred houses were destroyed by midnight. The fire was eventually extinguished. Kijima is a small island distanced about 5 *ri* from the land and inhabited by one hundred and eighty families, chiefly fisherfolk. Most of the men were out fishing at the time of the occurrence.

DISTINGUISHED MARRIAGE IN TOKYO.

THE marriage recently sanctioned by the Emperor between Her Imperial Highness Princess Hiroko, the sister of Prince Kunihiko, and Mr. Sengoku Kei, eldest son of Viscount Sengoku Masukata, took place on Wednesday from the house of her mother in Torizaka. It is noteworthy that by this marriage the Princess loses her rank, title, and precedence as a member of the Imperial family, and becomes simply Mrs. Sengoku. Thus a young lady of the Imperial Blood takes a lower position than those ladies who, originally no more than members of the aristocracy, become Imperial Highnesses by marriage.

THE "YOKOHAMA MARU."

AS the N.Y.K. steamer *Yokohama Maru* was passing Gutzlaff on her way in on Thursday at 3 a.m., says the *Shanghai Mercury* of Nov. 9th, she came into collision with a Chinese junk, the mast of which carried away the steamer's quarter-boat, which was lost. Captain Swain was on the bridge at the time, but the precise particulars of the accident we have not yet learnt. It does not appear to have been very serious, however, and the steamer took the junk in tow and brought her up to Woosung. No lives were lost. But the steamer was somewhat delayed by her adventure, which caused her to lose the morning tide.

ARREST OF MR. GOTO SHIMPEI.

THE *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* says that Mr. Goto, Chief Commissioner of the Sanitary Bureau in the Home Department, was arrested by the police on the 16th inst. about half past 5 p.m., while passing Sarugakucho, Kanda, and has since been kept in custody at the Metropolitan Police Bureau. A Preliminary Judge and Public Procurator effected a search at the residence of Mr. Goto, who is suspected of having secretly met Judge Yamaguchi and Mr. Nishigori at a restaurant.

BIG RAILWAY ACCIDENT IN AMERICA.

THE *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* says a telegram was received on Thursday in Tokyo, from San Francisco, to the effect that a collision took place between the first special train and the second, special train for Oswego at Jackson City Michigan, on the 14th inst. at 9.40 a.m., by which several cars were totally demolished. Twenty-nine passengers were killed outright while fifty-two others sustained severe injuries, eight persons were also slightly injured.

UNDESERVED ENCOMIUMS

WE notice that the *N.-C. Daily News* has an appreciatory review of a certain hand-book published some time ago by a Mr. Tomita. Our contemporary is apparently unaware that the volume is an unblushing plagiarism—practically, indeed, a reprint—of an excellent work by Messrs. Satow and Ishibashi. The principal differences between the two are to be found in the omissions and misprints which characterise Mr. Tomita's compilation.

A RARE ARCHER.

SABEI ONASTI, the Japanese bookseller and newspaper editor of Tokyo, has arrived in Vienna on a tour through Europe. He tells of ten newspapers which he publishes in Japan, among them a children's magazine with a circulation of 80,000. His printing office employs 5,000 persons. He has visited all the newspaper offices in Vienna and the chief printing firms. He is nearly sixty, and has an interpreter with him wherever he goes.

ANOTHER FRENCH OFFICER KILLED.

ANOTHER young French officer has fallen a victim to the pirates in Tonkin. The post of Nahan, we read, was attacked suddenly by a band of pirates, who were repulsed. Unfortunately Sub-Lieutenant Langronet, of the 2nd Tonkinois, at the time he was recalling his men, was killed by a bullet which passed through his head behind the ears.

FOUNDERING OF A STEAMSHIP.

A TELEGRAM despatched from Matsuye on the 15th inst. at 3.55 p.m. states that the steamer *Matsuye Maru* foundered at the entrance to that port while putting in from Shohara. She sank in deep water. There were sixty passengers on board at the time, and of these over thirty were drowned.

A THOUGHTFUL GIFT.

THE Shanghai evening journal is informed that the Japanese firms of the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha and Kichishoo & Co. have, between them, presented a quantity of excellent fireworks to the Municipality for the Jubilee celebration, a very graceful and thoughtful gift. Kichishoo & Co. are also manufacturing a great quantity of fireworks, in which manufacture we know the Japanese excel.

NEW PRESIDENT OF THE TANKO RAILWAY.

THE *Asahi Shimbun* states that Mr. Nishimura Sutezo, ex-Vice-Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, has been chosen President of the Tanko Railway Co., Hokkaido, the position vacated by the resignation of Mr. Takashima Kayemon. The company has applied to the Authorities for approval of this election.

ROUGH PASSAGE.

THE steamer *Glengarry* had a very rough passage from Singapore to Hongkong. On Sunday a sailor was knocked down, and had his right leg fractured at the thigh. His injuries were attended to by the doctor of the ship, and upon the arrival of the *Glengarry* the injured man was taken ashore to the Government Civil Hospital.

A BIG ORDER FOR SILK.

IN honour of the celebration of the sixty-ninth birthday of the Empress Regent of China, 1,200,000 pieces of red silk, each forty feet long and three feet wide, were ordered to be made in the Imperial mills of Nanking, Soochow Fu, and Hangchow Fu. With these the streets of Pekin are to be decorated for a distance of forty miles.

JAPAN AND HAWAII.

MR. WATANABE, Minister of Finance, has received Imperial sanction to appropriate *yen* 36 029 60 from the Second Reserve Fund towards the expenses of despatching a man-of-war to Hawaii to protect the interests of Japaneses emigrants.

SATURDAY'S KETTLEDRUM.

THE result of the Kettledrum given on Saturday last at the Public Hall is highly gratifying, $405 38 having been handed to the treasurer of the Union Church. The Committee of Ladies desire to tender their thanks through the press for the generous assistance accorded by friends and the public generally.

IMPERIAL AUDIENCE.

M. DE BORJA, Portuguese Minister to Japan, received his farewell audience with the Emperor at the Palace on the 13th inst. at 10 a.m., prior to his departure for Macao. The Minister and Mrs. Borja were afterward received in audience by the Empress.

THE "MIOWERA."

THE *Miowera*, which grounded on a coral reef in Honolulu harbour, is said to be now in such a position that there was no hope of her being saved. The steamer was a new vessel, built at a cost of £90,000. Insurance on hull and cargo is said to be placed in England.

OKAYAMA INUNDATION FUND.

WE have handed to the Okayama Inundation Relief Committee in Tokyo the sum of $237, received for that purpose from contributors. Our thanks are offered to them for their generous response to our appeal.

THE AUSTRIAN CABINET.

A TELEGRAM despatched by Mr. Oyama, Japanese *Chargé d'Affaires* in Austria, and received by the Foreign Office, states that a new Cabinet was formed in Austria on the 11th inst.

H.M.S. "EGERIA."

H.M.S. *Egeria*, having finished her survey of the Anambas Islands, will return to England via the Suez Canal.

THE NEW VICE PRESIDENT OF THE UPPER HOUSE.

IT is a gazetted that Marquis Saionji has been nominated by the Emperor Vice-President of the Upper House.

THE "NANIWA KAN."

THE *Naniwa Kan* was to leave Yokosuka for Hawaii at eight o'clock this morning.

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THE VERNACULAR PRESS ON THE DECISION AT SHANGHAI.

"WHERE they do agree upon the stage," says Mr. PUFF in the *Critic*, "their unanimity is wonderful." The same remark is applicable to certain publicists of the present day when they do happen to agree in the press. It is not often that this is the case; but the Judgment of the Supreme Court upon the *Chishima-Ravenna* appeal seems to have united Japanese journalists for once at any rate, and Tokyo newspapers are at one in denouncing the Judges' decision as unjust in the abstract, contrary to International Law, irregular as having been influenced by Orders in Council that are still in abeyance, and affronting to the dignity of the country. Papers so at variance with each other as the *Hochi*, the *Nichi Nichi*, the *Choya*, the *Nippon*, the *Kokkai*, the *Kokumin*, and the *Yomiuri* all sing the same chorus, even the judicious *Jiji* raising its voice with the rest. And it is noteworthy that the special grievance of each is the special grievance of all. It is the dictum of the Shanghai Court that the Inland Sea of Japan is a highway of nations and not 'territorial waters' which constitutes the sore point; and without going into the question—which, be it not forgotten, is among those still at issue—or expressing any opinion whatever upon its merits (on which there is much that might be said), it is impossible not to feel that the Japanese have some excuse for their resentment, though on sentimental grounds alone.

With this admission, and carefully abstaining from criticism of the Judgment now under appeal to the Privy Council, we have no hesitation in representing to our vernacular contemporaries the unwisdom of their present outcry. With affronted patriotism we can and we do sympathise; for premature and ill-considered objurgations no one can have anything but blame. To begin with, the case is still undecided, and the tribunal before which it awaits the final determination of it is the highest and most unimpeachable, perhaps, upon the globe. It is impossible to imagine that any side-issues should be permitted to creep in, that any bias, patriotic, political, or other, should sway the presiding members, or that the very highest expert authorities on all laws, customs, principles, and precedents bearing on the case should not be consulted and followed. Nor are illustrations in support of our contention wanting. Few disputes have arisen in which stronger, nay bitterer, feelings have been aroused on either side than that which has recently been settled by arbitration between the United Kingdom and the United States—the dispute about the seal-fisheries in Behring's Sea. And what was the result? Satisfaction on both sides; satisfaction, not only with the decision itself, but with the absolute impartiality and thorough investigation into authorities and actual facts which distinguished the enquiry throughout. Surely, under such circumstances as these, a quiet attitude of simple waiting would be far more dignified, and not nearly so likely to arouse feelings of irritation over the length and breadth of the country. For, truth to tell, there is quite enough irrational acrimony abroad, of which foreigners are the objects, without adding fuel to the fire It must be patent to every level-headed journalist, to begin with, that such an attitude can do no good whatever. It is also clear that those who adopt it are playing into the hands of the anti-Mixed Residence agitators, than whom a class of less level-headed politicians could scarcely be found here or anywhere. And further, it must be evident to any sober-minded man, upon due consideration, that to call upon the Government to notify the Foreign Powers that in future no foreign war-vessel will be allowed to pass through the Inland Sea without a special permit, as the *Choya*, the *Kokkai*, and the *Yomiuri* see fit to do, is to offer it the very worst advice that hasty resentment could suggest. It is most unlikely that the Foreign Powers would acquiesce in such an interdict, and equally unlikely, we submit, that the far-seeing statesmen now in power would take so retrograde a step. Some of our contemporaries, we notice, quote the opinions of the most recent European authorities on International Law in support of their contention that the Inland Sea constitutes a part of the territorial waters of Japan. Well, if the highest European authorities are, as alleged, on the side of the Japanese view, the *Nippon* and the *Yomiuri* may rest peacefully assured that the fact will have its full weight when the case comes before the Privy Council; though to be sure the arguments of the latter journal do not acquire much strength from the historical evidence it cites. If, as it tells us, a certain Prime Minister of the TOKUGAWA Government (who probably was not deeply versed in VATTEL and BLUNTSCHLI, to say nothing of more modern writers) did once notify to the Representatives of England and America that the Inland Sea was part of the SHOGUN'S dominions it is at least arguable that the claim has been allowed to lapse; that it has never been endorsed by his successors in the *Meiji* era; and that as foreign war-vessels have used the Sea as an international highway ever since the Restoration without protest or comment from the Government, the notification attributed to TSUSHIMA-NO-KAMI was no more than a *brutum fulmen* But we do not wish to argue this or any other point. The questions at issue are not to be decided by articles in the press, however patriotic or however slashing Nothing will be gained by insinuations that the British Government is desirous of putting an affront upon the integrity of Japan, and of attempting to invade its sovereignty by decisions in a Court of Law. Such a view of the matter is too superficial for serious treatment; besides which, its public advancement is and must be useless. And what is useless is very often also mischievous.

A JAPANESE EXHIBITION IN PEKING.

THE latest project on foot is to organize in Peking an exhibition of works of Chinese art now in the possession of Japanese collectors. Probably many persons will find the programme more bizarre than practical. Yet the considerations that suggest it are natural enough. It is thought, in the first place, that such an enterprise would produce an excellent effect on the relations between Japan and China. The great majority of the Chinese know as little of the Japanese as the average English working man knows of the Laplanders or Hawaiians. Their conception of their eastern neighbours is based upon traditions in which the Japanese figure as ferocious corsairs devoted chiefly to raiding and rapine. In the days when the glory of the British Navy was beginning to be foreshadowed in daring deeds of privateers and adventurers, Japanese corsairs ravaged the coasts of China and Korea, and carried such terror into the hearts of their neighbours that the very name "Japanese" became a bugbear. The people of these islands seemed to possess all the moral and physical attributes essential to maritime achievement, and would assuredly have taken their place among the most enterprising nations of the world, had there not grown out of the incidents of foreign intercourse an official policy of seclusion that interdicted the construction of sea-going vessels and condemned Japanese subjects to limit themselves to voyages in the immediate proximity of their coasts. The Chinese and the Dutch, it is true, were permitted to carry on trade with Japan, but the former certainly acquired little knowledge of the country and its people, nor ever learned anything that effaced the prejudices engendered by the memory of half a century's violence. Thus to this day the Chinese regard their neighbours as a nation not far advanced in the only civilization respected by the Celestial, the civilization of the Analects and the Great Learning. Yet, in point of fact, Japan has long been drinking from the same founts of erudition and art as the Chinese, has developed many cognate tastes, and is swayed by sentiments the influence of which her neighbours equally acknowledge. In the palmy years of feudal supremacy, when the soldier could afford to sneer at the trader, and the genuine aristocrat sat on the pedestal of a deity, it was the fashion for damsels of lofty degree to include among their marriage trousseaus a painting of

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some old Chinese master, and no dilettante looked higher than a Chinese object of virtu to form the basis of his collection. Caligraphy, too, received almost as much veneration as in China, and autographic scrolls by the Sages of the Middle Kingdom were prized above precious gems. It may well be conceived, therefore, that there exist in Japanese hands to-day a host of objects, valuable from artistic, antiquarian, historical, or philosophical points of view. The knowledge that such things have been collected in Japan and treasured with no less reverence than they receive in the country of their origin, could not fail to produce a wholesome effect upon Chinese sentiment towards Japan, and it is on awakening such a sentiment that the projectors of the exhibition count. There are other reasons, however, that invest the scheme with special interest. It would subject Japan's so-called "Chinese" heirlooms to the close scrutiny of genuine Chinese connoisseurs, and in that way would greatly assist research into the origin of Chinese art. For Japan has always been more fortunate than China in the matter of preserving art treasures. She has had her own share of battles and of the ruin that accompanies them, but she has more or less escaped those great dynastic revolutions that swept across the Chinese empire at intervals of a few centuries, obliterating historical evidences and destroying almost every guide to retrospect. Thus it happens that Japan has been able to preserve many objects dating from the TANG, SUNG and YUAN dynasties, and these she herself regards as typical of the best artistic efforts of her neighbour in the eras from which they date. But is she quite right in that hypothesis? Do these objects by which she sets so much store really stand in the rank to which she assigns them? We greatly doubt it. Many, nay the great majority, of them appear to be specimens without either artistic or historical value, and it is exceedingly questionable whether in Chinese eyes they would be thought worthy of a moment's consideration. Some students, for example, have deemed it possible to construct theories as to the beginnings of Chinese porcelain manufacture—we speak of translucid porcelain, not of pottery or faience—by reference to specimens preserved in Japanese collections. But there stands in the way one serious source of perplexity, the almost complete absence of any choice examples from Japanese collections. Supposing the Japanese sufficiently interested in China's Keramic effort to collect its early results at the date of their production, why did they cease to collect when the art became capable of really admirable technical achievements? Why, among the multitude of insignificant and more or less rococo blue-and-white porcelains treasured by Japanese dilettanti as Chinese types, why is there not to be found a single example of the beautiful *Kaipien-yao* which alone elicits hearty Chinese approval, and of which several pieces are described and depicted in the Illustrated Catalogue of Hsiang? On the other hand, it may reasonably be asked how the presence of such specimens in Japan is to be accounted for except on the hypothesis that they posses artistic or historical value. The answer, we believe, is easily given. Value is a relative term. In Japan, the standards of taste and connoisseurship set up by the Tea Clubs were incomprehensible to persons not trained in that special cult. No Western amateur has ever been found capable of understanding the crooked cabalism of the *chajin* who delights in technical defects that shock every-day experts, and revels in artistic crudities that provoke only ridicule beyond the circle of their initiated idolators. The art world lives far outside these penetralia, and we, who humbly accept the canons of that world, have long believed that the so-called "Chinese *chefs-d'œuvres*" of Japanese collections represent, for the most part, not even passable efforts of early Chinese artists, but simply productions that command the distorted approval of the Tea Clubs for the sake of blemishes and accidents sufficient to condemn them utterly in eyes ordinarily educated. It would be immensely interesting to have the full light of Chinese criticism projected into these obscure regions of the two empires' art intercourse, and the result might give a wholesome shock to the morbid and deformed ethics of Japanese conservative dilettanteism. We sincerely trust, therefore, that the exhibition will become an accomplished fact, and perhaps we should add that, if we have dwelt upon its artistic aspects, it is not because we are at all insensible to the incomparably wider and more important effects it must produce upon the relations between the two empires.

BIMETALLISM AND THE MULTIPLE STANDARD.

THE question addressed to us in the letter of Dr. STEPHENSON, why we do not advocate the multiple standard, is worthy of an answer. The solution he advocates of the monetary difficulties of the present time has been proposed by several economists, especially the monometallists. For instance, Mr. LAUGHLIN in his "History of B metallism" says (page 7): "If justice in long contracts is sought for, we should not seek it by the doubtful and untried expedient of international bimetallism, but by the clear and certain method of a multiple standard, a unit based upon the selling prices of a number of articles of general consumption. A long contract would thereby be paid at its maturity by the same purchasing power as was given in the beginning." This quotation gives an idea of what the multiple standard is. According to this system, the Government would take the prices of the principal articles of general consumption, and at the end of each month, or six months, would publish an index number giving the true value of money. Everyone knows that the value of gold and silver is constantly changing, and by this method of the multiple standard no one, either debtor or creditor, would gain or lose by any fluctuation in money, but each would get his proper amount measured in commodities. If commodities generally rose in price (as they are now tending to do in Japan) everyone would receive more money in salaries, payments of debts, etc., and the contrary would take place if commodities generally fell in value.

Now we are not disposed to deny the great merits of the multiple standard. So far from denying its merits, it may be granted that this standard would conform in all respects to the principles of money, and would give to the world an ideal monetary system from a strictly economic point of view. There are certain decisive objections to the multiple standard, however, so that, in spite of the admissions we have made in its favour, we think the plan wholly chimerical, and to seriously advocate it at present would only obscure the merits of a better cause, namely bimetallism. The money systems of the world are at present divided into two camps: the gold standard as in England, Germany, France, and the United States, and the silver standard, as in China, Japan, India, and Mexico. During the last twenty years all bond or union between these two systems has been lost. Previous to 1873 there was silver coined on fixed terms with gold in all countries of Europe except England, and there was a real and efficient bond between the two metals that served to keep them at a nearly fixed ratio. But by a gradual process of demonetization in Germany, the Latin Union, and other countries, the two metals have been entirely divorced, and at present not a country in Europe will coin silver, except a trifling amount for subsidiary purposes. The result is that gold is appreciating in value, or silver depreciating, or both. At any rate, there is complete anarchy so far as the relation between the two money systems are concerned. Some men are gaining by this disorganizing process; many more are losing, but both profit and loss are equally unjust. This being the condition of the monetary world, the bimetallists propose that by international agreement the state of things previous to 1873 should be restored, on, however, a more scientific basis. Let the leading commercial countries of the world agree upon coining silver and gold at some fixed ratio, and thereafter the value of gold and silver would be stable. If more silver were produced, more would be coined into money, but its value relative to gold would not be altered; and similarly, if more gold were produced, more would be coined without a change of value

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relative to silver. The whole commercial world would be united by one effective system of bimetallism. The lender of capital from a gold to a silver country would know precisely what to expect, and the borrower would know precisely what was to be paid. Bimetallism is not, therefore, a fad of a few economic enthusiasts, but a comprehensive proposition to meet certain great monetary evils of the present time. Bimetallism has been forced upon the attention of the world by the monetary necessities of the last twenty years. It does substantial justice to all classes and to all countries. It is a simple and comprehensible system, as every system of money should be. It would put an end to the extraordinary fluctuations in exchange and trade that we now find in the East; it would enable borrower and lender to approach each other on a definite basis, and it would prevent the great evils of appreciation and depreciation of money that we see at present going on in the world.

The multiple standard is, on the contrary, both difficult to understand and to apply. To carry it into practice every Government of the world would need experts to determine the exact value o money month by month. If a man were to lend five hundred pounds or dollars, and were to be paid back after a year only four hundred and ninety, he would not feel that justice had been done; on the contrary' he would have a sense of loss. Another objection of the multiple standard is that it would not settle matters of international trade. If two or more countries adopted it, then indeed the trade between those countries would be put on a definite basis; but between countries that were hostile or indifferent to it, there would be no bond or union. The less civilized countries of the world could not be swung into line, as they would be provided the bimetallic system were adopted. The multiple standard assumes too many conditions. It is too refined for this work-a-day world of ours, and we think that to introduce the discussion of it, now, when much more practical and important issues are before us, is a waste of energy. Centuries must elapse before the world will be ready to establish an ideal system of money, and in the meantime we must devote our attention to remedying real evils by measures that will accomplish substantial, though not perhaps perfect, justice.

GARDENS

FEW persons who have lived in the Far East will deny that Japanese and European landscape gardeners may derive many valuable suggestions from each other. The brightness and beauty which are impossible without the brilliant colouring of flowers, properly cultivated and arranged, and which render an English garden so cheerful and radiant to the eye, are almost wholly absent from the gardens of Japan, where such flowers as exist are arranged in formal rows under a shed specially designed for their preservation. The consequence of this is a monotonous greenness which, however pleasing in itself, sadly requires relief; and we are tempted to question the accuracy of a taste which sees in the outspread glory of Nature's most beautiful productions nothing but vulgarity and garishness. On the other hand, the prevailing flatness of an English garden, and the lack of anything like what may be called the perspective instinct in its laying-out, is a defect that might be corrected by study of the gardens here. It is of course impossible to accord unqualified admiration to the ultra-artificiality which characterises much of the landscape-gardening in Japan—the miniature precipices, the dwarfed trees, the liliputian isthmuses and lakes. But the agreeable irregularity produced by mounds and hillocks, the little surprise-paths which wind about in unexpected places, and the general undulation of the surface, have an admirable effect, both in resting the eye and increasing the apparent area of the ground. In Tokyo, where so many houses are built on the beautiful wooded bluffs which form so peculiar and so charming a feature of the residential neighbourhoods, the effect of these horticultural diversifications is heightened, the eye frequently passing from the precipitous edge of one's own lawn to some bosky height a mile or so away, the intervening valley disappearing altogether; which gives to one's modest garden the appearance of an enormous park, stretching in lordly style from the drawing-room window to the very horizon itself.

We have been led into this train of thought by some sensible and suggestive remarks in the *Spectator* on 'Garden Furniture.' The writer appears to agree with OSCAR WILDE that, however beautiful Nature may be, she is exceedingly uncomfortable; as an upholsterer she is nowhere beside MAPLE & CO., of Tottenham Court Road, London. And truly the man who talks about the luxury of lying on the grass and reading a favourite book is a humbug who deserves to be extinguished. Mother Earth is hard, whether she has a green-velvet garment on or not; she affords no support either for the head or for the curvature of the back; while on the would-be student she has no mercy, as racked arms and aching shoulders very quickly prove. A garden, then, if it is to be utilised to the full extent of its capabilities, must be furnished; about that there can be no question. Indeed, without furniture a garden is useless for a large proportion of the year; sometimes the sun is too hot, at others it pours with rain, and unless some provision is made for shelter the garden has to be abandoned when it would afford an agreeable relief from the inside of a house. We agree with the *Spectator* in condemning the common or garden summer-house. The place generally swarms with earwings, the walls of it are kakemono'd with spiders' webs, and the only accommodation it possesses consists of a round table in the centre and a hard, uneven, imitation-rustic circular bench, carefully arranged so that no one without the arms of an anthropoid ape could even reach the table, and furnished with a straight, hard back. Instead, therefore, of these "huts of reed and creepers (animal as well as vegetable)," the *Spectator* suggests a moveable room, on wheels, made of corrugated glass, and provided with moveable articles, such as easy-chairs, a table, etc., according to requirements. "We mean," says the writer, "a little 'crystal' room, set full in such sunshine as may be had in, say, March, when nobody thinks of sitting out in the garden." The addition of a little coloured glass, a rich warm yellow for instance, would be an improvement, for the warmth within would then harmonise with the appearance of the garden without, basking, apparently, in a flood of golden heat. But the best arrangement, possibly, is the tent, which can be pitched or closed according to the owner's convenience. On this the *Spectator* says:—

> We are thinking of a genuine, unpretentious, tent, with one central pole and low "walls," capable of holding two or three chairs, or a wicker-lounge, and a little table. Such a canvas structure is cheap, easily pitched or packed up when not wanted. Moreover, it might be found to serve the purpose of an extra bachelor room when a house is full of summer guests. Boys especially would be delighted at being "put away" in so novel an apartment. Those, indeed, who have never tried "tent life" can hardly realise how convenient and even comfortable it is. Then, too, in warm weather it brings a sense of rustic change and varied experience to a city dweller, such as no country bedroom can possibly create. One is felt in the way your whole apartment is lit up by early morning sunshine. This does not, then, come to you through, say, the window of a stuffy attic, where you are boxed-up, but illuminates the walls themselves of your chamber, and fills it with a veiled radiance which reveals a fresh perception of light itself. If, being awake, you choose to lie late, you can watch the gradual birth of the day, and apprehend, without moving, that ever-wonderful transition from early dawn to sunrise, which is invisible to the occupant of an indoor room unless he gets out of bed and waits at the window. But if you want to be astir very early, nothing will suit your purpose better than to sleep in a tent.

The writer does not refer to the question of a floor, which is decidedly important. It is all very well to sleep in a tent, but the "wet, bird-haunted English lawn" certainly requires the introduction of some non-conductor of humidity unless the unfortunate bachelor is to run the risk of catching chronic rheumatism. But that is a detail. We endorse the recommendation of the *Spectator* in general because we believe that fresh air and plenty of it is one of the finest prophylactics in the world, and that any modification of our daily life which leads us to spend more time than hitherto out-of-doors deserves to be supported and encouraged. The more pure, fresh air a man breathes the better he is likely to be, morally, mentally, and corporeally. Let those who are ailing breathe plenty of fresh air, and get well; let those who are well breathe plenty of fresh air too, and get better.

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CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

THE YOKOHAMA POST OFFICE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Will you kindly allow me space to explain the cause of the delay of letters for Kyoto residents from America.

The American mail by the *Oceanic* was regularly forwarded from here, as I stated in my previous letter, but a strange feature (destitute of post mark of this office in those covers) led me to doubt if they were not enclosed in the Kobe bag, and by closely investigating, I have obtained the following information:—From some misunderstanding, the San Francisco exchange office has lately enclosed the letters for Kyoto, &c., in the bag addressed to Kobe, thence reforwarded to Kyoto.

As the cause became plain, the matter was immediately reported to the Postal Administration at Tokyo, so as to communicate to the office concerned for its remedy.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

T. UNAGAMI,
Director.

Yokohama, November 10th, 1893.

THE CONDITION OF AFFAIRS IN OKAYAMA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Concerning the flood of last month some of the statistics for Tottori *ken* as furnished me by Mr. Motoyama, Chief of Police, are as follows:—deaths, 226; injured, 84; dwellings washed away or destroyed, 1,949 with nearly as many more half destroyed. There were a large number of outbuildings and a dozen schools too either destroyed or badly injured. In the city of Tottori the water entered 5,170 houses, and in the *ken* at large, 18,143. When it is remembered that the *ken* is comparatively small and that speaking broadly there was the greatest destruction in parts where there was least ability to relieve, it will be readily understood that there was much suffering. The officials have been alert and are still engaged in relief work. But there remains unrelieved distress all around us and will remain till spring.

Visits in the surrounding country since the flood have shown greater devastation than the city suffered. Water flowed in the streets of Kuroyoshi for eleven days and the late rains have given that town a second visitation, we hear. In that vicinity rice fields were turned into river beds and highways into rubbish heaps. Telegraph poles were broken or dislocated and the wires buried beneath sand, trees, broken timbers, and household furniture in a confused mass. Even houses that were not destroyed were washed off their foundations and in some places the *kabe* was left clean from the bamboo lathing. But sadder even than the destruction by water was the calamity by land slides. Of these there were literally hundreds in Inaba and the western *gun* of Tajima (Hyōgo *ken*). I saw the remains of one house, where of a family of eight persons only two escaped with their lives. The house was crushed, and walking over the earth that covered it there was no suggestion of a house buried beneath. We saw another house that had been considered safe. To it the neighbours had fled for refuge from their own houses by the river when there came a landslide from the rear and in an instant buried alive thirty-two persons. In another place the cries of those beneath could be heard, but it was impossible for human power to bring speedy rescue. The tale of many who perished is indeed a sad one. The condition of many who escaped is, if possible, sadder.

Relief work is planned by a committee of the Tottori Church to continue through the winter and to reach as far as possible the greatest sufferers. In accordance with this plan the chief efforts will be in the outlying districts. The officials are most kind, one and all, to furnish information for the guidance of the committee so that all efforts may be directed toward only the very needy. Your correspondent is working hand in hand with this committee of the church. Hitherto he has made visits of inspection on his own responsibility. But in the further distribution of aid he will work with a member of the church committee.

This communication is sent, not that it gives facts that you may not give your readers from the *Official Gazette*, but seeing with my own eyes the devastation, it is impossible to refrain from speaking. Let me repeat what I said in a former letter, that we shall be glad to receive and use any contributions that your readers may find it possible to send.

Yours very truly,

GEO. M. ROWLAND.

Tottori, November 7th, 1893.

THE SOVEREIGNTY OF THE INLAND SEA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In the *Mail* of the 13th instant you speak, editorially, of the readiness with which Great Britain and the United States accepted the decision of the Behring Sea Court of arbitration as an "illustration" which Japan would do well to heed while awaiting a judgment from the Privy Council in the *Chishima* suit. Is it really your intention to represent the cases as in any sense parallel, or to assert that the position in which Japan now stands can properly be likened to that of England and America in their recent contest? It would, I think, be difficult to convince any Japanese subject that the slightest similarity exists. The questions at issue in the Behring Sea affair were laid before an *international* tribunal, the members of which were approved by both parties in the controversy. Does any person imagine that the British Government would have consented to accept the decree of an exclusively American Court, or that the United States would have been satisfied with a purely English verdict? Nothing can be more safely predicted than that, if a continental nation should undertake to pronounce judgment on the question of Great Britain's authority over any territory claimed by her as her own, the attempt would be met with utter derision; and if persisted in, would be indignantly resented, and in case of need, resisted by force. The idea that German, French, or Russian Courts of law could be empowered to deny the Sovereignty of England over any piece of land or water which she held to be her legitimate property would be simply monstrous in every Englishman's eyes. In like manner, it is monstrous to the Japanese understanding—and not alone to theirs, I may add—that a British tribunal should be regarded by anybody as qualified to determine whether the Inland Sea is or is not subject solely to Japanese control. Every citizen of this country who knows anything about the matter is aware that no question could be raised in Europe as to the rights of a nation over waters which are entirely inclosed by its territory, and which communicate with the open ocean only by channels so narrow as to be easily commanded by artillery. Every intelligent Japanese is aware that if England possessed such bodies of water, she would never dream of submitting the question of their sovereignty even to an international control of arbitration much less to the courts of a single country. Her claim upon them could be wrested from her in but one way—by conquest of war. Under these conditions, it seems scarcely reasonable to expect the Japanese people to maintain the spirit of complacent patience attributed to the English and Americans during the arbitration of the Behring Sea dispute.

E. H. H.

Tokyo, November 13th, 1893.

THE "CHISHIMA"-"RAVENNA" APPEAL CASE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—The Assistant Judge at Shanghai, in his judgment, speaking of the Inland Sea, said "One port open to foreign trade namely the port of Kobe ..... lies within it."

I have always understood that it lies without, and that the Inland Sea, at the Eastern end, terminates at the Straits of Akashi.

I am, Sir, yours truly,

SUBSCRIBER.

November 15th, 1893.

The new steamer *Japan*, for the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company, arrived in the Albert Docks on 30th ult. from Greenock, *viâ* Antwerp, where she was sent to take part of her lading. This vessel, whose launch we recently noted, is about 400 feet in length and 43 feet beam, and is fitted with machinery adequate to a sea-going speed of fourteen knots. She will carry about 7,000 tons of cargo and about fifty passengers. The *Japan* forms one of a fleet of auxiliary vessels which the company have built for the purposes of their Eastern trade, but saloon and passenger accommodation are, so far as they go, equal to those of the highest class of mail steamers. —*London and China Express.*

KETTLEDRUM AT THE PUBLIC HALL.

On Saturday last the Yokohama public experienced their first Kettledrum, and none who were present can deny that the experiment proved most delightful. From 3 p.m. until late in the evening the Public Hall was well filled with an appreciative assembly, every member of which appeared to be well pleased with himself and everyone else—and certainly even the most splenetical grumbler would have found it impossible to refrain from being genial among such surroundings. The usual cold and cheerless aspect of the Hall was completely transformed into one of life and beauty, and on all sides the eye fell upon tastefully arranged decorations of draping banners, graceful bamboos, and beautiful flowering and evergreen plants. As one entered, on the right hand, was a stall, daintily hung with pale green and white draperies, at which were on sale numerous and varied fancy articles, including some fine porcelain and magnificent gold brocaded silk such as is seldom seen on such occasions. On the left hand was another booth tastefully hung with yellow and white. This was named the "cushion stall," as the daintily displayed wares consisted of cushions and nothing more. But these were by no means all alike, for here were cushions large and cushions small, cushions round and cushions square, and, in fact, cushions of every conceivable colour, size, and shape, from the good old companion of a comfortable arm-chair down to the daintiest pincushion for a lady's dressing-table. Then in other parts of the Hall were erected four very military-looking tents in which one might partake of light refreshments, while in one corner was a camp-fire over which was suspended in true orthodox fashion a cauldron containing—not the customary "pot luck," but cool refreshing lemonade, which was dispensed to all comers by the "Daughter of the Regiment." Comfortable chairs and settees were placed about the Hall, and in fact, one felt almost uncertain as to whether one were in a drawing-room or on the out skirts of a camp—the martial strains of the band of the *Lancaster* almost confirming the latter opinion. A bevy of fair maidens hovered round administering to the wants of those who required "refreshing," or tempting lovers of the beautiful to purchase pretty little bouquets of flowers. Beyond a doubt the greatest event of the whole entertainment was the "Broom Drill" by a squad of eight young ladies—dressed in a very pretty uniform with brooms as rifles—who went through some very effective and dexterous evolutions under the command of a most efficient and stentorian-voiced officer. The stage was gracefully draped with flags which formed a most appropriate background to these military manœuvres. The smart movements at the word of command and the brisk correctness with which the various evolutions were carried out, told of much patient tuition and application, both on the part of the instructor and his fair pupils, so that the very hearty applause accorded them at the close was well earned and fully deserved. During the afternoon and evening several of our leading local amateurs gave exhibitions of their musical skill, while at intervals the band of the U.S. Flagship discoursed various selections. The Musical Programme included a piano duet by Miss Mendelson and Miss L. Smith; a violin solo by Master Poole; a song—"Vulanelle"—by Mrs. Campbell; a piano solo by Miss Wheeler; a vocal trio—"Winds Gently Whisper"—by Mrs. Campbell, Miss A. Young, and Mr. Pollard; and a quartet—"May-Day"—by the last three named and Mr. Happer. Mr. Clarence Griffin also gave a recitation which was well delivered and warmly applauded. We are glad to learn that financially the affair has proved a grand success, so that the Union Church will now be able to clear off most, if not all, of its debt. All praise is due to the ladies by whose indefatigable labours everything turned out so complete a success. The names of the "Broom-drill" brigade were:—The Misses Carst, A. Sale, Page (2), H. Thorn, Poole, Booth, and Kuhn; the captain was Miss Thorn. They were drilled by Lieut. Perkins of the U.S. Marines. The chief lady organisers were Mrs. T. Morriss, Mrs. Hepburn, Mrs. Merriman, Miss Moulton, Miss Sale, and Miss Griffin.

Willie was very much interested while the choir sang the anthem in the church last Sunday. At its conclusion he turned to his mother, and in a stage-whisper asked, "Say, mamma, which beat?"

Little boy—"I s'pose everybody thought I was always goin' to stay a baby." Little girl—"Why?" Little boy—"'Cause every time any visitors come they always holds up their hands and says, 'Why, how he's grown.'"

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UNIVERSITY ATHLETIC MEETING.

The annual athletic sports of the Teikoku Daigakku Undokwai took place on Saturday afternoon in the play field attached to the Imperial University, Tokyo. The day was beautifully fine, though a blustering wind blew across the ground and in the course of the proceedings smashed one of the telegraph-boards besides playing havoc with the high-jump and pole-jump tapes. Professor Kikuchi Dairoku, as usual, was the life and soul of the meeting. The Committee consisted of other Professors and undergraduates who worked indefatigably to make the affair a success. For about an hour H.I.H. Prince Haru, Heir-Apparent, honoured the sports with his presence, and two races were specially arranged in his honour for members of the Nobles' School for Boys, in both of which the Prince took an enthusiastic interest. The boys of the Koto-Chugaku were of course much *en evidence*, and their ironical cheering and rough-and-ready chaff, which they indulged in at the expense of everyone but themselves, kept things particularly lively in their corner of the field. During the day one University record was broken, that for the High Jump, but the rest of the events did not come up to the average of some previous years. The race for the Y.C. & A.C. fell through owing to lack of entries, and this was the only break in the programme. As usual upon these occasions, the Championship Flag of the River—this year held by the College of Medicine—was paraded before the Prince by the winners, who were greeted with loud cheers by the large assemblage as they entered the field. A band was in attendance and played a pleasing select on during the afternoon. Appended are details of the various events :

100 Yards Race.

Mr. Ishii ..... 1 | Mr. Tanaka 4
Mr. Kawada..... 2 | Mr. Makita 5
Mr. Ikeda ..... 3 |

Thirteen entries. After one false start, the lot got off well together. Nearing the three quarters' mark Kawada, Ikeda and Ishii drew out, and the latter putting on a spurt got home first by a few feet; very little separated second and third. Time, 11.3 secs.

Throwing the Cricket Ball.

Mr. Shishido..... 1 | Mr. Saigo 4
Mr Yemura ..... 2 | Mr. Kobayashi 5
Mr. Kakehi ..... 3 |

Ten entries. The throwing was very straight during the earlier part of the contest, but the wind greatly bothered the last few men. Shishido, with an allowance of 9 yards, threw 72 yards 2 feet 5 inches; Yemura, with a similar allowance, 71 yds. 2 ft. 5 in.

Long Jump.

Mr. Sakaguchi..... 1 | Mr. Takahashi..... 4
Mr. S. Tanaka..... 2 | Mr. Okamatsu..... 5
Mr. Sakata ..... 3 |

Ten entries. Sakaguchi, from scratch, covered 16 ft. 2 in. The competition was close between the first three, only a few inches seperating them.

Flag Race.

Mr. Oshima ..... 1 | Mr. Sada 4
Mr. Koma..... 2 | Mr. Okamatsu..... 5
Mr. Kubota ..... 3 |

Eight entries. This is always a picturesque race from start to finish, victory having generally to be wrenched almost at the tape. Oshima got his last flag home a foot in advance of Koma, who was only a few inches in front of the third-placed man. Time, 2 m. 14.2 secs.

Throwing the Hammer.

Mr. Ka. Kubota ..... 1 | Mr. S. Sasada 4
Mr. S Tanaka ..... 2 | Mr. T Kano 5
Mr. S. Yasaki ..... 3 |

Nine entries. The hammer-throwing this year was very much behind previous records at the University meeting. Ka. Kubota threw 84 ft. 2 in., about 10 ft. less than last year's winner. The second man covered 79 ft. 10 in.

220 Yards Race (Final Heat).

Mr. Ishii..... 1 | Mr. Ka. Kubota..... 4
Mr. Yemura ..... 2 | Mr. Inouye 5
Mr. Tanaka ..... 3 |

The preliminary heats had been run earlier in the week, but fifteen men were still left in. The field kept close together till the first bend, Ishii, who had 10 yards start, slightly leading. He gradually drew out and eventually won easily. This appeared a most popular victory. Yemura, second man, started from scratch, Tanaka had 3 yards. Time, 27 secs.

High Jump.

Mr. O. Sakata ..... 1 | Mr. Kubota } 3
Mr. Yemura ..... } 2 | Mr. Ohara ..... }
Mr. Ikeda ..... |

Twelve entries. The majority had been disposed of by the time 4ft. 6in. was reached; at 4ft. 8in. Yemura and Ikeda dropped out. Sakata then raised the tape to 4ft.-10in. and broke the University record, there by gaining the special record prize. He took 4ft. 10½in. etc being disposed of.

Mombusho Schools' Race (400 Yards).

Mr. Takata (Higher Middle School) 1
Mr. Morimaki (Higher Middle School) 2
Mr. Okano (Higher Normal School)..... 3
Mr. Iki (Higher Middle School)..... 4

Twelve entries Three schools were engaged in this race, but the Koto Chugaku led the cheering, in point of numbers, as their champions (the Higher Middle School) appeared. Three-quarters of the distance had been covered, however, before Takata and Morimaki showed decidedly to the front, and then Okano was running them close. The three first men finished within a yard of each other. The cheering of the Koto Chugaku lads upon the numbers going up lasted well into the middle of the next race. Time, 50.6 secs.

One-Legged Race.

Mr. Iwahashi ..... 1 | Mr. Kawada 4
Mr. Ka. Kubota ..... 2 | Mr. Kono 5
Mr. Kato ..... 3 | Mr. Tama 6

Fifteen entries. It was an easy win for Iwahashi, but a much closer affair for the next three men. Only two spills occurred. Time, 10.8 secs

440 Yards (Final Heat).

Mr. Ishii ..... 1 | Mr. Yoshino 4
Mr. Tamaki ..... 2 | Mr. Ka. Kubota 5
Mr. Ibukiyama ..... 3 |

Fifteen faced the starter, but only five got home. The race very quickly degenerated into a procession for the limit men, but Ishii (scratch) coming with a rush at the finish, landed in an easy winner Time, 59 secs.

Pole Jump.

Mr. Sakata ..... 1 | Mr. Uchida 3
Mr. Ikeda ..... 2 |

Six entries, but only three competed, the others failing to reach 7 feet in the preliminary heat. Ikeda, the second man, cleared 9ft. 8in., but had to concede 10 inches, Sakata was therefore declared the winner at 9ft. 3in. Uchida dropped out at 8ft. 8in. These figures are merely nominal, however, the tape having to be jammed to the posts in consequence of the wind, a sag of from 4 to 6 inches must therefore be allowed.

Nobles' School for Boys' First Race—(100 Yards)

Master Osawa ..... 1 | Master Oyama..... 3
Master Iwakura ..... 2 |

Seven entries. This and the following race were specially arranged in honour of the Crown Prince, who is at present being educated at this school. The little fellows ran a plucky race, and the winner covered the distance in 17 secs.

Nobles' School for Boys' Second Race—(100 Yards.)

Master Honda..... 1 | Master Iwashita 3
Master Kayeda 2

Eight entries. Again the lads threw heart and soul into the contest, and little seperated the winner from second and third.

Obstacle Race.

Mr. Ikeda ..... 1 | Mr. Okawara 4
Mr. Ka Kubota ..... 2 | Mr. Kono 5
Mr. Omura ..... 3 | Mr. Saigo 6

Eighteen entries Ikeda was penalised 30 yards, but he quickly made this up and had few men to pass when the wind-sails were reached. He got into second place at the hammock-nettings, and eventually romped in, getting the flour-sack around his body the quickest of any Time, 1m. 43secs

Three-legged Race.

Mr. Okamatsu..... } 1 | Mr. Oshima ..... } 2
Mr. Emura ..... } | Mr. Ikeda ..... }
Mr. Kono ..... } 3
Mr. Kawada ..... }

Six couples entered. The winners were penalised 3 yards. The race seemed at mercy of the second couple till near the end, when the scratch men pushed to the front and won on the tape. Time, 9.2 secs.

Gakushi Race (220 Yards).

Mr. Yamashita ..... 1 | Mr. Tanabe 3
Mr. Midzushima..... 2 |

Five started, but two quickly gave up. Midzushima fell when within a few paces of home, thus letting Yamashita in easily. Time, 32 secs.

800 Yards Race (Final Heat)

Mr. Ibuka..... 1 | Mr. Ishii 4
Mr. Yoshino..... 2 | Mr. Tanaka 5
Mr. Tamaki ..... 3 |

Nineteen entries. The race lay between the three first placed men all the way, and very little seperated them at the finish. Time, 2m. 21 secs.

Tug-of-War.

Higher Middle School Fifty..... 1
Imperial University Fifty..... 2

This was the concluding event of the day. The picked team of the Higher Middle School were easy winners over the scratch lot the University enlisted upon the ground. The scramble for the tub of persimmons, the prize, was among the most uproariously jovial of any of the many laughter-provoking incidents of the meeting.

THE WORLD'S FAIR.

[From a Correspondent.]

Jackson Park, Ill., October 10th.

Since I last wrote we have had here the visit of Sir Richard and Miss Webster. Sir Richard Webster, Q.C., M.P., is Chairman and Vice-President of the Royal British Commission and came out here to combine business with the pleasure of seeing the Fair. Victoria House was thrown open, and many friends and visitors were hospitably entertained by Sir Richard and Miss Webster. Chicago day was a great success and the attendance announced to 50,000 people. The day was perfect and the pageants very fine, at night the whole White City being lighted up, and the scene with the thousands of electric lights, moon and star light was simply fairy-like. The floats representing different epochs and events in American and Chicago history were effective, gorgeous, and a great success.

Fine needlework and gaily-coloured fabrics fill up the Mexican section of the Woman's Building. Ricardo de Maria y Compos, who has charge of it, says it is all to be placed to the credit of Mrs. Diaz, wife of the President of Mexico, who is head of the World's Fair Board of Mexico; and in the exhibit are many beautiful articles sent by her.

There is much fine work on display in this section, especially in the way of embroidery and needlework. There are two portraits done in silk embroidery, one of President Diaz, the other of President Carnot of France, which are so like photographs that a magnifying glass is necessary to detect the nature of the work. Another valuable exhibit is a screen of feather work. A case of butter-flies done in silk is also striking in its faithfulness to nature. Mexican deftness in gold embroidery is shown by two handsome uniforms of the style worn by the Rurales, the police troopers of the country, and by a fine display of clerical vestments. There is one bishop's robe and mitre which are valued at $10,000. In the same case with these is a strongly executed portrait of St. Christobal de las Casas done in silk embroidery. The Mexican "drawn work" shown here is beyond all praise, and is simply marvellous in fineness and beauty. Passing round the western side of the building are found the scientific rooms, with beautiful specimens of fossils and dried plants and ferns from the different states. In these rooms woman stands out boldly the equal of man in scientific research.

We next find the Bureau of Information and Post Office, where the poor clerks are supposed to know everyone and everything. In the western vestibule rich in drapery, marbles, and bronzes stands the rustic booth where visitors may deposit votes giving their preferences as to the national flower of America; this matter is attracting considerable attention just now. Mrs. Cantrill, one of the Lady Managers, who owns the booth, is an ardent admirer of American corn or maize as a national emblem, and is securing so many votes that two pages of the corn register are used where one of laurel or sunflower is filled. The booth is always surrounded by a crowd of ladies who listen attentively to Mrs. Cantrill's remarks on the beauty and utility of American maize and its appropriateness as an emblem.

Further on are the two "Sales rooms" filled with all sorts of little cheap tawdry souvenirs and trifling gifts which the Fair visitors buy up eagerly as they are cheap, and take home as remembrances of the exhibition.

In the Austrian section the Lace is rather a meagre collection, but of beautiful design. Kid gloves of fine quality are elaborately decorated with hand painted designs; small flowers, chiefly lilies of the valley and forget-me-nots. There is a very fine collection of hand painted fans; also some fine gold thread embroidery. A screen painted by H.I.H. the Archduchess Maria Theresa is shown; the frame is of simple carved antique oak, the centre panel is of flowers painted, and the side panels of palms.

In the Belgian exhibit the principal feature is Lace. Most exquisite and munificent specimens are to be seen here principally of the peasant woman's lace work, which attracts special attention for the dainty designs.

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THE WORLD'S PARLIAMENT OF RELIGIONS.

(CONCLUDED FROM 11TH NOVEMBER.)

BENEFITS OF BUDDHISM.—BY H. DOKI.

It is not a mysterious condition of things that you and I, who, apparently belong to different creeds and faiths, are come together and I had the pleasure of speaking something about Buddhism. I say I was fortunate to have the chance of seeing you, excuse me to say, that you were not altogether unfortunate to listen to my paper, which you accepted with applause. I now take the liberty of speaking something further about Buddhism, so that you might understand that religion, as well as its relation to our sun-rising land of Japan much better. In "Chudown," which means, translated into English, "degrees of wisdom," it is said that all Buddhas teach in two ways. What are those two ways? One is to teach the truth of doctrine; the other is to guide the goodness and righteousness of mankind. The former teaches us that our body and spirit are always in constant connection with the outside world and regulated by the absolute truth, which, having no beginning or no end, thrills throughout the universe, and yet performing the endless action of cause and effect as in a circle.

For instance, God in Christianity, the absolute extremity in Confucianism, Amano Minaka nushi no mikoto in Shintoism, Bourankamma in Brahminism are established in order to show the truth of the universe. The latter—that is to guide the goodness and righteousness of mankind—inspires us with purity and righteousness into our body, mind as well as the surrounding conditions. In other words, I should say that it teaches us that absolute truth is constantly acting to make a man on the surface of the earth complete this purity and goodness. Therefore, should I speak from the side of goodness, I should say that Buddhism, as it teaches ten commandments, such as not to kill, not to steal, not to commit adultery, not to tell a falsehood, not to joke, not to speak evil of others, not to use a double tongue, not to be greedy, neither to be stingy, and not to be cruel. Such commandments guide us into morality and goodness kindly and minutely by regulating our every day personal action. Such commandments by pacifying, purifying, and enlightening our passions as well as our wisdom shall in the course of time make the present society, which is full of vice, hatred, and struggles of race, just like hungry dogs or wolves, a holy paradise of purity, peace, and love. The regulating power of such commandments shall turn this troublesome world into the spiritual kingdom of fraternity and humanity.

This is only one illustration of Buddhist preaching. Therefore you see that Buddhism does not quarrel with other religions about the truth. If there were a religion which teaches the truth in the same way, Buddhism regards it as the truth of Buddhism disguised under the garment of other religion. Buddhism never cares what the outside garment may be. It only aims to promote the purity and morality of mankind. It never asks: Who discovered it? Who taught it? It only appreciates the goodness and righteousness. It helps the other to succeed in the purification of mankind.

Buddha himself called Buddhism "a round circulating religion," which means the truth only common to every religion, regardless of the outside garment. The absolute truth must not be regarded as the monopolization of one religion or an other. The truth is the broadest and widest. In short, Buddhism teaches us that Buddhism is truth, the goddess of truth who is common to every religion, but who showed her true phase to us through Buddhism.

That what I have just said is a brief account of Buddhism. And now let me tell you that this Buddhism has been a living spirit and nationality of our beloved Japan for so many years, and will be forever. Consequently the Japanese people, who have been constantly guided by the beautiful star of truth of Buddhism, are hospitable to other religions and countries, and are entirely different from some other obstinate nations. I say this without the least boast. Nay, I say this from the simplicity and purity of my mind.

The Japanese of thirty years since—that is the history since we opened our country for foreigners—will prove to you that the country is quite unequalled in the way of picking up what is good and right every done by others. We never said, Who invented this? Which country brought that? The things of good nature have been most heartily accepted by us, regardless of race and nationality. Is this not the precious gift of the true Buddhism, the spirit of our country.

But don't conclude too hastily that we are only blinded in imitating others. We have our own nationality; let me assure you that we have our own spirit. But we are not so obstinate to deny even what is good. So we trust in the unity of truth, but we do not believe the Creator fancied only by imperfect brain of human beings. We also firmly preserve our own nationality as to manner, customs, arts, literature, benevolence, architecture, and language. We have a charming and lovely nationality which characterizes all customs and relations between the sexes, between old and young, and so on with peace and gentleness.

You may think me too boastful, but allow me to warrant you that in travelling in the interior of Japan you will never be received with the compliment of "Hello, John." You will never be received with the compliment, "Hello, Jack." Nay, our people are not so impolite. None of them. Everywhere you go you will receive the hearty welcome and kind hospitality. Not only this, you are well aware of the fact that Japan has her own originality in fine arts, sculpture, painting, architecture, etc.

And let me ask you, who do you think originated such beautiful customs, and the fine arts of world-wide reputation in Japan? Allow me to assure you that it was Buddhism. I have no time to count, one by one, what Buddhism has wrought out in Japan during the last 1,100 years. But one word is enough: Buddhism is the spirit of Japan; her nationality is Buddhism.

This is the true state of Japan. But it is a pity that we see some false and obstinate religionists, who comparing this promising Japan with the South Sea Islands, have been so carelessly trying to introduce some false religion into our country. As I said before, we Buddhists welcome any, who are earnest after the truth, but can we keep silent to see the falsehood disturbing the peace and nationality of our country? The hateful rumours of collision taking place between the two parties are sometimes spread about. We from the standpoint of love to our country, cannot overlook this falsehood and violation of peace and fraternity. Do you think it is right for one to urge upon a stranger to believe what he does not like and call that stranger foolish, barbarous, ignorant, and obstinate, and account of the latter's denying the proposal made by the former. Do you think it is right for the former to excite the latter by calling so many names and consequently resulting in a social disorder. I should say that such a one as that is against peace, love and order, fraternity and humanity. I should say that such a one as that is against the truth. He who is against the truth had better die.

Injustice does not conquer justice, and we are glad to see that the cloud of falsehood is gradually disappearing before the light of truth. Also, you, ladies and gentlemen who are assembled now here are the friends of truth. Nay, you are amidst the truth. You breathe the truth as you do the air. And you surely endorse my opinion, because it is nothing but the truth.

WOULD WIN CONVERTS TO BUDDHISM.

Zenshin Noguchi, who accompanied the Japanese Buddhist priests as an interpreter, spoke upon "The Religions of the World," as follows:—

I take much pleasure in addressing you, my brothers, on the occasion of the first world's religious congress, by your kind indulgence, with what comes to my mind to day without any preliminary preparation, for I have been entirely occupied in interpreting for the four Hijiris who came with me to attend this congress.

As you remembered Columbus for his discovery, and as you brought to completion the wonderful enterprise of the world's fair, I also have to remember one whose knocks at the long-closed door of my country awakened us from our long and undisturbed slumber and led us to open our eyes to the condition of other civilized countries, including that in which I now am wondering at its greatness and beauty, especially as it is epitomized in the world's fair. I refer to the famous Commodore Perry. I must do for him what Americans have done and do for Columbus. With him I have one, too, to remember whose statue you have doubtless seen at the world's fair. His name was Naosuke II, the Lord of Hikone and the great Chancellor of Bakufu. He was unfortunately assassinated by the hands of the conservative party, which proclaimed him a traitor because he opened the door to the stranger without waiting for the permission of his master the emperor.

Since we opened the door about thirty-six years have passed, during which time wonderful changes and progress have taken place in my country, so that now, in the midst of the white city and the world's fair, I do not find myself wondering so much as a barbarian would do. Who made my country so civilized? He was the knocker, as I called him. Commodore Perry. So my people owe a great deal to him and to the America who gave him to us.

I must therefore make some return to him for his kindness, as you are doing in the world's fair to Columbus for his discovery. Shall I offer to you, who represent him, Japanese teapots and teacups? No. Pictures and fans? No, no, no; a thousand times, no. Shall I then open a world's fair in my own country in honour to his memory? No. Then what is to be done? These things that we have just laid aside as inadequate are only materials, which fire and water can destroy. In their stead I bring something that the elements cannot destroy, and it is the best of all my possessions.

What is that? Buddhism! As you see, I am simply a layman, and do not belong to any sect of Buddhists at all. So I present to you four Buddhist Sorios, who will give the addresses before you and place in your hands many thousand copies of English translations of Buddhist works, such as "Outlines of the Mahayana, as taught by Buddha." "A Brief Account of the Shinshu Catechism" and "The Sutra of Forty-two Sections and Two other Short Sutras," etc. Besides these 400 volumes of the complete Buddha, Shaka's "Sutra" are imported for the first time to this country as a present to the chairman of this congress by the four Buddhist Sorios. These three Chinese translations, which, of course, Japanese can read, are made from the original Sanscrit by many Chinese Sorios in ancient times. I hope they will be translated into English which can be understood by almost all the people of the world.

I regret to say that there is probably no Mahayana doctrine, which is the highest order of Buddhist teaching, translated into English. If you wish to know what the Mahayana doctrine is, you must learn to read Chinese or Japanese, as you are doing in the Chatauqua system of education, otherwise Chinese or Japanese must learn English enough to translate them for English reading people. Whichever way it be, we religionists must do this for the sake of the world. I have devoted some years and am now devoting more years to learning English, for the purpose of doing this in my private capacity. But the work is too hard for me. For example, I have translated Rev. Professor Tokunaga's work, without any help from foreigners, on account of the want of time. I am very sorry that I have not enough copies of that book to distribute them to you all, for I almost used them up in presents on my way to this city. Permit me to distribute the en last copies that still remain in my trunk to the seats nearest me.

How many religions and their sects are there in the world? Thousands. Is it to be hoped that the number of religions in the world will be increased by thousands more? No. Why? If such were our hope we ought to finally bring the number of religions to as great a figure as that of the population of the world, and the priests of the various religions should not be allowed to preach for the purpose of bringing the people into their respective sects. In that case they should rather say: "Don't believe whatever we preach: get away from the church, and make your own sect, as we do." Is it right for the priest to say so? No.

Then, is there a hope of decreasing the number of religions? Yes. How far? To one. Why? Because the truth is only one. Each sect or religion, as its ultimate object aims to attain truth. Geometry teaches us that the shortest line between two points is limited to only one; so we must find out that one way of attaining the truth among the thousands of ways to which the rival religions point us, and if we cannot find out that one way among the already established religions we must seek it in a new one. So long as we have thousands of religions, the religion of the world has not yet attained its full development in all respects. If the thousands of religions do continue to develop and reach the state of full development there will be no more any distinction between them, or any difference between faith and reason, religion and science. This is the end at which we aim and to which we believe that we know the shortest way.

I greet you, ladies and gentlemen of the World's Parliament of Religions, the gathering together of which is an important step in that direction.

SHINTOISM.—BY REIICHI SHIBATA.

I feel very happy to be able to attend this Congress of Religions as a member of the Advisory Council and to hear the high reasonings and profound opinions of the gentlemen who come from various countries of the world. As for me, it will be my proper task to explain the character of Shintoism, and especially of the Jikko sect.

The word Shinto or Kami-no-michi, comes from the two words "Shin" or "Kami," each of which means Deity, and "to" or "michi" (way), and

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designates the way transmitted to us from our Divine Ancestors and in which every Japanese is bound to walk. Having its foundation in our old history, conforming to our geographical positions and the disposition of our people, this way, as old as Japan itself, came down to us with its original form and will last forever, inseparable from the Eternal Imperial House and the Japanese nationality.

According to our ancient scriptures, there were a generation of Kami or Deities in the beginning who created the heavens and the earth, together with all things, including human beings, and became the ancestors of the Japanese.

Jimmu Tenno, the grandson of Ninigi-no-mikoto, was the first of the human emperors. Having brought the whole land under one rule he performed great services to the divine ancestors, cherished his subjects, and thus discharged his great filial duty, as did all the emperors after him. So also all the subjects were deep in their respect and adoration toward the divine ancestors and the emperors, their descendants. Though in the course of time various doctrines and creeds were introduced into the country, Confucianism in the reign of the fifteenth emperor, Ojin; Buddhism in the reign of the twenth ninth emperor, Kinmei; and Christianity in modern times, the emperors and the subjects never neglected the great duty of Shinto. The present forms of ceremony are come down to us from time immemorial in our history. Of the three divine treasures transmitted from the divine ancestors the divine gem is still held sacred in the imperial palace, the divine mirror in the Great Temple of Ise, and the divine sword in the Temple of Atsuta in the Province of Owari. To this day his majesty the emperor performs himself the ceremony of worship to the divine ancestors, and all his subjects perform the same to the deities of temples, which are called, according to the local extent of the festivity, the national, the provincial, the local, and the birth-place. When the festival day of temples, especially of the birth-place, etc., comes, all people who, living in the place, are considered specially protected by the deity of the temple, have a holiday and unite in performing the ancient ritual of worship and praying for the perpetuity of the imperial line and for profound peace over the land, and its families. The deities dedicated to temples are divine imperial ancestors, illustrious loyalists, benefactors to the place, etc. Indeed, the Shinto is a beautiful cult peculiar to our native land and is considered the foundation of the perpetuity of the imperial house, the loyalty of the subjects, and the stability of the Japanese State.

Thus far I have given a short description of Shinto, which is the way in which every Japanese, no matter to what creed—even Buddhism, Christianity, etc.—he belongs, must walk. Let me explain briefly the nature and origin of a religious force of Shinto, *i. e.*, of the Jikko sect, whose tenets I profess to believe.

The Jikko (practical) sect, as the name indicates, does not lay so much stress upon mere show and speculation, as upon the realization of the teachings. Its doctrines are plain and simple and teach man to do man's proper work. Being a new sect, it is free from the old dogmas and prejudices, and is regarded as a reformed sect. The scriptures on which the principal teachings of the sect are founded are Fusikotobumi, Yamatobumi, and many others. They teach us that before heaven and earth came into existence there was one absolute deity called Amenominakanushi-no-kami. He has great virtue, and power to create to reign over all things; he includes everything without end. In the beginning the One Deity, self originated, took the embodiments of two Deities; one with the male nature, and the other female. The male Deity is called Takai-musubi-no kami, and the female Kami musubi no-kami. These two Deities are nothing but forms of the one Substance and unite again in the Absolute Deity. These three are called the "The Deities of Creation." They caused a generation of Deities to appear, who, in their turn, gave birth to the Japanese Archipelago, the sun and moon, the mountains and streams, the Divine Ancestors, etc., etc. So their virtue and power are esteemed wondrous and boundless.

According to the teaching of our sect we ought to reverence the famous mountain Fuji, assuming it to be the sacred abode of the Divine Lord, and as the brain of the whole globe. And, as every child of the Heavenly Deity came into the world with a soul separated from the one original soul of the Deity, he ought to be just as the Deity ordered (in sacred Japanese "katakanna") and make Fuji the example and emblem of his thought and action. For instance, he must be plain and simple as the form of the mountain, make his body and mind pure as the serenity of the same. We would respect the present world with all its practical works, more than the future world; pray for the long life of the country; and by leading a life of temperance and diligence, co-operating with one another in doing public good, we should be responsible for the blessings of the country.

The founder of this sect is Hasegawa Kakugyo, who was born in Nagasaki, of the Hizen province, in 1541. In the 18th year of his age, Hasegawa, full of grief at the gloomy state of things over the country, set out on a pilgrimage to various sanctuaries of famous mountains and lakes, Shintoistic and Buddhistic temples. While he was offering fervent prayers on sacred Fuji, sometimes within its cave, he received inspiration through the miraculous power of the mountain; and becoming convinced that this place is the holy abode of Ameno kanu-shi no-kami he founded a new sect and propagated the creed all over the empire.

After his death in his cave in the 106th year, the light of the doctrines was handed down by a series of teachers. The tenth of them was my father, Shibata Hanemori, born at Ogi of the Hizen province in 1809. He was also in the 18th year of his age when he adopted the doctrine of this sect. Amid the revolutionary war of *Meiji*, which followed immediately, he exerted all his power to propagate his faith by writing religious works and preaching about the provinces.

Now I have given a short sketch of the doctrines of our religion and of its history. In the next place, let me express the humble views that I have had had for some years on religion.

As our doctrines teach us, all animate and inanimate things were born from One Heavenly Deity, and every one of them has its particular mission; so we ought to love them all and also to respect the various forms of religions in the world. They are all based, I believe, on the fundamental truth of religion. The difference between them is only in the outward form, influenced by variety of history, the disposition of the people and the physical conditions of the places where they originated.

Lastly, there is one more thought that I wish to offer here. While it is the will of Deity and the aim of all religionists, that all His beloved children on the earth should enjoy peace and comfort in one accord, many countries look still with envy and hatred toward one another, and appear to seek for opportunities of making war under the slightest pretext, with no other aim than of wringing out ransoms or robbing a nation of its lands. Thus, regardless of the abhorrence of the Heavenly Deity, they only inflict pain and calamity on innocent people. Now and here my earnest wish is this, that the time should come soon when all nations on the earth will join their armies and navies with one accord, guarding the world as a whole, and thus prevent preposterous wars with each other. They should also establish a supreme court, in order to decide the case when a difference arises between them. In that state no nation will receive unjust treatment from another, and every nation and every individual will be able to maintain their own right and enjoy the blessings of providence.

There will thus ensue, at last, the universal peace and tranquility, which seem to be the final object of the benevolent Deity.

For many years such has been my wish and hope. In order to facilitate and realize this in the future, I earnestly plead that every religionist of the world may try to edify the nearest people to devotion, to root out enmity between nations, and to promote our common object.

Practical Interdenominational Comity.

By Rev. B. L. Whitman.

Christian interests are larger than denominational interests. All truths are true, but not all are of equal importance. There is such a thing as a system of truth. In a system right subordination is indispensable. One of the fundamental principles of comity, whatever the sphere, is that emphasis may be laid upon the supreme things without damage to things relatively unimportant. The difficulty comes in getting the emphasis rightly placed. A man responds to personal interests more quickly than to the interests of a stranger. The near seems larger than the distant. Thus life is more real than the life to come. So men deceive themselves when they intend to be fair. There is safety only in a larger view. The practical effort comes out in the local body. Where a man is his work must be done.

For a long time it has been customary in Maine, as in many parts of the country, for the different denominations to extend greetings at their annual meetings. Three years ago when the Congregationalist body was in session, the fraternal delegate of the Eastern Maine Methodist Conference was unable to be present, and therefore sent his greeting by letter. In that letter was expressed a desire for closer denominational relations. The suggestions contained in that letter met acordial response, and steps were at once taken to bring together committees from the Baptists, Christian, Congregational, Free Baptists, and Methodist denominations. A meeting of these committees was held Dec. 15, 1890. The result of the meeting was that the following "Platform of the Interdenominational Commission on church work in the State of Maine" was adopted as follows:—

Recognizing the evident desire of the evangelical denominations of Maine to do more efficient work for our common Lord and believing that the holy spirit is moving Christians towards practical coöperation, we rejoice in the progress already made in this direction and desire to reaffirm our conviction, as follow:—That church extension into destitute communities should be conducted, as far as practical, according to the following considerations, viz.:—

1. No community in which any denomination has legitimate claims should be entered by any other denomination through its official agencies without conference with the denomination or denominations having said claims.

2. A feeble church should be revived, if possible, rather than a new one established to become its rival.

3. The preference of a community should always be regarded by denominational committees, missionary agents, and individual workers.

4. These denominations having churches nearest at hand should, other things being equal, be recognized as in the most advantageous position to encourage and aid a new enterprise in their vicinity.

5. In case one denomination begins gospel work in a destitute community it should be left to develope that work without other denominational interference.

6. Temporary suspension of church work by any denomination occupying a field should not be deemed sufficient warrant in itself for entrance into the field by another denomination. Temporary suspension should be deemed permanent abandonment when a church has had no preaching and held no meetings for an entire year or more.

7. All questions of interpretation of the foregoing statements and all cases of friction between denominations or churches of different denominations should be referred to the Commission through it Executive Committee.

Farewell Speeches.

"We have a splendid delegation from the sunrise kingdom of Japan," remarked Dr. Barrows, "and I'm going to ask our friends, the Buddhist representatives of Japan, to rise as their names are called, and then our eloquent friend, Mr. Hirai, will speak for them."

The four Buddhists priests, attired in the full vestments of their order, arose and saluted the audience. "Mr. Hirai," continued Dr. Barrows, "has lived for several years in our country. His voice was one of the first to thrill us through and through as he told us of the wrongs so called Christian civilization had committed in Japan. I now have the pleasure of introducing him." Mr. Hirai, after returning warm thanks for kindnesses, said:—

We cannot but admire the tolerant forebearance and compassion of the people of the civilized west. You are the pioneers in human history. You have achieved an assembly of the world's religions, and we believe your next step will be toward the ideal goal of this parliament, the realization of international justice. We ourselves desire to witness its fulfillment in our lifetime and to greet you again with our deepest admiration. By your kind hospitality we have forgotten that we are strangers, and we are very much attached to this city. To leave here makes us feel as if we were leaving our native country. To part with you makes us feel as we were parting from our own sisters and brothers. When we think of our homeward journey we cannot help shedding tears. Farewell. The cold winter is coming, and we earnestly wish that you may be in good health. Farewell.

Mr. Barrows then introduced Right Rev. Mr. Shibata, high priest of the Shinto religion, of Japan. The Japanese delegate arose and bowed profoundly. Dr. Barrows read his address, as follows:—

I am here in the pulpit again to express my thanks for the kindness, hearty welcome, and applause I have been enjoying at your hands ever since I came here to Chicago. You have shown great sympathy with my humble opinion, and your newspaper men have talked of me in high terms. I am happy that I have had the honour of listening to so many famous scholars and preachers forwarding the same opinion of the necessity of universal brotherhood and humanity. I am deeply impressed with the peace, politeness, and education which characterize your audiences. But is it not too sad that such pleasures are always short-lived? I, who made acquaintance with you only yesterday, have to part with you to-day, though reluctantly.

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This parliament of religions is the most remarkable event in history, and it is the first honour in my life to have the privilege of appearing before you to pour out my humble ideas, which were so well accepted by you all. You like me, but I think it is not the mortal Shibata that you like, but you like the immortal idea of universal brotherhood. What I wish to do is to assist you in carrying out the plan of forming the universal brotherhood under the one roof of truth. You know unity is power. I, who can speak no language but Japanese, may help you in crowning that grand project with success. To come here I had many obstacles to overcome, many struggles to make. You must not think I represent all Shintoism. I only represent my own Shinto sect. But who dares to destroy universal fraternity? So long as the sun and moon continue to shine, all friends of truth must be willing to fight courageously for this great principle. I do not know that I shall ever see you again in this life, but our souls have been so pleasantly united here that I hope they may be again united in the life hereafter. Now I pray that 8,000,000 deities protecting the beautiful cherry tree country of Japan may protect you and your government forever, and with this I bid you good-by.

"The oldest and greatest of empires," said Dr. Barrows, "is China. The Honorable Pung Quang Yu, special commissioner to this congress, will now address you." Instead of reading his own speech Mr. Pung Quang Yu simply arose and saluted the assembly and handed his manuscript to Dr. Barrows, who read it. After the formal thanks it is as follows:—

It is unnecessary for me to touch upon the existing relations between the government of China and that of the United States. There is no doubt that the Chinese minister at Washington and the honorable Secretary of State are well able to deal with every question rising between the two countries in a manner satisfactory and honourable to both. As I am a delegate to the religious congress, I cannot but feel that all religious people are my friends; I have a favour to ask of all the religious people of America, and that is that they will treat, hereafter, all my countrymen just as they have treated me. I shall be a hundred times more grateful to them for the kind treatment of my countrymen than for myself. I am sure that the Americans in China receive just such considerate treatment from the cultured people of China as I have received from you. The majority of my countrymen in this country are honest and law-abiding. Christ teaches us that it is not enough to love one's brethren only. I am sure that all religious people will not think this request too extravagant. It is my sincere hope that no national differences will ever interrupt the friendly relations between the two governments and that the two peoples will equally enjoy the protection and blessings of heaven. I intend to leave this country shortly. I shall take great pleasure in reporting to my government the proceedings of this parliament upon my return. With this I desire to bid all my friends farewell.

After reading Pung Quang Yu's address Dr. Barrows remarked that the words of the distinguished Chinese diplomat would be imparted to our government and it was expected that they would result in destroying the obnoxious Geary law.

REVIEW.

China and Her Neighbours. By R. S. GUNDRY. With Maps. London: Chapman and Hall, 1893.

THE appearance, in a collective form, of Mr. Gundry's previous writings dealing with subjects which have recently been prominently brought to the attention of the public, is certainly opportune. We have at various times noted the several articles which are now brought together. That on Cambodia also originally appeared in our own columns. These have been revised by addition and emendation, so as to be in complete harmony with existing facts. At first sight a collection of essays dealing with French doings in Indo China, on the South of the Middle Kingdom, of Russia in the north, and of the same power in the South West would not appear to readily group themselves together. No very great cohesion would appear to exist, but by a most carefully written introduction, where the several sources of the articles is given, the whole is made to blend well together. Hardly any one reads prefaces; and not many read introductions; but the Introduction in this case we may unhesitatingly affirm to be good. It is pithy in material, and important in that it indicates the exact thread of connection and continuity running through the book. We cannot, therefore, do better than let Mr. Gundry speak for himself on the three several topics in the words of his introduction:—

"It will be seen that Siam has repudiated vassalage or any kind of tributary relationship to her more powerful neighbour. She cannot, therefore, appeal now, as of right, for the help which China might, or might not, be willing to afford. But the Imperial Cabinet seems disposed to avow a natural anxiety in claims that involve the extension of the French frontiers along the southern border of Yünnan. It may not feel much more concerned than England about what happens on the Southern Meikong; but it would hardly be surprising if it shared the distaste of England to annexations of territory that touch China as nearly on the South as they touch British Burmah on the East. French newspapers exhaust themselves in ironical references to former English annexations, by way of retort upon English criticisms of French proceedings in Siam. The annexation of Burmah, especially, is pointed to as a precedent which completely cuts the ground from under our feet. But the fact is overlooked that that annexation was forced upon us by intrigues which were designed to draw Mandalay under the influence of France, and which were alleged to contemplate the annexation to Tong King of the very region which England and China have again stepped in to protect. It is overlooked, also, that our dislike to French encroachments is inspired quite as much by an instinct of commercial self defence as by any feeling of political jealousy or antagonism. Where England goes, all the world is free to follow; Burmah is as much open to French trade as English—to Rouen and Lille as to Manchester and Bradford—but where France goes nothing English is admitted, if protective duties can keep it out.

"Our interest in Indo-China might easily become acute in presence of a Franco Russian alliance; and the generally-admitted existence of at least a tacit *entente* may lend interest to the group of essays depicting the relations of China with her northern neighbour. For England's interest in Russian encroachments in the North is scarcely less, or less vivid, than it is in French annexations in the South; and those encroachments are made, in every case, at the cost of the great empire which stretches half across Asia from Korea to the Pamirs.

"Nor are our interests confined to the neighbourhood of our Indian frontier. It is one of the penalties of our commercial greatness that we are sensitive to any increase in the maritime resources of a possibly hostile Power. We are interested, therefore, in Russian proceedings on the Amour as well as on the Helmund. Relegated, on the eastern coast of Siberia, to ports which are more or less ice-bound during a portion of the year, Russia would be almost less than human, as well as less than aggressive, if she did not look wistfully across the frontier of Primorsk to the open harbours of Korea. The essays on "Korea" and "Port Hamilton," which are reproduced from the *Westminster Review*, will explain the steps by which the Hermit Kingdom was drawn within the vortex of modern intercourse, and by which its integrity has been safeguarded. The former was written soon after Chinese persuasion and the force of events had induced the little kingdom to open its doors, and the latter shortly after our withdrawal from the group of islands which had been occupied by the British fleet during the disaccord that arose in 1886 out of Russia's attitude towards Afghanistan, and had nearly burst into flame at Pendjeh. Neither China nor Korea appears to believe too implicitly in the value of the guarantees; but the jealousy with which Russian encroachment would be viewed by other than China, and by others even than Great Britain, may help to render efficacious paper engagements that might prove less reliable with less substantial backing.

"In sum, therefore, we find a remarkable similarity between the political conditions in Asia and Europe. India and China, which ask nothing but to be let alone, are confronted by Russia and France, much as Germany and Austria are confronted in Europe, and their common interests must tend to ally them in an attitude of mutual defence, which would probably command, in an emergency, the sympathy of Japan. For it is evident that, by exercising alternative or simultaneous pressure in the North west and South-east, the two great Western Powers might creat a degree of military tension and political unrest as exhausting as, and even more intolerable than, that existing in Europe. Even central Belgium has an Eastern representative in Korea, and the position of England in Europe finds a not inapt parallel in the considerable power of Japan.

"The three concluding chapters deal with a topic of less Imperial consequence, but of not less interest, perhaps, to the general reader. Russian movements in Northern Thibet have had, so far, a purely exploratory character, though the facility with which Cossack detachments find their way along the trail of the traveller, and pave the way for emissaries of a less visionary class, may lead us to watch with interest any region towards which Russian attention appears to be directed. Thibet is shielded at present in a great degree by Chinese Turkestan. But frontiers in these remote regions are less clearly defined than would appear from school maps, and there are unsettled districts along the boundary between Kashgaria and Kashmir which account for much Chinese and some Indian anxiety about Russian movements across the Pamirs. Our own present interest, however, is confined to reopening commercial intercourse across the Himalayas. The attempt made by Warren Hastings in 1774, which was defeated then by Chinese antagonism, has been taken up again during this generation, and seems in a fair way of being carried now, with Chinese goodwill, to a successful issue.

"The project inspired the provisions for roads and transit dues which found place in Sir Ashley Eden's treaty with Sikkim in 1867. It was given diplomatic expression, seventeen years ago, in the Anglo-Chinese Convention of Chefoo, and was taken up with more directness a decade later, though with results that promised ill at first for the attainment of the object in view. A mission to Lhassa, which had been organised in India with the consent of China, was abandoned in consequence of the hostile attitude of the Lamas, and the latter, encouraged by this negative success, pushed their antagonism to the point of occupying territory which had long been considered at Calcutta as within the British-Indian sphere. They were, of course, driven out; but it has taken several years to re-knit the broken diplomatic threads. Negotiations do not often progress rapidly where China is alone concerned; they were still less likely to do so where Calcutta and Lhassa were involved. The settlement of the matter seems to have been eventually left to those two capitals, and an agreement was shortly reached in which the project of commercial intercourse was accepted, and the suzerainty of India over Cis-nivean Sikkim formally recognised."

This is all very interesting and very instructive, both presently and prospectively. The papers besides show us that France's aim has always remained as it commenced in the time of Louis XIV. It was jealousy of Great Britain. "The dual motive of hostility to England and the glorification of France, has undergone no variation whatever since France had a policy in Asia at all. Monarchies, Republics, and Empires succeed each other, but the spirit remains the same through all these superficial changes. It is candidly avowed, and there need be no delicacy in putting the truth in plain language." Both the introduction and the essays will be useful to those who have already seen the latter, as they form a careful digest of facts dealing with problems of contemporary Asiatic politics, one or other phase of which may at any time become acute. Two maps are included, which give us Farther India and Eastern Asia, and indicate the several places mentioned. A few other additions might have been made, but the absence of them does not materially detract from the value. In conclusion, we may note that the work is dedicated to Sir Thos. Wade, whose name has been so conspicuous in the history of European relations with China during the last half century.—*London and China Express.*

AN INTERCEPTED LETTER.

The following amusing skit appears in the *Kobe Chronicle* of the 11th inst.:—

[The following letter, apparently written with the object of being published in a Japanese paper, having been placed in our hands, we have had it translated in the hope that it will prove both interesting and instructive.]

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "MUMEI SHIMBUN."

HONOURABLE SIR,—In redemption of the promise made to you before I left the shores of Japan, I hasten to send you a few brief notes of the curious and interesting people among whom I have taken up my residence. I have now been in London six weeks, and am fully competent to pass an opinion upon the religion, the laws, the manners and the customs of Great Britain. You will hardly expect that I should go into the history of this people. As you and most other Japanese are aware, they have no history of any importance, the English being but a nation of yesterday compared with the Japanese, who possessed the refinements of civilisation when the islanders of this country were naked barbarians decorated with coats of paint.

* * * *

But this is beginning altogether too far back, even though it is modern compared with Japanese history. What you will doubtless be more in-

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terested in knowing are my views upon things as I see them. Well, as you know, I came here to edit a paper printed in Japanese and circulating among the Japanese residents in this place, and I have employed my time since taking up the editorial *fude* in saying as many unpleasant things of the natives of the country as possible. You may perhaps think that this is scarcely the policy which ought to be adopted, and that the interests of a Japanese colony in England must to a considerable extent be the same as those of Englishmen. If this be your opinion you are mistaken. When Orientals deal with Occidentals it is always well to commence by speaking contemptuously of everything Occidental and generally make oneself as offensive as possible. In this way the people with whom one is brought into contact obtain a high opinion, if not of one's courtesy, at least of the natural superiority of the Oriental to themselves. I find that a very effective way of impressing this upon the natives of any country where one is residing is to speak of them under some diminutive or nickname, and in my paper I make a practice of referring to the natives here as "Johnny Bull's." It riles them awfully—that is, those who read Japanese, you know—and affords us all very much amusement.

* * * *

I will not deny that there is a considerable number of my fellow countrymen who deprecate these tactics, and who urge that we should avoid as much as possible stirring up strife, emphasising rather our points of agreement than our points of difference; but these are mainly the older residents who have mixed among the natives so much that they actually claim to know more about them than those who have had their previous book knowledge supplemented by several weeks' residence—a claim which is evidently absurd. We always have a very emphatic answer to these critics. We tell them that they are paid to express opinions in opposition to ourselves, and this is considered such an excellent retort that constant repetition never stales its use.

* * * *

As soon as I got here I went out sightseeing, and the first thing that struck me as being different to Japan was the immense number of vehicles in the streets, all drawn by horses, and the continual accidents which are caused by the absence of *bettoes*. Instead of having a man to run before vehicles to clear the way, these are allowed to dash on at topmost speed, and the consequence is that many people are knocked down and maimed or killed. But the most supreme indifference to life is displayed here, for though one cannot take up a paper without reading of some street accident, no attempt is made to introduce a better state of things, though I have already devoted two or three articles in my Japanese journal to this matter. I intend shortly to use this text for a series of generalisations on Occidental indifference to human life, but at present I must confine myself to what occurred to me during the first few days in London.

* * * *

There are no convenient *jinrikisha* here; their place is taken by an ugly lumbering machine drawn by two horses and called an omnibus. One is forcibly reminded by these vehicles that one is among a people with a very thin veneer of civilisation over its forefathers' open profession of piracy, for some of these omnibuses openly carry on a similar industry in defiance of the police, and are generally referred to by the papers as "pirate 'buses." The people whom I have consulted are very reticent as to what the "pirate 'buses" do with their passengers, but one native of whom I made inquiry told me that the people who are enticed into these vehicles are driven off to a lonely and sequestered place near London called Clerkenwell Green, where they are first robbed and then made to walk the knife-board into a gruesome pool on the Common shaded by large and heavy trees. "But can't the police put a stop to this sort of thing?" I inquired. The native curled his finger round his nose in the vulgar fashion of the country and tapped the place where they keep their money. "They don't want to," he said. Alas! I had shortly only too much reason to know that my native friend was speaking the truth.

* * * *

Wishing to go to the native Bank, where I had been once before, I hailed a passing omnibus with the word "Bank" written in large letters upon it; but after going a certain distance I found that the 'bus was going in an opposite direction to that in which lay the institution to which I was bound. I expostulated with the man who is called the conductor, and he told me the route was changed because the "street was hup." This I saw at once was only a flimsy excuse, for no street can be up; unless indeed there is an earthquake, streets are always down. I immediately realised, therefore, that I was in the hands of the pirates, and I determined if I was to die I would at least show this uncivilised race that a Japanese sells his life dearly. But first I determined on attempting to escape. Suddenly unbolting the door at the back of the vehicle when the "conductor's" back was turned I made a wild leap for freedom, and though I turned head over heels in the mud, I at least got clear of the pirates' vehicle. Rushing up to a native policeman, all mud-stained as I was, with the blood pouring from my nose and staining the light suit I was wearing, I denounced the 'bus and its driver and conductor as being engaged in a plot to abduct passengers from the king's highway. The 'bus had meanwhile stopped, unwilling apparently to lose its prey, and all the conductor had to say in answer to my denunciations was that "the gent was off 'is 'ead." With the calousness of his race where a foreigner is concerned, the policeman simply laughed, and in my indignation I forgot my English and denounced him in a torrent of Japanese. After a little of this, the insolent native policeman arrested me, and haled me off to a miserable stone dungeon where there was not a civilised mat on which one could rest in a natural position.

* * * *

Next morning I was brought before a native magistrate, and to my horror the perjured accomplice of the pirates, the native policeman, swore that I was drunk, that I had obstructed the police in the discharge of their duty, and that I had been guilty of the vilest language. All I had done was to accuse him in Japanese of being an accomplice of pirates! I told my story to the magistrate, who was a kindly-looking native; and he sent for a doctor to inquire into the state of my mind! Probably the magistrate had been squared also. At any rate to cut a long and humiliating story short, I was fined five shillings for being drunk and disorderly—I, who had finished my saké weeks ago and could not drink the coarse native compounds—and was then set free. This is the Occidental liberty about which some of our politicians prate! I may have something more to say generally about the system of justice in this country as carried out by the venal native police and the incompetent native magistracy. At present my feelings are too acute to write coolly. But I have let the Johnny Bulls have it in my paper—you bet! as the native Americans say. If they could only read Japanese, they would squirm.

FUNERAL OF THE LATE MR. JOHN MACGREGOR.

Amidst signs of respect and genuine sorrow from all sections of the community, the remains of the late Mr. John Macgregor were interred at the New Cemetery yesterday afternoon, says the *N. C. Daily News* of the 9th inst. Business was generally suspended in the afternoon; the hongs and stores were closed, and the arrangements in connection with a public funeral were thereby considerably facilitated, enabling a very remarkable demonstration to be afforded to the popularity which Mr Macgregor enjoyed while in our midst. The procession which followed his remains and gathered around the graveside was a most representative one, embracing not only foreigners of all nationalities, but Chinese officials and merchants who had official or business relations with the deceased gentleman, and who had come to pay a last tribute of respect to his memory.

Half past three was the appointed hour for the funeral procession to leave Ewo, but for at least half-an hour previously the Bund in the vicinity of the hong had an aspect of unusual commotion imparted to it by the gathering of uniformed men and civilian mourners. The Volunteers of all branches, infantry, light horse, artillery, and engineers, assembled in considerable force; Captain Norcock, the commander of H.M.S *Caroline*; with Lieut.-Commander Cotesworth of H.M.S *Rattler*; Lieutenant Maud, of the *Caroline*, Mr Hadley, paymaster of the *Caroline*, and a number of bluejackets and marines—about—30 represented the Navy, and the Taotai sent a small contingent of native troops. At twenty five minutes past three the coffin was brought out of the hong and placed upon the gun carriage in waiting, the troops upon its appearance presenting arms, and then when all was ready for the start the order was given for the Volunteers to "reverse arms." The coffin was a handsome one of polished oak with heavy mountings. Upon it were placed several of the beautiful floral tributes which had been sent, but so great was the number of these that the late Mr. Macgregor's carriage had to be set apart to carry the remainder. Among them was a very handsome one sent by the Danish community in recognition of Mr. Macgregor's long service as Danish Consul. In a few moments the sorrowful procession was then marshalled. First went the band, followed by the red companies of the Volunteers, then the German company, artillery, and light horse. Next came the gun carriage conveying the body, succeeded by the carriage containing the wreaths. Behind this walked the chief mourners, Mr. Robert Macgregor, the brother of the deceased gentleman, and Mr. J. J. Keswick (Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co.), the pall bearers, Messrs. R. Inglis, James McKie, W. F. Inglis, W. J. Clark, W. J. Greason, L. Roustan, E. H. Kenny, and W. Dobie, and the foreign and Chinese employés of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. The Naval contingent succeeded, followed by a considerable number of friends of the deceased, then the Chinese soldiers and officials and another body of sympathisers, the rear being brought up by several carriages. To the strains of Chopin's *Marche Funèbre* the procession slowly proceeded on its way to the Cemetery, *viâ* the Nanking Road and Thibet Road. The whole route was lined by Chinese onlookers, who were extremely orderly and gave practically no trouble to the Sikh and native constables who were responsible for keeping order as far as the Thibet Road. From thence to the Cemetery the way was kept by the foreign constables. All the police arrangements were under the direction of Inspector Howard, and they worked very satisfactorily.

By the time the procession reached the Cemetery it had assumed very considerable dimensions, and it was impossible for more than a portion of the assemblage to obtain accommodation in the Mortuary Chapel, where the first portion of the Burial Service was performed by Archdeacon Moule. Those who could not gain admittance repaired to the graveside, drawn up near which was the firing party of the Volunteers.

In the Chapel Archdeacon Moule delivered the following appropriate address:—

"You would blame me, friends and fellow-townsmen, if I allowed this profoundly sad occasion to pass in silence. The death of Mr. Macgregor is to very many of us a personal loss. I, for one, shall never forget his unceasing kindness, friendliness, and courtesy; and gladly shall I remember his very frequent and devout attendance on Sunday in God's house. But it is a public calamity which we mourn to-day. Just as our Jubilee celebration is drawing near, in the plans and arrangements for which Mr. Macregor took so keen, so able, so active an interest, he, the Chairman of our Municipal body, and in that department of Shanghai life our foremost man, has been suddenly taken away by death.

"How can we keep our Jubilee now? Thus, I think; as Christians, not as fatalists. Do not give way to the idea that this is a bad omen; a piece of manifest ill luck blasting and undoing all our plans for jubilation and commemoration. I do not believe in omen and luck. But I do believe in God's hand and in God's voice, and most surely He touches us and speaks to us to-day. And He says this: 'Take advantage of this event which I in wisdom not in anger have ordered, and remember the eternal God in your celebrations.'

"Resolve that Shanghai from this day forth shall with advancing prosperity and expanding influence, in which we hoped that our departed friend would every year have taken a prominent part, resolve that Shanghai shall become also a centre, bright and conspicuous throughout China not for gaiety, and immorality, and dissipation, but for philanthropy, good order, above all, Christian morality.

"Resolve each one that you will make this season glad by securing through faith in the Saviour, and by the Holy Spirit's grace, that abolishing of death, that passing from death to life, which we gladly hope our friend and brother has realised now.

"So will this day be one not to be forgotten as speedily as possible, as a dark, painful and fearful day, but rather as one to thank God for, because followed by resolutions and actions by which best our departed friend can be remembered."

The remainder of the Service was read at the graveside, upon the conclusion of which the firing-party stepped forward and fired three volleys, with which the ceremony ended.

At a service held in Union Church last evening the Rev. J. Stevens spoke feelingly of the sore loss the community had sustained by the death of Mr. John Macgregor, and quoted the words of Tennyson:—

The face of death is toward the sun of life,
His shadow darkens earth,
His truer name is *onward*.

Mr. Macgregor was a seat-holder and a frequent attendant at Union Church.

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THE BRITISH SOUTH AFRICAN COMPANY.

In view of current events, the following article from *Fairplay* on the above-named company, about which so little is known, will be of interest:—

The first thing to be said about the British South African (Chartered) Company is that it is a very great undertaking. Its field of operations embraces an area of little short of a million square miles, and doubtless if all had gone well with it it would have gone on expanding that area to yet vaster dimensions in correspondence with the overtowering ambition of its managing director in South Africa, the Hon. Cecil J. Rhodes. But affairs have not moved altogether smoothly. On the contrary, they have dragged, limped, and halted in a manner that must have caused large numbers of the shareholders to fear the worst. At the present moment the Company finds its very existence threatened, firstly by the enmity of its neighbours, the Matabeles, and secondly by the exhaustion of its financial resources and the grave impairment of its credit in the market. It would not be easy to say which of these two troubles is the more formidable. As regards the squabble with Lobengula, the case is unquestionably a very grave one. That the Company will have to fight is now certain, as it is, also, that it will have to do so under the worst possible conditions, harassed as it is, on the one hand, by the pusillanimous attitude of the home Government, which prescribes acting on the defensive when vigorous offensive operations would be the only safe way to bring the struggle to a speedy and successful termination, and on the other by want of money. We have no intention to discuss the merits of this squabble, which is of a kind that most people who have studied the career of the Company with a knowledge of the conditions surrounding it must long since have been prepared for. Yet the upset is one which must impress any body of average common sense with a conviction that whatever may be the outcome of it the Company is bound to suffer in more ways than one. The whole basis of its future progress and prosperity rested on a belief that it was in possession of privileges, the peaceful exploring of which would in the course of a few years make it one of the largest and richest enterprises in the world. Investors have pictured it in their imaginations as a corporation owning a territory as large as Central Europe, teeming with mineral and other resources of unbounded magnitude, which only required hands to coin them into golden sovereigns, and presided over by a body of gentlemen who represented all that was highest in breeding and financial talent. Two Dukes, a Lord, a Baronet, and the Cape Premier, down to a Hatton garden diamond merchant and a stock-jobber, are on the Board of Directors. What more could be wanted? As for money, this came forward in abundance. The capital is £1,000,000, in shares of £1 each, practically the whole of which has been issued and paid up. In 1891 there was about 4,000 shareholders; in the following year the register showed that that number had doubled, thus demonstrating that the public enthusiasm was growing. But what is now the position? On this point one can only give a very rough sort of answer, owing to the obscurity which surrounds the Company's financial dealings.

We may, however, get some sort of notion by glancing at the two last balance-sheets. The first of these was made up to the 31st March, 1891, and covered the period from the date of the incorporation of the Company in October, 1889. Up to this time there were issued for cash, and fully paid, 558,488 shares, yielding £558,488 and 318,687 shares on which 3s. was paid, thus yielding £47,803, which gave total cash £606,291. There had also been issued 54,900 shares fully paid in part payment for concessions and in exchange for shares in other companies. We need not deal with the shares in other Companies or the cost of concessions, as they figured on the assets side, and will only confine ourselves to the other assets, the administrative expenses, and the general expenditure. As regards the last item, £147,136 was spent on roads and telegraphs, in contrast with £258,885 on the general administration, in which was included £186,760 for the maintenance of the police-force to the 30th December, 1890; and £7,650 for directors' fees. Altogether the general expenditure during the foregoing period amounted to £406,001, and the total revenue from interest, sale of the Company's postage stamps, and registration fees to £3,960 In brief, a quarter of a million of the capital vanished in the foregoing brief space of less than a year and a half. In the following twelve months ending March 31st, 1892, during which 22 000 more shares were issued in payment for concessions and shares in other Companies, and 24,785, for cash, whereby the whole of the capital was practically issued and paid up, the general expenditure amounted to £312,000, of which only £46,859 consisted in outlays on actual works of development, while the balance, roughly £265,000, went in general administrative expenditure, including £173,623 on the the police force, £5,400 directors' fees, London office and other expenses £11,988, and South African office expenses £12,697. As against these general administrative expenses the total revenue, which now embraces receipts from mines, sales of "stands," land, and all the rest of it, amounted to £15,812. As to the liquid resources of the Company at this time, that is to say, the means at its command to keep body and soul together, these consisted in cash £25,528, about £5,000 arrears of calls, and about £120,000 of goods on consignment, or, say, together £150,000—not much more than six months ordinary administrative expenses!

We doubt if any ordinary business man could view such a position as this with complacency, especially if he happened to have become a shareholder at the moment of the great "boom" when the £1 shares were hoisted up to £4 apiece in the market. But this is by no means the whole story. The Company's auditors said in their certificate to the last balance, sheet that it was "full and fair," and exhibited a "true view of the state of the Company's affairs." We venture to disagree with them in that estimate of the document. To have been "full and fair," as we should have regarded the accounts, we should have desired some information that might have elucidated the following modest, unpretentious, and seemingly insignificant note on the debtor side of the balance sheet:—"*There are current liabilities under sundry Concessions and Agreements.*" What was the meaning of this? We are prepared to forego a knowledge of the current liabilities in so far as the sundry concessions are concerned; but the "agreements"? What about them? What was their nature, and if they meant advances what did these amount to at the date of the balance sheet? Is it, or is it not, a fact that the Company was borrowing from hand to mouth in various quarters, and that at the time this balance sheet was prepared owed large amounts of money on outstanding loans? It is no secret that for a long while past the British South Africa Company has been financed by the De Beers Company, among others. The relations between these two concerns would bear a good deal of looking into, and when this takes place the probability is that the result will not prove very satisfactory to the shareholders in the latter. They have not yet quite got over the transaction by which £200,000 of their money was invested in Chartered shares that were ultimately distributed among them by way of a bonus when they had fallen from £1 apiece at which they were originally acquired to about 50 per cent. discount. It is said that the Chartered Company is indebted to the De Beers to the extent of about £250,000. That may or may not be an exaggeration. It is, however, no exaggeration to say that in February, 1892, the latter Company undertook to help the Chartered Company to scrape along by making it doles in the way of advances to the amount of £3,500 per month for a period of one year. It is also a fact that the Chartered Company had made arrangements with somebody for an advance of £500,000 on the security of 6 per cent. debentures This was mentioned in the last report. Was it the De Beers Company who agreed to make that loan, and if so how much of that sum has already been advanced, or were the debentures to be issued in order to pay off old loans? Mr. Rhodes has helped the Chartered Company along with advances made out of his own pocket; the Goldfields of South Africa Company has contributed its mite, and one or more others have done the same thing. This great corporation has, in fact, been living from hand to mouth in a precarious sort of way for a long while past, but no official information has been vouchsafed which would enable one to judge the extent to which this has been going on.

And now, what is the position? We may leave out of account the vast wealth which may be hidden in the Chartered Company's wide stretch of territory, because neither we nor others know anything about it. What we have to deal with are the plain hard facts as they exist at this moment, and what they are likely to lead up to. The Company has got through its resources, and although it was said in November last that the administrative charges were being met by the general revenue, it has since had to go on borrowing. But how has it been faring with the expenses and the revenue since that date? The troubles which have broken out with Lobengula have not only put a stop to prospecting and settlement, but the prospectors, miners, and settlers who were already in Mashonaland have been fleeing the country in fear of their lives. A terrible blow has thus been dealt the Company in the hour of its worst financial need, and it will probably be a very long while before it recovers from the shock. To the speculative risks that previously belonged to embarking capital in the Company's territory, is now added the risk of settlers being suddenly raided, having their property stolen and destroyed, and their throats cut. The enterprise is, therefore, one in which there are more thorns than honey. But as regards the shareholders, it has to be borne in mind that they have only a half-interest in the net profits, as 50 per cent. of these go to the original concessionaries. That, on the other hand, is not a question which calls for much discussion at this moment. It will be many a long year in all probability before it becomes a subject for discussion at all, seeing that the problem that must engage attention will be how to keep the Company financially alive. How is this going to be done? Is the money of the De Beers Company to be forever poured into this vast financial sponge? Will the shareholders of the Company continue to sit as mere lame spectators while Mr. Rhodes uses up their substance in support of an enterprise in which he and his associates in his Company promoting enterprises happen to be largely interested? The De Beers shareholders have had quite enough of the Chartered Company. If the latter were in the dim and distant future to prove a success, their share in the good things going would be moderate, while the glory and much of the profit of the thing would fall to the lot of Mr. Rhodes and his friends They would have pulled the chestnuts out of the fire, and their reward would fall lamentably short of what was due to them for the risk they had been made to run.

IN H.B.M.'s COURT FOR JAPAN.

Before JAMES TROUP, Esq., Assistant Judge.
FRIDAY, November 17th.

REMOVING A "NO THOROUGHFARE" BOARD.

Mr H. C. Gulland, of the Chartered Bank, was charged this morning by the Japanese police, that "on the 2nd of November, near No. 3, Yokohama, he did remove the notice board, etc., which closed the thoroughfare for cattle, horses, and all vehicles."

Mr. J. F. Lowder, who appeared on behalf of defendant, at the outset of proceedings suggested that the charge might with advantage be amended; as at present framed it did not convey to his mind, or to the mind of the defendant, any idea of the nature of the offence which he was called upon to defend.

One of the Police Inspectors in Court at this point began to interrogate the prosecuting constable across the barrister's table.

His Honour thereupon requested the interpreter to inform the police officers that they could not talk aloud during the proceedings, it was not in accordance with the procedure of English Courts.

Mr. Lowder then proceeded to state that he did not raise the objection merely to find fault with the framing of the charge, but with the idea to save the time of the Court. He therefore asked for information as to the nature of the offence which was alleged to have been committed. What Statute had defendant infringed? Counsel would suggest that, as this information was not upon the summons, the present would be the best time to amend the wording of the summons. It would spare the Court a lot of time, if it were to be fully stated at the outset of the case what offence the defendant was charged with and under what Statute it was brought. As at present shown in the summons, no offence has been committed.

His Honour—It is quite customary for a summons to be issued without mentioning the Statute under which it is brought.

Mr. Lowder—I grant that. But it is also customary to state the nature of the offence charged upon the summons. From what I can gather from the letter sent by the Japanese authorities, upon which this summons is based, the offence which they charge defendant with committing is no offence whatever under English law. But it will save time if I now ask the Court under what statute the summons is brought?

His Honour—It is brought under 10 & 11 Vic., chap 34, sec 79.

Mr Lowder—Then would it not be as well that the summons should be amended in that form?

His Honour—Accused is charged with removing a notice board which bore the information that the road was closed.

Mr. Lowder—I think the prosecution desire to bring more than that charge against him, from the letter which was sent from the *Kenji* it appears that they wish to produce evidence in this case

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such as they could not bring as the case now stands. I can cite your Honour authority for my suggestion that the charge be amended.

His Honour said he did not think that was necessary

Mr. Lowder—I only suggest that the summons be amended in accordance with the wording of the Statute; it is only a suggestion that I make in order to save the time of the Court. But I might say that summonses are frequently, nay, always, when necessary, amended on the appearance of a defendant, and to do so now in this case would only be in accordance with the usual practise.

His Honour—I will consult the summons again

Mr. Lowder—Your Honour will perceive that the letter from the *Kenji*, which forms the basis of the summons, contains four distinct charges; 1st, the removal of the notice board, and, the throwing down and breaking of the lamp, 3rd, the cutting of the rope, which is an injury to property, while the 4th is a charge of attempting to bribe the police. That I gather is the complaint as it now stands. Now the summons has reference only to the first offence, and not to any of the others. But it is not the intention of the prosecution, I gather, that it should be so. Well, I am informed by the Court that the charge is brought under section 79, 10 and 11 Vic., chap. 34, and if that is so I suggest that the summons be amended in order that its wording may be in accordance with that section. I will quote the section for your Honour. It runs as follows:—"The Commissioners shall during the construction or repair of any of the streets vested in them, during the construction or repair of any sewers or drains, take proper precautions for guarding against accident by shoring up and protecting the adjoining houses, and shall cause bars or chains to be fixed across, or in any of the streets, to prevent the passage of carriages and horses while such works are carried on as to them shall seem proper, and the Commissioners shall cause any sewer or drain or other works during the construction or repair of them by them to be lighted and guarded during the night, so as to prevent accidents, and every person who takes down, alters, or removes any of the said bars or chains, or extinguishes any light, without the authority or consent of the Commissioners shall for every such offence be liable to a penalty not exceeding £5." Therefore, I now suggest that the charge should follow the wording of the section, so that defendant may know what offence he is charged with committing; that is, that defendant has committed an offence without the authority of the Commissioners. Then he will know what he has to answer for. Moreover, if the case leads to a conviction, conviction will follow upon the wording of the charge, or in case of acquittal, acquittal will follow upon its being proven that no offence has been committed within the wording of the charge. So if the prosecution desire that the other charges mentioned in the complaint be brought up against the defendant, then a fresh summons must be issued in respect to each offence complained of. All these suggestions I make, not for the sake of raising a technical objection, but in the interests of justice If the prosecution had been represented here by Counsel to-day I should have held my tongue until he had finished his case; then I should have requested the Court to dismiss the summons on the grounds of the technical objection I have just raised. But I do not propose to proceed in that fashion, neither do I wish to impede the course of justice in this case.

His Honour—I agree with your way of thinking that the charge should follow the wording of the Statute or the Act on which the summons is based The charge, as it now stands, has no reference to the exact offence which it is intended to bring up against defendant. I think, therefore, that defendant is entitled to the charges being made separate, and that separate summonses must be issued on account of each. Each offence ought to be treated entirely independently, for it is hardly fair to the accused to hear the other charges to-day, when he is only charged with one specific offence. The Court cannot, therefore, take cognisance of them now.

Mr. Lowder—Before proceeding any further, I would raise another point—

His Honour—Don't you think we should dispose of one thing at a time; had we not better have the alteration effected in the charge before proceeding further?

Mr Lowder—As your Honour pleases; I am in your hands.

His Honour then altered the charge into one of "taking down, altering, and removing a bar, extinguishing a light," etc.

Mr. Lowder suggested that it would be as well to insert after the word bar, "placed there for the purpose of taking proper precautions for guarding against accident," etc. The bar had presumably been placed in its position to prevent the passage of cattle, etc., which was the reason for the framing of the Act, the object of the particular section of the clause quoted being to guard against accidents.

His Honour—Very well. Then it will read "That during the construction or repair of a street opposite, at, or near No. 3, Water Street, in the Settlement of Yokohama, on or about the 2nd of November, the accused did take down, alter, and remove a bar placed there to prevent the passage of horses, cattle, and vehicles, to prevent accidents, and did extinguish a light placed there for the same purposes without the consent of the proper authorities" I have substituted proper Authorities for Commissioners, have you any objection, Mr. Lowder?

Mr. Lowder—I neither dissent or consent in regard to that, your Honour. Before proceeding further, I think I may now say that I raise objection to the whole of the Statute, under which the complaint has now been drawn up.

His Honour—I think we ought to have the consent of the prosecution as to the alteration of the charge.

Mr Lowder—If, Sir, you accede to what I am about to argue—that the whole of the charge has been entirely misconceived, that the charge could not be brought under this Act at all—

His Honour—I think the Court must first inform the prosecution that the charge has been amended, then your further objection will be taken.

Mr. Lowder—Very well, your Honour.

The prosecuting constable said he wished the words "he broke the light" added to the charge.

His Honour—Well, extinguished the light by breaking it

The Prosecutor—He also cut the rope.

His Honour—That would be destroying property, would it not?

Mr. Lowder—It would come under another Act, as I was about to prove—the charge has been entirely misconceived.

His Honour—Yes, it would have to be brought under another Act, and with another summons.

Mr. Lowder—That is why I wish to save the time of the Court, by making my objection now, instead of at the close of the case for the prosecution.

His Honour If the prosecution insists on bringing a charge of damaging property, then they will have to apply to the Court for a fresh summons, such a charge cannot be heard by the Court to-day.

Mr. Lowder—The charge would fall under the Malicious Injury to Property Act, I believe.

The Japanese Police Inspector here rose and addressed the prosecuting constable.

His Honour—We can only have one prosecutor in this case, it doesn't matter whom the Inspector may be, if he is the prosecutor let him conduct the prosecution, if not he must hold his peace.

The Inspector—I am not the prosecutor.

His Honour—Well then, you must not speak in Court, you must not interrupt; you may sit by the side of the prosecutor if you like, but you must not rise in your place like that.

The prosecuting constable, in answer to the bench, said that defendant was charged by the Police authorities with cutting the rope and breaking the lamp.

His Honour—The question is, do you charge him with damaging property, or merely with removing the lamp or bar?

The Prosecutor—The charge is extinguishing the light and breaking the notice board. I make no objection to their being taken separately.

His Honour—It is clear that you must issue a fresh summons if you wish to prosecute for damage to property.

Mr. Lowder—Therefore I will put aside the question of damage to property, for the prosecution has practically asked for a new summons for that portion of the complaint.

His Honour—Yes, I certainly think it is so.

Mr. Lowder—For the moment, then, I need not deal with that matter. I will now come to the other point in my objection.

His Honour—Dealing with the removing of the post and the extinguishing the light, the charge now to be considered by the Court?

Prosecutor—Cannot the two things be heard together? That is what we desire.

His Honour—No, they cannot be heard together, accused is only summoned for committing one offence to-day. We must take the case according to procedure laid down by English law.

Prosecutor—Which charge will you hear to-day?

His Honour—The removing of the bar and extinguishing a light.

Prosecutor—I agree to that

Mr. Lowder—Before proceeding any further, I must guard myself against any impression which your Honour may form that I am dealing with this matter in this fashion simply for the purpose of raising a technical objection. It is not that which actuates me in my conduct of this case. I have carefully considered every point connected with it, and move these objections for the assistance of the Court, and also to enable my client to bring forward a proper defence. The breaking of the lamp, cutting of the rope, etc., I have proved cannot be brought under the statute on which the summons is based, because such things come into the category of malicious damage to property. My first objection was founded on 10 and 11 Vic. chap 34, sec. 79; now I argue that this section must be read along and in conjunction with 10-11 Vic., chap 89. The two are *in pari materia*, and so I call attention to both. I mention one as a matter of history also. I would direct your attention to the preamble of the second Act; it is an Act dealing with the paving and lighting of towns, etc. You will see that the preamble says that the Act consolidates all previous Acts, and then proceeds to state that the Act shall extend only to such towns or districts in England or Ireland as shall be declared to be incorporated in this Act—shall be declared to be incorporated in the Act. Now, the charge is based on section 79, and I contend that that section must be read along with the preamble. The Act is merely a Clauses Act as its preamble shows, an Improvement Clauses Act—

His Honour—And only deals with towns in England and Ireland?

Mr. Lowder—By the Act, this Clauses Act, the Act must be incorporated with Special Acts to become law—

His Honour—And has never been incorporated for Yokohama.

Mr. Lowder—It has never been incorporated in any Act in relation to England, much less Yokohama. Section 1 provides for the incorporation of the Act in any Act of Parliament, Section 2 for any portion to be incorporated, Section 4 shows how it can be incorporated with the Towns Improvement Clauses Act, and Section 5 how it is to be incorporated with certain Acts for certain portions of England.

His Honour—Your objection is, then, that it has never been adopted for England?

Mr. Lowder—That it has never been adopted for England, and therefore cannot apply here. It seems, perhaps, unfortunate, but under this Act the removal of a bar or the extinguishing of a light cannot be deemed an offence in Yokohama. Fortunate, or unfortunate, that is how the matter stands. It is only right for me to point out to the attention of the Court and the prosecution that there is such an English Law as the Public Health Act of 1875, which has incorporated portions of the other Act for portions of England. I point this out, so that it cannot be said on any subsequent occasion that I in any way attempted to mislead the Court.

His Honour—The Public Health Act incorporated certain portions for England.

Mr. Lowder—No, for portions of England only, not for England. If your Honour will refer to 38-39 Vic, chap 55, you will find the definition of rural (country) and urban (towns) districts into which England is divided for the purposes of the Act. You will also see that it is applied only to certain particular towns and districts, but that the Metropolis and the rural sanitary districts are excluded; and therefore I contend that the Act not being enforced in the whole of England it is not binding on British subjects in Japan. I need not remind your Honour that I am arguing upon the Order in Council of 1865. Section 5, Order in Council 1865, says:—"Subject to the other provisions of this Order the civil and criminal jurisdiction, aforesaid, shall as far as circumstances admit be exercised upon the principles of and in conformity with the Common Law, Rules of Equity, the Statute Law, and other Law for the time being enforced, in and for England."

His Honour—Yes, the law in force here is English law.

Mr. Lowder—I need not again remind your Honour that the Order in Council says that the law to be exercised here is the law for the time being enforced "in and for England." So it made be said, therefore, that the Public Health Act being only enforced in portions of England, it does not fall under the definition laid down by section 4 of the Order in Council just quoted. I may say that this clause was cited with approval in the Supreme Court at Shanghai in a case recently heard there, and it was held that the clause was a guide for the Court and all the Courts which it concerned. Chief Justice Hansen in his judgment also referred to it, and put the words "in and for England" in italics and within inverted commas, thus demonstrating the particular importance he attached to those words. In conclusion I urge that a British subject in Japan cannot be prosecuted for removing a bar or extinguishing a light under the Towns Improvement Act. I do this not for the purpose of getting my client off on a technical objection, but to clear the ground for the

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benefit of the Court. I have indeed gone out of my way to point out to the prosecution that they can obtain fresh summonses under the Malicious Injuries to Property Act, for the offence of cutting the rope, and I will go further and say that under sections 51 and 52 such offences render an offender liable to a fine not exceeding £5.

His Honour—It is a very important point that you have raised, and I should like time in which to consider it. Of course it is a question whether the Act is not a Municipal law, and whether these Municipal laws can be applied here. Judge Goodwin, I know, used to apply them, and it must be remembered that we live here under English law.

The Court then adjourned till 3 o'clock. On reassembling,

His Honour said—The objection raised this morning that the Act 10 11 Vic. 47 sec., 79, has never been adopted in England and therefore is not applicable here amounts practically to this, that section 79 of the Act of 1847 under which this charge is framed has not, so far as we know, been extended by the Local Government Board to every rural district in England. This section, amongst others, is, however, incorporated in the Act of 1875 for the purpose of regulating the matter of the construction and repair of streets. It is thus the law now in force in every town in England. The law under the Order in Council of 1865, to be applied as far as circumstances will admit in this Court, is that for the time being in force in and for England. By Treaty, British subjects charged with any crime in Japan are to be tried by the laws of Great Britain. The Order in Council limits this to the laws enforced in and for England, that is, not in Scotland or Ireland. That I take to be the intention of the distinction "in and for England." A street law in force in any town in England may be held to be the law on such a matter as the present charge, "in and for England." These Settlements are practically towns, and I do not see why what is the urban law in any town in England should not be applied in them—so far as circumstances admit. I have in view in this, section 6 of the Order in Council, which says, "Any act other than an act that would by a Court of Justice having criminal jurisdiction in England be deemed a crime or offence, making the person doing such act liable to punishment in England, shall not in the exercise of criminal jurisdiction under this Order be deemed a crime or offence making the person doing such act liable to punishment." An offence such as now charged would, if committed in any town in England be deemed by a Court of Justice to be a punishable offence. For these reasons the objection is not sustained.

Mr. Lowder—But your Honour has not taken into account the fact that the Metropolis is excepted from the operations of the Act. I laid stress on that point, but you have not taken any notice of it.

His Honour—I have no doubt that a penalty is enforcible in the Metropolis, if any one should put out a light. It is an offence which is punishable there, I think.

Mr. Lowder—It is possible that that may be so, but my contention has nothing to do with that question. You have drawn a very close distinction between urban and rural divisions and yet omitted to mention the exception of the Metropolis, which I take it, is a fairly large town.

His Honour said that he was not sure that the Metropolis was excluded altogether from the provisions of the Act.

Mr. Lowder—It is not included in the Act which I quoted this morning. I am placed in a very awkward position, there being no Counsel on the other side to meet and deal with the objections I have raised, so I can but repeat that within the provisions of the Act under discussion the Metropolis, a most important town, is not included.

His Honour thought that Stone's Justices' Manual conferred the powers upon every urban sanitary district and he thought that the Local Government Board could enforce them in rural districts. He could not see where the exception came in.

Mr. Lowder—In section 5 of the Public Health Act. There you will find it defined "England, except the metropolis, shall consist of urban and rural sanitary districts."

His Honour—If a person puts out a light in London no doubt he will be punished for it.

Mr. Lowder—I am not prepared to admit that. In all my research I have not been able to discover that he would.

His Honour thought it but reasonable that it should be so.

Mr. Lowder—Then in your Honour's opinion Yokohama is defined as an urban district—it would come within that definition of the Public Health Act?

His Honour—I don't say that.

Mr. Lowder—But you say the law that is enforced in towns in England is the law to be enforced "in and for England," and therefore to be enforced in Japan. I would like you to take a note that I do not admit that, for there may be an appeal taken on the point.

His Honour—My ruling is that the Act is law in and for England, and that the Settlement here and towns in England are simply parrallel cases. I cannot see why offences which are punishable by a magistrate at home cannot be dealt with here by the same laws that are enforced there.

Mr. Lowder—I laid stress on the term "in and for England," in England therefore in England; for England therefore for England. The Public Health Act you now hold to be like the Malicious Damage to Property Act, enforceable here.

His Honour—I assume that the Act need not be applicable to all rural districts in England.

Mr. Lowder—I may take an appeal on the ruling "in and for England."

His Honour—I have taken a note of that.

Mr. Lowder then applied for a fresh copy of the amended summons to be served on his client and also for an adjournment in order that he might have time to see what effect the decision given that afternoon would have on his line of defence.

His Honour—Have you any objection to the case going on now?

Mr. Lowder—I should like time to consider how it will affect my client's defence.

His Honour—But the charge was altered on the lines suggested by yourself.

Mr. Lowder—Quite so; but I do not quite see see how the decision just given by the Bench will affect my case.

His Honour—But it has been altered at your own suggestion, and on lines of your own.

Mr Lowder—That may be. There may be other parts of the Act affecting the case, which I ask for time to look up. I ask for the adjournment in the interests of my client.

His Honour—I am exceedingly unwilling to allow an adjournment in a criminal case.

Mr. Lowder—I have not yet had a copy of the amended summons. I have, up to the present assisted the Court to the best of my ability, and my motion is I think, in order.

His Honour—I will think over your suggestion.

Mr. Lowder—This morning I appeared before the Court more as an *amicus curiæ* than as Counsel for the defence. I did the work which should have fallen to the prosecuting Counsel had there been one in attendance. Now an amendment has been made in the summons and I ask for time to consider my new line of defence. I presumed, when your Honour adjourned the Court this morning, that it would have been to adjourn the hearing of the case till Monday, of course it was merely an idea that was passing in my mind at the time. But I am entirely in your Honour's hands, and have nothing further to say upon the matter.

His Honour—May I ask when you were retained—what opportunity you have had of consulting with your client?

Mr. Lowder—I really can't remember now; but I have had no time to enquire into the bearings of the line of defence.

His Honour—You have had time to ascertain the facts of the case.

Mr. Lowder—Yes, the facts, but as I said just now, the line to be adopted by the defence may be affected by the amended summons.

His Honour—I really can't see any sufficient reason for granting you an adjournment.

Mr. Lowder—As your Honour pleases. It will manifestly affect by line of cross examination.

His Honour read the amended charge, and in answer thereto,

Defendant said he did not admit committing the offence.

Then the first witness was called.

Ikoshi Tatsumii, police constable of Kanagawa-Ken, cautioned, said—At about one o'clock on the morning of the 2nd inst., I was on special police night-duty at No. 3, Settlement, Yokohama, when there appeared to be something like a disturbance before the gate entrance to No. 3. I went to the place to ascertain the reason for the noise. I found an American gentleman named Middleton and an Englishman named Gulland. The Englishman Gulland was grasping the middle part of the post which had here placed there by the Kanagawa Kencho, as a notice to stop the thorough fare for horses, cattle and vehicles. He had pulled the post up out of the ground and was carrying it towards No. 3, which was about 12 feet away. He took the oil-can which was inside the lamp and threw it for a distance of about nine feet, spilling all the oil. I saw all this as it occurred. I went forward and stopped him; on my doing so, both the parties mentioned took the notice board and brought it to the place where it had been, and stood it up. The rope which bound the notice board on to the pole had been cut, and the parties could not replace the board as it was before. Seeing this very disorderly conduct, I went up to Gulland and asked him for his card. He would not give it me, and as he continue to refuse, I took out my note book and asked him to write his name in it. He refused to do this also. Both parties then went to No. 23, opposite, and entered the house, and I having received permission followed them upstairs, where I again demanded Gulland's card. Then Mr. Middleton took out of a purse a Japanese paper one *yen* note and offered it to me with the intention, as I thought, to induce me to overlook the matter. I naturally refused it, objecting to being made a fool of in this way, my request for Gulland's card being refused and my request for him to write his name in my book not being complied with. So I threatened to take him by force to the police station, if he did not comply with my request. At that time the boy at No. 23 came in and I asked him for the parties' names. I got from him the name of Mr. Middleton, and Mr. Gulland went to another room and obtained a card which he gave to me. I took the card away with me. These are the facts of the case. The lamp, I might add was broken, before the oil was thrown away. Mr. Gulland, I consider, broke the lamp, because he had the pole in his hand, to which the lamp had been previously attached. While I was on duty inside the gate at No 3, I heard the voice, which I afterwards knew to be Mr. Middleton's, saying "Policeman, policeman," and I think that he was advising Mr. Gulland to refrain from his disorderly conduct because policemen were coming.

Mr Lowder—I think I must object to that.

The Bench disallowed the objection.

The police inspector against interrogated the prosecuting witness, and the Court once more inquired if he wished to appear as prosecutor in the case. This he declined to do, but offered himself as a witness. He had made an inspection of the spot an hour after the occurrence.

The Court said that the witness could appear later.

Mr. Lowder said he wished to cross-examine the first witness but was not prepared to go on that day.

The Court then adjourned till 10.30 to-morrow.

The charge against Mr. Catto for passing over a closed thoroughfare will be called at 10.30 on Tuesday next.

THE CONSTITUTIONAL ASPECTS OF THE HOME RULE CRISIS

In spite of the comparative calmness of the political horizon after the rejection of the Home Rule Bill by the House of Lords, the present crisis can hardly be expected to pass away without a more or less heated discussion in the country of the important issues, legal, historical, financial, and constitutional, which the rejected bill and the policy underlying it involved. With the purely political and economic aspects of the measure we have nothing here to do. It may be, in the eloquent language of the Earl of Rosebery, a leap towards the light, or a long step back towards the darkness and barbarism of the Heptarchy. On these conflicting views we offer no opinion, but the crusade which, in the words of the manifesto issued by the National Liberal Federation, is "before long" to be set in motion against the House of Lords in consequence of its action in throwing out the Home Rule Bill renders it desirable to consider the constitutional position of the Upper House in this momentous crisis.

We may clear the ground at the outset by the elimination of a good deal of irrelevant argument. In the first place, the critics who say that the House of Lords has—meaning that it ought to have—no right to reject measures passed by the House of Commons, may safely be left in the quagmire of bad logic and bad history in which this contention lands them. It is fair to say that no eminent "Opposite" of the Upper House has made himself responsible for this argument, which is clearly untenable. Nor need we linger long over the assertion that the House of Lords has "always" stood in the way of great reforms and of constitutional progress. There are instances in history—witness the Exclusion Bill and the Asiby v. White controversy—where the House of Lords vindicated the statesmanship and the liberty of the nation in the face of the transient passion of its representatives; and it seems to be scarcely more fair to condemn the present House of Peers for the mistakes of its ancestors than it would be to ridicule the House of Commons on the ground of the ludicrous and impotent attempt of the Long Parliament to make itself perpetual. Moreover, it is obvious that, in so far as its suspensive veto is concerned, the *raison d'être* of the House of Lords requires it frequently to delay even beneficial

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legislation in order to distinguish, in the highest interests of the people, between their impulses and their convictions.

Again, the argument, which is doing frequent duty just now in the press, that the peers "represent no one but themselves," is not relevant to the present controversy. There is much to be said in favour of the House of Lords being made stronger and more representative, although it should be observed that the elective principle is already recognised in its constitution, that it does represent, in the sense of being intimately acquainted and connected with large professional and commercial interests, and that on its comparative superiority to the passing breath of popular opinion much of its value as a constitutional check depends. None of these considerations, however, bear directly on the point at issue. The House of Lords is still an integral part of the British Constitution; it has the right to exercise a suspensive veto, and the simple constitutional question is whether, in rejecting the Home Rule Bill, it did what the Marquis of Salisbury as far back as 1868, and more recently in his speeches on the Franchise question, declared it had no right to do—viz., defied the clear will of the nation. —*Law Journal.*

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.

The Yokohama Chess Club meets at the Club Rooms, No. 88, Main Street, on Mondays and Thursdays from 5 to 11 p.m.

The Tokyo Chess Club meets at the Hotel Métropole on Tuesdays from 1 to 11 p.m.

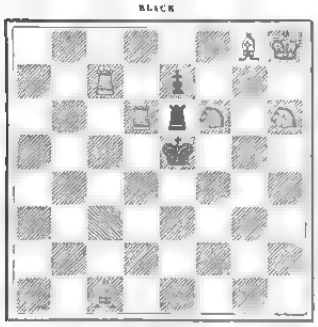
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 95

WHITE.	BLACK
1—Q — Q sq.	1—Anything.
2—Mates accordingly.	

Correct solutions received from W H.S., Omega, Digamma, J.D., J.W.E., Omicron O.B., and W.B.

PROBLEM No 97.
BY W. A. MACKENZIE.

BLACK



WHITE

White to play and mate in two moves.

Mrs. W. J. Baird has won the prize offered by the "Cricket and Football Field" (Bolton), for the best three-move problem. Mrs. Baird annexes the chief prizes in the problem tournaments for which she enters with a monotonous regularity which must be extremely trying to the unfortunate competitors of the "stronger" sex, whose natural sentiments of chivalry no doubt find the strain upon them occasionally stretched almost to snapping point. As "limited" tourneys are now becoming the fashion, we may yet hear of "Bandelharred" tourneys, or tourneys limited to male competitors. —*Bradford Observer.*

It seems that after all the great challenge was issued from the young Emanuel to the old Wilhelm, as witness the following:—"Manhattan Chess Club, August 31st, 1893. -W. Steinitz, Esq.—My dear Sir,—From the notices in various newspapers you will have seen that it was my intention to challenge you for a set match of ten games up for the championship of the world. I now beg leave to ask you to play such a match with me under conditions which I beg to suggest to be as follows:—1st. Winner to be he who first scores ten wins. 2nd. Time limit to be fifteen moves an hour. 3rd. Minimum stake to be $3,000 a side. 4th. The match to be commenced not later than January 1st, 1894. Awaiting the honour of your esteemed reply, I remain, dear sir, faithfully yours, Emanuel Lasker." So far as good. We learn from a recent number of the *Illustrated London News* that Steinitz is following Lasker's lead in appealing to the English people for help in raising the amount of his stake for the proposed match. We much regret this; but hope nothing will now interfere to prevent the trial of skill being honourably fought out at the coming New-Year.

The tournament of the German Chess Association, recently concluded at Kiel, has resulted in the first prize falling to Walbrodt, the second to Bardeleben, and the third to Gottschall.

The Secretary of the local Chess Club complains bitterly if he does not see at least a dozen combatants at work in the Club-rooms every meeting-night. Let him read the following and repend. True, the incident occurred in September, London's holiday month, but when one of the largest clubs in the world's Metropolis can make no better showing than here set forth, our friendly Secretary may take comfort. "As evidence of the extreme dullness at present pervading Metropolitan chess circles, the *Hereford Times* mentions that one evening last week the attendance at the City of London Club, which meets at the Guildhall Tavern, consisted of one visitor (a non member), who was engaged in trying to teach the page boy of the hostelry to play chess!

The following is a fine specimen of the play of the recently deceased chess master, M Jean Dufresne. Score and notes from "Nuova Rivista degli Scacchi."

EVANS GAMBIT.

WHITE. Dufresne.	BLACK. Mayet.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to B 4	3—B to B 4
4—P to Q Kt 4	4—B takes Kt P
5—P to B 3	5—B to B 4
6—Castles	6—P to Q 3
7—P to Q 4	7—P takes P
8—P takes P	8—B to Kt 3
9—B to Kt 2	

The strongest continuation is 9—Kt to B 3 or 9—P to Q 5.

	9—Kt to B 3
10—Q to B 2	

An excellent continuation is also 10—P to Q 5, as in another game won by Dufresne, of Andersen.

	10—Castles
11—P to K 5	11—P takes P
12—P takes P	12—Kt to Q 4
13—R to Q sq.	13—B to K 3
14—B takes Kt	14—B takes B
15—Kt to B 3	15—Kt to K 2
16—Kt to K Kt 5	16—Kt to Kt 3

... Evidently P to Kt 3 cannot be played on account of 17—P to K 6

17—Kt takes R P	17—K takes Kt
18—Kt takes B	18—Q to Kt 4
19—R to Q 3	19—P to Q B 3
20—R to R 3 ch.	20—K to Kt sq.
21—R to K Kt 3	21—Q to R 5

... ...Black could not have foreseen the elegant combination which ensues, otherwise he would have played Q to R 4

22—Kt to B 6 ch.	22—P takes Kt
23—R takes Kt ch.	23—P takes R
24—Q takes P ch.	24—K to R sq.
25—P takes P	25—R to B 2
26—Q takes R	26—R to K Kt sq.
27—K to R sq.!	27 Q to K Kt 4
28 R to K Kt sq.	28 B takes P
29 Q to K 8!	29—K to R 2
30—P to B 7	30—Resigns

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, November 12.

The bombardment of Rio de Janeiro has again commenced with renewed vigour, and the banks have been closed. It is stated that the foreign men-of-war will protect the shipping in the harbour.

London, November 13.

The Times, in a series of articles, has asserted that the British Navy is showing signs of weakness when compared with the immense growth of the navies of France and Russia, and insists upon the Government spending a hundred million pounds if necessary to make secure the command of the sea.

London, November 14.

Count Kálnoky, Austrian Minister of Foreign Affairs, will visit Monza [near Milan] to confer with the King of Italy, and the Italian Minister to Vienna accompanies Count Kálnoky. This unexpected conference has caused much comment in political circles.

London, November 16.

Sir Edward Grey, Parliamentary Secretary to the Foreign Office, stated in the House of Commons that negotiations with France in regard to Siam were still being conducted, but that it was not desirable at the present time to produce the papers in reference thereto.

The Emperor William, at the opening of the Reichstag, said that close friendship with the allies of Germany continued and that the Government's relations with all foreign countries were friendly. The Emperor expressed his confidence in the maintenance of peace.

["SPECIAL" TELEGRAMS TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

Paris, November 4.

The Russian squadron has arrived at Ajaccio.

Spain is massing troops and ships for the prosecution of the campaign against Morocco.

England has assembled a fleet of twenty warvessels at Gibraltar.

The German Frontier Forest Guards have killed two French poachers, who were on neutral ground between the borders.

[SPECIALLY TELEGRAPHED TO THE "JAPAN DAILY MAIL."]
[FROM THE "N.-C. DAILY NEWS."]

London, November 4.

A bomb with a fuse attached was found yesterday in a buttress of Westminster Bridge on the side adjoining the Houses of Parliament. Several cartridges were also found in another buttress of the same bridge.

The United States Treasury has ordered the San Francisco and New Orleans mints to resume the coinage of silver dollars to utilise the seignorage.

London, November 6.

The bomb found in one of the buttresses of Westminster Bridge proves to have been harmless.

It is understood that the British Government will leave the Chartered Company all commercial advantages in Matabeleland, but reserves the right to control the native question.

London, November 8.

In the House of Commons last night, Mr. Gladstone, in reply to Mr Redmond, stated that the rest of the session would be devoted to the Parish Councils and the Employers Liability Bills, and that the Government would therefore be unable to consider the question of the evicted Irish tenants.

Mr. Sydney Charles Buxton, Parliamentary Secretary to the Colonial Office, stated in the House of Commons last night that the Chartered Company had been notified that no local action would be permitted that would be likely to prejudice future arrangements in regard to Matabeleland.

The filling of the Manchester Canal with water has been commenced. It is expected that it will take a fortnight to fill the Canal, and that the first steamer will leave Liverpool for Manchester on the 1st of December.

In the action on the 2nd inst., between Major Adams's column and the Matabeles, in which the latter suffered a defeat with heavy loss, the Company's loss was eighteen killed and wounded. Mr. Selous, the African hunter, was slightly wounded.

November 10.

At the Liceo Theatre, at Barcelona, two dynamite bombs were thrown from the gallery into the pit during the performance and when the house was crowded. Eighteen persons were killed outright, including nine ladies, and a fearful stampede for the doors ensued in which many persons were trampled to death.

In the House of Commons yesterday, the second reading of the Parish Councils Bill was carried without a division.

November 11.

There has been another engagement with the Matabeles, who were again defeated with heavy loss, and an ultimatum has been sent to Lobengula to surrender.

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At the Lord Mayor's Banquet at Guildhall, Earl Spencer, First Lord of the Admiralty, said that the Government would continue to develop the strength of the Navy, being convinced of the necessity of maintaining the supremacy of Great Britain's naval force.

(From "Le Courrier d'Haiphong.")

Paris, October 25.

At the farewell luncheon at the Elysée, M. Carnot said that the visit of the Russians to Paris would leave ineffaceable recollections, and Admiral Avellan expressed the enduring gratitude of Russia for the reception accorded by France.

M. Carnot goes to Toulon on Friday

Paris, October 25.

The Russians left Paris last night after a brilliant gala performance at the opera. They go to Lyons and Marseilles.

The President of the Republic leaves Paris to-morrow for Toulon to pay a visit to the French fleet and to assist at the launch of the cruiser building at La Seyne.

Paris, October 25.

M. Lenoel, Senator, is dead.

The date of the meeting of the new Chamber will be decided upon at the next meeting of the Council of Ministers.

Paris, October 26.

The Grand Dukes Sergius and Paul have paid a visit to M. Carnot.

The Russian officers have arrived at Marseilles. The reception they met with was as splendid as at Lyons.

Paris, October 28.

The remains of M. Gounod will be accorded a national funeral.

President Carnot has visited the Russian fleet at Toulon. He attended the launch of the ironclad *Faurégusbbery*. This was made the occasion of patriotic fêtes.

Paris, November 29

The Russian squadron left Toulon to-day for Ajaccio, Corsica. A telegram from the Czar returns thanks, in noble terms, for the reception accorded the fleet. The peace of Europe, he said, was now assured.

The Czar recognises the sincere sympathy between France and Russia, and has requested M. Mohrenheim, the Russian Ambassador, to thank the French for the reception given the fleet.

M. Carnot has replied.

Paris, October 31.

General Dodds is marching against Béhanzin.

The Moors continue to besiege Melilla. The Governor and a few Spaniards have been killed. There has been a bloody battle. The Spanish troops were repulsed, and General Murgallo killed.

There is much excitement and a min sterial crisis in Austria.

The English fleet has left Italy for Gibraltar.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, Nagasaki, and Kobe ..	per N Y K.	Friday, Nov 24th
From America	per O. & O. Co	To-day, Nov 18th *
From America	per P M. Co.	Sunday, Nov. 26th †
From Hongkong .. .	per P & O. Co.	Sunday, Nov. 19th, ‡
From Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Nov 27th §
From Hongkong	per O. & O. Co.	Thursday, Nov. 23rd ‖
From Europe, vià Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Nov. 26th.
From Europe, vià Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Wednday, Nov. 29th.
From Hongkong ..	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, Dec 7th.

* *Gaelic* left San Francisco on November 2nd. † *City of Peking* left San Francisco on November 9th ‡ *Verona* left Nagasaki on November 16th. § *Empress of Japan* left Vancouver on November 14th. ‖ *Oceanic* left Hongkong on November 13th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Europe, vià Shanghai	per M M Co.	Sunday, Nov. 19th.
For Victoria, B.C., and Tacoma, Wash....	per N. P. Co.	Monday, Nov. 20th.
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki...	per N Y K.	Tuesday, Nov. 21st.
For America	per O & O. Co.	Friday, Nov. 24th
For Hongkong ..	per P & O Co.	Sunday, Nov. 26th.
For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Nov. 27th.
For Europe, vià Hongkong ..	per N. D Lloyd	Friday, Dec 1st.
For America	per P. M Co.	Saturday, Dec 2nd.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, Dec. 8th.

LATEST SHIPPING

ARRIVALS

Asia, German steamer, 1,066, Kobbe, 11th November,—Hamburg vià ports, General.—Smith, Baker & Co.

Nestor, British steamer, 1,263, Pottinger, 11th November,—Hongkong, Sugar.—Butterfield & Swire

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. Young, 11th November,—Kobe 10th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Takachiho Kan (16), Japanese flagship, Captain F Koyemon, 12th November,—Shinagawa 12th November.

Chiyoda Kan (24), Japanese cruiser, Captain Senjin, 12th November,—Shinagawa 12th November

Matsushima Kan (20), Japanese cruiser, Captain M. Endo, 12th November, Shinagawa 12th November.

Oxus, French steamer, 2,500, Dupont, 13th November,—Marseilles 1st October, Hongkong 3rd November, Shanghai 7th, and Kobe 12th, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Peru, American steamer, 2,540, Daniel Friele, 13th November,—Hongkong vià ports, 4th November, Mails and General.—P. M S S. Co.

Radnorshire, British steamer, 1,889, F. Davis, 14th November,—Hamburg vià ports, General. —Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Arthur Head, British steamer, 1,881, G. W. Leonard, 14th November,—Maryport, General and Engines.—Smith, Baker & Co.

Oolong, British steamer, 2,317, Allen, 15th November,—London vià ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Ulysses, British steamer, 2,300, Wm. P. Lapage, 15th November,—Liverpool vià ports, General —Butterfield & Swire.

Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,053, Thompson, 15th November,—Honolulu 1st November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru Japanese steamer, 1,556, R Tipple, 15th November,—Otaru vià ports 9th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Denbighshire, British steamer, 1,662, Davies, 16th November,—Yokosuka, Light.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Pender, 16th November,—Kobe 15th November, General —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Oceana, German steamer, 1,628, 17th November, Hamburg vià ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Worlock, British steam-schooner, 31, A. Riedel the jelthe, 17th November,—Petropaulovsky, Sealing Gear.—Captain .

Yokohama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,298, Swain, 17th November,—Shanghai and ports 11th November, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,168, Crichton, 17th November,—Otaru vià ports 13th November, General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Admiral Kornilloff (18), Russian flagship, Captain Etchaumoff, 18th November,—Vladivostock.

Rasboynik (12), Russian cruiser, Captain Prince Ouchtoussy, 18th November,—Vladivostock.

Zabiaka (1), Russian gunboat, Captain Domojiroff, 18th November, —Vladivostock.

DEPARTURES

Ancona, British steamer, 1,880, W. D. Mudie, 12th November,—Hongkong vià Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Daphne (4), gunboat, Commander G. H. MacArthur, 12th November,—Kobee.

Glenartney, British steamer, 1,913, J. McGregor, 12th November,—London vià ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Pender, 12th November, —Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. Young, 13th November,—Otaru vià ports, General —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Benledi, British steamer, 1,481, Farquhar, 14th November,—London vià ports, General.—Cornes & Co.

Nestor, British steamer, 1,263, Pottinger, 14th November,—Hongkong vià ports, Sugar.—Butterfield & Swire.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, Conner, 14th November,—Shanghai vià ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Peru, American steamer, 2,540, Daniel Friele, 15th November,—San Francisco, Mails and General.—P. M. S S. Co.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 895, E. S Barstow, 16th November,—Manila vià ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, J. Norei, 16th November,—Otaru vià ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, R. Tipple, 16th November,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Radnorshire, British steamer, 1,880, F. Davis, 17th November,—London vià ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Hankow, British steamer, 2,359, West, 17th November, —New York vià ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Asia, German steamer, 1,066, Kobbe, 17th November,—Manila vià Moji, Light.—Smith, Baker & Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, from Kobe:—Mr. F Goldsworthy in cabin; and 40 passengers in steerage.

Per French steamer *Oxus*, from Marseilles vià ports:—Messrs. Sibodon and family, Takayama, Sakurai, Mugature, J. Konig, Imasaka, Archéra, Yamada Lucianna, Tasamarta, Arnal, Lebas and crew, Mrs. Lucianna, Mr. Wilmis, and Mr. Laurel in cabin.

Per American steamer *Peru*, from Hongkong vià ports.—Major Faithful, R A., Major Twiggs, R A., Messrs. Denbigh, J. W. Lee, Hagemeyer, and Mr. and Mrs. Chalfant and family in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Miike Maru*, from Honolulu.—1 passenger in cabin and 3 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Mr. R. Inglis, Mr. M. Yamaguchi, Rev. A. Heinrich, Mr. R. S. Miller, Mr. Hugo Orth, and Mr. S. Miyasaki in cabin; Mr V. Nakadoi, Mrs. I. Nakadoi, Mr. M. Fukui, Mr. R Otsubo, Mr. Meyer, Mr. S. Hakuno, Mrs. M. Nakadoi, and Mrs. Matsuoka and 2 children in second class, and 33 passengers in steerage

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, for Hongkong vià ports:—Mr. J. H S. MacArthur, Mr. T. F. Harvey, Mr. H C. Taft, Mr. and Mrs C B Fairfax, child, and maidservant, Captain T. Harrison, Mr. F. Counsell, Mr. O. Levy, Dr. W. J. Bearblock, R N., Mr. Buchanan and child, Mr. Ping Nam, Mr. H. P. Roth, Mr J. Terkeltoba, Mr. Bourk, Mrs and Miss Orr, Colonel Hatchell, and Mr. and Mrs. Bittenheim in cabin; 4 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Miss L. Snowden, Miss A. Dowling, Miss Blacker, Mrs. Deguchi and 3 children, Mrs. Houstoun, Mr. and Mrs. Stevens, Mr. and Mrs A. Spengler, Mr. and Mrs. H. Steele, Mr. and Mrs. D. Holmes, Mr. and Mrs. Haidcastle, Mr. and Mrs. Playfair, Messrs. Gevais, H. Ijuin, K. Sekino, and Wuling in cabin; Mrs. Houstoun's maid and Mr. M. Yasumi in second class, and 65 passengers in steerage.

Per American steamer *Peru*, for San Francisco:—Mr. G. P. Denbigh, Miss Denbigh, Master Denbigh, Rev. and Mrs. Wm. P. Chalfant and two children, Mr. G. R. Mosle, Major H. R. Twigg, Messrs. Harry Leonard, S. Hagemeyer, D. F. Johnson, E. R. Smith, C. McCluskey, W. A. Dibble, and Jas Cutts in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, for Manila vià ports:—Colonel and Mrs. Waller, Mr. and Mrs. Leake, Mr. and Mrs. C. R. Pickford, Mr. Thos. J R. Reynolds, and Mr. J. Oddel in cabin; Mr. Cheong Yu Hang in second class, and 30 passengers in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, $50,000.00.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, for Hongkong vià ports:—Silk, 665 bales; Waste Silk, 127 bales.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, $.,00,000.00.

Per American steamer *Peru*, for San Francisco:—

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	CHICAGO.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	25	303	507	369	1,204
Hyogo	—	—	—	436	436
Yokohama ...	925	—	—	266	1,191
Hongkong ...	295	20	—	—	351
Amoy	332	17,959	1,089	—	19,380
Total	1,577	18,282	1,596	1,071	22,526

SILK.

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	HARTFORD.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	—	35	—	35
Hongkong	—	33	—	33
Yokohama	—	371	—	371
Total	—	639	—	639

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, Captain Young, reports:—Left Kobe the 10th November

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at noon; had moderate S E. winds and overcas. and rainy weather; pass ng Osh ma at 8 57 p.m.; thence strong south gale and high sea; on the 11th at 2 a.m. wind shifted to S.W. with hard squalls of wind and rain; passed Rock Island at 11.30 a.m. Arrived at Yokohama at 4.30 p.m.

The American steamer *Peru*, Captain D. Foele, reports:—Left Hongkong the 4th November, via Amoy, Nagasaki, and Kobe. Time from Hong kong, 8 days, 21 hours, 4 minutes; time from Kobe 24 hours, 16 minutes. Had strong N.W. gale between Amoy and Nagasaki, disagreeable weather in Inland Sea; delayed all night November 10th in North Pass of the Inland Sea on accoi nt of thick weather.

The Japanese steamer *Miike Maru*, Captain W Thompson, reports:—Arrived a Yokohama the 15th November at 10 45 a.m. Time, 12½ days, from Honolulu where she landed her 1,700 emigrants all in perfect health. Left Honolulu the 1st November at 5 p.m.; crossed the 180° me idian in lat 24.30 N. the 7th at a.m; had fine weather and smooth sea until nearing the Japan Coast when strong head wind and sea was met w th. When the *Miike Maru* left Honolu u the steamer *Miowera* was still on the reef and some $8,000 had been spent in an unsuccessful attempt to float her. " Captain Metcalfe, Lloyds' agent at San Francisco, arrived at Honolulu in the steamer *Mariposa*, and brought with him d vers and gear for floating the *Miowera*.

The Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, Captain R. Tipple, reports:—Left Otaru the 9th November at 2 30 p m; fresh to strong S.W. and W. gales, squal y weather, and very heavy sea, gradually moderating. Arrived at Hakodate the 11th at 9 15 a.m. and left the 13th at 8 10 a.m.; had moderate to fresh W. and S.W. winds, cor responding sea, with fine weather. Arrived at Ogmohama the 14th a. 5 30 a.m. and left the same day at noon; had light to moderate N winds and fine weathe ; passed Inuboye the 15th at 2 5 a.m. Arrived at Yokohama at 12 50 p m.

The Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, Captain Pender, reports:—Left Kobe the 15th November at 0 15 p.m.; had fine weather wi h variable winds to Oshima; long N.E swell and fresh breeze with overcast, showery weather to Rock Island; passed Rock Island the 16th at 11 35 a.m.; at 2.45 p.m. met company's steamers *Hiogo* and *Wakanoura Maru* Arrived at Yokohama at 5.30 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, Captain Swain, reports:—Left Shanghai the 11th November at noon; had light to moderate northerly and N W. w nds, fine, clear weather, and moderate N.W. sea up to arrival at Nagasaki the 13th at 3.30 a m. Left again the same day at 5 p.m. in company with the Russian Transport steamer *Moscow* (bound to Moj); had light t o fitherly wind and fine, c ear weather along the coast, arriving at Moji the 14th at 6 30 a.m. Left again the same day at 11.20 a m.; had light to moderate easterly and N.E winds and fine, clear weather through Inland Sea, arriving at Kobe the 15th at 7 45 a.m. Left again the 16th at 0.15 p.m.; had moderate N.W. winds and clear weather; passed Oshima at 9 p.m.; thence wind increasing to a fresh north-westerly ga e with continued fine, clear weather up to arrival at Yokohama the 17th November at 4.30 p.m. At 11.30 a.m. passed steamers *Hankow* and *Denbighshire* bound southward off Vries Island.

The Japanese steamer *Sagami Maru*, Captain Crichton, reports:—Left Otaru the 13th November at noon; had light to gentle, moderate, and fresh N.W. and N.E. winds, with cloudy weather and passing showers, arriving at Hakodate the 14th at 10.50 a.m. Left again the 15th at 8 a m.; had light to moderate and gentle southerly breezes and fine weather, arriving at Ogi ohama the 16th at 8 50 a.m. Left again the sa ne day at 2 p.m.; had from light to gentle S.E. winds to moderate a id fresh S.W. winds with cloudy weather and passing showers to Inuboye; wind then freshening to s.rong breeze and moderate to fresh westerly gale with heavy head sea to Smo-saki; wind then moderating to strong and fresh breeze with clear weather to Kanon-saki; thence to port moderate westerly breeze and fine, clear weather. Arrived at Yokohama the 17th November at 8.30 p.m.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The week has seen no change in the Import Trade. Only a very few bales of Yarns have changed hands, and Cotton Piece Goods fail to attract buyers. In Fancies but a few pieces of Cotton Velvets and Silk faced Satins have found purchasers, while in Woollens, Blankets have been in good demand. Business, however, is very d ff- ficult, as holders are very firm and refuse to come down to buyers' ideas. Prices consequently show no change.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8½ lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	$2 10 to 2 65
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 38½ yds 45 inches	2 35 to 3 12½
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1 52½ to 1 85
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches	1 70 to 2 35
Prints—Assorted 24 yards, 30 inches	1.75 to 3 75
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 32 inches	PER YARD. 0 16 to 0 21
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	6.25 to 8.50
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42 3 inches	0.65 to 0 78
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	PER PIECE. 1 40 to 1 47½
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1 57½ to 1.82½
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.02½ to 2.47½
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2 65 to 2.85

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel	$0.27 to 0 45
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0 30 to 0.33
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0 25 to 0.30
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0 20 to 0.25
Mousseline de Laine—Cape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0 13 to 0 19
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0 35 to 0 50
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0 60 to 0 65
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0 40 to 0 70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 4 to 3½ lb. per lb	0 45 to 0 57½

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos 16 24 Ordinary	—
Nos 16,24, Medium	$35.25 to —
Nos 16 24, Good to Best	34 25 to 36.25
Nos. 16,24, Reverse	—
Nos 28/32, Ordinary	—
Nos 28 32, Medium	38 00 to —
Nos 28 32, Good to Best	38 50 to 39 50
Nos 38 42, Medium to Best	45 00 to 47 00
No. 32s, Two fold	43 00 to 44 00
No 32s, Two fold	47 50 to 49 25
	PER BALE.
No 20s, Bombay	—
No 16s, Bombay	—

METALS.

The slight improvement in this market noted in our last has continued during the past week, and although transactions have been few and small, buyers show rather more willingness to pay current prices. Iron Bars have experienced a light demand and Wire Nails still find ready purchasers.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ¾ inch	$3 70 to 3 80
Flat Bars, ½ inch	3 80 to 3 90
Round and square up to ¾ incl	3.15 to 3 30
Iron Plates, assorted	3 20 to 3.30
Sheet Iron	4.45 to 4 60
Galvanized Iron sheets	8 50 to 9 00
Wire Nails, assorted	5 40 to 5 75
Tin Plates, per box	6 20 to 6 40
Pig Iron, No 1	1.45 to 1 50

KEROSENE.

Demand in this market has been very good and business has been brisk. No fresh supplies have arrived since our last—consequently stocks of American Oil are running very low and holders are firm. No sale of Russian Oil in bulk has as yet been effected. Prices are unchanged but show a rising tendency.

Chester	$1.67½ to 1 70
Comet	1 65 to 1.67½
Devoe	—
Russian Anchor	1 67 to 1 68
Russian Moon	1.65 to 1.67

SUGAR.

Browns have slightly fallen off in demand during the week, but prices show no indication of weakness. Whites continue in good demand and a fair day-to-day business has been done.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	$4 75 to 4 80
Brown Manila	5.25 to 5.30
Brown Daitong	4.05 to 4.10
Brown Canton	4 10 to 4 30
White Java and Penang	7.00 to 7 10
White Refined	7 55 to 9.20

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last issue was of the 10th instant, since which date settlements on this market amount to 880 piculs, divided thus: *Hanks*, 35 piculs; *Filatures*, 468 piculs; *Reresls*, 298 piculs; *Kakeda*, 70 piculs; *Oshu*, 9 piculs. In addition to these purchases direct shipments have been 151 bales, making the total export trade of the week 1,050 piculs.

The market is dull, and the heavy stock presses upon holders but they are not yet willing to make sufficient reduction to induce large business, and during the last few days there has been comparatively little done. It is said also, that large rejections have been made of previous settlements, but these have not yet been entered in the official list, dealers apparently wishing to conceal the fact for the present. Telegraphic news from home side does not seem very cheerful. Small orders come in at reduced limits, which at present are not capable of being executed at what may be practicable within a few days.

Exchange also has turned downwards once more, the quotation for four months credits' to-day being 2/4¼. On this day last year the quotation for the same class of bills was 2/10½, which was the lowest point that had ever been known up till that date. The state of things to-day shows a remarkable fall upon these figures.

Arrivals come in freely, and stocks to date are over 16,000 piculs. There is plenty of good silk on offer, and it seems all a question of price, consumers at present being unable or unwilling to give the parity of our quotations. Probably between now and the end of the year sellers and buyers will meet upon some mutually satisfactory terms and then we shall have more business; for a glance at our export figures shows that the export to date to New York is 12,000 bales less than at the same time last season and a part of this at least must surely be made up before long. Our market is very sensitive in tone; holders are losing money at present quotations and would surely do their best to advance prices if any serious buying commences.

Since we last wrote there have been three shipping opportunities. The Canadian mail, *Empress of China*, 10th instant, carried 269 bales for the United States; the English mail, *Ancona*, 12th instant, had 665 bales for Europe and the American mail steamer *Peru*, 15th instant, carried 571 bales for the New York trade. These departures make the total export figures to date 16,750 piculs, against 26,504 piculs last year and 21,631 piculs at the same date in 1891.

Hanks.—A small business, owing to the fact that there is next to no stock. The prices paid include $610 for *Shimonita*, the same price being paid for *Chichibu*, with $590 for good medium *Shinshu*.

Filatures.—As usual, the chief business has been in this class, and really good silks are fairly well held, especially in fine sizes. Best No. 1 *Mino*, $770, with other in proportion. In full sizes, considerable business has been done at some reduction in price. Extras, $770; *Katmeisha*, $745, with other good *Suwa* brands at $730.

Reresls.—A fair enquiry has led to the settlement of about 300 piculs, the following prices having been realized. *Shimonita*, $710; *Kanra*, same price: *Five Girl* and *Tortoise*, $695; medium *Joshu*, $630; common *Bushu*, $600.

Kakeda.—A small business at last quotations; *Daruma* and other chops grading No. 1, $700, with lower qualities at proportionate prices.

Oshu Sorts.—One purchase of Medium *Hamatsuki* reported at $620. In other kinds no business.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK.)

Hanks—No 1	$620 to 630
Hanks—No. 2 (Shoshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	600 to 610
Hanks—No. 2½ (Shinshu)	590 to 600
Hanks—No. 2½ (Joshu)	580 to 590
Hanks—No. 2½ to 3	570 to 575
Hanks—No 3	560 to 565
Hanks—No 3½	550 to 555
Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers	800 to 810
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	760 to 770
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	770 to 780
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den	730 to 740
Filatures—No. 1½, 10/14 deniers	740 to 750
Filatures—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 den	720 to 730
Filatures—No 2, 10/15 deniers	700 to 710
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	680 to 690
Filatures—No 3, 14/20 deniers	—
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—(Oshu) Best No. 1	—
Re reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	700 to 710
Re-reels—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	670 to 680
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	640 to 650
Re-reels—No. 2½, 14/18 deniers	620 to 630
Re reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	610 to 615
Kakedas—Extra	730 to 740
Kakedas—No. 1	700 to 710
Kakedas—No 1½	660 to 670
Kakedas—No. 2	630 to 640
Kakedas—No. 2½	610 to 620
Kakedas—No. 3	580 to 590
Kakedas—No. 3½	—
Kakedas—No. 4	—
Oshu Sendai—No. 2½	—
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	640 to 650
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	610 to 620
Sodai—No. 2½	—

Export Raw Silk Tables to 17th Nov., 1893:—

	Season 1893-1894.	1892-93.	1891-92.
	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.
Europe	11,602	9,389	7,294
America	4,708	16,685	13,805
Total { Bales	16,310	26,074	21,099
Total { Piculs	16,750	26,504	21,631
Settlements and Direc. Export from 1st July { Piculs	17,800	28,800	23,300
Stock, 17th Nov.	16,300	9,700	16,500
Available supplies to date	34,100	38,500	39,700

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WASTE SILK

Rather more doing in this department, and settlements for the week are 936 piculs, divided thus:—*Cocoons*, 69 piculs; *Noshi*, 521 picul; *Kibiso*, 346 piculs. Direct shipments have been 20 bales of *Boseki wata*.

The stock in this department is very heavy, being close on to 20,000 piculs; but at the same time it seems impossible to make much impression on quotations. Dealers claim that they are losing heavily on every bale they sell, the cost up country having been much above present prices, and they are very loth to reduce their quotations yet further.

There has only been one shipping opportunity since we last wrote, the English mail on the 12th instant taking 127 bales, various Waste, for Europe. The present export figures are 8,568 piculs, against 12,741 piculs last year and 9,453 piculs at the same date in the previous year.

Cocoons.—Some purchases were made in the inferior grades, realizing from $65 to $90 per picul, with *Kusumai* at $18.

Noshi.—Filature and *Oshu* sorts seem to give the best value just now, and considerable purchases were made at prices ranging from $125 to $145 per picul. In *Joshu* sorts some business has been done in the medium grades at about $70 first cost. Best quality of good assortment are held for long figures, $85 being freely paid for something choice. These quotations are for first cost and are materially enhanced, after picking and cleaning, by the very great amount of chrysalis and dirt which the Wastes contain.

Kibiso.—Some business has been done in *Filature* of fair quality, prices ranging from $105 to $110 for the uncleaned stock. *Zagouri* sorts have attracted some attention, prices running from $50 to $70, according to quality. In *Hira* kinds considerable business has been done in Low Curlies, prices running from $32 to $34 for very middling quality.

In other sorts, no business.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW WASTE).

Pierced Cocoons -Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	$140 to 145
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	130 to 135
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	120 to 125
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	135 to 140
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best Nom.	115 to 120
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good Nom	105 to 110
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium Nom.	95 to 100
Noshi-ito—Rushi, Good to Best	120 to 130
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	85 to 90
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	75 to 80
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	65 to 70
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	115 to 120
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	105 to 110
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	70 to 80
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Good to Fair	40 to 35
Kibiso—Joshu, Middling to Common	35 to 30
Kibiso—Hachoji, Good	35 to 30
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	25 to 20
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	—
Mawata—Good to Best	—

Export Table Waste Silk to 17th Nov., 1893.

	Season 1893-94 Piculs.	1892-93. Piculs.	1891-92. Piculs.
Waste Silk	6,344	10,833	8,683
Pierced Cocoons	2,224	1,908	770
	8,568	12,741	9,453
Settlements and Direct Export from 1st July	10,100	17,500	13,600
Stock, 17th Nov	19,800	18,000	16,400
Available supplies to date	29,900	35,500	30,000

Exchange has declined slowly; but is still above the parity of Silver bullion. We quote:—LONDON, 4m/s. Credits, 2 4⅞; Documents, 2/5; 6m/s Credits, 2/5⅛. NEW YORK, 30d/s U.S. $57⅞; 4m/s. U.S. $58⅛. PARIS, or LYONS, 4m/s. fcs. 3.00 6m/s. fcs. 3 05.

Estimated Silk Stock, 17th Nov., 1893.

Raw.	Piculs	Waste.	Piculs
Hanks	70	Cocoons	1,070
Filatures	9,700	Noshi-ito	9,300
Re-reels	4,820	Kibiso	8,630
Kakeda	1,570	Mawata	120
Joshu	100	Sundries	680
Tavsaum Kinds	40		
Total piculs	16,300	Total piculs	19,800

TEA.

A slight falling off in demand has been seen in this market during the past week and holders show signs of weakness owing to daily arrivals exceeding sales. Buyers continue to complain of the scarcity of good leaf. Prices are unchanged, but show a declining tendency.

Common	$12 to 13
Good Common	14 to 15
Medium	17 to 18
Good Medium	19 to 20
Fine	22 to 23
Finest	24 to 26
Choice	27 to 29
Choicest	31 to 35

EXCHANGE.

Exchange has declined slowly during the week.

Sterling—Bank bill on demand	2 4⅛
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	2 4⅜
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	2/5
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	2/5⅛
On Paris—Bank sight	2-95
On Paris—Private 4 months' sight	3 04
On Hongkong—Bank sight	⅛ % prem
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	⅛ % dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72½
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	72½
On America—Bank Bills on demand	56⅛
On America—Private 30 days' sight	58
On America—Private 4 months' sight	59
On India—Bank sight	Nominal.
Silver	32⅞

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"PAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, NOV. 25TH, 1893.

DEATH.

On the 24th inst., at No. 72 Main Street, Yokohama, JACQUES BERDOULET, a native of France, aged 46.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE *Choya Shimbun* has ceased to exist.

A REMARKABLE fall of hail was observed in Yokohama last week.

ONE hundred and sixty-six gamblers were arrested in Kumamoto last Saturday.

SATURDAY'S football match resulted in a draw, two goals being scored by either side.

SIX shipwrecked Manchurians have been cast up on the beach at Mikumi, Fukui Prefecture.

THE Emperor has been paying visits to the Military Academies of Tokyo during the last week.

ANOTHER baseball match between representatives of the United Kingdom and the United States is being arranged.

MR. NAKAJIMA, Japanese Minister to Italy, at present at home on leave, is expected to start for his post very shortly.

THE Chrysanthemum Gardens at the Akasaka Palace were thrown open to the newspapermen of Tokyo on Wednesday last.

A DESPATCH from Korea states that Jo He gaku, leader of the *Togaku-to* adherents, was sentenced to death on the 9th inst.

A VIOLENT gale swept over Toyama Prefecture on the 17th inst. Ten persons were more or less injured through the fall of buildings

THE *Tsukuba Kan* is reported to have received much damage in the collision which occurred between her and the *Gulf of Taranto* in the Shanghai river.

MR. GOTO SHIMPEI, Chief Commissioner of the Sanitary Bureau, being still under arrest in connection with the Nishigori case, Mr. Kume, a Secretary of the Home Office, has been temporarily appointed to the unoccupied post.

No less than twenty employés in the Kanagawa *Kencho* were dismissed on the 21st inst., and more changes are expected to follow.

FIFTY rice brokers of Otsu have been arrested, the police suspecting them of gambling in stocks. Seventy brokers were arrested in Kyoto on Tuesday.

THE section of railway between Shirinchi and Sanemmato, *vid* Hachimohe, on the Japan Railway Company's line, will be opened for traffic on the 1st prox.

FOUR convicts escaped from Tobe Prison, Yokohama, on Tuesday. Two were captured by the Kamakura police the same day, but the other couple have not been traced.

COUNT MATSUKATA gave a large garden party to the Ministerial and Diplomatic circles in Tokyo on Saturday last on the occasion of his son's marriage with a daughter of Dr Nagano.

THE marriage between the daughter of Mr. Ro, First Secretary in the Chinese Legation, Tokyo, and Mr. Go Shiu-shin, an Interpreter in the same Legation, took place on the 18th inst.

SEVERAL foreign firms in Kobe have been admitted into the Japan Union Spinners' Association, which has entered into a contract with the Nippon Yusen Kaisha to import yarns from Bombay in Japanese bottoms.

ONE Kamijo Kinzo, aged 31 years, a clerk in the Kamisuwa District, Nagano Prefecture, has decamped with Government money amounting to *yen* 11,700, and the police are now busily engaged in tracing his whereabouts.

THE damage done to the crops in Saga Prefecture by the recent severe inundations is estimated at 64.8 per cent. The average amount of the crops is 715,719 *koku*, while that of this year does not exceed 251,863.

A GANG of coiners have just been arrested in Kanagawa Prefecture, where they have been carrying on operations since February last. One of the men was a goldsmith by profession, the others late village headmen. They confined themselves to the forging of nickel coins.

MR. SATO KANGORO, and other leading residents of Sendai, have applied to the authorities for permission to establish an electric light company with a capital of fifty thousand *yen*. The water, which is now applied to the mills of the Cotton Spinning Co., erected at Muzawa, is to be also used by the electric light company.

THE inhabitants of East Kubogata, in Higashi Sai District, Gumma Prefecture, invaded Gumma *Kencho* in force on Tuesday, in order to demonstrate that they could not put up any longer with the indifference of the Governor to the appeals set out in petitions sent him by them. They were finally persuaded to send a delegation to the Governor to express their views.

CAPTAIN VON KREITNER, Austro-Hungarian Consul General in Yokohama, died at his residence on the Bluff early on Monday morning. The funeral, which was largely attended by members of the Diplomatic and Consular Body took place on Wednesday. Detachments of British, Russian, American, and Japanese blue jackets, accompanied by the bands of the flagships now in harbour, took part in the procession.

THE case brought against Mr. H. C. Gulland by the Japanese police in H.B.M.'s Court for removing a no-thoroughfare notice-bar, resulted in the acquittal of accused, the Bench, after a lengthy hearing extending over four days, finding that the evidence of the prosecution in regard to the affair, which was proved to be a mere accident, had been grossly exaggerated and was in fact a case of *suppressio veri* containing a *suggestio falsi*.

SIR EDWARD GREY, Parliamentary Secretary to the Foreign Office, says that it is not desirable at the present time to produce the papers having reference to the negotiations between England and France in regard to Siam; the Emperor William expressed his confidence in the maintenance of peace at the opening of the Reichstag last week, Lord Rosebery has acknowledged that the questions wherein India was concerned with France and Russia had not proceeded altogether satisfactorily; an amendment to the Parish Councils Act has been carried in the British Parliament against the Government by a majority of twenty-one; Sir Francis Clare Ford is the new British Ambassador to Rome; Lord Ripon has offered to place the civil servants at Ceylon, Hongkong, and the Straits Settlements on the same footing as the Indian Civil servants in regard to pay and pensions; the coal owners and miners affected by the strike have accepted the mediation of the Government; heavy gales have been raging on the coasts of Great Britain and the western portions of Europe, and hundreds of lives have been lost through the shipwrecks which have occurred; a movement is on foot in London to increase the British Navy.

BUT little activity is reported in the Import trade, though a decidedly better tone prevails. Yarns have been taken in small quantities at late rates, and contracts have been made for certain Cotton Piece goods "to arrive." There is a movement in several lines of Fancy Goods, and Prints and Velvets are in some request. Not a great deal has been done in Woollens, though Mousselines and Blankets have found a few purchasers. In the Metal market buyers and sellers have approached each other nearer than for some weeks past, with the result that Iron of various kinds has changed hands in small lots and Tin Plates have been moved in like quantities, all at slightly improved prices. The demand for Kerosene has been good, and for several days during the week a brisk business was done, the decreasing stock enabling holders to put up prices The Sugar trade has further declined in volume, the demand having greatly decreased, and notwithstanding a considerable fall in values, present rates do not tempt buyers to operate. This refers to all Brown sorts; but Whites, which continue to move off slowly in small parcels, are unaffected in value. The Silk trade continues of small dimensions, when compared with the large stock on the market and the low price of the "noble article." There are orders on hand, but the limits are exceedingly low—so low indeed that holders continue to carry the big burden with which they are afflicted, which is constantly being increased by fresh arrivals. The Waste Silk business drags, though a few sales have been effected, bringing up the total to 856 piculs, but this is a small amount compared with the stock, which is now over 20,000 piculs, and there does not appear at present any prospect of this enormous quantity being largely reduced, as holders are entirely opposed to any concessions in price, and buyers seem to be unable to raise their limits. Next to nothing done in Tea, desirable parcels of leaf being firmly held for full rates. Exchange has slightly improved, and rates are fairly firm at the close

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EDITORIAL NOTES.

DIFFICULTY IN SHIBA, TOKYO.

A DIFFICULTY has arisen among citizens in the Shiba ward of the city, reports the *Kokkai*, with reference to the intended sale of the famous Yayoi kan in Shiba Park, by its principal manager Viscount Hayashi. The building was erected, as will be remembered, by the Metropolitan Police Board when the late Viscount Mishima was Chief Commissioner, at a cost about 20,000 *yen*. It was intended to be used as a sort of Club for the police. When Viscount Tanaka, now a Court Councillor, became Chief Commissioner of the Board, it was resolved, in consequence of the retrenchment in expenses, to sell the building. Hearing of that intention on the part of the Police Board, some prominent citizens of Shiba conceived the idea of purchasing the building and making it the public property of Shiba. This idea being communicated to the Chief Commissioner, he consented, out of special consideration, to sell it at a far lower price than it could otherwise have easily fetched,—at 8,000 *yen*. Dividing the sum of 8,000 *yen* into shares of $10 each, the building practically became the property of a joint stock company holding 800 shares. But as the lot of ground and some erections belonging to the main building were sold to other purchasers for about 4,000 *yen*, the actual cost of the building was eventually reduced to about 4 800 *yen*. Lately the leading shareholders, Viscount Hayashi and others, have been endeavouring to buy out the smaller shareholders. The motive for this step became evident a few weeks after, when they proposed that the building should be sold on the pretext that it was difficult to maintain. On this the other shareholders appointed a committee to inquire into the actual condition of affairs, when it was found to their great surprise that the books of the institution were greatly muddled, while several advances had been made at one time or another to some big shareholders. The smaller shareholders asked for an explanation, but could get no satisfactory reply. A general meeting of shareholders has been held lately, on which occasion the few big shareholders declared their intention to sell the building in the name of Viscount Hayashi, it being really registered in his name, unless the other shareholders would, by the 15th instant, make some arrangement that would give satisfaction to the principal capitalists. This difficulty among the shareholders has affected outsiders, who think that even if the building is owned by a limited number of persons, to sell it at their own discretion is not quite proper, inasmuch as it had been originally purchased far below cost with a view to making it the public property of Shiba. Several leading citizens of Shiba have met to consult upon what step to pursue. They have elected Messrs. Yamada, Yamazaki, and some others as a Committee to open negotiations with the Viscount and to ask him to postpone the sale till they have effected some arrangement which will enable them to maintain the building in its present state. They have not yet succeeded in meeting the Viscount in person, though they have sent him a written statement of the views held on the subject, but they are resolved, the *Kokkai* states, to take a more decided step and to start some public demonstration in case their pacific proposals are not acquiesced in. It is said that a profit of several thousand *yen* is likely to accrue to the old shareholders from the sale of the building.

YAMAGUCHI KOTO CHUGAKKO.

ACCORDING to a statement in the *Jiji Shimpo*, the faculty of the Yamaguchi Higher Middle School appears to have simply reaped the fruits of what it has sown, with respect to the recent agitation of the students. It seems that a professor of ethics, after consulting the Director and several of his leading colleagues in the matter, has been trying to inculcate in the minds of the students the spirit which such famous clansmen of Choshiu as Yoshida Shoin, Takasugi Shinsaku, Kusaka Michitake, &c., displayed during the troubled times immediately previous to the Restoration. The students, who were on the whole free from any reproach of wildness or disorder in their conduct, were made to learn by rote poems that were the outpouring of those patriots, then highly incensed at the oppressive measures of the Tokugawa Regency and about the obscurity to which the legitimate Court of Kyoto had been condemned. In short, inspired to act up to the level of those Choshiu celebrities who, living at a period of great public commotion, were driven to act in a way that was not quite consistent with the ordinary standard of virtue and morality, the students, not yet so mentally developed as to discriminate nicely between the requirements of the different periods, became full of agitation and insubordination towards legitimate authority just as the models, whom they were told to look up to as their patterns in life, were to the Tokugawa admin istration. The spirit to sacrifice oneself for the public benefit became the standard of virtue with which to gauge their conduct. Naturally enough, they were secretly longing for the appearance of an occasion which would require the practical application of the principles they had imbibed from their instructor. When a person is in this mood it is very easy to find or make the opportunity desired. The lads soon began to think the educational methods of a certain professor not quite as satisfactory as they wished. Then something happened in a dormitory, and this afforded another pretext. Then they broke out into revolt, with an idea that they were acting in the same spirit as Yoshida and Takasugi. The boys, about 200 in number, leagued together and refused to attend school. When Viscount Miura appeared at Yamaguchi to settle the matter, 90 of the students who had been expelled were readmitted, and now everything is settling down again The moral of the story seems to be, that it is unwise to inculcate the ethics of feudal times in boys living under the scholastic discipline of the latter end of the nineteenth century.

GRAND MEETING OF THE RADICAL PARTY.

THE grand meeting of the Radical Party took place on the 15th instant at their head-quarters in Shiba, Tokyo. At Count Itagaki's instance, Mr. Matsuda Masahisa was unanimously voted to the Chair. There were present nearly three hundred persons, of whom 84 were members of the Diet, while 75 were specially appointed deputies representing the different localities in the Empire. These members of the Diet and deputies alone seem to have been allowed to take part in the deliberations. The proceedings commenced with an address by Count Itagaki, who on rising was received with prolonged cheers. After saluting his followers he went on to express his regret that the objects kept in view by his party were far from being attained. However, he said, the Radicals have reason to look back with some satisfaction upon their achievements in the last session of the Diet. In that session, they concentrated their energies upon three objects—namely to reduce the public expenditures to a degree proportionate to the resources of the people, to remodel the local Government system and remedy the evils wrought by official interference in elections, and to effect reforms in the Navy and promote its augmentation. Their objects have not yet been fully attained, but they are entitled to the credit of having compelled the the Cabinet to submit to a humiliating capitulation. Thus progressing step by step, the Radical leader hoped that ere long his party would have the satisfaction of seeing administrative evils remedied and a truly representative form of Government carried out Referring to the various attacks made upon the Radical party, Count Itagaki remarked that a lofty tree is naturally more exposed to the force of storms and tempests than the shorter ones. That the party is the object of so much public comment, is the best proof—continued Count Itagaki—that it is now in a prosperous condition, and on that fact he heartily congratulated his followers He then proceeded to impress upon his audience the importance of implicit mutual confidence between the leading members of the party and their followers. Without such mutual confidence it would be impossible to achieve the lofty object kept in view by the Radicals. Such was the substance of Count Itagaki's speech. Those who had naturally expected to find some explicit announcement of the policy to be pursued by the party in the coming session have been cruelly disappointed. It is true that some indication may be gathered from the measures which the meeting proceeded to discuss for introduction in the next Diet, but they afford us no clue as to the attitude which the Radicals will assume towards the Government and other parties, especially the Progressionists. Nor was any reference made to the administrative reforms either by Count Itagaki in his speech or by any other person in the subsequent stages of the proceedings. Evidently, in imitation of the Cabinet, the Radicals intend to keep their policy secret till the moment of action arrives.

* * *

Mr. Ishizuka, manager of the party's affairs, then read a report on the working and the financial position of the party for the current year. Among other things, he stated that the number of persons who were admitted into the party during the year under review was 8,206, bringing up their total strength to 39 877. Mr. Nakano next read a large number of congratulatory telegrams and addresses sent in from various parts of the country. The Chairman then called for three cheers for Their Majesties the Emperor and Empress, and one each for the Radical party and Count Itagaki. These calls were enthusiastically responded to. The session then adjourned for tiffin, the proceedings having been commenced at about 11 a.m.

* * *

In the afternoon, the following measures to be introduced in the next Diet were submitted to the meeting and unanimously adopted :—

1.—That the Government shall be compelled to make good the public promises it made in the fourth session of the Diet

2.—That the two reforms of the reduction of the land tax and the reassessment of the taxable value of land should be carried out and the funds required for this purpose should never be allowed to be employed for any other object

3.—That the Government should be pressed for the revision of treaties on the basis of the Address to the Throne voted on the subject in the fourth session of the Diet.

4.—That pressure should be brought to bear upon the Government to adopt a definite principle in the defence of the country, to reform the Navy and remove all abuses in the service

5.—That the local government system should be remodelled, that the spirit of self-government may be developed.

6.—That the Newspapers Regulations should be revised.

7.—That the system of administration in Hokkaido should be remodelled.

8.—That the Nippon Ginko should be taxed

9.—That the Custom Tariff Regulations should be amended.

10.—That the debt contracted by the Government for the subjugation of the Satsuma Rebellion should be settled

11.—That a law should be enacted about the grant of State aid in case of inundations

12.—That Law No. 84 of 1890 should be revised

13.—That the Re-admonition Ordinance should be abolished,

14.—That the Peace Preservation Regulations should be abolished.

15.—That the Law of Election should be revised.

16.—That the Law of Houses should be revised.

17.—That Game Laws should be enacted

18.—That the Law of Registration should be revised

19.—That the evil of official interference in elections should be effectually prevented

Questions, financial and other, not mentioned here, are to be decided at a general meeting of those Radicals having seats in the Diet. Mr. Mori Hideji, a special deputy from Osaka, proposed that the question of riparian improvements should be included in the above mentioned list of measures, and he was able to carry his point. Not equally successful was Mr. Yamada Itaro, a special deputy from Akita, who wanted to have two more questions included in the same list. Those questions related to the rigid enforcement of the existing treaties and the tightening of the reins of discipline in the Government. The former question was reject-

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ed on the ground that it was incompatible with the proposed revision of the treaties. The latter question was adopted after some animated discussions, several members protesting that such a matter was not worthy of being considered at a grand meeting of the party.

* * *

It was in the course of debates upon the question of official discipline, that a stormy scene took place. Mr. Nara Seinosuke, a special deputy from Aomori, got excited and cried out that "the Radical Party was rotten," whereupon Count Itagaki peremptorily demanded him to step forth and prove his extraordinary assertion. Obeying the injunction, Mr. Nara proceeded to the front of the table at which the Chairman sat, and had scarcely begun to explain his meaning, when a young Radical jumped from a back seat and sprang upon the speaker. The unceremonious assailant was seized and prevented from dealing his cowardly blows. But the whole assembly was now on foot and the excitement is said to have been dangerously intense. Order was, however, restored, when Mr. Nara explained away his singular declaration by saying that what he had really meant to state was this—that, as some outsiders charge the Radical Party with being rotten, it would be politic to insist on the better enforcement of discipline in the Department of Agriculture and Commerce.

* * *

After the consideration of some internal affairs of the party, the meeting closed at 6 p.m.

DISGRACEFUL OCCURRENCE IN TOKYO.

LAST Thursday evening, as Archdeacon and Mrs. Shaw were just turning into Rokuchome, Ingura, on their way from church, a drunken rowdy pushed a still more drunken rowdy up against the Archdeacon in a manifestly intentional manner. The Archdeacon remonstrated, and his assailant replied impertinently, repeating the offence; at which moment up came a third man, a *soi disant* friend of the parties, to see what it was all about. Mr. Shaw, who was still being hustled, threatened to complain to the police; and the third man supported him, the person who had been pushed being apparently too drunk to care much either way. The first man now made off, and Mr. Shaw proceeded to the nearest police-box to request the interference of the constables, accompanied, be it understood, by the two others. The constables, however, took not the slightest notice of the Archdeacon's allegations; scarcely seemed, indeed, to hear them. Then the drunken man began to tear and pull at the Archdeacon's coat, behaving, in fact, in an outrageous manner; the officers still paid no attention,—did not for a moment attempt to stop what was going on under their very eyes—but allowed the disgraceful scene to continue. Meantime, a big crowd had collected, and the situation was growing dangerous. Just then another constable arrived, and to him the Archdeacon appealed; but with absolutely no result. There were therefore three policemen, all on duty and in uniform, watching a tipsy brute pushing, pulling, and hustling a gentleman who has lived for twenty years in Tokyo,—well known and universally respected, and who must have been perfectly familiar to them by sight, his house being close by,—without even telling him to desist; and this in spite of the fact that the assaulted man was complaining to them and requesting their assistance the whole time. A more egregious case, as reported to us, has never come beneath our notice; and hitherto no explanation has been given. Of course the circumstances have been reported to the Foreign Minister by Mr. De Bunsen, and we have no doubt that Mr. Mutsu will see justice done; but it must be clear to everybody that the three policemen—the drunken man may be left out of the question—are totally unfit for their position, and unless they are able to offer a very satisfactory explanation of their conduct they should be forthwith dismissed.

* * *

The incident is all the more noteworthy in view of the growing impertinence to foreigners that has been observed here during the last few months. Children and schoolboys are the principal offenders. It is by no means unusual to hear the offensive epithet *baka* called after one, even in respectable streets; while some scarecrow of a hobbledehoy, generally from sixteen to twenty years of age, will turn round and make a loud, insolent remark, accompanied by a rude stare and burst of laughter at the foreigner's expense. Even ladies have cause to complain of the increasingly bad behaviour of these cubs and the thing should be put a stop to. Now the reputation of the police in Tokyo is generally speaking a very high one. Many are the tales told of the courtesy with which a policeman will answer questions and direct the stranger wherever he wants to go; in several instances that have been brought to our notice even taking the trouble to accompany the applicant in person, and afterwards waiting about to make quite sure that the destination reached is the one actually sought for. But if the police are going to assume such an attitude as that adopted by the men stationed at Ingura there is small cause for wonder if boys in the street grow insolent. The Chief of the Police Bureau had better see to this.

MR. INOUYE, M.P., AND THE HOKKAIDO TANKO TETSUDO KAISHA.

THE speech delivered by Mr. Inouye, M.P., at the late general meeting of the Hokkaido Colliery Railway Company, runs as follows:—The effect of the extraordinary exertions made by the President of the Company and his subordinates to accomplish reforms in the management of the Company, has manifested itself in a most significant manner. In the first place the Company has realized this year a net profit of about 156,000 *yen* on the traffic of the old lines, an increase of 89,800 *yen* over that of the year before. The Company has, in addition, realized a net profit of 6,566 *yen* on the traffic of the two new lines to Mororan and Sorachi. The regulation of the output of coal from the collieries owned by the Company has proved another source of great profit. The year before last the amount extracted reached 310,000 tons, while last year it was 330,000 tons. Now, if the Company could have disposed of the coal at a reasonable price, nothing would have been more satisfactory. A large amount of coal was, in reality, kept in stock at the seven depôts in Tokyo and Yokohama, and the result was a loss of above 30 *sen* a ton to the Company. This year the Company has adopted the policy of not mining any fresh quantity of coal before the old stocks are disposed of; and, as the Company has since been enabled to transport its coals at once to places from whence orders are received, without the ruinous intermediate trouble of storing it in depôts, the company has in fact realized a saving of 30 *sen* per ton. Last year, the company incurred a great loss in the trial export of coal to Hongkong and Hawaii, but this year, owing to the satisfactory condition of the coal markets abroad, it has been enabled to secure a profit of above 30,000 *yen*, even after making good the balance of the loss of 20,331 *yen*. With regard to the mining expenses, the company has reduced the former average of 1.23 *yen* per ton to 1 *yen* by reducing the wages of miners by 30 per cent. That the company was enabled to lower the miners' wages so much was chiefly due to the recent great increase in the population of Hokkaido and the consequent facility in procuring competent hands. The effect of this economy in the working expenses of the company has not manifested itself this year, for the coal disposed of thus far was that previously mined and kept in store at the depôts. The reforms effected in other portions of the management were no less striking, such as a reduction in the item of salaries from 10 to 30 per cent., a change in the manner of disposing of coal by which the Company has been enabled to save a commission of 3 per cent. formerly given to agents and several other minor economies. All these changes having been carried out since May last, sufficient time has not yet elapsed to properly appreciate their beneficial effect on the business of the Company, though there is no doubt that it will be very noticeable next year. A matter to be mentioned in conclusion is the contemplated extension of the business of the Company. For that purpose, it is necessary to construct a pier at Mororan, to effect some reclamation of the shore in that harbour, and to double the Yubari line. As to the funds required for carrying these schemes into effect, the Company having still some half a million *yen* as its reserve, and about 200,000 *yen* remaining over from the loan which was raised some time ago, it is confidently believed that no particular difficulty will be experienced in realizing the contemplated extension of the Company's business.

TELEGRAPHIC COMMUNICATION.

TELEGRAPHIC communication has become significantly augmented since the opening of the Imperial Diet, writes the *Choya*. Here is the return of the number of messages that have passed through the hands of the Central Office at Yedo-bashi, Tokyo, since the year 1886:—

1886	663,503	1889	882,826
1887	735,253	1890	1,190,860
1888	752,195	1891	1,547,085

It will be seen that while the annual rate of increase did not exceed 100,000 previous to the opening of the Diet, since then that ratio has more than trebled. With such a marked increase in the number of telegraphic communications, a greater or less delay is not unfrequently experienced in their despatch. According to one who is accustomed to despatch telegraphic messages frequently, it is said that for a message of from 100 to 150 characters about 2 hours are required between Osaka and Tokyo, though, on the other hand, a message of short length is not unfrequently transmitted through the same distance in 5 minutes or so. To ascertain the comparative speed, the Tokyo Branch Office of the Osaka *Mainichi Shimbun* once applied to a Tokyo telegraph office, on an occasion when the Diet was in session, to wire an express message to its Central Office in Osaka. It was afterward found that even for an express telegraphic despatch, which is charged at a rate three times in excess of that paid for ordinary messages, more than 6 hours were required for transmission. Some may hastily conclude that the telegraph officials should be held responsible for this state of affairs; but, says the *Choya*, this does not seem to be the case. Such a delay in the transmission of messages should be chiefly ascribed to insufficiency in the number of wires. The average number of daily messages that pass through the hands of the Yedo-bashi Central office are about 1,500 on ordinary days, while on special occasions that number is generally doubled. And yet, of the five wires between Osaka and Tokyo, only three are at the disposal of the Yedo-bashi Office, the other two being used by the offices at Kyoto, Yokohama, Nagoya. With only three wires and the messages coming in very often at the same moment, it is not wonderful that occasionally the transmission of telegrams is unduly delayed. The *Choya Shimbun* advises the Authorities not to be parsimonious in such an important matter, but to erect more wires, for the prompt transmission of telegrams is of vital necessity taken from any point of view.

PROPOSED NEW FORM OF OCEAN GREYHOUND.

THE *Engineering Review* says:—"A very remarkable system of ocean transport has been brought out in Paris by a French engineer (Monsieur Bazin), who was a fellow-student of President Carnot, and is already well known as the author of several useful engineering inventions, including the so-called Bazin dredge, which has been applied to works of magnitude both in England and in other countries. M. Bazin's proposal is to construct an Atlantic liner on eight rollers, * * * and he claims to show, by the working of models and by algebraic formulæ, not only that his idea is practicable, but that it can be successfully applied to secure a greater speed in transatlantic navigation than any hitherto reached. Without adopting M. Bazin's ideas, or even indorsing their practicability, we have thought it worthy

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while to call attention to them as embodying a new departure in methods of propulsion of which we may in the future witness a more or less modified outcome in actual practice The basis of M. Bazin's proposal is the theory that the eight wheels, or rouleurs, on which his vessel is fixed will so far diminish the resistance offered by the waves that a much greater speed may be developed, and he places the possible speed to be maintained on an At antic voyage at fully 30 knots an hour, which would enable the passage from Southampton or Liverpool to New York to be accomplished in little over 100 hours. The rouleurs enter the water to the depth of 8 meters, and revolve slowly within a platform placed 7½ meters above the water, thus forming a rolling, instead of a gliding body, as is the case with the ordinary system of propulsion. The rouleurs do not, however, actuate the screw propellers whereby the vessel is actually moved, special machinery being provided for this purpose. M. Bazin claims to have settled by experiments that the stab lity of the rouleur type of vessel is at least as great as that of the ordinary type and, believes that the construction of his design of ship wil. be much less costly than of the usual description. It is proposed to put M Bazin's plans to a pract cal test by constructing a vessel of 124 meters in length and 30 meters breadth, with rouleurs 24 meters in diameter and 10 meters thickness, and they will be mounted on shafts 0 25 centimeters diameter. The rouleurs are estimated to make 22 revolutions per minute, and will, it is believed, easily achieve 57 kilometers, or 30 knots, an hour, with a force equal to 10,000 horses, of which 2,400 horse-power is assigned to rotation and 7,600 propulsion. One of the leading maritime concerns in France is stated to have taken up the project with much favour.

THE NISHIGORI CASE.

THE arrest of Dr. Goto, Director of the Sanitary Bureau in the Home Department, has once more drawn public attention to the Nishigori case, which has almost been forgotten during the last few weeks. Dr. Goto, it must be remembered, was one of the medical experts who pronounced the late Viscount Soma to be sane. When Nishigori rescued his late master in the dead of night from the Lunatic Asylum at Sugamo, it was to Dr. Goto's house that they first repaired. It is believed that he is suspected of having instigated Nishigori to bring the accusation of murder by poison against the retainers of the Soma family. There is a rumour, too, that among the documents seized at his house, there was a note addressed to him from Nishigori promising to pay him a sum of 2,000 *yen* as soon as the writer, Nishigori, got the Soma property under his control. Yet another report is to the effect that Dr. Goto was the medium through which Nishigori bribed Judge Yamaguchi. But these rumours mus be received with doubt, for Dr. Goto enjoys the reputation of being a dis nterested and upright man. Some people are inc ned to think that it was his chivalry that perhaps led him into too great intimacy with Nishigori.

* * *

Judge Hoashi Seisui of the Nemuro Local Court, who was arrested a few days ago and is now on his way to Tokyo under police escort, is believed to be connected with the Nishigori case. It is conjectured that he received bribes from Nishigori, when the latter was accused of forgery by the Soma family several years ago.

* * *

Mr. Hiranuma Senzo's head clerk, Mr. Yamamura Tokuzo, was examined on the 16th instant as a witness in the Nishigori case. His examination, it is stated, was deemed necessary in order to ascertain whether or not the frequent visits of Judge Yamaguchi and the tailor Yamada, prisoners in the case, to Mr. Hiranuma's brother at Koami-c ro, Tokyo, was not for the purpose of raising money for Nishigori. It is reported that large sums of money have been expended by Nishigori in connection with the murder case instituted agains the S oma family The Judges of the Tokyo Local Court are engaged in tracing the sources from w hich the fund was obtained.

* * *

There is a rumour that Nishigori has made important confessions about the forgery of the famous anonymous Confession and the bribing of Judge Yamaguchi. But these reports cannot be received with too much caution.

"CHINESE ART AN INDEX TO THE NATIONAL CHARACTER."

WE cannot refra.n from directing the attention of our readers to an article headed as above in the *Contemporary Review* for October, from the pen of the Rev. W. A. Cornaby. It shows an insight into both the art and the character of the Chinese as admirable as it s rare, and the thirteen pages it occupies contain more sound criticism and trustworthy generalisation than we have found in scores of books dealing with the same subject. The essay is of course too long for reproduction here, and extracts would do it injustice; but it is thoroughly worth reading, not only for the merits we have referred to, but also for the charming wit and keen sarcasm which pervade it from beginning to end. We must, however, draw attention .to one most extraordinary and inexplicable misprint—inexplicable, that is, on the supposition that the accomplished writer corrected the proofs himse f. This, in fact, he cannot possibly have done. The printers make him talk about "* * * the dragon-minded Crad Tsy, who was born wi.h white hairs and beard—born, indeed when eighty years old." The reference is of course to Laotzŭ the founder of Taoism. But what, we may well ask, can Mr. Cornaby's handwriting be like, when printers can mistake the word Lao tzŭ for Crad Tsy? And what must have been the author's feel ngs on discovering the blunder after publication? Beside such a perversion as this, "Ja Chin" for Ta Ching sinks into insignificance.

POLITICAL GOSSIP.

THE report that the principal members of the present Cabinet recently held a conference with statesmen of the Military section at a certain Count's residence at Mita, Tokyo, is exercising the inventive ingenuity of the politica busy bodies. The meeting is said to have been attended by Counts Ito, Inouye, Kuroda, Oyama, Saigo, Yamagata, and Matsukata, and Viscoun s Kabayama and Shinagawa. The metropolitan papers indulge in various conjectures concerning the significance of this conference. The majority of them seem convinced that the so-called Military and Civil sections of the clan statesmen are about to be reconciled to each other. The *Nippon*, for instance, observes that, in spite of the repeated denials of the *Nichi Nichi*, the intercourse between the statesmen of these two schools has now become more frequent than formerly. In ordinary times, they may hold aloof from each other, but whenever their common interest is threatened by the combined attack of the Opposition against the continued existence of the clan Government, they are sure to hold together and defend their citadel with all their might. Such, says the *Nippon*, has been the case in the past twenty years, and the same will hold true in the present instance Thus our contemporary believes that a general understanding about an alliance under certain circumstances must have been arranged. But this does not, in the *Nippon's* opinion, prevent a few of the Military statesmen from getting square with those members of the present Cab net who kept away from town at Odawara and elsewhere when they (the Military statesmen) were sorely pressed by the united attack of the Opposition.

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The *Hochi Shimbun* has a curious hypothesis to offer on the subject. According to the Progressionist organ, the recent meetings between the statesmen of the Civil and Military sections need not necessarily be considered as signs of an approaching alliance between them. The true object of Count Ito and his wary colleagues in resuming intercourse with their predecessors, is perhaps to frighten the Radicals back into an alliance with themselves. The credit of devising this doubtful policy is given to Mr. Muisu. The *Hochi*, however, hopes that the Radicals, at least most of them, will not be simple-minded enough to be caught in the snare. Another conjecture, made by the Progressionist organ, is that the present Ministers of State have been alarmed at the threatening aspect of a section of the House of Peers, and that they have recently met with their predecessors to ask the latter's interference for pacifying the refractory members of the Upper House. We (*Japan Mail*) do not think it necessary to offer any comments on these stories; they are alluded to simply to show in what manner political gossip is engaged just at the present moment.

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The relationship between the Radicals and the Progressionists offers an endless topic of discussion. The recent re-organization of the former party s internal council has given some hopes that a reconciliation may become possible in the coming session of the Diet Indeed, there is no doubt that such was the object of many of the Radicals who were most enthusiastic in effecting the dethronement of Mr. Hoshi and Mr. Matsuda, the sworn enemies of the Progressionis.s. But there are indications that the project of alliance between the two parties is as far from realization as ever. Such an alliance can never take place unless the Radicals are ready to throw Mr. Hoshi overboard completely, and this they seem to be afraid to do, for it is well known that Mr. Hoshi will be followed in quitting his party by at least one-third of its members. Moreover, they know well enough that those left behind by Mr Hoshi will split up into several sect ons, some of which may even go over to the Progressionist camp. Under these circumstances, the bitter attacks which the Progressionist organs are making upon the President of the House of Representatives only tend to widen the gulf separating the two parties. In reply to the *Mainichi Shimbun's* article calling upon the members of the Lower House to introduce in the next session the question of want of confidence in their President, the *Jiyu Shimbun* states that there is nothing reprehensible in the conduct of Mr. Hoshi in meeting with some of his electors at a teahouse. The Radical organs further remind the Progressionists of the unenviable reputation which they obtained some years ago in connection with the bribery of one of the members of the Tokyo Local Assembly. These bitter personal controversies between the organs of the two parties on the eve of the opening of the session do not tend to increase the probability of their reconciliation

THE "CORNER IN GOLD."

A COMMON phrase, says the *Mexican Financier*, employed in London at present to express concisely the condition of the gold-money supply, is that gold has been "cornered." The great military powers of Europe, viz., France, Germany, Austro Hungary, and Russia, have practically placed $1,250,000,000 in gold money in their military chests, and this enormous sum is withdrawn from circulation, quite as effectually as if it had never been taken from the mines. And, as the amount of gold money in existence is placed at $4,000,000,000, it is clear that this military "corner in gold" must have had an effect in appreciating the price of the precious metal as measured in wheat, in manufactured products, or in silver. The great powers of Europe have been forced to accumulate gold so as to make themselves independent of the big bankers, otherwise the bankers could frame the internal policy of all Europe; they could encourage or forbid war, and that effectually. It is believed by London bankers that the world is going to try to conduct its financial and currency affairs on a gold basis, but that the experiment will be disastrous and silver will again be restored to its ancient place as a money-metal. It is a curious reflection, that, simultaneously with the expansion of the world's commerce and the demonetisation of

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silver in Europe, the great nations have been forced to withdraw a huge quantity of gold into their war chests. Does not all this account for the universal distress and for the collapse of credit and enterprise the world over? We believe that the discrediting of silver will bring the strongest nations to bankruptcy, and that the present crisis is a summer shower compared with the tempest that is approaching.

THE "EDENDALE"

THE steamer *Edendale*, which was aground for nine days at the entrance to the Hainan Straits, arrived at Hongkong on the morning of the 13th inst., says the *Daily Press*, apparently none the worse for the experience. The vessel, it appears, went ashore owing to the Chinese pilot mistaking the headlands, and it was found impossible to get her off without lightening her. To effect this about 1,100 tons of coal were thrown overboard. The steamer then, with the assistance of the Chinese cruisers which were in attendance all the time, was safely floated and proceeded on her voyage to Hongkong. She will be docked here in order to see whether any damage, as yet unascertained, has been done. A feature of her sojourn on the sand was the excellent conduct of the Chinese authorities, who gave ready help to the distressed vessel, sent out two gunboats from Hoihow, and did everything possible to assist her out of her predicament.

KOREAN NEWS.

THE report that the Korean Government consented to the withdrawal of the Edict against the exportation of rice, so far as the port of Ninsen was concerned, seems to have been premature. According to the latest communications from the peninsular kingdom, it appears that, after repeated conferences with the Sôul authorities, the Japanese Minister found it impossible and in some respects unwarrantable to resist the enforcement of that Edict in the ports of Gensan and Fusan, because the regions round about these ports are really suffering from a bad harvest. So, on the 26th of last month, he gave up all remonstrance with respect to these two places, on condition that no other grain but rice should be included in the prohibition, and that, from the date of the actual enforcement of the edict, import duties on rice should be remitted in the ports concerned. But with regard to the port of Ninsen, Mr. Otori continued to protest against the injustice of the proposed measure, as the harvest in the localities in its vicinity was reported to be as good as usual. It seems that the former erroneous report about the favourable termination of the negotiations left Korea while things were in the above mentioned stage of progress. Possibly the Japanese residents hoped at that time that their Representative's exertions would prove successful in the case of Ninsen. But this hope was not to be realized. The Korean Government firmly stood on the right reserved by the treaty, and insisted that, the Edict having been promulgated, exception could not be made in favour of any of the ports mentioned in it. The Korean Minister of Foreign Affairs is even said to have threatened to disregard entirely the conditions which had been arranged for the ports of Gensan and Fusan, if Mr Otori were to persist in making remonstrances about Ninsen. Mr. Otori is not a man to be cowed by such a threat, but finding it useless to push the matter any further, he finally agreed to the measure on the same conditions that had been arranged for the two other ports. The Edict is to come in force at Fusan and Gensan from the 1st of December, and at Ninsen from 5th of the same month. The Japanese Minister is also said to have obtained a promise from the Korean Government that, whenever rice should fall in price and the popular excitement against its exportation should subside, the Edict would be repealed. We may add that rice forms one third of the export passing through Japanese hands. The export of this staple product reached to 1,820,000 *yen* in 1891, and 998,000 *yen* in 1892.

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It is needless to say that the Japanese residents are discontented with the results of their Representative's negotiations with the Korean Government. It is stated that the residents of Ninsen dispatched a deputation to Sôul to see Mr. Otori and press him for further action on the matter; while some of them contemplate sending back all the rice thus far brought together at their port to the regions around the capital and thus lower the price of rice, so that the prohibitive edict may be annulled before it is carried out. The Japanese at Ninsen are also said to be thinking of sending a deputation to Tokyo to ask for the replacement of Mr. Otori by a Minister of the calibre of Mr. Oishi.

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It was reported some time ago that the Korean Government had decided to apply to Japan for instructors in the Naval College recently established. This decision seems to have been countermanded, for it is now stated that the required instructors will be invited from England and the United States. As to military instructors, the Viceroy Li is said to have advised the Korean Government not to rely upon foreign instructors but to send cadets to China for training.

A WORLD'S EXPOSITION FOR NEW YORK.

NEW YORK, says the *Shipping List* of that city, may have a world's exposition if she wants it without controversy or competion. General Wheeler, of Alabama, has introduced the following bill in the House of Representatives:—"In order to commemorate the beginning of the twentieth century of the Christian religion and by appropriate ceremonies to express the profound reverence and thanks of the people for the advanced civilization and inestimable blessings vouchsafed to mankind by Christian teaching and example, a world's exposition shall be held in the city of New York, commencing as soon after January 1, 1900, as the legislature of New York shall prescribe, and continuing through as much of said year as may be provided by said legislature; that the President of the United States shall, upon receiving official notice from the Governor of the State of New York that said State has enacted a law accepting the responsibility intrusted to it by this act, issue a proclamation inviting the nations of the earth to participate in said exposition; unless the State of New York enacts a law accepting said trust within three months after the next meeting of the legislature of said State, this measure shall be void and of no effect."

JAPANESE YARNS IN CHINA

ALTHOUGH brighter prospects are about to dawn upon the export of Japanese yarns into China, in consequence of the sudden collapse of commerce between the latter country and India and England as a result of the recent disturbance in the currency, one grave obstacle still lies in the way and prevents the Japanese spinners from securing a definite hold upon the Chinese markets. That obstacle, says the vernacular press, is the import duty on raw cotton and the export duty on yarns. Japanese yarns have already gained a very favourable reputation in China, where they are spoken of as being even superior in quality to the yarns imported from Bombay. Such was the esteem which the yarns exported on trial by the Kanagafuchi Spinning Company and the Nômiwa Company, &c., have enjoyed in the Chinese markets. Orders therefore are arriving from merchants beyond seas almost without interruption, but owing to the causes above mentioned, the orders can only be executed in part. The Japanese spinners desire to impress the Chinese with the superior quality of their goods, and to pave the way toward a greater development of the trade in the future. At present, to export yarns to China proves more unprofitable than to dispose of them here. Only the other day an order was received from Shanghai by a certain company to send over a specific amount of yarns at the rates of 85 *yen* per 100 packages of No. 16, and 83 *yen* of No. 14. Those prices are only a *yen* or two above those ruling in the Japanese markets; but then the export duty of 4 *yen*, freight, and other minor charges have to be counted in. No wonder that the spinners are generally more inclined to dispose of their goods in the interior. Purely out of regard to the future interest of the country, the Kanagafuchi Spinning Company has shipped by the latest mail a portion of the order received from Shanghai. This being the actual condition of affairs, the Government is strongly remonstrated with by one of the native journals, which asks why it does not take a decided step to abolish the import and export duties connected with the spinning industry of Japan, and attempt to secure the enormous markets of China as customers for Japanese yarns. It is feared by some that if the present opportunity for sending Japanese yarns into China is allowed to slip by that opportunity may again never present itself. Even in Japan, a certain number of weavers living in Osaka, Yamato, and Iyo are still using Bombay yarns, not because of their superiority over the native goods, but simply because of their conservative habits. This being also proverbial among the Chinese, it was under pressure of no ordinary kind that the Chinese merchants have attempted to exchange Japanese yarns for those from Bombay, which they have been used to for a long time. The opportunity now presented should therefore be taken full advantage of, and to do so satisfactorily the export duty on yarns and the import duty on raw cotton should be abolished.

RAILWAY WORKS IN TOKYO

TAKING a walk along the outer moat to the west of the Imperial Palace, one can scarcely fail to notice that extensive excavations are going on in front of the Nobles' School and through part of the Aoyama Detached Palace. A tunnel is here in course of construction, through which is to pass the city line of the Kô-bu Railway, connecting the present terminus at Shinjuku, the western suburb of the capital, with Misakicho in Kanda, that open space opposite to the Koishikawa Arsenal, which was formerly used as a parade-ground by the Artillery Division of the Imperial Guards. The opening of the line will serve to draw population to the now comparatively neglected suburbs of Shinjuku, Komaba, and their vicinities, for people living in those regions will, by taking the train at the Shinjuku station, find themselves in less than a quarter of an hour in a part of the city not far from the centre of business. Happening, fortunately, to meet with the Chief Engineer of the line, Mr. Sugawara, we had a pleasant talk with this courteous official for some twenty minutes. It was early in July last, he told us, that works on the line were commenced, and it will not be until July next that it will be ready for opening. The whole distance is only a little over four miles, but as the line runs through the city, works are unavoidably slow in progress. The most laborious portion of the undertaking is the construction of the above-mentioned tunnel in front of the Nobles' School. Its length is about 1,000 feet, and the work would have been far less laborious and expensive, had it been possible to dig the underground passage in the ordinary way. But the nature of the soil, the proximity of some stone and brick buildings, and above all the nearness of the top of the tunnel to the surface of the ground, made it necessary to remove the earth and fill in again after constructing the archway. To increase the trouble, several main aqueducts are laid in the ground, and as they are made of wood, water escapes from them and interferes with the progress of the work. The line will, in Mr Sugawara's estimate, cost the Kôbu Railway Company about 500,000 *yen*. Three intermediate stations will be established, at Shimano-machi, on the moat in front of the Nobles' School, and at the Ushigome Gate.

EASY METHODS OF PREDICTING WEATHER.

A CERTAIN old farmer of Niigata is said to have presented to the local office the result of many years of practical experience in predicting the weather, says the *Mainichi Shimbun*. It runs somewhat as follows. Signs of clear weather:—

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When the charred soot which forms on the wick of the Japanese old-fashioned lamp (*ando*) is red; when the rising sun is redder than usual; when a dog comes out of shelter to sleep in a more exposed place; when the western sky is red at the setting of the sun; when an echo is heard to the pigeons' coo; when the kite cries in the evening; when the rainbow spans the east. Signs of rain:—When the eastern wind blows; when a rainbow appears in the morning; when the morning is dewy; when the earth-worm crawls out of the earth; when the crow washes himself in the water (rain next day); when the morning mist goes westward; when the cocks go to roost later than usual; when the sun is surrounded by a corona; when the dog goes to sleep under the floor of the house (a sign of rainy weather next day); when the kite flies toward evening; when the moon looks low. Signs of wind:—When the stars seem to waver in their places; when the clouds fly rapidly in detached fragments; when the smoke does not escape from the house in the morning; when the sun appears unusually red in rising; when the clear sky is felt oppressive; when the ravens croak in unusual groups; when the murmur of the river is heard louder than ordinary. The south wind is a sign of a stronger wind to come.

THE BOURSE DIFFICULTY IN TOKYO.

We have already mentioned that Mr. Wakamiya, Chief of the Bureau of Commerce and Industry, attempted to reconcile the two rival parties who are attempting to establish bourses in Tokyo; that the one party, known as the gentlemen's party, had consented to the suggestion of the Chief to leave the difficulty to the unconditional arbitration of the Governor of the City, the President of the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce and himself; and that the other party, the business men's party, had not yet given any definite answer to the Chief's suggestion. We are now able to inform our readers that at a meeting specially held for the purpose on the 17 inst. at the Clearing House, Sakamotocho, the question as to what answer to give to the enquiry of the Chief was discussed by over 120 members of the merchants' party. When Mr. Watanabe Jiyemon announced to the assembly, as chairman, the intention of the Bureau, and asked their opinion upon the matter of the arbitration and the amalgamation of the two projects, the assembly replied to a man that unconditional arbitration should be at once declined, that they had no idea of cooperating with their rivals, but would endeavour to have their original idea realized at any cost. Such being the unanimous opinion of the assembly, the chairman promised to transmit the reply to Mr. Wakamiya. The suggestion of Mr. Wakamiya having fallen to the ground, it only remains for him to reject the application of one party and to sanction the other.

THE CONTROL OF RIVERS.

The Government originally intended to keep secret the decision arrived at by the Engineering Council about the expenses required next year for the control of the 14 rivers, the works on which have already been started many years; some absolutely dependent on the Treasury, while others are maintained both by the Treasury and local taxes. Subsequently it was thought better not to keep back the results of the decisions of the Council, and hence our contemporary, the *Kokkai*, has been enabled to obtain some information about this matter. The 14 rivers referred to are the Tone, Fuji, Tenryu, Oi, Kitakami, Mogami, Abukuma, Shinano, Agano, Sho, Yoshino, Kiso, Yodo, and Chikugo. For the control of these the Council wishes to have a sum of little less than a million and a half *yen* as an instalment for next year's works. Of the 14 rivers the 10, exclusive of Fuji, Oi, Tenryu, and Shinano, are entirely dependent on the Treasury. Of the total amount of a million and a half *yen* estimated by the Council as required for the works of next year on those rivers, the portion borne by the Treasury and that by the local tax is nearly equally divided, and the three prefectures of Shizuoka, Yamanashi, and Niigata through which one or more of the four rivers run, are, according to the foregoing estimate, expected to pay about 750 000 *yen* from their local revenue. The Home Office is said to have informed the local offices as to the respective portion which they are required to pay next year, but as the approval of the local assemblies has to be gained, it cannot yet be ascertained whether the amount demanded by the Engineering Council from the local taxes will be voted by the assemblies or not. It is further reported by the *Kokkai* that whereas the Home Office has thus far left the control of the three rivers of Fuji, Oi, and Shinano to the care of the respective localities as much as possible, the Government is said to be contemplating from next year the undertaking by its own hands of the works relating to the lower courses of the Shinano-gawa and the upper courses of the three rivers Fuji, Oi, and Tenryu.

THE SEWAGE QUESTION.

The citizens of Tokyo are anticipating with joy, writes the *Nippon*, the benefits which will ensue upon the completion of the Water Works. Of these, not the least important will be the less frequent occurrence of fearful epidemics, as already evinced, to give the nearest example, in the case of Yokohama. But, continues our contemporary, a similar attention to that given to the supply of pure drinking water should be imparted to another question, and that is the means of getting rid of dirty and refuse water. Unless the two are concomitant, it is beyond hope to arrive at the desired end—the lessening of epidemic outbreaks. A high authority on sanitary matters has maintained that, although last year can never be called one of prevalent epidemic for Tokyo, still the sanitary statistics show that there were little less than ten thousand patients who suffered from one or other of the six prevailing epidemics in Japan. Of the diverse causes which brought about this result, the same authority was of opinion that the present imperfect system of sewage drainage should be considered as one of the most potent. The *Nippon* does not think, however, that the sewage question should be immediately taken up upon the completion of the Water Works, for it is well aware of the heavy burden already laid upon citizens of the metropolis; nor does it intend to urge the importance of the matter upon their attention, as they are already fully alive to the gravity of the question. What the *Nippon* desires is that sewage matters should be dealt with in a practical fashion from now, some definite system being adopted. It would leave its complete realization to the future.

WEMBLEYS' BIG TOWER.

London will not have to wait very long, says the *Chronicle*, for its gigantic tower, so long talked of, but now in actual process of construction at Wembley Park, near Neasden. If all goes well the tower is to be completed within the next eighteen months, and when the full structure stands disclosed England will have a tower exceeding in altitude by 175 feet the Eiffel Tower in Paris. Another advantage that the Middlesex tower will possess is that its starting point will be 165ft. above the level of the sea, so that the top will reach 1,300ft. above sea level. Apart from the tower there is a charming park, which of itself will form a pleasure resort of a very complete description. This portion of the undertaking is very nearly finished, and is intended to be opened to the public this month. The main road is carried round the grounds until it reaches the tower, and the intervening spaces have been set apart for sports and other purposes including a cricket ground, a running-track, and a football ground, the latter having been secured by the Old Westminsters as their head-quarters for this season.

IMPROVEMENT OF HORSES.

We have already noticed in these columns that with a view to improving the breed of horses in Japan both the Army and the Department of Agriculture and Commerce are negotiating together as to the best methods to be pursued. In reality, the Army is far more interested in the affair than the Noshomusho, and the reason is obvious. The gradual retrogression of Japanese horses in constitution, etc., is alarming, and is of course felt most severely in the Army. Four or five years ago, writes the *Mainichi*, from which we transcribe this paragraph, 4 ft. 7 inches was the standard height of horses used in the Army; but at present it is difficult to obtain horses of that height, and the standard has been reduced to 4ft. 5 inches. It will thus be seen what a vital interest the Army has in the matter. It is therefore expected that the Army estimates this year will include an item of 9,000 *yen*, which will be spent in making inquiries into the subject of the improvement of the breed, and if the outlay is sanctioned, the Vice Minister for War will conduct the investigation. A high authority on the subject, continues our contemporary, thinks that if the investigation is to be conducted properly and exhaustively it will prove an enterprise of such magnitude than an expenditure of not less than 10,000 *yen* will be required. The Government has already allotted a sum of 6,600 *yen* for the Foundry Investigation, another of 8,000 *yen* for the Monetary System Investigation, and the financial outlook is therefore not promising for this latest mooted commission. To effect any good purpose at all it will be necessary to despatch delegates, not only to the various horse centres in the country, but even to Europe and America, and the amount above mentioned can by no means be considered even barely sufficient. Should the investigation be such as could not to be satisfactorily carried out for that sum of money, the Diet had better, so thinks this authority, reject the demand of the Government. If, however, an unbiassed and impartial consideration be exercised on the subject, and it be shown what disadvantages and inconveniences are experienced by the Army and in any other works which are mostly dependent on horse-power, in consequence of the degeneration of the native horse, no one would grudge, for conducting a complete investigation into the matter, a sum of twenty or thirty thousand *yen*. The majority of the members of the Lower House being from the country, they must be far more intimately acquainted with the necessity of an improvement in the breed of horses than they are about the foundry or fishery affairs. The Army is on the best terms with the Diet now, and if it is to apply to the Diet for money for an investigation of this nature it would be politic to ask the latter for a sum of 20,000 or 30,000 *yen* right away. The Government, on the other hand, should exercise great care in selecting the members of the Committee of Investigation and should endeavour to select experts on the subject. With a working fund of 20 or 30 thousand *yen* and with fully competent men on the Committee, something definitely useful should be accomplished.

YOKOHAMA HARBOUR RE-CONSTRUCTION EXPENSES.

The vernacular press states that according to a conversation which some Government official is said to have held with a friend of his regarding the Harbour Works affair at Yokohama, the inquiry instituted by the Special Committee has concluded, and the cause of the cracks is declared to be due to the action of the sea-water. The defects were not confined to the cracks. Holes were discovered in the bases of the breakwaters, and in four places the eastern breakwater had sunk below its normal level. In short, the Authorities are said to be contemplating the re construction of both the eastern and northern breakwaters, and the Home Office is reported to have resolved to ask the Diet for an estimated vote of a million and a half *yen* towards the expenses.

A RECORD SNIPE SHOOT IN PERAK.

A party of five guns from Perak went to Bagan Serai in Krian on the 14th, and shot on the 15th, says the *Singapore Free Press* of Oct. 28, Mr Frederick Weld (son of late Governor) and Mr. E. W. Birch shot together, and the other party consisted of Lieu H. C. Metcalfe, 58th Regt., Mr. W. G Maxwell (son of the Acting Governor), and Mr. D. A. M. Brown, son of

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David Brown, Esq., of Penang. In all 304½ couple of snipe were bagged, the last named three guns getting 114 couple thus:—Maxwell, 51 couple; Metcalfe, 43 couple; Brown, 20 couple. Messrs. Birch and Weld began to shoot at ½ to 8 a.m., and by 9 30 a m had 57 couple, and by 11 30 a m. 97 couple Then it came on to rain and blow, and the sight of the snipe beating up against the wind and making for the ground was remarkable. Several were shot as they flew over the road by both guns from their extemporised breakfast table, and at 1.30 p.m. when the rain ceased shooting was resumed. In the end by 5.45 p.m. Mr Weld had bagged 101½ couple and Mr. Birch 89 couple, both, we believe, beating the record, which is said to be Mr. R. W. Maxwell's bag of 87 couple, in Province Wellesley. It is certain that 190½ couple s he record for two guns; and we believe the bag of 304½ couple to be the record for one shoot. The boys were very untrained at finding birds, and not less than 30 couple were not picked up

A DEMONSTRATIVE GARDEN PARTY OF TOKYO CITIZENS.

A GARDEN party of those citizens of Tokyo who desire the abolition of the Special City Organizations now enforced in the three *fu* of Tokyo, Osaka, and Kyoto, was held in the Korakuyen Garden, Kohikawa, Tokyo, on the 19th instant. The meeting was on a most extensive scale, more than 2,400 citizens from the various wards of the capital participating. From about 9 in the morning people began to flock in from every direction, those from particular sections generally arriving together, and headed by flags on which the name of the ward was written in bold characters. Mr. Kusumoto, the nominal leader of the agitation, acted as President, Mr Yoshino, as Vice-President, and four other managers stood at the entrance to the garden of welcome arrivals. The arrangements were all as satisfactory as could be expected. Tea was served at six stalls of large dimensions, while dinner was provided by different restaurants, one from each section, so that residents from one ward were able to sit down to dishes prepared by the most famous restaurant in their own section of the city. To provide against accidents, a temporary field hospital was erected in one corner of the garden. The majority of the citizens having arrived, Mr. Kusumoto ascended a platform and delivered a short address. The place where they were assembled that day, Mr. Kusumoto remarked, was a celebrated garden of the celebrated House of Mito; the day was as fine as could be expected in the fall of the year, while the guests who joined the party were all leading citizens of the respective parts of the city, all earnest to have the Special Organizations for the three cities abolished. Thus place, time, and men were all favourable to the undertaking with which the gathering of the day was connected and these facts were to be considered auspicious for the accomplishment of the object they had in view. The fulfilment of their aims, however, could not be expected too easily, and so they should be firm and unswerving in their opinions. They must endeavour to attain their ends by advancing steadily and directly toward the goal. Upon the conclusion of the speech a written scroll was produced, and read It was to the following effect:—Public Covenant of the Citizens of the 15 Sections of Tokyo. 1. To abolish the Special City Organizations. 2. To realize any beneficial measures for the city by the united action and endeavour of the citizens. These sentiments of the scroll were applauded most enthusiastically. Three cheers for the Emperor being given, the assembly went to their respective stalls to partake of dinner, and began to disperse about 2 p.m.

DEATH OF A GREAT CHINESE GENERAL.

THE *Peking Gazette* of the 24th October 1893 says:—General Hu Yên-zin has vacated his post as General of the Tatung Division in Northern Shansi, and gone over to the great majority. General Hu Yên bore a double surname. He was a native of Shantung Province, and related by marriage to the Ex-Governor of Kweichow, P'an-wei. In reporting the death of General Hu Yên to the throne, Chang-hsü, Officer of the First Degree, and Governor of Shansi Province, says that he has received despatches from the Lieutenant-Colonel and Adjutant of the Tatung Division saying that the deceased General died from a re-opening of old wounds, on the 16th day of the 8th moon, of the 19th year of the reign of Kuanghsü, after a term of much suffering. The memorialist adds that he has ascertained by experience that Hu Yên-zin was of loyal and brave disposition, accomplished in classic lore, and a deserving officer in all respects. He had been promoted some years ago from the Brigadier-Generalship of the Shansi Tzu-yau Brigade, to the Command of the Tatung Division, for which act of grace he was undoubtedly grateful. From the time of his appointment down to this date he diligently attended to all matters concerning his important command on the northern frontier, and in the official stations beyond the Great Wall to the relief of the people, who, suffering from famine, were disposed to be unruly and required to be ruled with firmness and discretion The said Divisional General by the aid of his disciplined troops also did much in the way of distributing food and maintaining order in all the border garrisons, for which he deserves great credit.—*Mercury.*

AN AMERICAN CONSUL NOT AT HIS POST.

A WASHINGTON telegram, of October 17th, to an exchange says:—"The information given by Captain Johnson, of the Pacific Mail steamship *City of New York*, which has just arrived in San Francisco, that the United States Consul and Vice consul at Amoy are not at that port and that a Chinese subject is acting as consul, is verified at the State department. J Hampton Hoge, of Virginia, was appointed Consul at Amoy on May 10th last, and when the incumbent of the office, Dr Edward Bedloe, of Philadelphia, received notice that Mr Hoge would succeed him, he waited a reasonable time and then returned to the United States The vice-consul also came home, leaving Tsin Ching-chung, the duly appointed interpreter of the Consulate, who is regularly borne on the state department pay rolls at a salary of $1,000 a year, in charge of the Consulate. For some reason Mr. Hoge allowed the thirty days given him to depart for his post to slip by without showing any desire to sail for Amoy. Then he applied for and received an extension of this time, and the last heard from him at the State department was that he would leave his home in Virginia for Amoy on October 6th. Meanwhile Tsin Ching-chung, as ranking Consular Officer, holds forth there as the representative of the United States." This telegram seems to have very much upset some of the newspapers of the States, and caustic comments are made at the expense of a Government and Legislature that has passed and attempted to put into partial operation such a statute as the Geary Law.

MEETING OF THE ORIENTAL ASSOCIATION.

THE Oriental Association (*Toho Kyokai*) held its regular meeting at the office in Kyobashi, Tokyo, on the 19th instant. The lecturers of the day were Mr. Soyeda Juichi, Chief of the Bank Inspection Bureau, and Mr. Harada Toichiro, a famous traveller, who has lately traversed on foot the greater part of the Middle Kingdom and the eastern portion of Siberia. Mr. Soyeda's speech dealt principlly with the recovery of tariff autonomy. He pointed out, in the first instance, the loss which the Treasury sustains in consequence of the duties on imported goods not being estimated according to the market price at the place of delivery—Yokohama, for instance—but at the prices prevailing in the foreign port of original shipment In consequence of his custom the duties are not modified to suit the circumstances of the time, and the revenue therefore does not rise in proportion to the elevation of the country's status of living. The word "duty" mentioned in the Treaty, means, said the lecturer, transit duty, and though duties relating to the transit of commodities cannot be imposed in addition to the Customs' duty, other kinds of imposts may be freely charged, similar to those placed on home productions He further remarked that it would be sufficient for the purpose if the country were to secure a right entitling the Government to regulate the Customs duties at a mutual conference with the Treaty Powers; that a specific duty was preferable to the *ad valorem* duty now in force; that the Customs duties should be estimated on the market-value of imported goods; that a system of general tariffs should be inaugurated by which goods from any country which does not consent to regulate the tariff rate at the suggested mutual conference should be subject to high import duties; and that the rates of general tariff should be higher than those fixed by a previous mutual conference. He also stated that the right which entitles a country to fix its tariff rates at a mutual conference with Treaty Powers includes, generally speaking, the right to fix tariff rates independently, to a certain extent. If any articles become the daily necessaries of the people, whether made up or in the raw material, the rates of tariff should be as low as possible, while the tariff on goods of luxury should be allowed to go to any extent, even to restriction. Every one desires the recovery of judicial and tariff autonomy, but if a choice has to be made, the latter should be preferred; for it is easier to recover tariff autonomy, which confers substantial benefits upon the country, than the other, which is, after all, merely ostentatious in its nature. Some persons think that the Concessions situated in various parts of the country are beyond the influence of Japanese law. The lecturer, however, did not share that opinion, for according to his way of looking at the matter, Japanese law is effectively extended over residents in these ports, the only difference being in the mechanism of legal inquiry and legal decision. Even in the case of persons living in the Concessions he held that any tariff imposition might be freely charged. The position of the Ministry with regard to the question of treaty revision was like that of an army having an enemy both in front and in the rear; but if the Government really intended to effect revision on a footing of equality, as demanded by the public, it must change the attitude hitherto presented to the Powers. It should carry out the existing Treaty to the letter, and after that open negotiations on the question of revision.

A PERILOUS VOYAGE.

THE *Daily Press'* Anjer correspondent writes under date of 26th ult:—The British ship *Grace Harwar*, from New York for Yokohama, reports having had fearful weather running down the Easting, and that one of the seas striking the ship washed the boatswain overboard, and that several of the men were knocked up against the rigging but were saved The sea at the time was too heavy, and being towards nightfall, it was impossible to put a boat out to save the poor fellow's life. The Captain decided to go through the Ombay Passage, but meeting for days with calms and head winds with a strong adverse current the ship was put round for Sunda Strait, arriving here after being out 159 days. This seemed to prey upon Captain Sewell's mind and had such as effect upon him that he died on the 7th October. The ship is now under the command of the chief officer, Mr. Hunt, who is proceeding to Batavia to secure a first mate, stores, and water.

GENERAL MEETING OF CURIO DEALERS IN JAPAN.

MORE than sixty curio dealers of Japan held a meeting on the 19th instant, at Nakamura-ro, Ryogoku, with a view to having the Curio Dealers' Regulations, now in force, amended in a manner more consistent with the practical requirements of their business. Mr Izumida, a Committee-man from the Osaka Curio Dealers, presided, and the amendment, which was drafted at the general meeting held at Osaka in May last, was placed before the assembly for consideration, all present acting in the capacity of a Committee for the Curio Dealers' Guilds in their respective districts. With the exception of two or three points, the draft prepared at the Osaka Convention was approved of, and, after

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that, the officers of the Central Curio Dealers' Union were elected and the by-laws for the Union prepared. The principal points which the Curio Dealers wish to have amended in the Regulations now in force are connected with Arts. II. and VIII. A provision in Art. II. provides that when a curio dealer of Tokyo desires to transact business at any other place, at Osaka, for instance, he is required to apply to the Osaka Local Office for a new license, although he holds already a certicate obtained from the Metropolitan Police Board. A dealer with extensive business connections is thus obliged to procure several district licenses, a matter which the curio dealers consider a mere complicated inconvenience. They therefore ask that a single license, obtained at any office legally competent to issue it, should hold good throughout the country. Art. VIII. provides that a curio dealer is forbidden to buy from or sell anything to any one who has been convicted of robbery or gambling. This provision the dealers consider too stringent, for it is practically beyond their powers to ascertain whether a person with whom business is about to be conducted has ever been guilty of any such offence. It is on this point alone that curio dealers are exceedingly liable to commit breaches of regulations quite unwittingly. They desire that a phrase should be inserted signifying "that business should not be wittingly transacted with a person known to have been convicted," &c With a view to having these points amended, the curio dealers of Tokyo and five other places forwarded a petition to the fourth session of the Diet, but failed to accomplish their object on that occasion. A similar step is now projected by the whole body of curio dealers throughout the country, during the coming session of the Diet This time the matter is to be taken up by such members of the Lower House as Messrs. Tsunoda, Mori, Kagami, Awata, Yamada (Toji), and Ono, who are to introduce the question.—The business part of the meeting ended, a friendly entertainment was given at which more than 300 guests were present, including many members of the Diet and representatives of leading metropolitan journals.

MR. HOSHI TORU.

On the 20th instant, the Radical members of the Diet held a secret conference at the office of their party to consider Mr. Hoshi's situation It is now well understood that some members of the Diet propose to bring up early in the coming session of the Diet a motion for a vote of want of confidence in the President of the House of Representatives. The Progressionist organs are severely attacking the distinguished Radical, and declare him unfit for the exalted position he now occupies in the Lower House. The conference of the 20th instant having been secret, nobody knows positively the particulars of the proceedings. The *Yomiuri Shimbun*, however, professes to have obtained trustworthy information about what transpired on that occasion. Count Itagaki, according to our contemporay's version, opened the proceedings with an animated address, in which he alluded to the attacks which the opponents of the party are now making upon Mr Hoshi. The venerable leader also regretted to learn that even some of his own followers had joined in the cry against the President of the House of Representatives. He reminded these persons of the absurdity of their conduct and called upon them to explain themselves. A vote of want of confidence in a President of a House of Diet was a thing—the Count is reported to have continued—unknown in the constitutional history of any country in the world. He also called the attention of his followers to the importance of being on guard against the artful machinations of their unscrupulous opponents. However, he would willingly listen to any person who wished to point out the reasons why Mr Hoshi was unfit for the position. This speech is said to have been followed by animated discussions. Mr. Gamo Sen, M P for Kagoshima, introduced a motion that Mr. Hoshi be expelled from the party, but it instantly fell to the ground, there being nobody to second it. Then some person suggested that Count Itagaki should advise Mr. Hoshi to withdraw from the party of his own accord; while another proposed that Mr. Hoshi should be induced to lead the attack against the Department of Agriculture and Commerce in the next session of the Diet The motions were duly seconded, but on being put to the vote, only a few persons stood up to support them, more than sixty of those present being opposed to them. Thus Mr. Hoshi has been completely rehabilitated in the confidence of his fellow members. That the meeting was a very stormy one may be inferred from the fact that it occupied eight hours—from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mr. Hoshi, it is stated, had at first insisted on taking part in the discussions and defending himself against any unfavourable allegations that might be made in the course of the meeting. But in deference to Count Itagaki's advice, Mr. Hoshi consented to stay away from the meeting. It is believed that Mr. Gamo and several others who recommended extreme measures against Mr Hoshi will leave the party.

A RADICAL LECTURE MEETING.

On the 21st instant, the Radicals held a lecture meeting at the Kinki kan, Kanda. The first speaker was Mr. Nakano Torajiro, who alluded to the libellous allegations which have recently been circulated against the Radical party, and assured his audience that what his party's real attitude was would be made clear beyond doubt as soon as the Diet was opened. He was followed by Mr. Imanishi Tsunetaro, who spoke on foreign affairs, and observed that the present was the best time to raise the prestige of the country abroad. Mr. Muto Kinkichi dwelt upon the inadvisability of the abolition of export duties, a measure which is so enthusiastically advocated by Mr. Taguchi, editor of the *Keisai Zasshi*, and the Progressionists. The next speaker was Mr. Sugita Tenchi, who discussed the question of Reforms in the Navy. He expressed dissatisfaction with those reforms. What the Diet, he said, demanded, was not mere amendment of official organizations, but thorough changes in the *personnel* and administrative methods in the service Neither has the Cabinet been able to determine upon a definite policy in defence of the country. In his opinion, Japan's military policy ought to be essentially aggressive. He also complained that in ordering war-vessels the Government had hitherto paid no attention to the special requirements of the particular seas where those ships are likely to be called to for warlike operations The nature of the seas, especially with reference to their depth, necessitates a particular style of man-of-war. For example, the Chinese Sea being shallow, the Japanese war-vessels were found some years ago to be unfit for operations in those waters. He then went on to observe that the Department of the Navy should be composed of Civil Officials. The Organization of the Department makes this possible, but Mr. Sugita insisted upon the removal of those Naval Officers who still fill civil posts in the Department. He next proceeded to discuss the necessity of fixing the number of officers in the service. While dwelling on this topic, he overstepped the bounds of the freedom of speech and had to leave the platform with his speech only half finished Next appeared on the platform Dr Suzuki Manjiro, who spoke on the subject of treaties He severely criticised the opponents of Mixed Residence, and dwelt upon the importance of the abolition of Consular Jurisdiction and the recovery of tariff autonomy. Mr Noguchi concentrated his energy into an attack upon the Progressionists. Mr. Mizuguchi Ichijiro spoke on Administrative Reforms. He criticised these reforms as having been too severe upon the officials of lower ranks and too indulgent to those of the better classes. As to public expenses, he insisted that there was room to effect a further economy of more than a million *yen*. Mr Okuno Koshiro discussed the responsibility of the Cabinet to adopt the wishes of the people and declared that in the coming session the Radical Party would spare nothing to attack the Government. Mr. Yebaro Soraku criticised the Cabinet's measures in connection with the defence of the country. Mr. Tatekawa spoke on Count Ito's position, reminding the Premier that his status as a statesman was to be determined by his conduct in the approaching session of the Diet. Last of all appeared Mr. Hoshi Toru, who discussed the question of Treaty Revision. He spoke very strongly against the opponents of Mixed Residence. He assured these conservative cowards that they had nothing to fear from free competition with Occidentals He also attacked the Progressionists who, while, on the one hand, advocating the necessity of Treaty Revision, are secretly manifesting a friendly attitude in the provinces towards the opponents of Mixed Residence. He did not hesitate to pronounce the Progressionists ready to sacrifice national to private interests. In conclusion, Mr Hoshi declared that the Radical Party would oppose those in power.

M P.'S IN BAD ODOUR.

When the members of the House of Representatives were first returned and came to the Capital to attend the Imperial Diet they were received very handsomely; but they have evidently forfeited their honour and credit. Here is a strange tale of a certain proprietor of houses in Azabu putting up a placard on the door of one of his unoccupied houses to the following effect:—"To be Let. Any person desiring to see the interior of this house apply to..... N.B.—No member of the House of Representatives shall be allowed to occupy it as a tenant." This strange notice was observed by the passers-by, and a certain person enquired of the landlord the reason. The latter replied that certain members of the Lower House generally have some rowdy *soshi* in the house who will damage the property; and besides, those members are never very punctual in paying their house-rent. And, concluded the landlord, if one asks for the rent too often those *soshi* will destroy his life.

THE "CHISHIMA" "RAVENNA" CASE.

There has been a rumour that the Japanese Government has decided to withdraw this case altogether from the British Court and try it in one of the Imperial Courts. But this report was incredible on the face of it, and we have since learned that it is not true. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, which is presumably well informed, states that the arguments of both sides in the case and the decisions of both the Court at Yokohama and the Supreme Court at Shanghai are now being carefully studied by a committee of officials versed in legal matters. Concerning the question of jurisdiction in the Inland Sea, our contemporary states that, according to its information, the Japanese Government has already opened a diplomatic correspondence on the subject with the British Government.

PICKPOCKETS IN A FOREIGN AUCTION ROOM.

On Saturday last, while Messrs. Eyton and Pratt were conducting an auction in their sales-room at No. 76, two foreigners, Mr. A. Goldman, of the Europe Hotel, and Mr Retz, of Messrs F. Retz & Co., were deprived of their watches by a pickpocket. On the loss becoming known, the doors of the place were immediately closed, and every one, foreigners and Japanese alike, consented to be searched. Nothing, however, was discovered, the dexterous thief having evidently escaped before the alarm was raised. Mr. Retz's gold watch was valued at £25. Both watches were slipped from their guards, and the latter articles dangling loose attracted attention to the loss just sustained by their owners. The police have the matter now in hand.

BLOWN TO PIECES.

On the 8th inst. a Chinese stonecutter was killed at Fo Pang, near Hunghom. At seven o'clock in the morning he went to examine a bore in which a charge of gunpowder had failed to explode on the previous evening. He bent down over the hole, and is believed to have been poking after the charge when it exploded and blew him into the air. His right hand

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and the upper portion of his head were blown off. It was reported to the authorities that the unfortunate man died from fever, and permission was given for the burial of the body. The body was afterwards exhumed and an inquiry held.

POLITICAL TOPICS

THE somewhat abrupt departure of Count Yamagata and Viscount Takashima for Kyoto and Kobe respectively has led to various conjectural comments in the columns of the vernacular press. Most papers are agreed in regarding this circumstance as a sign that the statesmen of the Military section are not willing to lend assistance to the present Cabinet in the coming session of the Diet. A few others are disposed to believe that the departure of these statesmen from town is the result of a secret compact, which they recently entered into with the present holders of power, and in which they engaged not to offer any molestation to them. A still smaller number persist in believing that, as soon as the fifth session of the Diet is over, the statesmen of the Civil and Military sections will unite together and form a sort of a coalition Cabinet. For our own part, we do not believe that anything like a compact or understanding has been formed between the statesmen of the above mentioned two sections. But we will not say that their combination may not take place, for there is nothing improbable or impossible about it.

* * *

As to the Radical Party's attitude towards the Government, the public still remains in doubt. At the recent lecture meeting in Tokyo, several members of the party, including Mr. Hoshi Toru, turned their shafts of attack upon the Government. In spite of all this, there are a large number of persons who believe that the Radical Party's attack upon the Cabinet is more apparent than real. Be this as it may, it is a fact that all the attempts to crush Mr. Hoshi's overwhelming influence in the party have completely failed, and he, together with Mr. Kono and Mr. Matsuda, remain the actual controllers of the party's policy. Mr. Matsuda was at first excluded from the newly organized council of the party, but he has since been admitted into it in the capacity of chief of the political investigation bureau of the party. Thus the internal council of the party, though somewhat enlarged, is still under the control of Messrs. Hoshi, Kono, and Matsuda. So it may be hoped that the Radical party will not be so uncompromisingly opposed to the Cabinet as the Progressionists, in the coming session of the Diet.

* * *

The grand meeting of the opponents of Mixed Residence at Mito is said to have come off successfully on the 21st instant. It is stated that about a thousand persons assembled together, including a strong contingent from Tokyo, the more conspicuous persons in the latter group being Viscount Torio, Mr. Abei Iwane, M.P., Mr. Sassa Tomofusa, M.P., Mr. Kashiwada Moribumi, M.P., and so forth. The meeting adopted a resolution, according to which a petition against Mixed Residence is to be presented to the Houses of the Diet from the inhabitants of Ibaraki Prefecture.

* * *

The Radicals of Mito are taking energetic measures to counteract the influence of the Conservatives of the locality. They contemplate the conversion of their periodical organ, the *Hyoron Zasshi*, into a daily publication.

THE "CHOYA SHIMBUN."

THE rather sudden discontinuation of one of the oldest Japanese papers, the *Choya*, announced on the 21st instant, is thus referred to by its contemporary the *Mainichi*:—Laying aside for the present a consideration of the progress of that journal since its establishment in the early part of the *Meiji* era by the late Narushima Ryuhoku, and confining ourselves to the more recent part of its history, we find the journal severing its connection with the democratic party in 1890, when the late Mr. Watanabe Osamu, at one time a representative of a section in Ibaraki, entered the office as chief editor in succession to Messrs. Ozaki Yukio and Inukai Ki, who had till that time undertaken jointly the editorial part of the work. Mr. Watanabe is reported to have secured at that time for the office a considerable sum of money from a "certain quarter." His editorship, however, was of very short duration, for about a year after he was installed in that position he left the office, going to Osaka to become editor to the newly started paper *Osaka Mainichi Shimbun*. His successor was Mr. Hadano Shogoro, M.P. for the Hokuyetsu district, who, in conjunction with Mr. Kitagawa Reiyu, undertook the task. For a while after the entrance of Mr. Hadano into the office, the printing connected with official announcements of the Department of Communications was still undertaken by the journal, and no particular difficulty was experienced in the finances of the paper. Shortly afterwards, however, that function was transferred by the Department to the office of the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, and the supply of official ammunition having been cut, the prosperity of the journal began to decline. Mr. Hadano then transferred the editorship to Mr. Kawamura, his sub-editor, and declared his intention of giving up his connection with his journal in future. This was about May of this year. Mr. Hadano, however, appears not to have carried out his declaration to the letter, for he is reported as having constantly supervised the affairs of the journal, editorially and financially. The new editor, Mr. Kawamura, was much dissatisfied at this interference of the ex-editor, and so he began to deliberate secretly how he might effect a radical change in the system of the journal, and make it a prominent supporter of the policy of democracy and the Opposition. It was in the latter part of October that Mr. Kawamura began to revolve his plan of re-organization; but when it was about to be carried into effect, the move was scented by one of the Hadano party, a member of the staff of the journal, who immediately informed his chief of the fact. Mr. Hadano was astonished at the information for he was absolutely ignorant of any such design on the part of his rival. He at once contrived a counter measure tending to prevent the plan of Mr. Kawamura from being carried out. The scheme of the latter having been thus prematurely frustrated, nothing remained for Mr. Kawamura and his party but to resign, and this they did in a body. The leading members of the staff of the journal having left the office, Mr. Hadano was obliged to shut it up, transferring the subscribers which the *Choya* had at that time to its contemporary the *Nichi Nichi*. Briefly, therefore, the rivalry of the two parties was due to a difference of policy, Mr. Hadano being pro-Government, the others being Opposition. It is feared that the collision of the two parties about the subsequent arrangements of the office, the disposal of its property, and so forth, may even lead to another outbreak.

SUGAR IN JAPAN.

SUGAR forms one of the most important staples in the import trade of Japan, the total value of the import falling little short of 10 million *yen*. The Authorities, and public men interested in the economy of the country are therefore paying much attention to the business, writes the *Nippon*. They have not yet developed any definite scheme to further the matter, nor have they endeavoured to encourage the development of the native sugar industry. At the same time, they do not dare to impose a heavier import duty on this article, lest the public should suffer; and indeed it would not be at all desirable, so long as the production of native sugar is not sufficient to supply the country's demands. That the public are also somewhat backward in applying energy and money towards the development of this important industry, is attributed by our contemporary to the unsatisfactory result of the Hokkaido beet sugar industry. Be that as it may, the main reason why the import of foreign sugar is steadily increasing is not due to the insufficiency of home produced sugar, as is believed by some, but to the cheapness of the imported article. More than 120 million pounds of sugar are now annually consumed by the people. Only one half of this amount is supplied by the home manufacturers, a state of things which the *Nippon* considers highly unsatisfactory. Lately, a sugar plantation has been started in Hyuga, Kyushiu, and also in the Bonin Islands; but chiefly through lack of capital, no marked result is yet noticeable. The *Nippon* urges capitalists to invest money in this enterprise, which, according to our contemporary, would not fail to prove successful provided due caution be exercised, there being plenty of places suitable for the cultivation of cane in Japan.

* * *

Of the sugar producing districts in Japan, a group of four islands in the Bay of Kagoshima, collectively known as Oshima, is one of the most important. The total cultivated area is about 17,000 *cho*, of which the sugar plantations constitute about a third. The method of cultivating sugar-cane in the islands appears to have been very imperfect till quite recently, for the land having received no manure did not yield more than 400 pounds per *tan*. Since the planters began to apply fertilizers two or three years ago, the yield has doubled, and it is confidently believed that it would not be difficult to push the production to 1,000 pounds per *tan*. The planters and manufacturers appear—we take these particulars from the *Kokkai*—to be entirely under the control of Osaka merchants, who proceed there when the season of sugar-refining begins and advance any money required to the refiners. Such being the case, the price at which the merchants obtain the article from the islanders is remarkably low. Last year, when the ruling market price of sugar was 3.8 *sen* per pound at Osaka, the islanders received only 1.2 *sen* for the same quantity, or less than a third of the price at which the merchants sold the produce at Osaka. Even deducting freight and other contingent charges, the profit which the Osaka merchants derive from this business in Oshima must be unusually large. At present the total yield of the four islands is said to be about 50 million pounds, but it is believed that if the areas now applied to the cultivation of other crops were converted into sugar plantations, and the forests of the islands reclaimed, it would be very easy to augment the yield to twice what is now produced. In other words, the sugar plantations of Oshima alone would suffice to supply the demands of the Japanese people, for some time at least, supposing that the consumption be placed at less than 150 millions pound a year. The monopoly which the Osaka merchants virtually possess in the sugar industry of Oshima is regarded by the leading men of the island and of the prefecture of Kagoshima as greatly hampering the proper development of the industry. This opinion is shared by the Home Department, and that Department is said to be thinking of asking the Diet for a subsidy of 6,000 *yen*, towards the cost of the navigation of steamers between Osaka and the islands. The islanders have also despatched a representative to the capital to persuade the members of the Diet of the importance of such assistance to the development of the sugar industry.

JAPANESE ADVERTISING.

COMPETITION in business and the example set by foreigners are gradually having an effect on Japanese in the matter of advertising, and there are few firms in Tokyo or Yokohama of any importance who look to the general public for support that do not advertise in some form, even the sidings of railway stations as well as telegraph and telephone poles having been brought into requisition for the purpose of announcing on flaming placards and permanent show boards the superiority of this firm's pills or that firm's revolvers. Many tradesmen now issue well printed and illustrated catalogues, and other devices are resorted to for the purpose of attracting custom. One of the latest modes is that which induces these remarks, namely, the issue by the "Fugetsudo," the well-known firm of pastry cooks and confectioners of Yokohama and Tokyo, of a "Guide Book for Visitors to Japan," which this firm appears

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to be scattering about the Settlement and the Capital with lavish hands. In addition to the Guide Book the "Fugetsudo" distributes a book of blank order forms with a list of the principal articles made by it. This is a good idea, and is bound to result in business, as after reading the list of nice things in the shape of cakes and candies—especially at such a time as the approach of Christmas—with their accompanying very moderate prices, who can resist the temptation of the blank order on the opposite side waiting to be filled up? The projector of this method of assailing people's purses is evidently a student of human nature But to return to the Guide Book, it is certainly a very useful little work, containing first 36 pages of railway time-tables and fares, then 32 pages of "Useful Hints," followed by 26 pages of "Guide Book," and concluding with 40 pages of English-Japanese and Japanese-English Vocabulary the whole forming a collection of useful information in a compact form. Among the "Useful Hints" is a good deal of original matter, the first three paragraphs of which are worth quoting not only because they are especially addressed to foreigners, but as well for their real value:—

This may not be quite the proper thing for us, the "native" compilers of this little book, to say, but putting ourselves in your position we must observe to your advantage, be constantly polite and conciliatory in demeanour towards the people. Whereas the lower classes so-called in Europe and America, are apt to resent suave manners and to imagine that he who addresses them politely wishes to deceive them, or get something out of them, every Japanese, however humble, expects courtesy, being himself generally courteous.

Never show any impatience Impatience is the main trouble with some foreigners in Japan, whereas hour more or less is of no account You may have cause to be impatient often, yet by being so you will really gain nothing but a stare from your men, and matters will not move any the quicker Storming and fretting will simply extort the word *tadaima* (immediately!) which may be freely translated "About it, Sir!" It is best to resign oneself at the beginning once for all; and console you self while waiting patiently by studying Japanese life

And another thing; never be moved to anger because you are asked personal questions To ask such question is the Japanese way of showing kindly interest; so that in paying your questioner in his own coin you are winning your way into his heart! Have visiting cards always with you; Japanese with whom you become acquainted will want to exchange cards

THE "KOBE MARU" AND JAPANESE CASTAWAYS

THE Nippon Yusen Kaisha's steamship *Kobe Maru* was fortunate in being the means of saving the lives of two Japanese fishermen on her last Shanghai-wards voyage. Passing through the Inland Sea, the steamer experienced unusually severe weather, a strong wind blowing and a heavy sea running. After night had fallen, and fallen so dark that objects could not be distinguished unless they were close at hand, Captain Haswell heard a loud outcry from the water by the steamer's side. Imagining that something had been run down, he reversed the engines, but some little time elapsed before it could be discovered that the cries proceeded from two men clinging to a capsized fishing smack. The sea was running too high to permit of a boat being lowered from the steamer, but by handling the vessel in a manner that certainly seems to do him great credit, Captain Haswell managed to get her immediately to windward of the smack. The shipwrecked men were then hauled on board. They proved to be fishermen who, after a voyage to the Korean coast for fishing purposes, had sold their take in Shimonoseki and were on their way home *vid* the Inland Sea when their craft was swamped in the gale. They were saved from the very jaws of death, and to complete their good fortune a purse of 65 *yen* was made up for them on board the *Kobe Maru* to compensate them for the loss of their boat and gear.

A SCHEME FOR THE EDUCATION OF KOREAN YOUTHS.

THE Korean refugee, Mr. Boku Eiko, one of the leaders of the abortive revolution in 1884, has succeeded in obtaining the assistance of a large number of distinguished Japanese in his scheme for the education of Korean youths. Among these persons, we notice the names of Count Soyejima, Count Kaisu, Count Higashikuze, Count Okuma, Count Itagaki, Viscount Shinagawa, and Viscount Tani. Mr. Boku's plan is to establish a dormitory in Tokyo to accommodate thirty young men from this country. They are to be sent to various schools according to their respective capacity and inclination. His object seems to be to conduct the system for three years as an experiment.

THE CIVIL SERVICE DOLLAR

WE (*Hongkong Daily Press*) hear that the Government under instructions from home, have asked the members of the Civil Service if they would be willing to receive half their pay in sterling at the rate of 3s. to the dollar on condition that their leave pay was payable at the same rate instead of at 4s The same offer has been made at Singapore, and in the Indian Civil Service an arrangement on a somewhat similar basis has been come to. As regards the Hongkong and Singapore Services we understand the offer is not considered very advantageous, except to men who do not intend to take leave.

THE MONSOON.

THE monsoon, writes the *Daily Press*, appears to be blowing with exceptional strength to the southward. The M M. steamer *Salazie*, which left Saigon at 3 a.m. on Monday, had not arrived up to the time of our going to press on the 17th inst The Indo-China steamer *Wingsang*, which left Singapore on the 8th, is also making a long voyage up The steamer *Propontis*, which arrived on Wednesday from Samarang, had very severe weather on the 12th and 13th and sustained some damage. The *Esmeralda* had a severe dusting coming across from Manila, and the *Hanoi*, from Haiphong, and the *Mongkut*, from Bangkok, both encountered a heavy sea.

FIRES IN HONGKONG

THE old Marine Hotel, at West Point, Hongkong, has been entirely destroyed by fire. Other houses were burned and the total loss cannot be less than $20,000 or $30,000. Between fifty and a hundred families were rendered homeless The property was insured for $6,000 with Messrs. Shewan and Co., and the shop where the fire began, was insured for $2,600 only four days before with the Meij Fire Insurance Co., which is represented in Hongkong by Mr. G R. Stevens. Two other fires have also occurred in Hongkong of late, one involving the loss of four lives, all Chinese.

THE SPANIARDS AND MOORS.

THE Spanish Consul at Hongkong writes as follows to the *Daily Press*:—With reference to the telegram published in your issue of Tuesday last relating to the affairs of Spain and Melilla (Morocco), I have the greatest pleasure to inform you, in order that you may rectify the news conveyed thereby, that the only painful disaster that befel my country was the loss of General Margallo, and I can say officially that the operations in which the Spanish forces are at present engaged continue to be crowned with success.

COUNTERFEIT NOTES

THE most accurate counterfeits of the notes of the Bank of England ever produced are now being put in circulation, and are said to come from Chicago. British detectives are investigating the matter, and there is much alarm felt in England as the notes are likely to get into circulation, being with difficulty distinguished from the genuine.

SHANGHAI'S JUBILEE.

SHANGHAI celebrated its Jubilee with all joyous festivity on the 18th inst., but we have to wait until the arrival of the next mail for particulars of the gay doings, the newspapers of the Settlement having held holiday on the occasion. We note that the *N.-C. Daily News* brought out an excellent Jubilee supplement on the 17th.

MR. HOSHI V. THE "KAISHIN SHIMBUN."

THE libel case brought by Mr. Hoshi Toru, President of the House of Representatives, against Mr. Mizuno, editor, and Mr. Mori, printer of the *Kaishin Shimbun*, was decided in the Tokyo Local Court on the 21st instant in favour of the plaintiff, the defendants being sentenced to major confinement for two months and fine twenty *yen* each. They were also ordered to insert an apology in ten leading journals in Tokyo and Osaka for one week. The decision has been appealed against.

FIRE ON BOARD THE "KINKA MARU."

A TELEGRAM from Osaka received by the *Jiji Shimpo* states that fire broke out on board the *Kinka Maru*, a steamer of the Fukagawa-gumi, Wakaminato, on the morning of the 18th inst., while she was passing Oshima in Genkai-nada. The commander at once ran his vessel on to Oshima, but the ship and cargo were completely destroyed. All the passengers were saved

NOTICK TO MARINERS

THE following Notice to Mariners, in reference to the discontinuance of Lao-t'ieh shan Promontory Light during winter in the Newchwang District of the China Sea, has been issued from the coast Inspector's office of the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs:—Notice is hereby given that the exhibition of the abovenamed Light will be discontinued each year on the 16th December and resumed on the 1st March following.

RESCUE OF A FOREIGNER.

ABOUT two o'clock on the morning of the 17th inst. two Japanese constables, Sudo Tetsuya and Kato, succeeded in rescuing a fireman of the U.S.S *Marion*, named Macduff (28), who had stumbled in the creek near the Yatobashi, Yokohama. The man is said to have been under the influence of liquor at the time. He was sent on board the *Marion* on Saturday morning

REPAIRING THE SHANGHAI CITY GOD'S TEMPLE.

A PROCLAMATION by the Shanghai Magistrate calls upon the followers of Buddha of that city to open their purses and contribute towards the fund that is required to pay for a complete overhaul of the temple of the native city god, inside the North Gate The proclamation further adds that the dilapidated appearance of the present temple is a disgrace to the city.

THE LATE MR. MACGREGOR.

THE Shanghai papers to hand all contain condolatory resolutions passed by various clubs, associations, and societies in the Model Settlement, upon the death of Mr. John Macgregor, and also notes of a sermon preached at Union Church Shanghai, by the Rev. John Stevens, upon the same sad event.

KIRISHIMA YAMA

A TELEGRAPHIC message from Miyazaki Prefecture states that violent rumbling sounds were emitted by Kirishima on the 21st instant at 7.41 p.m., and several earthquake shocks were felt at the same time. No lives are reported lost.

FRENCH MAN OF WAR AGROUND.

A FRENCH man-of-war is reported by the *Jiji Shimpo* to have gone aground near Mihara, in Bingo Province, on the 22nd inst.; she was assisted by the *Tenriu Kan* and got off and proceeded on her way.

DEATH OF CONSUL VON KREITNER.

WE regret to announce the somewhat sudden decease of Consul-General Captain Chevalier Gustav von Kreitner, I. & R. Austrian Landwehr, which occurred on Tuesday morning at six o'clock. Mr. von Kreitner had only been ailing since Saturday, and the cause of death is said to be apoplexy.

THE REGISTRATION TAX.

OUR readers will be interested to hear that the $5 and $1 fees hitherto charged for the registration of British subjects have been abolished, and that a uniform tax of $2 for everybody, which will be rigorously enforced, is to be levied from the 1st January next.

COLLISION.

As the *Gulf of Taranto* was leaving Shanghai on the 12th inst. she collided with the Japanese man-of-war *Tsukushi* lying in the lower reach. Two of the plates of the *Tsukushi* were dented, but it was not stated whether the other steamer sustained any damage.

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ANTI-FOREIGN DEMONSTRATIONS.

IT is as well that we should follow up what we have already written upon this distasteful subject with a few plain words, in the hope that no further reference to the matter may be necessary. Since it was brought before the public notice, we have received many unwelcome assurances that the evil is not only great but growing. It appears that Kudan-zaka has an unenviable reputation for street-rudeness. We are permitted to mention the experiences of one lady, which are of themselves sufficient to prove our point. On one occasion, while walking up Kudan, a person suddenly thrust his face into close proximity with hers, and shouted "Baka!"; while at another time, a humourist vented his feelings of disfavour towards foreigners in general by greeting her as "Chikusho," or beast. It will scarcely be believed that the same lady has been spat at; and hers is not the only case, another having been mentioned to us as occurring in the same neighbourhood. There is little doubt that the wave of anti-foreign feeling now passing over certain classes of Japanese has been set flowing by some of the anti-Mixed Residence agitators, who, we are assured, have commenced a crusade among the rising generation in country districts, the effects of which are visible as soon as the young hopefuls arrive in Tokyo. We have consistently advocated the policy of Treaty Revision, and see nothing in these unmannerly and dastardly exhibitions to justify a change in our attitude; but we have no hesitation in pointing out that the present state of affairs is scarcely one to render Foreign Representatives over-eager in meeting the Government half-way. It is possible that the Japanese authorities, police and others, are unaware of these petty outrages; nay we are sure they cannot know of them, otherwise some preventive measures would have been taken. We therefore venture to assure them of what is actually the case in Tokyo to-day, feeling certain that their own sense of what is just and right will prompt them to do that which circumstances so urgently require.

ARE THINGS REALLY WHAT THEY SEEM?

"AND things are not what they seem," wrote LONGFELLOW in his Psalm of Life. It is not probable that the poet was speaking metaphysically, or intended to express an irrelevant opinion upon the much misunderstood theory of Bishop BERKELEY; yet his words, taken apart from their context, will do equally well as the enunciation of a well-known metaphysical dogma, and suggest a train of fascinating and instructive thought. The question is a very simple one. We are surrounded by an external world, including our own bodies, objective to ourselves. Do we see the things which compose this world as they actually are, or do we not? In other words, are our perceptive senses veracious reporters, or do they play us false?

The natural reply which springs to the plain man's lips is of course to the effect that our senses are, in health, entirely reliable. If a table is six feet long, we see it as six feet and not as twelve or two. If a flower is red we see it as red and not as blue or yellow. If a substance is soft we feel it as soft and not as hard or prickly. But a very little consideration will show the literal superficiality, and therefore inaccuracy, of this view. We do not see a table, for instance, as it really is. We are simply conscious of resistance, hardness, smoothness, extension, weight, shape, and colour; but to see it as it is we must be able to perceive the inner structure of the material composing it, the arrangement of its fibres, the weft of the grain, the chemical elements into which it is resolvable, the ultimate atoms which are the basis of all mass or body, and the vacant spaces which divide these fundamental units from each other. The greenness of a leaf, it is easy enough to say, has its seat in chlorophyll; but the fact, as everybody knows, is that colour is no more than that state of subjective consciousness which is produced in the observer by the combined action of his retina and that particular ray of light which is thrown off instead of being absorbed, by the surface on which it falls. To see the leaf as it actually is, then, we must, in like manner, be able to scrutinize the chemical basis of the thing itself, to watch the very process of absorption and rejection, and so penetrate into those inmost recesses of matter and material transitions which lie on the extremest verge of the realm of physics. To the untutored man, again, the rainbow is an actual entity; its shape, its size, its colouring are to him as real as the shape and size and colouring of a flower are to us; he believes in its solidity, and fancies it must be a bridge leading to some celestial regions for the particular convenience of departing souls or the denizens of another world. And yet that rainbow has no objective existence, no two persons, even, ever see the same rainbow, by reason of their different positions; it is simply an appearance produced by the interaction of a little light, a few drops of water, and a sprinkling of atmospheric dust. We perceive the figure of a man a mile off, and he looks a dwarf, though really six feet high; and the mere fact that we are not deceived, because we know the reason of the illusion, is no argument to prove that it is not an illusion after all. We speak of an object as large or small, light or heavy, on the most empirical and relative grounds; for a horse, it is said, sees objects three times the size that we do, and it might be difficult to prove that the horse's eye is a more misleading organ than our own. Who, by looking at a brick, would guess that in that agglomeration of red-grey dust there lies embedded nearly a pound of aluminium? While as for motion, no one can say whether it has any absolute existence or not. Take SPENCER'S illustrations of a man walking from stem to stern of a vessel sailing in the opposite direction at the same rate,—he moves, yet always occupies the same point in space; complicate the problem by taking into account the earth's diurnal motion round its axis, its annual motion round the sun, and its flight with the sun through space, and it becomes increasingly difficult to say what motion really is. In a word, there can be little doubt that our sense-impressions are inadequate and unveracious, and have constantly to be corrected and kept in check by inhibitions from another sphere of influence altogether. We live in a world of illusions, and have no guarantee whatever—but rather the reverse—that the commonest things around us at all resemble that which they appear to us to be.

But now there arises another question. Have the things we see and handle any absolute existence of themselves? Metaphysicians belonging to many schools of thought will tell us they have not. The objects around us, they say, are no more than simulachra, phenomena, projections in fact of some mysterious entity in the background uncognoscible by our senses, to which they bear precisely the same relation as a picture thrown upon a white sheet bears to the glass slide hidden away in the recesses of a magic lantern. Matter in all its varied shapes is nothing more than the effect produced upon our consciousness by what is called in metaphysical parlance "substance"—the noumenon or essence which *substans*, or underlies, the outward appearance or phenomenon. LOCKE, KANT, and SPINOZA are among the most distinguished advocates of this theory, which dates, indeed, as far back as ANAXAGORAS, and was distinctly taught by SEXTUS EMPIRICUS in the second century of our era. Its most distinguished opponent is Bishop BERKELEY, who denied the existence of substance altogether. This led many persons—Dr. JOHNSON among them—to suppose that BERKELEY disbelieved in matter, and "the great lexicographer" imagined that he could refute the Bishop by simply kicking a stone. But BERKELEY was not the imbecile that JOHNSON thought him. What he denied was not matter, but "substance"—that metaphysical substratum of which matter was believed to be the simulachrum merely. He rejected the substratum theory, and said that "substance" was a sheer figment, regarding what other metaphysicians called the appearances of things as the very things themselves. An invisible substratum may be inferred, but it is unprovable and unknowable. The qualities of things have no need of an objective substratum, because they have a subjective one; they are the modifications

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of a sensitive subject, and the synthesis of these sensations is the only substratum required.

One would naturally think that there could be no *via media* between these two opposing theories. LOTZE, however, suggests a *tertium quid* which is most striking in its naiveté, and, we may add, its poetic beauty. He does not deny the existence of an uncognoscible substratum at the back of things, but he does deny that things are no more than the phenomena which metaphysicians affirm. This excellent man is, like all German writers, very metaphysical, very idealistic, and remarkably verbose; and it is no easy matter to condense his laboured dissertations into a few concise sentences. But his view is to the following effect. Instead of external nature being to the alleged substratum as a reflected picture to its slide, it resembles rather the glorious beauty of a scene upon the stage which results from the unsightly mechanism at work behind it. In short, he reverses the conception of the Realists. "The course of the universe is such a drama; its essential truth is the meaning set forth so as to be intelligible to the spirit; but the other, which we would often so fain know, and in which, deceived by prejudice, we first of all seek the true being of things, is nothing else than the framework on which rests the alone momentous actuality of the fair appearance." Then, after deprecating the complaint that in sensation the real properties of things are not represented, he concludes: "Let us therefore cease to lament as if the reality of things escaped our apprehension; on the contrary, it consists in that as which they appear to us, and all that they are before they are made manifest to us is the mediating preparation for this final realization of their very being. The beauty of colours and tones, of warmth and fragrance, is what nature in itself strives to produce and express, but cannot do by herself, for this it needs as its last and noblest instrument the sentient mind which alone can put into words its mute striving, and in the glory of sentient intuition set forth in luminous actuality what all the motions and gestures of the external world were vainly endeavouring to express." He does not touch here upon the question we set out with—whether our senses are or are not veracious reporters of the objective world; what he is thinking of is the controversy between those who hold with BERKELEY and those who hold with LOCKE, and the view he takes goes some way towards reconciling the two. He agrees with BERKELEY that things are not simulachra, but realities; while he does not deny the contention of BERKELEY'S opponents that there is something which lies behind.

It will, in conclusion, be interesting and suggestive to note very briefly the attitude attributed to BUDDHA with respect to the theories already alluded to of BERKELEY, LOTZE, and LOCKE. Now Buddhism is popularly conceived of and written about as though it were a religion pure and simple. That it is a religion may be granted at once; the fact is obvious to everybody. But it is also a system of metaphysics. Students have before now pointed to Buddhism as a standing proof that the conception of a Supreme Being is not essential to a religion, and there is, no doubt, much apparent cogency in the plea. It will, however, appear that in so far as Buddhism is religious it is by no means atheistic; on the contrary, it has an extensive pantheon, even the BUDDHA himself being venerated by the rank-and-file of less instructed Buddhists as a real divinity—living, objective, and supreme. The atheistic and purer form of Buddhism is found on its metaphysical side, and it is this to which we now wish to direct the attention of our readers as a supplement to what we have already written. Buddhism, then, according to its most authoritative exponents, teaches the phenomenal character of the entire visible Universe, and in fact rests upon the essential difference between that which is seen and temporal and that which is unseen and eternal. Here BUDDHA anticipates LOCKE, and all who hold with him, in regarding the world, which is changeable and destructible, as simply the external appearance of an underlying eternal Reality; and adds that it is only those who have attained to true enlightenment that are able to perceive this Reality as existing. This leads to the further doctrine that all phenomena, as such, exist subjectively in the consciousness of every individual, and thus only; so that all differences between them are a matter of the purest imagination, and the whole world, in that sense, an illusion. Thus he anticipates BERKELEY in finding his synthesis in the human mind; for it was here, and not in a phantom underlying "substance," that BERKELEY recognised the Reality of his opponents. The following passage from a conversation between SAKYAMUNI and his favourite disciple ANANDA is taken from the *Surungama Sutra*, and throws clear light upon his teaching:—

> Every phenomenon that presents itself to our knowledge is but the manifestation of mind. The entire theory of the causes of production throughout the infinite worlds is simply the result of mind, *which is the true substratum of all.*

This is Berkeleyism pure and simple. But there is also an approach to the view of LOTZE in his teaching that there must be an underlying objective Reality as well; and this appears almost like a contradiction, until we remember that it is only by the attainments of Perception that we are enabled to recognise it, thus calling in the mind and making it the subjective basis of the entire universe as it appears to us. Of course, when he comes to discuss the nature of the underlying Reality, he passes out of the sphere of modern metaphysics altogether. The underlying Reality is identical with his own person—is, in fact, the very BUDDHA himself; *that* is the true nature of all things, which are thus fundamentally identical with each other, and Truth, the object of every Buddhist's search, is nothing more than the identity of all things, all minds, all beings, and all BUDDHAS, past, present, and to come. There is a vein of mysticism in all this, no doubt; but the vein is probably not very deep, and allowance must be made for the more or less metaphorical style in which Oriental thought is conveyed. The whole conception is essentially subjective, and is represented to the student veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbol. The BUDDHA ceases to be either God or man, and is shown to be no more than a state of mind—that highest and purest development of the intellect in which is reflected the hidden reality of all things, which apprehends the Truth, which sees that the universe and the senses, the perceiver and the perceived, are really and in essence one. It is here that the cleavage between Eastern and Western metaphysics comes in.

THE MEIJI JOGAKKO.

THE "*Nô* Dance" which some friends of the Meiji Jogakko intend to give on the 25th instant at the Kôyôtei, Shiba, Tokyo, ought to be patronized by every person who takes an interest in the promotion of female education in Japan. The Meiji Jogakko takes the foremost rank among the numerous female seminaries in the capital, and, indeed, in all Japan. Started in September, 1885, by a number of devoted Japanese educationalists, mostly Christian, this school has nobly striven—and with signal success—to fulfil the high and important mission with which it entered on its existence, namely to give the girls a thoroughly national and at the same time essentially Christian education. Under the able and zealous direction of its principal, Mr. IWAMOTO ZENJI, one of the purest workers in the cause of the elevation of women in Japan, the school has been eminently successful in keeping itself free from the contamination of either of the extreme tendencies of thought that have successively held sway in recent years in the educational no less than other departments of national life. When it began its career, that denationalizing and pro-Occidental tendency, which was the culmination of the reaction against the exclusive and anti-foreign policy of the TOKUGAWA days, happened to be in its zenith, and educational institutions vied with each other in giving exaggerated importance to the study of foreign languages and even foreign manners. Even in those days, the Meiji Jogakko did not fail to pay particular attention to the study of Japanese and Chinese literature. Nor when a counter

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reaction set in a few years afterwards, did it in the least yield to the public prejudice and run the risk of valuing the national literature at the expense of sound and liberal education. Mr. IWAMOTO and his devoted band of teachers may well look back on the past history of their school with pride and satisfaction What is most remarkable about them is the fact that, with the scanty means at their disposal, they have been able to achieve a recognized success in the field of female education. A visitor to the seminary at Shimo-rokuban-cho, Tokyo, is painfully struck with the signs of rig'd frugality in any style of the build ng, in the furnishing of the rooms, and in the lamentable lack of those apparatus and appliances which are almost indispensable in institutions of the kind. Hitherto no appeal to public benevolence has been made, the funds necessary for its maintenance having been from time to time supplied by a number of private benefactors, both Japanese and foreign. But there are limits to private help, and under the encouragement of some friends of the school, the members of the faculty have decided to make a public appeal to the sympathies of all persons interested in female education, especially as they now feel confident that what they have thus far accomplished in this school entitles them to the favourable consideration of the public. We willingly bear witness to the noble zeal and self-sacrifice of these workers in the cause of the elevation of women in Japan. It is to be heartily desired that the *Nô* performance of the 25th instant may have the success it deserves. We may add that the pieces to be played have been well selected. They are four in number, *Ishigami* (Stone-God), *Hachinoki* (Dwarf Trees), *Rokunin-so* (Six Priests), and *Hagoromo* (Robe of Feathers). For the convenience of foreign visitors copies of a handy little pamphlet containing faithful English translations of the text by Dr. C. S. EBY and Professor B. H CHAMBERLAIN will be distributed on the spot. It may be observed that the last mentioned piece, *Hagoromo*, is the original on which is based Sir EDWIN ARNOLD'S entertaining poem, "The *Nô* Dance," which appeared in the *Nineteenth Century* early last year and was reproduced in these columns.

JAPANESE HORSES.

WE are glad to see, from our contemporary the *Mainichi Shimbun*, that a movement is on foot to investigate the causes of degeneracy among the horses of Japan, and to suggest means for counteracting the evil. It appears that so marked has been the deterioration in breed that the standard of height applied to horses for Army use has had to be lowered from 4ft. 7in. to 4ft. 5in., there being an insufficient supply of the larger animals; and this within the last four or five years. The question is one of national importance, and seriously effects the two large social interests represented by the two Governmental Departments that are beginning to move in the matter, the Ministry of War and the Ministry of Agriculture and Commerce. An army without horses, or obliged to put up with inferior animals and an insufficient supply, even, of them, is in an anomalous condition, and the matter is one which calls for practical and immediate attention. There certainly ought to be no difficulty about procuring a constant supply from abroad, the neighbouring plains of Mongolia being, as is known, an inexhaustible nursery of horse-flesh; finer little animals than the Mongolian ponies one could scarcely wish for, as they combine speed, strength, tractability, and staying power to a degree that ensures sound value and a ready market. But that, we imagine, would be regarded as a merely temporary expedient. The main thing is to improve the Japanese breeds themselves; and we need no arguments to persuade us that the measure is becoming more necessary every day.

It is not, however, the cavalry and artillery horses of Japan which are at the moment uppermost in our thoughts. As PEGASUS or BUCEPHALUS to a London cab-hack, so is the poorest ROZINANTE in the army to the wretched animals one sees in every street in Tokyo and the neighbouring districts. Some of these are almost unfit to live; and yet they are made to work, and work hard, and the thwacks they get on their poor bony sides would be better bestowed upon the callous men who drive them. Nothing is a commoner and less pleasing spectacle in Tokyo than the public *basha*. It is a small, cramped, nearly springless omnibus, extremely dirty, very ricketty, and generally crowded to the doors. This unsightly vehicle is drawn by a couple of animals which are a disgrace to their owners. poor old racks of bones, ungroomed, unkempt, staggering along at their best breakneck pace, every rib standing out in full relief, and looking as though each effort might be their last. How one longs to take them out of the shafts, and turn them into some green field full of succulent grass, where they may have at least one good feed and one long rest before they die! The unfortunate creatures have never experienced such a luxury, probably, since they were foaled; their lot has been an unvaried round of work and whacks, whacks and work, and then, at the end of the day, the supper ordered by the 'grey and gap-toothed man' for the benefit of his weary nag at the inn on the withered heath:

> "Take my brute and lead him in,
> Stuff his ribs with mouldy hay."

A good man is merciful to his beast, and the ox that in older days trod out the corn for human food was to go unmuzzled; a provision which, in spite of ST. PAUL'S assertion to the contrary, we take leave to attribute to a kindly feeling for the animal, and not to have been made for the sake of the man who drove it. We believe that GOD does "take care for oxen"—a higher authority than ST. PAUL contradicts him flatly there—and systematic cruelty or callousness in dealing with the dumb creatures that serve us cannot be too severely reprobated. It is curious that a people professing Buddhism, a religion which inculcates gentleness and kindness to all beings that have life, should be so indifferent to the comfort and well-being of their horses. The Japanese are not a cruel people by any means; on the contrary, they have the kindest natural instincts, and we ascribe the callousness of some of them in this particular simply to a lack of imagination. It never occurs to them to put themselves in the horses' place,—to fancy what the wants and the sufferings of their dumb servants may really be; their thoughts do not seem to run in that groove, and the 'evil that's wrought by want of thought' receives a cogent illustration in consequence. Christianity, save for a few scattered utterances here and there, virtually ignores the lower animals, and one of its most prominent apostles, as we have seen, rather pooh-poohs their claims upon our consideration than otherwise. Yet Christians are, generally speaking, kinder to dumb creatures than Easterns are—there are woeful exceptions, to be sure, as for instance in Naples—and this being the case we take our stand on the teachings of their own religion in appealing to the Japanese. Buddhism emphatically condemns cruelty to animals. We therefore invite the authorities of Tokyo to exercise some supervision over the public treatment of draught horses in the main thoroughfares of the city; to protect them, at any rate, from ill-usage in the shape of disproportionately heavy loads, undeserved castigation, and insufficient food; and to forbid their being worked till they fall dead. The remedy is an easy one, and it certainly should be put in force.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

STARTING AT RACES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I read with interest the remarks of Mr Gore Booth on starting in a recent issue of the *Mail*, and observe that a critic of that gentleman's methods appears to have some inscrutable liking for having the starter at the races in front of his horses, with, it is fair to assume, the accompaniment of yelling "Are you ready?" "Go!" &c., &c. I am not in a position to say any more about Mr Gore Booth's "authority" than that, as he himself explains, as a spectator, a rider, and a starter, his experience has taught him that the method he describes—being out of sight of the jockeys—is the best for every one; and it is scarcely necessary to point out that though his critic lacks the two most essential qualifications named, he does not hesitate to attempt a reply, and bolster up a rotten argument by sheer misrepresentation. Here it is. This writer says:—"Mr. Gore Booth bases his argument

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upon the fact that race-courses in China and Hong kong are narrow, but then he should remember the Rules of Racing were not made in reference to Chinese race courses." Most decidedly Mr. Gore-Booth based his argument on entirely different grounds, and only mentioned the narrowness of certain courses as one among many other reasons for his argument; and the critic knows perfectly well that there is not a single word in the Rules of Racing in reference to the position of the starter. This is misrepresentation. Further on this writer says:—Mr. Gore Booth "produces one authority on his side, a Col. Warburton, but we never heard of that gentleman as an authority on racing." The only reply to this is bad for the critic, as he makes an admission of his ignorance of current racing literature. Then he tells us:—"Against this we have the universal custom at home," but he does not tell us what that is, or where he has seen it, which of course he should have done; and further: "In fact the practice, in Europe at least, of the starter being in front of his ponies is one of the recognised rules." But this writer produces no rule, and I maintain there is no rule whatever. What appears in "Badminton" is not a rule, nor was the Earl of Suffolk a starter. Then the critic goes on to talk about "law" and "custom." If there were a law there would be a custom, for one would follow the other; but where is the law? The whole question of position is left in the hands of the starter, and if a common-sense view be taken there cannot be a shadow of doubt as to the best method; and if I am emphatic in thus expressing myself it is due to my experience of over a decade in the saddle behind the starting post. I could a tale unfold, and fill a column with reasons for not allowing riders to see the red flag fall,—to see the starter's face even is enough in many cases; but I refrain. I could not, however, allow such an attempt to throw dust in the eyes of racing men, weak though it be, to pass unnoticed.

Yours, &c.,
PIGSKIN.

November 21st, 1893.

THE OKAYAMA INUNDATION FUND.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—Allow us to express through your columns our most sincere gratitude to all the benevolent readers of your paper for their kind contributions towards the Okayama Inundation Fund. We have this day received from you the sum of two hundred and thirty-seven *yen*, which we shall at once forward to the Governor of Okayama to be used in saving the lives of those wretched sufferers who are starving and have neither house nor clothes to shelter them from the bitter winter days fast approaching. We also beg to thank you for the trouble you have taken in collecting this handsome sum, which will give much comfort to all those poor sufferers. In conclusion, we may add that already a sum of over six hundred *yen* has been collected by us independently, four hundred *yen* of which was sent to the afflicted districts some days ago at the request of Mr. Chisaka, Governor of Okayama.

With renewed thanks, we remain, yours very faithfully,

KISHIDA GINKO,
TSUDA MAMICHI,
YAMAYA TORAZO.
MORI TSNETA,

Representing the Promoters of the Okayama Inundation Relief Fund Association.

Tokyo, November 16th, 1893.

FUNERAL OF CONSUL-GENERAL VON KREITNER.

With all the majestic solemnities pertaining to the last rites of the Church of Rome and amid the many impressive features which always accompany a public funeral, the mortal remains of Consul-General Captain Gustav Ritter von Kreitner, I and R. Austrian Landwehr, were laid in their last resting place in the Foreign Cemetery, Yokohama, on Wednesday morning. The tokens of regret at the passing away of the late Consul-General were wide-spread, and from an early hour wreaths, crosses, and other floral mementoes of respectful regard arrived at the late residence, No. 215, Bluff, and these were soon followed by the immediate mourners and personal friends. The coffin left the house a little after half-past nine, arriving at the Roman Catholic Church in Main Street shortly before ten o'clock. It was received at the portico by members of the Diplomatic and Consular bodies of Tokyo and Yokohama. These included Baron R. von Biegeleben, Austro-Hungarian Minister; M. Hitrovo, Russian Minister, and Prince Lobanow de Rostow, Russian Consul; Dr. Schmidt-Leda, German Consul General, and Mr. Kallen, Vice Consul; Mr. Ritter, Swiss Consul General; Don Luis del Castillo y Irigueros, Spanish Minister, and Don Luis Torres Acevedo, Consul; Mr. Van der Polder, Secretary of the Dutch Legation; M. Sienkiewicz, French Minister; Signor Casati, Italian Consulate; M. Goudareau, French Consul; Mr. Nakano, Governor of Kanagawa Prefecture, and Mr. Mitsubushi, Secretary; Mr. R. A. Mowat, Judge of H.B.M.'s Court for Japan; Mr. Troup, H.B.M.'s Consul; Mr. E. J. Pereira, Portuguese Vice-Consul; Mr. Jewett, Danish Consul-General; Dr. Weipert and Count Welden, of the German Legation; Dr. Rockwicz, German Naval Hospital, Baron d'Anethan, Belgian Minister; Mr. Ichinose, Chief Public Procurator of the Yokohama Chiho Saibansho; the Superintendent of the Yokohama Police, and the Inspectors of the Settlement and Bluff stations; Mr. Hayashi, Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs, and M. Goh, private secretary of the Minister of Foreign Affairs; Capt. Kinooka, of the *Tsukuba Kan*; Signor Durand de la Penne, Italian Consul; the Chinese Consul and Vice Consul, Mr. McLean, U.S. Vice Consul-General and Mr. Sidmore, the Marquis Nembrini de Gonzaga, and a large number of friends and acquaintances of the deceased. The coffin having been conveyed within the altar rails, high mass was performed by the Rev. P. Virgroux, vicar, assisted by the Rev. P. Rey and the Rev. P. Guyon. Mass concluded, the coffin was conveyed to the hearse, the pall-bearers being two men each from the British, Russian, and U.S. men-of-war in harbour. The procession was led by the band of the *Tsukuba Kan* playing a hymn, followed by the firing party consisting of Japanese blue-jackets. Then came a bier on which was placed an innumerable number of wreaths. Some acolytes and the Rev. Father Peltier, the Rev. Papinot, and the Rev. Father Virgroux, followed, immediately preceding the hearse, at the rear of which was carried the sword and the many orders of the deceased. The two mourners were Baron von Siebold and Count Coudenhove, with whom was Mr. Koch, the former wearing an Austrian Dragoon uniform and the latter that of the Hungarian Hussars. These were followed by a large body of personal friends. Another body of Japanese blue-jackets came next, and then the band of the *Admiral Kornilloff*, preceding a body of Russian, English, and American blue-jackets, the rear of the procession being brought up by the band of the *Lancaster* and the representatives of the Consular and Diplomatic body. At the grave a few short prayers were offered, and then the coffin was lowered into the ground, three volleys being discharged over the place of interment by the Japanese as the casket disappeared from sight, after which the company slowly dispersed. Minute guns were fired from the warships in harbour during the whole of the ceremony.

LETTER FROM KOREA.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Sōul, November 17th.

The foreign quarter of Sōul has been in holiday attire to-day in honour of the visit which His Majesty the King made to it. To find the reason of this visit, we must go back exactly three hundred years to the fourth day of the tenth moon of the year corresponding to our 1593, when the King of Korea re-entered the City of Sōul after eighteen months of exile.

The Japanese had flashed through the country everywhere successful, but their fortunes had as suddenly changed and they had fled southward, but not until they had wreaked their vengeance upon the City of Sōul. Her palaces had been burned, her sacred places desecrated, and her population more than decimated. It was to the wreck of his capital that the King returned, and entering the west gate he took up his abode in Chong Dong the present foreign settlement, but a stone's throw from the British Consulate. Here he lived for many years until a new palace was built. It is in memory of that return and the abode of that King in this place that every sixty years the ruling sovereign visits the spot and thus shows his memory and regard for that ancient ancestor. The Royal procession moved from the palace up toward the west gate and when almost to it turned toward the left past the stately building of the Russian Legation down into the heart of the foreign community. On every hand he saw evidences of welcome from the foreigners. On every side the Korean flag was displayed and frequently the stars and stripes could be seen in conjunction with it. Upon reaching the grounds of the Sōul Union the Royal cortège turned again to the left and passing around in front of the U.S. Legation entered the place which had been prepared for the King's reception. The whole foreign community was gathered on the tennis courts of the Sōul Union grounds and more than one remarked that never before had they seen such a splendid display. The uniforms were gayer and the flags of all hues were more numerous than had ever been seen in a Royal procession before. Those to whom the sight was new found it intensely interesting, and even those who had witnessed such an event many times before found new interest in it. The American community sent through the U.S. Legation their respects to His Majesty and an expression of their pleasure in having him visit their quarter of the town, and he sent in response a messenger who said that His Majesty had been very much pleased at all he had seen in the foreign settlement. Many of the houses and grounds of the foreigners had been profusely decorated with lanterns to be lit when His Majesty returned to the palace at night, but as he returned before dusk he missed this added expression of goodwill. During the sixty years that have intervened since the last visit of this nature some of the streets had been narrowed by encroachments by property owners by both sides until in some places they were quite inadequate to the traffic which daily passes through them. In preparing for this Royal visit these streets were widened and repaired. By this way the coming of His Majesty to Chong Dong will prove a lasting benefit to foreigners.

LETTER FROM CHICAGO.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Chicago, October 21st.

A neat pamphlet, entitled "Explanation of the Japanese Lady's Boudoir," printed by A. C. McClurg and Co., of this city for the "Japanese Ladies' Committee" of Tokyo, gives an accurate description of the various articles on exhibition in the Woman's Building.

Among recent visitors in Chicago have been Miss Nanna J. Wilson, of Yokohama; Rev. E. R. Miller, D.D., of Morioka; Mr. C. J. Stoome, of Yokohama; and Major Lefler, of Hongkong; and among the new students at the University of Chicago is Keichi Tanaka.

The following is an interesting and important item:—Japan's magnificent exhibit at the Exposition and the interest being taken in Chicago by the hundreds of Japanese merchants attending the fair has aroused an interest in the trade with that country which promises much to Chicago. Yesterday afternoon an informal meeting was held at the Grand Pacific Hotel by a number of prominent Chicago business men looking to the organization of the American-Japan Commercia Company, to develop closer trade relations. Among those present were P. E. Studebaker, W. W. Kimball and representatives of Swift's Packing Company and of other local industries. R. Van Bergen, who has been a resident of Japan for twenty years, was present and spoke on the character of Japanese trade. He suggested that the company send an agent to Japan to investigate the advantages of a larger trade with America. The subject was discussed and it was decided to call another meeting within the next two weeks for the purpose of carrying out Mr. Van Bergen's suggestion. A number of the leading Japanese officials and exhibitors will be invited to a conference.

U.S. Minister Willis has left for his post at Honolulu, and is said to have carried with him important documents relative to the Hawaiian question. It is reported from Honolulu that the royalists there, expecting no sympathy from the new Minister, are planning to seize the government before his arrival.

Henry C. Ide, of Vermont, and William L. Chambers, of Alabama, have left for Samoa; the former to be Chief Justice, and the latter to be Land Commissioner.

Lieut. F. S. Bassett, U.S.N., once with the Asiatic squadron, died the day before yesterday. He has lately been interpreter in the foreign department of the World's Fair; was also Secretary of the Chicago Folk Lore Society and editor, together with his wife, of the *Folk Lorist*.

The recent necrology list contains also the names of Lucy Stone Blackwell, the famous abolitionist and woman's suffragist, and of Dr. Philip Schaff, the eminent Biblical scholar, who has taught and written extensively in the department of Church History.

On the night of the 14th and 15th inst. the chain of Great Lakes was visited by one of the worst gales in years. Several vessels, including one propeller, were wrecked, and a large number of lives lost.

The list of casualties includes also a big fire in New York City, with the destruction of the Camp-

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bell Wall Paper Factory and other a large building on West Forty first and Forty-second Streets and a loss of $2,000,000; and three railroad accidents, in two of which (on the Wabash at Nameoki, Ill., and on the Illinois Central at Otto Junction, near Kankakee, Ill) no lives were lost, but many were injured. The third accident was the worst of the season, and resulted in death to 27 persons and serious injuries to many others. It happened near Battle Creek, Mich., on the Grand Trunk, at 4.30 a.m. yesterday. An east bound special, disobeying orders to wait on a side-track at Nichols, collided with a west bound express. Most of the victims were burned to death before the eyes of powerless spectators: a score of them are "unidentified."

The monument, commemorating Washington's defeat of the British and Hessians, was unveiled on the 19th inst. at Trenton, N.J., with a great parade and eloquent addresses.

The Cunard "twin-sisters" *Campania* and *Lucania* have just smashed each other's records. The former, on a westward trip, lowered the latter's record by seven minutes, and made the time of 5 days 13 hours and 23 minutes; the latter, on an eastward trip, lowered the former's record by 1 hour and 15 minutes, and made a time of 5 days, 13 hours and 30 minutes.

The nomination of Van Alen, the Rhode Island monocle dude, as ambassador to Italy, has been confirmed by the Senate by a majority of 17.

Mr. N. W. McIvor has also been confirmed as Consul General at Kanagawa, and will set out in December for his post. Republican newspapers at his home, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, speak of him in complimentary terms.

The House of Representatives has passed the McCreary bill, extending for six months the registration provisions of the infamous Geary Law.

Chairman Wilson, of the Ways and Means Committee of the House of Representatives, hopes to be able to report to that body a tariff bill early in December. It will probably provide for an income tax, and may possibly increase the internal revenue taxes.

And still the Senate is inactive with respect to the Repeal Bill. A few days ago it looked like a bitter fight for unconditional repeal; to-day the talk is of a compromise, which will bring repeal, but postpone the cessation of purchases of silver till July 1, 1895, and provide for a bond issue of $100,000,000 or more.

R G. Dun and Co.'s trade report to-day says:—There has been much gain in hope and a little in business. Assurances that the repeal bill will soon be passed have again been accepted by traders as a reason for buying things speculative at higher prices, and with money abundant on call—$88,000,000 having been received in this city within ten weeks—speculation in stocks and products has an unusual stimulus, and would have expanded even more but for continued embarrassment of industries.

This has been "children's week" at the Fair. The schools, not only of this city, but of many other places near and far, have been closed, and have sent their pupils to the Fair for one or more days. Public and private benevolence has made it possible for even the poor to attend at least one day. On Monday 30,000 "youngsters" (under 18) went in at 10 cents. each, and more than 60,000 each day since. They went, most of them "on their own hook," but many of them in groups (hand in hand, or holding a rope); and only a few met with accidents.

The total paid attendance last Sunday was again over 80,000; the daily average of *adult* paid attendance for the past five days has exceeded 200,000. To-day (Saturday), being "Manhattan day," will make a good record.

On two evenings of this week a play of Planters was presented in the Music Hall by students of St. Francis Xavier College.

The unsold souvenir coins, amounting now to about 3,000,000 in number, are to be recoined into ordinary half dollars.

The World's Fair will be formally closed Oct. 30, at 10.30 p.m.; but will be open after that date (as it was open before May 1) to any who are willing to pay 50 cents to see the "packing up" process. The Exposition authorities have petitioned (in vain) the South Park Commission to extend the time limit for razing the Fair beyond May 1.

The Congresses this week have been very numerous, and have included the following:—Fisheries, Forestry, Veterinary Surgery, Good Roads, Household Economics, Farm Life and Mental Culture, Agriculture, Ornithology, Agricultural Education, National and World's Woman's Christian Temperance Union.

The Congress of Fisheries indulged in a banquet at which *kanten* was one of the delicacies. During the banquet an amusing incident was the sudden entrance into the hall of C. Hatsu-

dana, Imperial Japanese Commissioner, and Sakaye Sawatari, of the Japanese Fisheries Society, with a huge paper fish on their shoulders. In the Congress of Household Economics among reports from foreign countries on domestic service was one from Japan by Miss Prince. In the various congresses pertaining to the subject of Agriculture, Professor T. Minami, of Tokyo, was a participant, and spoke with reference especially to agricultural education in Japan.

The meetings of the W.C.T.U. were, of course, of great interest. Japan was well represented by Mrs. Chika Sakurai, Mrs. Kaji Yajima, and Mrs. Sen Tsuda, Miss Frances E. Willard, seeking rest in Europe, was missed; Lady Somerset, from England, receiving a cordial welcome. Mrs. Sakurai, "in dainty Japanese costume," with broken but sweet-voiced English, won all hearts as she told of Miss Mary Allen West's work and sad death in Japan, and paid a high tribute to her character. Sen Tsuda, of Japan, who originated the idea of the Columbian bell, made of the metal of opium and tobacco pipes, spoke a few words of greeting in the Japanese tongue. The chairman then read an address which he had prepared, in which M. Tsuda said that in Japan there are over 100 temperance societies with memberships of 100 to 1,000 persons each. Only Christian temperance efforts, he said, were effective, for in other efforts there were lacking elements of prayer and divine guidance. Although Chicago was the head quarters of the W.C.T.U., yet he saw more saloon signs displayed here than temperance badges."

The National Woman's Christian Temperance Union re elected Miss Willard as President; and the International Women's Christian Temperance Union elected the following officers:—

Honorary President—Mrs. Mary Clement Leavitt, Boston.
President—Miss Frances E. Willard, Evanston.
Vice president-at-large—Lady Henry Somerset, London
Secretary—Mrs Mary A Woodbridge, Ravenna Ohio.
Assistant secretary—Miss Anna A Gordon, Evanston.
Treasurer—Mrs Ella F. M Williams, Montreal.

With Miss Willard as "general" of both bodies, her words made an appropriate and eloquent motto:—"We wage our peaceful war for God and home and every land."

The American Bankers' Association has also been in session in this city, to discuss needs and means. It called unanimously for the immediate passage of the Repeal Bill.

Japan continues to gather in awards, both by retail and by wholesale, at the World's Fair; and Siam, China and Korea are now and then successful. The Siamese Government has received awards for horn, hair trees, clothing and costumes, and silk and silk fabrics; Chong Kwang Kee, of Canton, for silk and silk fabrics, clothing and costumes, hand painted paper screens, and carved ivory, in the last of which the honour is shared with Chun Sing; and the Korean Government for clothing and costumes and chests inlaid in pearl.

In the group of silk and silk fabrics Japanese exhibitors carried off 365 awards, nearly half of all announced! I have not the list at hand to day, but shall send it by next mail. It may not be interesting reading in its details; but as a whole, filling two-thirds of a column of the *Tribune*, it stands as a *glorious triumph for Japan*.

For clothing and costumes Japan is honoured with awards to the Department of War, I. Otsuka, I Murakami, T. Tamura, and Gisuke Nakamura; in this group American exhibitors get the most. In the department of electricity Japan gains one more award,—to E. Tokugawa, of Saga, for a china insulator. In the department of manufactures, awards for bamboo ware are given to T. Morishita, G. Matsuoda, M. Nakai, D. Nagata, S. Ohashi, and K. Toda.

In the same department belong the following lists:—

Tokio—T. Kawasoi, ivory work: Kanejiro Kanada, ivory work, carvings; K. Kobayashi, ivory work: I. Kato, wood carvings; T Kato, bamboo carving; K. Ishii, ivory carving, I. Mouri-ua, ivory carvings; K. Nosui, carved wooden screen; K. Nosui, ivory carving; Somis Okawa, ivory carving; K. Soma ivory work; Mrs. Yaye Kikuma, show piece, carved ivory, Mrs Sumi Murato, carved panel, K. Kumosuki Somi-ivory carving; K Tanenaka, carved wood; S Yanagawa, ivory box; T Yotsui, ivory carving; Toyo Ikawa, Ishikawaken, and K. Goto, Kawagawa, wood carving; G. Hompo, Toyama, wood carving, G. Iwamoto, Hyogo, carved bamboo canes; M. Izumi, Shigo, wood carving; Glamon Niyaei and Kuros-ka Murakamie. Ishikawa Ken, wood carvings and lacquer ware, Y. Ishii, Yokohama, ivory work; Toen Mor kawa, Nara, sculpture; J Oka, Osaka, wooden vase and straw; R Okamoto, Hyogo, wooden and ivory carving; S. Sawaki, Kaisha, carved ivory; T. Shima, Kaisha, wood carving; S. Shima, Ehime, bamboo carved cane; Sakuzo Takahasgi and Shinkyo Tsuyi, Niigata Prefecture, carved wood: S. Sunida, Ehime, carved wood screen; Rihei Shingaya, Yokohama, ivory carving, Phozo Watanabe, Yokohama, carved wood screen; Sunakee Yanawaki, Itsuga Hondo, Shigeta Kiumra, and Shotaro Arnao, Nagata Prefecture, carved wood screen, carved wood; G Kinaki, Kaga wooden carving; Kenichi Otaki Niigata Prefecture, carved bamboo work, Yoshida Gennoyu, Kyoto, two pieces idol carving; Shoki-shi Hayakawa, Osaka, bamboo wood, basket; J Arakawa, Shimane, I Ianto, Niigata, wood carving, K. Niwa, Kioto, wooden pagoda. Kitaro Goto, Rintaro Goto, Kamaturo Goto, Kamagawa; K. Eguchi, Nagaya, wood carving.

T. Konano, Osaka, reed screens; I. Fujirara, lacquer cabinet gold; Y. Hoaka, curtains; E. Hashimo, Chiba, bamboo blinds; Yoshii, Tokyoma, wooden work; J Komai, wooden work; S. Kanai, Osaka, paper screens; T. Kawamato, bamboo screens, Kiyoshaisha, Kaisha, bead screens, J. Matsumoto Hyogo, folding screens; I. Nakashi, Toyama, wood screen, S. Ishi, Mogo, folding screen; Suzoya, Tokio, lacquer screen, K. Suzita, mirror frames; S. Seko, Hyogo, folding screens; Sin Suzuki, Yokoham, mirror tablet; Shoyeisha, Kaisha, bead screens; S. Yomemura, Tokio, paper screens; N Izawa, bamboo curtains; Yamanaka, Osaka, lacquer screener; I. Arak, cabinet (wood), I. Ikigaya, Shizuoka, gold lacquered cabinet; M. Ichimusa, Osaka, mirrors; I. Kosaka, Shizuoka, inlaid cabinet; T. Kataka, neet trays; Kanzai Trading company, Kyoto, furnishing complete; Katayama, Wakayama, lacquer work; K Muto, Shizuoka, picture; H Nagajusa, Shizuoka, gold lacquered screens; S Izawa, Shizuoka, lacquered tray; K Sato, Shizuoka, inland bedroom set, T. Takahashi, Shizuoka, inland table; G Takan, Kumamoto, screen; V Yamamota, Shizuoka, inlaid screen; J hei Nishimura, Kyoto, screen; R soichi Tanaka, Kyoto, screen; Tanezo Tanakajo, Kagawa, screen; N. Watanake, Yokohama, framed pictures, Kyoto—Tada Shinichi, screens, bed spreads, table covers, and pictures, portières, covers for chairs, hanging pictures, Nishimura Sozayemon, silk curtains and screen; Takemike Tokyjiro, samples of chair and table; Sanada Isaburo, fine lacquer wares, Takuna Sogen, twenty-five sets lacquer wares; Mikami Sasaburo, thirteen pieces lacquer wares; Kawamoto Kichiro, six pieces lacquer ware and two sets; Yamamoto Rihei, two pieces lacquer ware and two sets; Kawashima Yoshimoshi, three pieces lacquer ware and two sets, Kirchirobe Zenmanaka, gold paper screens; Risuke Ogura, colored muslin curtains; Osaka Soeisha, bamboo and reed curtains; Kyomon Amano, reed screen; Tanepiro Kiwasoto, bamboo blinds; T. Nami Kawa, lacquered looking glass cabinets; M Kuroda, Nagoya, lacquer ware; H Kanamori, lacquer ware; K. Nyamoto, Tokyo, lacquer ware; N. Izawa, Tokyo, bamboo shade, Osaka Makie Ooshi Kaisha, gold acquered table; Kichihei Araki, "Karaki" cabinet Tihei Oka, Paullownia imperial cabinet; Kano Matsuo, plaque, Kajima Ippa, plaque; Umro Shomin, tablet Medall on), Shuoni Katsuahi, plaque; H Midzuno, lacquered photo; I. Takayunagi, Tokyo, lacquer ware.

IN H.B.M.'s COURT FOR JAPAN.

Before JAMES TROUP, Esq., Assistant Judge.
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 25TH, 1893.

REMOVING A "NO THOROUGHFARE" BOARD.

The Court assembled at 10.30 this morning.

Mr. Lowder said he would like to propose to postpone his cross-examination of the first witness, until the inspector of police, who yesterday had expressed a desire to give evidence, had given that evidence.

The Inspector said he would prefer to give his evidence after the cross-examination of the first witness was finished.

His Honour said the Inspector was not the prosecutor in the case and therefore had no option but to appear when called upon, as he had offered to give his evidence before the Court.

Yamaguchi Shigekyo, police-inspector, cautioned, said a report was made to him about an hour after the occurrence of the disturbance described by the first witness. He then went on to describe the report given him by the constable.

Mr. Lowder here interposed. He was in a position to understand what the Inspector was saying in the Japanese language, and he objected to what witness was now giving as evidence.

His Honour—I don't see why you are making the objection.

Mr. Lowder—He is now stating what passed between himself and the constable.

His Honour—I think that is admissable.

Mr. Lowder—But what passed between them was not said in the presence of my client.

His Honour—Well, we are considering the evidence of the witness.

Mr. Lowder—But we are not here to try the witness, he is not charged with any offence. What I contend is, that what is said behind my back cannot possibly be taken as evidence against me.

His Honour—The Court is not supposed to understand Japanese, and the words you are objecting to have not yet been interpreted.

Mr. Lowder—That I fully understand. But your Honour will perceive that the next two words which the Interpreter will tell the Court will be such as to debar the evidence now sought to be given.

His Honour—Well, we will hear what the witness wishes to say.

The Interpreter said that witness was stating that the constable gave him a report of the occurrence outside No. 3, on the morning of the 2nd November, and was proceeding to give the substance of that report.

Mr. Lowder—It is to that I object.

His Honour—He is only saying what the report was.

Mr. Lowder—Precisely, and that is the reason for my objection.

His Honour—That the report is not evidence is perfectly clear.

Mr. Lowder—Then why take it down?

His Honour—Because to stop him at this point would preclude him from proceeding with the evidence he wishes to give.

Mr. Lowder—No, not preclude; he may go on with anything he did after receiving the report.

His Honour—That is just what he is about to do.

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Mr. Lowder—I do not mind him saying, "After receiving the report I went to the spot," etc., but if he goes on to tell in detail the report presented by the constable, I shall object most seriously.

Witness, continuing, said—Having heard the policeman's report, I went at once to the spot. I found that the upright post, to which the notice was attached, and which was also attached to the cross bar placed across the street on the top of two small side supports, had fallen, the rope having been cut, and that the lamp, which had also been attached thereto had been thrown to a distance of six feet—it was lying at a distance of 6 feet from the position where it originally had been placed. The oil can of the lamp was lying in the gutter, about twelve feet from its proper position. The cross bar was about 12 feet in length, and was placed on two supports of about 3 feet in height. The notice board was attached to a post in the middle of the bar, and the lamp placed about the centre of the notice-board post. The lamp was found lying about six feet away in an oblique direction, and the oil can about twelve feet away in the same direction. I took the measurements from the centre post in an oblique direction.

Mr. Lowder—I should like to know whether the lamp was supported on the post when he saw it, or whether it had been in that position.

His Honour—I also should like to get at that.

Witness—I know that the lamp was placed in the position I now mention. The positions of the cross-bar and posts were also clearly marked by the holes in the ground made to receive them. I had often seen the erection during my rounds. The ground was very hard and stones had been placed around the posts. The policeman in Court told me that this was the spot

Mr. Lowder said he did not object to the evidence that the policeman was there, but he should to any of the conversation which may have been held there.

Witness proceeding—The lamp was extinguished when I reached the spot and the cover of the box was broken; two glass sides were smashed. The thoroughfare was closed for traffic, but there was a light thrown upon the place from the lamp near No. 3, and witness also had a lamp with him. The "no thoroughfare" notice was written both in Japanese and English. Next day I went with the first witness and an interpreter to Mr. Gulland's house, No 23, where he resides. I asked him whether he would not come to the police-station, as I wished to make an enquiry into the affair. I made the request to Mr. Middleton also. They both said that they could not very well go then, but they would go at 11 o'clock in the forenoon. Afterwards, I went to the gate of No. 23 and saw the *momban* and through him obtained admittance to the upstairs rooms of No. 23. I found Mr. Middleton asleep, and Mr. Gulland came out directly afterwards. I held conversation with them and, informing them of the occurrence, asked if the facts were correct. They asked me a number of questions, and enquired from whom I had heard of the affair.

His Honour said he could not take down the conversation of the persons described. He could only take cognisance of Mr. Gulland's words. Folk were not responsible for what other people said. He would take down Mr. Gulland's words; the Court had nothing to do with Mr. Middleton.

Witness, continuing, said—Mr. Gulland denied breaking the glass in the lamp; the glass was loose and he wished to make it fast. I repeated my question then, and said this lamp was lying away at a distance of six feet, it was broken, and the oil-can was twelve feet away from the place where the lamp had been fixed; there was no reason why it should have fallen to the ground. Mr. Gulland said, "I positively did not break the lamp, nor did I take it away twelve feet." I asked Mr Middleton whether he had not, the night before, offered the constable a paper dollar. He said, "Oh, yes, I offered him a dollar in mistake for a card, the dollar being folded small."

His Honour—We are not trying Mr. Middleton here. Is this anything to do with Mr. Gulland?

Mr. Lowder—I should like to go more fully into the story of this one *yen* note, and have no objection to its being entered on the minutes. It has appeared before the Court and has gone forth to the public, and in the interests of all concerned I should like to have the matter cleared up

His Honour—We are not here to satisfy the public curiosity, but to try the case presented to the Court. From the evidence which has been given, this matter does not affect the defendant, and I don't see how it can be the Court's business to inquire into it

Mr. Lowder—I shall have to lead up to it and introduce this matter in my cross examination, so I should like to have it taken down now.

His Honour—I don't think it is necessary, for I don't see what bearing it has on defendant in the business really before the Court.

Mr. Lowder—I think it might have a bearing upon the defendant in this case in this way. The proffer of the note might have come from one person as the sequel of a transaction or conversation between the two parties who were being questioned by the policeman, and in that way it might affect defendant.

His Honour—It is not in evidence that Mr Gulland offered the note. Indeed, the prosecuting witness yesterday said that the defendant was not the person who offered him the note, therefore Mr. Gulland, according to the evidence now before us, has no connection with it

Mr. Lowder—He is connected with it in the *Kenji's* letter.

His Honour—Yes, the letter mentions it, but the evidence given yesterday and to-day in regard to it does not refer to Mr. Gulland as having anything to do with the transaction. I therefore do not think the matter need go on the record.

Mr. Lowder—Very well, it is just as your Honour pleases. Counsel is allowed very wide limits in his cross-examination of witnesses, and I shall certainly introduce it then.

Witness, continuing, said that he went to the house to make enquiries into the affair in accordance with his duty. He had nothing further to say.

Mr. Lowder said his cross-examination would take a considerable time, but he was willing to proceed if his Honour wished.

His Honour—It wants only a few minutes to noon now, so the Court will adjourn the further hearing of the case till 10.30 on Monday.

MONDAY, November 20th, 1893.

On the Court reassembling at 10.30 this morning,

Inspector Yamaguchi Shigekiyo went into the box, and his cross-examination by Mr. Lowder was at once proceeded with.

Mr. Lowder—I wish to know whether the upright post and cross-bar was standing in position when he visited the spot?—It was not. It was placed transversely.

I want to know whether it was standing or had fallen down?—The supports at the side had fallen, and the cross-bar was lying transversely across the street, instead of being at right angles.

Then the cross-bar was on the ground, not above the ground?—Yes.

And when you left the place, did you leave the barrier exactly as you found it?—No, because in that position it did not close the thoroughfare, but was only an obstruction. I got the policeman who was with me to place it in its original position.

Did you see it placed in its original position?—As far as we could, we put it back in its former position. Then I gave instructions to the police man to make it fast.

Was the barrier lighted when you left it?—No, the lamp was broken.

His Honour—Then he did not light the lamp?—No, there was a gas lamp about 12 feet away and this lighted up the spot, and I did not see the necessity of lighting the lantern, as it was nearly daybreak at the time.

Mr. Lowder—Then, supposing an accident had taken place between the time you left the spot and daybreak, don't you think you would have been responsible for it?—I don't see that I have to answer for my responsibility to you. I don't see the necessity for you to ask me such a question.

I must press for an answer to my question?

His Honour thought as it would only be an inference, that the answer to such a question would not assist the Court much. You can ask whether it was his duty to have the lamp lighted

Mr. Lowder—Very well, was it your duty to see that the light was lighted?—I do not admit that you can ask me whether it was my duty or not to see to such a thing. I am here to answer questions as to the facts of the case. If you want to know what my duty is, you can inquire at the station, this is not the proper place to inquire.

His Honour said that he had already noted a similar question to be asked by himself of the witness, therefore he would put it himself now. Whose duty was it to see to the putting up of the lights?—The contractor's.

Mr. Lowder—That is no answer to my question.

His Honour—Well, it has produced some evidence which we had not on the record before.

Mr. Lowder—Yes, that is so.

His Honour (to witness) Then it is not your duty to see to the lights?—It is the contractor's duty to see that they are lighted again if they go out.

Yes, but is it not your duty to see that the lights are kept up by the contractor?—That is a matter for the regulations. Of course, if a policeman sees that the lights are not lighted, then he can call the contractor's attention to the matter. I do not think I ought to be asked these questions, they are not pertinent to the matter.

But surely he can tell us if the police have any control in the matter?—The inspector can tell the policeman to inform the contractor that the lamps are not lighted if they have gone out.

His Honour—I think that will come near to the answer you require, Mr. Lowder.

Mr. Lowder—I was about to inquire whether witness gave an order to have the lamp lighted?

His Honour—I have it upon my notes that he did not have the lamp relighted. What time did you leave the place?—About twenty minutes to three

Mr. Lowder—And what time did he get to the place?—I went to the place about an hour after the affair occurred.

Do you know what time the day broke on the date the affair happened?—I can't really speak as to the exact time, but I should say that it was a little after four o'clock when the day began to get light.

And so far as you know, the barrier remained unlighted from twenty minutes to three, when you left, till day-break?—Yes. I have no objection to stating my duties in the matter, but I am called here to state the facts of the case. The questions as to responsibity, etc., should be addressed to the police department. This matter is a judicial case, and no. a question of administration of duty.

His Honour said that all the questions that had been put to witness were relevant to the matter in hand and perfectly admissible.

Mr. Lowder—The Statute requires that the barrier shall be guarded as well as lighted. I wish to ask whether at any time any steps were taken to guard the barrier so as to prevent accidents?

His Honour—We have it that it was lighted.

Mr. Lowder—Yes, and the Statute says that it must also be guarded.

His Honour—What do you mean by guarded?

Mr. Lowder—I am not prepared to answer that question.

His Honour—The question is how far the Statute applies; it is to be applied as far as circumstances will permit

Mr. Lowder—Yes, and the Statute provides that the bar shall be guarded, and if it applies at all, then it must apply in this particular.

His Honour—The placing of a light at the spot might be guarding the spot to a certain extent.

Mr. Lowder—Yes, to some extent

His Honour—Well, a policeman might be placed there to guard the bar.

Mr. Lowder—Yes, a policeman might be placed there. There are various other means that might be taken, such as putting up stays to prevent the barrier being over thrown by accident, etc.

The Interpreter—The difficulty is to put the word guard in Japanese

Mr. Lowder—Well, I will substitute protect the barrier against the occurrence of accidents.

The question, as amended was then put.

Witness—There are no special steps taken as regards the placing of a policeman at every barrier, because there is no necessity if the bar is properly fixed. When the bar is not broken there is no danger to passers-by.

Then did you take any means to guard the barrier after you left the spot that night?—I told the policeman on duty to replace the bar, and to attend to it, but I do not know whether my orders were carried out. The barrier was very close to No. 3, where a policeman was placed.

When you say that the rope was cut, do you mean that it appeared to have been cut by a knife or by some sharp instrument?—I don't say that it was cut by a knife at all It might have been broken when it was thrown down on to the road. It became broken at that time.

When you went to the house of defendant on the following morning, did he answer all the questions you put to him?—I can't say that he answered all my questions. But all the questions I gave answers to in the Court on Saturday he answered

His Honour—Did he (Gulland) refuse to answer any questions?—I don't think he refused any of my questions. He answered them all, generally speaking.

Mr. Lowder—Did he tell you that the lamp had been broken by somebody else, after it had been replaced by him in position?—I did not hear him say so.

Did the witness report to you that the lamp had been broken by some person other than the accused? He did not. The report made by Ikoshi to me was just the same as given by him in the Court; to ask any further question upon that subject is to needlessly take up the time of the Court.

Mr. Lowder (to His Honour)—Have you it in evidence that Ikoshi said that defendant and Mr. Middleton re-erected the barrier.

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His Honour—I have it that they replaced the bar. It was originally "re-erected," but was corrected to "replaced."

Mr. Lowder (to witness)—Did Ikoshi the next morning report to you that what had occurred during the night was the result of an accident?—No, he did not explain to me that the barrier was broken by accident, maliciously, or unintentionally, he merely explained that he tried to mend it. Accused said nothing to me about breaking it, leaving me under the impression that it had not been broken. The impression left on my mind was that accused wished me to understand that he had not broken it

By it, does witness mean the lamp?—The notice board, lamp, and the barrier generally.

His Honour—But what we want to know is what he means by "it"?—The barrier generally. He answered as if he had not spoken the lamp, and I asked him (accused) as to the lamp being 12 feet away? He said there was nothing at all in that

Mr. Lowder—Did not Mr. Middleton tell you that he had seen a coolie come out of the gate of No. 3 and run against the lamp and smash it?—Certainly not.

Did Ikoshi report to you that that happened?—No, he did not. He reported nothing beyond what he stated in Court.

Whose permission had you to go into the house of defendant the following morning?

His Honour—One moment, I do not see the purpose or bearing of this question.

Mr. Lowder—Witness said in Court that he had received permission to enter the house. I wish to prove that he did not, if he did that will be placed to his credit.

His Honour—I think in my notes that it says that Ikoshi followed the defendant home.

Mr. Lowder—I am referring to what happened the following morning, when both gentlemen were discovered in bed.

His Honour—I have not got it on my notes that the present witness said he obtained permission.

Mr. Lowder—I thought he said he did, and I wished to prove that he did not obtain permission.

The Interpreter said that he was under the impression that witness had said he received permission to enter the house.

His Honour—Very well, you may put the question.

Witness—I obtained permission through the *momban* and my interpreter. The *momban* went upstairs, and when he came down said I could go in; from whence he obtained permission I do not know.

Mr. Lowder—That is all I wish to ask him.

His Honour—When did you last see the lamp attached to the post in its proper position?—It was on the previous day, but at what time I cannot now remember; it may have been at noon, certainly during daylight.

Was the cross bar in its proper position then?—Everything was then in its proper place.

I presume that the whole barrier was put up by the contractor originally?—Yes.

From whom does the contractor get his authority to put up the barriers?—From the police. The order comes through the Police Department, having originally come from the Kencho.

The Prosecutor had nothing to ask of the witness in reference to the evidence given that morning.

The Court then adjourned for tiffen. On reassembling,

Ikoshi Tatsumi, the prosecutor, was called forward

Mr. Lowder—Will you kindly tell me more definitely what you mean by "something like a disturbance"?—A disturbance, a noise of voices. I heard Mr. Middleton's voice saying "Policeman, policeman;" this was at the time when the post was being pulled out of the ground.

Did you see this through the gate; was the gate open at the time?—At first I heard the noise of voices; afterwards I saw the parties. I opened the gate and went out to see the parties. I could not see them through the gate.

Mr. Middleton will testify in Court presently that he did not mention or use the word "policeman" until he saw you on the road. That was the only time he used the word—when he saw you in the road. Is that true or not?—That is not so.

His Honour—That is, Mr. Middleton said "policeman" before witness went out of the gate?—Yes

Mr. Lowder—Before you had opened the gate?—Yes.

And you thought someone was calling for the police?—I did not stop to think at the time whether any one was calling for a policeman or not. I formed no opinion on the matter. I merely went into the road. I only heard the voices. The voice did not use "policeman" alone, only introduced it in the course of conversation.

Do you understand English?—No.

When you saw the defendant with the post grasped in his two hands, with the notice board attached, in what position then was the cross bar which had been attached to the post?—The cross bar was placed obliquely to its proper position—across the road.

Was it lying on the ground or not?—He had the cross-bar in his hands.

I want you to tell me where the cross bar, which rested on two uprights, was, when you first came out of the gate?—The upright pole had fallen to the ground.

What post was it that you saw the defendant grasping in his two hands when you came out of the gate?—The cross-bar which had been attached to the notice of no-thoroughfare was in defendant's hands.

At the time he was holding this cross bar, in what position was the upright post?—It had fallen to the ground in front.

Then you did not see him with that post in his hand?—I did not. I wish to state that when I came out of the gate, the upright post had fallen down, the lamp had been broken, and the accused was in the act of bringing the cross-bar in the direction of the gate.

Then how does the witness explain his statement of yesterday that defendant had pulled the cross bar out of the ground. I cannot understand how a cross-bar resting on two uprights had been pulled out of the ground?

The Interpreter—He said extracted.

His Honour—Did he say pulled out of the ground?—I meant that the cross bar as well as the side-posts on which it had rested, had been pulled up. One of the supports was pulled right up.

Mr. Lowder—When you say that he pulled this barrier out of the ground, do you mean that you saw him pull it out of the ground, or that he must have pulled it out of the ground?—I can't say that I saw the accused actually pulling the barrier out of the ground, but as I was opening the gate, which was only about 12 feet away, I heard a noise of that description, and also heard the upright falling—I heard the sound of posts falling.

Can you describe more minutely the noise of posts falling?—I heard pebbles falling, and wood wrenched and a rope being broken.

Might the sound not have been the sound of feet upon gravel?—No, because there were no passers-by.

But we know that there were two persons there, might it not be the sound of their feet upon the gravel?—No, for I know the distinction between feet treading upon gravel and the sound produced upon strength being applied to pull a post out of the ground.

Can you tell the Court of your own knowledge acquired before the occurrence how deeply those posts were fixed in the ground?—I can't tell the depth at which they were placed before the occurrence, but afterwards I found that it was more than 5 inches, besides a couple of inches of pebbles and gravel.

There were no stays to the uprights?—There were no supports to the uprights.

The centre upright which carried the notice board and the lamp merely rested on the ground without entering the soil, did it not?—That also entered the ground.

To the same depth as the others?—Yes, for something like 8 inches.

Have you got the lantern that you had in Court the other day?—No, we produced it the other day, but have not brought it to-day.

[A messenger was sent for the desired article.]

Referring to the evidence given by witness in reference to the throwing away of the oil-can out of the lamp, Counsel asked where the lantern was lying at the time the oil-can was extracted and the oil thrown away?—The lamp had been broken. I did not see him take the oil-can out of the lamp and throw it away to a distance of nine feet. The lamp being broken, the oil-can was naturally some distance away.

Then why did you say on the 17th during your statement-in-chief, that you saw the accused take the oil-can from inside the lamp and throw the oil can away a distance of nine feet, spilling the oil?

The Interpreter said that, as far as his remembrance went, witness said that he inferred accused broke the lantern.

Counsel repeated his question and witness said—I did not say I saw him throw the oil-can away; I said that it had been projected from the lamp 9 feet away.

Did you see the accused detach the upright post, to which the lamp was attached, from the cross-bar?—I saw the post falling. I did not see any cutting of the string, but I heard the rip of the rope just as the post fell. I came out of the gate just as the post was falling.

Now, how far was the post at that time from the hole in the ground where it had been?—About six feet away from the hole where it had been.

Did you take such particular attention at the time as to say positively that the lower end of the pole was about 6 feet away from the hole?—Yes.

How high up the pole had the lamp been fastened?—About half-way up the post; that is to say a little above the supports at the side.

About four feet from the ground?—About three Japanese feet.

Was the lantern still attached to the post when you saw it on the ground?—No, it was not. The top of the lantern, however, was still attached.

In what position was the lamp lying?—About one foot and a half to the right of the post

And where was accused standing?—Just in front of the gate of No. 3, when I came out, and six feet or so from where the lantern lay.

Is the lantern, now in Court, in the same state as when you first saw it after the occurrence?—Yes, there is no change.

There were no ragged edges of glass sticking in the sides—it was as clear a break as now shown?—There were no traces of broken glass left in the lantern at the sides.

Was it lying on its back, its side, or front?—Lying on its side.

In which direction had it fallen?—Towards No. 5.

What did you mean to convey when you said the two gentlemen re-erected or placed the notice-board in its former position?—They took it back and stood it up.

Was the barrier there for them to place the notice-board against?—They placed the cross-bar on the uprights, putting the uprights in their original holes. The notice-board could not be tied up again, so they placed it side-ways on top of the gravel. I do not know how firmly the posts were fixed in the ground.

Did you not see these gentlemen stamp the gravel down close to the posts, after they had been fixed in the ground, and then put stones around them as had been done before?—Yes, I saw them pressing gravel around the posts after they had put them in the ground.

In answer to further questions, witness said the notice-board was nailed to the post and not tied.

Mr. Lowder—Now, did the two gentlemen not take the rope, which fastened the upright post to the transverse beam, and attempt to fasten, as well as they were able, the upright post to the beam?—No, they did not.

Now, when the post and barrier had been replaced, were not the lantern and the oil-can inside in their proper places?—No, they were not, as the rope had been severed. The top of the lantern, the hood, was attached.

Did not the accused or Mr. Middleton ask you for a match to relight the oil-lamp that was in the lamp?—I don't understand English, so I cannot say for certain.

The English word match is commonly used by the Japanese to denote that implement, did you hear accused or Mr. Middleton use that word?—I did not hear them use the word.

Mr. Middleton will state in his evidence that when he asked you for a match you said you had not got one, and that he was about to go through Mr. Robison's gate to borrow one, when you prevented and stopped him; is that true?—I did not do anything of the kind. If they wanted a light, I had a lantern with a lighted candle inside, which, if they had thought it necessary, they could have used.

I understand then, that when you left the spot, the barrier had been re-erected, and the post was leaning against its former position, and the lamp and lantern were lying on the ground, is that so?—That is the position when I left.

Then they had done their best, under the circumstances, to replace things as they were?—They appeared to have had the intention to do all they could to remedy what their disorderly conduct had brought about.

They had apparently done their best to restore things to their original position?—Yes.

When you left for the police office, in order to give in your report, was the barrier standing as it had been re-erected?—No, it was not exactly in the same position as when they left it. When I left for the police station, about an hour afterwards, something had happened in the meantime. Shortly after they left, a passer by, coming in the direction from the Kencho, down Water Street, touched the upright and knocked it down. He only grazed loosely against it, and the wind might have blown it down. That was the only difference. Mr. Middleton's boy came out shortly afterwards and asked me why the posts were lying down, and I told him the facts.

Now, Mr. Middleton saw this post knocked down and heard the crash of the lamp as it was knocked down, is that not true?—I don't believe that Mr.

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Middleton can give any evidence of such a description. I can't believe that can be true, for this reason; the post fell through being brushed against by a sleeve, and therefore the force could not have been sufficient to send the oil-can to such a distance as previously mentioned.

Did you afterwards accompany the Inspector to the spot?—Yes.

Do you say the same thing as did the Inspector this morning, as to the positions on the ground of the barrier, cross-bar, etc.?—Yes, the passer-by knocked it down last, and I showed the Inspector what he had done, and this proves how ineffectually the accused and Mr. Middleton had re-erected the barrier.

Why did you not state these facts to the Court before?—I did not think it was necessary.

Did you report to the Inspector that defendant and Mr. Middleton having done their best to remedy affairs, a passer-by had come along and knocked the barrier down again?—I did.

In answer to further questions, witness said that Mr. Middleton's servant came up to him immediately after the passer-by had knocked down the barrier the second time. Continuing he said: I did not take any notice of the passer by when he knocked the barrier down, for he had nothing to do with the matter, having knocked down the barrier after the other affair occurred.

You told the messenger, did you not, that you had obtained the names of the gentlemen who had originally knocked down the barrier, and therefore it did not matter whether the passer by knocked the barrier down or not, as the responsibility rested with the gentlemen?—This was after I had been upstairs and obtained the names and the card from the accused, so it didn't matter.

His Honour—This is what you told the servant?—Yes.

Mr. Lowder—You also told him that the passer-by had stopped and offered to re-erect the barrier and you told him he need not do so, is not that so?—Yes

You told this passer-by when he offered to re-erect the barrier, "Oh, it doesn't matter, some foreigners knocked it down first, I have got their names, so you are not the first to knock it down, therefore it is not necessary to put it up again?"—I certainly did not say anything of the kind to the passer by.

At this point Inspector Yamaguchi Shigekiyo was again reminded by the Court that he could not rise and put any questions. The Court had offered to receive him as prosecutor on the first day, but he then declined, therefore he could not address the Court, having no right to do so.

Witness continuing said—I merely told the passer by that a slight push had sent it over.

Mr. Lowder—Although in your opinion unnecessary, do you not think it would have been fair and just to have told the Court at first that defendant and Mr. Middleton endeavoured to readjust the barrier to the best of their ability, instead of leaving it to me to extract the information in cross-examination?—I did not wish to speak uselessly, and take up the time of the Court by telling of what took place subsequently.

But don't you think it would have been fair and just to defendant to have stated it before?—I said in my evidence that he had replaced the post, and I did not think it necessary to relate matters which took place subsequently. I didn't think it necessary to go into fuller details than I gave in my first statement.

About what time was it when the passer-by knocked the barrier over again?—About an hour after

About two o'clock in the morning?—Yes, a little before two.

And from two o'clock till four o'clock in the morning the barrier was not lighted?—No. There was no light at the barrier from the time that it was knocked over by Mr. Gulland.

Did you know at the time that the object the barrier was lighted at night was to prevent accidents?—It is not for me to say what the original object of the barrier was, whether to prevent accidents happening to passers-by or for other reasons, to prevent disorder in the streets for instance.

Mr. Lowder said that he desired to make an explanation before he put his next few questions. Witness had told the Court in his evidence in-chief, and he led the Court to believe, that Mr. Middleton in the presence of the accused, offered to bribe the witness in order to hush up the matter, and therefore led on to the further inference that defendant might have acquiesced in the matter. Now, such a thing would undoubtedly tell against his client in the mind of the Court, and it was for the purpose of putting the matter straight that he stated the purpose for presently putting these questions, and in order that he might not be interrupted during their course. It was not, he wished it understood, for the purpose of putting Mr. Middleton straight before the public, that he put these questions, but for the sole purpose of assisting the Court and clearing the matter up.

His Honour—I understand. I perfectly recognise what an important bearing the matter has upon the case in regard to the defendant, and I think the questions should be put.

In answer to the question as to whether witness thought that Mr. Middleton proffered him a one *yen* note in order that he should overlook the affair, witness said—Yes, I inferred that the offer was made so that I should overlook the matter.

You said that this occurred in Mr. Middleton's house, did you not?—Yes, in the upstairs of No 23.

Now, Mr. Middleton says that it took place in the street, and before he went upstairs; may you not be mistaken?—That it is true on the part of Mr. Middleton. I think it is his mistake, for when the Inspector called next day, Mr. Middleton said he offered the one *yen* note upstairs.

Did you not report to the Inspector immediately after the occurence that it was Mr Gulland, and not Mr. Middleton who had offered you the note?—I did not. I did not say anything of the kind to the Inspector.

Mr Lowder—I should like to ask for the production of a letter addressed to Her Majesty's Consul, in which it is stated, I am led to believe, that Mr. Gulland is reported to have proffered the note

His Honour did not think that the letter could be found that evening

Mr. Lowder—Then I will suggest to witness that Mr. Middleton opened his card-case, and that he saw there the corner of a piece of folded paper. You pointed to it and Mr. Middleton taking it out, unfolded it before you for the purpose of showing you that it was not a card but a one *yen* note, and that this is really the incident which occurred?—I don't accept that explanation of the affair at all because he had cards in his case, and the next day the Inspector was told by Mr Middleton that the one *yen* note had been offered in mistake for a card

The Court adjourned at this point till 10 o'clock to-morrow.

TUESDAY, November 21st.

The Court resumed the hearing of the case at 10.15 a.m. to day.

Mr. Lowder said he asked a question the previous evening that might have led his Honour to believe that the letter from the *Kenji* contained a charge of attempted bribery against Mr. Gulland. The letter was certainly vaguely worded, and the complaint might equally apply to the accused or to Mr Middleton. He therefore wished to withdraw any imputations which might have been inferred from the wording of this question.

His Honour—I made no note of the answer to that question; it is not recorded on the minutes.

Mr. Lowder—But the question was asked, and I now wish to unhesitatingly withdraw any imputations that it might be made to convey.

His Honour—I understand.

Mr. Lowder then resumed his cross examination of constable Ikoshi Tatsumi. He first said—I would ask witness whether he took the name of the passer-by who overthrew the barrier?—No, I did not.

Is he to be called as a witness for the prosecution?—No, he has nothing to do with the case.

Did you not hear the servant of the accused tell the inspector next morning that it was the passer-by who had overturned the barrier and broken the lamp, and not the accused?—No, I did not hear him tell the inspector anything of the kind.

Mr. Lowder—That completes my cross-examination.

His Honour—How long had you been inside the gate of No. 3 before you came out to see the reason of the disturbance?—I went on duty at 12 o'clock, and had been on special duty therefore for one hour

He was on special duty inside the gate of No. 3?—Yes, inside the gate.

This closed the case for the prosecution.

Mr. Lowder—May it please your Honour According to the procedure of this Court, I shall not have an opportunity of addressing you again, so I will therefore make some pertinent remarks now upon the nature of the evidence which has been laid before you by the prosecution, as well as indicate the nature of the evidence which I intend to lead for the defence. I wish not only to remark upon the evidence already before the Court, but also as to the manner in which the prosecution has been conducted. At the outset I may say, that if what occurred or that night of the 2nd November had not been accidental, if on the occasion referred to the accused had wilfully damaged the bar erected in that street, I should, if I had been called here to represent him, have said on his behalf that he regretted what had occurred and would submit to the penalty that the Court might think fit to impose and proposed to award, and that he offered compensation to the aggrieved party, and there my duty would have ended. But what occurred that night was the result of purest accident. In making this accusation, and in prosecuting the charge before the Court the grossest exaggeration has been indulged in by the police man conducting the case; therefore the defendant has found it to be his duty, and owed it to himself, that the whole matter should be thoroughly inquired into and threshed out in open Court. In order to prove the charge, the prosecution had to show intention, gathered from the circumstances of the case. It is true that in law a man is considered to be prepared to intend the natural consequences of an unlawful act For instance, in throwing a stone, in riding an unruly horse among a crowd of people, or letting a dog, known to be ferocious, loose among an assemblage of persons; in all these unlawful acts the man is held responsible for any damage or injuries which may arise from them even though he had no intention of injuring any one. But if the act is not an unlawful act, then it lays with the prosecution to prove that it was committed with intention, that the act was intentional on the part of the accused person. In one case the law attributes intention, in the other the prosecution must prove the intention. Now, the question for the Court to decide is, I contend, this: was the act complained of the act of a wicked, depraved, or malignant person, or was it accidental, for no mere act of accident, negligence, or mischance, may be call an unlawful act, I will show you, by evidence which will be given under all the solemnity attendant upon an oath, that what occurred on the night in question was a matter of pure accident; that the accused and Mr. Middleton upon retiring, about half past twelve o'clock, from the United Club, where they in company of others, had been engaged in the harmless game of pyramids, proceeded on their way down Water Street, across which a barrier, which they knew to exist, was placed and had to be crossed. Counsel then described in detail the nature of the evidence given below. Continuing, Counsel said that the servant of Mr. Gulland himself interpreted to the inspector what accused said to the policemen the next morning when they came to make inquiries into the case. Mr. Gulland said then that he did not break the lamp. This was interpreted to the inspector, but when I asked him yesterday in cross-examination on this point, he denied that any such thing had been told him. This leads me on to the consideration of the manner in which this prosecution has been conducted, I should like to make a few remarks upon this phase of the matter. I have had 25 years' experience of the police court, both on the Bench and at the Bar, but never have I known a case so unfairly and so dishonestly brought before a Court of law. When the evidence of the two witnesses of the prosecution was taken and concluded, your Honour will find that the impression left on your mind was this, that the accused purposely upset the barrier, and then ran away; and that he had not taken any steps to remedy the damage he may have committed, Both the inspector and the constable's evidence left this same impression. Counsel then proceeded to quote the opening sentences of the inspector's evidence in-chief, wherein the position of the barrier was described, adding that witness stated in answer to the Bench that "there was no reason why the barrier should have fallen down unless some one had removed it." It was reported to him by Mr. Ikoshi that the accused had done his best to repair the damage done, but that fact he carefully concealed from you Honour. He did not mention it at all, neither did the constable mention it during his statement-in chief. Their evidence led your Honour to believe, led everybody who heard it to believe, that when the Inspector arrived at the spot, about 2 o'clock, he found the barrier exactly in the same position as it had been left by the defendant. Why did he leave out the very pertinent fact that defendant had done all that he could to remedy whatever damage had been done? Simply because of this, he wanted to lead the Court to believe that whatever defendant had done, he had done with malicious intention. That supposition is borne out all the way through by the action of the prosecution, but more particularly by their manner of dealing with this one fact. There is no doubt, after what came out in the course of cross-examination, that the evidence of both witnesses was tinged by the desire to suppress a portion of the truth. We have not got in evidence that anybody appeared upon the scene who can state what actually took place outside the gate of No. 3 on the night in question. The witness Ikoshi said: "I saw all this through the gate at No. 3," and it early appeared in the prosecution that the witness had drawn inferences as to what occurred, or was

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occurring, from hearing certain noises. He had to admit that in cross examination I asked him various questions as to the positions of the different portions of the barrier, and I asked him what he meant when he said he saw the defendant pull up the post that was in his hands. He thereupon explained that he did not actually see him pull the post out of the ground, but seeing defendant holding the post in his hands he knew that he must have pulled it up out of the ground. Questioned further, he said he heard through the gate the sound of falling gravel, the severing of a rope, and then the fall of a post to the ground. Pressed on the point, he said that he did not see any of these things occur, but that he only inferred they happened by the sounds he heard. I am more than surprised that any person could be found who could expect that any intelligent person would believe such evidence as that, more especially that it would be received in a court of law. Passing on to the evidence given in regard to the position of the centre pole of the barrier, Counsel said that witness testified that the pole was in the act of falling to the ground as he emerged from the gate. Questioned as to how far the lower end of the pole lay from the hole where it originally stood, witness said that it was quite 6 feet. Now the pole had not been thrown down, witness proved that it only fell, and yet he asks us to believe that in its fall it fell over 6 feet away from its original base. But in his statement mischief witness had led the Court to believe that the pole had been violently thrown down. In his first statement too, he said that he had seen the accused take the oil-can out of the lamp and throw it away for a distance of 9 feet, but in his cross examination he said that in using the word thrown he meant to convey the impression not that the oil can had been taken out and thrown away, but that it had been ejected to a distance of 9 feet when the pole had fallen. Now I suggest that he used the expression in the first instance in order to mislead the Court, not thinking that he would be subjected to such a strict cross examination upon the point. In this, as with other statements made in regard to the falling of the post, such as "the passer by only brushed the barrier as he passed," and that "the force with which the pole then fell was not sufficient to send the oil-can and lamp to such a distance," these lead only to this conclusion that his original evidence was the evidence which he wished the Court to believe, that is that the accused took out the oil can himself and threw the oil-can a distance of 9 feet away from its original place. That the lamp fell with the barrier on the second occasion did not come out until one was compelled to tell the Court that it did do so, in the course of my cross-examination. The prosecution undertook to prove that the road over which the barrier was placed, in order to close the street to the thoroughfare of horses, cattle, vehicles, etc., was under repair, but not a vestige of evidence was produced upon the point. That the road was also vested in the local authority—another point which it was incumbent, according to the Statute, for the prosecution to prove—not a bit of evidence was called to prove; the Act also provides that the local authorities should erect across the street a bar or chain—

His Honour—Wait a moment. I think you are rather straining the point. The Inspector, who would be the proper authority, I think, to give that information, said in evidence that when he went his rounds he inspected the barriers; that would prove to some extent that the officers of the police had authority to look after the condition in which the bars are kept.

Mr. Lowder—My point, the point that I was coming to, your Honour, is that the barrier was not such an one, not a bar or chain as contemplated by the Act.

His Honour—That is another point.

Mr. Lowder—It is the point I wish to make: that the authorities, whoever they may be, did not put up a bar or barrier sufficiently strong as to be reasonably useful for the purpose intended. The law was passed for the main purpose of preventing accidents, and I think it has been proved that the barrier in the present case was not sufficiently strong to prevent accidents occurring; therefore, proper precautions have not been taken to prevent accidents. When I put this question to the prosecuting witness, that gentleman coolly put his head in his hand and said in effect, really I am not here to say whether the bar was placed in the street to prevent accidents, or to prevent disorderly conduct from occurring in the street. I am not here to say what the object of the barrier was. Now I submit that it was the duty of the prosecution to prove the purpose for which the barrier was erected.

His Honour—I do not go quite so far as that.

Mr. Lowder—With due submission, I say that if one section of the Act is to be applied, then the whole of the provisions of the Act must be applied in their entirety. The accused is only here because he is charged with removing a bar, and I say that that bar was not in accordance with the provisions of the Act.

His Honour—I admit the bar was not such as contemplated by the Act.

Mr. Lowder—Then suppose the policeman had himself placed the bar in the street to prevent disorderly conduct?

His Honour—Yes, quite so.

Mr. Lowder—Then my argument is that the bar was placed there for the purpose of preventing accidents. I put these questions to the prosecutor in order to ascertain the fact, but the constable who appears here as prosecutor answered me quite flippantly.

His Honour—I have a note of something to that effect too.

Mr. Lowder—My only point is that it lies upon the prosecution to prove that the barrier was placed in its original position, where it was found by us used, in accordance with the provisions of the Statute under which this prosecution is brought. But the inspector did not know, or did not care to tell us, and the prosecuting witness declined to furnish that information. The prosecution also undertook to prove that the accused had taken down, altered, and broken a barrier, and extinguished a light without the permission of the authorities. Now the prosecution did not take the trouble to prove that they are in a position to bring such a charge. Section 253 of the Public Health Act of 1875 provides that:—Proceedings for the recovery of any penalty under this Act shall not, except as in this Act expressly provided, be had or taken by any person other than by a party aggrieved, or by the local authority of the district in which the offence is committed, without the consent in writing of the Attorney-General," etc. It is necessary that the procedure laid down in the Act should be strictly observed, and therefore that a prosecution against any breach of the Act should be instituted either by the party aggrieved or by the local authority of the district. There has been nothing placed on record in this Court to prove that this prosecution has been instituted by the Local Authorities. Section 259 of the Act says—"Any local authority may appear before any Court, or in any legal proceeding by their clerk, or by any officer or member authorised generally or in respect of any special proceeding by resolution of such authority, and their clerk, or any officer or member so authorised shall be authority to institute and carry on any proceedings which the local authority is authorised to institute and carry on under the Act." I submit, therefore, that it is absolutely necessary that it shall not be left to the police department, or to any policeman to institute proceedings that should be instituted by the Local Authorities. If any policeman who fancies that there has been a violation of this Act, or that any provision of it has been broken by any British subject, and is allowed to bring the charge here himself, the time of the Court will be taken up with the hearing of innumerable trumpery charges. I lay stress on the fact that this charge cannot be brought by the police, but only by the Local authorities through its clerk or other authorised person, and therefore on that ground this prosecution must fail.

George Walworth Middleton, a merchant, at present residing in Yokohama, sworn, deposed—I remember the morning of the 2nd November. I was returning from the Yokohama Club with the accused. It was about half-past twelve. I had been dining with accused and had been playing pyramids together along with others, at the Club. He resides at my house at No. 23. Neither the accused nor myself had been drinking to excess. Most decidedly not. We were perfectly sober.

Mr. Lowder—I must apologise for putting these questions, but accused has been charged with disorderly conduct.

Witness continuing—Living with accused, I know that he is not a person who would be guilty of disorderly conduct. On the night in question he was neither disorderly nor uproarious. Between the Club and my house, a barrier was erected half way across the street. I went round the end of the barrier that was on my right and passed it. The accused did not go round the end of the barrier that was on his left, by reason of the position of the pole. The end of the pole was very much nearer the wall on the left hand side of the road, and in the dim light one could more easily step over the barrier, than pass round the end, the end being so close to the wall. One would have had to get into the gutter to pass round. There was also an obstacle in the gutter. It was one of those large stones that they have here to cover the drains. The light was very dim. Accused, I have reason to believe, is short-sighted. He had, from my knowledge, passed the barrier before, and was acquainted with the position of the stone in the gutter. The bar sloped to the ground. At the point where the accused stepped over, the bar was low enough to be easily crossed. The bar consisted of three uprights and one transverse pole. To the centre upright was attached a notice-board and a lamp. The lower end of the centre-upright did not pierce the ground. It may have just entered the gravel which had just been placed on the road, but it was not inserted into the ground. The other two uprights pierced the soil slightly. They were not firmly fixed. I could very easily have lifted the whole affair with both hands. In stepping over the pole I saw the accused put out his hand and grasp one of the uprights. The result was that the whole thing collapsed. I assisted him to try and get the thing back into position, and for the moment was unsuccessful. I saw the accused pass rapidly from towards the end of the pole to the centre, and grasp the centre upright. That was because the centre upright was falling over. He picked it up. It was at this moment that the policeman Ikoshi made his appearance. The lamp did not become detached or broken when the centre-post fell. The oil can did not leave the lamp. In the presence of the police we two set to work to replace the barrier in its original position. We refixed the uprights on either side more firmly than they had been originally fixed. The centre upright was made fast to the cross-bar by the same rope that had been broken as it fell. I myself remended the rope and fetched the post in position. The lantern, and the oil can inside it, were then in their original positions. I asked Ikeshi, the policeman, for a match. He replied in Japanese. I understood him to mean that he had none. The word *arimasen* was included in the phrase. I intended relighting the lamp with the match. I then started to go to get a match from the *momban* at No. 3. As I turned to do this, the policeman took his whistle from his pocket and was about to blow upon it. This prevented me from carrying out my intention. Prior to this the policeman had been importuning accused and myself for our cards. I did not see any reason why I should give him my card, for I could not see that we had done anything wrong. But I did take out my card-case, at first, however, with the intention of complying with the request, but then I altered my mind. In following my inclination to give the policeman a card I had withdrawn the card-case from my pocket before changing my mind, and it was opened in my left hand. In the left side pocket of the case was a one-*yen* note. I continued to object to giving my card and the policeman in his desire to secure one, I assumed pointed to that one *yen* note, and asked me what it was. With the purpose of demonstrating to him that I meant to act fairly, I mean by that to show him that it was not a card, I withdrew the note from the book, and turning partly from him unfolded and displayed it on both sides, still with the purpose of showing him that it was not a card. He made a gesture of non desire with his hand, and I at once said to him, "Why, you didn't expect to get it, did you?" I then returned it to the book, and the book to my pocket. I decidedly made no gesture that could be construed into offering it to him. I had no intention of offering the man the note. I am quite sure that this affair occurred in the street and not in the house. I am quite certain that it did occur in the street. No similar incident occurred in the house. On the following morning I explained in English to this inspector, exactly what I have now stated to the Court, and it was then translated into Japanese. To the best of my knowledge and belief I explained to the Inspector that same morning the whole circumstances which I have now stated to the Court, and also those I am about to state. The policeman Ikoshi was invited into the house by accused, after he had made as if to blow his whistle. Prior to that he had asked us to go to the police station with him. We asked him into the house, in order that he might know where to find us in the morning if necessary. While in the house he again asked for a card or my name. Accused then went into an adjoining room and I brought a card which he gave to the policeman. I did not give him one of mine, but he obtained my name from my boy and then went away. In my room at No. 23, there is a round window overlooking the spot where the barrier had been re-erected by us. I was looking out of that window when I saw a coolie approach the barrier and knock it down. He did not brush against it lightly, but ran against it with sufficient violence to throw it down with a crash. I heard a crash of glass. It was the glass of the lantern. I actually saw the lantern fall at that time. Prior to this, the glass of the lamp had not been broken. I sent my servant, immediately upon hearing the crash, to the policeman Ikoshi. The message I gave him, was to tell the constable

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what I had seen, and to ask him why he had not taken steps to prevent the coolie from throwing over the barrier. I decidedly wish to convey the impression that the barrier was thrown over on purpose. I wished my servant also to ask why the coolie was not prevented from going away. The reply my servant brought back was, as nearly as I could understand, that, as the coolie had thrown down the barrier by accident, it was unnecessary to stop him. He said more which I did not understand at the time, but which has been interpreted since. On the following morning accused and myself explained all these matters to the inspector through the police-interpreter, that interpreter having been brought by the inspector himself. My own servant and Mr Gulland's were, off and on, in the room, assisting in interpreting and giving the explanations. This was before either myself or accused were dressed, we still had on our sleeping clothes. We had both been asked by the interpreter of the Police Inspector to come to the police-station and had replied that we would do so at eleven o'clock that day. We did not go to the station at eleven because the inspector elected to come and take our explanation on the spot, then and there. To my knowledge, no complaint has been laid at my own Consulate against me in consequence of the occurrence of that night.

The Court then adjourned for tiffin. On re-assembling,

Mr. Lowder said he had one other question to ask:—Did witness endeavour to find out the passer-by who knocked down the barrier?—I did, but was not successful.

Cross-examined—It was not a mistake when I said that we did not make a disturbance in the street that night. The place was very dim. The lamp did not throw any particular light on the transverse pole, and the street lamp threw a ray of light diagonally across Water Street. I did not measure the distance between the gas lamp and the barrier, but it might have been 20 to 25 feet; it might not have been so far. The rope that tied the lamp to the post was not broken, but the straw-rope tying the cross-bar was broken.

The Prosecutor—I had a lantern in my hand, and I don't admit that I refused you a match, but why did you not light the lamp from my lantern?—For the simple reason that you had no lamp.

His Honour—He had no lamp?—He had no lamp.

Witness, resuming—I did not change my mind in regard to giving the policeman a card, until after I had taken out my card-case. My first inclination was to accede to the policeman's demand, that is the reason why I had the card-case in my hand.

Have you really forgotten that you took the one *yen* note out of the case, in a room in your house?—I have not, for such a thing never happened.

The man who passed was not a coolie, but a man in ceremonial dress. Now you said the barrier made a noise of falling when the person brushed against it, what kind of noise did you hear?—That of the barrier giving away and of falling glass.

Do you think that a Japanese would have upset the barrier, seeing that it was lighted and that I was standing there by it?—I have stated a fact; it is no question of the characteristics of Japanese to do or not do such a thing. I have no animus in this matter.

The Prosecutor—There are not any such Japanese about who would upset a barrier like that.

His Honour—This is entering upon general questions; you must confine yourself to the evidence.

The Prosecutor—What do you mean by saying that there was not sufficient room for defendant to pass his end of the barrier?—I think that accused was justified in doing what he did, stepping over the barrier, because it was very difficult to pass along that end of the street without brushing the buildings. I know this from my own experience.

Are there not four feet between the end of the barrier and the wall?—I should say certainly not.

If accused put the barrie back in its original position, how was it that he was bringing the upright pole in the direction of No. 3 when I came out of the gate?—The accused took hold of the centre-upright for the purpose of lifting the barrier straight; he had not taken one step in the direction of No. 3.

Was he not just opposite the gate when I came out? No.

The inspector was under the impression that the incident of the one *yen* note took place upstairs in the house, did you tell him so?—I did not, nor did I tell him I had made a mistake in regard to it. I remember that the policeman accused me of making the offer of the dollar note, and that I explained the circumstances of the affair.

If it was an open dollar note, how did you mistake it for a visiting card?—I did not mistake it for a card.

Was it folded in four?—It was.

Why did you take me upstairs to your house?—To satisfy you that we were in the right.

Inspector Yamaguchi here asked if he might take the prosecutor's place.

His Honour—We can't shift the prosecutor. You have the opportunity of advising the prosecutor every opportunity.

His Honour—What was the width of the street at the barrier from wall to wall?

Mr. Lowder—That would be difficult to answer for reason of the recess at Mr. Robison's.

Witness—From gutter to gutter it would be about 18 feet.

Omikawa Yonezo, servant to Mr. Gulland, deposed—I remember the morning of the 2nd of November. At Mr. Middleton's request—I was acting as interpreter at the time and there was a police interpreter there also—I told the inspector that he and Mr. Gulland had re-erected a barrier in the street after a coolie had come along and knocked it down.

Mr. Lowder—My question was whether he told the inspector from Mr. Middleton, that he (Mr. Middleton) had seen a coolie come along and knock down the barrier?—I told the inspector that Mr. Middleton and Mr. Gulland re-erected the barrier after a coolie had overturned it.

I want to know whether Mr. Gulland denied breaking the lamp?—Yes, Mr. Gulland denied it. I interpreted Mr. Gulland's statements to the inspector. I told the inspector that Mr. Gulland denied breaking the lamp or throwing it away. Mr. Gulland had been charged with doing that by the policeman, and he said that he had merely put the posts back in their former position.

Cross-examined by the prosecuting constable—Did Mr. Gulland tell you that the coolie came along and knocked the barrier over with violence and he, Mr Gulland, came along afterwards?—The barrier was tumbled down by a coolie.

His Honour—Did Mr. Gulland say that?—Mr. Middleton said that. Mr. Gulland merely referred to the place where the barrier fell. He said when the policemen said that the barrier had been thrown a distance of 18 feet from their original position, that he had only re-erected it.

The Prosecutor—Did they tell you that they threw it down themselves, or whether some one else threw it down and they then replaced it?—What I heard was that some coolie had tumbled the barrier down, Mr. Middleton and Mr. Gulland had come along afterwards and put it up.

His Honour—It seems a case of darkness that can be felt. I don't think this witness is throwing any light upon the affair. If he persists in his remarks I will take them down. I don't think this witness is an intelligent man, and therefore we need not proceed further.

The Prosecutor—The evidence of Mr. Middleton was vague upon the same point, and I am sorry this man does not make the case more plain.

Witness stood down.

His Honour—Are there any further witnesses?

Mr Lowder—That is the defence, your Honour.

His Honour—Has defendant anything he wishes to say?

Defendant—I am quite satisfied with the manner in which the case has been presented by my Counsel.

The Court then adjourned for a quarter of an hour.

His Honour upon returning to the Bench, said—I do not propose to traverse the whole of the lengthy evidence in this case, but merely to indicate the points which have influenced my mind in coming to a decision. I confess I have received a very unfavourable impression of the evidence tendered by the prosecution by the disclosure that the barrier to which reference has been made was knocked down again subsequently to the incident in which the accused was concerned and previous to the time at which it was seen by the inspector, as described in his evidence. The impression was left on the mind of the Court by the evidence-in-chief of the prosecuting witness, and the whole of the evidence of the inspector, that the barrier, when seen by the latter, as well as the lamp, was in the position in which it had been left at the termination of the incident referred to. It appears from the evidence of the prosecuting witness on cross examination, that this was not so, and he states there also that he had reported this to the inspector. The inspector, on the contrary, states that such was not reported to him, that in the policeman's report there was nothing beyond what he had stated in his evidence-in-chief. This destroys the whole evidence of the inspector about the position of the broken down barrier, as far as the accused is affected, and it utterly destroys the credibility of the evidence of the prosecuting policeman. While the evidence of the latter has thus the fault of a *suppressio veri*, the two taken together distinctly contain a *suggestio falsi*. Unfortunately for them, for the prosecutor's own case, he is unable to say for what purpose the bar referred to in this case was erected or for what purpose the light was placed there. No conviction on the present charge could possibly take place unless these points were clearly ascertained and proved. As to the incident itself in which the accused was concerned, it was so obviously a mere accident that I do not for a moment expatiate on it, and the extent of this accident even has been grossly exaggerated by the prosecuting witness. The Court will only further remark that in prosecuting a charge of this nature the Local Authorities should appoint a prosecutor clearly and fully authorised to conduct the case as affecting the municipal regulations of the street. The prosecutor in the present case, as I have just pointed out, even repudiated knowledge of the reason why the barrier and light were there. The charge is therefore dismissed. I congratulate the accused that his lengthy defence has served to show his complete innocence.

Mr. Lowder—May I ask for costs?

His Honour—It is the rule of this Court never to give costs against Japanese prosecutors when they appear, as in this instance, in a case which is undertaken through the Local Authorities.

Mr. Lowder then left the Court, but His Honour, not perceiving his absence in the thick darkness, the Bench alone being illuminated by a glimmering candle, added that it was not customary to give costs against Japanese prosecutors when they were not represented by Counsel.

The Court then rose.

(In Admiralty.)

Before R. A. Mowat, Esq., Judge.—Friday, November 24th, 1893.

JAMES TROUP, ESQ., H.B.M.'s CONSUL, PLAINTIFF, *v.* THE MASTER OF THE "MAUD S.," DEFENDANT.

When this case was called at 10.30 to-day, Mr. H. C. Litchfield, Crown Prosecutor, announced that he appeared on behalf of the plaintiff, James Troup, Esq., H.B.M.'s Consul.

Mr. Duncan McNeil said he appeared on behalf of the owner and master of the *Maud S.*, the defendant.

Mr. Litchfield said the proceedings in the present case were brought in Admiralty, the Court being asked to adjudicate in the case of the British schooner *Maud S.*, which was found by a Russian cruiser within certain specific limits of Russian territory in the course of the preceding summer. The circumstances under which the proceedings arose were briefly these. For some time past there has grown up, or is growing up, a trade or industry in the taking of a harmless animal, called the fur seal, in the latitudes around and about the Russian coasts and islands. In the present year certain arrangements were concluded between the Government of Great Britain and the Government of Russia, under which arrangement it was agreed that British ships should not kill, take, or hunt for seals within certain specific distances of Russian territory, and these distances were assigned, under the Seals Prohibition Order in Council of July 4, as to marine miles of the Russian seaboard of the North Pacific Ocean and within 30 marine miles of certain islands called the Komandorsky group and Tuléniew or Robben Island. It was within a distance of 30 miles of Copper Island, which forms the more southern portion of the before-mentioned group, that the offence which gave rise to these proceedings is alleged to have taken place. I do not think it necessary to take up the time of the Court further with a detailed description of the affair, but I will direct your Honour's attention to the Act which was passed in consequence of the recent arrangements which, as I have already said, were come to between the two Governments, and under which the present prosecution is brought. The Act was passed by the British Legislature on the 29th June, 1893, and is entitled the 56-57 Vic., chap. 23, its short title being the "Seal Fisheries (North Pacific) Behring Sea Act, 1893. The first section of the Act was then quoted by Counsel. Having cited the preamble, Counsel proceeded to read as follows:—"1 Her Majesty may, by Order in Council, prohibit during the period specified by the Order, the catching of seals by British ships in such parts of the seas to which this Act applies as are specified in the Order. 2. While an Order in Council under this Act is in force—(*a*) a person belonging to a British ship shall not kill, take, or hunt or attempt to kill or take, any seal during the period and within the seas specified by the Order; and (*b*) a British ship shall not, nor shall any of the equipment or crew thereof be used or employed in such killing, taking, hunting, or attempt." The fourth subsection of the Act says:—Any

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commissioned officer on full pay in the naval service of Her Majesty the Queen shall have power, during the period and in the seas specified by the Order, to stop and examine any British ship, and to detain her, or any portion of her equipment, or any of her crew, if in his judgment the ship is being, or is preparing, to be used or employed in contravention of this Act."

His Honour—You might quote the 3rd sub-section too.

Mr. Litchfield—Very well, your Honour. It says:—If there is any contravention of this Act, any person committing, procuring, aiding, or abetting such contravention shall be guilty of a misdemeanour within the meaning of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1854, and the ship and her equipment, and everything on board thereof, shall be liable to be forfeited to Her Majesty as if an offence had been committed under section one hundred and three of the said Act, and the provisions of sections one hundred and three and one hundred and four and part ten of the said Act, and of section thirty-four of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1876 (which are set out in the schedule of this Act) shall apply as if they were herein enacted, and to terms made applicable to an offence and forfeiture under this Act, and any commissioned officer on full pay in the naval service of Her Majesty the Queen may seize the ship's certificate of registry. The 5th sub section relates to the manner of carrying into effect an arrangement with any foreign State, and states that an Order in Council under this Act provides the procedure to be followed, etc. The 6th sub-section I shall also cite. It runs: If during the period and within the seas specified by the Order a British ship is found having on board thereof fishing or shooting implements or seal skins or bodies of seals, it shall lie on the owner or master of such ship to prove that the ship was not used or employed in contravention of this Act." The Order in Council passed on the July, 1893 provides that:—"1. From and after the fourth day of July, one thousand eight hundred and ninety-three, until the first day of January, one thousand eight hundred and ninety-four, the catching of seals by British ships is hereby prohibited within such parts of the seas to which the recited Act applies as are comprised within the following zones, that is to say (*i.*) a zone of ten marine miles on all the Russian coasts of Behring Sea and the North Pacific Ocean, and (*ii.*) a zone of thirty marine miles round the Komondorsky Islands and Tuléniew (Robben Island). 2. The powers which under the recited Act may be exercised by the Captain or other officer in command of His Imperial Majesty the Emperor of Russia in relation to a British ship, and the equipment and crew and certificate thereof." It would appear from the protocol of arrest and search of the vessel—under the 3rd section of the Act this document is to be made and used as evidence in proceedings—that on the 29 August, 1893, in lat 44'16, N., long. 168'38, E, at a distance of 22 miles from the southern point of Copper Island, the I.R.M.S. *Yakout*, about five o'clock in the morning, saw the *Maud S.* sailing off the shore; a search was made and on board were found implements for the catching of seals, and two bodies of freshly killed seals. The papers of the vessel were consequently detained by the commanding officer of the Russian cruiser and by him were forwarded to the British Consular authorities here in Yokohama, in accordance with the provisions of the Act. The following petition has been filed in the case:—

PETITION.

1. The Plaintiff was on or before 15th, August, 1893, and has ever since been and still is H.B.M. Consul at Yokohama in the district of Kanagawa, and during such period has been and still is a British Consular officer within the intent and meaning of the 101 Section of the Merchant Shipping Act 1884, and the Seal Fishery (North Pacific) Act 1893.

2. Before and on 17th August, 1893, the schooner vessel *Maud S.* was within the meaning of the aforesaid Acts a British vessel, and was registered at the registry of shipping at Victoria in British Columbia as a British ship in the names of Robert E. McKeil, of Victoria, master mariner, and Thomas H. Browne, Sydney British Columbia, hunter, as owners.

3. In the year 1893 and prior to the Acts hereinafter mentioned, by arrangement between Her Britannic Majesty and His Imperial Majesty the Emperor of Russia it was agreed that the catching by British ships of fur seals within certain limits around and about Russian territory in the Behring Sea and parts of the North Pacific Ocean should be prohibited.

4. For the purpose of enabling Her Majesty's Government to carry out the terms of the aforesaid arrangement in Order in Council bearing date 4th day of July, 1893 was under the sanction of the Seal Fishery (North Pacific) Act 1893, issued, specifying the parts of the said Sea to which the said Act should apply and thereby prohibiting the hunting, taking, and killing, or the attempting to take or kill the fur seal by British ships or of the crews thereof within a zone of thirty miles around Komondorsk Islands and Tuléniew (Robben Island among other places and districts specified in the said Order in Council.

5. On 17th August, 1893, the said schooner or vessel *Maud S.*, being then in latitude 54 16 North and longitude 168'36 East and within the zone distance or limit so prescribed as aforesaid around and about Copper Island (one of the Komandorsky Islands, within which hunting is by the aforesaid Act and Order in Council prohibited, did then and there kill and take and hunt for and attempt to kill and take certain seals in contravention of the Act of Parliament in that behalf made and provided and of the Order in Council issued in pursuance of and under the provisions of the aforesaid Act.

6. On or about 17th Aug., 1893, the said *Maud S.*, being then in latitude 54'.6 N. and longitude 168'36 East and within the aforesaid limit of thirty miles from Copper Island was seized by the Captain of the Russian cruiser *Yakout*, who afterwards sent the papers of the said schooner to the Captain of the H.M.S. *Archer*, by whom the same were forwarded to the Plaintiff.

7. The Plaintiff as a British Consular Officer as aforesaid, has seized and detained the said schooner as having become subject to forfeiture to H.M. and has brought her for adjudication before this Court pursuant to the Act and Order in Council respectively before mentioned.

The Plaintiff therefore prays—

1. That sentence of adjudication be passed by this Court upon the aforesaid vessel *Maud S.*

2. That the said vessel *Maud S.* be declared to be forfeited to Her Majesty, and that a decree of condemnation and sale may be granted and issued accordingly.

That the owners of the said vessel be decreed to pay costs of these proceedings.

To this petition the following answer has been filed on behalf of the master:—

ANSWER.

1. The said Robert E. McKeil is the master of the schooner *Maud S* and is also the registered owner of ⅔ shares in the said schooner.

2. The said Robert E. McKeil admits the truth of the allegations of fact contained in paragraphs 1 to 4 of the petition, and he also admits that the said schooner has been detained by the Plaintiff.

3. Save as aforesaid, the said Robert E. McKeil does not admit the truth of any of the allegations of fact contained to said petition, and as a further answer to the petition and by way of counter claim the said Robert E. McKeil repeats paragraph 1, and refers to the statement admitted in paragraph of this answer and says as follows:—

4. The said schooner arrived in Yokohama on 25th day of September, 1893, and has ever since been detained by the Plaintiff. The institution of these proceedings has been delayed and the said schooner has been detained for an unreasonable length of time, and the said Robert E. McKeil has by such detention suffered loss and damage to the amount of $1,500.

The said Robert E. McKeil therefore prays—

1. The petition of the Plaintiff may be dismissed.

2. That the Plaintiff may be ordered to pay to him the sum of $1,500.

3. That the Plaintiff may be ordered to pay the costs of these proceedings.

These are the petition and answer filed in the case, and in reference to the counter-claim I may refer your Honour to the Act under which the proceedings were instituted. That Act incorporates section 103 of the British Merchant Shipping Act; and, I may add, that this new Act also embodies section 104 of the B.M.S. Act. They read. Section 103.—"And in order that the above provisions as to forfeitures may be carried into effect, it shall be lawful for any commissioned officer on full pay in the military or naval service of Her Majesty, or any British officer of Customs, or any British Consular officer, to seize and detain any ship which has, either wholly or as to any share therein, become subject to forfeiture as aforesaid, and to bring her for adjudication before the High Court of Admiralty in England or Ireland, or any Court having Admiralty jurisdiction in Her Majesty's dominions; and such Court may therein make such order in the case as it may think fit, and may award to the officer bringing in the same for adjudication such portion of the proceeds of the sale of any forfeited ship or share as it may think right." While section 104 says:—2.—"No such officer as aforesaid shall be responsible, either civilly or criminally, to any person whomsoever, in respect of the seizure or detention of any ship that has been seized or detained by him in pursuance of the provisions herein contained, notwithstanding that such ship is not brought in for adjudication, or, if so brought in, is declared not to be liable to forfeiture, if it is shown to the satisfaction of the Judge or Court before whom any trial relating to such ship or such seizure or detention is held that there were reasonable grounds for such seizure or detention; but if no such grounds are shown, such judge or court may award payment of costs and damages to any party aggrieved, and make such other order in the premises as it thinks just." This being so, I propose now to call before the Court H.B.M.'s Consul, the nominal plaintiff in this case, who will prove that he received the protocol of arrest, and other documents belonging to the ship *Maud S.* It will therefore lay upon the defendant to make out his case and prove exemption from his liability under the Act to which I have just referred.

James Troup, Esq., was then sworn and said:—I am Her Britannic Majesty's Consul in Yokohama. In the course of this autumn I received a despatch relating to the *Maud S.* It came from Captain Scott Rogers, Commander of H.B.M. ship *Archer*. I now produce it. The papers referred to in the despatch consisted of a letter from the Captain of H.I.R.M. ship *Yakout* to the Captain of the *Archer*, and documents in Russian, and a translation of them into English. The English translation is endorsed by the master of the *Maud S.* The documents referred to two vessels, but I only produce those relating to the *Maud S.*

Mr. Litchfield then read the letter of Captain Scott Rogers.

Witness continuing—I also received a translation of the protocol of arrest, with a translation in English. This is also signed by Capt. Scott Rogers.

Mr. McNeil—I think that under the terms of the Act I am entitled to object to the production of the protocol, as it is not proved that the person who made that arrest was entitled to undertake any such proceeding. We have not yet got it in evidence that the *Yakout* was a war vessel within the meaning of the Act. Indeed, I am informed that it was not a war vessel at all, but merely an ordinary steamer chartered by the Russian authorities for the purpose of patrolling the waters mentioned in the Act. I think, therefore, it is a question that has to be decided whether the *Yakout* is a vessel-of-war as defined in the Order in Council.

His Honour—I think we had better go on; we can get evidence probably later upon the point as to the status of the vessel.

Mr. McNeil—That she is a vessel of war under the meaning of the Act?

His Honour—Yes. At present we have not taken any evidence.

Witness continuing—I believe the document in English to be a translation of the Russian papers. I had a conversation subsequently with Capt. Scott Rogers upon the point which satisfied me that it is what it purports to be.

Mr. McNeill—Of course I shall object to the translation of the Russian protocol.

His Honour—Yes, you are entitled to do so.

Witness—The documents which I received also included the ship's papers, which I now hand in. The *Maud S.* was in the port of Yokohama in the spring of this year, and among the papers are two dispatches sent by me to the master of the schooner regarding the proposals that had been made by Russia to the English Government in reference to the prohibited zone, and advising him to obtain particulars of the proposals; and also one drawing his attention to the notice published in the local papers warning masters of British sealing ships from proceeding to waters adjacent to Russian territory without first obtaining a license to do so. There was also a letter among the papers of the *Maud S.*, initialed by the master, which had been received from the deputy Minister of Marine in Canada, giving the same prohibitory warning to British ship masters proceeding to the North Pacific.

His Honour (to Mr. McNeil)—I suppose you do not deny the receipt of the prohibition?

Mr. McNeil—I admit receipt of the Canadian notice, but I do not admit anything else in regard to the prohibition. The notice was signed before the passing of the Act.

Witness—I remember the *Maud S.* arriving in Yokohama in the autumn of this year. I could not swear to the date of arrival, but it was not far off the date of the arrival of H.M.S. *Archer* and the receipt of these documents. I received from Mr. Hodges, who is responsible to me as shipping clerk at this Consulate, the following document, which he received from the master of the *Maud S.* It is a temporary certificate and describes the ship and her equipment and also the details of the arrest, and was given to the master by the Captain of the Russian transport *Yakout* to enable the schooner to come down here.

Mr. Litchfield then read the document which ordered the master of the *Maud S.* to proceed to Yokohama at once, and on arrival there to immediately appear before H.B.M.'s Consul.

Cross-examined by Mr. McNeil—I have detained the ship in Yokohama since her arrival.

Why did you detain her?—For the purpose of submitting the case to the Court for the Court to adjudicate upon it.

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Did you then know the terms of the Act authorising you to do so?—No, not then; but I had received official telegraphic instructions that the Order in Council had been passed.

Did you know that Captain McKeil had seen the Act?—I understood at first that he had, but afterwards I found that he had not seen the Act.

Re-examined by Mr. Litchfield—I might have had a copy of the Order in Council when the *Maud S.* arrived in Yokohama, but I am not sure, and would not like to swear to it unless I refer to the Shipping Office ledger.

His Honour—It was published in the *London Gazette* on July 5th, and the *Maud S.* arrived here on the 25th September.

Witness—I had had telegraphic information of the contents of the Order in Council and accordingly published a notification in the papers about the prohibited zone before the arrival of the *Maud S.* I gave Mr. Litchfield instructions to institute proceedings in the case in the early part of October. I have received no application from the master of the *Maud S.* to release her, either on bail or otherwise.

His Honour—Perhaps you would let us know the date of the receipt of the Order in Council?

George Kircher, constable and usher of the Court, sworn deposed—I recognise the petition in this case, having served it on November 4th. I fixed one copy of the petition on the main-mast of the vessel on that day, the other copy I served on Mr. McNeill on November 6th.

Mr. Litchfield then put in the translation of the protocol of arrest.

His Honour—I understand that Mr. McNeill objects to its production.

Mr. McNeill—My objection is that the protocol is not signed by the captain of a war vessel, but if my objection is overruled, I shall not object to the production of the translation.

His Honour—The ship is described in the documents as a transport.

Mr. McNeill—There has been a distinction drawn between the position or rank of the officers who are authorised to effect these searches and arrests, why I do not know, but the 3rd section of the Act says that any officer holding Her Majesty's Commission may arrest a vessel, but similar powers are only conferred on the captain of a Russian war-vessel. Now the protocol is signed by two lieutenants, and these officers are therefore not proper persons, for they are not officers in the commission of the Queen nor commanders of a war-vessel. The vessel itself is not shown to be a war-vessel and therefore has not the powers provided in the Act.

Mr. Litchfield—I submit that the document purports to be signed by an officer in command of a Russian vessel-of-war. The *Yakout* is described by an officer of H.I.R.M.'s service as an armed transport, and I contend that an armed transport is as much a man of war as an ironclad if she bears the official flag of the nation by which she is commissioned. Whether we take the Russian document which is signed and sealed by the Commander of the *Yakout*, or whether you take the English translation which is only signed, I submit that you take a document that purports to be signed and sealed by an officer of a war-vessel having the powers provided for in the 3rd section of the Act. The original paper purports to be signed and sealed by a proper person, and the translation purports to be a correct copy of it. It is also signed by an officer in the Russian service holding a commission as commander of a Russian cruizer, and I contend that I am perfectly entitled to put them in and that their contents should be taken as evidence of the facts of the case.

His Honour—The circumstances of the case are not denied, it is the nature of the documents that is objected to. It is argued that the papers are made out by two lieutenants who made the search, and the argument is that the search should have been made by the captain or the officer in command of the cruiser. The defendant points out that the protocol was made out by two persons who were not in command at all.

Mr. Litchfield—But it is confirmed and appropriated by the officer in command, the captain of the cruiser.

His Honour—That is, they make a report to him and he issues an order upon it. He doesn't himself effect the search, but upon the report of the search he issues an order for the ship to be stopped and takes away her papers. It is to that that objection is taken.

Mr. Litchfield—But he adopted and confirmed the report and then signed it.

His Honour—That is your reply. Very well. Now I have here two Russian documents and only one English translation.

Mr. Litchfield replied that he had endeavoured but had failed to get it translated. He could not understand Russian himself.

The Court then adjourned for tiffin.

His Honour, on taking his seat after the recess said—I have had the two Russian documents sent to be translated and I have received a reply that the translations cannot reach me until 6 o'clock this evening. There was before the Court a supposed translation of one of them, and I would like to know whether you have any objection to the case going forward until the other one is translated. Has Mr. Litchfield concluded his case.

Mr Litchfield—In the absence of a translation of the second document of course I cannot carry the case any further, but I may say that I rest my case upon the documents I put in as evidence this morning. Counsel had taken every means to obtain a translation of the documents but had failed, and had also taken other means to produce further evidence, but had been unsuccessful. He did not press the untranslated document upon the Court, because the case rested upon the translated protocol of arrest.

His Honour—Are you prepared to withdraw the untranslated document?

Mr. Litchfield—No, sir, I am not prepared to withdraw any of the papers put in.

His Honour—I would make the conclusions of the Court more satisfactory if both documents are properly translated.

Mr. Litchfield—There is a document, the temporary certificate, which shows the grounds on which the vessel was detained.

Mr. McNeill—There is nothing said in that in regard to sealskins.

His Honour thought that sealskins were mentioned in the captain's endorsement to the protocol which Counsel had objected to having put in evidence.

Mr McNeill—That would not affect the evidence even if was signed, for that document was drawn up by the two lieutenants.

His Honour—But if the protocol is admitted and the evidence is before the Court that the seals were on board, it would affect you if the master had signed it.

Mr. McNeill said he had not an opportunity to consider the point.

His Honour remarked that he had noticed the master's endorsement on the protocol before it was sent to be translated.

Mr. McNeill—If your Honour overrules my objection to the protocol, and if the endorsement upon it was signed by the master, then it would go against me.

His Honour—I remember seeing the words and the signature.

Mr. McNeill—Then if your Honour is going to admit the protocol as evidence I shall have to prove that those seals were caught outside the limits.

His Honour—The protocol is signed by the Captain of the Russian vessel.

Mr. McNeill—No, I contend that it is signed by the two lieutenants and an order issued upon it.

His Honour—I shall decide upon the admission of the translation. But I may mention here that I am strongly of opinion that the transport is a war vessel, although I have had no information placed before me as to what a Russian transport really is. I should like the point made clear. Capt Rogers' letter speaks of the vessel as a cruiser, but the translation of the protocol describes it as H.I.R.M. transport ship. I am really not in a position to say that it is a war-vessel as mentioned in the Act. I suggest that the plaintiff should call some evidence on the point, as it is pressed.

Mr. Litchfield—The protocol is all I have to place before the Court. I have mentioned before that I have tried to obtain evidence in other quarters and failed.

His Honour—That leaves the matter undecided as to what is a war vessel.

Mr. McNeill—There is, I hear, no Russian officer to appear to give evidence. I presume some such document as the Navy List would decide the point.

His Honour said he should certainly like to have some evidence taken on the point. He was of opinion, however, that he could not stop the case at that point. As to the protocol and the circumstances under which it had come before the Court, a brief translation of its contents showed that the schooner *Maud S* was stopped when she was within 22 miles of Copper Island. An officer was sent on board by the Commander of the transport. He goes on board, makes an inspection, and comes back. He makes a report to a commission of two officers who decide to send it to the Commander. The Commander receives the report and confirms it. He gives a decision giving his reasons for placing a reasonable construction on the wording of the order, and this takes the form of a temporary certificate to the master of the schooner to proceed at once to Yokohama. The order is signed by the officer in command, and is my opinion that is sufficient. It is not contended that he is to stop the ship himself, it is not expected of him that he should stop suspicious vessels and examine them personally. He sends an officer to do his, and this person having complied with the order presents his report to a commission of two officers, who present it to the Commander, he then signs it and by so doing confirms it. I think the objection cannot be sustained. With the exception of the point as to whether the transport is a war-ship or not, the matter is clear enough. I am reserving this point in order that plaintiff may give evidence, or lead evidence upon it.

Mr McNeill—Then I am prepared to go on with the case. It might simplify matters if your Honour were to say that plaintiff should bring evidence on the point next day, or at the next sitting. I have a good many witnesses to bring, and if the point is settled I shall know whether it is necessary to bring them forward or not.

His Honour—I will not tie the plaintiff down to that.

Mr. McNeill—The whole case for the defendant, as is perfectly plain, rests upon the 1st section of this Act and upon nothing else. The documentary evidence before the Court does apparently raise the presumption against the *Maud S* in regard to her master or owner, that she must prove that she was not engaged in sealing within a zone of 30 miles from the coast of the Commander Islands at the time of her seizure. I contend that she has not to prove this, and my opinion rests on one consideration. It is this: The Act was not intended by the legislature to be applicable to this one particular voyage of the *Maud S.* I have my authority in Mr. Justice Steven, p. 26 of his Digest of the Criminal Law. Counsel then quoted the learned Justice's opinion in regard to a person's ignorance of a law which has been passed in an interval of time during which he was absent at sea from any ports where such information could be obtained. It was held by the learned Judge that a reasonable time must elapse ere a certain act, before considered lawful, could be deemed unlawful through the passing of an Act of Parliament. Counsel contended that in this case such reasonable time had not elapsed and that defendant was unaware of the fact that an act that was formerly lawful was now rendered, through the passing of the Act in question, unlawful.

His Honour—That, in fact, he had no time during the voyage to learn of the passing of the Act?

Mr. MacNeill—Yes your Honour.

His Honour—Have you the judgment in the case you cite?

Mr McNeill—Yes, it is *Burn v. Noel*, 5 Q.B.D. p. 444.

His Honour—But it does not apply to this case.

Mr. McNeill—But it does. I contend that we had no evidence whatever of the passing of the Act. I shall most strenuously contend that we had no evidence whatever upon the matter. The notice served on us at Hakodate bears a date long before the passing of the Act or the issuing of the Order in Council. I contend, therefore, that it is impossible that the Act can be meant to apply to the *Maud S* on this voyage, for the master only had notice of the passing of the Act when he appeared in Yokohama after his seizure. If your Honour agrees with me here, you will free me from the burden of proving that we did not contravene the law. My point is that we were in ignorance of the passing of the Act. Even if this Act is applicable, then, although this ship was found within seas mentioned in this Act having on board sealskins, then I will but rest with me to prove that no offence was committed by her that can be construed into a contravention of the Act. If your Honour considers the Act does apply, the case for the defence will be as follows: The *Maud S* left Victoria, British Columbia, on the 9th of February in this year. She sailed for Yokohama, direct, and reached this port about the 5th April. She left again on the 13th April, and ran north on a sealing cruize along the coasts of Japan. She arrived at Hakodate on June 6th and there shipped home the skins she had procured. She left that port on the 9th for the seas north of the Kurile Islands, where she remained hunting and cruizing till the 6th June; then she went up to the grounds near the Commander Islands, and remained there till she was seized. She was always at a distance of 100 miles from land, and never came anywhere near to the 30 mile limit of the Commander Islands. On the 3rd August the vessel fell in with the American schooner *Henry Dennis*, and the masters had a conversation together in the course of which the master of the American vessel said that in the previous year he had been to the north of the Commander Islands and met with considerable success, and advised defendant to go there, being a large number of seals in that spot. On the 28th August, the master of the

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Maud S., having thought over the advice, decided to go up north. I shall call him to show the course he set in making the passage from the southern to the northern portions of the Commander Islands. The courses he set on August 29th, at 4 o'clock, and again at 7 o'clock that evening, and then the courses set between 7 o'clock and 3 30 o'clock the following morning. I shall prove that at the time he was seized he had altered the course again. It was at 4.15 that he came in sight of land for the first time and he caused the course to be altered then so that the schooner was steering E. by N., that is in a direction away from the land. I shall call, if necessary, the men who had charge of the wheel on the morning of the 29th. This I shall prove that the courses steered would have taken them absolutely out of the Russian zone. Captain McKiel will tell you that on the 29th August there was no hunting of seals and no attempt at hunting them. That never at any time during the cruise did he enter those limits which the Act now defines. The only allegation in the petition relates to what is alleged to have taken place on the morning of the 29th, therefore it is not necessary to say any more than that I shall call evidence which will enable me to prove that the *Maud S.* was engaged in an innocent cruise at the time of her seizure, and was not engaged in any act contravening the Act and therefore I shall be able to ask to have the petition dismissed.

Mr. Litchfield said, in answer to the Bench, that he had no objection to the date 17th August, O.S., being altered to 29th August, N.S., as the dates were correlative.

His Honour said this would help matters considerably as witnesses would all speak of the N.S. dates.

Robert McKiell, sworn, said—I am the master of the *Maud S.* and I am the registered owner of 57 shares. She left Victoria on the 9th February and arrived at Yokohama on 5th April, leaving again on the 13th. She was bound on a sealing cruise. We first hunted off the coast of Japan. On the 6th of June we entered Hakodate for the purpose of shipping home our catch. We left Hakodate on the 9th of that month and we did not enter a port until we came to Yokohama after our seizure. Leaving Hakodate we sailed and sealed up to the vicinity of the Commander Islands. The grounds were to the south of the Commander Islands. They are fairly extensive, and we could seal in almost any direction for 200 miles. We catch seals at a distance of 160 miles from land. Before leaving Hakodate I received through the British Consul, a prohibitory notice from the Collector of Customs at Victoria. It warned us against entering certain waters near the Commander Islands. That was the only notice I received relating to the prohibition of sealing within a certain distance of Commander Islands. I have received no other warning. I did not know of any Order in Council or Act of Parliament relating to the prohibition, until I returned to Yokohama after my seizure. I thought I was perfectly within my rights to make a passage through the waters near the Commander Islands, so long as I did not do any sealing. I arrived at the grounds on the 5th July and remained there cruising until about the 29th August. I made a good catch, perhaps the best of any boat engaged. I never sealed within 50 miles of the Commander Islands. I saw them once during the cruise, I think it was the 2nd of August. I caught 62 seals that day, the biggest catch I made in the north. I worked out the position of the ship that day, and we were about 60 miles off the Islands. I worked the position by observation. I always took observations when I could and worked them up at noon. I always killed the seals by shooting them from boats. On the evening of the 23rd August or 24th, sea time, I fell in with the *Henry Dennis*, an American schooner. The captain told me that the year before he had made a good catch at the north of the Islands, and advised me to try my luck there too. I thought over the suggestion, and on the 28th I thought I would start for the place. We started about 7 o'clock in the morning, having had breakfast at 6. The course was set N.E. We steered this course till about half-past twelve. I got observations at noon and then worked out my position, altering the course to E N E. My position at noon was 53'24 lat. N. long 167'22, E. I could show the ship's position on the chart.

To His Honour—The paper containing my observations happened to be on the table when the officer boarded me, so I showed it to him and then kept it.

To the Court—I kept on my course till about 7 o'clock that day. I drew a black line round the islands on my chart after I left Hakodate, and before I reached the grounds. I intended it to mark forty-five miles from the nearest land. I drew it with the intention of being on the safe side, by keeping right outside it. At seven o'clock on the 28th August, I worked out the ship's position and found her to be in 53 42 N. 168.25, E. At four o'clock also I had worked out my position it was then 52 35, N. lat, 167 64, N long. At seven o'clock I altered the course to N.E. by N. According to my observations this course should have taken me clear of the zone. I next altered the course at 3 30 on the morning. I came up on deck and saw no land. I altered the course 2 points N. by E. John Chapman was then on deck at the wheel. I went below and came up again when land was reported. This was shortly after four. I then saw the land. I thought then that I was not inside the zone, but was nearer than I wanted to be. It was quite clear and light when I came up on deck. I at once altered the course to N.E. or N. by E. I wanted to sail away from the land. I went below to consult the chart, and on coming up, within a minute altered the course again to E. by N. Shortly afterwards I sighted a steamer ahead. Probably half an hour had elapsed. The steamer appeared about 7 or 8 miles away. I continued my course. The steamer was further away from the coast than I was. I was therefore sailing up to her. I could not make out at first what she was, but she looked like an ordinary steamer, and not a man of war. Then I saw the Russian naval flag. When I got nearer he fired a blank shot. I understood by that, that he wanted me to heave to. I hauled the headsails down, the staysail to windward, and the sheet aft, put the helm down, and hove to. The order was carried out promptly. The steamer sailed around me and fired another blank shot. I was hove to at the time. The wind was very light. I thought that the Russian did not know I was hove to, so I ordered the main-sail to be lowered. As the steamer came round my bow she hailed me, and a voice ordered me to put out my flag. I answered "All right," and ordered the flag to be hoisted. Immediately afterwards he fired a solid shot. I don't think the flag was hoisted then. He gave the order as to the flag, and fired at almost the same moment. He sent a boat alongside, with an officer and armed crew. The officer asked to see the papers and to see the sail-room. There were two skins laying just below the hatch. He just kicked them with his foot and said they looked fresh. He did not pick them up and examine them close. The seals had been taken the day before, and I told him so. He made no remark, but took me on board the transport. He did not examine me; only looked at the log book. I showed him the chart and the calculations made the day before, but he did not examine them. He gave me no opportunity to explain my position. He did not accuse me of anything, either of killing or hunting seals. He first said he should send me to the commissioner on one the of the Behring Islands, adding that that official might allow me to proceed. Afterwards he asked for the official log-book, but I had lost it, and could not find it after a search. So he endorsed the mate's log and said he had altered his mind and would send me to Yokohama. The official log only contained two harbour or port entries. Then he took my papers. He gave me a document, the temporary certificate, and said that my case would be tried on that evidence. The document he gave me merely said that there were two fresh skins aboard. I signed a paper which had been written in Russian and English; this paper was the document that was to be used against me. I protested against the seizure, saying that I was in my present position owing to my chronometer being in error, and that I thought I was at least 15 miles outside the prohibited zone. I protested strongly against the confiscation. I left for Yokohama immediately, between 8 and 9 o'clock. I was boarded about 6 o'clock. If my voyage had not been stopped I should have continued my cruize till the first of October. I arrived at Yokohama on the 25th September. I gave up my temporary certificate to the Consul. He did not tell me then that he should prosecute me, but when the *Archer* came in I went and saw him, and then he then said he should prosecute me. That is why I have not asked for my papers formally. I asked the Consul for my papers, practically speaking, every time I saw him. I have been kept waiting for these proceedings ever since. My men are under agreement for a voyage from and back to Victoria. They are entitled to be discharged in Victoria. I paid them off here. Some of them stayed. I had to send nine of them home. I paid them off on the 2nd of October, and they went on the 13th. The had to wait for a direct steamer. I had to maintain them until I could send them home. This cost me $135 for board; I paid their passages home, which cost $580. The rest of the crew cost me about $90 for board, at 50 cents per day. My total crew was 23 beside myself. My own board has cost me $120 since the date of my arrival, until to-day. I have had to employ a ship caretaker. This costs the $15 a month, $30 for the two months.

The Court then adjourned till 10 o'clock on Monday.

ANOTHER INTERCEPTED LETTER.

To the Editor of the "Mumei Shimbun."

London, 30th day of 8th month,
26th year of Meiji.

Honourable Sir,—After the sad experience of just so much as is administered in these Islands, which I recorded in my last letter, you will not be surprised to learn that I was more circumspect thereafter in going about and that I avoided the piracy rampant in the public streets by declining to use the 'bus, charm the conductor never so wisely. In the past few days I have occupied myself by visiting the picture galleries and museums, and have written a series of extremely interesting articles in my journal on British art. I say British art, but these people have in reality no art in the true, that is the Japanese, signification of the term. To prove this it is only necessary to walk down one of their streets—I care not in what district—and observe the dull uniformity of the lines of brick and mortar, the hideous attempts at decoration, the ugly piles of huge barracks in the West End, where I am told the chief men live, or the rows of small houses, each monotonously like its neighbour, occupied by the labourers. Comparing the dreariness of such a picture with the sunny brightness of a Tokyo street, with its simple decoration and picturesque diversity, it is impossible to resist the conclusion that the artistic sense is wholly wanting in the Occidental.

* * * *

You may perhaps think that, as I have only seen one great town in the Occident, it is scarcely just to draw conclusions therefrom respecting Occidental characteristics in general. But you must remember that if I am not allowed to make these generalisations upon the circumscribed data which comes under my observation, I may as well give up reviewing native characteristics altogether. There are those among our own colony here who argue that Occidentals are very much like Orientals—that there are good and bad, instructed and ignorant, wise and foolish among them even as there are among ourselves. Such a view has, however, only to be expressed to be condemned. If races are in the main alike as to the sum total of good or evil in their characteristics, we may as well each of us give up our notions of racial superiority at once, and even, as one foolish person has put it, lay stress upon the good points displayed by various separate nationalities and endeavour to acquire through our intercourse whatsoever each has that the other has not. Fortunately there are plenty of noble spirits in the world to oppose a doctrine such as this, which strikes at the very foundation of national honour and superiority.

But to return to the native artistic sense. The result of my visit to the picture galleries leaves me with a painful impression as to the backwardness of this people from the intellectual point of view. Instead of *kakemono*, in which the pencil of the painter with a few bold yet delicate touches makes *en rapport* with the high and noble ideas pervading his mind; instead of sketches where each line has a message for the artistic soul and constant inspection serves but to display new beauties, new thoughts, new harmonies,—instead of these things, which themselves constitute art, the native picture shows a great daub of paint in garish colours, representing some scene or other the whole significance of which can be taken in at a glance. This is not art; this is photography, the mechanical reproduction of what has actually happened. An artist, as we Japanese conceive him, is a man with a message—a message which he perhaps takes the most roundabout way of conveying to the world, but which at least breathes into his work the necessary soul giving it life and character. To my mind, and necessarily to all great minds, there is something repulsive in the downrightness which blurts out that a spade is a spade. How different the method of our own artists, who delicately insinuate by infinitesimal gradations that a spade is in reality something far higher, far nobler, far more inspiring than a mere unpretending spade, being indeed an agricultural implement!

* * * *

The same crude "garishness" which is displayed in painting is exhibited in every other department of what is generally known as art. In the native theatrical performances realism in scenery is triumphant. As regards scenery in our own

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theatres we allow suggestion to take the place in a great measure of the actual things to be represented. Here, on the other hand, you see advertised that such and such a play is to be produced with real water, real snow, real ice, real thunder and lightning, and so on. Only recently an endeavour was made to import a real baby nine months old into the scene of a house on fire. A dog had been trained to bring in an escape, mount it and fetch the baby down from a window ten feet high, and the realism of the scene would, it was thought, prove a great draw. This was too much for the local magistrate, however, who refused to permit the performance, not, as I was somewhat astonished to learn, because of its breach of artistic canons, but because of the danger to the baby! Yet there seems no risk of the supply of babies falling short, so far as I can judge.

* * * *

I am told that many years ago the native theatre was in a more healthy condition as to its art than it is now; that scenery was wholly subordinate to the play, and that attention was not diverted from the sentiments of the author to a "real cascade" at the back of the stage. If this be true, it is one more example of the law of atavism taught by our sacred books.

* * * *

You will not expect after what I have written to find that the homes of the natives exhibit any traces of that artistic sense which, as I have shown, is so sadly wanting in their paintings, buildings, exhibitions, or theatres. And if you expected anything of the sort you will be greatly disappointed. The houses of the richer natives resemble museums more than anything else. They are crammed full of expensive furniture and elaborate decorations which give one just the idea of barbaric splendour naturally to be expected. Instead of the simple matted room of the Japanese art lover, with the one or two vases and *kakemono*, giving to the whole that air of refinement which characterises the Japanese house, the space of the rooms is cramped by heavy pieces of cumbrous furniture, while the walls are hung with flaring pictures in execrable taste—that is to say, the taste displayed is not Japanese—and vases, clocks, albums, ornaments of various kinds, and all descriptions of keramic ware make the room resemble a store.

* * * *

I am told, however, that in this matter there has been improvement since we allowed these people to come to Japan and learn of what art really consists. And doubtless it is impossible for these Occidentals, undeveloped as they may be on the artistic side to come to Japan without being influenced by the artistic atmosphere in which for the first time they find themselves. As a consequence Japanese *kakemono* and the keramics are slowly but surely effecting a reform amongst this people. They know not how to place them certainly, they stand these *objets d'art* amidst incongruous surroundings and in positions impossible to an educated taste, but each article of artistic workmanship has a humanising mission which, in the interest of the natives, it is to be hoped, will some day succeed in placing these people on the right path. Dark as the outlook is at present, sunk as these people are in the lowest depths of obscurantism and indifference, it is yet possible that the elevating influence of an artistic teapot may induce some among them to live up to a higher and nobler ideal. -*Kobe Chronicle*

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, November 18.

Lord Rosebery, in a speech, said that the questions wherein India was concerned with France and Russia had not proceeded altogether as favourably as could be wished.

An amendment to enfranchise women under the Parish Councils Act has been carried against the Government by a majority of twenty-one.

London, November 21.

Heavy gales have been raging on the coasts of Great Britain and Ireland. Numerous wrecks have occurred and eighty-five lives are reported lost.

There is a strong movement in London in favour of an increase of the Navy and meetings are being organised.

London, November 22.

Details of the storm and the consequent wrecks on every coast of Great Britain and all the western seaboard of the Continent have been received showing that several hundreds of persons have perished.

London, November 23.

The Matabele regiments, with Lobengula at their head, have been dispersed, and Lobengula himself is a refugee, fleeing with the few remaining of his followers, closely pursued by Major Forbes, who expects to effect his capture immediately, in which case the war will at once terminate.

[SPECIALLY TELEGRAPHED TO THE "JAPAN DAILY MAIL." FROM THE "N.-C. DAILY NEWS."]

London, November 11.

In the House of Commons last night a debate took place on the Matabele question, in the course of which Mr Labouchere vehemently attacked the Chartered Company, accusing the latter of filibustering and swindling.

Mr. Gladstone condemned the violence of Mr. Labouchere's speech, and stated that the Government accepted the responsibility of the war. He eulogised the conduct of the Hon. Cecil Rhodes, and said that Lobengula's refusal to abstain from raids had rendered the war inevitable.

London, November 14

Sir Francis Clare Ford, G.C.M.G., G.C.B., has been appointed Ambassador to Rome in place of Lord Vivian deceased.

Lord Ripon has offered to place the Civil Servants at Ceylon, Hongkong, and the Straits Settlements in the same position as the Indian Civil Servants in regard to pay and pensions. It is understood that many prefer their present position.

November 16.

The coal owners and miners affected by the strike have accepted the mediation of the Government.

(TRANSLATED FROM "EL COMERCIO.")

Madrid, Nov 4.

While the steamer *Machichaco* was entering the harbour of Santander her cargo consisting of 500 cases of dynamite, suddenly exploded and utterly destroyed the harbour. The Governor and over 1,000 persons were killed and above 4,000 persons wounded. Telegraphic communication was deranged.

Later.

The explosion occurred while the Governor was inspecting the vessel at the pier.

All the vessels in the harbour were sunk by the force of the explosion.

H M. the Queen has expressed much sympathy for the sufferers by the disaster.

The value of the property destroyed is estimated at over $1,000,000.

Great Britain proposes the drafting of universal regulations prohibiting the carrying of explosives on vessels in order to prevent the recurrence of such a catastrophe as befell Santander.

FROM "TONKIN PAPERS.")

Paris, November 4.

The programme of the Cabinet rejects revision of the constitution, the separation of Church and state and the amnesty.

The Chamber is summoned for the 14th inst.

The strikes in the North are almost ended.

The Russian squadron has left for Greece

The squadron has visited Corsica.

M Tirard, Senator, is dead; a so General de Baufrement.

M. Jamais is dead.

Cornelius Hertz being better, France has again demanded his extradition

Paris, November 6

The colliers' strike is concluded.

Paris, November 8.

A strike has occurred on the Marseilles tramway. The Mayor supports the strikers. Some disturbances have taken place.

Paris, November 10

The whole Cabinet will appear in the Chamber to explain its programme.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the CHESS EDITOR.

The Yokohama Chess Club meets at the Club Rooms, No. 88, Main Street, on Mondays and Thursdays from 5 to 11 p.m.

The Tokyo Chess Club meets at the Hotel Métropole on Tuesdays from 1 to 11 p.m.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 96.

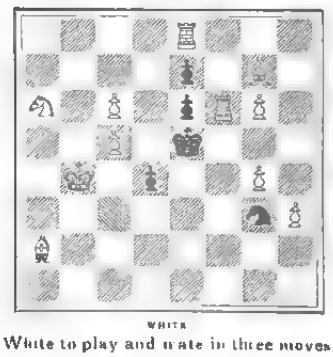
WHITE	BLACK
1—Kt — Q 5	1—K × Kt
2—Q — K 4 ch.	2—K × Q
3—B — K 6 dis. ch., mate	
	if 2—K — Q 3
3—Q — Q B 6, mate	
	if 2—K — Q B 4
3—Q × P (K 5) mate	
	if 1—K — Q B 4
2—Q × P (K 5)	2—P — Q B 6
3—Kt — K 3 dis. ch., mate	
	if 2—K × P
3—Kt — Q Kt 4 dis. ch, mate	
	if 1—P — Q B 6
2—Kt — K 3	2—P — K 5
3—Q — Q 5, mate	
	if 2—K — Q B 4
3—Q × P (K 5), mate	
	if 1—P — K 5
2—Kt — K 3	2—K — Q B 6
3—Q — K 5, mate	
	if 2—P — Q B 6
3—Q — Q 5, mate.	

Correct solutions received from W.H.S., Omega, J.D., Digamma, O B., and J.W.E.

ALFRED TOZER (Cleveland, O.). Your solutions of Nos. 88, 89, and 90 to hand. Accept our best wishes for the success of your new Club.

PROBLEM No. 98
BY A. STEINSCHNRIDER.

BLACK



WHITE

White to play and mate in three moves

The Tokyo Chess Club has accepted the challenge sent them by the Yokohama Chess Club a few weeks ago, but the place, time, and conditions are not yet fixed

The Nagasaki-Yokohama correspondence games are drawing to a close. We hope to give the result next week and shall publish the games with notes at an early date.

Intelligence from the home side is meagre, and the next magazines are eagerly awaited. We hope to find therein something definite about the Tarrasch-Tschigorin, and Steinitz-Lasker contests.

A recent issue of the *Illustrated London News* speaks hopefully of some good tournament play being imminent in New York through the kindness and liberality of some wealthy amateurs of the game there. This will be in some degree a solatium for the disappointment caused by the breakdown of the projected Columbian Chess Congress.

Things are quiet in the local Clubs. Play proceeds in the Tournaments and members are furbishing up their arms in readiness for the Yokohama-Tokyo Match. The contest for the Championship of the Yokohama Club begins next month as per the following notice now posted in the Club Rooms.

CHAMPIONSHIP CONTEST 1894.

"Entries for this must be made on or before 30th instant, and play will commence Monday, 4th December, closing 28th March, 1894.

"No handicap. The contest to be played in rounds, and the games in each round to be completed in one Calendar month. Thus the first round to be finished in December; second in

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January, etc. All games to be played in the Club Rooms. The best of three games to decide each heat.

"The winner of the final round will be the Champion for the year 1894, and will hold the Champion Cup for that year. Should he hold it for three successive years it will then become his absolute property."

We give below a fine game played by the veteran Andersen of which the finish is very brilliant. The notes are by Gossip.

ALGAIER—KIESERITZKI GAMBIT.

WHITE. Rosares.	BLACK. Andersen.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—P to K B 4	2—P takes P
3—Kt to K B 3	3—P to K Kt 4
4—P to K R 4	4—P to Kt 5
5—Kt to K 5	5—Kt to K B 3

. . . . . A perfectly sound defence, although wrongly condemned by Walker and other superficial theorists.

6—B to B 4	6—P to Q 4
7—P takes P	7—B to Q 3
8—P to Q 4	8—Kt to R 4
9—B to Kt 5 ch.	

Inferior to Kt to Q B 3 or Castles.

	9—P to B 3
10—P takes P	10—P takes P
11—Kt takes Q B P	11—K. takes Kt
12—B takes Kt ch.	12—K to B sq
13—B takes R	13—K to Kt 6 (!)
14—R to R 2	

K to B 2 is the lesser evil here.

	14—B to K B 4
15—B to Q 5	15—K to Kt 2 (!)
16—Kt to B 3	16—R to K sq. ch.
17—K to B 2	17—Q to Kt 3

. . . . . Threatening 18—B to K 4, etc

18—Kt to R 4	18—Q to R 3 (!)
19—Kt to B 3	

If 19—P to B 4 Q takes Kt; 20—Q takes Q. R to K 7 ch.; 21—K to Kt sq, R to K 8 ch.; 22—K to B 2, R mates

	19—B to K 4

. . . . . A magnificant combination initiated on Black's 14th move.

20—P to R 4	20 Q to B 8 ch. (!!)
21—Q takes Q	21 B takes P ch.
22—B to K 3	22—R takes B wins.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, Nagasaki, and Kobe	per N. Y. K.	Friday, Dec 1st
From America	per P. M. Co	Sunday, Nov 26th.*
From Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co	Monday, Nov. 27th.†
From Europe, via Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Nov 26th ‡
From America	per P. M. Co.	Saturday, Dec. 9th.§
From Hongkong	per P. M. Co.	Thursday, Nov. 30th.‖
From Europe, via Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Wednday, Nov 29th.
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Dec 3rd
From Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co	Thursday, Dec 7th.
From America	per O. & O. Co	Sunday, Dec 17th.

* *City of Peking* left San Francisco on November 9th. † *Empress of Japan* left Vancouver on November 14th. ‡ *Salazie* left Kobe on November 29th. § *China* left San Francisco via Honolulu on November 21st. ‖ *City of Rio de Janeiro* left Hongkong on November 23rd. The English mail is on board the steamer *Lennox*.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Nov 26th.
For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Nov. 27th.
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki	per N. Y. K.	Tuesday, Nov. 28th.
For Europe, via Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, Dec 1st.
For America	per P. M. Co.	Saturday, Dec 2nd ‖
For Europe, viâ Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Dec 3rd.
For Canada, &c	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, Dec 8th.
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Saturday, Dec. 16th.
For Victoria, B.C., and Tacoma, Wash.	per N. P. Co.	Saturday, Dec. 23rd.

LATEST SHIPPING

ARRIVALS

Verona, British steamer, 1,878, C. H. S. Tocque, 19th November,—Hongkong 11th, Nagasaki 16th, and Kobe 18th November, Mails and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Victoria, British steamer, 1,991, J. Panton, 19th November,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 684, M. Matsumoto, 19th November,—Kobe 18th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Ekstrand, 20th November,—Otaru viâ ports 15th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Palamed, British steamer, 1,482, Jackson, 20th November,—Liverpool viâ Shanghai, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, R. Tipple, 20th November,—Kobe 19th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mogamikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,005, T. Idzumi, 21st November,—Shinagawa 21st November, Light.—Uchinakashiro.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, W. G. Pearne, 22nd November,—San Francisco 2nd November, Mails and General.—O. & O. S. S. Co.

Bankoku Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,475, Okuma, 22nd November,—Otaru, Coal.—S. Asano & Co.

Oceanic, British steamer, 3,808, W. M. Smith, 22nd November,—Hongkong viâ ports, 15th November, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Hinode Maru, Japanese steamer, 789, G. Sofuye, 23rd November,—Otaru, Coal.—S. Asano & Co.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 23rd November,—Moji, Coal.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Sessiu Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,011, Hayashi, 23rd November,—Kobe 22nd November, General.—Nada Kogio Kabushiki Kaisha.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. Young, 23rd November,—Otaru viâ ports 19th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,168, Crichton, 23rd November,—Kobe 22nd November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Harima Maru, Japanese steamer, 436, Kawamuro, 23rd November,—Yokkaichi 22nd November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,358, Haswell, 24th November, Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,580, C. Anderson, 24th November,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Strathesk, British steamer, 1,454, Foulds, 24th November,—New York viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Kurio Maru, Japanese steamer, 800, Sengoku, 24th November,—Otaru, Coal.—Tami Mitsusha.

Ocampo, British steamer, 1,311, H. T. C. Price, 25th November,—New York viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

DEPARTURES

Oolong, British steamer, 2,317, Allen, 18th November,—London viâ ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Ulysses, British steamer, 2,300, Wm. P. Lapage, 18th November,—London viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 18th November,—Moji, Light.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Radnorshire, British steamer, 1,880, F. Davis, 18th November, London viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Oxus, French steamer, 2,500, Dupont, 19th November,—Shanghai viâ Kobe, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Pender, 19th November,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,168, Crichton, 19th November,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, T. Sakai, 20th November,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Anaconda, American schooner, 40, A. Lawson, 20th November,—North Pacific, Sealing Gear.—Captain.

Victoria, British steamer, 1,991, J. Panton, 20th November,—Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,053, Thompson, 21st November,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yokohama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,298, Swan, 21st November,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mogamikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,005, T. Idzumi, 21st November,—Moji, Light.—Uchinakashiro.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Ekstrand, 22nd November,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, R. Tipple, 22nd November,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Oceana, German steamer, 1,628, J. Behrens, 22nd November,—Hamburg viâ ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,695, W. G. Pearne, 23rd November,—Hongkong, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Harima Maru, Japanese steamer, 436, Kawamuro, 24th November,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sessiu Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,011, Hayashi, 24th November,—Shinagawa, General.—Nada Kogio Kabushiki Kaisha.

Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 684, M. Matsumoto, 24th November,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, Y. Arai, 24th November,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Oceanic, British steamer, 3,808, W. M. Smith, 24th November,—San Francisco, viâ Honolulu, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Palamed, British steamer, 1,482, Jackson, 25th November,—London viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Verona*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. H. J. Chope, Mr. W. San Yee, Mr. de Haveland, Mrs. Pearson, Miss Pearson, Mr. A. B. Pearson, and Mrs. Garlick in cabin; 2 Chinese and infant, and one Japanese and infant in steerage.

Per British steamer *Victoria*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. R. P. Duncan, Mrs. Geo. Sale, and Mr. Chas. V. Sale in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Omi Maru*, from Otaru viâ ports:—Mr. Maruda and Mr. H. Yokoyama in cabin; 1 passenger in second class, and 31 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, from San Francisco.—Mr. C. J. Stome, Mr. J. R. Simon, Mrs. J. R. Simon, two children, and nurse, Mr. Yang Bae Gang, Miss Martha E. Durye, Miss Harriet M. Lansing Rev. E. R. Miller, Mrs. E. R. Miller, Mr. I. Matsuhara, Mr. C. Ando, Miss M. F. Tyng, Count Gregory Woshitz and servant, and Mr. E. Holden South in cabin. For Hyogo: Mr. Max Smith and Mrs. Max Smith in cabin. For Hongkong: Mr. Lew Chung Fao, Rev. E. Wachter, Mrs. E. Wachter and child, Rev. P. W. Pitcher, Mrs. P. W. Pitcher, Miss Daisy Pitcher, Master A. Pitcher, Mrs. J. V. W. Talmage, Mr. W. A. Dalaid, Mr. F. A. Albiss, Mr. Alex. Markell, Mr. Tam Kin Cho and servant, Mrs. Tam Kin Cho and infant, Mr. Tam Pui Yon, Major A. F. A. Lyle, and Mr. C. Archer in cabin.

Per British steamer *Oceanic*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. and Mrs. H. Steele, Mr. G. A. Macondray, Mr. C. Comelli, and Mr. J. Heulein in cabin. For San Francisco: Mr. T. B. Cunningham, Dr. F. W. Browning, Mr. A. J. McGlew, Mr. A. E. McGlew, Lieut. W. M. C. Wadack, R.A., Messrs. Lai Ro She, Lai Ro Tai Wing, Lai On Yung Ste, Lai Ro Tai Kue, and Sai Kum Ang in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, from Otaru via ports:—Mr. Nanamo in cabin; 4 passengers in second class, and 83 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Messrs. Chun Yun Hong, Oberzanow, Yoshisuye, Kinashi, Yamada, A. Brent, J. R. Stuart, G. P. Soh, J. D. Beatly, Kobayashi, Matsumura, Ishikawa, and E. Reici in cabin and 43 passengers in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per French steamer *Oxus*, for Shanghai viâ Kobe:—M. J. Westpraeu, Mr. Arthur Brent, Dr. Wilhem Lodter, Mr. F. H. Fawkes, Rev. E. Faber, Mr. and Mrs. Weinberger, Messrs. J. Laure, Fiochot, Boulain, Vindry, Serret, Esmenjaud, Brepson, Le Guen, Bedats, Votsin, Falcon Laboure, P. Maurel, G. Mun, Miss E. Hulbert, Mr. H. Hulbert, and Miss Wells in cabin.

Per British steamer *Victoria*, for Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C.:—Mrs. W. D. Tillotson and 2 children in cabin, 1 European and 36 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Mrs. N. Sutherland, Mr. E. Southard, Mr. Fhorg Kua Shun, and Mr. M. Masuda in cabin; Mrs. Yamada Matsu, Mrs. Moritaka and child, Messrs. K. Higashigawa, Yoshida, N. Yoshioka, S. Tanaka, and S. Takamoto in second class, and 38 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, for Hongkong:—H. E. and Mdme. de Borja, Rev. W. Macgregor, Rev. W. S. Price, Mr. Manuel Casuso, Mr. E. A. Kenyon, Mr. W. Lambe, Mrs. A. Chapman and child, Mr. W. E. Culvert, Mr. and Mrs. Hillies and child, and Mr. A. L. Bagnall in cabin.

Per British steamer *Oceanic*, for San Francisco viâ Honolulu:—Miss Martha Aldrich, Dr. F. W. Browning, Captain and Mrs. Victor F. Brandt, R.N., Mr. J. B. Cundiffe, Mr. T. B. Cunningham, Mr. Francis Donnelly, Mr. E. Guillochon, Hon. R. W. Irwin, Mr. Percival Lowell, Mr. Lai Kum Ang, Mr. Lai Lee She, Mr. Lai Ow Young She, Mr. Lai Po Tai Kue, Mr. Lai Po Tai Wing, Mr. Lee Yu Chien, Mr. H. R. Lynch, Mr. A. J. McGlew, Mr. A. F. McGlew, Mr. Okano, Mr. Oka, Mr. and Mrs. J. Roan, Mr. F. Sano, Mr. P. J. Shea, Miss Cuika Takahashi, Mr. M. Williams, Lieut. W. C. M. Woodcock, Mr. E. R. Warren, and Bishop C. M. Williams, D.D., in cabin.

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CARGOES.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, $100 000 00

Per French steamer *Oxus*, for Shanghai viâ Kobe:—Raw Silk for France, 483 bales; for Italy, 17 bales; Waste Silk for France, 79 bales; for England, 15 bales. Treasure for London, $37,000; for Shanghai, $153,500.

Per British steamer *Victoria*, for Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C.:—

TEA.

	PACIFIC COAST.	NEW YORK	CHICAGO.	CANADA.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	569	3,213	4,833	—	—	8,615
Hyogo	—	16	689	789	257	1,751
Yokohama	449	—	—	—	—	449
Hongkong	121	—	448	3,501	—	4,070
Amoy	—	12,919	—	—	—	12,949
Total	1,139	16,178	5,970	4,290	257	27,834

SILK.

	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	85	—	85
Yokohama	150	—	150
Total	235	—	235

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, $151,900 00.

Per British steamer *Oceanic*, for San Francisco viâ Honolulu:—

TEA.

	RAW FRANCE & C.	NEW YORK.	CHICAGO.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	478	226	1,699	—	2,403
Hyogo	298	—	1,223	313	1,934
Yokohama	2 009	—	281	466	2,756
Hongkong	81	—	—	217	298
Amoy	290	—	—	557	847
Total	3,156	226	3,203	1,753	8,238

SILK

	RAW FRANCE &C.	NEW YORK.	HARTFORD	TOTAL
Shanghai	—	113	—	113
Hongkong	—	20	—	20
Yokohama	—	679	—	679
Total	—	812	—	812

REPORTS.

The British steamer *Victoria*, Captain J. Panton, R.N.R., reports:—Left Hongkong the 9th November at noon, Amoy the 11th, Shanghai the 14th, and Kobe the 18th at 6.15 p.m. Arrived at Yokohama the 19th November at 7.40 p.m. Had northerly winds and fine weather.

The Japanese steamer *Omi Maru*, Captain J. W. Ekstrand, reports:—Left Otaru the 15th November at 2 p.m.; had light S.E. winds, at times misty rain. Arrived at Hakodate the 16th at 9 a.m., had moderate E. and N.E. winds and fresh squalls with sleet and misty rain, barometer 29.32; left the 18th at 8.30 a.m.; had moderate north wind, cloudy weather, and high east swell. Arrived at Ogimohama the 19th at 7 a.m. and left the same day; had light S.W. winds and fine weather, after 8 p.m. moderate N.N.W. winds and fine weather. Arrived at Yokohama the 20th November at 11.25 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, Captain R. Tipple, reports:—Left Kobe the 19th November at 4.16 p.m.; had light north-westerly winds and fine weather to Oshima; thence moderate to fresh northerly and north-easterly winds and fine weather to arrival at Yokohama the 20th November at 11.20 p.m.

The British steamer *Gaelic*, Captain Pearne, reports:—Left San Francisco the 2nd November at 4.28 p.m.; to the 19th had hard westerly gales, with heavy northerly swell; thence to port moderate northerly winds and fine weather. Arrived at Yokohama the 22nd November at 7.48 a.m. Passage, 18 days, 21 hours, 53 minutes.

The British steamer *Oceanic*, Captain W. M. Smith, reports:—Left Hongkong and Macao the 15th November, Nagasaki the 19th, and Kobe the 21st. Arrived at Yokohama the 22nd November at 8.56 p.m. Passage from Kobe, 1 day, 4 hours, 53 minutes.

The Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, Captain Young, reports:—Left Otaru the 19th November at noon; had strong west winds and high westerly sea. Arrived at Hakodate the 20th at 6.42 a.m. and left the 21st at 8 a.m.; had moderate S.E. winds and cloudy, rainy weather throughout the passage. Arrived at Ogimohama the 22nd at 6.20 a.m. and left the same day at 1 p.m.; had moderate westerly winds and cloudy, rainy weather. Arrived at Yokohama the 23rd November at 1.20 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Sagami Maru*, Captain W. Crichton, reports:—Left Kobe the 22nd November at noon; had light variable airs and fine weather with smooth sea to Oshima; thence to Rock Island gentle to moderate and fresh north and north-west winds with clear weather; thence to port moderate and fresh westerly breeze with fine, clear weather. Arrived at Yokohama the 23rd November at 11.45 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, Captain E. W. Haswell, reports:—Left Shanghai the 18th November at 6 a.m. and arrived at Nagasaki the 19th at 10 p.m. Left again the same day at 9 p.m. and arrived at Shimonoseki the following day at 10 a.m. Proceeded again the same day at 2.30 p.m. and reached Kobe the 21st at noon. Left again the following day at 6 a.m. and arrived at Yokohama the 24th November at 8.15 a.m. Experienced fresh to moderate northerly winds, inclining westwards with cloudy weather and occasional showers to Nagasaki; thence to Shimonoseki had moderate variable winds and cloudy weather with slight haze; similar weather continuing through Inland Sea, with light south-east winds to Kobe.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Another week of little activity has been seen in the Import Trade, but there has been a decidedly better tone prevailing. A few small purchases have been made in Yarns at unchanged rates, while in Cotton Piece Goods there have been some contracts made for T.-Cloths "to arrive." In Fancies, Velvets, and Silk-faced Satins are in slight demand, while Prints have started moving. In Woollens, both Mousselines and Blankets tempt a few purchasers, but other lines remain quiet.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8¼ lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	$2 15 to 2 70
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 38½ yds. 45 inches	2 35 to 3 12½
T.-Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1 53½ to 1 85
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches	1 70 to 2 35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	1 75 to 3 75
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 32 inches	PER YARD. 0 16 to 0 21
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	6.25 to 8 50
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42 inches	0 65 to 0 78
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2 4lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	PER PIECE. 1.40 to 1 47½
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1 57½ to 1.82½
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.02½ to 2 47½
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2 65 to 2 85

WOOLLENS

	PER YARD.
Flannel	$0.27 to 0 45
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches heat	0 30 to 0 33
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0 25 to 0.30
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0 20 to 0.25
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards 31 inches	0 13 to 0 19
Cloths Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0 35 to 0 50
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0 60 to 0 65
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0 40 to 0 70
Blanket—Scarlet and Green, 4 to 3½ lb, per lb	0 45 to 0 57½

COTTON YARNS

	PER P. COL.
Nos 10 24, Ordinary	—
Nos 16 24, Medium	$35.25 to —
Nos 16 24, Good to Best	35 00 to 37 75
Nos 16 24, Reverse	—
Nos 28 32, Ordinary	—
Nos 28 32, Medium	38 00 to —
Nos 28 32, Good to Best	38 50 to 39 50
Nos 38 42, Medium to Best	45 00 to 47 00
No 32s, Two fold	43 00 to 44 00
No 42s, Two-fold	47.50 to 49 25
	PIECES.
No 20s, Bombay	—
No 16s, Bombay	—

METALS

Buyers and holders appear to find less difficulty in coming to terms, as there has been rather more business transacted during the past week. Iron of various kinds has changed hands to some extent, and Tin Plates have moved off in small lots. Prices show a slight rise.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ½ inch	$3 80 to 4 00
Flat Bars, ¾ inch	4 00 to 4 10
Round and square up to ¾ inch	3 20 to 3 35
Iron Plates, assorted	3 25 to 3 35
Sheet Iron	4 45 to 4 60
Galvanized Iron sheets	8 85 to 9 10
Wire Nails, assorted	5 40 to 5 75
Tin Plates, per box	6 20 to 6 40
Pig Iron, No. 3	1 45 to 1 50

KEROSENE.

Demand continues good and trade has been fairly brisk. Holders have very small stocks on their hands and consequently ask higher prices.

Chester	$1.75 to 1.77½
Comet	1 72½ to 1.75
Devoe	—
Russian Anchor	1.70 to 1 71½
Russian Moon	1.67½ to 1.70

SUGAR

There has been a further falling off in demand for Browns during the past week and prices show a sharp decline. Manilas have fallen 25 cents, Takao 20 cents, and Daitong 10 cents per picul. Even these lower rates fail to tempt dealers to re-enter the market. Whites continue to move off slowly at unchanged rates.

	PER PICUL
Brown Takao	$4 40 to 4 50
Brown Manila	5.00 to 5.10
Brown Daitong	3 95 to 4 00
Brown Canton	4.10 to 4 30
White Java and Penang	7.00 to 7 10
White Refined	7 55 to 9 20

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last issue was of the 17th instant, since which date settlements on this market amount to 759 piculs, divided thus: *Hanks*, 18 piculs; *Filatures*, 363 piculs; *Re-reels*, 192 piculs; *Kakeda*, 186 piculs. In addition to these figures, native shipments are 148 bales, making a total business of 900 piculs for the week.

There is not much change to note in prices, especially of the higher grades of *Filatures*. The general tone of the market is dull and heavy, but holders refuse to make the necessary concessions and many attempts at business seem to miss fire. There seem to be plenty of low limits in hand which do not result in any purchases; consuming markets do not as yet take hold with any freedom and there is little encouragement for buyers to operate.

Exchange also is a turn dearer, tending still further to cramp operations at the moment.

Arrivals come in freely and the present stock is more than 17,000 piculs, showing an increase since our last; but holders seem to carry their burden fairly well at present; perhaps between now and the end of the year they may be in need of money and give way yet further in price, should no good news arrive from consumers. The export figures to New York now show a decrease of 13,000 bales when compared with this date last year, and although various small orders at starvation prices come in from time to time there does not seem to be any great anxiety on the part of manufacturers there to make up any serious portion of this large deficit.

There have been two shipping opportunities since we last wrote. The French mail steamer *Oxus*, 19th instant, had 500 bales for Europe and the N.P. steamer *Victoria*, 20th instant, 150 bales for New York. These departures make the present export figures 17,417 piculs, against 28,054 piculs last year and 23,009 piculs at the same date in 1891.

Hanks.—A small business, the stock on offer being quite insignificant. The purchases comprise *Chichibu* at $620, with medium *Shinshu* at $590.

Filatures.—These are held strong in fine sizes of good quality and also for the best grades of full sizes. The prices paid for Europe include *Tasi*, $780, with other grades in proportion; while in full sizes, *Rokkosha*, $775; *Taiyosha*, $765; *Inasha*, $760; *Shofukan*, $775; *Choshinsha*, $745; *Kaimeisha*, $737½; *Shunmeisha*, $710

Re-reels.—A fair amount of business has been done; *Five Girls*, $695; *Tortoise*, $690 with second quality at $665; *Yechigo* $620, *Common Bushu*, $590.

Kakeda.—A fair enquiry; Extra has been done at $735; Best No. 1, $700; 2 *Horsehead*, $620 *Musume* 1, $655 with other chops at similar prices.

Oshu.—No business this week. Stock small and well held.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK.)

Hanks—No 1	$620 to 630
Hanks—No 2 (Shinshu)	—
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	600 to 610
Hanks—No. 2½ (Shinshu)	590 to 600
Hanks—No 2½ (Joshu)	580 to 590
Hanks—No 2½ to 3	570 to 575
Hanks—No 3	560 to 565
Hanks—No. 3½	550 to 555
Filatures—Extra 10 12 deniers	800 to 810
Filatures—Extra 13.15 deniers	760 to 770
Filatures—No. 1, 10 13 deniers	770 to 780
Filatures—No. 1, 13 15, 14/16 den	730 to 740
Filatures—No. 1½, 10/14 deniers	740 to 750
Filatures—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 den	710 to 720
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	700 to 710
Filatures—No 2, 14 18 deniers	680 to 690
Filatures—No. 3, 14 20 deniers	—
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—(Oshu) Best No. 1	—
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	690 to 700
Re-reels—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	6 0 to 670
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	630 to 640
Re-reels—No. 2½, 14/18 deniers	620 to 625
Re reels—No. 3, 14,20 deniers	590 to 600
Kakedas—Extra	730 to 740
Kakedas—No. 1	700 to 710
Kakedas—No. 1½	660 to 670
Kakedas—No. 2	630 to 640
Kakedas—No. 2½	610 to 620
Kakedas—No. 3	590 to 600
Kakedas—No 3½	—
Kakedas—No 4	—
Oshu Serdai—No 1½	—
Hamatsuri—No 1, 2	630 to 650
Hamatsuri—No. 3, 4	610 to 620
Sodai—No. 2½	—

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Export Raw Silk Tables to 24th Nov., 1893.

	Season 1893-1894	1892-93.	1891-92.
	Bales	Bales	Bales.
Europe	12,102	9,713	7,601
America	4,858	17,845	14,880
Total { Bales	16,960	27,588	22,481
Total { Piculs	17,417	28,054	23,009
Settlements and Direct Export from 1st July	18,700	29,450	26,300
Stock, 24th Nov.	17,200	10,500	15,200
Available supplies to date	35,900	39,950	41,500

WASTE SILK.

A fair amount of business has been done from day to day resulting in the settlement of 856 piculs, divided thus: *Cocoons*, 164 piculs; *Noshi*, 377 piculs; *Kibiso*, 315 piculs. No direct shipments this week.

The state of the market exhibits a constant struggle between buyers and sellers on the question of price. Holders will not give way to any appreciable extent and shippers do not seem able to get their limits increased; so the market drags along. The stock has increased until it is more than 20,000 piculs; but for all that, dealers will not give way.

There have been two shipping opportunities since we last wrote, the Suez steamer *Hankow* taking a further instalment of *Pierced Cocoons* for New York and the French mail steamer *Oxus* having a moderate shipment of Waste for Europe. These departures make the present export figures 8 716 piculs against 14.043 piculs last year and 11 367 piculs at the same date in 1891.

Pierced Cocoons.—Some business was done early in the week, one buyer picking up all the decent quality he could find in medium grades. The balance of the stock is mostly common and poor quality, a great deal of it being unfit for export, except at very low rates.

Noshi.—A moderate business has been done, chiefly in *Oshu* and *Filature* sorts; prices ranging from $130 to $145, according to quality. These fine *Noshi* seem to be cheap at present quotations; but at the same time, consumers do not take firm hold or we should soon see larger business. In *Joshu* sorts, holders are very strong for the higher grades, and the only business done has been in ordinary at $70 and thereabouts.

Kibiso.—Some few purchases have been made; *Filatures*, $110 to $95; *Zugouri*, $50; *Medium Joshu*, $35

In other sorts, no business.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW WASTE).

Pierced Cocoons -Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	$140 to 145
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	130 to 135
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	120 to 125
Noshi-ito -Oshu, Good to Best	135 to 140
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	Nom. 110 to 115
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	Nom. 100 to 105
Noshi-ito—Shoshu, Medium	Nom. 90 to 95
Noshi-ito—Bushu, Good to Best	120 to 130
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	85 to 90
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	75 to 80
Noshi-ito—Joshu Ordinary	65 to 70
Kibiso -Filature, Best selected	110 to 115
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	100 to 105
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	70 to 80
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Good to Fair	40 to 35
Kibiso—Joshu, Middling to Common	35 to 30
Kibiso—Hachoji, Good	35 to 30
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	25 to 20
Kibiso—Nezi, Good to Common	—
Mawata -Good to Best	—

Export Table Waste Silk to 24th Nov., 1893.—

	Season 1893-94.	1892-93.	1891-92.
	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Waste Silk	6,369	11,881	10,640
Pierced Cocoons	2,347	2,162	827
	8,716	14,043	11,367
Settlements and Direct Export from 1st July	10,900	19,400	14,500
Stock, 24th Nov.	20,200	16 900	16,400
Available supplies to date	31,100	36,300	30,900

Exchange has improved a little recently and closes fairly steady at the following rates:—London, 4m/s. Credits, 2/5, Documents, 2/5⅛; 6m/s. Credits, 2/5¼. New York, 30d/s. U.S $58; 4m/s. U.S. $59. Paris, or Lyons, 4m/s. fcs. 3 04, 6m/s. fcs 3 06.

Estimated Silk Stock, 24th Nov., 1893.—

Raw.	Piculs.	Waste.	Piculs.
Hanks	80	Cocoons	960
Filatures	10,395	Noshi-ito	9,420
Re-reels	4,973	Kibiso	8,990
Takeda	1,585	Mawata	120
Oshu	120	Sundries	710
Tavsaam Kinds	47		
Total piculs	17,200	Total piculs	20,200

TEA.

Buyers continue to hold off from this market and the week's business has been very small. Notwithstanding the increasing stock on their hands, holders remain firm and refuse to lower their quotations.

	Per Picul.
Common	$12 to 13
Good Common	14 to 15
Medium	17 to 18
Good Medium	19 to 20
Fine	22 to 23
Finest	24 to 26
Choice	27 to 29
Choicest	31 to 35

EXCHANGE.

A slight improvement has taken place in the rates of Exchange, which close fairly firm.

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	2/4⅛
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	2/4⅛
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	2/5⅛
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	2/5⅛
On Paris—Bank sight	2.90
On Paris—Private 4 months' sight	3.05
On Hongkong—Bank sight	⅛ prem.
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	⅛ dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72⅛
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	73⅛
On America—Bank Bills on demand	56⅛
On America—Private 30 days' sight	58
On America—Private 4 months' sight	59
On India—Bank sight	Nominal.
Silver	32⅛

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Visitors to Kowaki-dani who bring a rod with them will be shown the haunts of the speckled Trout, a nice stream of several miles in length being within easy walking distance of the Hotel; Hakone Lake is also well stocked with a variety of fish, including salmon, and the Fishing is FREE; while Entomologists will find rare and valuable specimens in the surrounding hills, and the Flora of the district is extremely interesting to the Botanist.

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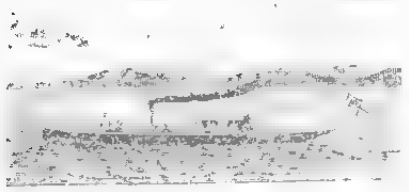

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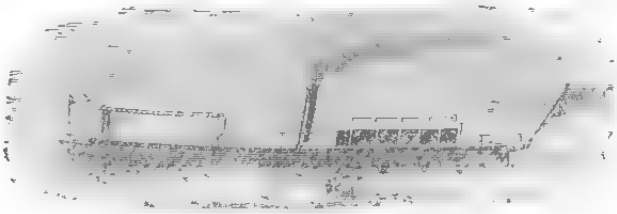

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER and Cheques be made payable to same and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA, SATURDAY, DEC. 2ND, 1893.

MARRIAGE.

SÜRTH-GRAEF.—On Tuesday, October 17, 1893 by the Rev. Spencer S. Roche, JESSICA GRAEF, daughter of Anthony Graef, of Brooklyn, New York U.S.A., to MAX SÜRTH, of Hiogo, Japan. No Cards.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

BARON SATAKE GISHIU died in the capital on the 22nd ult.

VISCOUNT GOTO MORINUSHI died in the capital on the 28th ult.

THE Yoshiwara at Susaki, Tokyo, has been destroyed by fire.

DYSENTERY and typhoid fever are very prevalent in the south-western prefectures.

THE death is announced of Mr. Takano, Chief Procurator of the Fukui Local Court.

MR. YATABE SEITAKU has been appointed Superintendent of Police in Ishikawa Prefecture.

H.I.H. THE EMPEROR visited the Artillery School at Toyama, Tokyo, on the 25th ult.

MR. MIYAGAWA KYUJIRO, Japanese Consul at Hongkong, was recalled on the 28th ult.

THE Ball given at the Public Hall on Thursday, St. Andrews's Day, was well attended and proved most enjoyable.

THE Yokohama Choral Society intend giving a performance of Barnett's "Ancient Mariner" on the 20th December.

ALL the exhibits of the Japan Leather Paper Co., at the World's Fair, Chicago, were sold, and many large orders obtained.

IN connection with the vote of no confidence in Mr. Hoshi Toru, the Radical party has expelled from its ranks Mr. Gamo Sen, that gentleman having taken great interest in securing the passing of the vote.

FIFTEEN houses were destroyed by fire at Aikawa-mura, Aiko District, Kanagawa Prefecture, on the 24th ult.

THE Minister of Home Affairs has appointed a special committee to investigate matters connected with the improvement of Hokkaido.

JUDGE HOASHI, of the Nemuro Local Court, who is under arrest on a charge of complicity in a fraudulent scheme, lies in solitary confinement.

MR. HASHIMOTO, Administrator of the Ogasawara Islands, has been placed on the Retired List; and Mr. Kitazawa has been appointed to the post.

THE *Yorozu Choho* was suspended on the 29th ult.; the following day the *Shimozuke Shimbun*, the *Ibaraki Nippo*, and the *Ibaraki* were allowed to appear again.

A VOTE of no confidence in the Nagasaki Prefectural Civil Engineering Repair Fund Standing Committee, having been passed, the Government has suspended its sittings.

AN agitation is afoot among the Japanese residents in Korea for the repeal of the notification forbidding the export of rice from certain ports in the Peninsular Kingdom.

BARON VON BIEGELEBEN, the Austro-Hungarian Minister in Japan, having returned home on leave, Count Coudenhove, Secretary of Legation, assumes the position of *Chargé d'Affairs*.

THE Imperial Diet was opened by the Emperor in person on the 28th ult. The Speech from the Throne was very short, and merely referred to the Budget as the principal business before the House.

THE Mexican *Chargé d'Affaires* and Consul-General, Mr. M. Wollheim, who has left for home on leave, will be represented by Mr. Luis G. Bard, Third Secretary of Legation, during his absence.

THE Japan Cast Iron Foundry Joint Stock Company, finding it difficult to carry out its contract for the supply of iron pipes to the Tokyo Water Works, has applied for an extension of time.

MR. KUSUMOTO MASATAKA, of the *Domei* Club, has been nominated by the Emperor Vice-President of the Lower House of the Diet, having received the highest number of votes in the election of three candidates for the position.

THE sale at home of No. 6 of the *New Era*, a Japanese periodical published in America, was prohibited by the Home Minister on the 25th ult., certain matters contained in that issue being regarded as likely to disturb the public peace.

THE commanding officers of the *Matsushima Kan*, *Chiyoda Kan*, *Takachiho Kan*, *Tsukuba Kan* and *Itsukushima Kan*, now staying in the port of Yokohama, entertained the officers of the Russian, American, and British men-of-war in harbour, at the Koyokan, Shiba, Tokyo, on Monday last.

A VOTE of no confidence in Mr. Hoshi Toru, President of the House of Representatives, was carried in the House on Wednesday last, but the President intimated to the assembly that he had no intention of following the suggested advice to resign his seat. The subject was brought up again the next day, and the House adjourned to consider what position it should take in the matter. An Address to the Throne was ultimately introduced and passed.

THE Matabele regiments, with Lobengula at their head, have been dispersed, and the capture of the king is likely to be effected immediately; the colliers' strikes in France and England have concluded; the French Ministry has resigned; the Spanish operations in Morocco have for the moment been suspended, the Sultan of Morocco having written to the Spanish Government that he has sent his brother to punish the Riffenos of Melilla, and offered to cede the Spaniards a piece of land on which to erect a fort; meanwhile, large supplies of munitions of war have been shipped to Melilla, and a naval demonstration of various Powers is preparing; the Italian Ministry has resigned; Mr. Gladstone is suffering from insomnia; the damage done at Santander by the recent explosion amounts to eleven million dollars; Mr. May, of the Bank of England, having resigned, *The Times* asks to have the whole facts of the case published; the deaths are announced of Prince Alexander of Battenberg and Sir Robert Morier, British Ambassador to St. Petersburg; Lord Charles Beresford's programme for increasing the Navy includes the building of ten ironclads for destroying torpedo stations in narrow seas, and will cost eighteen millions; the Egyptian Budget shows a surplus of half-a-million sterling; Dr. Budler, German Consul at Canton, has committed suicide by shooting himself with a revolver; it is reported at Washington that the Democratic New Tariff Bill includes a reduction of the duty on opium, and a total reduction of duties amounting to fifty million dollars; two infernal machines, from Orleans, were sent to the Emperor of Germany, but fortunately they were opened without exploding; *The Times* says that the betrothal of the Czarewitch with Princess Helene of Orleans is impending, but this has since been denied; fifty anarchists have been arrested in Barcelona, but the perpetrators of the recent explosions remain unknown.

THE improved tone in the Import trade noted last week has not resulted in the extension of business in Manchester goods expected at that time, actual transactions having been decidedly meagre in Yarns, Piece-goods, and Woollens; but holders do not give way, and prices, though unchanged, are decidedly firm. The small demand in the Metal market has continued, Iron of various kinds being the principal line taken; other metals remaining difficult to move, being firmly held for full rates. Kerosene has continued in large demand, and American Oil has fetched the high figures asked on account of the smallness of the stock. While writing, a report comes to hand that the German ship *Schliemann*, with a cargo of 70,000 cases from New York, whilst making for this port, has gone ashore on Vries Island. American Oil has been sold "to arrive," and prices are likely to go still higher as the demand continues. Russian has also been extensively dealt in, 150,000 gallons in bulk having been taken. Sugar has been bought more freely, holders having made concessions in Brown sorts, while Whites, which have been sold in small lots, are unchanged in value. There has been more business moving in the Silk trade, settlements during the week amounting to 1,400 piculs. Most of the purchases were Filatures suitable for the U.S. market, and prices were about the same as for some time past. But little doing for Europe, and the stock of all kinds is large and daily increasing by fresh arrivals. A moderate daily business has been done in Waste, and prices have slightly receded for certain kinds but the stock still remains over 20,000 piculs, though a good portion of it is of the lowest grades. There has been some business done in Tea, common and medium grade leaf having been taken in small parcels at full rates, and prices close firm.

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THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

(For the Week ending Nov. 25.)

Among the various political rumours that have been circulated in the capital during the past week, none has attracted so much attention as that concerning the probable combination of the clan statesmen of the Military and Civil sections. Repeated meetings are said to have taken place between them; but the results of these conferences, if they really took place, are not known to the public. However, the simultaneous departure from town of Count Yamagata, Viscount Takashima, and Viscount Kabayama, for Kyoto, Kobe, and Oiso respectively, has led to a not unnatural inference that the proposed combination has proved a failure, although some persons are still inclined to believe that there are hopes yet for the realization of the scheme in question. With regard to the probable situation in the coming session of the Diet, the impression gains ground that a serious collision will take place between the Cabinet and the Opposition. Concerning the Radical party's attitude, there is still an inclination on the part of the public to doubt whether in its boasted opposition to the Cabinet it will be ready to go as far as the Progressionists. This much is certain that there are two questions on which these two parties will never agree, namely the proposed motion for a vote of want of confidence in the President of the House of Representatives and another motion for advising the Government to dismiss the Minister and Vice-Minister of Agriculture and Commerce. The Progressionists seem determined to make much of these two questions; but the Radicals are of a different mind, especially with regard to the proposed measure about Mr. Hoshi. But on certain other questions, these two parties will pursue a similar line of policy, and some papers, the *Jiji* among the rest, even believe that, much as they now seem to hate each other, the similarity of the objects kept in view by them will probably bring about their reconciliation in the course of the next session of the Diet. We allude in the following paragraphs to some of the more important articles on the political situation.

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The *Hochi Shimbun*, writing on the subject of the proposed alliance between the Military and the Civil sections of the clan statesmen, remarks that the report is a very likely one. So far from dreading, as some politicians are said to do, the probable return to power of some statesmen of the so-called *Budan* section, the Progressionist organ would hail such an event with sincere delight. For when once the reins of Government fall into the hands of these statesmen, our contemporary is sure that an opportunity would be afforded for bringing to a final issue the long standing contest between the clan Government and the Opposition. A Cabinet like the present one is, in the *Hochi's* opinion, a hindrance to the introduction of a system of party Government,—one absorbing object kept in view by the Progressionists, for the statesmen of the Civil section are bent by a cunning and pacific policy to delay the termination of the fight indefinitely. Consequently, our contemporary is sincerely desirous that the present Ministry may unite with the Military statesmen and pursue a strong policy towards the Opposition.

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The *Jiji Shimpo* gives the Cabinet nearly the same advice as the paper above referred to, though not exactly with the same motives. Our contemporary observes that the reforms recently introduced in the different branches of the Administration will never give satisfaction to the parties opposed to the Government, and that in the coming session of the Diet, the Government must be ready to encounter a determined opposition from the people's representatives. There are only two courses open to the Cabinet, either to pursue a resolute policy, paying no regard to the opposition of the Diet, or to gain the good will of the Opposition by following a compromising policy and relying upon the support of a majority. The first policy would be a suitable one in the first stages of a constitutional Government, but in order to carry it to success, there must be a strong union and a bold resolution in the Cabinet. The other policy is more consistent with the nature of a constitutional system, but when once such a policy is pursued, the Cabinet will be bound to resign as soon as it loses its majority. Reviewing the policy of the successive clan Cabinets, the *Jiji* observes that, although they have always proposed to stand aloof from all political parties, they have really endeavoured to secure a majority in their favour in the House of Representatives. The Matsukata Cabinet, for instance, was called a despotic and unconstitutional Ministry, but it endeavoured very hard at the time of the last general elections to secure a majority, even resorting to official interference at the polls. As to the present Ministry, it is apparently independent of all parties, but in practice it has gone so far in its endeavours to win the favour of the people's representatives as to propose the re-assessment of the taxable value of land, a measure which is condemned by all intelligent and unbiassed observers. Thus the Ito Cabinet seems to be bent upon following a compromising policy, but, in the *Jiji's* opinion, there is little hope of the Government obtaining a majority in the Diet. There was a time when the Radicals seemed not unwilling to give support to the Cabinet, but the recent reorganization of the internal council of the party has, in our contemporary's opinion, completely changed the situation. The Tokyo journal believes that the Radicals and the Progressionists, though apparently at deadly variance with each other, are not yet so far estranged as to make it impossible to secure their reconciliation under certain conditions. Not only these two parties, but even the National Unionists do not seem to be favourably disposed towards the Cabinet. Under these circumstances, the *Jiji* observes that the Government must give up its idea of obtaining the support of the Diet. Our contemporary then alludes to the rumour about the recent meetings between the members of the present Cabinet with their predecessors, and remarks that perhaps the Cabinet has arrived at the right understanding of the situation. The *Jiji* states in conclusion that, under the circumstances, the best thing which the Cabinet could do would be to unite with the statesmen of the so-called military section and present a strong front to the Opposition.

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The *Kokkai* has an extremely interesting article on the situation. Our contemporary agrees with the two foregoing papers in thinking that the fifth session of the Diet will witness another serious collision between the Government and the Opposition. The result of such collision will be either the dissolution of the Diet, the resignation of the Cabinet, or the indifference of the latter to all the attacks of the Diet. Whichever result may follow, our contemporary sees no hope for a speedy termination of the fruitless and injurious struggle between the clan Government and the Opposition parties, for the present Cabinet will be succeeded by one composed of another set of clan statesmen. As to the possibility of carrying out Government by party, the *Kokkai* states that none of the parties is in a position to conduct the Administration. The Radical party is large and influential, but it is deficient in men of the necessary education and ability. The Progressionists are a clever set of men, and there is no lack of ability or knowledge among them, but they are in a hopeless minority. In no better condition are either the National Unionists or the members of the *Domei* Club. Even supposing that by some miraculous combination of circumstances the reins of Government were transferred to some of the Opposition parties, would such a result be conducive to cooling the inordinate zeal of Japan's public men in profitless contests over petty domestic politics? In the *Kokkai's* opinion, such an event would only serve to make the confusion worse confounded; for the other parties excluded from their share of official honey would redouble their zeal and violence to destroy the Cabinet, and there would ensue a state of affairs analogous to the one witnessed in modern France. "The parties," says our contemporary, "will then fight for power like so many hungry tigers over a good morsel of meat." Thus looked at from every possible point of view, the situation is a gloomy one. The only hope of salvation, in the *Kokkai's* opinion, lies either in the rise of a Napoleon or a Bismarck to divert the national energies into other channels, or in the breaking out of a War in the East, which would at once unite the nation against its foreign enemy. Our contemporary had recommended the Ito Cabinet to pursue a strong foreign policy, especially in the East, and thus distract the attention of the people from internal politics, but Count Ito, it says has not been able to initiate any original policy, and instead of leading the parties to the right way of thinking, he has been compelled to yield to their own dictation. It had been foolish, it says, to hope that such a bold line of policy would be adopted by Count Ito. "The present political malady in Japan," remarks the *Kokkai* in conclusion, "will be remedied only when this Empire's prestige shall have been restored in the Korean peninsular and the national flags of the Rising Sun shall be flying in the ports of the Philippine Islands. Where is the man capable of executing such a far-sighted and daring policy?"

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The Progressionist papers are indefatigable in attacking the Government on the question of official discipline. They admit that the Judiciary alone is conspicuously free from the charge of slackened discipline. Any official in the service who is guilty of reprehensible conduct is sure to be speedily and properly dealt with. But in the other departments of administration, the Progressionist organs profess to notice a remarkable slackness of discipline. This is all the more remarkable, say they, because the present Ministry is presided over by a statesman who has the credit of having constructed the frame-work of the constitutional Government in Japan and who on coming to power declared his intention to maintain strict discipline in the official ranks. The present Government, says one of these papers, is very particular in the administration of law, but in the sphere of moral discipline its senses are extremely dull. Of course the alleged slackness of discipline is meant principally for the Department of Agriculture and Commerce.

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Simultaneously with attacking the Government on account of official discipline, the Progressionist papers go hard against the President of the House of Representatives. The *Mainichi Shimbun* is the most conspicuous in this respect. It has declared that, if the Radicals are unable or unwilling to induce Mr. Hoshi to resign this position in the Diet, the matter will be taken up by the Progressionists. Our contemporary takes it for granted that Mr. Hoshi was guilty of improper conduct in connection with the exchange business.

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The Radical organ, the *Jiyu*, has indignantly replied to these attacks on the distinguished leader of its party. Our contemporary justly condemns the proposed vote of want of confidence in the President of the House of Representatives as being an utterly unwarrantable procedure. Should such a precedent be established, the position of President of the House of Representatives would become a prey to the malicious scheming of rival parties. As to the charges brought against Mr. Hoshi, there is not even a semblance of proof to establish them. If it is blameworthy to meet with persons connected with the exchanges, many distinguished members of the *Kaishin-to*, says the Radical organ, are equally in fault.

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The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* also strongly criticises the proposed vote of want of confidence in the President of the House of Re-

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presentatives. Such a course is not allowed by the constitution. If Mr. Hoshi be really guilty of reprehensible conduct, why not proceed in a constitutional manner and exercise the power of expulsion, which is the only legitimate authority the House possesses over its members?

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The Opposition papers, especially those belonging to the Progressionist party, are taking up with particular warmth the cause of a section of the metropolitan inhabitants for the abolition of the special system of Municipal Government. A large number of the citizens, as we have already reported, held a demonstration meeting at the *Koraku-yen*. The papers point out the inconveniences of the present system, but these points having already been noticed in these columns, it is not necessary to repeat them here.

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Some important changes have recently taken place in the journalistic world. The *Choya*, one of the oldest and the most distinguished of the Tokyo dailies, has suddenly come to an end. Want of funds is said to be the principal cause of the unexpected collapse. An important addition to the ranks of the illustrated dailies has been made in the shape of the *Mesamashi Shimbun*, which is said to be the organ of that section in the Radical Party led by Mr. Hoshi.

(For the week ending Dec. 2.)

The Lower House's attempts to dislodge Mr. Hoshi from the Presidential seat, and the troubles that have arisen out of this question, fill the columns of the vernacular press. The comments of the principal metropolitan papers on the subject having been reproduced separately, there remains little to be said in the present summary. We may, however, offer a few remarks on the general position of affairs. At the time of writing this, the House of Representatives is debating an Address to the Throne, praying that the Emperor may be pleased to remove Mr. Hoshi from the Presidential seat. There seems to be little doubt that the Address will pass. It is equally certain that the prayer will not be granted. The House, however, says rumour, will at the same time hand over Mr. Hoshi to the Disciplinary Committee. The result of such a measure, supposing it to be taken, which we greatly doubt, seems uncertain, though some papers state that Mr. Hoshi's opponents now number more than two-thirds of the House, and that they may be able to expel him altogether. Whatever be the outcome of it all, the passion that has been excited between the Radicals and the rest of the House will take a long time to cool sufficiently to enable the Opposition to direct any effective attack against the Government.

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The *Jiyu Shimbun* has completed its articles on Administrative Reforms. In the concluding article, it observes that the reductions effected in the number of officials aggregate 3,272, comprising 14 *chokunin*, 393 *sônin*, and 2,865 *hannin*. Thus, merely from a numerical standpoint, the recent reforms appear to have been sweeping and thorough-paced. But on closer examination, the *Jiyu* declares that the reductions are not satisfactory in several respects. Of the 14 *chokunin* officials, 8 were officers in the Navy, who have been removed to the Reserve list. Of the 393 *sônin* officials, 86 were Naval officers and 13 Army officers, who are placed on the Reserve list. The officers still remain on the list, and continue to receive money from the Treasury. The rest of the *sonin* officials dismissed from the service were principally those of the lower classes. Thus the reforms have, in the *Jiyu's* opinion, told more heavily upon the lower than upon the higher ranks of officialdom. This is one of the principal reasons of the Radical organ's dissatisfaction. Another point is that little change has been effected in official salaries. It is true, says our contemporary, that officials are contributing 10 per cent. of their salary towards a fund for the construction of war-vessels. When this circumstance is taken into consideration, the amount of reductions in expenses exceeds the amount claimed by the Diet by about 300,000 *yen*. But the *Jiyu* does not think it proper to consider contributions for the construction of war-vessels in the same light as reductions effected by deliberate reform. The contributions are temporary in their nature, and the Radical organ insists that they must be converted into permanent reductions. "Such" it says in conclusion, "being the results of the reforms effected by the Cabinet in the fulfilment of the promise it made in the fourth session of the Diet, there is no doubt that these reforms will be unable to satisfy the Diet. It is, therefore, but proper that our Party has inserted at the head of the programme for the present session an item to the effect that the Government should be urged to fulfil the promise it made in the fourth session of the Diet."

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The papers have not yet had time to consider the question of the Budget. The journalistic discussion on this subject will take place when the Diet begins to examine the figures. The matter has, however, been touched by three papers, the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, the *Kokkai*, and the *Kokumin Shimbun*. The views of the first have already been noticed. The *Kokkai* alludes to the subject in a cursory manner, but states that the Opposition will not be satisfied with the reductions actually accomplished, and that a collision is sure to take place once more. As to the Bills for re-assessment of the land, for the extension of the routes of steamship navigation, for the creation of a Special Reserve Fund, and so forth, the *Kokkai* refrains from expressing an opinion. The *Kokumin* is more cautious than the above mentioned journal, but it states that, generally speaking, it is disappointed with the Budget, though it does not hesitate to express approval of the Bills for re-assessment of the taxable value of land and for the abolition of the export duties on cotton yarns. At the same time it regrets that the Cabinet has not introduced a Bill for the reduction of the land tax.

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The *Nippon* cannot longer tolerate interminable contests over petty domestic politics. In domestic affairs, the *Meiji* Government has the credit of having accomplished some memorable reforms, such for instance as the abolition of feudalism, the creation of an efficient staff of police, and the establishment of a constitutional system of Government. Consequently, the Government is well qualified to repulse the assault of the Opposition in the domain of internal administration. But in foreign affairs, the Government has done nothing of conspicuous merit. Our contemporary even accuses it of signal failures. In this context mention is made of the exchange of Saghalien for the Kuriles, of the Sôul disturbance of 1884, of the Tientsin treaty, and even of the *Chishima-Rayeuna* affair. Such being the case, the Diet is advised to direct its attack to the domain of foreign policy. That change of *venue* would have the double effect of terminating fruitless discussions on internal politics and of promoting the true interests of the country.

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The *Mainichi Shimbun*, writing on the subject of Treaty Revision, tells the Radicals and other parties which opposed Count Okuma's programme in 1889, that it is now their turn to elaborate a scheme of revision and endeavour to get it carried out. Our contemporary observes that the Progressionists were in 1889 a little ahead of the time, and that for that reason they were opposed by the public. Had the Okuma programme been carried out, Consular Jurisdiction would be abolished next year, 1894, and a little more than seven years hence Japan would have recovered perfect autonomy. The *Mainichi* regrets that the Radicals and others prevented the scheme from succeeding. We (*Japan Mail*) fail to see any good in re-opening the history of the failure of the Okuma Programme. Such a proceeding has no other effect than to indirectly strengthen the anti-mixed Residence movement by causing a split in the camp of the advocates of Mixed Residence.

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The *Fiji Shimpo* is untiring in its efforts to expose the absurdities of the movement against Mixed Residence. Having repeatedly discussed the question in its bearings upon the present condition of the country's progress in civilization, our contemporary now refers to the fact that it is practically impossible to deny to foreign nations the privilege of Mixed Residence. The Treaty with Mexico expressly grants such a privilege to Mexicans, and the fact that it is in operation shows to foreign countries the Government's readiness to grant the same privilege to any other Power on like conditions. Under these circumstances, Japan can not very well refuse Mixed Residence to any Power which may offer to revise the existing treaty on the basis of the Mexican Treaty. Another reason why Japan ought to grant Mixed Residence, is the present unsatisfactory condition of Portuguese subjects. They are nominally under Japanese jurisdiction; but international courtesy requires that Japan should agree to a revision of the present treaty with that Power on the basis of the Mexican Party, should Portugal wish for such revision. The opponents of Mixed Residence are advised to consider these things, and think of what they would do under similar circumstances, were they in power.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

SUGAR IN JAPAN

Sugar forms one of the most important staples in the import trade of Japan, the total value of the import falling little short of 10 million *yen*. The Authorities, and public men interested in the economy of the country are therefore paying much attention to the business, writes the *Nippon*. They have not yet developed any definite scheme to further the matter, nor have they endeavoured to encourage the development of the native sugar industry. At the same time, they do not dare to impose a heavier import duty on this article, lest the public should suffer; and indeed it would not be at all desirable, so long as the production of native sugar is not sufficient to supply the country's demands. That the public are also somewhat backward in applying energy and money towards the development of this important industry, is attributed by our contemporary to the unsatisfactory result of the Hokkaido beet sugar industry. Be that as it may, the main reason why the import of foreign sugar is steadily increasing is not due to the insufficiency of home produced sugar, as is believed by some, but to the cheapness of the imported article. More than 120 million pounds of sugar are now annually consumed by the people. Only one half of this amount is supplied by the home manufacturers, a state of things which the *Nippon* considers highly unsatisfactory. Lately, a sugar plantation has been started in Hyuga, Kyushiu, and also in the Bonin Islands; but chiefly through lack of capital, no marked result is yet noticeable. The *Nippon* urges capitalists to invest money in this enterprise, which, according to our contemporary, would not fail to prove successful provided due caution be exercised, there being plenty of places suitable for the cultivation of cane in Japan.

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Of the sugar producing districts in Japan, a group of four islands in the Bay of Kagoshima, collectively known as Oshima, is one of the most important. The total cultivated area is about 17,000 *cho*, of which the sugar plantations constitute about a third. The method of cultivating sugar-cane in the islands appears to have been very imperfect till quite recently, for the land having received no manure did not yield more than 400 pounds per *tan*. Since the planters began to apply fertilizers two or three years ago, the yield has doubled, and it is confidently believed that it would not be difficult to push the production to 1,000 pounds per *tan*. The planters and manufacturers appear—we take these particulars from the *Kokkai*—to be entirely under the control of Osaka merchants, who proceed there when the season of sugar-refining begins and advance any money required to the refiners. Such being the case, the price at which the merchants obtain the article from the islanders is remarkably low. Last

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year, when the ruling market price of sugar was 3.8 *sen* per pound at Osaka, the islanders received only 1.2 *sen* for the same quantity, or less than a third of the price at which the merchants sold the porduce at Osaka. Even deducting freight and other contingent charges, the profit which the Osaka merchants derive from this business in Oshima must be unusually large. At present the total yield of the four islands is said to be about 50 million pounds, but it is believed that if the areas now applied to the cultivation of other crops were converted into sugar plantations, and the forests of the islands reclaimed, it would be very easy to augment the yield to twice what is now produced. In other words, the sugar plantations of Oshima alone would suffice to supply the demands of the Japanese people, for some time at least, supposing that the consumption be placed at less than 150 millions pound a year. The monopoly which the Osaka merchants virtually possess in the sugar industry of Oshima is regarded by the leading men of the island and of the prefecture of Kagoshima as greatly hampering the proper development of the industry. This opinion is shared by the Home Department, and that Department is said to be thinking of asking the Diet for a subsidy of 6,000 *yen*, towards the cost of the navigation of steamers between Osaka and the islands. The islanders have also despatched a representative to the capital to persuade the members of the Diet of the importance of such assistance to the development of the sugar industry.

THE JAPANESE CONSUL AT SAN FRANCISCO.

NOTHING appears more satisfactory than the esteem in which Mr. Chinda, Japanese Consul at San Francisco, is held by his countrymen resident there. The post of Japanese Consul at San Francisco is most onerous, multifarious tasks being connected with it in connection with the thousands of his nationals, many of whom are by no means respectable and exceedingly likely to reflect discredit upon the nation at large. One of the most important and difficult tasks required of the Consul is to extend effective protection over his nationals, who are liable to be regarded with hatred by the American workmen, owing to the encroachment of the former upon the latter's fields of action. With a view to protecting themselves against the hostile attitude of the workmen, the Japanese in San Francisco formed one big Association, with the approval of Mr. Kawagita, ex-Consul of the port, about four years ago. Mr. Chinda (we take these particulars from the *Nippon*), interested himself in this League with greater zeal than his predecessor, and the greater stability which it has since attained is chiefly ascribed to his exertions. One of the most important triumphs which this combined body of Japanese has obtained was brought about entirely through the instrumentality of Mr Chinda. A youth of Kagoshima opened, some time ago, a tavern in a certain street of San Francisco. The prosperity which the tavern obtained at once attracted the attention of American citizens engaged in the same trade, and out of envy they began to throw one obstacle after another in its way. The labourers then took the matter in hand. They declared that the young Japanese, being a Mongolian, had no right to carry on business in America, and that he must at once shut up his shop. The question at length became one which could could not be disregarded by the Japanese Association. They therefore held repeated conferences as to what course to take in the matter. At last it was resolved to send several Japanese to the Labourers' Convention as representatives of the League. At the meeting points of various descriptions were brought forward by the labourers in quick succession, some blaming the Japanese for accepting pauperising wages. The shoemakers and cooks were most pertinacious in endeavouring to drive the Japanese away from their occupations. Mr. Chinda, who attended the meeting as a member of the Japanese Association, replied to these points one by one with great composure, and brought the assembly into silent though discontented acquiescence. Soon afterwards, a letter was sent in the name of the Japanese Association to the working-men's office, also at the suggestion of Mr Chinda, stating that the Association had highly appreciated the fair and just conclusion of the Labourers' Union in the matter of the rights of Japanese in America, and concluding with the remark that the two countries standing on the opposite coasts of the Pacific should be bound together, as with a chain of iron, into closer friendship. Though the troubles between American labourers and Japanese emigrants is far from being settled, and there appear to be many cases ye. in which Japanese are subjected to unfair treatment by the labourers, or are imposed upon by Americans of some education, who are driven do so simply out of a desire to curry favour with the workmen and to secure their votes, the step which the Japanese Association has taken in the above affair will not be ineffective, and the part which Mr. Chinda played in it will long be remembered by his nationals.

PRIVATE RAILWAY ENTERPRISES IN JAPAN

THE other day, writes the *Jiji Shimpo*, the members of the Railway Council held a special meeting at the Fujimi-ken, Tokyo, to discuss questions relating to projects of private railway enterprise now before the Council for approval. It should be noted that there are at present more than 60 applications of the kind and the Council is said to be much perplexed as to the manner of dealing with these applications. The members who attended the meeting expressed various opinions. Some contended that as the national economy does not permit an outflow of gold to the extent of more than 5 million *yen* a year, the question which applications should be granted and which should be rejected ought to be determined with reference to that financial limit, no excess of it being sanctioned, however great be the number of applications. Others maintained that if the applicants were granted charters without discrimination, many petty railway companies would begin to appear, with the result that effective control of railways in general could scarcely be exercised. Therefore, the relative merits of the routes where it is proposed to construct railways should be carefully examined and applications for routes considered unsuitable should be rejected with promptitude and decision. The third party were opposed to this last opinion, for they held that to draw clear districtions between suitable and unsuitable routes would be a matter of the greatest difficulty. They therefore advocated an investigation on a general and non-exhaustive basis, after which any application not found particularly objectionable might be granted licenses. Economical affairs, they argued, have automatically operating checks, and no attempt need be made to exercise empirical control. Such are said to have been the opinions enunciated at the late meeting, which was not a regular assembly but a kind of friendly conclave for the purpose of interchanging views.

MR. KAWADA KOICHIRO ON ECONOMIC QUESTIONS.

THE *Kokumin Shimbun* sent a representative to interview Mr. Kawada, President of the Nippon Ginko, on the economic questions of the day. His opinions on the problems now attracting the attention of thinking men in Japan, namely, the future of the Nobles' Bank, and the inauguration of an iron foundry, possess considerable interest. He declares himself strongly opposed to the winding up of the Nobles' Bank after the expiration of its prescribed term. For he discerns no manner of safely and profitably employing the large capital now involved in the Bank's operations, unless the institution be preserved. It is, he thinks, because the wealth owned by numerous peers in varying amount has been collected to subserve one purpose that they have been enabled thus far to compete with others in an age of the keenest business rivalry. So soon, however, as they are required to stand individually as they would be were the Bank closed, they would lose their competence. He is of opinion that whatever different views may be entertained on the subject, the Bank ought to be preserved, not alone for the sake of the peers as a whole, but also because of the fact that the money invested by nobles in the 15th Bank is the hereditary property of their families. He thinks it distinctly strange that the Bank should lately have decided to allow the unrestricted sale of its shares.

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As to the establishment of an iron foundry, he would have the project under the control of men convinced of its importance, resolved to realize its objects, and ready to maintain the business, whether it prove profitable or unprofitable for at least five or six years. He holds that to aspire to follow the example of England in this matter, and to regard the work of an iron foundry in Japan in the same light as it is regarded in England, would be a complete mistake. Iron differs much in quality according to the place of its extraction, and if iron differs in quality the uses to which it is applied must also differ. But, Mr. Kawada doubts whether there are specialists in Japan competent to manage foundry work. Moreover, this country does not enjoy advantages such as are possessed by England in the close proximity of the districts where iron and coal are produced. All these considerations lead the President of the Bank of Japan to conclude that iron in Japan cannot be regarded with the same importance as that attached to the mineral in England. Finally, he thinks that the time is still premature in Japan for an enterprise of the kind. But whether in the Occident or in the Orient, those that seek to invest a great capital so as to secure a good profit, should in his opinion, devote themselves to mineral, enterprises in the following order, namely iron, coal, copper, silver, and gold.

ACCIDENT TO COUNT OYAMA'S CARRIAGE

VERNACULAR newspapers report that, on the 25th instant, the carriage of His Excellency the Minister of State for War was upset, and that Count Oyama sustained a slight injury, a wayfarer also, who was caught between the carriage and a fence against which it fell, being wounded This account, so far as we can learn, is inaccurate. The Count's carriage was not upset. 'What happened was that the horses, for some unexplained reason,' took fright, and one of them thrust its feet and head through a wooden fence whence the animal could not be immediately extricated. Count Oyama left the carriage and rode away in a *jinrikisha*, not having sustained any injury whatever.

THE RADICALS AND THE PROGRESSIONISTS.

ANY prospect recently supposed to be discernible of renewed cooperation between the Radicals and the Progressionists in the present session of the Diet seems to have been dispelled by a very frank and open refusal on the part of Count Itagaki to a proposal which the *Domei* Club submitted to him and his Party. On the 24th instant, Messrs. Kawashima Jun, Nakamura Yaroku, and Shiba Shiro, leaders of the *Domei* Club, called at the office of the Radical Party and offered to arrange a general basis for common action between the three sections of the Opposition. They mentioned five points on which united action was deemed essential. The Radical leader begged them distinctly to understand that, since the Progressionists and the Radicals held divergent views, his Party could not consult with its late allies on any question whatever. At the same time, he assured his visitors that so far as concerned the *Domei* Club, the Radicals would not be unwilling to confer occasionally. The points which the delegates of the *Domei* Club laid before Count Itagaki as calling for united action on the part of the three sections of the Opposition were:—First, that the Government should be compelled to fulfil the promises publicly made by it last session; secondly, that the Vice-President and Chairman of Committee of the Whole in the Lower House should be elected fromamong the members of the three sections of the Opposition; thirdly, that the Budget Com-

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mittee should be elected from among the members of the Opposition; fourthly, that the Government should be pressed to maintain discipline in its ranks; and fifthly, that the Government should be urged to rigidly enforce the existing treaties and at the same time to undertake the revision of treaties on a basis of perfect equality. With regard to the first point, the Count replied that the Government must be compelled to make good its promises, but that the practical solution of the question being very complicated, the Radicals could not consult on such a subject with any set of politicians not in general harmony with them. The matter, he said, was now under consideration by the Radical Party, and nothing definite could be stated as to the course to be pursued, but it might be expected that the Radicals would demand a reduction of salaries among the higher classes of officials. As to the second point, Count Itagaki stated that his Party would duly communicate its intentions to the *Domei* Club. Concerning the third point, namely, the election of the Budget Committee, the Count declared it to be his Party's intention to leave the election entirely to each of the Sections into which the House of Representatives would be classified. Coming to the next point, namely official discipline, he said that the Radical Party intended to investigate the matter for the purpose of ascertaining in what respects the Cabinet's procedure was reprehensible. Lastly, with respect to the treaty problem, the Radical leader did not think it necessary to enter into any understanding.

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The delegates of the *Domei* Club then took their leave, but returned soon afterwards and informed Count Itagaki, that his Party having declined to have anything to do with the Progressionists, there was now no hope of cōoperation between the three sections of the Opposition, and that, under the circumstances, the *Domei* Club would henceforth pursue an independent line of action. To this Count Itagaki replied that the conduct of the Progressionists had made it impossible for his Party to hold any friendly intercourse with them, and that, deeply as he regretted the necessity, all idea of cōoperation must now be given up. However, he hoped that politicians holding similar views (meaning the Radicals and the members of the *Domei* Club) would practically act in concert without any previous consultation.

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As to the Progressionists, they still profess to believe that the hostility openly avowed against them by the Radical Party is really confined to a section of that Party, and they take care to direct their criticisms principally against Mr Hoshi and his followers. But Mr. Hoshi's cause having been taken up by the whole of his Party, this procedure on the part of the Progressionists does not seem likely to be successful for the present at all events

EXCITED DEBATE IN THE TOKYO CITY ASSEMBLY

At the last meeting of the Tokyo City Assembly an excited debate took place between the Governor of the City and the President of the Assembly with reference to a question put by the latter to the City Council, in regard to the Water Works. Mr. Kusumoto, it will be remembered, questioned the Council as to the reason for the slow progress in the construction of the Water Works. This was at the beginning of May last, but a reply was only given in the name of the Council at the last meeting of the City Assembly. It was to the effect that though the Council thought it obligatory to give an answer to any question put to it by the Assembly, it did not consider that that applied to a question emanating from a member of the Assembly, and consequently, it concluded to return the document setting forth the questions. Thereupon the Chairman, asking Mr. Yoshino, a member of the Assembly, to exchange seats for a while, replied in a spirited fashion as follows —The question put by him, as every member of the Assembly must remember, was in regard to the unreasonably slow progress of the Water Works. Not a tenth of the works had been completed after the lapse of more than three years, and that in works of such magnitude as to require ten million *yen* to construct, and although the prescribed time for the completion was originally fixed at five years. Mr. Kusumoto held this to be a matter that could not be passed over in silence, and so he had asked three questions relating to the future outlook of the Works. The Council had, however, sent back those written questions on the ground that it did not think it obligatory to return an answer to a question put by an individual member of the Assembly. He did not desire to contest the point, but what he could not overlook was the grave consequences which this decision of the Council's would have upon the rights of speech by a member of the Assembly and the dignity of the Assembly itself. Should the opinion of the Council on this point prevail, a member of the Assembly would be unqualified during its session to put any other question but that which was directly connected with the bills introduced for deliberation. This was indeed a point of serious moment for the future of the Assembly. Mr. Kusumoto declared that he had no recollection of any such oppressive measure ever being dealt out before to a member of a deliberative representative body, such as the Tokyo City Assembly. Even in the Imperial Diet a member was qualified to put a question and bring up the subject with which it dealt before the House, though he was generally backed by a number of supporters. He therefore desired, for the sake of defining this question of right clearly and beyond dispute, that the Council should be held bound to give a reply to questions put by any member of the Assembly. As Mr. Kusumoto sat down, Mr. Miura, Governor of Tokyo, replied to him in words that were practically a repetition of the Council's opinion, adding that a question put as a result of a resolution of the Assembly could be answered at any time. Mr. Tsunoda observed that as the point was one of grave importance connected with the extent of the rights of speech of members and of the Assembly itself the deliberation of the matter should be postponed to the next meeting, and that for that purpose the motion put by Mr. Kusumoto should be printed, a copy being distributed to each member. After an excited debate it was decided to defer the discussion to the next meeting.

THE ELECTION OF CANDIDATES FOR THE VICE-PRESIDENTSHIP OF THE LOWER HOUSE

On the day previous to the election of candidates for the Vice-Presidency of the House of Representatives, Messrs. Kawashima, Nakamura, and Shiba, representatives of the *Domei* Club, called at the head-quarters of the Radical Party to make arrangements for the election. The Radical Party showed itself quite willing to act in concert with the *Domei* Club, but positively declined to hold any intercourse with the Progressionists. Thus, there being no hope of united action on the part of the three sections of the Opposition, each of them proceeded independently to the election on the 25th inst. The Radicals, it is said, were instructed by their leader to cast their votes for Mr. Kusumoto of the *Domei* Club, but were left free to choose any other two persons as second and third nominees. The Progressionists voted for Messrs. Kusumoto, Kawashima, and Suzuki Shigeto of the *Domei* Club. The *Domei* Club nominated Mr. Kusumoto, its own leader, Mr. Kono Hironaka (Radical), and Mr. Shimada Saburo (Progressionists). The National Unionists voted for Messrs. Abe and Ando, their associates, and for Mr. Suzuki of the *Domei* Club.

* * *

The new Vice-President, Mr. Kusumoto, belongs to the clan of Saga and served in the Government for more than twenty years. At one time he was Governor of Tokyo, and subsequently a member of the Senate. During the last years of his official career, he was known to be one of the malcontents in the Government; and on the opening of the Diet, he presented himself at the first election as an Opposition candidate in one of the election districts of the capital. On that occasion, he was defeated by his adversary, but he succeeded in the general elections of February, 1892. At present, he is regarded as the leader of the *Domei* Club, which, though possessing only 25 seats in the Diet, is an extremely important political body, being equally friendly to both the Radicals and the Progressionists.

POLITICAL COMPLEXION OF THE HOUSES OF THE DIET.

The most recently published figures divide the various parties in the Houses of Peers and Representatives as follow:—

HOUSE OF PEERS

Princes of the Blood	10
Sanyo Kai (Prince Konoye's Section)	29
Konwa Kai (Viscount Tani's Section)	53
Yamato Club (Viscount Torio's Section)	6
Kenkiu Kai (Consisting chiefly of Government Nominees)	59
Mushozoku (Independent)	119
Total	276

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Jiyu to (Radicals)	97
Kaishin to (Progressionists)	43
Domei Club (A coterie formed for the purpose of keeping the *Jiyu-to* and the *Kaishin to* together	25
Jun domei ha	7
Kokumin-Kyokai (Viscount Shimagawa's Party)	70
Jun Kokumin Kyokai	27
Osaka ha	6
Inokaku gumi	5
Dai-Nippon-Kyokai (the Oriental Radicals)	14
Kishu ha	5

* * *

One thing is pretty plain from the above list, namely, that no party has a sufficient following in the Japanese House of Representatives to make government by party a practical possibility. A House of 299 members divided into ten sections, no two of which can be counted on to vote together on any question, is certainly not a very facile instrument of legislation.

CHARGES FOR INLAND TELEGRAMS.

We complain in Japan that the rates for inland telegrams ought to be cheaper. So they ought, doubtless, though a uniform charge of fifteen *sen* for the first ten *Kana* syllables and ten *sen* for every additional ten syllables to any part of the empire must be called reasonable. Foreign residents who can make use of the Japanese language for communicating across the wires, are not to be pitied. It is when one comes to telegraph in a Western language that the rate of ten *sen* per word feels irksome. Yet, how much better off we are than our countrymen in China. One can send a message of, say, twenty words from Tokyo to Nagasaki for 2 dollars. The same message could not be wired from Shanghai to Tientsin for less than 6 dollars. The charge in China is more than three times as high as the charge in Japan. Besides, while in Japan the minimum charge for a Foreign telegram—*i.e.*, the smallest cost at which one can use the wires—is only 50 *sen*, in China it is 2.10 dollars, a difference of more than 1 to 4. On the whole, therefore, we have not so much to grumble about, comparatively speaking, in this country.

COMPLAINT OF THE MIYAKO-JIMA ISLANDERS.

The people of Miyako-jima, one of the many groups that form the Riu-kiu Archipelago, are ventilating their grievances in the vernacular press. Their case appears to be even harder than that of the Hojima people, an account of whom we gave in these columns a few weeks ago. Miyako-jima are a group of small islands which lie about 157 nautical miles south of the main island of Okinawa, and contain in all 35 thousand inhabitants. The islands appear to be far from well blessed by nature. The products are mainly agricultural,—millet, barley, sugar cane, &c.; and even these are insufficient for export. The islanders, therefore, are said to be mostly poor, generally subsisting on millet, rarely tasting *miso*,—a common dish elsewhere in Japan even for the poorest class,—while *soy* is said to be unknown to them.

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If their diet is of this coarse kind, their clothing is not less so, a simple garment made of fibres of banana being their only covering all the year through. The burden which these poor people are obliged to bear appears to be out of all proportion to their means. According to the latest inquiry, the total of what they have to pay in kind as regular taxes is fixed at the rate of about 5,400 *koku* of millet, worth 30,000 *yen* in round numbers, and these taxes the people pay in millet, cotton, cotton cloths, &c. For a population of 35,000, the burden of more than 30,000 *yen* taxes must be rather heavy, but this is by no means all they are obliged to contribute to the State. There is another sum of above 30,000 *yen*, their share of expenses for the official staff, which is composed of natives; hospitals, and schools for their children. In all, therefore, about 70,000 *yen* is required of them in the shape of taxes and other charges. As if to aggravate this distress, all these public charges are said to be imposed not according to the comparative wealth of the islanders, if indeed they can be differentiated into two classes of rich and poor, but levied evenly from all. Consequently every person is obliged to pay about 2 *yen* per year as taxes or public rates, and cases are said to be very frequent of the entire crop harvested by an islander being turned into taxes, and nothing left for his own use. The administration of the islands indeed appears to be of a queer character, with plenty of the vicious elements of older times when Riu-kiu was governed by its own monarch under the suzerainty of the Prince of Satsuma, and very little of the beneficial influence of the Imperial administration is experienced there. A strong proof of this is the manner in which officials demand free labour from the people. To provide for the comfort and luxury of officials, the islanders construct fish ponds by the shore where fish are kept alive for presentation to the officials whenever they required fish for food. The number of unproductive persons living in the islands is something extraordinary. There are 36 officials of the new *Meiji* régime, the head-man of the islands, his clerk, and police, all told; but the officers of the old régime who are dependent for their subsistence on the common folk are incredibly numerous, being calculated at 756 from the Chief down to the servants of the office. With such a large idle class to support, it is not surprising that the islanders are subjected to exorbitant taxation. They have laid their grievances repeatedly before the Island Office and also before the Local Office of Okinawa, but for reasons inexplicable to us these petitions have been returned on every occasion. Their last resource was to appeal to the House of Representatives, and two natives of the island have now arrived in the capital accompanied by an interpreter. These delegates intend to petition the two Houses of the Diet to lessen the number of officers, to lighten public burdens, to substitute land tax for poll-tax, and to abolish the payment of taxes in kind for that of money.

THE RADICALS AND THE PROGRESSIONISTS.

The report originally published by the *Jiyu Shimbun*, and already noticed in these columns, with reference to a recent interview between Count Itagaki and a deputation from the *Domei* Club, is pronounced partial by the members of the latter association, who have consequently supplied to the press their own version of the conversation. On comparison, we fail to notice any essential difference between the two accounts, except that the version just given by the *Domei* Club is fuller and more explicit. From it we learn that Count Itagaki, expressing no doubt the general sense of his followers, announced the determination of his Party to hold aloof from the Progressionists, even though such a division should involve the general defeat of the Opposition. Several other passages, if correctly reported, go to show that the antipathy felt by the Radicals towards their late allies is really deeper and more earnest than we had imagined.

* * *

Concerning the Progressionists, it is believed that they are secretly delighted with the open hostility shown towards them by the Radicals, for should the Opposition meet with any reverse of fortune in the coming struggle, they will be able to lay the blame upon the shoulders of the Radicals. The *Kokkai* mentions that the news of Count Itagaki's positive refusal to hold any intercourse with the Progressionists, was received at the head quarters of the latter with undisguised pleasure and satisfaction. Under such circumstances, the members of the *Domei* Club have but a very slight chance of accomplishing anything conclusive this session. Despairing of cöoperation between the three sections of the Opposition in the Lower House, they are said to contemplate an alliance with an extreme section of the Upper House, namely the *San-yo-kai*, of which Prince Konoye is leader. But such an alliance will lead to no practical result, as the parties concerned are numerically weak in their respective Houses.

SINKING OF A TORPEDO BOAT.

Lieutenant Kaburaki, of *Chishima-kan* notoriety, writes the *Nippon*, appears to be doomed to perpetual misfortunes. The fourteen torpedo boats of the Offensive Section of the Yokosuka Admiralty left that harbour on the 22nd instant under the command of the Lieutenant, accompanied by the despatch vessel *Shinten-go*. They arrived off the coast of Samukawa, Chiba Prefecture, on the evening of the same day, and the next day they carried out some exercises with fish-head torpedoes. While the little fleet lay at anchor, a south-westerly gale began to blow from about 11 o'clock in the evening of that day, and gradually increased in force, raising a very high sea. Most unfortunately the principal officers of the fleet had landed to refresh themselves after the labours of the day, and the village where they were spending the night being separated by a considerable distance from the place where the boats lay at anchor, the sound of a bugle from the fleet could not reach them. Soon some of the boats began to drag their anchors and several collisions occurred, until finally No. 5 Boat sunk at a distance of about a mile and a half from the coast of Samukawa. The crew of the boat, seeing that she was doomed, threw off their clothes, and managed to reach the other boats by swimming, so that there was no less of life. Intelligence having been conveyed to the Chiba Local Office, experts were at once despatched from Yokosuka to the scene of the accident, and preparations were promptly made for raising the submerged boat. It is said that as she lies in no great depth of water, there will not be much difficulty in getting her up. But the conduct of the officers in leaving the fleet to shift for itself will doubtless provoke comment, should the allegation be confirmed.

JAPANESE MINING ENGINEERS IN CHINA.

The Chinese, for all their jealousy of the Japanese and their professed dislike of the un-Oriental liberalism displayed by the latter, are nevertheless sufficiently practical to avail themselves of Japan's new attainments whenever occasion offers. A case in point is the employment of Mr. Kuwabara, a Japanese mining engineer, to inspect and present a report on the coal and iron mines in Chiang-su-shan. Mr. Kuwabara is a graduate of the former Engineering College, where he received instruction in mining, subsequently, we believe, visiting Europe to complete his studies. His services appear to have been engaged by the Viceroy Li, and he proceeded on his tour of inspection at the close of last month. Chiang-su-shan is reached from Shanghai by the Yangtse River. Leaving the river at Chinkiang, one proceeds thence by the Grand Canal, which runs in the immediate vicinity of the mine. From this description our readers may infer that an easy water-way exists for the carriage of the mineral from its place of production to Shanghai. But it must be remembered that the Grand Canal is no longer what it was in days when hundreds of cargoes of tribute rice travelled by it to the capital. It is now little more than a ditch, and persons acquainted with its condition scoff at the notion that it can be successfully used for the transport of coal on any considerable scale, or that the Chiang-su-shan coal, depending on such a route, can ever compete successfully with Japanese coal in the Shanghai market. The Chinese, however, affirm that the project with regard to the mine does not include the sale of coal in Shanghai. What they purpose is to make iron-mining the chief aim, taking out only so much coal as may be necessary for smelting purposes—six hundred tons a day is the figure estimated. It appears that in former years the mines were worked, though by very primitive methods, and that a seam of coal some twenty feet thick exists at an easily accessible depth. Samples of the mineral have been sent to Shanghai and Tientsin for examination, and its quality is pronounced excellent. Of course if operations are resumed by the advice of Mr. Kuwabara, the affair will be under official auspices, a fact which alone is considered sufficient to destroy all hopes of success from a commercial standpoint.

CHINESE MATCHES.

It is really surprising that any serious competition should be possible between the phosporus matches of China and Japan. Nothing could well be more execrable than the Chinese manufacture. Not a few of the so-called matches that one's fingers extract from a box are simply splinters of wood without any pretension to capacity for ignition by friction, and of the rest, some snap incontinently under the pressure of application to the surface of contact, and others accomplish nothing more than the emission of a feeble flash. Naturally one becomes impatient under such circumstances and proceeds to wholesale measures, with the result of lighting one's fingers instead of one's candle or cigar. The Japanese matches belong to a totally different category, yet one finds the miserable Chinese match in many foreign and Chinese houses in Shanghai, Tientsin, and Peking.

THE SANTANDER EXPLOSION.

A despatch received in Madrid from Santander, at 11 p.m. on November 4th, says that many local officials were on the quay with the Governor, when the explosion occurred. Behind them stood thousands of spectators, who had been attracted by the flames which shot up the masts of the burning dynamite-laden ship and reddened the sky. The explosion which was entirely unexpected lifted the whole structure of the quay in the air. Firebrands and fragments of wood and iron fell like hail on the houses, two hundred yards from the water front. Many persons were thrown into the sea and drowned. The crews of the ship and tugboat alongside her, were blown to pieces. Not one whole body of a member of either crew has been found. One report says that the vessel carrying the dynamite, was not the *Volo*, but the steamer, *Cabo Machicaco*, from Bilbao Troops were sent early in the morning from Santona, sixteen miles from Santander, to pull down the buildings rendered unsafe by the explosion, and to help to put out the fires which were incessantly breaking out in different places on the water front. The Governor's body was recovered the same night. The Marquis of Pombo is missing, and is believed to be among the killed. A train which was entering the station when the explosion occurred, was fired by flying pieces of burning wood. The station began to burn a moment later. The Station Master was burned to death and many passengers were suffocated. Dozens of persons living near the Bay fled from their burning houses in terror and threw themselves into the water.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE AT SUSAKI, TOKYO.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun* says that about half-past three o'clock on the morning of the 26th inst. flames burst out in a brothel at Susaki. Fanned by the breeze, they soon took strong hold of the adjacent houses. The Inada-ro was immediately under the control of the fire, which soon spread to the Shinkaji-ro, Minematsuba-ro. It then forced its way towards Nakanocho and the Takao-ro and the Honkin-ro were quickly ruined. The conflagration de-

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stroyed all the brothels with the exception of the Yawata-ro and a few small houses The total number of buildings destroyed or considerably damaged was 68, of which 60 were brothels.

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Fire broke out at Hiratsuka, Tokaido, on the 25 h inst. at 2.30 a.m., destroying 53 houses. The conflagration was caused by an incendiary. A man was severely assaulted by roughs during the fire.

THE EPISODE OF THE FLAGS IN SHANGHAI.

THE great celebration in Shanghai on the 17th instant did not pass without one of those international complications that appear to be inseparable from all common efforts on the part of communities in the East. About midway along the Bund there was erected an imposing structure in the form of an arch, and at the crown were draped the four flags of Great Britain, America, Germany, and China, the flags of the other treaty nationalities being relegated to lower places at the flanks. Simple considerations guided the choice of the four principal standards. China was naturally included in the number as lord of the soil. Great Britain and America came in because the Settlement is British and American. And a fourth flag being needed, either the German or the French had, of course, to be taken. Now in Shanghai the French Settlement is a thing apart. It is separated by a creek from the English and American, and is otherwise very materially distinguished. Besides, the French did not officially cõoperate in the celebration of the 17th instant. Various reasons are assigned for their abstention, but the simplest appears the most probable, namely, that as the establishment of their Settlement dates from a period subsequent to 1843, they could not well celebrate its fiftieth year in 1893. At all events, the facts that the French Setilement is locally and municipally separate and that its age is different, determined the Committee of Celebration to give the place of honour to the German flag. Of course it was a mistake. If the French flag, or the flag of any other nation for the matter of that, was included at all in the decorative paraphernalia, it should have floated neither lower nor higher than any other ensign. The French Consul lost no time in remonstrating. Amusing versions are current as to the force and form of his representation, but we may take it for granted that he employed all the courtesy of his race. The justice of his objection could not be gainsaid, and the faulty arrangement was speedily rectified, though somewhat to the detriment of the ornamental structure's symmetry, for it is not easy to dispose a number of standards at a precisely equal height in a decorative device. However, everything ended happily

RAILWAY AND STEAMSHIP SPEED.

MR. CHAUNCY M. DEPEW, president of the New York Central Railway in the United States, recently said :—

On Aug. 9, 1831 the first railroad was opened in the United States. It was the Mohawk & Hudson which ran a distance of 17 miles from the city of Albany, the capital of the Empire state to the old Dutch city of Schenectady The first locomotive for this road was the DeWitt Clinton, which was about 11 feet 6 inches in length, and mounted on iron wheels about four feet eight inches in diameter. The power of this engine was over ten horses. As it stood on the rails of the first railroad it could be very easily moved by a single hand.

In Aug. 1833, the quickest time made up to that date was from Saratoga to Schenectady, 22 miles, in 54 minutes and 33 seconds 24 miles an hour In 1893 a train of passenger cars running without special right of way, made the run from New York to Buffalo, 441 miles, in 8 hours and 58 minutes, 49 miles per hour In 1892 a passenger train made the run to Chicago 978 miles, in 20 hours, 48.9 miles per hour. This has broken all records of passenger carrying trains. The remarkable speed of a mile in 33 seconds was attained by this Chicago flyer. This wonderful feat is repeated almost daily, and 75 miles an hour for the average speed of a fast railroad train is not such an improbable thing in this great age of speed and record smashing

No doubt we shall go still further forward in the development of speed of our railroad trains until the 100 miles an hour average speed limit has been reached Early this year the Empire State express ran 10 miles in 6 minutes from Crittendon to Grimaville, N. Y. This is at the rate of 100 miles an hour. The time may come sooner than any of us expect when a run of this kind will be an ordinary and everyday occurrence.

Now as to speed on the water.

The great speed attained by the new steamships brought out this year has done much to confirm the belief held by many that the four-day trip to Europe is near at hand This is the first time in 14 years I have not crossed the ocean and spent at least a month of the summer in Europe. I have watched with great interest the advancement in the building of ocean iners When I first began taking my vacation in Europe it used to take me about 10 days to cross, and that is not so many years ago either I picked up my paper a few weeks ago and I saw that the *Campania* 620 feet long, 30,000 horse power and 14,000 tons burden, crossed the Atlantic in 5 days and 10 hours against a record of five days and 18 hours. A little later on I found that the sister ship of this gantic monster of speed smashed all maiden records for the trans-Atlantic trip by crossing in 5 days and 15 hours and 37 minutes against a record of 5 days 14 hours 24 minutes, and the *Lucania's* captain expects to lower this record by several hours after his ship's machinery gets a little smoother Now comes the news that the *Campania* and *Lucania* are to have an American floating palace for a rival that will lower the ocean record to 100 hours. This ship, which is said to be now building at Cramp's yard in Philadelphia, will be according to report, 700 feet in length, 68 feet beam and 45 000 horse power This will make her 20 feet longer than the *Great Eastern*, and it is expected that this gigantic vessel will run at speed of 27 knots an hour placing the six day greyhounds in the class of slow boats

The year 1893 has so far proved a great year for speed. Records have been smashed right and left, and before the new year has been ushered in we may have more surprises on land and water

A VERY GROSS LIBEL.

WE are not often surprised by the egregious blunders that foreigners perpetrate from time to time in writing about Japan on the strength of ignorance rendered audacious by a sojourn of a few weeks, or, it may be, months. But we confess that Miss Elizabeth A. Cheney has made us open our eyes a great deal wider than usual. Mr. Stead, in the *Review of Reviews*, under the heading of 'The "foreign devil" let loose in Japan,' devotes to her a paragraph which we re-produce :—

A terrible indictment is brought by Elizabeth A Cheney in the September *Arena* against the consular courts Japan. Under existing treaty-arrangements, Europeans or Americans charged with offences against Japanese must be tried before the consul of the Power to which they belong According to the writer before us this simply means that the most abominable atrocities are committed by foreigners on the Japanese with impunity The foreign tribunals apparently side with the foreigner, whatever his guilt. Here are some of the facts adduced :—

An American woman, a procuress, being unable to live in her own country, went to Japan. After she landed in Yokohama, about fifty young daughters of respectable families disappeared Every one knows that the entire evidence is clearly against her, but judicial power being in the hands of foreigners, she has lived safely in Japan for over five years

Again, the foreign rougas—mostly, perhaps, the sailors going to the public bathhouses on pretence of bathing—often forcibly break into the women's department, and attempt to outrage their persons. From this horrible indignity Japan gets no protection

There is another case on record too horrible to relate here, and of which a normal imagination can barely conceive. It regards the treatment of a Japanese woman. Yet it is a fact, is known all over Japan, and the perpetrators of the deed remain unpunished.

These are but a few of the thousands of incidents of the application of the unjust treaty by which the judicial power of the Japanese is entirely ignored. In the foreign hyena who preys upon the liberty and virtue of the women of Japan to escape, simply because foreign jurisdiction alone controls the decision of these cases'

These statements might seem incredible: but the Cantonment Blue Book just issued serves to remind us afresh of the scant regard which "Caucasian" officials pay to the legal rights of Eastern womanhood No wonder that the question of treaty revision is uppermost in Japan.

The only thing to be said about this extraordinary story is that it is a string of falsehoods. The alleged acts are totally baseless; the allegations about Consular Courts, a monstrous slander. It seems a most ludicrous to treat such assertions seriously, and that Mr Stead has done so only furnishes another example of the singular gullibility that betrayed him to write "The Modern Babylon." Doubtless American procuresses have come to Japan. Probably there are some of them now living in the foreign settlements. But as to the disappearance of "fifty young daughters of respectable families," and the implied suggestion that they have fallen into the clutches of a procuress and cannot be rescued, it is a child's fable. Were even one Japanese girl kidnapped or detained against her own or her parents' will for immoral purposes by a foreign procuress, every foreign Consul would give his assistance promptly and efficiently to release her and to punish the offender. This is not a judicial question at all, but a simple matter of police, as even Miss Elizabeth A. Cheney might know. As for the foreign roughs who behave with such atrocity in Japanese bathhouses and escape the consequences of their crimes owing to the "judicial power of the Japanese being entirely ignored," we can say with confidence that nothing of the kind has occurred during the twenty-seven years of our own experience in Japan. Miss Cheney has unwittingly been made the means of disseminating a gross libel—a libel alike on the Japanese people, whom she represents as spiritless and helpless; on the foreign resident, whom she depicts as a lawless satyr; and on the foreign Consul, whom she paints in the light of a shelterer and abettor of the foulest crimes. A lady is apt to be deceived by such ridiculous stories. But the *Arena* might have known better than to make its columns ludicrous by opening them to grotesque falsehoods, and the editor of the *Review of Reviews* ought to have had the particle of discrimination required to recognise that such monstrosities of savagery and injustice are not for an instant possible in the Japan of to-day, and that the foreign residents and the foreign Consuls would be the first to cry out against them.

GANG OF SWINDLERS ARRESTED.

THE circumstances connected with the arrest of two notorious swindlers, Fujimoto Korenage, and Ishimatsu Kingo, and their associates, a few days ago by the police of Osaka and Kyoto, are given in detail by the *Jiji Shimpo*. The plan which the above two rascals and one other, named Saigo Yukichi, devised, was based on the often told tale that there is in existence a certain large amount of Government notes lacking one stamp of the Finance Minister to make them legal tender. These notes are supposed to have fallen into the hands of the rebels during the Civil War of 1877, having been taken from the Government forces. The trio of swindlers averred that they had obtained a million and a quarter *yen* worth of these imperfect Government notes, and assured honest people with the utmost plausibility that they had trustworthy guarantees that egal tender notes to the extent of at least eigh. per cent. would be given to them in exchange for the unstamped paper They carried about three old wooden boxes very strongly secured, in which they said they kept the notes. Their method of defrauding others was to ask advances on the security of these boxes. Not a few well-known men are said to have been cheated, but being naturally ashamed to tell others how they had been victimized, they preserved silence, and so the matter was never made public. Nevertheless, the swindlers' manner of living soon attracted the vigilant attention of the Kobe police, and finally the three men, together with their associates, were arrested in the latter part of June last, on a charge of forging paper money. This, however, could not be substantiated and so they were set free. Thereafter they became more audacious in their transactions, and even attempted to make a victim of Mr. Upton, a foreign merchant in Kobe. They induced him to go over to Kagoshima, where he met Saigo Yukichi, who asked him to advance a thousand *yen* upon the security of an old deal box. Mr. Upton was too sharp for the swindlers. He positively declined to make any advance unless he was shown the contents of the box. The three men lived for the most part in Tokyo, Osaka, or Kyoto, keeping a sharp look-out for any person deemed likely to listen to their proposal. In Tokyo they succeeded, in the latter part of August, in obtaining an advance of a thousand *yen* from a certain peer and from Mr. Nakano Shozo, a member of the Tokyo bar. Something awakened Mr Nakano's suspicions about the contents of the box. He had it opened and found it filled with rubbish and waste paper. A similar discovery by a wrestler in Osaka reached the ears of the police and so the

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authorities of Osaka and Kyoto at last arrested the gang of knaves on the 20th instant, finding them at various places in Osaka and Kyoto. Saigo Yukichi, considered the ring-leader, is not yet in the hands of the police. He was not in Osaka or Kyoto, but was travelling in Kyushiu at the time his associates were arrested. It is said that by means of this apparently clumsy device, simple-minded folks have been robbed of about two thousand *yen* since July.

NEWS FROM KOREA.

THE *Nippon* gives the following news from Söul:—"The Russian Government is now endeavouring to obtain the consent of the Korean Court to the planting of a colony of 100 Russians, on the pretext of agricultural experiment, in the vicinity of Keikō-fu in the Kankyo-do. According to the Russian Government's representation, the colony is to be merely temporary, the declared period of its presence on Korean soil being 5 or 7 years. The settlers are to live in tents erected in fields where the experiments are conducted. The land brought under improvement is to be returned to the Korean Government after the expiration of that period of time." The Chinese Resident, Mr. Yuen, adds the *Nippon*, is exerting himself to prevent the Korean Government from falling a prey to Russian intrigue.

MEASURES TO COME BEFORE THE DIET THIS SESSION.

THE Bills of which notice has been given for introduction in the Imperial Diet during the present session, are as follow:—

GOVERNMENT BILLS

TO BE PRESENTED IN THE HOUSE OF PEERS.

1.—Bill for altering the limits of the Law Courts' Jurisdiction
2.—Bill for amending a part of the Finance Department's Stamp Regulations.

TO BE PRESENTED IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

1.—Bill for Special Amendment of the Land Assessment Regulations.
2.—Bill for Abolishing the Export Duty on Cotton Yarns.
3.—Bill relating to Incomes confiscated on account of Political Offences.
4.—Bill for defraying out of the Treasury good service increases in the Salaries of Primary School Teachers.
5.—Bill for applying Treasury Funds to assist in defraying the Cost of Technical Education.
6.—Bill relating to an Emergency Reserve Fund.
7.—Bill for amending a portion of the Tax-collecting Regulations.

BILLS PRESENTED BY MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF PEERS.

1.—Game Law Bill. Presented by Count Kyosu.
2.—Bill for transferring Prison Expenditures to the charge of the Treasury. Presented by Mr. Yashiba Howa.

BILLS PRESENTED BY MEMBERS OF THE LOWER HOUSE

1.—Bill for Special Amendment of the Land Assessment Regulations. Presented by Mr. Amakasu Bunsye.
2.—Bill for the Protection of the Hokkaido Aborigines. Presented by Mr. Kato Masanosuke.
3.—Bill for abolishing the Import Duty on Raw Cotton. Presented by Mr. Nakano Buyei.
4. Bill for amending the Law of Registration. Presented by Mr. Asaka Katsutaka.
5.—Bill for amending the Land Tax Regulations. Presented by Mr. Hatano Denzaburo.
6.—Bill relating to the Press Law. Presented by Mr. Hatano Denzaburo.
7.—Bill for amending the Military Organization. Presented by Mr. Tatemi Kuchi.
8.—Bill for amending the City and Prefectural System. Presented by Mr. Matsushima Rensaku.
9.—Bill for rescinding Law No. 12 of the 22nd year of *Meiji*. Presented by Mr. Tsunoda Shimpei.
10.—Project of Supplementary Law relating to the City Local System. Presented by Mr. Tsunoda Shimpei.
11.—Project of a Game Law. Presented by Mr. Tsunoda Shimpei.
12.—Bill relating to a Change in the Limits of Law Courts' Jurisdiction. Presented by Mr. Takasu Mineo.
13.—Bill for extending to Hokkaido the operation of Notification No. 17 of the 13th year of *Meiji* concerning Rules for Business Taxes of Various Taxes. Presented by Mr. Kato Masanosuke.
14.—Bill for abolishing the Hokkaido Marine Products Export Duty Regulations. Presented by Mr. Kato Masanosuke.
15.—Bill for amending Law No. 84 of the 23rd year of *Meiji*. Presented by Mr. Fujino Masataka.
16.—Bill for amending the Land Tax Regulations. Presented by Mr. Kudo Kokan.
17.—Bill for amending the Military Organization. Presented by Mr. Kudo Kokan.
18.—Bill for amending the Law of Election of Members of the House of Representatives. Presented by Mr. Yamada Toji.
19.—Bill for amending the Press Regulations. Presented by Mr. Kagami Kahei.
12.—Project for a Supplementary Law relating to the Law of Election of Members of the House of Representatives. Presented by Mr. Osuka Yonosuke.
13.—Project for a Supplementary Law amending the Law of the Houses. Presented by Mr. Kagami Kahei.
14.—Bill for rescinding the Peace Preservation Regulations. Presented by Mr. Kagami Kahei.
14.—Bill for amending the Regulations for the control of Dealers in Second-hand Goods. Presented by Mr. Mori Toichiro.
15.—Project of a Press Law. Presented by Mr. Ito Daihachi.
16.—Bill for abolishing the Import Duty on Raw Cotton. Presented by Mr. Ebara Soroku.

CUSTOMS RETURNS.

THE following is a summary of the Customs Returns for October, showing the foreign trade of the empire for the month:—

	1892. SILVER YEN.	1893 SILVER YEN.
Exports	10,184,846 890	7,995,690 730
Imports	6,216,919,330	6,619,437 920
Total exports and imports		14,615,128,650
Excess of imports		1,376,252,810

CUSTOMS DUTIES.

Exports	171,514 924
Imports	231,824 496
Miscellaneous	11,207 610
Total	414,547,060

TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS TO AND IMPORTS FROM VARIOUS FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

	Exports. Silver Yen.	Imports. Silver Yen.	Total Silver Yen.
Great Britain	544,259,910	2,811,289,880	2,755,548,790
United States of America	2,936,954,000	422,834,130	2,359,788 130
France	2,059,409,650	300,464,820	2,359 874 470
China	730,031,530	1,299,649,880	2,029,681 410
Hongkong	1,264,700 360	636,963 150	2,901,662,510
Germany	55,451 590	649,380,990	704,832 580
British India	250,601 480	304,847 650	563,452 130
Italy	391,127,020	3,035 900	394,163,000
Russia	45,528,330	338,615,573	381,283,630
Korea	130,381,790	127 730,840	258,112,630
Australia	89,035 840	17,611,420	106,647,360
Switzerland	49,983,500	61,079,040	104,962 540
Philippine Islands	6,230,080	92,963,520	90,294,230
Canada & other British America	88,966,670	3,329,120	92,289,730
Austria	45,203 150	2,090,450	47,293,600
Hawaii	47,343,530	2,079 780	49 623 280
Belgium	4,571,020	36,190,290	40,761 810
Siam	—	23,730,820	23,730 820
Spain	1,709 950	9,287,280	10,936 230
Turkey	320 000	8,655 750	8,965,750
Holland	5,169 270	1 170,540	7,819 810
Denmark	900,000	196,500	1,280 500
Other Countries	74,670,930	209,177 550	283,851,480
Total	7,859,444 880	6,619,437 920	14,478,882,800

TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS AND IMPORTS FROM AND TO EACH PORT.

Yokohama	5,337,803,130	3 298,809 290	8,066,631,980
Kobe	1,913,815,580	3,088 181,930	5,641,897,500
Osaka	98,588 050	425,586,290	524,205 240
Nagasaki	251,601 160	327,390 340	58,991 500
Hakodate	65,838,160	4 739,660	70,577 820
Shimonoseki	31,443 430	38,794 120	70,237 550
Miki	127,090 300	—	127,090 300
Hakata	—	1,505,320	1,505,320
Karatsu	8,009,000	—	8,009,000
Kuchinotsu	105,156,500	—	105,156 500
Idzumigahara	—	2,683 120	2,683,120
Shishimi	934,600	1,150,250	2,084 850
Sasuna	278,900	597,460	770 360
Otaru	12,385 000	—	12,385,000
Specie and Bullion Exports			1,215,222 020
Specie and Bullion Imports			526,214,380
Total			1,741,436 400
Excess of exports			689,007 640

VALUE OF EXPORTS AND IMPORTS BY JAPANESE MERCHANTS AND GOVERNMENT.

By Japanese Merchants	Exports	961,200,300
	Imports	974,377 870
Imported by Government		8,677.750

THE "NICHI NICHI SHIMBUN" ON THE GOVERNMENT BILLS.

THE Budget, together with seven Bills, have been introduced by the Government in the House of Representatives, and two Bills in the House of Peers. Writing on this subject, the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* observes that compared with the last Budget, the present one shows an increase of 1,994,704 *yen* in the Ordinary Expenditures, on account of the extension of works in Hokkaido, the growth of business in the Communications Department the depreciation of silver, and so forth. Against this increase, is to be set a decrease of 1,695,315 *yen* as the result of reforms in the Administration. Thus the net increase is only 292,389 *yen*. In the domain of Extraordinary Expenditures, the connection of the islands of Okinawa and Oki with the mainland by cables, extension of works under the department of Communications, the improvement of river courses, aids to the water works at Yokohama and Kobe, the supply of guns for the forts, and a few other causes have combined to necessitate some increase, but as a decrease has taken place in other directions, the net increase in Extraordinary Expenditures amounts to only 3,262,521 *yen*. Of this amount, the larger portion is necessitated by works which are to be continued from the current year, so that the actual sum demanded for new works is only 1,375,087 *yen*. The Budget, having been compiled with painstaking economy, shows, says the *Nichi Nichi*, a surplus of 5,203,236 *yen*. According to our contemporary's information, it is the Government's intention to employ this amount for the business of steam navigation and re-assessing the taxable value of land. The *Nichi Nichi* fails to understand the necessity of the last mentioned measure.

* * *

Of the Bills thus far introduced in the Diet by the Government, the more important are those relating to the re-assessment of the taxable value of land, the abolition of export duties on cotton yarns, the grant of State aid to industrial schools, the restoration of pensions to political offenders, and the creation of an Extraordinary Reserve Fund. Generally speaking, these measures are all very important, and our contemporary has no doubt that they can not fail to receive the consent of the Diet. But the *Nichi Nichi* takes exception to the re-assessment of the taxable value of land and to the restoration of pensions to political offenders. The Bills on these subjects will doubtless be received with acclamation by the public and from political considerations such measures may be opportune. But our contemporary questions the wisdom of introducing them at a time when matters of for greater importance and urgency are demanding attention. The *Nichi Nichi* advises the Government and the Diet to approach these Bills with a sincere desire to promote the interests of the country.

THE "KOKUMIN KYOKAI."

THE *Kokumin Kyokai* are now declared enemies of the Cabinet. Everyone expected that such would ultimately be their attitude, though were there question of assigning definite reasons for the fact, considerable difficulty would probably be experienced. They are now taking a very prominent part in the campaign against Mr. Hoshi Toru, and rumour says that they mean to proceed a good deal farther by presenting an Address to the Throne with reference to improper conduct on the part of officials. This decision was come to at a meeting held on the 30th ultimo. Sixty-seven members were present, and they resolved to follow up the attack upon Mr. Hoshi by an Address to the Throne in the above sense.

* * *

These are the times of topics. Some topic of political agitation is perpetually in the mouth of the public. Side by side with the *Shinnin Ketsubo mondai* (want of confidence question), there came into notice the *Kwanki Shinshuku mondai* (question of transgressing official regulations). The basis of the latter is the relations supposed to have existed between certain Government officials and the leading business men of Tokyo with reference to the passing of the Bourse Law. If we go down to "hard pan," the sum total of those relations is that officials charged with the framing of the Law and its conduct through the Diet, met some leading merchants, on various occasions, in hotels and restaurants, and discussed the details of the measure with

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them over a glass of wine. Anything more harmless or natural could not easily be conceived. But a suspicion lurks somewhere that there was more in these convivial gatherings than the passing of the wine cup and the singing of *geisha*, and on the strength of that suspicion the Opposition are endeavouring to work up a tumult. They must be painfully perplexed to find powder for their guns.

* * *

The quaintest feature of this matter is that the merchants in question—*Jitsugyo-sha*, or practical men, as they all themselves, and *Seisho*, or official traders, as their enemies call them—were originally the allies of the *Kokumin Kyokai*, and were formerly honoured by the convivial presence of members of the latter under circumstances virtually identical with those now held to constitute the crime of *Kwanji Shinshuku*. But times change and so do political attitudes. The *Kokumin Kyokai* are now in sore need of a stick to beat the Cabinet in which their leaders occupied seats until that other inconvenient topic, *Senkyo Kansho* (interference in elections), came upon the *tapis*. No one can be blamed who declines to regard it all with very serious eyes.

THE RADICALS.

A DISRUPTION of the Radical Party in consequence of the vote of want of confidence in Mr. Hoshi Toru, is said to be inevitable. The Party held a private meeting on the 30th inst. Over sixty members of the House were present, and rumour says that from what occurred at the meeting a rupture may be predicted, the *Tohoku-ha* and *Kiushu-ha* combining to form one section, and Mr. Hoshi's followers, together with the *Tosa-ha*, uniting to form the other. Mr. Hoshi and Count Itagaki will, therefore, work together, should this forecast prove accurate.

* * *

As we go to press, confirmation of the above reaches us. It appears that after the decision of the majority in the House on the 29th, the members of the To-hoku, Chiu-goku, Kwanto and Kiushu Sections of the *Jiyu-to*, numbering 27 in all, addressed a representation to the office of the Party, and subsequently proceeded to Count Itagaki's residence to urge upon him the propriety of calling upon Mr. Hoshi to resign. But Count Itagaki answered that he should take no such step, inasmuch as there did not appear to be any justification for it. On the following day, while the whole of the *Jiyu-to* members were in secret session, Messrs. Ohgashi, Ito, and Sumi, on behalf of the *Domei* Club, proceeded to the office of the Radicals and sought an interview with Count Itagaki to tender the same counsel. The Count declined to see them during the meeting, but sent two substitutes to receive their message. Viscount Tani also, as might have been expected by those who know his way of regarding things, is said to have visited Count Itagaki and strongly pressed him to insist on Mr. Hoshi's resignation. Rumour further attributes a similar course to Mr Watanabe Koki. He is represented as having gone to the President's room and pointed out that, while not agreeing with Mr. Abei Iwane's assertions, he saw no help but to resign, things having come to such a pass. But we shall be surprised if it turns out that Mr. Watanabe counselled submission to a decision the impropriety of which he admitted. Mr. Hoshi, meanwhile, remains firm. In reply to some one who visited him, he is said to have declared that he would rather lose his head than bow it to such a lawless sentence.

* * *

As for the general meeting of the *Jiyu-to* on the 30th ultimo, the resolve come to was that Mr. Hoshi should not be suffered to resign under any circumstances. Thus the disruption of the Party is inevitable. Mr. Kudo Kokan has already resigned.

* * *

The *Jiyu-to* members numbered 97 in all at the commencement of this session. The loss of the four sections enumerated above, aggregating 27, will reduce them to 70, but with the seventy Count Itagaki remains. On the other hand, the association of the 27 seceders with the 43 members of the *Kaishin-to*—supposing such association to take place—will bring the *Kaishin-to* following to 70 also. We do not, however, anticipate any immediate recasting of parties. What seems more likely is that the seceding 27 will constitute a separate coterie in the House, rendering it more unwieldy and less manageable than ever.

RECEPTION DAYS IN TOKYO.

IT will probably be of use to our readers if we publish a list of the days chosen by the leading Japanese ladies of Tokyo to receive their friends:—

MONDAY.—Marchioness Hachisuka, at the Official residence of the Marquis.

WEDNESDAY.—First and third Wednesdays in the month—Countess Ito at Isarago; Countess Goto, at Takanawa. Second and fourth Wednesdays—Viscountess Hijikata, at the Official residence of the Viscount; Madame Sanjonmiya, at Takanawa.

THURSDAY.—The Ladies in Waiting, at the Imperial Palace.

FRIDAY.—Marchioness Mayeda, at Hongo; Countess Todo at Surugadai; Viscountess Aki moto, at Surugadai.

SATURDAY.—Madame Hayashi, at the official residence of the Vice Minister of State for Foreign Affairs.

* * *

We are requested to state that Madame Mutsu, though she has recovered from her illness, is not yet sufficiently strong to appoint a reception day during the course of this year

AN INTERESTING QUESTION IN THE HOUSE.

MR HATOYAMA KAZUO has placed in the hands of the Chief Secretary of the House of Representatives an interesting Question to be submitted to the Government. The following is a translation:—

1. It appears from the text of the judgments delivered in the British Consular Court in Yokohama and the Supreme Court in Shanghai, China, in the matter of the suit brought to recover damages for the injury suffered by the ship-of war *Chishima* in a collision, that the suit was brought by the Japanese Government in the name of His Imperial Majesty the Emperor, whereas, the law of the land provides that in suits where the State appears as plaintiff the name of the Department or Office primarily concerned shall be employed. For what reason was the sacred name of His Majesty used in such a manner?

2. According to the treaty between Japan and Great Britain, it is laid down that suits in which Japanese subjects are plaintiffs shall be brought in the British Consular Courts, and no jurisdiction is given in any other cases. What, then is the reason that when the Peninsular and Oriental Company appealed to the British Supreme Court in Shanghai the Japanese Government submitted to the jurisdiction of that Court?

Both of these questions are well worthy of discussion.

A GRACEFUL TRIBUTE.

THE following letter from the *doyen* of the Diplomatic Corps in Peking appears in the Shanghai morning journal:—

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS"

SIR,—I beg leave to add my sympathy to the general expression of sorrow that the death of Mr. John Macgregor has evoked in China.

I knew him well. On my visits to Shanghai I often enjoyed his elegant hospitality.

I had frequent conferences with him on public matters. He was prudent, intelligent, firm and painstaking. He was always willing to impart information, and the discussion of a matter of public interest with him was a great pleasure. He was a broad-minded, courteous gentlemen.

Shanghai will long mourn for him as a leader in all her public movements, but his memory will be most and longest cherished by those who enjoyed the happiness of his friendship.

I am, etc.,
CHARLES DENBY

Peking, November 15th.

MR HEARSON AND THE ADMIRALTY.

THE name of Mr Hugh R Hearson, Engineer, R N, says an exchange, has at length been removed from the *Navy List*. It will be remembered that this officer was refused permission to resign his commission in 1889 and that his action in quitting England to take up an appointment under the Chinese Government resulted in a *cause célèbre*, which excited much interest in the Navy. Mr. Hearson was arrested at Singapore, brought back to England, and was ultimately liberated by the High Court of Justice, under the *Habeas Corpus* Act. It was hoped the right of Naval Officers to resign their commission would thus have been established, but this was not the case, for in a subsequent action for damages and illegal detention, brought by Mr. Hearson against the Admiralty, the decision of the High Court was practically reversed. Ever since the trial the Admiralty have retained Mr. Hearson's name on the active list, and had he returned to the country further proceedings might have been taken against him. But as his name has been removed, it is clear that the Admiralty has no intention of re-opening the case.

DEATH OF CONSUL BUDLER

A SPECIAL telegram from Canton informs us (*Hongkong Daily Press*, Nov. 20) that Mr. H. Badler, German Consul at that port, shot himself on Saturday night and was buried yesterday. Great regret will be felt that a man of such excellent parts and so universally and deservedly popular should have come to such a sad and untimely end. Mr. Budler came out to China as an Assistant in the Customs Service in 1870 and was stationed at Swatow, being afterwards transferred to Ningpo. In 1874 he left the Customs to join the German Consular Service, his first appointment being that of Interpreter in the Consulate at Amoy. In 1884 he was appointed Vice-Consul at Jenchuan Korea, and the following year was Acting Consul and Imperial Commissioner at Söul. In 1886 he was appointed Vice-Consul at Swatow, and in 1887 was promoted to be Consul at Canton, which post he held up to the time of his death. In 1890 he was absent on leave, returning the following year, and a few months ago he again went home on short leave, the reason for his going on the latter occasion being, we believe, to obtain the advice of specialists with regard to his eyes, but he anticipated his holiday with almost boyish glee, intending to come back by way of Chicago and, as he expressed it, "to have a very nice time." The American visit, however, was dropped, and the deceased gentleman returned by the German mail steamer *Bayern* on the 25th ultimo, looking careworn and disappointed and evidently suffering from low spirits. In reply to a question as to how he had enjoyed himself, he said not very much, and that he had had a great deal of trouble with his eyes. Mr. Budler was an accomplished scholar, a competent and hardworking official, and a courteous gentleman, whose death will be deplored by all who knew him.

THE COMMERCIAL FUTURE OF BURMAH.

MR HERIZ, of the Burmah Civil Service, in an address delivered before the London Chamber of Commerce, towards the end of October, said the commercial future of Burmah was in a railway extension towards China and India, thus enabling Great Britain to secure the trade of South-Western China. He urgent vigilance and activity, or France would outstrip Great Britain in those regions. He advocated a line from Moulmein and Zimme to the Meikong, and thence up to the Chinese frontier; and a line from Mandalay to Kunlong Ferry. China he said, should be conciliated, and Chinamen be induced to settle in Burmah

DEATH OF MR. W B HARMSTON.

AFTER an illness of some five weeks, Mr. William Baity Harmston, proprietor of Harmston's Circus, died on the 13th November at the Beach Hotel, Singapore, and was buried the same evening. The deceased was suffering from dysentery and internal complications, and was only 49 years of age. He leaves, by his second wife (for whom much sympathy is felt), a family of three, the youngest only seven weeks old.

H.B.M.'S MINISTER AT BANGKOK.

CAPTAIN JONES, V.C., H.B.M. Minister-Resident at Bangkok, is going home on leave of ab-

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sence. He will be replaced by Mr. J. G Scott, C.I.E., who will take charge as Minister-Resident, representing the Indian Government, during the absence of Captain Jones In view of the delicate negotiations now proceeding between France and England on Siamese affairs says the *Siam Free Press*, the appointment of Mr. Scott is regarded as a very satisfactory one. Captain Jones has taken leave of His Majesty at an audience at which Mr. Scott, Acting Minister-Resident, and Mr Beckett, Acting Consul at Chiengmai, were presented to the King.

THE PRESS ON THE PRESIDENT OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

THE extraordinary proceedings which the House of Representatives has taken about its President, almost monopolize the leading columns of the vernacular press. As may be expected, the party organs, except those of the *Jiyu-to*, are violently opposed to Mr. Hoshi and think that no measure which the House of Representatives adopts for his condemnation can be too harsh or unreasonable. In their eyes, therefore, the vote of want of confidence passed on Wednesday, as well as the adjournment of the House on the following day, are proper and even necessary steps. Independent papers like the *Jiji Shimpo* and *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* denouce these proceedings as unconstitutional, childish, and disgraceful. Another independent paper, the *Nippon*, is not partial to the opponents of Mr. Hoshi. The *Jiyu Shimbun* stands true to the distinguished leader of the Party, and defends him most stoutly against the baseless and malicious allegations that are preferred by his political enemies. How this affair will end and how it will affect the political position in the present session, are questions now agitating the minds of all intelligent observers. Whatever may be the final outcome, one thing is certain, namely, that this bitter persecution of Mr. Hoshi and the Radical Party will so disintegrate the Opposition as to render it helplessly weak in its coming struggle with the Government.

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The *Kokkai* (Independent but friendly to the National Unionists) observes that the remote cause of Mr. Hoshi's unpopularity lies in his heading a campaign against the Progressionist Party, while the more proximate causes are his alleged connection with the Exchange people, and the Radical Party's recent refusal to hold any intercourse with the Progressionists, thereby offending not only the latter, but also the *Domei* Club, which had offered its services as a mediator between the Radicals and Progressionists. The majority in the House of Representatives having declared Mr. Hoshi to be unworthy to occupy the post of President, our contemporary thinks that he is morally bound to resign. The Radicals in general are called upon to induce him to adopt that course, for the House being resolved no longer to tolerate his continuance in the Presidential seat, persistent disregard of the majority's resolution must entail complications which may indefinitely obstruct the progress of business, —a result for which not only Mr. Hoshi, but his supporters, the Radicals, must be held responsible, though not a word is said about the responsibility of the men who struck the first blow. In conclusion, our contemporary remarks that the attack now directed against Mr. Hoshi will be turned with tenfold vehemence against the Government on the subject of laxity of discipline among its officials.

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The *Yomiuri Shimbun* (Philo-Progressionist) states that the opposition of the House of Representatives to its President must not be ascribed to party prejudice or political intrigue, but that it represents an impartial expression of the sentiments of the majority in the House. Mr. Hoshi's refusal to accept the advice of his enemies to resign his position, is bitterly denounced as a sign of his utter moral depravity. If he further persists in disregarding the clearly expressed opinion of the House, its members are recommended to expel him in accordance with Article 206 of the Rules of the House of Representatives, which provides that "any member guilty of conduct casting dishonour upon the House may be expelled." Apart from his alleged misconduct, his obstinate refusal to resign suffices, in the *Yomiuri's* opinion, to justify such decisive procedure.

* * *

The *Hochi Shimbun* (Progressionist) calls upon the Radical Party to deal decisively with a member who has brought upon it almost ineffaceable disgrace. If it has not courage or inclination to take such a step, it will have no title to be considered a section of the Opposition The Radicals are consequently advised to sacrifice Mr. Hoshi on the altar of their honour and influence. As to Mr. Hoshi himself, he is denounced as altogether too depraved and mean to occupy the Presidential chair. In another paragraph, our contemporary does not hesitate to state that the conduct of the Radical Party in the present juncture proves it to be a friend of Clan Government, for by supporting Mr. Hoshi in his dogged refusal to adopt the advice of the House, the Radicals have declared indirect approval of the Government's resolve to continue in office despite a vote of want of confidence. The Progressionist organ finally calls upon the general public to bring strong pressure to bear upon the obdurate President of the House of Representatives. Altogether it would be difficult to conceive anything wilder or more ill-balanced than the *Hochi's* writing.

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The *Niroku Shimpo* (friendly to the *Domei* Club) admits that Mr. Hoshi is undoubtedly one of the most remarkable men of the time. Sagacious, bold, and eloquent, he is reputed to be also studious, but his absorbing interest in the materialistic side of Occidental civilization, as well as his dogged egoism seem to have blunted his moral sensibility. With all his acquired knowledge and his aptitude for the legal profession, the *Niroku* considers him unsuited for political life in Japan. It insists that the occupant of such an important post as the Presidency of the House of Representatives must be a man whose conduct in private no less than in public presents a model to the general public, and urges the Radical Party to remove Mr. Hoshi's name from its list of members if he does not resign his position. It will be observed that all the *Niroku's* arguments should have possessed equal force before Mr. Hoshi's election to the post of President

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The *Nippon* (Independent) is inclined to look with indifference upon the present storm of opposition to Mr. Hoshi. Our contemporary's position on the subject is a little ambiguous. On the one hand, it sneers at the futility of the step taken by the House of Representatives on Wednesday last; while, on the other, it denounces the moral depravity of public men in general, and of Mr. Hoshi in particular. Our contemporary's conclusion seems to be that, in the present state of the political world, it is folly to look for the strict observance of moral precepts in any politician. In fact, it hints that Mr. Hoshi's accusers are themselves living in glass houses.

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The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* (Independent) admits that Mr. Hoshi's conduct may not entirely defy criticism, but declares it to be the height of extravagance to pretend that he has been guilty of any misdeed justifying the present absurd attempt to dislodge him from the Presidential seat. His opponents loudly appeal to his moral sense, but in their conduct towards him they do not take any care themselves to conform to ordinary standards of morality. If they had any desire to pursue the paths of morality, they should have advised Mr. Hoshi's resignation in a manner less formal, public and vindictive The present crusade against him is, in the opinion of the *Nichi Nichi*, the result of deep political intrigues He has become an object of antipathy to various parties in the House, chiefly because he is himself a powerful party leader The existing state of things shows the inadvisability of electing a party man to the Presidential seat. The Progressionists, National Unionists, and others are counselled to confer with the Radicals so as to induce Mr. Hoshi to resign of his own accord, and then to elect to the vacancy some distinguished personage, having no connection with any political party. Our contemporary condemns the proceedings of Wednesday last as unwarrantable and disgraceful.

* * *

The *Jiyu Shimbun* (Radical) declares Mr. Hoshi's refusal to resign to be proper and rational. In the face of his refusal, his opponents will probably vote for adjournment of the House until he reconsiders his position, but such proceedings being unwarrantable, the *Jiyu* thinks that the Diet will be dissolved —a result for which the enemies of Mr. Hoshi must be held responsible. If they deem him unworthy of his position, they are invited to proceed by the constitutional method of arraigning him before the Disciplinary Committee.

* * *

The *Jiji Shimpo* (Independent) strongly criticises the conduct of Mr Hoshi's opponents in the House of Representatives, denouncing it as unmanly and disgraceful. Our contemporary had heard a rumour of the intended vote of want of confidence, but was not prepared to find the House unreasonable enough to proceed to such an absurd measure. In spite of all the efforts to incriminate him, no fact was brought forward to establish the charge of bribery, and under the circumstances, this persecution of him has no basis except vague and and unsupported suspicions and doubts. The *Jiji* sincerely regrets that the members of the Lower House have suffered themselves to be swayed by passion so as to disgrace the Diet. They have made a parliamentary question of a matter that should be left to the judgment of individual conscience. Under the antiquated system of feudal times, the mere fact of meeting a merchant in a tea-house would undoubtedly have been sufficient to doom a *Samurai* to loss of position, but things have changed since then. Mr. Hoshi must be judged by the standards now prevailing, not by those of bygone days. The *Jiji* reminds his opponents that, after all, they themselves are not free from blame, if the canons which they apply to him are universally applicable. Under any circumstances, a question of such a nature ought never to have been brought up in the Diet, and the *Jiji* hopes that the Lower House will desist from any further follies and proceed with the business of the session. It reminds them that to meet business men and to converse with them on a business subject about to occupy the attention of the Diet, is the plain duty of a zealous politician, and that the law which Mr Hoshi is suspected of having been influenced to push through the House, was a good and necessary measure, which received the approval of the Diet and of the Sovereign. In other leading paragraphs the *Jiji* indulges in unwontedly sharp sarcasm and banter at the expense of the majority, and altogether its attack upon them is as uncompromising and thorough as it well could be.

ISHIKAWA LOCAL ASSEMBLY.

THE Local Assembly of Ishikawa Prefecture now in session, was lately the scene of disgraceful confusion, writes the *Jiyu*. The cause of the disturbance was party rivalry. One party contended that the chairman of the Assembly lacked the qualifications necessary in a member, and that a new chairman should be elected. The other entirely opposed this view. It appears that the party insisting on the re-election of the chairman possessed a majority over its rivals, for at the outset of the proceeding a resolution was passed that the chairman, Mr. Minamiya Yohei, being legally disqualified to become a member, a new chairman should be elected to take his place. The opinion of the local authorities, however, was against such a resolution, and the Assembly was required, in the name of the Governor of the Prefecture, to revoke the decision. The Assembly, or rather the faction possessing a majority, would not subscribe to the intimation

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of the Governor. On the contrary, they went so far as to vote that his action was illegal, and that the question should be submitted to the decision of the Administrative Court. They then required of the Governor that pending the decision of the Court, his instruction should be suspended; and this proposal was complied with. Thereupon they proceeded to rule that the instruction of the Governor being suspended, their previous decision as to the chairman's lack of legal qualifications should hold good, and that he should be displaced. When the Assembly met on the 22nd instant, one of the re-election party stood up and demanded that the Chairman should, as decided by the Assembly on the previous day, leave his seat; and in order to carry this into practice, Mr Katsuragi, Vice-Chairman of the Assembly, proceeded to the platform where the Chairman was sitting, and tried to displace him, even resorting to force. Mr Minamiya invoked the aid of the police on duty in the Assembly room to remove Mr. Katsuragi from the platform, but as Mr. Katsuragi called upon the police to do the same by Mr Minamiya, the guardians of the law were utterly bewildered. In the meanwhile, every member in the room and even the audience rose, and a scene of the wildest confusion ensured. Finally Mr Minamiya declared the meeting closed, and he and his party left the room. The re-election party, however, remained, and with the Vice-Chairman in the chair proceeded to conduct the session in the regular manner. Next day this party went to the assembly a little earlier than the usual hour of opening, and as its members constituted a quorum, they at once proceeded to re-elect a Chairman, with the result that Mr. Yokochi was declared elected. The new Chairman having taken his seat, the members of the re-election party were about to carry on the regular business, when Mr Minamiya, followed by his party, entered the room and attempted to take the Chairman's seat. Another scene of confusion and disorder resulted, but the Secretary of the Local Office, who was on duty, told the Assembly that Mr. Yokochi, must be acknowledged lawful chairman of the Assembly, upon which the members of the non-re-election party left the room, and went to the Kencho where they demanded of the Governor an explanation as to the declaration of the Secretary. The conduct of the members of the non-re-election party being considered disorderly, it is said that three constables are detailed to accompany each of the members.

THE RADICAL PARTY.

It does not yet appear to be regarded as certain that the trouble about Mr Hoshi Toru will involve the disruption of the Radical Party. The Tokyo News Agency reports that the various sections of the Party met in the head office at 9 a.m. on the 1st instant, when Count Itagaki delivered a short address expressing the hope that an amicable solution of the trouble would be found. It was agreed by the meeting that the matter should be left in the Count's hands, and the hypothesis now is that no serious rupture is likely to occur. At all events, the issue cannot fail to be decided in the course of the next two or three days.

* * *

According to another trustworthy authority, Mr. Hoshi is said to have promised to resign if the Address presented by the House of Representatives to the Throne is rejected by the Emperor. He is said to have declared to the members of his Party that, if he resigned now, his conduct would have the effect of establishing a very pernicious precedent respecting his high post, and that, in order to avert such an undesirable result, he is compelled to wait till the present trouble is settled, when he will resign of his own accord. Count Itagaki and his followers are said to be satisfied with this declaration, and for the present there is little fear of a rupture in the Radical party.

JAPANESE FENCING.

A very entertaining description of the art of Japanese Fencing was given by Mr. G. F. Fenton at the fortnightly meeting of the Yokohama Literary Society on Friday evening. The speaker, who has an intimate acquaintance with this Far Eastern art of self-defence, having taken a long course of lessons from professors in Tokyo, illustrated his paper with several examples of the thrusts and methods of defence. He said that his experience was somewhat at variance with Mr. Percival Lowell's ideas as to the manner in which the Japanese swordsman effected the cutting-down stroke. It was not performed in the Western fashion or by drawing the blade towards the striker through the wound. The sword or fencing stick was brought down heavily upon the object of attack and then quickly pushed forward—the scull, as it were, being first crushed and then cut into, the necessary impetus being given by sliding the left foot forward immediately upon the completion of the downward blow, the right foot remaining planted in its original position. The various implements of defensive armour worn in fencing contests were exhibited and their uses explained. During the evening Mrs. Payne sang a very pretty song; Mr. Crane played a violin solo, "Ave Maria," (Schubert); Miss Webb contributed two songs; Miss Sale a pianoforte solo; and Miss Vincent and Miss Griffin gave the concluding pianoforte duet.

FIRE IN CHINA TOWN.

Fire was discovered about half-past one o'clock this morning issuing from a house at No. 149, Foreign Settlement, Yokohama, which is in the occupation of Chinese families. The alarm was quickly given and the foreign and Japanese Fire Brigades were soon on the spot, the former in command of Superintendent Kipling. The seat of the outbreak was vigorously attacked, and after a little while the firemen's exertions began to take effect and the fire was prevented from extending to the adjacent buildings. The consternation of the Chinese in the neighbourhood was extreme, and for several blocks around every preparation was made for flight, furniture and other households gods being tumbled out into the streets and piled in near-by compounds. We regret to learn that two Chinese children are missing, and it is feared that they were burnt to death, but up to the time of going to press the matter had not been definitely ascertained. The property was insured in Chinese Insurance offices. The origin of the outbreak is not yet cleared up.

THE NIPPON KOMBU KAISHA.

Though apparently enjoying considerable prosperity ever since its establishment in 1889, the Nippon Kombu Kaisha is, in spite of its having paid an annual dividend of above 10 per cent., in reality subjected to great pecuniary embarrassment, writes the *Jiyu*. As it possesses by way of paid-up capital the big sum of half a million *yen*, and annually deals in more than 150,000 *koku* of sea-weed, every one must be surprised to hear that a Company of this standing is involved in such difficulty. And yet the *Jiyu* assures us that such is the actual fact. The shifts and contrivances which the Company has been obliged to resort since last spring in making payments to the *kombu* producers, have been, as described by our contemporary, quite humiliating. With no ready-money in hand, the Managers were obliged on one occasion to mortgage some of the crown shares deposited with them by a certain *kombu* producer as security; while, on asking the 22nd National Bank for an advance of a small sum, the Company was obliged to hypothecate a quantity of the weed, stored at a certain *kombu* producing district under special contract to the company. It is entirely due to want of prudence in the management of its business and also to some extent the selfish conduct of its officers, that all this difficulty has arisen. In the first place, the manner of giving advances to the *kombu* producers is totally opposed to business principles, for so recklessly and indiscriminately are the advances said to have been made, that already they amount to more than 120,000 *yen*, and there is little chance of their ever being repaid. Then a most serious charge is brought against the company, which we do not produce. Another item of 40,000 *yen*, consisting of loans of diverse descriptions, must also be included in the category of bad debts. A sum of 80,000 *yen* has further been invested in erecting several warehouses of great magnitude and durability. There are indeed some 80 or 90 thousand *koku* of *kombu* stored in the Shanghai godowns of the Company, but as the material has simply accumulated to such an amount in consequence of lack of offers, it is likely to prove another cause of heavy loss. Rotten *kombu* is not merely waste, but is a sort of waste which entails a great deal of expense to clear away. It is said that 50 *yen* is required to dispose of 100 *koku* of the decayed weed. The *Jiyu* says that on one occasion a certain bank incurred a loss of more than 30,000 *yen* on account of *kombu*, which it sent over to China, having become putrid. The loss which the company will suffer from rotten *kombu* in Shanghai is therefore supposed to amount to a big sum. All these instances of mismanagement have interfered with the company's working, and have brought it into its present plight. It is feared that if the 22nd National Bank declines to make further advances, even on the surety of a certain merchant who, sympathizing with the company, has consented to become security within a certain limit, the company may come to final grief within a very short time. For these particulars the *Jiyu Shimbun* is responsible, and if they are not founded on an accurate basis the paper should be prepared to face the chances of legal proceedings, for there is no doubt that the statement must seriously affect the company's interests. On turning over the latest share list we find the company's old shares of 35 *yen* quoted at 31.80 *yen*, and the new shares issued at 25 *yen* at 20.80 *yen*. Judging from this fact alone, the affairs of the company do not appear to be so bad as represented by our Japanese contemporary.

AN INDUSTRIOUS BEGGAR.

China is proved to have been the originator of many arts and sciences re-discovered by the Occident in later ages, and receives the credit of having originated others that probably never entered her conception. We are disposed to supplement the former list by saying that a very obscure Chinaman has discovered the principle of perpetual motion. He is a beggar plying his trade at the chief entrance to the native city of Shanghai. All the entrances to the native city of Shanghai are loathsome. They lack no element that is filthy and disgusting. But the principal entrance is the worst. Its features cannot be set down here without shocking decency and nauseating every sense of delicacy. One part of the abominable *ensemble* is a row of beggar-men and beggar women parading the most hideous sores and harrowing deformities. Among them is a man who was there seven years ago and is there to-day. Apparently so crippled as to be incapable of sitting or standing, he lies always on his side with his knees drawn up, nothing separating his body from the reeking pavement or his head from the foul mud. How he gets there in the morning or how he is removed thence in the evening, we do not know. That is one source of wonder. Another and a more striking one is his manner of using his arms. He keeps his hands joined in an attitude of prayer, and moves them up and down unceasingly, accompanying their motion with a rhythmic chatter and with foam at the mouth. No one, so far as we know, has ever seen his hands and arms at rest. We ourselves have gone in and out of the filthy passage at various hours of the day, at intervals of weeks and at intervals of years, but there without fail was to be seen the gesticulating mendicant, his arms swaying perpetually and his babble for alms never ceasing. There is something supernatural about his importunity. How can human muscles be trained to such perpetuity of motion? And the man who achieves such an extraordinary feat is an emaciated, decrepit beggar.

BILL FOR THE REMOVAL OF DUTY ON THE EXPORT OF COTTON YARNS.

A Bill for abolishing the export duty on cotton yarns has been introduced, writes the *Jiji*

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Shimpo, in the Diet by the Government. The total number of spindles in Japan will be about doubled by next spring, and it is apprehended by those concerned in the business that with such largely increased manufacturing power, the supply of Yarns may be in excess of the demand. Under these circumstances it is of manifest importance to devise measures speedily for the export of cotton yarns into neighbouring countries, especially at this favourable juncture when, in consequence of changes in the Indian monetary system, and abnormal depreciation of silver, yarns from England and India, which hitherto virtually monopolized the Eastern markets, have begun to be imported in greatly reduced quantities. Japanese yarns would have a great future in the Chinese markets, were there not a serious obstacle in the way, namely, the imposition of a five per cent export duty. The Government, well aware how greatly such a tariff must impede the development of the home spinning industry, has now taken the matter into its own hand, and introduced a Bill for abolishing the export duty. It must be remembered that only last year did the Japanese yarns begin to be exported abroad. The total export was about 7,719 *yen* worth, the duty aggregating about 385 *yen*. This year the total up to October was 42,544 *yen*, with an export duty of about 2,127 *yen*. In fact, the duty accruing from the export of yarns being comparatively insignificant, it is expected that the Bill will pass through the two Houses of the Legislature without difficulty. Another Bill to abolish the duty on raw cotton passed the House of Representatives last year, and it is confidently believed that this measure also will become law during the present session. The export duty on yarns and the import duty on cotton being abolished, the development of this industry should be materially facilitated.

THE CHRISTMAS NUMBER OF THE "GRAPHIC."

THE *Graphic's* Christmas Number, of which an advance copy reached us by last mail, is a very attractive affair. There is a supplement consisting of three separate sheets, admirable reproductions of three celebrated modern pictures, Trood's, "A Proud Father," Blanche Jenkins' "Lilies," and Charlton's "The Squire's Daughter." As for the journal itself, it contains a multitude of pleasing pictures, coloured and uncoloured, and a mass of printed matter which appears to be of an interesting and exciting character. The labour and artistic effort expended in producing such a specimen of pictorial journalism must have been immense. One does not know which to admire more, the enterprise or its results. Certainly the strides made in this particular field during the past ten or fifteen years are very remarkable.

SPAIN AND MOROCCO.

SENOR Ortiz de Zugasti courteously forwarded to the *Hongkong Daily Press* a copy of the following telegram which he received from Manila:—

"Governor General of the Philippines to the Spanish Consul at Hongkong

"Manila, 1.45 p.m., 17th November.

"Telegram from Madrid:—In the Council of Ministers there was read a second note from the Sultan of Morocco reiterating his friendship and stating that he has sent his brother to pacify the Riffenos and secure the construction of the Fort at Guariach, the land for which the Sultan will cede to the Spanish Government, if the tribesmen do not obey they will be punished."

It was while constructing the fort at Guariach that the Spaniards were attacked by the Moors.

BOAT ACCIDENT IN THE PORT

WE read in the *Jiji* that the *Masashige Maru*, a steamer running between Tateyama and Yokohama, ran down a fishing boat on the 26th ult. about 6 p.m., while putting into Yokohama; Two fishermen were slightly injured. The crew were rescued by a boat sent from the *Iisukushima Kan*.

THE SHANGHAI COTTON MILLS FIRE

AT the investigation held by the Shanghai magistrate in the native city, as to the origin of the fire at the Yangtse-poo Cotton Cloth Mills, all the witnesses denied any knowledge as to how the fire began, stating that the first thing known was the issuing of fire from under the flooring of the cleaning mill. It also appeared in evidence that the remaining buildings, machinery and *débris* at the mill grounds have been valued at Tls. 190,000. The manager's horse and carriage were valued at Tls. 1,000.

RAW SILK IMPORTS TO THE UNITED STATES.

THE following are the imports of Raw Silk at the ports of New York and the Pacific Coast, during October, 1893:—

	Bales.	Lbs.	Value.
New York	270	... 53,942	... 239,303
Pacific Coast ...	923	... 117,237	... 381,187
Total	1,193	... 171,179	... 620,495

The following were the imports of Waste, etc.:—

New York	134	... 40,200	... 45,592
Pacific Coast ...	23	... 9,200	... 5,567
Total	157	... 49,400	... 49,159

RUSSIAN GOLD

ON the 1st September there was at the disposal of the Russian Imperial Treasury a stock of gold, including the gold reserve of the Imperial Bank, amounting to £96,072,320. These numbers compare with £96,589,600 at the same date in 1892. It appears that £7,563,040 is now deposited abroad, namely, £2,019,520 in France, £2,999,840 in Germany, £2,105,760 in England, and £437,920 in Holland. Assuming the figures as now given are correct, it is evident that during the past two years Russia must have largely decreased her balances abroad.

THE "CITY OF NEW YORK."

THE steamer *City of New York*, is evidently doomed to destruction. On the afternoon of the 8th instant the sea became so high that all on board were compelled to climb higher in the rigging. There they remained for some time out of the reach of the huge waves which broke over the steamer. But the position was one of extreme danger and every effort was made to remove them. At last it was effected, and at 6 o'clock the big steamer was left to her fate.

THE CHINA SQUADRON.

H.M.S. *Severn* is to proceed to Singapore, says the *China Mail*, in a few days' time to relieve the *Pallas*. The *Leander* was to have relieved the *Pallas*, but cannot be got ready for two months. She will then go to Singapore to relieve the *Severn*. The *Swift* is on her way to Hongkong, where she will remain to pay off. The *Rattler* is expected at the end of this month, the *Porpoise* about the middle of December, and the *Firebrand* at the end of March. All these ships pay off in the spring.

TERRIBLE NAVAL CATASTROPHE.

A LONDON telegram of Nov. 7th, states that a despatch from Lisbon says that official confirmation has been given to the report that the rebel war-ship *Republica* rammed and sank the Government transport *Rio de Janeiro* off the Brazilian coast late in October. The transport carried 1,300 troops, all of whom went under with it. The *Rio de Janeiro* was on the way from Rio do Sul to the Capital when the *Republica* made the attack.

THE CHORAL SOCIETY.

THIS institution seems to have recovered some of its former vigour and the first Concert of the season is fixed for Wednesday, 20th Dec., in the Public Hall. The chief work to be given on that occasion will be Barnett's "Ancient Mariner;" rehearsals are being vigorously pushed, and with a chorus of about forty voices a fine performance of this favourite Cantata may be confidently expected.

DISCOVERY OF A LARGE NUMBER OF FORGED NOTES

THE *Jiji Shimpo* publishes a telegram from Shimonoseki, under date the 28th inst., which states that Murata Moichiro, an hotel-keeper, has been arrested on suspicion of being connected with an extensive scheme of forgery. When the police searched the house of the suspected man, forged notes purporting to represent over two million *yen* were discovered. No less than two hundred and fifty persons in the neighbouring Prefectures are suspected of having some connection with the affair.

JAPANESE STOWAWAYS.

THREE fairly young Japanese women who stowed themselves away on the *Ancona* and surreptitiously obtained a passage from Nagasaki to Hongkong, were charged by Captain Mudie at the Police Court the other day, says the *Daily Press*. The damsels expressed their willingness to pay the passage money, and Commander W. C. H. Hastings let them off with a fine of $5 each, which was at once paid.

HAWAII'S QUEEN RESTORED.

THE *Yomiuri* prints a telegram which arrived in the capital on the 27th ult. from Honolulu, via San Francisco, that all arrangements are now complete for the restoration of Queen Liliukalani to her throne. The Provisional Government is preparing to dissolve immediately. The prospects of peace are assured. We think the news exceedingly apocryphal, however.

SHIP ASHORE.

THE *Saikio Maru*, Captain Conner, which arrived here yesterday from Kobe, brought in the Captain of the German ship *Schliemann*, from New York to this port with a cargo of 70,000 cases of kerosene, the vessel having grounded on the south west side of Vries Island yesterday morning while making for the entrance to the Bay. Up to the time of going to press no particulars had been forthcoming other than assistance has been sent to the ship.

A BANK DEFRAUDED.

A FUKUSHIMA telegram, dated the 28th ult., and published in the *Jiji*, announces that the local Branch of the First National Bank has been defrauded of *yen* 27,000. The Bank has offered a reward of *yen* 300 to anyone who will give evidence as will lead to the arrest of the persons concerned.

NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

A GENERAL meeting of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha took place yesterday in the capital. The reports presented showed that the total revenue for the past year amounted to *yen* 5,145,862.459, including the Government subsidy of *yen* 880,000 000. A dividend was declared at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum.

ADDRESS TO THE THRONE ON THE SUBJECT OF THE CONDUCT OF OFFICIALS.

THE *Kokumin Kyokai* have introduced in the House of Representatives an Address to the Throne charging Officials, from Cabinet Ministers downwards, with unbecoming conduct, and praying His Majesty to direct that proper discipline be observed.

THE "CHISHIMA"–"RAVENNA" AFFAIR

THE *Yomiuri Shimbun* says that Mr. Okamura Teruhiko, counsel for the families of persons lost in the wreck of the *Chishima Kan*, instituted in the British Court, Yokohama, on the 29th ult., an action for damages against the P. O. S. N. Company.

THE ITALIAN CABINET

ON Tuesday's *Official Gazette* prints a telegram despatched by the Japanese *Chargé d'Affaires* at Rome stating that the Italian Cabinet resigned on the 25th ult., and the Chambers have closed.

IMPERIAL AUDIENCE

THE Austro-Hungarian Minister paid his farewell visit to the Emperor on the 27th ult. at 10 a.m. The Minister and Baroness Biegeleben were afterwards received in audience by the Empress.

BIRTH OF AN IMPERIAL PRINCE.

THE *Official Gazette* announces, in the briefest possible manner, that a son was born to His Majesty the Emperor at 7.47 p.m. on the 30th ult.

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THE VOTE OF WANT OF CONFIDENCE IN THE PRESIDENT OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

THE House of Representatives, by a majority of 45 in a total attendance of 285 members, has passed a vote of want of confidence in the President, Mr. HOSHI TORU. Just a year has passed since the same House voted the same Mr. HOSHI to the chair with unexampled unanimity. The law provides that the President of the House of Representatives shall be nominated by the EMPEROR from among three members elected by the House, and, further, that the members thus elected must have a plurality of votes in their favour. With a House divided into so many dissonant parties as is the Japanese House of Representatives, it is not easy to secure an approach to unison on any question. Generally it has been found necessary to take several ballots before a list containing three names could obtain the prescribed plurality sanction But there was no such difficulty in the case of Mr. HOSHI TORU. He obtained a plurality vote at once, and was carried to the Presidential seat amid the plaudits of the three parties then forming the Opposition, the *Jiyu-to*, the *Kaishinto*, and the *Domei* Club. It was thoroughly understood at the time and, indeed, openly stated, that the object of the Opposition was to obtain a strong President, whose influence as a party leader and prestige as President should be employed outside the House for the overthrow of the Cabinet, and whose Presidential functions, within the limits of law, should be exercised inside the House in the same cause. Every one imagined that in Mr. HOSHI the Opposition had found a man exactly suited to the occasion. That he was strong, resolute, and able, his record proved abundantly, and that he was bitterly opposed to the *Meiji* Statesmen his whole career had demonstrated since his resignation of office twenty years ago. There is much to be said against the Japanese system of entrusting the Presidential duties to a man elected by each House, and commissioning him to discharge those duties for the term of the House's existence, namely, four years. Such a system is wholly incompatible with our English theory that the Speaker of the House—and note must be taken of the fact that the President of the Japanese House of Representatives is invested with much ampler powers than the Speaker of the British House of Commons—should be entirely independent of parties, and should hold his high position for the term of his natural life, or until he chooses to resign it, without reference to the political complexion of this Cabinet or of that. Still, however defective from the point of view of English principles, the Japanese method has worked well enough in practice. The Presidents of the House of Representatives, though in each case prominent members of the Radical Party, have discharged their duties impartially and conscientiously. Mr. HOSHI TORU especially has showed himself a man of judicial fairness, prompt judgment, and resolute courage. Against his conduct while in the Presidential chair, not a whisper has ever been heard. On the contrary, his manner of performing his functions conferred dignity and honour on the President al office, and aroused, in the foreign public at all events, a new sense of respect for Japanese Parliamentary capacity. But outside the House he disappointed his supporters. In the first place, he opened a vehement campaign against the *Kaishin-to* who had hitherto marched abreast with the *Jiyu-to* in their attack upon the Cabinet. He declared that the *Kaishin-to* were mere crafty office-seekers, using the *Jiyu-to* for the purposes of their own selfish ambition, and caring nothing how much they obstructed national progress. This, of course, brought upon his head the enmity of the *Kaishin-to*, as well as that of the *Domei* Club, whose sole *raison d'être* is to preserve harmonious cöoperation between the *Jiyu-to* and the *Kaishin-to*. In the second place, he enunciated the statesmanlike doctrine that opposition for mere opposition's sake did not become any political party entrusted with the nation's confidence, and that the time had arrived when the *Jiyu-to* should abandon their destructive programme and formulate a constructive one. Both of these steps savoured of a tendency to support the Government. The strength of the Opposition had consisted in the coalition between the *Jiyu-to* and *Kaishin-to*, which gave them an effective majority in the House. By separating the two parties, each, though in greatly differing degrees, was reduced to a state of comparative impotence. Farther, the Cabinet's chief difficulty had hitherto been that all its measurse were incontinently rejected by the House without reference to their merits. But the *Jiyu-to*, by adopting a constructive programme, were transformed from unreasoning and implacable foes into intelligent critics and potential supporters. In short, Mr. HOSHI'S line, whether or no it pointed directly to an alliance with the Government, certainly tended to make things easier for those in power. The suspicion thus suggested was sedulously pushed into prominence by his enemies. He might be a partisan to his heart's content so long as his partisanship had an anti-official bias, but so soon as he leaned however little in the other direction, sentence of condemnation must be pronounced. Evidently the most signal revenge that could be taken on him would be to deprive him of the great honour of holding the presidential chair. With that aim a vehement agitation was commenced against him two months ago. Reviewing the methods employed, it is impossible not to be struck by their paltriness. The first source of agitation was the notorious SOMA case. Mr. HOSHI, in the practice of his profession as barrister, was consulted by NISHIGORI, the preferrer of monstrous accusations against the SOMA Family and its chief retainers. Having declined to act for NISHIGORI, he subsequently accepted a brief from the SOMA Family, and the correctness of his judgment was ultimately demonstrated by the failure of the accusations against the SOMA folks, and the arrest and imprisonment of NISHIGORI himself. But his political adversaries saw an opportunity in this incident. They loudly accused him of violating the canons of his profession by accepting a brief from the defendants after he had been made the recipient of the plaintiff's confidences. The Barristers' Association, under the presidency of Mr. HOSHI'S most obdurate political enemy, Mr. OI KENTARO, and in the immediate sequel of a bitter struggle about a question of organization in which the two men had led opposing sections, applied to the Public Procurator to arraign Mr. HOSHI before the Disciplinary Court. But the Public Procurator, after due investigation, decided that no grounds existed for such action. Then followed a commotion about the methods employed to secure the passage of the Bourse Bill which became law last session. It was freely charged that bribes had been employed by the advocates of the Bill, and a public print, the *Kaishin Shimbun*, did not hesitate to accuse Mr. HOSHI TORU of having abused his position of President in the interests of the Bill, and even of having allowed himself to be swayed by improper influences. Mr. HOSHI promptly took action against the newspaper, with the result that its editor, proprietor and publisher were convicted of malicious slander and sentenced to imprisonment and fine. They appealed, and the hearing of the appeal is still pending. It would seem to ordinary folks that Mr. HOSHI had now defeated all the attempts to discredit him. The Public Procurator had decided that there existed no grounds for arraigning him on the first charge, and a Court of Law had sent to convicts' cells the formulators of the second. But Mr. HOSHI'S political enemies were not to be deterred by such trifles. It was necessary that he should be pulled down, and in order to contrive his fall they planned to introduce in the House a motion of want of confidence. It must be confessed that the principal parties to this strange scheme had each sufficient grace to shrink from the responsibility of fathering the motion. The *Kaishin-to*, the *Kokumin Kyokai*, and the *Domei* Club were all ready to support it, when introduced, but not one of them was prepared to introduce it. The invidious task was finally accepted by a little coterie calling themselves the *Seimu Chosa-jo*, and by Mr. ABEI IWANE, one of their members, the motion was introduced, as a matter of urgency, at the commencement of Wednesday's sitting. Our readers have probably

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read the debate, if such it can be called, that ensued. Probably in the whole history of parliamentary procedure there has never been an instance of a decision so momentous being invited on such frivolous grounds. Two charges were preferred against Mr. HOSHI as the ostensible bases of a vote of want of confidence. It was stated, first that the position of legal adviser to the Osaka Rice and Stock Exchanges had been conferred on him by way of reward for the services rendered in his capacity of President towards the passage of the Bourse Bill; and secondly, that he had attended meetings held in hotels and restaurants by so-called "official merchants" interested in the success of the Bill. In support of the first accusation, reference was made to the statements of two witnesses in the libel suit against the *Kaishin Shimbun*, namely, the President of one of the Osaka Exchanges and the Editor of the *Kaishin Shimbun*. Incredible as it may sound, the House of Representatives was actually invited to attach credit to a second-hand allegation made against Mr. HOSHI by a journalist now under sentence of imprisonment with hard labour for slanders connected with analogous allegations. Party prejudice can scarcely be pushed farther. With regard to the second charge, it must be remembered that the men dubbed "political merchants" are the leading traders and principal citizens of Tokyo; men like Messrs. SHIBUSAWA EIICHI, SONODA KOKICHI, MASUDA KO. OKURA KIHACHIRO, and so forth; men whose sole offence is that they set the interests of commerce and industry above those of political factions. It must also be remembered that semi-social gatherings in hotels and restaurants are means commonly employed in Japan for the interchange of views on any question. In fact, such means were actually resorted to by the very men preferring the accusation against Mr. HOSHI, and for the purposes of the accusation itself, representatives of the cöoperating factions having met in a restaurant the night before the sitting of the House to organize their plan of campaign against Mr. HOSHI. We see, then, what were the materials of the indictment. A charge forming part of an accusation which had already been pronounced criminally slanderous by a Court of Law; the evidence of a man under sentence of imprisonment with hard labour for uttering the slander, and the pretence that Mr HOSHI had held friendly conferences with the leading business men of the Capital to facilitate the enactment of a law purely in business interests and approved by the commercial class in general as well as by the Diet itself. There were, in fact, no tangible bases of indictment whatever, and the mover of the vote of want of confidence as well as his supporters scarcely took the trouble to simulate any faith in the reality of their charges. Mr. HOSHI had forfeited the confidence of his accusers, not by conduct unbecoming the President of the House of Representatives, but by ceasing to be the advocate of a political coalition without which the strength of the Opposition's assault upon the Government must be greatly weakened. His fault was not that he had dishonoured his high office by intriguing in party interests, but that he had not intrigued in the interests of the right party. Yet, on these singularly flimsy grounds, a majority in the House agreed to vote that he should be invited to resign his position. During the progress of the debate Mr. HOSHI left the chair and the Chamber, but on the conclusion of the voting he resumed his place and calmly proceeded to the Order of the Day, informing the majority that, being unconscious of anything reprehensible in his conduct, he must decline to accept the suggestion conveyed in their vote of want of confidence. Thereupon the House adjourned.

The position is extraordinary. The House has no power to remove its President except by recourse to duly prescribed process, namely, impeachment, or appeal to the disciplinary committee. But there does not exist the shadow of a charge that would warrant either of these courses. Indeed, the proposer of the vote of want of confidence was obliged to admit openly that he had nothing to rely on except the advice which Mr. HOSHI'S friends might choose to tender to him and his own possible willingness to be guided by it. Mr. HOSHI, on the other hand, is plainly entitled to claim that in a matter of such gravity distinct and tangible accusations shall be formulated and regular processes of investigation adopted, in lieu of a vague and shadowy indictment, which neither pretends to be capable of direct substantiation nor affords to the party chiefly concerned any opportunity to vindicate himself. The whole affair seems to reflect the greatest discredit on the House's sense of justice and its own dignity. A year ago it elected by acclaim one of its most brilliant leaders to the presidential post, the duties of which he thenceforth discharged with marked credit to himself. It now seeks to remove him from the position on charges so tenuous that they will not bear to be submitted to the most ordinary tests of evidence and investigation. Mr. HOSHI deems it his duty to ignore such a farcical performance of Parliamentary burlesque, and it is to be hoped that he will abide by his conviction. He was elected to the Presidential chair for a term of four years, fixed by law, and to vacate it in obedience to the caprice of a coalition of party politicians would betray a very deficient conception of the importance and dignity of the position

THE PLEASURES OF AUTUMN.

WE should at any time, hesitate to deny either that the drawbacks of the Japanese climate are many and serious, or that it is, notwithstanding its many apparent attractions and the recuperative effects that it speedily and undoubtedly exercises on the jaded and enervated resident of the Straits or Hongkong, both mentally and physically trying to the Anglo Saxon, whose lot it is to have many years uninterrupted experience of it. At the same time, we doubt if there is any country in the world in which, thanks in a large degree to climatic conditions, the month of November can be spent with an approach to the enjoyment obtainable in Japan by those who are enabled by occupation and led by inclination to seek their pleasure out of doors. The whole Autumn, from the early days of October until, speedily following on the close of the merriment and festivities that celebrate the birth of the New Year, the first heavy snow-fall occurs, is in Japan, like the shorter and earlier Autumn in England, that period of the year of which the best hopes of steadily continued sunshine may be entertained. But it reaches its perfection in November. Then also, the woods and hillsides are in their brightest and most glorious foliage, radiant with a many-hued golden beauty, not evanescent, like that of the cherries or azaleas that win from us such glowing praises in the fickle spring but fade and are scattered in a single day's rain or wind, but steadily lasting throughout the entire month A bright blue, cloudless sky is always over us, and let astronomers complain as they may of the tremulous misty vapour that, they say, is never absent from Japan and will always prevent this country from becoming a ground of minute scientific observation, we are never affected by it—the blueness of the sky is to our naked eyes never dimmed, nor are our views of the distant hills around us ever interfered with by it. We have known instances of travellers who have spent a long part of the whole spring in Japan (we are not certain that the Duke and Duchess of CONNAUGHT are not to be included among them) and have subsequently taken their departure without having ever once obtained a glimpse of Fuji; not in its entire grand sweep from summit to base, but even of any part of the mountain at one time sufficiently large to enable them to form an idea of the whole. Who can remember a traveller, who has selected the Autumn as the season of his visit and has met with a similar experience? Has he not rather had the grand old mountain before his eyes, through whatever districts in the thirteen provinces his tours may have brought him, in its aspects always changing as it is viewed at early morning, in the full day time, or when, as the rays of

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the setting sun fall upon it, it assumes a hue often little less vividly red than the leaves of the brightest maples that are the glory of the woods, but always majestic in its solitary grandeur, always a full justification for the almost idolatrous admiration poured on it by those whose eyes rest upon it throughout their entire life-time? The early mornings are damp both underfoot and around us, but the strong sunshine speedily dries the ground and foliage and dispels the mist, and the air quickly becomes dry and bracing with the same inspiriting vigour as that which would have induced Mr. PICKWICK to play at leap-frog, when on his way to spend Christmas at Dingley Dell, had his friend Mr. TUPMAN suggested it. The early evenings often bring with them sharp biting cold, but throughout the entire day, the bracing air is accompanied by warm genial sunshine, and the most delicately constituted can pass it all out of doors without a scintilla of anxiety as to ulterior colds or chills.

Fortunately Autumn is, as well as the most attractive, perhaps the time of the year in which residents in Japan have most leisure, though, to many of them, it is to be feared even the adjective "most" means very little indeed in its present connection. The busiest part of the tea and silk seasons has passed with the merchant. The missionary has still his studying and teaching, but can or should count upon at least one day's absolute exemption from both in each week; and while black care is supposed always to ride behind the Consul and Diplomatist, and the interests of his country to be ever the burden of his thoughts, neither need, in the present state of Japan's foreign relations, let thoughts of duty much interfere with personal pleasures. Who is there among all three classes, still blessed with a sound mind in a sound body, who will not now spend every day of leisure that comes to him in some one or other of the many places around us that are ever inviting us to the enjoyment of their many natural beauties? On the one side Enoshima, Kamakura, and Kanazawa. On the other, Ikegami, with its grand Temples, replete with associations of the largest and most liberal-minded Buddhist sect in Japan, its still grander old trees, its shaded paths, opening in the rear of the Temples on to a long stretch of upland country entirely undisfigured by the naked paddy-field, its solemn quiet broken only by the deep tone of the temple bell; the more secluded Sengokuji, the *point d'appui* of a ride that, once the outskirts of Kanagawa or the suburbs of the capital are passed, will be one of unbroken interest and varied beauty from beginning to end; the river side at Futago or Maiko, with the pleasant walk or ride up the river bank from the station at Kawasaki, returning homewards by Omori, past the Ikegami Temples; Meguro, with its charming Fudo-sama, and the much-visited graves of the brave GOMPACHI and the gentle MURASAKI; or if a journey longer, though easily practical in a single day to the Tokyo resident, be not dreaded, the summit of Takao-san, reached by a gentle climb, after an hour's drive on a good road from Hachioji, on which the results will amply repay whatever fatigue the journey may have entailed. Who is there who will not when he can leave office or study far behind him, and has packed the simple tiffin basket, set off at once to participate in the health-giving pleasures that lie at his very door? What can equal the enjoyment or zest with which a small but congenial party will, with joyous hearts and appetites keenly sharpened by ride or walk in the open air, gather round the basket, as it is opened on the turf beneath some old wayside tree whose leaves are still sufficient to ward off the fierceness while not excluding the genial warmth of the sun?

We have no patience with luncheons of many courses served, with the same abundance of linen, plate, and glass, in a tea-house, and the same army of servants, that may be properly looked for at a formal dinner party in a well-kept house. To call such an exercise of hospitality a picnic is an insult to one of the pleasantest words in the English language. It is rather the very quintessence of the vulgar ostentation of Sir GORGIUS MIDAS, which, in England, has been almost killed by *Punch's* withering satire, while the true picnic, such as we have described, is, if one of the simplest, one of the greatest pleasures that falls to hard-worked, care-laden humanity, and may be enjoyed by all, rich and poor alike. Let us profit by our opportunities while we can, and make the most of our time before the winter snows come upon us, covering with deep mud the now pleasant lanes and bye-roads and blighting all the brilliant foliage that now meets our eyes on every side. Many delights that would gladden the lover of nature, when wandering amid the pleasant hedgerows over the lately mown meadows of England, are wanting. The voice of the lark may be occasionally heard far above our heads, but the sweet singing of the blackbird, and the mistle-thrush are missing; so also are the scarlet berries of the barberry or the briar, the darker red of the hawthorn fruit, the rich purple of the briony, and the clusters of rich, juicy blackberries But those who will can carry home with them baskets filled with flower and branch of hues as varied as any that might be gathered even in the prettiest and most luxuriant county in England; and those who cannot now find gratification for every taste in a day's outing in our own neighbourhood must indeed be hard to please.

THE JUBILEE OF SHANGHAI.

LAST Friday week, the 17th November, was the Jubilee of Shanghai, the Model Settlement having been formally opened to British trade and residence by Captain BALFOUR, her BRITANNIC MAJESTY'S first Consul at that port, on the corresponding date in 1843. Shanghai-landers do well to celebrate this great event with public rejoicing, for the imposing city which now adorns the banks of the muddy Huangpu, with its stately mansions, its gardens, its clubs, its theatres, its cathedrals, and its beautifully kept streets, is a standing monument of the enterprise of present and by-gone generations. In 1843 the place where it now stands was a mere rushy bank, a miserable morass intersected in all directions by creeks and ditches, and when foreign residences were first built the proposal to lay out wide streets was strenuously opposed by some of the settlers, who said they never would be required—paths just wide enough to admit of burden-bearers being considered amply sufficient for all practical purposes. The *Shanghai Mercury* informs us that in 1844 the foreign population consisted of just 50 persons, but increased steadily every year, so that in 1851 there were 265; while the municipal revenue a year later amounted to the modest sum of 5,000 Carolus dollars, the dollar then being worth from 4s. 9d. to 5s. 1d. The highest it has ever touched, we may remark, is 7s. 11d., three years later. Last year the revenue of the British and American Settlements was Tls. 527,845, and we hope it may continue to increase.

In 1850 there appeared a modest if not meagre little sheet entitled the *North China Herald*, and this, with the *Shipping List*, has since developed into the great organ of public opinion now published every morning in Shanghai. Indeed it is within our own recollection that certain old Shanghai stagers, as late as 1869, were in the habit of speaking colloquially of the *North China Daily News* as the *Shipping List*, from former associations. Our contemporary celebrates the present occasion by publishing a Jubilee Number and Supplement, which are composed of historical reminiscences of a most valuable and interesting nature, written by some of the very oldest residents. Among other curiosities it reproduces a paragraph from the *North China Herald* of Saturday, August 3rd, 1850, which has a remarkable sound in the ears of us to day:—

> The last overland mail brought intelligence of the arrival of several vessels from Shanghai in London, and as the passages of the various ships is a subject of much interest to the community we give the following: *John Bunyan* in 99 days, *Confucius* in 115 days, *Parama* in 125 days. The *Nerbudda* and *Sir Edward Parry*, which sailed after the above named, had not arrived, but might be daily looked for. The arrival of the barque *Sea Witch* at this port in 98 days from London, is the shortest passage yet made, and a continuance of such clipping work will give us the start of our Can'on friends in the home market.

The introduction, or general survey, of Shanghai's history is from the pen of Mr.

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R. W. LITTLE, who deals with the subject in his usual graphic and graceful style. In one instance, however, he allows his fondness for epigram to outrun his soberness It sounds very original, no doubt, to translate Shanghai by *Super Mare*; but Mr. LITTLE ought to know that the word means no such thing. Not far from Shanghai there is a place called Hsia-hai, which, on his showing, would indicate that it lies somewhere at the bottom of the sea! *Super Mare*, in Chinese, would of course be Hai-shang; but Shanghai means Upper Reach, in contradistinction to Hsia-hai, or Lower Reach, a little further down the river. The Rev. WILLIAM MUIRHEAD contributes two papers, one headed 'The Early Days'—about which no one is better qualified to write than the veteran missionary, whose experiences date back to 1847—and the other, 'Protestant Missions during the Fifty Years.' Mr. KINGSMILL writes excellently upon 'Early Architecture in Shanghai,' the Ven. Archdeacon MOULE gives some 'Personal Reminiscences,' and a gentleman signing himself "J.H O'D" tells the story of 'Early Municipal Work.' In this most interesting paper we find a report of the first meeting of the first Municipal Council, which was held on July 17th, 1854 The Councillors were Mr. WILLIAM KAY (Chairman), the Rev. Dr. MEDHURST, and Messrs. KING, FEARON, SKINNER BROWN, and CUNNINGHAM Then we have a capital account of 'The Industries of Shanghai' by Mr. G. J. MORRISON, another of 'Shipping' by the well-known expert Captain J. P. ROBERTS, a description of 'Clubland' by "D.H." (also an expert), an admirable paper on 'Shooting' by Mr. H. T. WADE (an acknowledged authority, we believe), and, allied to this, a recapitulation of the history of racing, by Mr. A. L. ROBERTSON, entitled 'Ponies.' Dr. EDKINS tells us "what the natives notice" under the heading of 'The Jubilee from a Native Point of View.' The following paragraph is very quaintly put :—

> The Chinese have been writing about the Jubilee, and they say in the native newspapers that what is now the British Settlement was not long ago a desolate tract with few inhabitants and a great many graves, where the music of the wind was heard through the willows, and the fox and the squirrel dug their holes. There, too, were to be seen flocking the gull and the heron, except where the men were ploughing and the women and children were weeding and the woodman and the cowboy were passing to and fro. Who would have thought that here would in a few years grow up as by enchantment a city such as now exists? How much cutting away there must have been of tree and briar, grass and shrub; before such transformation could take place? Shanghai has sprung into existence from this beginning all within fifty summers and winters. What an amount of work has been put into road-making so that a hundred smooth and broad ways might be made for the multitude of horses and carriages now seen everywhere rushing at great speed without obstruction! Then there are the houses where Europeans make themselves extremely comfortable and guests from afar entertained with hospitality are made to feel at home. A large amount of building long continued and the union of many workers made skilful architects with the exercise of great ability were necessary to achieve so splendid a result.

Two papers conclude the list; one by Mr. SPENCER TSÊNG LAISUN on 'The Native Guilds of Shanghai,' and one by Mr. W. R. KAHLER on 'The Shanghai Fire Brigade.'

No worthier or more appropriate mode of celebrating the Jubilee of Shanghai could have been adopted by any paper, and the symposium will, no doubt, be referred to in times to come as a valuable and authoritative record of the past. The history of Shanghai during the last fifty years has been in many respects a wonderful history. What will be the verdict of the scribe when Shanghai attains its century? Will its future progress keep pace with its development hitherto? Will 1943 show as great an advance on 1893 as 1893 does on 1843? If pluck, energy, and rectitude count for anything in the affairs of life, we do not see why the future should not be quite as brilliant as the past. Shanghai has undergone crises and trials of the severest, nay the most threatening, nature; but it has emerged triumphantly from them all, and the cloud which now hangs over it, and all other Far Eastern ports, may prove to have a lining of more cheerful hue than the silver whose fluctuations have wrought such havoc since it began to decimate our means.

SHANGHAI'S FIFTIETH BIRTH-DAY.

THE illuminations in Shanghai on the night of the 17th instant, to celebrate the Settlement's semi-centenary, were a splendid display, unquestionably the finest thing of the kind ever seen in the Far East, and probably the most beautiful ever witnessed in the world of modern times. Of course there have been illuminations on an incomparably grander scale in Europe—those in London, for example, on the occasions of the entry of the PRINCESS of WALES and the QUEEN'S Jubilee. But in European capitals the illuminant employed is invariably gas, supplemented, now-a-days, by electricity; and gas, whatever devices may be employed to impart variety, must always labour under the disadvantages of garishness and monotony. We have had illuminations in Japan also, free from all defects of inartistic design or crudeness of result. But admirable as is Japanese taste and serviceable as are Japanese resources in such matters, rough, sordid, work-a-day China happens to owe precisely to her unlovely qualities a very lovely illuminative factor. It is a lamp without the least pretence to grace of form or conceit of design; a simple cylinder slightly rounded at both ends after the fashion of a particularly squat sausage. The man who first contrived such a shell to shield a tallow candle from the winds of heaven was probably a rude boor. Indeed the lamp is seen doing duty to-day in every menial position, now hanging from the harness of a cart-mule, now enlightening the path to a rag-shop. What it derives its excellence from is its covering—a kind of oil paper, that looks dirty, cheap, and greasy by day, but has by night a most deliciously softening effect on the light it environs. So profusely were these lanterns employed on the 17th that to one walking through the streets in the afternoon it seemed as though nearly the whole settlement had rashly committed itself to a trade in colossal sausages without any due provision of material to stuff them. But when, shortly after dusk had fallen, the place burst into a glow of light and lustre, it is impossible to praise too highly the entrancing softness lent to the scene by these cheap and humble lanterns Of course there were thousands of dozens of Japanese lanterns also—who in any land conceives an illumination now without putting Japanese lanterns in the forefront of his programme? Charmingly or conceitedly shaped and gaily tinted lanterns they were, too, and without them the illuminations would have fallen very far short of the standard attained. There was also the regulation Chinese lantern, a large, clumsy affair, with glass sides, trappings of tinkling tinsel, and rudely drawn transparencies—a poor thing enough, but still acceptable if only for the sake of the local colour it lent to the scene. There were, further, some of the orthodox gas-jet devices, variously shaped and variously effective. The princes of Oriental trade, Messrs. JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., for example, affected severe simplicity. Perhaps their decorative programme was somewhat marred by the deeply sad event that had just preceded the celebration. Perhaps—and we find this the more likely hypothesis—they judged that something classic would agreeably relieve the profuse massing of lights vulgarly considered essential to illuminative effect. At any rate the great hong stood conspicuous by its simplicity—over the central façade, hung the name known and respected throughout China, "*Ewo*," and flanking it, jets disposed in the forms "1843" and "1893." Unfortunately the designer added a figure of ST. ANDREW, the firm's patron saint, who looked dreadfully blinky and mannikin-like in his gas outlines. By way of contrast, the offices of the Peninsular & Oriental Company presented a veritable swarm of illuminants, and the Bank of China & Japan showed that it deemed a light heart the best ballast amid waves of adversity. But to speak of special features of the illumination were an endless task Besides, munificent as was the scale upon which the Shanghai folks planned and carried out this celebration, it is not of the elements but of the *ensemble* that a lasting memory will survive. The elements were certainly good, at least as good as the most sanguine expected. But the peculiar configuration of the Settlement, with its splendid water front and noble sweep of Bund, enabled the spectator to obtain a *coup d'œil* such as gave to the affair a

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character of perpetual distinction. Many scribes will doubtless pen glowing paragraphs in praise of th s grand and entrancing scene, but we shall do it no such verbal dishonour. The ear is but a poor, dull kind of organ in comparison with the eye. To those who were not happy enough to see Shanghai on the night of the 17th of November, we can convey by words no just idea of what there was to be seen, and to those who did see it, words are needless. The Chinese will remember it. They were there in myriads. Every window, balcony, and verandah was packed, nay even the house-tops swarmed in many instances, chiefly with women and children, who patiently watched from early forenoon to nearly midnight, taking undemonstrative note of all things. The stern sex made the streets its rendezvous, and in such myriads did the denizens of the sweetly-scented Chinese city and the dwellers in the grave-dotted country cluster Settlementwards, that before the small hours of the afternoon one saw nothing anywhere but a sea of heads. An orderly crowd it was, too. Seldom if ever had the police to show their batons or raise their voices. But such a solemn crowd; so oppressed with the weight of life and the trouble of living! It is recorded by sufficiently instructed persons that one listening to the talk of Chinese of the lower orders, hears only a perpetual discussion about food and cash; the same subject examined from every possible side and under every possible guise. Life, in truth, is so hard for these folks that their thoughts centre wholly round the commonest necessaries of existence This ever constant care appears to be woven into the moral fabric of a Chinese crowd. In Japan wherever people are gathered together there circulates a constant under-current of genial ty and joyousness, its happy ripples, momentarily breaking to the surface. But in China all is sombre and solemn. The tens of thousands of Chinese that surged along the streets and alleys of Shanghai on the 17th, seemed to be gravely and heavily discharging the duty of looking, rather than, enjoying the pleasure of seeing. Exceptionally magnificent displays of fire-works, or the weird coruscations of the war-ships' flash-lights evoked occasional hums of admiration. But, on the whole, a duller or more mechanically-minded crowd never packed itself under the glow of an illumination. Twice or thrice little bands of Jacks-a-shore made transient eddies of jollity, rollicking along to the strains of "Say good-bye to Nancy." But the great solemn crowd swallowed up these fitful ebullitions and automatically resumed its dull apathy of mien. Intervals occurred when the pressure of accumulated avoirdupois threatened serious mischief. Such was especially the case as the Fire Brigade's procession, marching along the streets, with band playing and paraphernalia brilliantly illuminated, countermarched together with the masses that clung to it, and by some apparent fault of management, came into collision with the still more imposing, motley, and magnificent procession of Chinese Guilds that had set out to wend in the same direction amid a purgatorial din of tom-toms and cymbals. However, nobody was hurt. Perhaps there was a shadow of disappointment when the lights began to burn dim at about eleven o'clock. But candles have their limits. There was not a *contretemps* of any kind apart from this possibly criticizable brevity. The night was absolutely perfect—soft moon light, comparatively genial air, and not a breath of wind stirring to sway the interminable festoons of many-coloured lights. Of course the occasion was not without object lessons. The ceremony had commenced with a parade of the Shanghai Volunteers. A thoroughly efficient body of me n they looked, losing nothing by comparison with the naval corps that joined their manœuvres from the British and French sh ps. At mid-day, too, the deafening roar of artillery that shook the Settlement must have had its significance for the Chinese. Need it be recorded that Old England was to the fore as usual? Admiral FREMANTLE had taken care that the omnipresent flag should be flying from a goodly squadron in the river, and many a Britisher's pulses beat faster that morning as he watched the flash-lit smoke wreathe itself about the beloved colours over half-a-dozen formidable cruisers. Shanghai is neither dead nor moribund. Waves of adversity have beaten against it and evil times have brooded over it, but the energy and enterprise that have made it one of the wonders of the East, must conquer always. What a centenary it will celebrate when we, who now write of it with just pride, shall have long ceased to remember or be remembered!

THE BURNING OF THE COTTON FACTORY IN SHANGHAI.

FOLKS in Shanghai continue to regret that the Fire Brigade did not lend its services to extinguish the conflagration at the big cotton mills recently reduced to ashes near the banks of the Yangtse. Still more do they regret the very ill-considered journalistic comments evoked by the Brigade's abstention. The mills lay several miles beyond the limits of the foreign settlement and were owned entirely by Chinese. To which of these facts was the action of the foreign Fire Brigade to be attributed? Can there be a moment's doubt? It has never been the custom of foreigners to resign themselves to wiful inaction where such a calamity as the destruction of life a id property is to be averted. They have given innumerable proofs that in e nergencies of the kind they recognise no differences of nationa ity, but obey the dictates of a common humanity. The Shanghai Fire Brigade, however, is organized for duty within the Foreign Settlement. Its engines and apparatus have been provided for that purpose only. Suppose that it had proceeded to the scene of the fire at the cotton mill, and that its engines had been damaged or destroyed, evidently the responsibility would have fallen on the shoulders of those who ventured to employ the Brigade outside the limits strictly defined for it in the laws of its organization. Would the Captain of the Brigade, or would those whose authority was immediately exercisable, have been justified in accepting that responsibility? Perhaps they might, had there not been the supplementary difficulty that during the absence of the Brigade at the cotton mill a fire might have broken out within the limits of the Settlement the protection of which is the Brigade's *raison d'être*. In these two considerations there is surely to be found sufficient explanation of the Brigade's conduct, without recourse to the invid ous, and we venture to think, unreasonable hypothesis that the source of inaction was resentment against the policy of the Chinese Government in attempting to prevent the importation of machinery and the establishment of factories by foreigners. The Chinese Government maintains that the treaties do not give to foreigners the privilege of engaging in industrial pursuits in China, and to this contention it appends a rider hard to be understood, namely, that foreigners have no right to import machinery. The Shanghai Cotton mills were owned by officials. We do not mean to say that they were an official enterprise, but their principal shareholders were officials, and the largest pecuniary interest in them is alleged to have been held by no less a personage than the Viceroy LI, who is the most prominent anti-foreign interpreter of this particular clause in the treaties. On less substantial grounds there have often been constructed theories even more sinister than the allegat on that the Shangha' foreign Fire Brigade's services were withheld on the recent occasion because the property in process of destruction belonged to Chinese and chiefly to the very Chinese who seek to debar foreigners from engaging in similar enterprises. This explanation has been gravely advanced in journalistic columns with lamentable want of tact and absence of discrimination, for assuredly it is impossible to conceive that such a consideration can have exercised the smallest deterrent effect on the Captain of the Brigade or on any other respectable foreigner. But of course when a foreign journal attributes such petty and miserable motives to its own nationals, the Chinese will not be slow to accept its estimate, and that is what the Shanghai community obviously regrets in the first place. It regrets, in the second, that all prudential considerations were not cast to the winds, and that use was not made of an opportunity so unique

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to prove to the Chinese that foreigners recognise and obey a humane principle extending beyond all limits of nationality. As things went it will be impossible to disabuse all Chinese minds of a suspicion that the Brigade's effective organization and powerful appliances were not utilized simply because Chinese interests alone were in jeopardy. There is not a particle of truth in the hypothesis, but most assuredly it will be entertained. Foreigners themselves, or at any rate some foreigners, would entertain it were the cases reversed. It is a pity. The Chinese may have few claims upon foreign goodwill just at present, but they have always a claim to be taught the breadth and benefits of foreign civilization, and there are many Englishmen in Shanghai who recognise that claim in its fullest sense.

IMPERIAL DIET.

The Houses of the Diet were convened on Saturday last, the 25th instant. In the House of Peers, the members took their seats at 9.30 a.m. Lots were drawn to determine the order of seats for those members who happen to be of the same rank and age. The classification of the members into nine Divisions, which is the first step in the organization of the House, was effected as usual by lots, which, to save time and trouble, were drawn by the Secretaries. After the results of the drawing had been announced to the House, the members retired into the rooms assigned for their respective Divisions, and proceeded to elect the Chiefs and the Managers of the respective Divisions. The voting resulted as follows:—

FIRST DIVISION.
Chief ..... Prince Tokugawa Iyesato.
Manager ..... Viscount Tani Tateki.

SECOND DIVISION.
Chief ..... Prince Konoye Atsumaro.
Manager ..... Baron Senge Sompuku.

THIRD DIVISION.
Chief ..... Prince Nijo Motohiro
Manager ..... Marquis Kuroda Nagashige.

FOURTH DIVISION.
Chief ..... Mr. Murata Tamotsu.
Manager ..... Viscount Masudaira Nobumasa.

FIFTH DIVISION
Chief ..... Viscount Yuri Kuninasa.
Manager ..... Mr. Watari Masamoto

SIXTH DIVISION.
Chief ..... Count Hirohashi Katamitsu.
Manager ..... Mr. Komuro Shimobu.

SEVENTH DIVISION.
Chief ..... Baron Awoyama Tei
Manager ..... Mr. Matsuka Yasuhiro.

EIGHTH DIVISION
Chief ..... Viscount Kuroda Kiyotsuna.
Manager ..... Baron Ozawa Takeo.

NINTH DIVISION.
Chief ..... Viscount Hayashi Tomoyuki.
Manager ..... Baron Matsuura Masanawo.

The result of these elections having been duly reported from each Division to the President, the latter called the members again into the chamber and formally announced the names of the Chiefs and Managers of the respective Divisions. This completed the organization of the House, and it rose at 10.50 a.m.

In the House of Representatives, the members were summoned to the chamber at 10 a.m. The President, Mr. Hoshi, introduced to the House the newly elected members, who were received with vehement clapping of hands by the political parties they represented. The House then proceeded to elect three candidates for the Vice-Presidency vacated by Mr. Soue Arasuke on his appointment to the Japanese Legation in France. The results of the first voting were as follow:—Mr. Kusumoto Masataka (*Domei* Club) 175; Mr. Abei Iwane, (National Unionist) 114; Mr. Ando Kyukwa (National Unionist) 93; Mr. Tsuda Mamichi, (National Unionist) 88; Mr. Kawashima Jun, (*Domei* Club) 45; Mr. Suzuki Shigeto (*Domei* Club) 45; Mr. Kono Hironaka (Radical) 35, and Mr. Shimada Saburo (Progressionist) 33. Mr. Kusumoto alone having obtained a majority of the whole, it was necessary to proceed to another ballot for determining two other candidates, but it being now noon, the House rose for luncheon. On reassembling at 1 p.m., voting was resumed, and Messrs Ando Kyukwa and Abei Iwane were elected. The House rose at 2 p.m. At 4 p.m., Mr. Kusumoto was appointed by the Emperor Vice-President of the House of Representatives.

On Monday, the 27th, the House of Representatives met to distribute itself into nine Divisions and elect Chiefs and Managers of Divisions. The members took their seats at 9.40 a.m. Before proceeding to the business of the day, the President announced the appointment of Mr. Kusumoto to the post of Vice-President of the House. Mr. Kusumoto then ascended the rostrum and briefly thanked the House for the honour it had done him in nominating him as a candidate for the important post which the Emperor had been pleased to bestow upon him. He assured the House that he would do his utmost to discharge the duties of his position with unflinching justice and impartiality. Mr. Ando Kyukwa, as the oldest member of the House, then congratulated Mr. Kusumoto in the name of the whole House. Lots were subsequently drawn to determine seats and divisions, after which the Divisions retired to their rooms and elected Chiefs and Managers. As a rule the oldest members were appointed to the former position and the youngest to the latter. Their names are as follows:—

FIRST DIVISION.
Chief ..... Mr. Ando Kyukwa (National Unionist)
Manager ..... Mr. Wada Hikojiro (National Unionist).

SECOND DIVISION.
Chief ..... Mr. Sato Shojo (National Unionist).
Manager ..... Mr. Oshima Makoto (National Unionist).

THIRD DIVISION
Chief ..... Mr. Inada Matazaemon (National Unionist).
Manager ..... Mr. Kagami Kahei (National Unionist).

FOURTH DIVISION
Chief ..... Mr. Tanikawa Shochu (Radical).
Manager ..... Mr. Sakamoto Richiro (Radical)

FIFTH DIVISION.
Chief ..... Mr. Awaya Shinzo (National Unionist).
Manager ..... Mr. Kato Kayemon (Radical).

SIXTH DIVISION,
Chief ..... Mr. Tsuda Mamichi (National Unionist)
Manager ..... Mr. Ito Tokuta.o (Radical).

SEVENTH DIVISION.
Chief ..... Mr. Kayetsu Nobuyuki (National Unionist).
Manager ..... Mr. Takahashi Yoichi (Radical).

EIGHTH DIVISION.
Chief ..... Mr. Abei Iwane (*Tohoku gumi*).
Manager ..... Mr. Kudo Takeji (Progressionist)

NINTH DIVISION.
Chief ..... Mr. Tateshi Kanji (Radical).
Manager ..... Mr. Asai Kichiro (Radical).

This completed the organization of the Lower House.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 28TH.

At 10.30 a.m. the members of both Houses assembled in the Debating Chamber of the Upper House to receive the Imperial Message on the opening of the fifth session of the Diet. The Emperor, accompanied by Marquis Tokudaiji, Grand Chamberlain, Viscount Hijikata, Minister of the Imperial Household, Marquis Nabeshima, Grand Master of Ceremonies, and a number of Chamberlains, proceeded to the Diet at 10.45 a.m., being received at the gate by Marquis Hachisuka, President of the House of Peers, and within the gate by Mr. Hoshi Toru, President of the House of Representatives, Marquis Saionji, Vice-President of the House of Peers, Mr. Kusumoto, Vice-President of the House of Representatives, Messrs Kaneko and Mizuno, Chief Secretaries of the House of Peers and the House of Representatives, respectively, as well as the various Secretaries. Within the Chamber, the Peers were marshalled on the East and South, the Representatives on the West and North, the Cabinet Ministers standing on the left of the Throne. Precisely at 11 o'clock, His Majesty, conducted by Marquis Nabeshima, entered the Chamber and took his seat upon the Throne. His Excellency Count Ito, Minister President of State, now advanced and presented a scroll to the Emperor, who opened it, and standing up, read as follows in a clear voice:—

Members of the House of Peers and of the House of Representatives—We have attended in person to perform the ceremony of opening the Imperial Diet

We have instructed Our Cabinet Ministers to submit for your deliberation the Budget for the 27th year of *Meiji*, which has been compiled according to due administrative processes, as well as various essential projects of law.

We trust that you will fully discharge the function of consent dictated by the exigencies of the service of the State.

The members of both Houses received this message with a deep obeisance, and Marquis Hachisuka, then advancing to the Throne, received the scroll from His Majesty's hands. The Emperor thereupon left the Chamber, and, after a very brief interval, returned to the Palace.

WEDNESDAY, 29TH NOVEMBER.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 9.45 a.m., the Order of the Day being the election of the Chairman of Committee of the Whole House, and of the members of the Standing Committees. The President read the reply which he proposed to make to the Emperor's Speech at the opening ceremony, and the House having approved of it, the President proceeded with it to the Palace. Various announcements were then made with regard to the *personnel* of the House, and with regard to the receipt of Government and private Bills. A closed ballot was then taken for electing the Chairman of Committee of the Whole, when 138 votes were cast for Viscount Tani, and 29 for Prince Konoye. The former was declared elected. The elections of the Standing Committees was next conducted by the Sections in their own rooms, and the House rose at 12.45 p.m. The House's reply to the Emperor's Speech and His Majesty's answer were as follow:—

The members of the House of Peers have received with profound respect the message which Your August and Illustrious Majesty was graciously pleased to convey in person at the opening ceremony which Your Majesty honoured by Your Majesty's presence, and with all humility will endeavour to discharge their duties to the State by duly performing their functions of deliberation and consent.

The Emperor's Reply:—

We have received with approval the respectful address of Our House of Peers.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1 p.m., the Order of the Day being the election of the Chairman of Committee of the Whole, and of the members of the Standing Committees. The President announced that the House's reply to the Imperial Speech had been carried by him to the Palace, and the reply, as well as the Emperor's answer, were read as follow:—

The members of the House of Representatives through their President, Hoshi Toru, are unable sufficiently to express the sentiments of profound reverence inspired by Your Majesty's gracious presence on the day of opening the Fifth Session of the Diet, and by Your Majesty's August Message. Your Majesty's servants will endeavour with all humility to fulfil Your Majesty's purpose, and will spare no pains to discharge their duty to the State in the humble and careful performance

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of their functions of deliberation and consent, so as to show their profound sense of Your Majesty's benevolence and of the trust reposed in them by the nation.

The Emperor's Reply :—

We have received with approval the respectful address of Our House of Representatives.

Mr. Abei Iwane asked leave to address the House, but the President proceeded with the Order of the Day.

Mr. Abei said that he had an urgency motion to introduce, and that he desired the Order of the Day to be changed for the purpose.

The President pointed out that according to the 21st Article of the Standing Orders, the House, on assembling, must proceed at once to elect a Chairman of Committee of the Whole, as well as the members of the Standing Committees, including the Budget Committee and the Disciplinary Committee. The Budget was already in their hands, and a case for the consideration of the Disciplinary Committee might at any moment arise. It was obviously most inconvenient and contrary to law to proceed to any discussion before electing these Committees.

Several members having declared themselves supporters of the motion to change the Order of the Day, the President put the question to the vote, and declared it carried.

Mr. Abei explained that his motion was :—"That the President, Mr. Hoshi Toru, having lost the confidence of the House, and it being no longer desirable that he should continue to preside, he should be invited to take the necessary step of his own accord under the circumstances."

The President said that he considered the debate which they proposed to open entirely improper, and that whatever decision they arrived at, he should continue to discharge the functions entrusted to him (cries of "No, No"). As a matter of sentiment, however, he should vacate the chair and absent himself from the chamber while they discussed the motion.

Mr. Kusumoto Masataka, the Vice-President, having taken the chair,

Mr. Abei Iwane said that he had been compelled by a sense of duty to the House and to the country to introduce the motion now before them, despite the friendly relations ordinarily existing between himself and Mr Hoshi Toru. It was true that Mr. Hoshi Toru's actions, fortunately for himself, had not been made the subject of an inquiry by a legal tribunal, but society had emphatically disapproved of them, and they had been condemned strongly by the press.—(Hear, hear). The President of the Osaka Rice Exchange, Mr. Tamate Hiromichi, and the President of the Osaka Stock Exchange, Mr. Isono Koyemon, had declared in open Court that Mr. Hoshi's services in the capacity of legal adviser had been engaged because of his position as President of the House of Representatives. But even though this point were open to doubt, the fact remained that Mr. Hoshi Toru had frequently met some of he so-called "political merchants" (*Seisho*) at restaurants, thereby bringing discredit on the House over which he presided. Under such circumstances it was out of the question that the members should continue under the presidency of Mr. Hoshi. He understood that all the parties in the House were concerned about the question of the conduct of which certain officials had been guilty, but it was obvious that before attempting to correct the faults of other folks, they must first place themselves beyond the reach of reproach. It was impossible to pass over in silence the things that had occurred, and he called upon the House to resolutely discharge its duty to the country and itself —(Applause.)

Mr Yamada Taizo asked whether the House was to understand that the offences charged against Mr. Hoshi Toru were, first, that he had accepted an appointment as legal adviser to the Exchanges in consequence of his position as President of the House, and secondly that he had been present at meetings held by the so-called "political merchants."

Mr. Abei said that he had confined himself to those two points, deeming it undesirable to enter into too great detail.—(Hear, hear.)

Mr. Yamada attempted to ask further questions, but was cried down by the House.

Mr. Abei said that Mr. Maruyama Meisei, a member of the House, had been present when the statements referred to were made in a Court of Law, and that questions could be addressed to him.

Mr. Inouye Kakugoro called attention to the President's statement before leaving the chair that whatever the House's decision might be he did not intend to abstain from discharging his duties as President. They had not forgotten, doubtless, how absolutely fruitless had been the House's declaration as to the illegality and inoperativeness of the Game Law last session. Suppose that Mr. Hoshi Toru treated their resolution with the same indifference as the Government had displayed in the matter of the Game Law, had Mr. Abei considered what course was to be pursued?

Mr. Abei replied that if the House voted itself unwilling to remain under the presidency of Mr. Hoshi, it would know what measures to adopt for giving effect to its decision.

Mr. Kammuchi Tomotsune felt compelled to oppose the motion. It was true that, unfortunately for Mr. Hoshi Toru's reputation, the press had accused him of proceedings which seemed to indicate want of caution on his part. But if they objected to their President being present at a meeting of merchants assembled in the Imperial Hotel to discuss a matter relating to cotton spinning, what were they to say of members who identified themselves with schemes of private railways, and of officials who thought dancing girls a necessary adjunct of an evening's discussion? He did not see what such things had to do with the position of the President of their House. He was opposed to Mr. Hoshi on the great question of Mixed Residence, and he went with Mr. Abei Iwane in almost all matters of politics, but he must vote against this proposal

Mr. Murayama Meisei supported the motion. He had made very accurate inquiries into the subject, but should not detain the House by entering into the details with which it was already acquainted. He might say, however, that he had it on the authority of Mr. Tamate and of the editor of the *Kaishin Shimbun*, that Mr. Hoshi's appointment to the post of legal adviser to the Osaka Exchanges had been by way of reward for his services in passing the Bourse Law. Such an incident could not be called direct bribery, but it approached very closely to the confines of bribery. Mr. Hoshi had also been entertained at a banquet in Osaka as a token of appreciation of what he had done, and he had, in turn, entertained his entertainers in Tokyo, Mr. Saito Shuichiro and other officials having been present on the latter occasion. There might, indeed, be no question of violating any law, but there certainly was question of procedure opposed to the dictates of morality. As for the apprehension that Mr. Hoshi might disregard the decision formulated by the House, he imagined that Mr. Hoshi's friends would be able to dissuade him from a course so unmanly and undignified.

Mr. Komatsu Sansei attempted to move, as a prior question, that the House was not competent to discuss the motion now before it, but he was unable to proceed with his speech owing to the tumult.

Mr. Fujita Masataka perceived that, according to the statement of reasons accompanying the motion, three charges were preferred: first, that the voice of society condemned Mr Hoshi Toru's proceedings; secondly, that his position of legal adviser to the Osaka exchanges was due to, and the result of, his position as President of the House; thirdly that he had attended private meetings held by political merchants. It was impossible to regard such charges gravely. The voice of society was surely a somewhat vague witness to summon to the bar of the House. Reference was evidently made to the Soma case, about which so much excitement had been raised But in accepting a brief to defend the Soma family, Mr. Hoshi had acted simply in his capacity as a barrister, and his action could not for a moment be cited as disqualifying him to sit as President of the House. With regard to the second point, it was plain that the President of their House enjoyed a distinguished place in society, and that any public company would naturally be glad to have his services in the capacity of legal adviser. Was he to be debarred from accepting such appointments merely because he held the Presidency? Finally, he should like to know what fault could be found with a member of the House for meeting respectable merchants at a convivial entertainment, and discussing business affairs with them? For his own part, he deemed that such a procedure was precisely in accordance with the duties of a member who desired to equip himself with the necessary knowledge of mercantile affairs. The accusations were absolutely worthless so far as concerned the purpose for which they were preferred. The whole thing was simply and solely a political affair; an attack upon a leading member of the *Jiyu-to*. Moreover, the House possessed no power to give effect to its decision in such a matter. He should vote against the motion from every point of view

Mr. Tanaka Shozo supported the motion. He considered that Mr. Hoshi Toru had brought discredit on the House, and should no longer be suffered to remain President.

Mr. Komatsu Sansei considered that the discussion of such a motion on such grounds was altogether *ultra vires*. The allegations put forward had nothing whatever to do with Mr. Hoshi's discharge of his duties and functions as President. If it was considered that his conduct in regard to matters lying entirely outside the House and entirely unconnected with the House required inquiry or censure, steps in that sense should be taken outside the House not within it. Moreover, the President had been appointed originally for a fixed term of four years, and the House had no competence to interfere with his tenure of office during that time. The truth was that this motion, though nominally based on the grounds set forth in the accompanying statement of reasons, was purely a political move.

Mr. Nakamura Yaroku supported the motion. He contended that if the House were required to place confidence in the President during the whole term for which he had been appointed, it might equally well be required to place confidence in a Minister of State so long as he remained in office. He denied that politics were at the bottom of the motion, and averred that it was wholly a question of morality, and after a speech of some length, in which, however, no new arguments were introduced, he moved that an open ballot be at once taken

The closure was put and carried, and the House decided to hold an open ballot, the result of which was 166 "ayes" and 119 "noes"

The President at this point returned to his place, smiling.

Mr. Wada Hikojiro said that the House having come to such a decision, he moved that it adjourn to give the President an opportunity of adopting the course suggested.

The President said that he regretted to be obliged to say that, after due reflection, he saw no reason to comply with the suggestion embodied in the motion just passed.

A motion for adjournment having been made and put by the President, the House rose at 3.20 p m.

THURSDAY, 30TH NOVEMBER.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House did not meet.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1 p.m., and at 1.15 the President took his seat and was about to proceed with the Order of the Day when

Mr. Nakamura Yaroku, having obtained permission to introduce an urgency motion, said that although the House had yesterday adopted a resolution declaring want of confidence in the President, the latter declined to take the step implied by the resolution, thereby showing that he had no regard for the interests of the country, that he did not respect the opinion of the House, and that he was not disposed to subscribe to the forms of constitutional government. It became absolutely necessary, therefore, that

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the House should adopt some decided measure in the sequel of its resolution. But inasmuch as they had no precedent to guide them, and the matter was one of grave importance, he moved that the House adjourn for the day in order to consider its procedure.

The House having agreed to change the Order of the Day for the purpose of discussing the motion,

Mr. Misaki Kamenosuke expressed profound surprise at the terms of the motion before the House. Mr. Nakamura proposed that they should take a day to consider their course of action in the sequel of yesterday's resolution. Was it possible that the majority had yesterday committed itself to such a grave measure as passing a vote of want of confidence in the President, without having formed any definite plan as to the steps to be taken in the sequel of the resolution? What view did they take of constitutional government? (cries of *damare*, "be silent"). Precisely. Those cries showed exactly what kind of mood they had fallen into. He stood there in the duly sanctioned exercise of his right to address them, and they sought to silence him by cries of *damare*. Nothing could show more clearly how little respect they had for the spirit of constitutional institutions. The Standing Orders distinctly provided that the House, on assembling, should proceed at once to elect a Chairman of Committee of the Whole and the members of the Standing Committees. Not only had they changed that prescribed order of procedure for the purpose of introducing an urgency motion, but they now also proposed to adjourn for a day in order to discuss the steps to be taken in the sequel of their previous irregularity. It was plain that they paid scant attention to the laws by which they were supposed to be guided. They had contracted a fever since the preceding day, and would do well to put ice-bags to their heads and sit down for a quiet think. (During these remarks Mr. Tanaka Shozo punctuated each clause and sentence of the speaker's address with cries of "*Wairo, wairo*," "bribery" "bribery"). The House was under a legally imposed obligation to conclude its Committee's examination of the Budget within 15 days from the beginning of the session. Adjournments such as that now proposed were plainly opposed to the discharge of that obligation. (Mr. Shimizu Bunjiro wanted to know whether the spirit of constitutional government required that moral *laches* should be passed over in silence.) He urged them to proceed with the fixed business of the House, and to discuss this important question of want of confidence in a leisurely manner at its proper time. They ought to have considered fully how to proceed before they committed themselves to the resolution of the preceding day. By not doing so they displayed their indifference to the discharge of the public business.

Mr. Inouye Kakugoro thought that the House would have to answer to the country for bringing forward and discussing such a question before its own organization was completed according to law. It was true that much fault might be found with Mr. Hoshi in his capacity of President. Numerous instances might be adduced of partiality shown by him on account of his political convictions and in pursuance of the ambitious programme of his party. For his own part, he must confess himself emphatically pleased at the resolution which the House had passed and which Mr. Hoshi had brought upon his own head. Nevertheless, it seemed altogether extravagant that the House should adjourn or suspend its sittings on account of one person, albeit that person was its President. Such a course was conceivable on the part of the *Jiyu-to* or the *Kaishin-to*, but he found it singularly unbecoming in men like the members of the *Kokumin Kyokai*. For did they not remember the line adopted by the leaders of the *Kokumin Kyokai* last session, when the Government having declined to pay any attention to the repeatedly expressed wishes of the House, the latter had decided to suspend its sittings? Was it not fresh in every one's memory how Messrs. Ooka Ikuzo, Motoda Hajime, and others of the *Kokumin-ha* had strongly opposed the proposition on the ground that with important matters of State awaiting discussion, adjournment even for a single day would be a gross neglect of the House's obligation to the country? Yet these very men were now voting to suspend the House's sittings because one man declined to be guided by their decision. Evidently they attached very little value to consistency. But in truth their progress towards administrative power reminded him strongly of the story of the clerk who concluded that he would steal his master's fortune, but found the operation, when he set about it, a trifle more difficult than he had anticipated. He sympathised with them sincerely. With all the desire in the world to oppose the Government, they couldn't quite make up their minds to do so, and accordingly they salved their consciences and satisfied their longings by the fury of their attack upon Mr Hoshi. Well, it was quite in accord with the fitness of things. To cower before the strong and bector it over the weak, that was a procedure eminently becoming in the members of the *Kokumin Kyokai*.—(Loud laughter.) But there were forty millions of an audience outside the House, to whom they must answer. Many great problems awaited their deliberation—reassessment of the taxable value of land, repairs of river banks, construction of railways. It might not be expedient to have Mr. Hoshi in the chair, but it was incomparably less expedient to neglect these burning national questions for the sake of putting him out of it. And supposing that they did turn him out, what of the men who sought to replace him? How would Mr. Nakamura Yaroku do as President; Mr. Nakamura, with his Kiso-mountain money-making record? How would Mr. Tsunoda Shimpei do? Mr. Tsunoda, who had acted as commission barrister for the stock Exchanges? How would Mr. Ooka Ikuzo do? Mr. Ooka, whose history was to be found in the files of the *Chuo Shimbun*? Did they regard their President as a tumbling puppet, constructed so as to fall spontaneously every time it was set up? Who wanted anything of that kind?—(A Voice—"His protector Goto would like it vastly.") The people certainly did not want it, whatever the Government's sentiments might be. He believed that there were plenty of counts upon which they might arraign Mr. Hoshi. He himself had attacked him last session, but finding no supporters, had failed to effect anything. Now the majority of the House were engaged in the attack, but they apparently lacked courage to hand the President over to the Disciplinary Committee. Yesterday, Mr. Abei had declared stoutly that they would not be ruled any longer by such a President, but they had gone on taking their directions from the chair just as before. Their President was evidently a kind of doll in their eyes. If they wanted to attack him, let them do so in due season. Let them first constitute their House as provided by law, and let them then proceed to assail Mr Hoshi to their hearts' content. He promised them his aid. But with such an undertaking at this stage he could not associate himself.

Mr. Tachikawa Umpei asked whether the House had seriously considered the meaning of its declarations on the preceding day? The majority had declared that Mr. Hoshi Toru was not fit to be President, but that no obstacle presented itself to his remaining a member. Was it to be concluded, then, that conduct disqualifying a man to enjoy the confidence of the House did not disqualify him for remaining a member, taking part in their debates and casting his vote in their ballots? They spoke of the voice of society. What was meant by "society"? Was it the *Kaishin Shimbun*? If the *Kaishin Shimbun's* statements about their President were true, he would at once vote for his removal from the chair, would urge his expulsion from the House, and would sever his own friendly relations with him? But the *Kaishin Shimbun's* editor, proprietor, and printer had been sentenced criminally because of the falsehood of their journal's charges? They seemed to say, however, that though these charges were in the main untrue, a certain portion of them must be credited, namely, the portion that related to private meetings in tea-houses. But if that disqualified a President, then every member of the *Kaishin-to* would be disqualified. Messrs. Tsunoda and Ozaki must understand him. Did they boldly declare that every one who had taken part in a meeting at a tea-house was unfit to be a member, well and good. There would then be an evil reckoning for many of them. But if such meetings disqualified a man to be President, why did they not also disqualify him to be a member? What difference was there between the President and a member in point of morality? Mr. Maruyama had told them that there were ways and ways of meeting at tea-houses, and ways and ways of wine-drinking, but for his own part he failed to perceive how Mr. Maruyama and the other members of the *Kaishin-to* could claim any monopoly of the right ways and deny a share to Mr. Hoshi. Moreover, Mr. Maruyama had said that as a deficiency of several thousand *yen* existed in the books of the Rice Exchange, and as it was not credible that the officers of the Exchange had taken it, the probability was that it had gone to Mr. Hoshi. The probability forsooth! Did they forget then the tens of thousands made away with by the notorious Exchange official Nakamura Michida, and did they think that what had happened once could not occur again? They would be establishing a very dangerous precedent if they proceeded to a final decision in such a matter without clearly formulating their accusations and accurately investigating them. They would be establishing the precedent that a majority might do anything it pleased whatever justification it possessed or did not possess. People understood very well that their proposal to adjourn for a day was to gain time for coming to a private understanding with the *Kokumin Kyokai*. If the majority of the House approved of such procedure, the minority would appeal to public opinion against them.

After a few remarks from Mr. Maruyama Meiseki, the House showed itself impatient for a division, and by a large majority voted for a day's adjournment, rising at 2 p.m.

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE RELIGIOUS PRESS.

Want of space prevents us from summarizing to a large extent the matter which appears in the religious press for the month. Every sect and the multiplying organizations for religious and moral reform in the country call to their aid printed periodicals. These make a formidable pile for the summarizer. What we have been able to reproduce, however, will give, we believe, an interesting and very instructive insight into the present condition and tendency of religious and ethical thought and life of the Japanese people.

* * *

The topic which occupies most space in the principal issues of the Christian press is the spiritual welfare of the young men of Japan. This is in answer to an especial appeal recently made by the Tokyo Young Men's Christian Association. The association is at present making strenuous efforts to extend its influence. In the middle of the month, a week was devoted to union prayer meetings, and to mass meetings, in which suitable addresses were delivered, in behalf of the youth, now, in large numbers, gathered from all parts of the empire into the schools of Tokyo. The *Kirisutokyo Shimbun* responding to the association's appeal, speaks of the condition of the young men of to-day, as giving rise to a question of far greater and more important moment than even the matter of Mixed Residence or the fate of silver. At present we are passing through an era of radical changes. All things in Society are in commotion and young men are caught in the social vortex. Their past ways have been swept from under them. Old habits have been lost. Inherited creeds have been destroyed. They have been deprived of the guides and supports which formerly guarded them, and so

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far have gained no safe hold as their protection for the future. They are bewildered in their strange, perilous situation Some seek refuge backwards. Pitiably, there is no refuge there. Three tendencies are notable among the young men of to-day. Some are aroused over what they call the need of conservatism. They are eager for the re-establishment and invigoration of national peculiarities. They talk earnestly of loyalty and of filial obedience. They would resist and cast out all ideas and things foreign. But, as they advocate their plea, however sincere they may be, they are narrow and they labour in vain. They are brave but they do not know. We love them but we pity them too. They are like Saul of Tarsus before his conversion and regeneration. Again, many of the young men of the present day, by far the most in number and nearest hopelessness so far as helping them is concerned, are engulfed in materialism. Unlike those just spoken of, they have not even a semblance of high principle. Their main object for the present is either money or place They are seeking the easiest life possible. Their complaints are of poverty and obscurity. Their condition is of all, the one most beyond any real help. A third tendency, of wide effect too, affecting large numbers of young men, is towards a pessimistic view of things. These youths have not the reactionary prejudice of the first class of whom we are speaking, nor have they the rude materialism of the second class. Their thoughts are clean and their lives upright. But they do not seem to have a quick sense of responsibility. They are fond of literature and of speculation. They are superior to the reactionary conservatives, in mental power and insight. In moral character they stand higher than their materialistic fellows. Yet they are of no real worth to society. They are not in earnest. They are dilettante and unpractical. They often affect a study of speculative Buddhism. Such are the perils into which the young men of to-day have fallen. Who are responsible for this lamentable crisis? The young men themselves are hardly to be blamed. They should rather be pitied and made to feel our sympathy. Certain leaders in the land are responsible. The writer closes by urging the reactionaries among the young men, to broaden their minds. We are men, he says, and we belong to mankind as well as to Japan. He reminds the materialists that there are higher things and greater benefits than those which belong to matter. The pessimists are assured that they will find a remedy for their mood in honest obedience to their duties. All these young men would be better men and safer, would they but learn some lessons in humility. Pride is at the source of the dangers which imperil them; their narrowness, their want of principle, their failure in doing their duties. The *Gokyo*, in much the same tone, deals with this subject. Its gravest counsel to young men is to become earnest and sincere. Without sincerity there is no self-control, no true independence. The writer pleads with the country's youth to seek a wholesome conscience, not to make themselves shameful before God and men. Japan is all astir with great issues, and the new age needs new men. Upon the young men of the country a solemn responsibility rests. The *Fukuin Shimpo* turns its attention, in connection with this theme, particularly to the *soshi*. The nearness of the opening of Parliament shows a large increase in Tokyo of the class of young men known as *soshi*. Who are responsible for their existence? Not the Government. Society is their source and their support. They are a social disease. The means of their cure may be but found in the Young Men's Christian Association. Young men understand young men, and through a sympathetic intelligence are best fitted to deal with these disordered minds. The writer advises the Young Men's Associations to establish institutions in which the *soshi* can find means to earn an honest livelihood. To him a chief trouble seems to lie in enforced idleness. Aid the *soshi* to honest, well-rewarded work, and they may give over their useless and pernicious way of living. The character and aim of the Young Men's Christian Associations are set forth at length in the organ of the Associations, *Kirisutokyo Seinen* (Christian Young Man), a handsome magazine of recent founding. In an article on "The New Moving Power in the World," the editor writes; Japan needs young men now. A radical reformation must be made in the country. The agency for such reformation is the Young Men's Christian Association. Branches of this Association should be established everywhere. What are Christian young men to do? Give the spirit of Christ to all other young men, is the answer. Not in the way of evangelization, but by personal influence in personal intercourse. Like will beget like. In intimate fellowship the same spirit will at length animate all. Bring young men together. Let there be not only religious meetings, but meetings to consider questions of social reform. Have lectures on general subjects. Establish libraries. Send magazines into country places Support evening schools. Let visiting with one another be encouraged. Organize committees for receiving young men, strangers, for finding good boarding places for them and for introducing them to helpful friends. Build gymnasiums and assist in popularizing healthful games. In *Kirisutokyo Shimbun*, the manager of the Y.M.C.A., explains that the Association is not an institution either for general evangelization or for the solution of social problems at large, but is simply an organization by which young men can cultivate character, gain "heaven-living and brother-loving hearts." "Know thyself," said Socrates. "Sincerity is the truth of the Great Learning," said Confucius. "Love of God" is the salvation offered by Jesus. These are the principles which should guide the young man's life. Such self-culture is the source of the Y.M.C.A. movement. So many young men are now bound by materialism and indifferentism that the great question this Association has to answer is, how put these principles into practice for the deliverance of imperilled youth.

* * *

Much is said in the Christian periodicals of the World's Congress of Religions,—nothing however that we need summarize. Most of the articles which have lately appeared in these columns, as read at Chicago, have appeared in Japanese form also. The stir over Mr. Tamura's book "The Japanese Bride" is subsiding. The offender, so far, seems to find no friends. *Gokyo*, however, is somewhat conscious of the ridiculous consternation of a large part of the Japanese people over the insignificant booklet. A great nation, says *Gokyo*, should have a consciousness of its worth and strength. If it has that it can afford to ignore much. Present Japan is entirely too much concerned about such things as this book, and is entirely too severe in its judgments. If "The Japanese Bride" arouses the anger of the people, what will become of them when a really great reason for indignation appears We note many interesting special articles whose especial burden is solicitude for the future of the empire. The prevalence of materialism and of indifferentism seems to be becoming as general in this country as in Europe and America, if the tone of the Christian press is to guide our judgment. The *Fukuin Shimpo* has an interesting historical article on the relations of the Japanese to religion. It claims that the Japanese people are of a devout nature, but that a materialistic philosophy now suppresses their religious tendencies. In the same journal, Christian churches come in for a good measure of criticism on account of their worldliness, when such momentous issues of life, death, and salvation press upon them. To many, religion seems to be but a convenience for this world. The writer, in this connection, criticizes Mr. Fukuzawa Yukichi whose influence is so formative among the people. It seems that Mr. Fukuzawa has said somewhere lately, that religion, as well as politics and economy, is needed in Japan; that improvement of character has not kept equal pace with the nation's civilization. The *Fukuin Shimpo* expresses great pleasure at seeing Mr. Fukuzawa awake from his long sleep in materialism, but, after all, it regrets that Mr. Fukuzawa sees in religion only an agent for social welfare. Religion goes much deeper than mere material or social improvement. In the same journal there is the statement that the seat of authority in religion will become one of the burning questions among the Japanese Christians and that signs of it multiply all around. In *Gokyo*, a writer ask what Christians are to do in their present troubles, beset as they are by antagonistic nationalists and the Rescript on Morals. Violent defence is not to be made, is the answer, Christians should possess themselves in patience; let their enemies do the worst, and wait. A better time will come, and Christians must be witnesses before they can be leaders. Another writer finds many wolves in sheep's clothing among Japanese Christians. One of them is a morbid solemnity. Gravity of feeling and demeanour is good, but not so much of it that it darkens, and takes all joy out of life. Religion and happiness are not incompatible Nor are religion and beautiful art. The other-worldliness which makes Christians avoid high drama or fine works of fiction is not good for them. A third danger, well concealed, comes in the notion that religion and theology are different. True, but belief must be rational, and knowledge underlies faith. Again, the conviction that truth is to be found among all peoples gives rise to the peril of lax convictions among Christian believers. And the demand for a "Japanese Christianity," so flattering to national self-esteem, is another harmless-looking thing, which is really a wolf under its fair outer garb. In an article on the "Institutional Church," the author insists that the Church is the great agent for the uplifting and perfecting of mankind now and in this world. It should not seek to establish "the kingdom of heaven," but should itself be that celestial order. As such it must be content to be, for the present, small in the number of its followers. Its gates should be wide open to all who wish to enter. As to its definite theology, God only knows the perfect truth.

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"Japanese Christianity" is the theme of a writer in *Gokyo*, who cautions Christians who are over-zealous to bring such form of religion into being. The name is fascinating, but it is like Nebuchadnezzar's image, not only of gold but of iron and of earth also. The name may be an obstacle to Christianity itself. "Japanese" Christianity usually means, Christianity inwrought into Japanese civilization, into its philosophy and social order. But the spirit of Christianity is revolutionary; it is not electic or compromising; its new wine must go into new bottles. A so-called "Japanese" Christianity would not long endure. In a deep sense the acceptance of Christianity will revolutionize the thought and life of this country. There may be Japanese Christianity, if by it we mean that we are not to transfer to Japan Christianity in the forms it has assumed in America and Europe In the sects of those countries the true essence of Christianity is often concealed. There are some truths also in Confucianism, Shinto, and Buddhism which are not contrary to real Christianity. The Christianity for Japan is the religious consciousness of Jesus Christ The liberal spirit of Rev. J. T. Yokoi appears in an article in the *Rikugo Zasshi* under the thesis, "Transference of Religious Authority." Authority accompanies power, says the writer. Religious authority rests with adequate power. In ancient times priests held such authority. This condition of things in religion is like despotism in the State. Among uncivilized peoples priests and despots rule. In the present age the power of the priesthood is disappearing. Priests cannot maintain their place in the presence of science, education, and the free State. Historical criticism discloses the weaknesses of the religious classics. Optimism is antagonistic to priestcraft. In the priest's stead, philanthropists, scientists, poets, statesmen, and their like, have appeared. In Japan now, the authority of priests has weakened. Does religion also fail if priestcraft decays? No In Europe for example, religion is still powerful It is not supported by the mystic power of Bible, cathedral,

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ritual, or priest, but by the truth of Christ. And the seat of authority is being transferred to a good men Good men are those who have the spirit of Christ, of the sages, or of the Hotoke. If a man be good we need not ask his sect or creed The goodness of the great spiritual leaders can not be perfectly attained. But if their spirit rule men, if the dominion of justice is recognized, if philanthropy is advanced, if loyalty to truth is observed, if generosity, humility, and tolerance are shown, there are good men, the men authorized to lead in religion.

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The Liberal Christian magazines for the month contain numerous historical, critical, speculative, and other articles, none, however, bearing part cularly upon the special social and religious questions of the time In the *Jiyu Kirisutokyo* is an excellent plea for harmony among the sects of Christianity in Japan, and for general co-operation in advancing the Kingdom of God in the world. The life of Jesus is offered as the common Christian bond, by which all Christians can easily labour together. In *Shinri* there is some notable comment upon the reported motion of Mr. Togawa at a late meeting of the Tokyo Presbytery, that clergymen be allowed to remain pastors of churches even though they may have doubts as to the deity of Christ. The statement is said to have been made in the Presbytery that if belief in the deity of Christ be demanded, a number of ministers would have to leave their pulpits. Messrs. Maruyama and Minami contribute interesting articles on the "Abuse of Historical Research," and "Missionary Work." *Shukyo*, furnishes a good list of able articles, among which we note "Knowledge and Conduct," "Critical Study of the New Testament," "Jesus Christ a Great Man" a New System of Religion" and "Social Problems and Sectarianism."

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The Buddhist magazines are especially interesting, for two reasons Their views almost unanimous, upon the exciting question of Mixed Residence and their consciousness that Buddhism, as at present cared for, is ill prepared to cope with the religious influences of the West when they can work in Japan unhindered, are instructive as to the present mood of an important part of the Japanese people. *Bukkyo*, an independent magazine has, as leading article, a noticeable discussion, "The Present Necessary Work of Buddhists." The country is now afflicted with crime and calamities. Buddhists therefore should be up and doing to help and to cure. But more than this. Speculative Buddhism, which has for a long time been in the ascendant, must give way to practical forces Christianity is now beset on all sides; Buddhism has the popular heart. Let it avail itself of this advantage. Growing before all eyes is the problem of Mixed Residence. That is full of momentous consequences. Mixed Residence must come, sooner or later. Now, in our strength, is the time to prepare for this event. When foreigners are admitted into all parts of the country, the ministers of Christianity will enter with them and work freely. We should be prepared to meet them. A Christian reaction is sure to come The former extreme Europeanization of the people has been checked. Conservatism has been revived. But the endeavour to preserve national peculiarities has reached its culmination. The movement towards Europeanization is sure to start again. With that, Christianity is again to go forward. We must be on the alert. The nineteenth century is going; what awaits us as the twentieth century opens? In another article in the same magazine, the writer urges Buddhists to keep their religion out of the political vortex. Secular complications will hinder its growth. Mixed Residence is to come. Scholars advise it, business men need it, and politicians are using the matter for political purposes Buddhists need a real religious preparation to meet the issues it will bring. In *Dento* (Shingon) the great question is dealt with after the following manner. Many fear that with Mixed Residence Buddhism will go under. But truth is conqueror at last. If Christianity is the truth it will conquer. The truth, however, is not in Christianity. Science shows that. Experience also makes that clear. Yet Christian methods, some say, make Christianity formidable, and the foreign religion is protected by foreign governments But if our hundreds of thousands of priests are faithful what can the foreign preachers do? And the forty millions of the Japanese people are practically our defenders. The treaties must be revised. Let Mixed Residence come. The *Nonin Shimpo* is not so confident of results as other representatives of the popular faith. It speculates upon the fate of Buddhism after the incoming of foreigners, in this mood. The first effect will be Christian aggressiveness. The Japanese are poverty-stricken as regards religious ideas. Nine-tenths of the people do not know what Buddhism is. At the beginning, with Mixed Residence, foreigners will prevail over us. Buddhism will decay and disappear. Of course conflict is not desirable, but now it seems to be inevitable. Christian evangelization means poison to the nation Remember the ruin of Poland and of Hawaii through Christian peoples. *Kokkyo* finds much fault with the methods adopted by recently organized Buddhistic associations, in their efforts to strengthen the hold of the faith upon the populace. They are too much directed by ancient customs. For example, the habitual reading of ritual and scriptures at the gatherings of the associations wearies the members. Popular addresses instead of scripture readings would do more good Biographies of Buddha and of the founders of the sects should be presented at the meetings. A new social Buddhism is needed. If people will not go to the temples, gather them if possible into private houses and teach them there. Old Buddhism is disliked. It is too formal, and it adheres too much to ancient habits. The faith, if it is to be advanced, must feel the spirit of reform, and be moved by social sympathies. In the *Daido Shimpo* the complaint is made that the Buddhists always lag behind in social progress, when they should be leaders. A national reaction is coming. Back of the present anti-foreign nationalistic mood a great pro-foreign feeling is developing. Buddhists should get their power well in hand, because national secularization is near *Kwatcho* (Jodo), speaking of the forces now at work in religion, is confident that in the end Buddhism is to triumph. A great change is impending, and the advocates of rational faiths will prevail The Unitarians, however, are not to conquer They are only forerunners of the coming victor. They are like the Chinese Chinsho and Goko who, with the decay of the Shin dynasty, arose from the ranks of the common people and for a time seemed to be on the way to dominion. But Chinsho and Goko only opened the way for Ryuho, with whom began the great dynasty of Kan

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Several articles, directly antagonistic to Christianity, appear in the Buddhist press. In these articles it is claimed that there are radical differences between the world views of the two faiths, and that modern science only serves to help Buddhism forward. *Bukkyo*, for example, declares that the modern man cannot any longer accept Christianity, in large measure on account of the cosmogony which underlies it. The doctrine of Creation is an offense against truth. Buddhism solves the problems of the world and of human life by the ever lasting law of change, and of cause and effect, in an uncreated universe. In this faith Buddhism and science are in harmony. This age of science is the opportunity of Buddhism. The Buddhist sects should therefore unite, publish, and preach, and aim to convert the world. *Dento* claims that although human equality is a tenet of both the great faiths, the support Christianity gives the doctrine is weak, because it rests equality upon the dogma of the universal Fatherhood of God. The support seems simple and reasonable, but the doctrine is an unwarranted reasoning from human notions into things natural. Again, evidently there is no practical equality among men; even though they come from the same Source, men differ in colour and in fortune, in wisdom and in foolishness, in good and in evil. Then, the doctrine of the universal love of God is untenable when we see that all men are not happy and that calamities are most unequally distributed among mankind. Also the dogma of Creation by a perfect God is clearly controverted by the imperfections of the world. Buddhism, however, has no faith in a divine creation. There is merely the law of cause and effect pervading all things, by which immeasurable differences arise. As human, men are equal, but through the working of the law of cause and effect in nature, all kinds of gradation in character and career occur. But while Buddhism as a faith receives most earnest professions of loyalty in the Buddhist periodicals, Buddhism as an institution in this country is subjected by several writers to severe criticism. In the *Hansei Zasshi*, for instance we read that Buddhism has not made good use of the opportunities it has had since the Imperial Restoration. Faith among its guardians must be weak, for literature is the photograph of thought, and during *Meiji* Buddhistic literature has not shown greatness or sincerity. Scholarship among the priests is poor. It is neither critical nor scientific. Its effect is so far inconsiderable. Once Buddhists knew the value of good literature, but their knowledge is forgotten. There are some encouraging signs, however, appearing now. Such men as Ouchi Seiran, Nakanishi Gyuro, Sasaki Kiosuke, Suge Ryoko, Inouye Enrio, Higashi Kwanyichi, Mayeda Keio, among the elders, and Takada Doken, Furukawa Isamu, Mori Naoki, Kikushi Kenjo, Sugimura Hirotaro, and others give promise of much better things than the faith has had for a long time. If these men should unite and establish a magazine, great things might be accomplished. Another writer says that an outer reformation has taken place in the empire. Now is the time for a reformation from within. Public spirit has grown feeble. As the Restorationists sacrificed themselves for the outward good of the people, so is there need now for like devoted men in the interests of the life within.

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Among noticeable incidents, we read that in the Ibaraki Prefecture an association for the purification of the priesthood is in operation. People and priests organized and appointed a large committee to work for it. One of its acts was the discovery of two hundred and twenty two priests adjudged unworthy of their position, because of personal immorality, of having been under condemnation of law, of being traders in silk and in curios, and of being believers in foreign religions. A large public conference on the matter was held recently. The Buddhist magazines express great satisfaction over the World's Congress of Religions at Chicago. A letter from a visitor to the Congress says that Buddhists could easily establish temples of their faith in the United States. The Nichiren priests who wrote to the World's Congress that the Shingon and Shinshiu sects do not represent true Buddhism in Japan, come in for some sharp criticism from the organs of these sects. Their letter is called uncivil and foolish. Other interesting matters must, however, for the present be left untold.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

MORE PLAGIARISM.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—I see in to-day's *Japan Mail* extracts from an advertisement of the Fugetsudo, a Tokyo confectionery establishment. These extracts are bare-faced plagiarisms from the introduction to Messrs. Chamberlain and Mason's Guide Book. After this display of impudent roguery, no doubt most of us who wish to buy confectionery will try to procure it from some less unscrupulous firm.

Your obedient servant, F.P.D.

Tokyo, November 25th, 1893.

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PARISH REFORM IN GERMANY.

A PAPER READ BEFORE THE TOKYO CONFERENCE, ON NOVEMBER 16TH, BY THE REV. M. H. CHRISTLIEB, PH D.

I have a few words to tell you about a movement towards parish reform which is just now going on in my country, in Germany, according to the proposals of one of our best and most zealous ministers, the Rev. Dr. Emil Sulze in Dresden.

Since in the advertising postcards the subject has been styled "*Parish Reformation*," I may be allowed to say that though as yet the movement is only a *reform*, carried on in some of our large cities, we hope that it will become a *reformation* for our whole German Protestantism.

I.

In order to make you understand this movement, I have to outline briefly the state of church affairs in Germany, which are very different from matters in England or America. In America, if a child is born, it belongs to no church. Of course, the parents will desire to bring it up in their own church, but, when grown up, the man or woman does not belong to any church, if he does not enter one by an expressed declaration or confession of faith. In Germany, everybody who is born of Protestant parents, belongs to the Protestant State Church, if not either he himself or his parents declare that they leave that church. But if one should imagine our State church to be analogous to the Church of England, he would be mistaken. Our State church is not one; we inherited from the days of our disintegration something like thirty and more provincial or rather territorial churches, which though they are united in Christian and evangelical spirit, have no outward sign, organ, or body, in which this unity manifests itself, except a rather unimportant meeting, the so-called "Eisenacher Conference," which assembles once a year and is mostly confined to expressions of the spiritual feeling of unity only. In all other matters the single churches are separated from one another: some are Lutheran, some Reformed, some belong to the Union; but even the individual Lutheran churches are separated,—not by dogmatical exclusion, here they all agree, but by institutions: they have different systems of government, different methods of examining the candidates, different relations towards the State or territory, different hymn-books, different liturgy; and, if I may add it, very different salaries also. I, for instance, being a minister of the Union of Baden, could of course not be installed in the Lutheran church of Bavaria, but the difficulties in the way would be nearly as great in the church of Sachsen-Weimar, which also belongs to the Union. Some special exceptions occur of course, but as a general rule a minister has to maintain a life long connection with his territorial church, and always meets with difficulties when entering another. Nearly all of these churches have recently adopted some kind of presbyterial institutions: the administration is divided between an official body, the Higher Church Council (Oberkirchenrat) and a representative body, the Synod, the third balancing power being the prince (king or duke) of the territory. Each single congregation, or parish rather, is administered by the minister and a representative body, the German name of which, "Kirchen-gemeinderat" or "Kirchenvertretung" I shall in this lecture invariably translate by 'parish council.' Each congregation is independent in local matters, as money affairs, church building, and so on, but depends in ritual and dogmatical things entirely on the territorial church. A middle link between single congregations and the territorial church is the *Diocese*, administered by a Decan (Dean) and a Diocesan Synod; it deals with local matters only and serves often for the purpose of scientific instruction by the reading of papers on theological or church questions. In general, self-government (in the continental sense of the term) is established in our German churches.

II.

After having thus described the state of things as it is, let us consider the work of these churches. The aim of the Christian church is to bring the individual under the influence of Christ. How is this aim carried out in the different churches? Roman Catholicism binds the individual to the church and declares: *extra ecclesiam nulla salus*, outside of the church there is no salvation to be had. The mediator of this salvation is the priest, who by the Sacraments leavens the whole life of the lay-members with spiritual forces. Stress is here laid on the real and miraculously acting influence of the priesthood, not on the necessity of the education of the individual. The churches of the Reformation have destroyed and utterly abandoned the doctrine of such a miraculous influence of the priesthood: temple, priest, and offering we will not, but be ourselves. We approach immediately to God without the interference of a human mediator, and if some brother will show us the way to become sons of God, we insist upon he himself being a child of God first: for what a man has not, he cannot give. The revelation of God is given for us in Christ, but we all acknowledge that he has made men the children of God by the action and influence of his personality on the souls, whereby "he was formed in them," as Paul says (Gal. 4, 19). His royal office was an office of education. Therefore, all who continue his work, ought to be formed after Christ in their personal life. Thus we might distinguish the Roman Catholic and the Protestant churches by the watchwords "Sacrament" and "Education." But if we agree that only through education men can become children of God, then we must conclude that we have to expect as well as to ask nothing from our church but education. And the fact that we call the Word and Sacrament means of grace can be no objection, because they act only through personalities. Now in our days there are so many interests which have to be cared for; social, political, and economical interests, interests of art and learning, and of culture in general, that, as we all admit, there are not very many who think to day of the earnest saying of Christ: "For what is a man profited if he shall gain the whole world and lose his own soul?" And the organ by which this must be taught, by which we must be educated so that this idea will become the centre of our life and our principal aim, is the church. But I ask, can it be said that our churches, such as they are, really do this work? Are they fitted for carrying out this great principle, to make, by educational influences, the people children of God? Some earnest Christians deny that our churches ought to do that. They say the individual should be made independent, should be pronounced of age now; they have Moses and the prophets, let them hear those; they have the word of God, now let them stand with that before God. It is enough if this word of God is preached in the churches so that everybody can understand it, and if the sacraments are distributed; and if this is done, the church has fulfilled the commandment of Christ: "Go ye and teach all nations baptizing them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, and teaching them all things whatsoever I have commanded you." And they add: Our whole life and all our institutions are pervaded by a Christian spirit, that makes itself felt everywhere, thus everybody is under its influence, and as all this has been confessedly done by the churches, we can now dispense with them, since their business is finished. But each state of life is preserved by the same means by which it has been created. Thus a Christian standard of life will be preserved by Christian congregations alone. Each of the many departments of life must be preserved by guiding organs, or bodies, in order to fulfil its destiny. Charity is carried on by charitable societies, justice by good tribunals, national defence by a strong army or navy, learning by good schools and universities. And the most difficult thing, the aim of educating men into children of God, should this be left without conscious care, without especially provided institutions, left to luck and chance? No, he who wishes that in a nation all departments of life should be used as means for making and educating sons of God, must establish churches or congregations in which the best men and women continually take care of all whose souls need their care. And if in our times all those departments of life have become independent of the church, if the church as such can no longer influence politics, economy, art, learning, all the more is it necessary that the congregations should be independent also, in order to be strong enough in independent mutual intercourse to pervade all those departments with a truly Christian spirit. It has been the greatest source of power of the Roman Church, that in its best times the church has put Christianity realized before the eyes of the non-Christian nations — though the assertion that this realization was a perfect one was unchristian. This calling is transferred to the Protestant congregations, which, not in the sacraments of their priests, but in the Christian perfection of their members, have to present the great reality of Christian life. And in the face of this reality all doubts would disappear, doubts whether the kingdom of God had any life-giving power, just as before the mighty realization of the German unity all doubts as to its possibility have disappeared. And if sin is really a power, only a real power can overcome it, and this power is in living congregations. But, and this is the gravest "but" for a Christian, our churches, our congregations are not fitted for this great work. Take an average congregation—I will not speak about the terrible conditions confronting us in our large cities, where there is one church for about 70,000 people. It is clear that such a church is no congregation at all; it is simply a house where about 800 to 1,500 persons can sit and hear, once a week, a sermon, perhaps a very excellent one; but besides some few baptisms, marriage ceremonies, and funerals, nothing can be done for the 70,000 souls who nominally belong to the congregation. But take an average church, between five and fifteen thousand nominal members, in a comparatively small city of about 100,000 inhabitants, where there there are 10 churches, a happy state of things rarely however to be met. The staff of such a congregation consists of one or two ministers, some young vicars or candidates, and the parish council. The latter never interferes with spiritual things and would consider it a strange imposition to be asked to take the care of souls. This is the office of the pastor only, they would reply. But how can he fulfil this grave duty, to take care, in the full sense of the word, for five thousand souls? What is taking care of souls? It is in the Protestant churches not what it used to be and still is in the Roman Catholic Church: it is not hearing confession, giving absolution, and imposing penance. To take care of a soul is to educate a man into a Christian character. It is possible by a ceaseless influence only. Take an instance: There is a family, disordered by idleness; they are now in bad circumstances and ask for help. How can they be helped? He who takes care of them first gives the necessary support. But he asks in exchange, that the house shall be cleaned, the things washed. He looks out for work for the man, who perhaps would not do it himself. Suppose the man to be a drunkard. The helper takes care that of the wages of the man the wife gets the right portion for the household. He controls the children in their school attendance and examines their merit marks. He looks for a female helper to guide the wife in keeping order in the household. And only if this be carried on through years, only then it is possible to change the character of that family. It goes without saying, that only by doing all those things a man can bring spiritual and religious influence to bear upon the individuals of such a family. Now think in how many families can a pastor do this work for years? You may say: in five or in ten, but there will be most probably more than ten disordered families among five thousand people—and it is an especially small congregation if we assume only 5,000 souls, and an especially able pastor who can assist 10 families in the manner described above. And where will he get the money he needs? You will answer: from charitable societies, and here you have touched the weak point of our churches. I am full of respect and thanks for the great work of Home Missions and charitable societies. But let me ask one question. If we in Germany besides our army would need and form clubs for the defence of our country—would not this be an open confession that our army is too weak to do the work of defence, that something must be rotten in it? And if a society for charity is formed outside the congregations and the churches, themselves, is not this an open confession that something must be wrong with the church? It may sound harsh, but is it not a shame for the Christian church, that the church is not itself the Board for Home Missions? And is it not a shame for an average congregation that it needs help from outside? Should not the individual congregations show a little of the spirit described in Acts. 2,44: "All that believed were together and had all things common, and they sold their possessions and goods and parted them to all men as every man had need?" I do not speak of a Utopian or communistic state of things, but I think that the members of a congregation, at least the worthy members of it, should have in common the care of the souls of the less worthy. A man who would say "My office is to preach, who refuses to hear it may bear the consequences," would not be a minister of Him who came to save that which is lost, and not a servant of the Heavenly Father, the will of whom it is that not one of these little ones should perish. And if one should object: There is a Christian home discipline, why should the congregation interfere with it? I would answer: Just because the Christian home discipline is wanting in so many cases; and it is wanting mostly because the church has neglected to preserve it. From all this it must be concluded that the duty of the church is, that all members of the congregation who are fitted, are not only to be united to assist in the care of the souls, but should be obliged and bound in duty to do so. We need lay members to take care of souls. A building will stand only if every stone is well cut and placed. And a congregation will stand only if each of its members is educated in a truly Christian spirit. But since for this education the pastors can by no means be held responsible, the needed workers must come from the congregation itself. So far, all the reasoning of Dr. Sulze I have presented, is like an iron chain

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of many links that leads to the conclusion: if you admit the necessity for the existence of a Christian Church, you must also admit the fact that each member of it has the duty to take care of souls.

III.

The great question is now: how can this be done? And Dr. Sulze starts from the undeniable proposition that, if we expect it to be done we must provide institutions by which it is done. Morality is obedience to the highest authority, God. Evangelical or Protestant morality is a free and joyful obedience to God. Now what is the authority to which we have to submit in order to become Christian characters? It is Christ. But since Christ is not visibly in our midst, who shall educate us in obedience to him and open to us the understanding of his Word? You may say: each in his own place, the father in his house, etc. But, and this is a question very much neglected in Protestant churches: who shall take care that this educational work is being maintained? The priesthood? God forbid. It cannot be a priesthood, or else the chief principle of Protestantism, the universal priesthood, would be abandoned. Now, who shall it be? In political affairs among Teutonic nations there is no longer any doubt as to who has to perform the duties of civil life; and who is responsible for their performance? It is the community or municipality. There is no higher authority in civil matters than smaller or larger communities, and a prince of to-day who knows his time and his calling knows that he has the duty to take care that by self government all the needs of the commonwealth are supplied. The thought of self-government is a truly Christian and a truly Protestant one, and has been realized only among Protestant nations. Of course all are aware that self-government is much more expensive than government by bureaucracy or official bodies, and that many improvements could be introduced much more smoothly and expeditiously by Absolutism. But the chief aim of national education, to form strong and independent citizens, can only be reached by self-government. The same is the case in church-communities, in congregations and parishes, and this has been recognized in the last half century in the Protestant churches of Germany. Each church and each congregation has got a representative body, and a great amount of good work, especially in church building and the founding of new parishes, chapels, and rectories, has been done. But the chief aim of a Protestant church, the care of the souls, has been left in the former absolutistic state, has been left entirely in the hands of the minister. And another fault has been committed. When the representative bodies were formed, one asked simply how many churches are in the city, and founded then so many representative bodies. So each parish got a parish council, but it did not thereby become a congregation to which the souls are taken care of, what we call in German a "Seelsorge Gemeinde." Not each parish can be such a congregation. You cannot make any unlimited number of singers into a choir by simply electing a committee; there must be a fixed limit. A congregation where the souls can be taken care of, must first of all be transparent to the eye of the men who have to take the care. The number of members should be as small as possible, between three and five thousand, according to circumstances. The smaller the numbers, the better for the souls, because the aim is to reach each individual and to educate him as a child of God. The political communities have made very small districts for the taking care of the poor—but ten times this specialisation should be resorted to in the care of souls. And if in some church statutes the parish council is bound in duty to take care of the souls, though they may number from 20,000 to 40,000 and more, it is of course mere nonsense to speak here of any possible result that might be realised. The State church or territorial church with its official bodies of government is excellently fitted to do the work of fixing those small congregations and of paying the salaries of the ministers as long as the congregations are not yet able to do it themselves. Thus the State church would become a real helper of the individual congregation, instead of a mere inspecting organ. But if the State churches should deny their help to this great work, if they should prevent it, then, and not before, we might think of independentism—but most of us German ministers would be very sorry to see that day. If the congregation is fixed in its outlines, it has "to be looked out for men of honest report full of the Holy Ghost and Wisdom" (Acts 6, 3), whom the congregation may appoint over the business of taking the care of the souls. Dr. Sulze calls them Presbyters, and their council the presbytery. (Though identical in name, it would not be the same body as in American or English Presbyterian churches, as little as we understand the word congregation in the special Congregationalist sense, or the term parish council in the sense of the bill discussed recently in the English Parliament.) In any case, this presbytery has to be elected by the congregation, if they are to do their duty in the name and by order of the congregation. The first task of the presbytery is to make out a list of the members of the congregation. Also in old Presbyterian churches,—in the Calvinistic churches of Switzerland for instance—this division has been made. There the sections were called quarters or neighbourhoods;—of course this is a thought which occurs to everybody who intends to make congregations really working for the care of souls. The success of the whole organisation depends on the fact, that none of the workers has too much to do, so that each can do his duty with love and diligence, for it must be carefully kept in mind, that a presbyter is not a minister and has therefore a civil calling besides his church duties. In a congregation of 5,000 members there should be, according to Dr. Sulze, at least 20 presbyters; it is still a great task to be and to remain really acquainted with 250 persons. But it is still impossible to do all I have described above as indispensable for a real care of souls of the 250 persons. Therefore every presbyter should elect in his section the worthiest and ablest householders ("Hausvaeter") and take them, in agreement with the presbytery, as his co-workers. Every householder should have, if possible, only one family or individual in his care. These householders also keep the list of the members and inform the presbyter of every change, and be the pastor. Thus, and thus only, a congregation will become and remain transparent to the eyes of pastor and council.

IV.

But one mistake we ought to avoid. Beside the presbyters, Calvin ordered Deacons: the presbyters had to take care of the souls, the Deacons to support the poor. This was the principal fault of Calvin's system of church government. The presbyters must themselves be almoners. Taking care of souls and doing works of charity must remain united, the latter must be the servant of the former, charity must be the chief means in the care of souls. In Geneva, Calvin's presbyteries became a burden to the people heavier than the ecclesiastical yoke in Roman Catholic times had been, and it was for this reason that the English church in the times of Cromwell doggedly opposed the presbyterial institutions. We should go on in an evangelical way, leading to the goal slowly but surely. Not the force of the law should be applied, but we should try to make the church members understand the love of Him who invited all that labour and are heavy laden. If so many have turned away from divine service, from Christian word and sacrament, they will still appreciate Christian love. In experiencing love from men they will become able to appreciate the love of God. And though secular and ecclesiastical care of the poor must remain separated, since the political communities will not like to depend in this respect on any other body, the separation may prove useful, especially because the presbyters and householders are able to do what the civil government never can perform: namely to prevent want where it has not yet become manifest. And this ecclesiastical or congregational institution and arrangement of the care of the poor has the great advantage that we could, in case of its being fully established, exactly know to whom to give our money and how much: namely to the presbytery and as much as possible. For the presbyters and their co-workers will know how to distribute the money, and we will be relieved from the painful doubts which often arise in the most kindhearted people—whether our money does not really increase the evil if given without an exact knowledge of all circumstances. And how could we better fulfil the commandment of Christ, that when we give alms we should not let our left hand know what our right hand does, and that our alms may be in secret? All the abuses of charity and almsgiving, abuses as well on the side of those who give as of those who receive alms, can be overcome only if nobody, positively nobody, except the sectarian community and the congregations spend money directly upon the poor. With charity the presbyters begin their care of the souls: for not only words, also deeds preach the Christian faith, and the latter often with far greater strength than the former. It must be understood, that what I describe here, is not a mere proposal of a more or less theoretical character, but all this has been carried out first in the congregation of Dr. Sulze himself in Dresden-Neustadt, a congregation which still belongs to the Saxon Lutheran State Church, and is going to be imitated in a good many congregations of different territorial churches. In Dr. Sulze's congregation the council pays rent for poor families in order to keep gifted children in higher schools, and thereby to keep the families on their social standard; poor children when confirmed are provided with clothes, and a master is secured for them if they learn a trade; families, and especially widows are supported in order to inhabit their home alone and not to let outsiders sleep in the house—to prevent moral dangers. Thus every step of charity is justified by moral demands, because charity and help are only means in the care of the souls. People are supported on conditions only: if they be not fulfilled, the help will be denied or withdrawn. It is clear what a blessing it is for any individual or family in a state of moral disorder, if there is nobody else to help them, except the civil and ecclesiastical communities, which act through the council of presbyters and householders. And it is here that we have to denounce the many charitable societies just for their very number: an immoral and reckless individual or family is nearly always sure to get support from one society, even if it has failed in asking ten others, who had been either too cautious or too well-informed: but there will always be found societies weak enough to give without careful inquiries as to worthiness. Only in this manner the moral guilt of want recklessly brought about can be felt by an immoral individual or family. Where necessity for admonition arises, the helper should go first, of course the helper already selected by the presbytery for that special case, who had helped the people before. If he fails to make an impression, his presbyter may join him with earnest words. If these also fail, a representative of the presbytery, or the pastor may interfere. This is the way, the very manner in which the discipline is carried out in Dr. Sulze's church—and is it not the literal fulfillment of Christ's Rule Matt. 18.15: "If thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone: if he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother. But if he will not hear thee, then take with thee one or two more, that in the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established. And if he shall neglect to hear them, tell it unto the church." If all is in vain, the unfortunate man is to be left to Him who provides that a man reapeth what he has sown. It is only in this manner that a Protestant congregation can awake the conscience of its members. It is simply absurd to believe that preaching alone will do—because it is the most evident truth that just those who need most exhortation are not present in the church. An attempt to preserve a Christian standard of life by sermons alone would be just as wise as to have scientific lectures alone without experiments in the schools, or as to admonish men to be just without carrying out the demands of justice by due process of law. The congregation must react against the individual cases of sin through its representatives. Only by such institutions can the grave question of church discipline, grave at least for Protestant congregations, be settled. Since Jesus did not exclude Judas from the last supper, it appears that he will not deny even to the worst the means of grace. But as often is done, not to take care of the souls through the congregation, to neglect the members of the congregation—as it must be done in so many churches—while at the same time exercising church discipline, in excluding people from the sacrament, that would not be evangelical, and not Christian.

V.

The last problem of this reform was to show what position should be given, by such an organisation of the congregation, to the pastoral office as such. If our reform is able to find the right position for the pastor and to relieve him at the same time of the burdens which he must bear, but is not able to bear at present, the principal truth of the leading idea is proved; if not, the plan is a failure. Each congregation ought to have only one pastor, in order to guide the actions of presbyters and householders. He is the head, they are, to use the words of Calvin, the nervous system by which the body of the congregation is moved. But by our reform a duty is taken from the pastor, to which he cannot possibly do justice: to be altogether and solely responsible for the care of the souls. But there will be times when care has to be taken of the whole congregation as such, in confession and on the days of fasting and penitence for the nation. Here the pastor has to gather his material from the daily life of his congregation and to preach those sermons, which are so excellently styled in German "Bestimmungspredigten," that is, sermons with a special object in view, inimitable examples of which are given by Isaiah. He has in this case to compare the real congregation with the ideal one, which is hidden in it and to tell in what things it yet differs from its ideal. But another question which has always been felt to be a difficult one in Protestant churches, is, why has the pastor a right to stand at the head of the congregation? Of course in the Roman Catholic Church this question is answered very easily: the

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appointment by the bishop gives to a man in a miraculous way the priestly powers. But we Protestants deny this miracle: we are convinced that the clergyman has no other power of grace than any Christian member of the congregation; the universal priesthood of Christians is for us the point to start with. And it is just this point we are going to realize by our reform, since we admit and introduce the presbyters and the householders to the care of the souls. But in doing so, they will have also to preach the word of God, to teach the will of God and to educate men to obey it. Now what is the individual equipment for the minister, by which he gets the special calling to guide a congregation? Many are the answers, but none has proved satisfactory. Some say, the pastor has to exceed every other member of the congregation in moral and religious strength, and thus he is put by God himself at the head of them. Of course this would be the ideal state of things, if it could only be realized. But if each congregation had to choose such a man, and such a man only, most would find themselves without a pastor. And who would be immodest enough to accept such a call, and to declare by his very acceptance that he feels himself superior in moral and religious power to all others? His very acceptance would prove that he is inferior in Christian modesty at least. And who of us as he has entered the ministry had not had the awkward feeling that there are so many in his congregation who are superior to himself and who would much more deserve to be his pastors than he theirs? I confess that before simple peasants, when I had to comfort them as pastor, I had sometimes something like the feeling of John the Baptist when he said: "I have need to be baptized of thee, and comest thou to me?" Mt 3.14. This answer, therefore, will not satisfy a Protestant Christian. Another answer is: the pastor must have a rare degree of religious and artistic productivity. But any earnest Christian will say: even then the calling of a minister will demand impossibilities: a man cannot be productive as to religion, just when asked for, every Sunday at eleven o'clock. And who has really such a rich source of religious life within himself that he can, without being exhausted, give for years and years from his own life to his congregation what it needs? A religious, like any other genius, is born only once in many centuries But one asks to-day of a pastor what scarcely a religious genius, such as change the whole course of the Christian church, could do! This is impossible. Of course so long as we have the present congregations, mostly consisting of the audience of a sermon, not knowing one another and not caring one for the other, it seems to be the indispensable, but at the same time impossible duty of the pastor to keep together these scattered atoms. But if the members of the congregation have themselves to take care of the souls of one another, then the pastor is relieved from the duty, to spend himself alone what the souls want for salvation. Then an independent life pulsates within the congregation, which the pastor has only to keep, to preserve and to direct; his work will be far more modest, but far more effective.

We could compare the office of the pastor, before the reform has been carried out in the congregations, with the office of an absolute King like Frederic the Great. He did not meet an independent life in the various circles of his nation, he had himself to be all in all. But a king of to-day has only to combine and to direct the activities of the nation, which is itself awake now. And if he dies, not all depends on his person like in former times when the death of a royal genius was followed by chaos. But if those answers fail, what then ought to be the distinctive character of a pastor? Dr. Sulze says his historical education. Let me explain what this means. We recognise the revelation of God not in the Bible only, but also in history; the sacred history is the heart of the revelation of God, the bible is its record. But the stream of life has passed from Christ into all the following centuries, and the work of great geniuses like Augustine, Luther, Schleiermacher, must not be lost to our congregations. But our members are not able to know these treasures of revelation in history. It is not their calling to study them at the source because they have other duties. Therefore it is historical education, in which the pastor must be superior to his congregation, and it is in this sense, not in the old ecclesiastical sense, that they are laymen compared with him. Because he has appropriated the treasures of religious and moral experience from the past, therefore he is superior to his congregation and able to be its leader. Just in the same manner any official, who thoroughly masters the legal, economical or political experiences of the past, is called and at the same able to advise and to guide his 'laymen,' that is his co workers who differ from him in knowing things only by routine, not by historical study. Therefore, history is, according to Dr. Sulze, the element of life for the pastor, the source of his power and of his right. It is history, by which he has to prevent his congregation from falling back upon a standard of life which is inferior to present ideals. And the more he gives the word to history, the more God himself speaks to the congregation, and no longer is it the small voice of the pastor himself, because history is the truth established by God. In short, the pastor shall be in his sermons a teacher of history for his congregation. I am aware that this will be misunderstood. Of course, Dr. Sulze does not mean a docrinary teacher of history who reads historical lectures. By no means! The pastor, being himself a religious and moral character, having some degree of religious productivity, has to present the historical revelations of God to his congregation in such a manner, that the congregation can live through them and appropriate them, and so they become effective in the congregation. Thus the work of the pastor is not in the first place a productive, but a reproductive one, the only condition we cannot dispense with being that that must first in himself have become life, by which he means to create life. He will be the bearer of true tradition and will share the dignity of tradition, just as the dignity of a teacher depends on the fact that he has not to invent knowledge but to appropriate and to reproduce it. The history of the kingdom of God, as represented in the Holy Scriptures, is the root, the history of the divine revelation in the Christian Church and in the national history is the tree—but to speak of the latter is entirely neglected in our sermons. The Greeks found in their heroes, the Roman Catholics in their saints, examples of life. But the myths and legends have disappeared before the Protestants, not in order that their place be taken by nothing, but only because God speaks a much more powerful language to us through real history. And who really gives himself with religious zeal to the study of church history, will experience great joy and will find himself spiritually advanced by looking on the ever proceeding victory gained by the light which came forth from Christ and then again from the Reformation: he learns from the history of Christendom the boundless grace as well as the inflexible will of God. In such a manner Carlyle's book on "Heroes and Hero worship" has become a source of edification to thousands of people. (Similar thoughts on church history and national history we find expressed in "Kingsley's letters"). At the anniversary of Luther's birth-day in 1883 one could see how the congregations longed for edification from this source: the churches were crowded when sermons were held on the history of the Reformation. But once more this view of the manner of preaching leads us to the conviction that only one pastor can serve one congregation: the sermons must be a continuous whole, forming parts of one well elaborated plan. There are certain principles of spiritual life to which we must always recur in our sermons, which take years and years until they are really stamped into the heart—and only a fixed plan can give this power to a series of sermons. And it cannot be said that we lay a too heavy burden on the shoulders of one pastor, if, as we have seen, the principal aim, why we form congregations, namely to support the individual against the temptations of life, is carried out principally by the congregation itself. And if you say, how shall a young pastor learn his work? Dr. Sulze answers: By simply submitting for some years to the guidance of an experienced brother, not as a co-ordinated but as a subordinated helper—as this is provided for in my native church of Württemberg for instance, where no man is made a pastor who has not been for two years the subordinate vicar of a minister in full standing. I am at the end of my paper. But I am far from having exhausted the plan of Dr. Sulze. He deals broadly with financial affairs, with details of organization, with the creation of a new architectonic style for churches, being truly Protestant and more fitted for Protestant service than the Romanesque or Gothic style, which is only fitted for the Catholic sacrifice of the Mass. In this style recently, a beautiful church has been built in Braunschweig for about 150,000 dollars. All these proposals are already partly carried out in practice in many of our German cities, and many more churches are going to adapt them now. Let me conclude with one of Dr. Sulze's sayings: We form Christian congregations only because the individual needs the power of the whole in order to maintain himself against the temptations of life. If we loosen the tie of fellowship and unity, the whole aim of the congregation is lost, and the individual is left more or less to himself. Our present congregations have proved to be insufficient to preserve a christian spirit within the masses of modern days, as is shown clearly by the socialistic movement, which in Germany is largely atheistic. But if our congregations fail to preserve the Christian spirit among the masses, they have lost their right of existence and the end, not of Christianity, but of the Christian Protestant churches, will certainly be close at hand.

ST. ANDREW'S BALL.

Once again have the foreign residents of Yokohama and Tokyo been most royally entertained by the local St. Andrew's Society on the anniversary night of Scotia's Patron Saint. Seldom has the Public Hall looked prettier than on Thursday night, when, despite the inclemency of the weather, some five hundred people accepted the Scotsmen's invitation to the St. Andrew's Ball. The decorations of the dancing *salon* were on a more extended and ornate scale than in some previous years, and the arrangements were, in several particulars, quite different. The supper room was, as usual, the small hall; but the ladies' entrance was under a covered way running along the left side of the building, their cloak-rooms being the whole of the green and dressing rooms at the back of the stage, a far more extensive and comfortable plan than that adopted in previous years. The ladies' old cloak-room was given over to the band, and here the Imperial Marine Band from Yokosuka discoursed most pleasing selections of dance music during the whole of the Ball. The gentlemen's rooms and cardroom were upstairs, over the small hall and vestibule. The decorations in the dancing room and other apartments were very artistic. From the centre of the ceiling to the corners and sides of the hall were hung garlands of evergreens, the huge chandelier forming the central ornament in the design. A band of evergreens ran round the cornice, and upon the pillars were hung the armorial shields and crests of the various members of the Committee. These were Messrs. J. D. Hutchinson, President; G. C. Buchanan-Dunlop, Vice-President; C. W. Ure, Secretary; G. Philip, Treasurer; H. Steele, J. Troup, D. McNeil, C. M. Duff, and R. W. Borthwick. Over the stage hung the Society's badge, the white cross of St. Andrew on its blue ground and the Lion of Scotland on its field of gold—all worked in flowers—with a bunch of genuine Scotch thistles over all. Underneath was the Society's motto, in rustic lettering, "Should Auld Acquaintance be forgot." The stage was transformed into a wisteria bower, and amid the pendant blossoms coloured electric lights were suspended. On the wall immediately opposite hung the Royal Arms of Scotland, most correctly and gorgeously emblazoned—by Mr. Yamada, of Yokohama—with the proud motto of the nation of the north, "*Nemo me impune lacessit.*" This was surmounted by a shield bearing the arms of the President of the Yokohama St. Andrew's Society. Over the entrances to the hall were hung devices in arms, cutlasses, swords, and dirks, lent by H.M.S. *Mercury*, while heraldic shields, surmounted with the red lion rampant were in each corner. Palms and other foliage plants were used in profusion, while the flags of all nations were draped in various ways around the windows. The decoration committee, and Mr. Duff in particular, deserve great credit for their exertions, and for the artistic taste displayed in the general design. Mr. Manley, under whose superintendence the floral portion of the work was arranged, also merits a hearty word of thanks, while the men sent from H.M.S. *Mercury* deserve praise for their devices in arms and burning. The company began to assemble about nine o'clock. They were received by the committee mentioned above, who were assisted by Messrs. Dodds, Fraser, Johnstone, Macpherson, Cook, Ross, Coutts, T. F. Cruickshank, and Gordon, as stewards. Dancing was kept up with vigour, on a capital floor, till the small hours of the morning, two Reels being capitally danced during the evening, the first by fourteen couples, the second by ten. Supper was supplied by the Club Hotel. Many of the flags, we are informed, were lent by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, and others by H.M.S. *Mercury*. The following was the

PROGRAMME

Dances.	Music
1. Highland Schottische	"Highland Airs."
2. Polka	"Kuchuchen."
3. Waltz	"Wiener But."
4. Caledonians	Original Quadrilles.
5. Waltz	"Morgenblätter."
6. Highland Schottische	"Camerons"
7. Lancers	"Milado."
8. Waltz	"Dream Faces."
9. Reel	"Highland Airs."
10. Waltz	"Marthenbürchen."
11. Waltz	"Theresa."
12. Caledonians	Songs of Scotland
13. Waltz	"Freut euch des Lebens."
14. Reel	Highland Airs.
15. Lancers	"Pirates of Penzance."
16. Highland Schottische	"What's the Steer,"
17. Waltz	"Carmen."
18. Waltz	"Golden Beauty."
19. Polka	"Fledermaus."
20. Waltz	"Thine Alone."

Auld Lang Syne.

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THE JAPANESE EXHIBIT AT CHICAGO.—IV.

Chicago, October 10th.

ARCHÆOLOGY.

Japan has a small but interesting and instructive exhibit in the line of archæology in the Anthropological Building. It comprises both pictures and specimens, which show chiefly the results, direct and indirect, of the explorations of shell mounds by Prof. Morse and others. There are pictures of bone and stone implements; primitive potteries; stone coffins and figures (carved); clay coffins, cylinders and figures, burial mounds with stone chambers and sepulchral caves; bronze bells; armour and swords; mirrors; and miscellaneous metal work. A map and pictures show the distribution of the relics of the stone age; and other pictures represent many such relics.

There are also in show cases numerous specimens from many parts of Japan. They include primitive potteries (mostly from shell heaps); such stone implements as arrow-heads, spear-heads, knives, drills, axes, clubs, etc.; bone and various bone implements; teeth; horn; shells chipped stone objects; a clay cylinder; copper arrow-heads; mirror, arm-ring, beads and other ornaments; and a great many miscellaneous objects.

Japan is also represented in that building otherwise than by the official exhibit. In the collection of games of all countries there are specimens of *go*, *shogi*, tops, rattles, hand balls, a kind of "pigs in clover," dice and *jurohu musashi*

The archæological department of the University of Pennsylvania has a comprehensive exhibit of Japanese toys illustrating folk lore. These comprise several kinds of *tako*, kites, *koi-nobori*, *mikoshi*, masks, and sets of musical, dancing, *sake* drinking, tea drinking, and kitchen, utensils.

The "Gunning collection" of Chinese and Japanese curios is extensive and excellent, and includes very fine specimens of Japanese art, chiefly carvings in wood, ivory, and bronze. Among these objects we find several representations of Amida, alone on a lotus or between Kwannon and Makeishura; Monju on a lion; Ebisu, Daikoku, Bishamon, and others of the *Shichi-fuku-jin*; Kwannon, once with a thousand "heads," and once with a basket of fish, the three-headed and six handed Marishi on a crocodile; both the long legged and the long armed men, each supporting a candlestick; etc., etc.

EDUCATION.

The exhibit of the Japanese Department of Education is found in three different parts of the Manufactures and Liberal Arts Building. Technical and university education are represented by some very fine exhibits in the rear or west end of the section devoted to manufactures on the main floor, near the north end of the building. In the southeast section of the gallery is a small space given up to the exhibits of colleges (agricultural, dendrological, commercial, musical, etc.) while in the south-western corner of the gallery may be found a section containing exhibits of kindergartens, elementary schools, middle schools, normal schools (for both sexes), schools for deaf, dumb, and blind, girls' schools, etc. Altogether they form a most admirable and praiseworthy exhibit.

The Imperial Rescript on the subject of education hangs framed over the entrance of the section in the south west gallery, and introduces the exhibit. This display is marvelous in its scope and quality, and reflects great credit on the educational advancement of Japan. The specimens of woods and insects, the models of numerous articles, even of fruits and flowers, the extensive exhibit of kindergarten supplies of all kinds, together with many specimens of excellent work—all these show clearly how thoroughly Froebel's ideas have been incorporated into Japan's educational system.

Among the kindergarten exhibits in an appliqué picture illustrating a game for children. The explanation accompanying it is interesting, not merely as an explanation, but also as a specimen of Japanesque English. It is herein reproduced verbatim:

The following cheerful amusement may be played by number of children. The right hand of the one of them take the end of the left hand of another, and hold the hands horizontally; thus there will be formed a gate. To the gate a row of children one after another come, singing the following song:

"Ayumeyo, Ayume,
Inside Ayume,
Go mon ni tataba,
Nanoriyeyo
"Walk, walk in hurry to the gate,
Name your name when arrived at
(or, in other words)
"Walk, O walk,
Quickly walk,
To the gate when you come,
Give your name"

At the gate every one of them will be asked their names and they may answer with the names of birds, beasts, fish, insects, flowers, etc. The row after passing the gate, may turn to right-wards or to left-ward sides, but at the next time it must turn on the opposite side from the first. Thus they may pass successively singing their cheerful song."

The display of scientific instruments used in the schools; of stuffed birds and other zoological as well as of botanical and geological specimens; of porcelain decorated by pupils of elementary schools; of articles made from wood in normal schools, of the tools and instruments employed in handiwork, of the samples of knitting, sewing, and other needlework; of cocoons and silk from female schools—all these show that science is not taught in theory only, but in practical application, and that many "fads," but very important ones in that country, have a leading place in the educational system of Japan. The ceiling of this booth, by the way, is formed by pieces of raw material and articles of woman's manufacture, such as amulet bags, ornaments, etc.

That the education of the blind, the deaf, and the dumb is not neglected in Japan is shown by a wonderful exhibit. This includes pictures of the various occupations of the blind; a chart of the point system used there, with specimens of paper point, wooden-point, and raised letters, and abacus for the blind, and specimens of good work in joinery, carving, painting, engraving, etc.

The common middle schools are represented by exhibits of maps, drawings, paintings, and by photographs of buildings and rooms. The art work comprises specimens of original designs, copies "from objects," perspective drawings, and work both with with pencil and with brush.

Inasmuch as English is a required language, it is to expected that specimens of proficiency in English composition would appear in the exhibit. The following, by a youth in the Fourth or Fifth Reader is a fair sample, interesting also as folk-lore:—

THE MOUNTAIN TAIHEI.

8th in July. There are three high mountains in Akita; namely, Chokai, Moriyoshi, and Taihei, of which the last is lowest but most remarkable. If you look out in the northern sky through a window, you should see that most remarkable mountain. It has many deep valleys and is covered with thick forests. How much pleasant you would be to climb up that mountain to its top in summer days! I have ever heard that there is a lightning-rod on the highest peak where the shrine of Miyoshi is standing on. According to the story current in Akita, there appeared Miyoshi god on the cloud above the mountain with two large cannon in his hands, and scattered a fleet of Chinese pirates, and saved the inhabitants on shore from their devastation. Thus the people of Akita have used to worship the god on the mountain. YOKICHI KUDO.

The development and the trend of female education in Japan may be learned from what has already been said and also from the course of study, the rules and regulations, and various charts and diagrams, all of which are on exhibition. The excellent accomodation with which the Higher Female Normal School is favoured may be seen from the models of wooden and bamboo chairs, desks, tables, ficebox, etc. The necessity of educating the Japanese women, who are to be the mothers of the coming generation, ought to be recognized; and while there has been a natural reaction against the excessively Americanizing and Europeanizing methods of education, the "golden mean" may be attained in the near future.

Statistics may not be interesting, but they are often instructive and therefore have a proper place in the exhibit, which contains maps, charts, and diagrams of educational facts. These show in Japan (in 1891) almost 25,000 public schools and more than 2,500 private schools, of which about 27,000 are elementary schools. Of the public or governmental, institutions, there are forty nine normal schools, fifty two middle schools, eight female higher schools, twenty eight special schools, twenty six miscellaneous schools, 102 kindergartens, and one University—the Imperial, at Tokyo. The private schools are mostly missionary enterprises, and include one University—the Doshisha, at Kyoto. From 1873 to 1891 the percentage of actual pupils to the school population has increased from 28 to 50—males from 35 to 66 females from 15 to 32.

Four agricultural schools—at Tokyo, Sapporo, Osaka, and Miyagi—have exhibits, and the Iwate Farmers' Institute is also represented in the south east gallery. The display includes woods, plants, seeds, turpentine, camphor, resin, sodium, charcoal, cocoons, silk, wool, rice, beans, peas, and other vegetables; various botanical specimens; numerous photographs, and twenty pictures illustrating the transportation of timber from the Kiso forest. In a glass case containing models of fruits are also found physiological models and specimens of work done in medical schools.

The work of the Higher Middle Schools is displayed in photographs, calenders and examination papers. Of the latter some lengthy these on "European and Japanese Feudalism" seem formidable and remarkable. In the same room a number of screens, painted with symbolic pictures of various sports and amusements of ancient times, will surely attract attention, as will also a picture of a dance.

The exhibit of the Higher Commercial School of Tokyo shows a plan and pictures of the buildings, specimens of bookkeeping in both English and Japanese, and a schedule of studies occupying students thirty-one hours per week.

The music and musical schools of Japan are not without representation at the World's Fair. There is an extensive collection of musical instruments of all kinds. The most elegant article, however, is an organ made of exquisitely-carved ebony, which smacks of Anglicised Japan.

The technical schools of Japan, if they are to be judged by their exhibits down stairs at the rear of the Japanese pavilion, have certainly proven their right of existence. The Tokyo Technical School, the Engineering Department of the Imperial University, and the Female Industrial School, are well represented. The models and the drawings are first class and well exhibit the delicate skill and accuracy of the Japanese. The specimens of weaving, painting, carving, gold lacquering, relief work, silk thread dyeing, clay works, tools, instruments, machines, swords, etc., elicit great praise. The drawing, painting, sewing, crocheting, embroidery, dolls, fans, artificial flowers, etc., from the Female Industrial School deserve special mention.

The Tokyo Fine Art School is also represented here with excellent specimens of work in carving on enamel and wood and of painting. There is one wall-banner which has in it the suggestions of folk-lore, and is quite curious. It is the picture of a being, with crooked toes and fingers, seated on a rock. With the breath of his mouth he is wafting a man up the mountain. What it means no one seems to know.

That stenography has made itself useful in Japan is evident from the exhibit of the method of publishing the reports of the sessions of the Imperial Diet. The Imperial University is represented by a plan of its buildings and a collection of insects by a pupil in the Science College. The use of meteorology is attested by a number of maps. An interesting diagram shows that between 1875 and 1891 the number of publications, books, maps, etc., increased from 300 to 22,000 and the number of copyrights grew from 750 to 3,600.

It is generally acknowledged that a nation's progress in civilization is best illustrated and proven by its progress in education, by the extent and intent of the educational facilities offered to the people. By such a standard the Japanese ought to be judged, and, being judged by the quantity of the educational work, New Japan deserves hearty praise for what has been accomplished, earnest encouragement for what is being done, and sincere faith in what is yet to come.

MANUFACTURES.

Just as the immense Manufactures and Liberal Arts Building is a good-sized Exposition in itself, so the Japanese section in the department of manufactures is *per se* a fairly good exhibition. The section is quite large, and is almost literally jammed with exhibits. It looks as if the Japanese Commission, either failed to get as much space as was requested, or made a mistake in reckoning the capacity of the space. The entire section is so crowded as to be well nigh bewildering. It required only a few minutes to discern that I could not do it justice in detail, even if I should devote an entire letter to that subject alone. I have decided, therefore, that it is practicable and perhaps more profitable to attempt nothing more than a general description, and to single out a few specific exhibits which might naturally be prominent in a birds-eye view. But I doubt not that among the multitudinous exhibits I may have overlooked some as deserving as those herein mentioned.

Without attempting an inventory, it may be said that the exhibit contains many varieties of lacquer work; embroidery, *yusenzome*, cloisonné enamel; carving in wood, iron, bronze, copper, silver, gold and ivory, *kakemono*; screens; cotton, hempen, woollen and silk goods; vases; pottery, earthern ware and porcelain; musical instruments (native and foreign); photographs; bamboo and willow ware; toys; books; paper, pens (*fude*) and ink; canes, umbrellas, fans, toilet articles, headgear and foot-gear; *kimono* and other articles of

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dress; shell-ware; furniture and decorations; straw goods; tools and implements; lanterns; cocoons; illustrative or advertising photographs, sketches, paintings, cards, circulars, pamphlets and books; and, last but not least, a large number of general clerks, always courteous and patient to every one, whether purchased or not. If any reader of the *Mail* feels inclined to criticize the arrangement in this paragraph, let him at least give the writer credit for reflecting therein the disorder of a heterogeneous exhibit!

Among the striking exhibits may be included a gold lacquered cabinet ornamented with views illustrating the story of the twenty four obedient sons; various figures displaying styles of costumes; three sets of plates, of which one represents twelve heroes of Japan, another shows ten scenes of the drama "Chushingura"; and the third portrays the special festival of each month; a tea set and another set of plates, both picturing events in the career of the Forty-Seven Ronin; several specimens each of Satsuma, Kaga, Hizen, and Owari ware; a gold-lacquered parlour set; vases by Kozan; Nishimura's embroidery and "cut-ve vet"; the display of K. Watano; the photographs of Tamamura and Ogawa; the exhibits of Kyoto, Shizuoka-Ken, Yokohama, the Central Association, the Tokyo Corporation, the Doshin Silk Company, Matsuishiya, the Koronsha (of Arita-Hizen), Kurashima and Company, and S. Ohashi; the *shippo* of Toshima and Nagoya; the tortoise-shell model of the U.S.S. "Illinois," by T. Hayashi, of Nagasaki; the famous iron Eagle, already described in the *Mail*, by Shinjiro Itao; a statue of Ii Kamon no Kami, by Shima Sekku, with brief biographical sketch accompanying to set forth his great deed in "opening" Japan; a typical first class Japanese house used as an office; specimens of Suzuki's cloisonné; Kojiro Kobayashi's peacock tablet in lacquer and mother-of-pearl; and scores of articles showing the wonderfully delicate skill of the Japanese hand. In illustration of the last is the following clipping, from the Chicago *Tribune*:—

There is at least one of the wonders of the Japanese section of the Manufactures Building that is not shown except to special friends. It is to be found in the exhibit of the Japanese Central Exhibit Association, the superintendent of which is Frank Atsuhi Koidzumi, who exhibited the wonder to a reporter of the *Tribune*.

It is a specimen of miniature carving and connected with it is a romantic story. Adachi is the name of a young man living in Shimane, in Japan. He is about 21 years old and his business is that of a carver in ivory. A year ago he fell desperately in love with a young lady in Tokyo and met with the usual resistance from the parents, who were also connoisseurs in carving. The dispute was settled by the father making to the young man a conditional offer of his daughter's hand. The condition was that he should carve out of two grains of rice really artistic images of two of the seven Japanese gods of fortune respectively.

The young artist gladly accepted the offer. He was closely occupied by his business during the day, but boldly undertook to accomplish this difficult task by the light of a candle at night. He procured a sprig of rice having five grains attached. He removed the hull from the two uppermost grains, and began the process. For three long months he laboured, and at last finished his work. They were entirely successful, and the marriage occurred soon afterward. But before a great while the injury done to the young man's eyes by his close application resulted in total blindness. The beauty of this wonderful carving can only be seen by the assistance of a large magnifying glass, which is kept for that purpose. The original ivory statues of the gods from which, as models, the carving was done are also shown. The rice grains are carefully hid away in a lacquer box, but can be seen by any one who can get the confidence of Mr. Kodzumi. They are for sale, though no price has been set on them.

ARCHÆOLOGY (NO. II.)

Since I wrote the first paragraphs of this letter, I have "done" the Anthropological Building more thoroughly, and have discovered other "things Japanese." The list of Japanese games should include, for instance, *sugoroku* (parchesi); *kakeba* (back gammon); playing cards and several kinds of *karuta*, such as *hana, uta, iroha*, etc; battledoor and shuttle-cock; and one labeled *koō kikukoto*, or "incense distinguishing" (what?).

In Ward's Natural History Collection is a fine specimen of a "giant crab" from Japan.

The Red Cross Society of Japan has for an exhibit are admirable model of the Quarantine Station at Shimonoseki.

I also looked carefully for the statue mentioned below, but failed to find it; and wonder if the writer was in error or in a humorous mood:—

Glancing into the exhibit from Japan, imagine our amazement upon beholding what we supposed to be a lovely copy of the Venus di Medici. Upon close examination, however, it proved to be a real antique, of the finest marble with the inimitable discolorations which only time can make, like yet unlike that priceless statue, the pride of Florence and all Italy, the accepted standard of female loveliness. The famous Florentine statue has lost both arms, which, according to Samson's Art Criticism, have been badly restored shocking one's sense of beauty by the contrast between the soft tone of the original marble, mellowed by age and the glaring white of the modern restorations, while the Japanese Venus is almost perfectly preserved, lacking only one finger on either hand.

The position of the statues is identical, showing them to be from the same world-renowned statue of Praxiteles, but in all that makes a statue embody a pure and lofty sentiment this newly found one far surpasses the other in our eyes. Its perfect arms, in act of unclasping from the left one a bracelet of Greek pattern, make the whole position one of natural grace instead of one of most ungoddess-like affectation of modesty.

How came this specimen of Greek art in its palmiest days in its present location? The strangest part of it all is not that this dainty form should have fallen like a lost Pleiad into such strange surroundings, but that our noble board of managers should allow it to remain one moment in its present perilous obscurity.

After waiting for more than three weeks, hoping every day to see this matter righted, I appeal to you not to let this peerless statue pass unheeded and unheralded to the end of the chapter, a great deprivation to a large class, to which belongs your correspondent

AN ART LOVER.

LETTER FROM SCOTLAND.

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Edinburgh, October 4th.

Yesterday and to-day Edinburgh has been in a stir over the visit of the Duke of York and the Princess May. They arrived last night by special train to find the city gaily illuminated. All through the day crowded trains had steadily poured their streams of human life into the fair capital, and a bright sun shone upon the loyal holiday-makers. Of course the railway traffic was thoroughly disorganised. On ordinary occasions the early days of October prove too much for our railway officials, who cope in a kind of half helpless way with families and boxes returning to town from the country. Naturally on this extraordinary occasion, trains quite beat the record in lateness. At the most important suburban station, where all who conveniently could were advised to alight, it was impossible to get the service of porters. However, loyal sentiments curbed the impatience of the grumbler; and a happier crowd than that which paced the gaily lighted streets last night could hardly be encountered anywhere.

With laudable desires to make all things easy, our magnates of the city issued elaborate instructions. Vehicular traffic of all kinds, even to the arrogant bicycle, was excluded from the important thoroughfares after a certain hour; and the sight-seers were entreated to keep the right side of the centre of the streets and always keep moving on. Which very sound instructions the sight seers did not seem inclined to follow. Except here and there, where a sufficiency of big policemen managed to make an impression, blocks occurred and intercrossing streams of men, women, and children brought a pleasing confusion. Yet all went merry as a marriage bell—at least nearly all; but of that anon.

Edinburgh is admirably adapted for illumination effects. The broad valley which separates Princes Street from the Castle Rock and the ridge of the old town, gives every facility for a fine display. And like Fairyland was the scene last night as the Royal couple drove along Princes Street from the Station to the Hotel. Bright flickering lights traced out the irregular contour of the Castle battlements, while below, the Gardens were resplendent in artistic festoons of padella lights of varied hue. One of the most effective pieces was a Pagoda of lights, set up on the grassy slope below Alan Ramsay's Historic Cottage. Every window in the old town that looked across the valley was illuminated with candles. The Bank of Scotland glittered forth upon the night like a second castle; while opposite it, across the East Gardens, the Royal Hotel was very effectively lit up, with white and red lights. These were arranged in patterns so as to suggest the well-known Macgregor Tartan. In front of the hotel, which lies a little to the west of Sir Walter Scott's monument, a dense crowd collected. This crowd would not move on. They had come to see the Royal Personages enter, and all the Police of Midlothian would not dislodge them. Denser and denser grew the throng as the expected moment drew near. At last they came. Loya throats cheered, loyal hats and handkerchiefs waved. It was noticeable, however, that the tens of thousands that greeted our future sovereigns did not utter such a volume of jubilation as did the thousands who last week cheered the Grand Old Man. So much more enthusiasm does the Person awaken than the Rank. Hardly were the Prince and Princess safely housed when smash went one of the wooden barricades, and the packed throng found relief a little. Then some twenty yards of stout railing which fenced in the East Gardens yielded to the human pressure, and soon a wild, merry crowd were sporting amongst the padella lights. One woman got her leg broken, and there are rumours (not well authenticated) that a child was fatally injured in the crush.

Fire-works from Castle Hill and from Calton Hill completed the display; and even the heavens joined in showing homage to the Royal Pair. For the Northern Lights gleamed forth, and shot a few faint rockets to the zenith.

To-day the excitement showed little abatement. The one desire was to see the Princess; the Duke of York was familiar enough to the citizens of Edinburgh, but Princess May was a real novelty. Imitation is the sincerest flattery; and shop girls and servant maids, and others, too, perhaps, dressed the front locks of their hair *à la Princesse*. It was an amusing touch of human frailty this aping of the grand. The day's proceedings were sufficiently varied; the presentation of the citizens' wedding gift, the conferring of the freedom of the city on the Duke of York, the visit to the Royal Infirmary, and the opening of new wards in the Longmore Hospital for Incurables. The long route was flanked by eager crowds. Not content with one look at Her Royal Highness, the crowds rushed by short cuts to where the cavalcade could be seen again. Elderly gentlemen and ladies *d'un certain age* trotted as they had not done for decades, emulating the hetero skelter mob of youth and beauty. Even the proverbial coldness of the Edinburgh nature can at times be heated to a creditable fervency.

In a few days the University Session opens. Last session was historic as witnessing the opening of our Scottish Universities to women. The quadrangle of the old Edinburgh College looked quite gay with the lady students strolling about or leaning on the balconies discussing with knitted brows some mathematical problem or Hegelian secret. At the graduation last Spring, one lady took the M.A. degree with honours in Philosophy; and seven others took the ordinary degree. They were allowed so to do by a retrospective clause which recognised the lectures and diplomas of the now extinct Association for the University Education of Women as of a University character. In the class honours lists the lady students held their own well, gaining several medals and not a few prizes. The classes in Law, Theology and Medicine in Edinburgh at all events, are not as yet open to the fair. One dignified servitor—an old Life Guardsman—with whom I have had the good fortune to be a kind of pet from my undergraduate days, accosted me the other day thus: "Sir, I hope you don't favour lady medicals; I hope you'll do your best to keep them out." I fear I fell 50 per cent. in his estimation when I confessed to be a believer in Free Trade in the Professions. He is a good old Tory as all such usually are—and his patronising air to the lady students of last year was very amusing. He treated them as children whom too fond parents had allowed to play at being big. There is a very practical objection to the admission of lady students to the Edinburgh Medical School. There is no room for them; there is hardly room enough for the 1,700 male students who swarm in dissecting-rooms and hospital wards. There is an Extra-mural School of Medicine for Women; but that cannot be very successful until the University grants graduation, if not teaching, facilities. The Glasgow University has solved the problem in this way by affiliating the Extra-Mural Lady's College; and St. Andrews admits ladies to the regular course. Edinburgh must do something one long in the same direction; but as long as one Professor holds out no step can be taken.

The grand old Royal Scottish game of golf is now played well nigh all the world over. An English lady, lately visiting one of our ancient golf centres, said in surprise "What, has golf got to this small place—why it is quite a new game!" For many years back Professor Tait of Edinburgh University, himself an enthusiastic golfer, has been studying the *dynamics* of the game. He has just published an abstruse mathematical paper on "The Motion of a Rotating Spherical Projectile,"—in popular language, the flight of a golf ball. The whole thing turns upon spin. Just as a tennis ball sharply hit with an oblique racket describes a curved path in the air, so it is with the golf-ball. If improperly hit, it will describe a hooked path curving round to the right or left of the direction

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in which the player means it to go. That is because it has received a right-handed or left handed spin about a vertical axis. But, as Tait has shown, first by sound dynamic reasoning, and then by experiment, a well driven golf ball also has a spin—indeed must have a spin or it would go no distance at all, hit you never so hard. Good players, especially professionals, can always put "under spin" on, so that the ball falls dead when it lights. But it was a revelation to them to be told that the underspin was indispensable to a long drive. The effect of the underspin is to lift the ball up against gravity and so extend its path through the air. Tait proved this incontestably by calculation; but the professional could not be expected to appreciate the demonstration. But by a very simple device, Tait has measured the spin—and there is no denying it. A few yards length of tape has its one end nailed to a "teed" golf ball and the other fixed to the ground in a direction at right angles to the direction in which the ball is to be hit. The player then addresses himself to the ball and takes his best drive. The ball buries itself in a well of clay about 2 yards distant. The tape is found to be considerably twisted. From these very simple experiments Tait finds that a well-driven golf ball spins about a horizontal axis at the rate of 130 times per second. The next question is, how can the plane face of a club give this tremendous spin to the ball? What is the mechanics of its grip? On looking into the literature of projectiles, Tait found that Robins, of artillery fame, had made some curious experiments on this very subject. A pendulum with a whirling bob oscillated to and fro and at the same time gradually veered round, so that, though swinging at first (say) north and south, it soon was swinging east and west. By giving a cannon a slight bend, say to the left, Robins got the ball when fired to describe a curved trajectory bending round to the right. The necessary spin was got as the ball left the cannon's mouth. So the Irishman was not altogether wrong when he thought the best gun would shoot round a corner; only the bullet would curve back again and so to speak turn the opposite corner. Robins's experiments were of course all right, as also his general explanation of the phenomenon. Yet Poisson, the great French mathematician, wrote a regular treatise, in which he *proved* mathematically that the effect noticed first by Newton and discussed by Robins could not take place. If the spinning ball was deflected at all from the true path, it was in the other direction! It is extraordinary that a man like Poisson should not have tried the experiment. As it is, his hundreds of quarto pages of formulæ are pure rubbish.

Outside the usual theatrical and musical entertainments, the only prospective excitement for this city is the visit of Lord Roberts in November. He is to open the session of the Royal Scottish Geographical Society, and is to be treated as a "Lion" all round. The freedom of the city will be conferred on him, and a right royal banquet spread in his honour. A few ultra-orthodox religious papers tried to get up an opposition to all this, because of Lords Roberts' supposed attitude on the great moral problem as it affects our Indian Army. But, somehow, the agitation has fallen very flat; and there is no doubt our great Indian General will receive every honour that is his due.

IN H.B.M.'s COURT FOR JAPAN.

(In Admiralty.)

Before R. A. Mowat, Esq., Judge.—Monday, November 27th, 1893.

JAMES TROUP, ESQ., H.B.M.'S CONSUL, PLAINTIFF v. THE MASTER OF THE "MAUD S." DEFENDENT.

The hearing of this case was resumed at 10 o'clock to-day. Mr. H. C. Litchfield, Crown Prosecutor, appeared on behalf of plaintiff. Mr. Duncan McNeil for the master of the *Maud S*.

Mr. Litchfield said he thought it would be convenient to obtain His Honour's decision upon the question raised by his learned friend as to how far the Act, the Seal Fishery Act, applied to the *Maud S* and her master, and especially in regard to his knowledge of the passing of the Act.

His Honour (to Mr. McNeil)—Have you finished your examination of your witness?

Mr. McNeil—I have one or two further questions to put about the position of the vessel at the time.

His Honour—You said in your opening that there had been no sealing done since the previous day. I have not got it on my notes that such a fact was given in evidence.

Mr. McNeil—Then I will ask him about it.

Mr. Litchfield said that he had no objection to the Captain's evidence being finished.

Captain McKiel then laid down the position of his vessel at noon of the 28th, at seven o'clock in the evening, and also when the courses were altered on the morning of the 29th August. In answer to his Counsel, he said—I was not hunting seals after the 28th. I did not kill, take, or attempt to take or kill any seal on the morning of the 29th August. My official log-book was lost; it only contained the entries at and departures from Yokohama and Hakodate. I had no occasion to make any other entries. The official log is used only to record unusual occurrences on the voyage, such as deaths, etc. It is not used to enter up the catches of seals, the daily positions, courses, etc. I have never had seal-skins longer than 16 hours without salting them. They are generally salted the morning after their capture, and the traces of blood remain upon them until they are salted, and even after. I know of my own knowledge that the seals were killed on the 28th. One was killed in the forenoon; I know this because the ship was hove to and a boat lowered. The second was taken between 2 and 4 o'clock. I remember the fact of the ship being hove to.

Cross-examined by Mr. Litchfield—I have been engaged in the sealing trade since January, 1887. Previous voyages have been in the Behring Sea on the American side, in the earlier part of the season, and later round Copper Island and the Russian islands. I know that trouble had arisen about the seals in American waters, and have been boarded by cruisers while up there. This is my first visit to Japanese waters. I had been near the Copper Island grounds for two seasons before. My vessel was under weigh on the 28th August, and it was on that day that we were shifting our ground, with the intention of trying the sealing grounds at the North of Copper Island. Anywhere in the Behring Sea can be considered good sealing ground. I have caught seals both to the East and West. The season closes later, as a rule, in the northern latitudes. We begin to hunt in the South, and follow the seals North till the weather gets too bad to continue the hunting. I am told the seals leave the islands when the first snow falls. On the 27th August I got an observation at noon. The next day I got two observations. The weather was still clear on the morning of the 29th. Day broke about 4 o'clock, or shortly afterwards. I can tell where my position was at noon of the 27th. It was 53°17 N. lat., and 156°35 E. long. I arrived in Yokohama about nine o'clock on the 25th Sept., and I saw Mr. Troup, the Consul, the same day. That was before my papers came down. I told the Consul the whole of the circumstances of the seizure. This was some time before the arrival of the *Archer*. I don't remember expressing to him any intention of wintering in Yokohama, and fitting up in the spring if I got my vessel back from the Russians. It may have been mentioned, but I do not now remember. I do not know what I should have really done. I have never dried sealskins. We only salt them. We spread the skin out, fur-side down, doing it most carefully. This is done in the salting room. We salt the flesh side; then another skin is laid on top, and gradually we make a pile of them. I consider a skin properly cured when it has been in salt about twelve days. The skin would be in a dry-salted condition within a week. The skins are salted as fast as possible and before the lower layers are dried.

Re-examined—I don't remember telling Mr. Troup that I intended to winter here. I meant, that is if I did say it that, if I made another voyage out here I should not go to the trouble to make a voyage to Victoria and back again.

To His Honour—The sealskins do not undergo much alteration in appearance the first day they are aboard. I should describe the skins I had on board as being fresh when the Russians boarded me. They had been taken the previous day and had not yet been salted. They would no doubt be fresh and damp. The officer never examined the skins, he merely kicked them. The traces of blood would remain on the skins till they were salted.

To Mr. McNeill—Before I came to Yokohama I had formed no intention to stop here. I could not do so until I heard from home, and at the time I saw Mr. Troup I had had no letters from the other side.

Mr. Litchfield—My friend contends on the authority of Sir Fitz James Stephens, on his reading of the case of *Burns* v. *Noel*, 5 Q B D, page 444—the paragraph referred to is to be found on page 454—that "in interpreting an act which makes unlawful a continuous Act which till the Statute passed was not unlawful, it is to be presumed that the legislature intended to allow a reasonable time for the discontinuance of the Act so made unlawful, and the ignorance of the agent that the Statute had been passed is a fact relevant to the question whether his discontinuance of it was within such reasonable time or not." That proposition of Sir Fitz James Stephens is based upon his view of the case, and is laid down and put forward as an exception to the well-known legal maxim that every person is presumed to have knowledge of the law of the land. The circumstances attending the case of the vessel belonging to the plaintiff Burns, and which was seized in the South Pacific, is in nearly every respect different from the present one, that is in so far as the evidence which has been laid before your Honour goes. That vessel, the *Aurora* was engaged in trading in the South Pacific. It was the custom of such vessels engaged in that trade to engage natives of the islands for the purpose of using them as divers or in other industries on board the vessels. They were sometimes engaged for the cruise; sometimes for 24 months; and at the end of the term the ship engaged to return them to their homes from whence they had been engaged. On returning from one of their expeditions, the *Aurora* was overhauled by a British cruiser and her papers seized. She had almost completed her year's trading trip at this time, having left some of the natives at their proper islands, and was conveying the residue home. During the cruise that she was engaged upon she did not receive any notice of the passing of the Act which rendered her actions illegal, so that the whole of the voyage was made in complete ignorance of any law regulating the luring of natives. The case was not decided upon that point, and the proposition was stated, not for the purpose of deciding or dealing with that part of the case, but with the intention of setting out the conduct of the captain in its proper light. This case took a long time to reach the Q. B. Division, being brought in 1880, or five or six years after the offence was alleged to have been committed. Although ignorance of the law does not excuse, it is contended by my friend upon this reading, that a reasonable time must elapse for knowledge to be acquired that a certain Act has been made unlawful which was formerly not deemed contrary to law. But the cases, I submit, are not analogous. In the case of the South Pacific trade the Act was passed to supress the entire traffic in natives, while in the present instance it is the outcome of certain arrangements come to between two nations, and does not suppress an industry. An entire industry is not prohibited by these regulations, they only prevent it being carried on within certain limits. They merely say that a voyage may be prosecuted to a certain point, and there it must stop, and of that point the master of the *Maud S.* had knowledge before he commenced his voyage. Arriving in Yokohama, from Victoria, he was warned of the proposed Russian regulations, and although there was no specific warning as to the particular portions of the seas prohibited, still he was advised to obtain information of the contents of the regulations, and warned that he proceeded at his own peril. At Hakodate he had specific notice of the terms of the regulations and also of the parts of the sea prohibited to British sealers. True, he had no knowledge of the passing of the Act.

His Honour—It was not passed at that time.

Mr. Litchfield—Still he had sufficient notice given him to put himself on his guard. I think I may go so far as to say that the memorandum given him in Hakodate went further in the prohibition than even the wording of the Act. The memorandum said that cruising within certain grounds is prohibited. The Act does not go so far, it only prohibits hunting, killing, taking, or attempting to kill, etc. So far from the voyage which the *Maud S.* was engaged in being, as my friend suggests, innocent, there is evidence to show that the voyage was taken at the man's own peril. Whether he was ever actually engaged in taking or attempting to take seals within limits laid down by the Act, or not, still he cannot, I contend, in face of the evidence before the Court, urge that he was ignorant of regulations or laws being passed to regulate the taking of seals within those waters. I will but direct your Honour's attention to a class of cases which can be considered as being similar to the present—the cases coming under the law of blockade. The question often wholly turned upon the point whether the master of a vessel bound for a certain port was prepared or no. to find it, on his arrival, blockaded through the outbreak of war. Indeed, they went as far in argument as to ask whether he had an opportunity of guessing that the port was likely to be blockaded and therefore that he left with the intention of blockade running. The case can also be compared with another class of cases, those arising from the game laws.

His Honour—Before passing to those cases, can you refer me to any of those mentioned just now?

Mr. Litchfield—No, I have none with me.

His Honour—Have you any list?

Mr. Litchfield—The case of the *Catherina*; 30 L.J., Admiralty cases, is one. The other class of

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cases are more frequent; they are brought under the Game Laws of England. The cases I draw attention to are of course those in which the offence is a trespass in pursuit of game. Of course I know they are not analagous, but a dictum of Mr. Justice Wills might assist your Honour? I will refer you to *Regina* v. *Higgs*, 10 vol. Cox's Criminal Cases. Mr. Justice Wills in a case falling under these laws held that persons who go out at night with the intention to pursue and take game have the intention to take game in every field which they may pass over. I submit that this is precisely how the case stands with the schooner *Maud S.* She was fitted out for the purpose of a sealing cruise in waters in close proximity and around portions of the sea which were contained and lay within the prohibited limits. They went there to pursue the seals. I say therefore that he could not have been engaged in an innocent cruise, if during the course of it he rendered himself liable to seizure by a Russian cruiser, who, by virtue of the legal powers conferred by the arrangement before alluded to, sent him down here to appear before this Court for adjudication. Therefore the onus lies upon him to prove distinctly that he was not engaged in anything that can be construed into a contravention of the provisions of the Act. Counsel then quoted another reading of Sir Fitz James Stephen in his Digest of the Criminal Law, page 37, Art 49, Chap. 5. I will, he continued, admit that the case there refers to the putting of a hand into another man's empty pocket, but in this case the defendant was attempting—

His Honour—For the purpose of this discussion it must be admitted that the offence alleged was more than an attempt. The vessel had caught the seals; it is admitted by the other side that the skins of two freshly killed seals were on board, and for the moment you must so deal with the case, the seals having been caught.

Mr. Litchfield—I was going to give an example of an attempt.

His Honour—But the matter had gone further than an attempt according to your petition.

Mr. Litchfield—I have nothing further to add, sir.

Mr. McNeill—I rely, of course, upon the case of *Burns* v. *Noel* as settling this question. I don't admit perceiving the distinction which my friend has drawn between the entire prohibition of an industry and the promulgation of laws permitting the regulating of it. I think that our case is even stronger than *Burns* v. *Noel*. There is was an offence against the laws of England that had been committed. Here it is perfectly clear that the presence of a vessel within the zone can, by the passing of the Act, be made evidence against her, and be treated as an offence of a which the master was perfectly unaware of before he was seized, the Act not having been passed when he left on his cruise. Here, therefore, there was no evidence that she had been doing anything unlawful—

His Honour—Even if you now denied the presence of the fresh sealskins on board, you must admit the evidence of your own witness.

Mr. McNeill—It is sufficient for my contention that the seals could not have been caught within the prohibited zone. In the case of the *Aurora* the natives were actually on board without a license, and because the captain was not aware of the passing of the law requiring licenses, it was held that he did not commit an offence because in his case the law was not applicable. My contention is that although we were within the Russian zone, still it was no offence. But if your Honour thinks that the Act is applicable, then I shall contend that even my presence in those waters was not a violation of its provisions.

His Honour—Do you say now that the Act could not be applicable?

Mr. McNeill—I contend that it is not. I argue upon the construction to be placed on the 6th subsection. If it was contrary to reason to hold that the Act which was sought to be bound on the *Aurora*, then it is certainly still more contrary to reason to apply this Sealing Act to the present case.

His Honour—If the Act does apply, I cannot help but go on with the case and continue to take evidence.

Mr. McNeill—I don't admit, as your Honour understands, that any offence was committed under the Act, and therefore it is not necessary to presume that I have, even if it had not been proved in evidence that I had not. In regard to the printed memorandum from Canada, of course it was a kind of warning to us, and it might fairly be argued that after receiving it we went on our course at our own risk. It must not be forgotten, however, that the memorandum bears a date prior to the passing of the Act. It can hardly be held, however, to bring us within the terms of an Act which is passed subsequently. It was a warning to us not to fish; it warned us against fishing in those specific waters; it was not a warning against going to cruise within the waters mentioned.

His Honour—Still the Act goes further than that in another section.

Mr. McNeill—The memorandum did not prohibit us from going on a cruise. In *Burn* v. *Noel* it was held that the law was not applicable by reason of the parties had not having any means of obtaining information, and it can fairly be held in this case that defendant could not obtain the information unless he entered a port.

His Honour—Or he could obtain it from a passing vessel at sea.

Mr. McNeill—Yes. In the evidence it is proved that we started back for Yokohama as soon as we found that we were doing wrong, so clearly there could have been no intention to commit an offence.

His Honour—This is a point of considerable importance and requires more time for thinking over than I have been able to give it during the course of the discussion. Hence I leave it to you to bring it up again, if you wish, later in the hearing. I am of opinion that although the Act was not passed when the voyage commenced, still information of its probable enactment was given to you at Yokohama and Hakodate; and the effect of the warning communicated to you at Hakodate, in particular, must have led you to the conclusion that you must take the responsibility of the voyage on your own risk. You ran the chances of an Act of Parliament being passed in your absence or not. The English and Russian Governments, you were informed, had agreed to the putting into force of certain prohibitory regulations. Now, when Governments set about prohibiting, they are certain to carry it out by the passing of a law. Therefore you started with, I won't say the possibility but the extreme probability of the agreement arrived at being followed by the passing of an Act of Parliament; and all does turn out in this way. That being so, you go on the voyage at our own risk, and, as it turns out, you are caught, and presumed to be fishing within the prohibited limits. I don't think then, that it lies upon you to turn round now and say, "we didn't know that the Act was going to be passed or that we did not know the matter was so all illegal." If you had had no notice of the intended regulations, then I could have considered your plea. I cannot do so under the circumstances. You received warning of what was going to happen, and in spite of that you went on and you must therefore take your chances. I do not decide the point adversely to you in every respect, but leave it open to you to take up later. If your evidence is what you hope it to be, then there will no necessity to pursue the point further.

Mr. McNeill pointed out that the whole of the Act need not apply.

His Honour—I can't split up the Act. If you continue your contention it becomes a question of procedure. Once admit the Act is applicable to those waters and the whole of its provisions must apply.

Mr. McNeill—If it applies, then it throws the onus of proof upon us.

His Honour—I think it must. We will go on with the evidence. I do not, as I said before, decide wholly against you on the point, it is left open.

Captain McKeil, recalled—I have marked my position in red, and the cross above the semi-circle, the black mark, shows the position I was in when seized.

Jacob Morgan, sworn deposed—I was a hunter on board the *Maud S.* Two unsalted skins were found in the salt-room when we were seized. These skins were from seals taken on the 28th August. I saw the first killed, it was between 11 and 12 o'clock. It was my watch, but, owing to sickness, I did not kill the seal. It was killed by Spear, who had relieved me at my order. The weather was very fine that day. The skins were not salted when we were boarded, because it is a rule not to salt skins until the day after they are caught. On the morning of the 24th, I came on deck about 20 minutes past 4 o'clock. No other hunter was on deck then; I was the first to go on deck that day. Boats had therefore not been sent out that day, because it is a rule not to go out for seals before breakfast. This meal is taken between five and six o'clock. Land was in sight when I went on deck. It had not been reported to the Captain, I reported it to the mate. This was the first time I had seen land that cruise.

To His Honour—When we go out after seals we generally return to the ship before dark

The depositions of five members of the schooner's crew, including the mate and Francis Curran, a hunter, who deposed that he had killed one of the two seals whose skins were found on the vessel, were then read and the Court adjourned for tiffin.

Charles Spear, sworn, deposed—I am a hunter on board the *Maud S.* and I was on board her at the time when she was seized. There were two fresh skins on board her at the time. They had been killed when the vessel was not less than 50 miles from land. We saw the Commander Islands once on the cruise, about August 5th. We were then 50 miles from land. The skins were found in the salt room. The seals had been killed on the previous day. I killed one myself, that was between 11 and 12 o'clock. I am sure we were a good fifty miles away from land when we caught the seals.

To His Honour—I am of opinion that we were that distance away. The weather was clear and we were not in sight of land anywhere. The land about there is high

To the Court—It was Morgan's seal, but I killed it for him, as he was sick. I was present when the captain of the *Henry Dennis* advised our captain to go further north.

Cross-examined by Mr. Litchfield—On a clear day we can see Copper Island for seventy miles off. The horizon limit is 30 miles all round. We judge distances at sea by observation, or the relative size of objects in sight. If no object is in sight we judge by the horizon. As there was no land in sight on the 28th I judged we were fully fifty miles away.

Mr. McNeill said he did not intend to call further witnesses, but he tendered all the men who sailed the courses for the purposes of cross-examination.

Mr. Litchfield said he had no desire to lengthen matters by cross-examining the crew.

Captain McKeil, recalled, said in answer to the Bench, that he was 15 miles out of his reckoning, nearer the land, and he attributed this to defects in his chronometer. The noon and four o'clock positions marked on the chart were worked out by the chronometer. If the chronometer had been correct, my position on the noon before would not have been 15 miles nearer the land than I expected

Mr. Litchfield said there had been a question raised as to the position which the transport *Yakout* occupied in the Russian Navy. He had a document in Court which purported to be a Russian Navy List. He would have it translated.

Tamuda Sakutaro, cautioned, said—I am interpreter at the Russian Consulate. I understand Russian. The book now handed to me contains the names of vessels in the Russian Navy. The *Yakout* is mentioned here as a transport used as a despatch boat.

Mr. McNeil—Mr. Litchfield has shown me a letter from the Russian Consulate which says the vessel was bought in England specially for the purpose of patrolling the Behring Sea, and it is intended to add her to the Siberian fleet. Therefore I withdraw my objection to her not coming under the definition of a war vessel.

His Honour—Yes, your own witnesses said she flew the Russian flag, and sent an armed crew on board the schooner, and fired a solid shot.

Mr. McNeill—Yes, but a signal gun could fire a solid shot. I do not deny that the officers were not in the Russian Navy, I only thought that perhaps the *Yakout* might be a trading steamer hired for the purpose of patrolling the Behring Sea.

His Honour—Well, the point is satisfactorily cleared up now, I think.

Mr. McNeill—Yes, sir, I withdraw the objection.

Mr. Troup, recalled, said that he had a copy of the Order in Council in his possession when the *Maud S.* entered the harbour.

Mr. McNeill—That closes the case for the defence. In summing up for the defence, he said that it was perfectly plain from the evidence that there had been no killing or hunting seals upon the day when the seizure had taken place, neither was there any mention of such acts being committed in the protocol of arrest. In regard to the attempt to kill and take certain seals, all that remained of the allegations of the petition, I think that the evidence is not the less plain and clear. I think the evidence not the less plain and sufficient to convince the Court beyond dispute that the reason the vessel was in the position where she was found was owing to some error in the captain's chronometer. It is difficult to conceive that the master can be convicted of an attempt to kill or take seals within the prohibited zone in the face of the evidence that has been given. In order to prove that an offence has been committed we must have it in evidence as the knowledge of some one who has been at the spot. There has been no evidence led to prove that an attempt, as meant by the Act, was committed. There was no attempt made on the morning of the 29th of August to capture or kill any seal. Having quoted the sections of the Act on which the charge was based, Counsel said that he should adopt into his argument the finding of the Russian Tribunal before which the cases of several of the schooners engaged in sealing were brought. The finding of the tribunal in the case of the schooner *Ariel*, which was captured by the *Zabiaka*, was quoted at length, stress being placed on the decision rendered by

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the tribunal that it must be clearly established in such cases that an attempt to contravene the prohibition order was really intended.

His Honour—Where is the decision given.

Mr. McNeill—I found it in a parliamentary paper. My contention is that in the absence of some appearance of hunting implements, and preparation to hunt, or board, it could not be reasonably taken for granted, that my client did attempt to kill and take certain seals, etc. The only evidence they had from plaintiff of the taking of the seals, was the mention of them in the Russian documents and the recital of the fact that traces of blood were discovered upon them. But the Court has been given to understand by Capt. McKiel that it was possible for traces of blood to be found on skins even after the skins are salted. Not to digress too far, I will here mention, that when the vessel was stopped she was steering off the land, the suggestion of the plaintiff being that the schooner was discovered stealing out to sea in the early morning, having run close in shore in pursuit of some unlawful venture. But the evidence I have lead has fully explained the whole circumstances of the case. I think, therefore, that we have wholly discharged the burden of proving that we have not been contravening the Act of Parliament in question, having proved that on the 29th August the vessel did not attempt, as alleged in the petition, to kill or take certain seals. I will now refer to the question of damages raised by the counter claim. I think that in this case there has been a very cruel and needless exercise of statutory authority. Of course I am not aware of the extent of the authority or the orders given to Russian officers by the Russian authorities, but I certainly do think that the present case is a most vexatious prosecution. The ship was stopped and peremptorily ordered to Yokohama, thus cutting short her cruise. I must complain very strongly of this arbitary way of treating her. I think it would have been quite sufficient, under the circumstances, to have warned her against entering the prohibited waters, and that they could have told her that if she did not heed the warning more severe treatment would follow the second infraction of the regulations. But passing from the action of the Russian authorities altogether, as it does not concern the counter-claim, the damages being claimed from the nominal plaintiff in the case in respect of unreasonable detention, I think that here again I have cause of reasonable complaint. Counsel for plaintiff suggested that under section 104 of the Merchant Shipping Act, which is incorporated in this Act, plaintiff was exempted from all liability in regard to such a matter. What he did not emphasise though it was the phrase in the section which said "if there were reasonable grounds for such detention." He was entitled to detain the vessel under the provisions of the Act, if there was a reasonable cause for such detention. It was admitted by plaintiff in the course of his cross-examination that he was not acquainted with the provisions of the Act when he first detained the vessel. He had been officially informed of the Act, but not of the terms of the Act. The only thing that he had to go upon was the documentary evidence sent down by the Russian authorities. Now, I should like to ask whether any reasonable man would form a reasonable opinion from such documents that an offence had been committed, when he is quite unacquainted with the terms of the Act under which the alleged offence was said to fall? The only thing that could assist him was the documents from the north, and from them he came to the conclusion that an offence might have been committed, and therefore he detained the vessel. There was nothing else on which plaintiff could act. He had the Russian protocol which suggested that the vessel had done something wrong within the zone of 30 miles drawn round Copper Island. It is quite true that he knew of the passing of the Act, but he could not until he referred to its provisions discover whether an offence had been committed or not

His Honour—Do you say, or mean to say, that he was no entitled to refer to the Act after its arrival here?

Mr. McNeill—What I wish to submit to the Court is that there was no reasonable grounds for arriving at an honest and reasonable conclusion upon the question whether an offence had been committed or not according to the Act, and it lay upon plaintiff to determine the question only upon reasonable grounds.

His Honour—He had the Order in Council prohibiting the taking or killing of seals within certain limits. He was informed that two fresh skins were found aboard, and it is only reasonable to suppose that the seals did not get aboard by themselves.

Mr. McNeill—Then the wording of the Russian document is grossly misleading, it meant to convey that the seals were just killed, when, as a matter of fact, the skins had been taken the day before and were merely unsalted.

His Honour—There is the evidence of the captain that they were fresh.

Mr. McNeill—In the sense that they were unsalted. Continuing, Counsel said that as under section 104 it was necessary, in order to claim exemption, that the action be proved reasonable, he could only come to the conclusion that the long delay in bringing these proceedings was most unjustifiable and entitled defendant to claim damages. Under Admiralty rules the procedure to be followed was to arrest the vessel and then institute proceedings within three days. Plaintiff admitted detaining the vessel before he knew the contents of the Act which empowered him to do so, and a long delay took place.

His Honour—He could not proceed until the arrival of the *Archer*

Mr. McNeill—Well, granting that, I think that he would have been quite justified in leaving the vessel free, till he was perfectly sure that it had committed an offence. The proceedings had not been instituted as the Admiralty rules laid down.

His Honour—He admitted instructing Counsel early in October.

Mr. McNeill—I don't think I can take any notice of that. It was not till Nov. 5th that proceedings were really instituted. I am far from imputing improper delay in the prosecution of the case on the part of the learned Counsel on the other side, but I think that our vessel should not have been detained in the manner adopted by plaintiff. We were not even allowed to take our guns from the vessel when it was necessary, to prevent them from spoiling, and we had to provide a watchman ourselves, instead of the vessel being guarded by plaintiff. Counsel recited the details of expenses incurred by the Captain of the *Maud S* for board, discharge of crew, passages home of some of the men, his own personal expenses, etc., and concluded by asking the Court to dismiss the petition and award substantial damages to defendant.

Mr. Litchfield in his reply, after stating that the proceedings were in Admiralty and arose through the passing of a new Act of Parliament, said that the allegations were strictly drawn up, still it was not necessary to define them so strictly as in cases arising on the other side of the Court out of indictments for criminal offences. It was sufficient to state such facts as would enable defendant to reasonably understand what was charged against him. The present charge was, that defendant was caught within a prohibited zone, and although it was probable that there was no actual killing of seals at the time, still it was admitted that the skins of freshly killed seals were found on board. The captain explained in his evidence that seal skins were stored down the hold into the salting room as soon as possible, then salted and stacked, and that it was impossible to tell the date on which a seal was killed after a little while. Now there was evidence that these skins were fresh and had been taken the day before at a distance of 50 miles. Every one of the crew said this, with the exception of one unfortunate man who merely testified that the day was clear, that there was no land in sight, but that the horizon was about 10 miles off! He may have made the calculation from the boat The fixing of the 50 miles by the various witnesses for the defence looked very much like a hap hazard guess at the distance—five miles outside the black zone of forty-five miles drawn on the master's map; add five to forty-five, it makes 50, therefore a number to be used with safety. The question for the Court to decide was whether an offence had been committed by the defendant in hunting for seals within the zone. To hunt was to pursue, and it was stated in the evidence of Francis Curran that they were pursuing seals, and took them whenever they could be taken. The vessel was, in his opinion, most certainly seized while in the act of hunting for seals. The crew had all testified that the vessel was on the way from one hunting ground to the other, and was so engaged on the morning of the 29th August, when were found within the region of the prohibited zone. As I said just now, when they saw seals they hunted them, and I may say that when they did that the chances are that they certainly caught them; and what should have prevented them from pursuing their ordinary calling? Nothing but the unexpected appearance of a Russian cruiser at five o'clock in the morning. The officer in command therefore had her arrested and then sent down here for the Court to adjudicate in her case. Counsel then described the reasons which incited the British and Russian Governments to come to the arrangements which had lead to the passing of the Act. It was to protect the Russian sealing grounds from being raided, poached, or shot over by British vessels. The British Government had good reasons for coming to such an agreement with Russia and to doubt such questions of high diplomacy as the promotion of goodwill between the two nations and the prevention cases of friction in international relations from arising, entered into them too. Rapidly reviewing the testimony given, Counsel said that sufficient evidence was adduced to show that the vessel was hunting for seals or in pursuit of them at the time she was stopped. In regard to the question of a want of reasonable cause to detain the vessel in Yokohama, Counsel contended that in his answer to the petition defendant did not complain of any unreasonable lapse of time occurring in instituting the proceedings, therefore the matter could not come before the Court, as the grievance was not set forth in the answer. He would not labour the question of knowledge of the Act possessed by plaintiff, he would merely point out that plaintiff received sufficient knowledge of the facts of the case from the protocol to justify his detaining the vessel. But so far from detaining her against her will, plaintiff had never been approached by the master to release her on bail. Defendant might under the Act have taken these proper steps and applied for such release. But he did not do so, and plaintiff had no other course before him but to follow the course which devolved upon from the first moment of the vessel's detention. After a few further remarks, Counsel prayed the Court to grant the prayer of his petition in the manner set out.

His Honour said he would write out his decision, and the Court rose.

YOKOHAMA CHIHO SAIBANSHO.

(CIVIL DIVISION.)

Before Judge ARIYAMA GENZO, President, and Associate Judges NAKADA and TAKINO.

Tuesday, November 29th, 1893.

NEW ORIENTAL BANK, LIMITED (IN LIQ.) *v.* A. M. APCAR.

This case came up for hearing to-day, on adjournment from the 7th inst., for the purpose of obtaining the evidence of Mr. Donald Fraser, late Manager of the New O.B.C., Ltd., in liquidation.

Mr. Masujima represented the plaintiff, and Mr Sawada the defendant.

The amount of the claim is $9,895 46 with interest and costs, a rehearing having been ordered by the Tokyo Court of Appeal on the ground that the decision of the lower Court was bad in law and contrary to the provisions of the Law of Civil Procedure. At the first rehearing, after arguments by Counsel, it was agreed that an adjournment should take place pending steps for the subpœna of Mr. D. Fraser as a witness.

On the case being called to day, the Court intimated that the matter before the Court was the taking of evidence.

Mr. Sawada asked whether it would not be as well, in view of the fact that English would be spoken, to have a competent man to do the interpretation. As he considered this of importance, he proposed that Mr. Uchiyama Rosetsu be permitted to ask questions.

The Court—You mean to let him interpret?

Mr. Sawada—Yes, to ask questions.

Mr. Masujima had no objection to his interpreting simply, but objected to his conducting the examination of the witness. However, he much preferred that this should be done by the Court interpreter or by the Counsel in the case.

Mr. Sawada was of opinion the plan he proposed was the best, for although he might say he understood English, he believed it would be better to have a man who understood the language perfectly.

Mr. Masujima objected to Mr. Uchiyama on the ground that, being defendant's interpreter and presumably acquainted with the case, his interpretation might prejudice plaintiff's case.

The Court (to Mr. Sawada)—Has Mr. Uchiyama any connection with the case?

Mr. Sawada—None whatever.

The Court—Do you want to have him?

Mr. Sawada—Yes, most decidedly.

Mr. Masujima was of opinion that he was more or less interested, and did not think it fair that his services should be availed of.

The Court decided to use the Court interpreter, Mr. Uchiyama to act as a check on his interpretation.

Mr. Sawada—Could I not make use of him for asking questions on defendant's behalf?

The Court—Yes, we have no objection to that.

Mr. Fraser was then called.

Mr. Sawada here raised the question as to the form of oath that witness should take. He proposed that Mr. Fraser be sworn according to the rule in

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vogue in the British Court, he being a British subject. There was no special law relative to this matter in the Japanese Code, although sections 307 might be said to apply, consequently he would quote some English books of reference on the matter. As there was nothing decided on this point in the Japanese Courts, he proposed to follow the rule in foreign Courts in such cases. He did not think he would be wrong in asking that witness be sworn in accordance with the system prevailing in the British Court, he being a British subject.

The Court—Is there any rule you can quote in support of your contention?

Mr. Sawada—No; but it seems to be understood that British subjects are sworn under a prescribed form of oath. I know of no rule governing such cases in other Courts, but I submit that the witness, being a British subject, should take the oath prescribed by his own Court.

Mr. Masujima objected to English law being quoted at all, Japanese law should govern the case, and in support of his objection he would quote section 307 (read). He was willing that the witness make an affirmation, which was the only form of oath provided; he proposed this in order to prevent any dispute which might lead to unnecessary trouble and waste of time. In Japanese Courts Japanese rules must be followed,—that was to say an affirmation was all that could be insisted upon, not an oath, such affirmation to be a written one and signed by the witness.

The Court being in some doubt on this point, retired to consider it.

On resuming, the Court intimated that in the first place Mr. Fraser, being an Englishman, and consequently outside the jurisdiction of the Court, it could make no binding order on him to take an oath; secondly, if such British subject did perjure himself, again being beyond their jurisdiction, they could not punish him. For these reasons they would decide against the defendant.

Mr. Sawada then consulted his client, after which he intimated that he would dispense with witness's evidence, as it would be useless without being sworn to.

Mr. Fraser said he hoped that, as it was the second time it had happened, he would not be called again. He had been put to much inconvenience and suffered much waste of time, and trusted that it would not again happen.

The Court informed Mr. Fraser that he had not been called by the Court, but by defendant.

Mr. Fraser said that his time had been wasted twice, he trusted that it would not be allowed to occur again.

There being no witnesses on either side,

Mr. Sawada intimated that he was prepared to let his case rest on the record before the Court.

Mr. Masujima agreed to this, but added a few words, in the course of which he contended that Martin could in no way be held responsible for the transaction.

Mr. Sawada briefly replied, pointing out that Apcar was only the Agent on commission. As for certain letters which had been brought forward, he did not think they could be received, as Mr. Fraser's evidence had not been taken relative thereto.

This closed the case, and the Court announced that judgment would be delivered on the 30th inst. at 10 a.m.

Thursday, November 30th, 1893.

This case came up for Judgment to-day, the time set being 10 o'clock, but it was not until 11.35 that the Court assembled.

The plaintiff was unrepresented, but the defendant was present in person.

The Court first informed defendant that the Judgment was upon an order for a rehearing ordered by the Kose In for the production of further evidence. As nothing new had been elicited, the judgment would practically be a repetition of that previously delivered by the Court. Briefly, that defendant, A. M. Apcar, pay to the plaintiff in the the suit the sum of $9,895.46 claimed by it with interest at the rate of 8 per cent per annum from the 9th of day January of the 26th year of Meiji (1893) until the execution of judgment. Regarding the defendant's contention that he is not responsible for the sum of $6,600, on the ground that it is a debt contracted by M. Z. Martin as can be proved by Exhibit No. 9 put into Court and now in possession of the plaintiff, and bearing a statement that "The account to be claimed against M. Z. Martin," still it has not been proved to the satisfaction of the Court that the bank relieved him of responsibility, although the money was used by Martin. Again, the defendant says he is not responsible for the further sum of $2,400 claimed by the plaintiff, as it was used by him in a suit against Martin in behalf of said bank. This defence, however, has not been established, there being no evidence to prove this. As to the question of the interest charged, it is clear to the Court, from Exhibits Nos. 1, 3, and 5 in plaintiff's possession, that the rate agreed upon was 8 per cent., which was also acquiesced in by defendant in Court. Upon these grounds, judgment is given for plaintiff with costs

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INTERCEPTED LETTERS.—III.

To the Editor of the "Mumei Shimbun."

London, 7th day of 9th month,
26th year of Meiji.

Honourable Sir,—I become more interested in my surroundings every day, and by refraining as far as possible from mixing with the natives I am able to give you a more faithful account than would otherwise be the case of what these people think, say, and do—what are their objects in life, and what impulses move them. Of course it is necessary to go into their public places at times in order to see the practical outcome of their low stage of civilisation, but my knowledge of English being as yet defective I gather less evil from this practice than might be supposed. I am but repeating a truism when I say that to properly criticise national characteristics it is well to be among a people, but at the same time to carefully refrain from being of them. Thus with my scanty knowledge of the national language and with my exceedingly small acquaintance among the natives, I am evidently in an excellent position for framing unbiassed judgments.

* * * *

I would that those evil counsellors among our number who seem to wish that Japan should imitate Westerners in their judicial methods could witness the procedure in the native law courts. You are aware that I have always opposed the establishment of Western judicial methods in our own country, because these always seemed to me a lapse into the savagery of pre-patriarchal days, when each man was for himself and Jigoku took the hindmost. My advice and remonstrances availed nothing, however, and we have Codes and Courts which in our land are altogether foreign to the national spirit and are an ever-present reminder of how a nation can on one point retrogress, even while otherwise maintaining a high Oriental civilisation. The principle upon which Oriental social order is based is that of responsibility—a principle which Occidentals do not in their present immature stage of development understand, even though the phrase is common with them. Without responsibility our social fabric would fly in pieces like a pack of cards, for even to-day, though we have imported so much that is evil from the Occident, the doctrine of responsibility is still an all-pervading force, making the master responsible for his servant and the father for his son, even as in the older days and under the completer system the *samurai* was responsible for the *heimin* and the *daimyo* for the *samurai*.

* * * *

But with these Occidentals there is nothing of this grand principle of solidarity. Each is a law unto himself, and a father or a superior is no more responsible for his son or his servant than if the latter bore no relation to him whatever. Thus in the absence of the patriarchal method of settling disputes, an elaborate judicial system is necessary in order to deal with the evils of such an anarchical state of things. However, I scarcely intended to digress into these philosophical delineations of causes, but rather, as I have said before, to paint the facts as I see them. I have told you already of my experience of a magistrate's court; I have now to add that of a High Court of Justice. I went to the latter Court with a native who had been called as a witness in some case with reference to the loss of jewels. When I got into the Court I found the Judge seated on a raised dais dressed in a gaudily-coloured gown, with very white hair done up in little curls. This, though it looked curious, was not surprising to me, as I thought it might have been the fashion to dress the hair thus when he was young, for he looked very old indeed, and every now and then would fall asleep from weakness and old age. But what puzzled me was that all the lawyers had their hair dressed in similar fashion, though some of them were quite young men. I ventured to make a remark to a native near me upon this curious bleaching of the hair among lawyers, and asked if it was caused by the intense study they had to go through. The native unfortunately was irreverent and coarse, even for a native, and replied, "That's not their own 'air, you bloomin' idiot, that's a wig." But I held my peace, for I remembered that the North American savages have similar customs of hair-decoration.

* * * *

The trial commenced, and my native acquaintance was at last called as a witness. He knew nothing about the actual facts of the case; all he was called to prove was that the jewels said to have been stolen were mounted in a way by no means uncommon—that, in fact, there were many duplicates of them in the world. This information having been elicited, the first lawyer sat down and another one immediately jumped up, and in a fierce and threatening fashion asked the witness if he had ever been in a Court of Justice before. "Yes," said the witness. "In the dock?" "No." "Have you ever been convicted for any offence?" "No." "Try and recollect," said the lawyer, threateningly; "you are on your oath, remember." "No," said the witness; "I have never been convicted in any Court." "Not for murder?" persisted the counsel. "No." "Any of your relatives been in trouble for murder?" "Not one of them." "Nor manslaughter?" "No." "Nor theft?" "No." "Not for burglary—now for burglary—now think" "No, not even for burglary." And so the lawyer went on, imputing all manner of wickednesses to the witness, and speaking with such a confident air of perfect knowledge that I had no difficulty in coming to the conclusion that this acquaintance of mine in the witness-box was one of the most abandoned scoundrels unhung.

* * * *

I felt more convinced of this when the same lawyer summed up for his side, and referring to my native friend, said that the jury would remember he had asked witness whether any of his relatives had ever been guilty of murder. The witness had replied in the negative, yet, said the lawyer, "it is clearly impossible for this man to know whether some of his relatives, say a century or two ago, may not have been guilty of this crime. Nevertheless, gentlemen, you heard him unhesitatingly, unblushingly, and with brazen front assert that none of his relatives had ever been in trouble for murder." "Can you," continued the counsel, "after this attach the slightest credence to any evidence this man may have given?"

* * * *

Naturally I thought these to be terrible charges, and had made up my mind to go back to my lodgings by myself rather than accept the guidance of a man with such a reputation. Just at this moment, however, my acquaintance appeared, the hearing being finished for the day, and I reluctantly accompanied him. On the way he explained to me that lawyers were privileged persons who were allowed to attempt to discredit a witness's evidence by imputing all manner of crimes to him, though they had not the slightest knowledge of anything against the witness's character. I asked whether the Judges did not endeavour to put a stop to this sort of thing, and he replied that the Judges had all been practising lawyers first, and could not very well frown down the means they had themselves employed. It is one of the privileges of a lawyer, he continued, to impute all manner of offences to persons in the witness-box, and if any of the papers make any comments on a worse example than usual, it is not at all uncommon for the Judge to go out of his way and thank the gentlemen of the bar for the great assistance rendered the Court in that particular case.

* * * *

But I find this is not the most serious drawback of law in this country. It is a common expression here that ignorance is no excuse for a breach of the law. Yet no one knows what the law really is upon any particular point until the matter is brought before a judge and argued out by two or more lawyers, each of whom is opposed to the other's interpretation. Then if the defeated party is not satisfied with the decision, the case is taken to a higher Court, which perhaps disagrees with the judgment delivered below, while this may not impossibly be reaffirmed on appeal to the highest Court of all. The persons who pay for settling what is law upon any particular point are the litigants who bring the matter before the Court. No statues are erected to them, however, in memory of their good deeds in unveiling the law of the country, but my friend speaks of their efforts being rewarded by the running up of monumental costs—which is presumably some token of national appreciation.

* * * *

The more I study these natives the more interested I become. They are strikingly different from ourselves, and therefore strikingly inferior, but, having a somewhat optimistic turn of mind, I like to think of these people as progressing rather than retrogressing. There may even be a time when the gross native mind may realise the true inwardness of the doctrine of responsibility, and the States gradually approach the patriarchal system of government, in which no law is required save the dictates of common sense.

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But they are a long way from such a state of things as yet, and we would do well to recollect this when any attempt is made to praise Western methods or ideas. What good thing ever came out of the Occident? -*Kobe Chronicle.*

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[Reuter "Special" to "Japan Mail."]

London, November 26.

The Italian Ministry has resigned.

The French Ministry has resigned.

Mr. Gladstone is suffering from insomnia, and has been ordered to visit Brighton by his medical adviser.

Negotiations have been opened between Spain and Morocco, but have failed to produce any satisfactory result. General Campos will proceed immediately to Melilla, and will there take charge of the operations against the Moors after having formed two army corps each consisting of 10,000 men

London, November 27.

It is reported in Washington that the Democratic New Tariff Bill includes a reduction of the duty on opium and a total reduction of duties amounting to fifty million dollars.

London, November 28th.

Two infernal machines, from Orleans, have been sent to the Emperor of Germany. General Count von Caprivi, the Chancellor of the Empire, owing to certain suspicious circumstances in connection with the package, ordered them both to be opened, which was done without causing an explosion.

The Times says that the betrothal of the Czarewitch with Princess Helene of Orleans is impending.

London, November 29.

The betrothal of the Czarewitch and the Princess Helene of Orleans is officially denied.

The Marquis of Salisbury, speaking at Cardiff, said that the position of foreign affairs, in view of the crisis abroad, was not reassuring, and insisted upon the vital importance of upholding the supremacy of the navy.

London, December 1.

Mr. Gladstone has stated that the Government was not informed that Russia was acquiring a naval rendezvous in the Mediterranean, and there is no reason to suppose that negotiations are proceeding in reference to the matter. But if Turkey allowed the war-ships of any nation to make the passage of the Dardanelles, Great Britain would of course claim the same privilege.

[Specially Telegraphed to the "Japan Daily Mail."] From the "N.-C. Daily News."]

November 20.

Referring to the losses sustained by the Bank of England, through the recent collapse of several Trust Companies, which is believed to have led to the resignation of Mr. May, the Chief Cashier, *The Times* urges that the Directors should publish the facts in order to reassure the public and stop the scandalous rumours now in circulation.

In the House of Commons yesterday, during a discussion on the efficiency of the Navy, Mr. Gladstone said that Parliament feared nothing in regard to the upholding of Great Britain's distinct naval supremacy.

As a result of the mediation of the Government in the coal strike, the miners will resume work on Monday next at their old rate of wages.

The deaths are announced of Prince Alexander of Battenberg, and Sir Robert Morier, Ambassador to St. Petersburg.

A strong movement has been started in London in favour of increasing the strength of the Navy and with this object public meetings are being organiszd.

November 22.

Three officers of the Canadian Militia, of French extraction, one being the son of ex-Premier Mercier, of Quebec, have been arrested at Montreal whilst making an attempt at midnight to blow up the Nelson Monument in that city with dynamite. For some time past a growing animosity has been observed to exist between the French and English residents of Quebec.

November 23.

The programme drawn up by Lord Charles Beresford for increasing the strength of the Navy has been published and estimates the total outlay necessary to be eighteen millions. The proposals include the building of ten small new class ironclads for destroying the torpedo stations of the enemy in narrow seas.

November 24.

Only slow progress is made in the House of Commons with the Parish Councils Bill, the second clause being now under discussion in Committee. In consequence of defeat, the Government has promised to introduce an amendment to the Married Women's Franchise Bill, but the passing of the bill before Christmas is doubtful.

November 25.

The Egyptian Budget shows a surplus of upwards of half-a-million sterling.

Messrs. Hooglandt's premises at Singapore were destroyed by fire on the 15th inst., and the loss is estimated at $300,000

Mr Butler, German Consul at Canton, committed suicide by shooting himself with a revolver on the 18th inst.

CHESS.

[All communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.

The Yokohama Chess Club meets at the Club Rooms, No. 88, Main Street, on Mondays and Thursdays from 5 to 11 p.m.

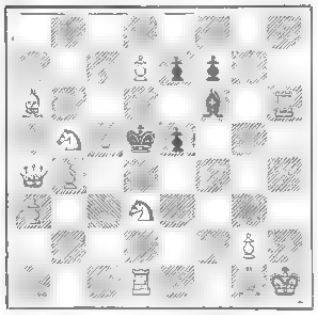
The Tokyo Chess Club meets at the Hotel Métropole on Fridays from 1 to 11 p.m.

Solution of Problem No. 97.

WHITE	BLACK
1—R — Q B 4	1—K × R
2—Kt — K B 7, mate	
	if 1—R × R
2—Kt — K Kt 4, mate	
	if 1—P × R
2—B — Q Kt 2, mate	
	if 1—K × Kt
2—R × R mate	
	if 1—R × Kt
2—R — Q 5, mate	
	if 1—P × Kt
3—B — K B 4, mate.	

Correct solutions received from Digamma, W.H.S., O.B., Omega, J.D., and J.W.E.

Problem No. 99
By Thos. Guest.



White to play and mate in two moves.

There is very little of interest in the local Chess world. The Tournaments go on quietly in both Clubs, and we observe that the Tokyo Chess Club has changed its day of meeting from Tuesday to Friday. Play for the Championship of the Yokohama Club commences on Monday, 4th December.

The Nagasaki-Yokohama correspondence games are finished. Game A (Ruy Lopez) has resulted in a draw, while Nagasaki is the victor in Game B (Petroff's defence). We are preparing the games for publication at an early date, with notes.

We take the following from the *Manchester Examiner* and are delighted to find that some fine Chess is being played both in Europe and America.

Tarrasch v. Tchigorin.

The match of ten games up, draws not counting, between Tarrasch and Tchigorin, is now in progress at St. Petersburg. Latest score: Tchigorin 2, Tarrasch 1.

The following are the moves of the first game, from which it will be seen that Tchigorin avoided many very ingenious traps set for him, but fell into a beautiful combination on his 21st move, after which his game was lost.

Ruy Lopez.

WHITE. Tarrasch.	BLACK. Tchigorin.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—K Kt to B 3	2—Q Kt to B 3
3—B to Kt 5	3—P to Q R 3
4—B to R 4	4—Kt to B 3
5—Castles	5—Kt × P
6—P to Q 4	6—P to Q Kt 4
7—B to Kt 3	7—P to Q 4
8—P × P	8—Kt to K 2
9—P to Q R 4	9—Q R to Kt sq.
10—P × P	10—P × P
11—Kt to Q 4	11—Kt to Q B 4
12—B to Kt 5	12—Q to Q 2
13—Q Kt to B 3	13—P to Q B 3
14—Q to R 5	14—Kt to Kt 3
15—K R to K sq.	15—Kt to K 3
16—B to K 3	16—Kt × Kt
17—B × Kt	17—Kt to B 5
18—Q to B 3	18—Kt to K 3
19—B to K 3	19—B to Kt 5
20—B to Q 2	20—Castles
21—Q to Kt 3	21—P to K B 4
22—Kt × Q P	22—P × Kt
23—B × B	23—R to Q sq.
24—B to Q 6	24—R to Kt 3
25—B × P	25—Q to K B 2
26—Q to K 3	26—R to R 3
27—R × R	27—B × R
28—Q to Kt 6	28—B to B sq.
29—B × Kt	29—Resigns.

International Tournament at New York.

An international tournament was begun at the Manhattan Chess Club, New York, on Saturday week. There were fourteen competitors viz: E. Lasker, of Berlin; A. Albin, of Vienna; M. Taubenhaus, of Paris; F. J. Lee, G. H. D. Gossip, and N. Jasnagrodsky, of London; and the following American players: Showalter, Pollock, Delmar, Pillsbury, L. Schmidt, Hanham, Olly, and Ryan. Lasker won his first two games—against Ryan and Hanham. The following is his game with Hanham:—

Queen's Gambit declined.

WHITE Lasker.	BLACK Hanham.
1—P to Q 4	1—P to Q 4
2—P to Q B 4	2—P to Q B 3
3—Kt to Q B 3	3—P to K 3
4—Kt to B 3	4—Kt to B 3
5—P to K 3	5—B to K 2
6—B to Q 3	6—Q Kt to Q 2
7—Castles.	7—Castles.
8—P to Q Kt 3	8—Q to B 2
9—B to Kt 2	9—R to Q sq.
10—R to B sq.	10—P to Q R 3
11—Q to K 2	11—Kt to B sq.
12—Kt to K 5	12—Kt to K sq
13—P to B 4	13—P to B 3
14—Kt to B 3	14—P to K B 4
15—P to K Kt 4	15—P × Kt P
16—Kt to K 5	16—Kt to B 3
17—P to Q B 5	17—R to K sq.
18—K to R sq.	18—B to Q sq.
19—R to K Kt sq.	19—R to R 2
20—Kt to Q sq.	20—B to Q 2
21—B to B 3	21—B to K sq.
22—B to K sq.	22—B to R 4
23—Q to K Kt 2	23—Kt (B sq.) to Q 2
24—B to R 4	24—R to K sq.
25—Kt to B 2	25—R to Q B sq.
26—Q to Kt 3	26—Kt to B sq.
27—R to Kt 2	27—Kt to Kt 3
28—B (R 4) × Kt	28—P × B
29—Kt × Kt	29—P × Kt
30—B × Kt P	30—B × B
31—Q × P	31—Q to R 2
32—Q R to K Kt sq.	32—R to B 2
33—Q × B ch.	33—Q × Q
34—R × Q ch.	34—K to R sq.
35—Kt to Kt 4	35—R to B sq.
36—Kt to R 6	36—R to Q 2
37—P to B 5	37—P × P
38—Kt × P	38—B to B 2
39—R to R 6 ch.	39—Resigns.

The latest news with regard to the above contests is that on 28th October Tarrasch had won 5 games, Tchigorin 4, and that Lasker has come out first in the New York tournament with a score of 13, winning every game which he played.

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MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, Nagasaki, and Kobe ..	per N. Y. K.	Friday, Dec 8th.
From America	per P. M. Co.	Saturday, Dec. 9th.*
From Hongkong .. .	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Dec. 3rd.†
From Hongkong .	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, Dec. 7th.‡
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Dec 10th ‖
From America .	per O. & O. Co.	Sunday, Dec. 17th.
From Canada, &c. ..	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Dec. 25th.

* *China* left San Francisco viâ Honolulu on November 21st. † *Ancona* will leave Kobe on December 2nd. ‡ *Empress of India* left Hongkong on November 30th. ‖ *Yarra* (with French mail) left Hongkong on December 1st.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Sunday, Dec. 3rd.
For Europe, viâ Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Dec. 3rd.
For Shangha , Kobe, and Nagasaki	per N. Y. K.	Tuesday, Dec 5th.
For Canada, &c. . . .	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, Dec 8th.
For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Dec 10th.
For America . .	per O. & O. Co.	Saturday, Dec. 16th.
For Victoria, B.C., and Tacoma, Wash. . . .	per N. P. Co	Saturday, Dec. 3rd
For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co,	Monday, Dec 25th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Sorachi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,108, Renny, 25th November,—Kobe 24th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,219, Wilson, 26th November,—Misumi viâ Shimonoseki, 18th November, Coal and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Salazie, French steamer, 4,016, A. Paul, 26th November,—Marseilles 15th October, Hongkong 17th November, Shanghai 21st, and Kobe 25th, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Tacoma, British steamer, 1,661, J. R. Hill, 26th November,—Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, J. Nirei, 26th November,—Hakodate viâ ports 24th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Ekstrand, 26th November,—Kobe 25th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, G. A. Lee, 27th November,—Vancouver, B.C., 14th November, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,053, Thompson, 27th November,—Hakodate 25th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, R. R. Searle, 28th November,—San Francisco 9th November, Mails and General.—P. M. S. S. Co.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Pender, 29th November,—Otaru viâ ports 24th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 684, M. Matsumoto, 29th November,—Yokkaichi 28th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. Young, 29th November,—Kobe 28th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sessiu Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,011, Hayashi, 30th November,—Kobe 28th November, General.—Nada Kogio Kabushiki Kaisha.

Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 386, S. Tsuji, 30th November,—Nemuro, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,246, J. T. Smith, 30th November,—Hongkong viâ ports, 23rd November, Mails and General.—P. M. S. S. Co.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 30th November,—Moji, Coal.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, T. Sakai, 30th November,—Kobe 29th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Helene Rickmers, German steamer, 2,034, C. Hess, 1st December,—Batoum 12th October, Petroleum.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Kanazawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 895, Nakai, 1st December,—Hakodate, Coal.—S. Asano & Co.

Nürnberg German steamer, 2,007, H. Walter, 1st December,—Hongkong 25th November, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, Conner, 1st December,—Shanghai and ports 25th November, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Setsuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,011, Kawano, 1st December,—Kobe 30th November, General.—Kabushiki Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,580, C. Anderson, 25th November,—Fushiki, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Bankoku Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,475, Okuma, 25th November,—Otaru, Light.—S. Asano & Co.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 25th November,—Moji, Light.—Mitsu Bish Sha.

Sagami Maru Japanese steamer, 1,168, Crichton, 25th November,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. Young, 25th November,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sorachi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,108, Renny, 26th November,—Hachinohe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Strathesk, British steamer, 1,454, Foulds, 26th November,—Kobe, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Verona, British steamer, 1,878, C. H. S. Tocque, 26th November,—Hongkong viâ Kobe and Nagasaki Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Hinode Maru, Japanese steamer, 789, G. Sofuye, 27th November,—Moji, Light.—S. Asano & Co.

Korio Maru, Japanese steamer, 800, Sengoku, 27th November,—Kobe, General.—Tani Michisha.

Tacoma, British steamer, 1,661, J. R. Hill, 27th November,—Hongkong viâ Moji, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, J. Nirei, 27th November,—Kobe, General. Nippon Yusen Kaisha

Triomphante (12), French flagship, Captain Borel de Brétizel, 27th November,—Kobe.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, G. A. Lee, 28th November,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Ocampo, British steamer, 1,311, H. T. C. Price, 28th November,—New York viâ ports, General, Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,358, Haswell, 28th November,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,053, Thompson, 28th November,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Ekstrand, 28th November, Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha

Itsukushima Kan (12), Japanese cruiser, Captain K. Ijichi, 28th November,—Yokosuka.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, R. R. Searle, 30th November,—Hongkong, Mails and General.—P. M. S. S. Co.

Sessiu Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,011, Hayashi, 30th November,—Shinagawa, General.—Nada Kogio Kabushiki Kaisha.

Petrel (4), U. S. gunboat, Lieut.-Commander Book, 1st December,—Kobe.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,219, Wilson, 1st December,—Shimonoseki, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Pender, 1st December,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. Young, 1st December,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Setsuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,011, Kawano, 1st December,—Shinagawa, General.—Kabushiki Kaisha.

Chiyoda Kan (24), Japanese cruiser, Captain Senjiu, 1st December,—Yokosuka.

Tsukuba Kan (8), Japanese corvette, Captain T. Kurooka, 1st December,—Yokosuka.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per French steamer *Salazie*, from Marseilles viâ ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Courant and servant, Messrs. Soughi, Mattu, Oshima, Ota Masanori, John Arthur, Lunn, Sawyer, Moreau, Fradin de Bellabe, Hugh E. Ramsay, Benavides and boy, Isaac Bunting, and Casati in cabin.

Per British steamer *Tacoma*, from Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C.:—Mr. W. M. Murray in cabin; 4 Japanese in steerage. For Hongkong: 93 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, from Hakodate viâ ports:—1 passenger in second class and 14 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Omi Maru*, from Kobe:—Mr. and Mrs. Evington, Mr. Graham Lee, and Mr. J. Hind in cabin; 3 passengers in second and 13 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, from Vancouver, B.C.:—Bishop Bickersteth, Mrs. Bickersteth, Captain Brurgonio, Mr. Geo Brook worth, Mr. John Lee Carroll, Miss Dawson, Mr. H. A. Foster, Mr. John W. Goss, D. Goldezeiger, Mr. Hewitt, Mrs. Kato, Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Knight, Mr. H. J. Mark, Mr. Maruyama, Mr. D. May, Rev. J. H. and Mrs. McArthur, Mr. W. G. McKenzie, Mr. Okura, Mr. and Mrs. Pownall and child, Mr. Tokuye, Mr. Samuel Tuke, Miss White, and Mr. Bolet in cabin; 3 passengers in second class, and 6 passengers in Asiatic steerage. For Hongkong: Mr. and Mrs. G. Armitage, Mr. and Mrs. Fitman, Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Mathews, Mr. Henry W. Pearce, Hon. Sydney Parker and servant, Mrs. Outhout, the Misses Outhout (3), Hon. Stafford Tollemache, Mr. Stephenson, Mr. Speight, Rev. Dr. Vincent, and Lieut. Whidborne in cabin; 486 Chinese in steerage. For Shanghai: Rev. Mr. Blolock, Mr. C. Buchanan, Rev. W. E. Crocker, Mr. and Mrs. Geddes, Dr. Henderson, Rev. D. W. Herring, Mr. O'Riordan, Rev. F. M. Royall, and Rev. R. W. and Mrs. Stewart in cabin.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, from San Francisco:—Mr. and Mrs. S. P. Read and 2 children, Mr. H. H. Taylor, Mr. F. Taylor, Mr. and Mrs. Q. Meyer, Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Guy, Mr. Shozo Arioka, Mr. Risuke Hayakawa, Mr. Gurney Binford, Mr. Chong Kum Wong, Mr. Ari Ki Sun, Mr. Choo Moon Hun, Mr. Rahim Sheat, Mr. S. Kato, and Mr. T. Teramura in cabin. For Hongkong: Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Ferrari and 2 children, Mr. and Mrs. Ferari, Mr. Kuhnoven, Rev. Dr. McFarland, Mr. Dell C. Beardsley, and Mr. E. Megget in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, from Otaru viâ ports:—Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Brigham and 2 children in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Yamshiro Maru*, from Kobe:—2 passengers in second class and 18 passengers in steerage.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Messrs. J. Rickett, F. W. Mitchell, F. Grosser, R. S. Bradley, and J. H. Maher in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Sendai Maru*, from Kobe viâ Shiotsu:—1 passenger in second class and 17 passengers in steerage.

Per German steamer *Nürnberg*, from Hongkong:—Consul F. Reinsdorff in cabin; Mrs. Nagazorie Mariol in second class; Mr. F. Chiyataro and Mr. F. Morita in third class, and 17 Chinese on deck.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Miss Horsburgh, Mrs. and Miss Orr, Mr. and Miss E. Paff, Mr. and Miss T. Tsuji, Mr. W. Sasaki, and Mr. Rowdensky in cabin; Mrs. M. Shibayama, Mrs. H. Shibayama, Mr. Werner, Mr. Meresel, Mr. Krager, Mr. Mitsuda, and Mr. Orr's servant in second class, and 22 passengers in steerage. For San Francisco: Mr. E. A. Jones and Mr. Godfrag in cabin; Mr. J. King and Mr. H. Thompson in second class. For London: Rev. Karl Vingren in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Verona*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. F. D. Roberts, General and Mrs. Simpson and manservant, Mr. W. Gwyn, Lieut. Daniel, R.N., Mr. C. H. Lisney, Miss A. M. Patten, Mr. R. P. Drage, Rev. H. Lang, Mr. Land, Mr. and Mrs. S. Reynolds, Miss Reynolds, Mr. C. W. Ufford, Mr. A. T. Smithson, Mr. and Mrs. Edwards, Mr. Tronson, Dr. N. Counden, Mr. and Mrs. W. Baynes, Mr. C. C. Trafford, Mr. W. Simon, Mr. Wm. Collins, Mrs. Churchill and maid, Mr. De Hau de Staplande, and Mr. Yoes de Raismes in cabin; 1 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—General Kurogi, Mrs. Kurogi and child, Miss Dur Yea, Miss Lansing, Messrs. A. F. MacNab, Yeend Duer, H. S. Ramsay, O. Vimals, Uchida, and Hung Chow in cabin; Mrs. N. Toda and W. Toda, Mr. and Mrs. Miyamoto, Messrs. Tanabe, Eriguchi, Chang Yen Tong, and Cheung Oy Wan in second class, and 51 passengers in steerage.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, for Hongkong:—Commander and Mrs. Barber, Mrs. A. V. Atchison and daughter, and Mr. J. A. Pearne in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, $100,000.00.

Per British steamer *Verona*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Silk, 322 bales; Waste Silk, 51 bales.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, $2,400.00.

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Fushiki Maru*, Captain Wilson, reports:—Left Misumi the 18th November at 11.30 a.m. and Nagasaki the 19th at 1.30 p.m.; had moderate N.N.W. winds with fine and clear weather to Shimonoseki, where arrived the 20th at 7 a.m. Left the 21st at 6.45 a.m.; had light variable winds with clear weather through Inland Sea and arrived at Kobe the 22nd at 7.30 a.m. Left the 24th at 10.45 p.m.; had fresh to moderate N.W. winds with continuing fine, clear weather

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throughout the passage. Arrived at Yokohama the 26th November at 8 15 a m.

The Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, Captain Nirei, reports:—Left Hakodate the 24th November at 8 a.m.; had fine weather and strong westerly winds and heavy easterly swell. Arrived at Ogi-nohama the 25th at 7.15 a.m. and left the same day at 0.30 p.m.; had fine, clear weather and moderate sea with strong westerly breeze; passed Inuboye the 26th at 3 a.m.; thence to port moderate to light northerly breeze and fine weather. Arrived at Yokohama the 26th November at 1.40 p m.

The Japanese steamer *Omi Maru*, Captain J. W. Ekstrand, reports:—Left Kobe the 25th November at noon; had moderate to fresh N.W. winds and fine weather; passed Oshima the same day at 8 p.m., had same weather to Rock Island; thence light N.W. winds and fine weather. Arrived at Yokohama the 26th November at 4.55 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Miike Maru*, Captain W. Thompson, reports:—Left Hakodate the 25th November at 1 p.m; passed Kinkasan the 26th at 10.16 a.m.; passed Inuboye at midnight. Arrived at Yokohama the 27th November at 10 50 a.m.; from Hakodate to Kinkasan experienced strong N.W. breeze with heavy snow squalls; thence to port fresh to moderate westerly winds and fine, clear weather.

The American steamer *City of Peking*, Captain R. R. Seaile, reports:—Left San Francisco the 9th November at 4.05 p m.; had pleasant run to the 180th Meridian which we crossed on the 18th in lat. 35°.45'; from the 18th to the 22nd had moderate to fresh N.W. winds with moderate sea and swell; on the 22nd increasing to violent gale and swell, continually shipping water but doing no damage until 12 20 p.m. when a sea came aboard just abaft the starboard main rigging, carrying away lifeboats No. 2, 4, 6, 8, and 12, engine room skylight, social hall, and captain's room, damaging after wheel-house and the saloon. Captain and several passengers hurt, but no one seriously; barometer 29 77; cleared away wreck, wind and sea moderating towards evening, continued stiff breeze shifting to S S.W.; on the 23rd wind again hauled to N.W.; on the 24th, wind blowing fresh with moderately rough sea and swell, clear and fine with occasional rain squalls; on the 26th passed steamer *Oceanic* bound south and east; wind falling off, by evening fine, clear, and cool weather; thence to port N.W. to W.N.W. breeze and sea. Time, 18 days, 4 hours, 10 minutes.

The Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, Captain Young, reports:—Left Kobe the 28th November at noon; had light variable airs and fine weather and smooth sea throughout the passage. Arrived at Yokohama the 29th November at 6.15 p m

The Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, Captain Pender reports:—Left Otaru the 24th November at 2 p.m.; had strong westerly gale with high sea and heavy snow to Hakodate, arrived the 25th at 11.15 a.m. and left the 27th at 8 a.m.; had fine weather and fresh N.W. winds. Arrived at Ogi-nohama the 28th at 5 a.m. and left the same day at 11.30 a.m., had light variable winds and fine weather. Arrived at Yokohama the 29th November at 11.18 a.m.

The American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, Captain J T. Smith, reports:—Left Hongkong the 23rd November at 6.48 a m., viâ Nagasaki, and Kobe. Arrived at Yokohama the 30th November at 8 12 p.m. Passage, 7 days, 11 hours, 42 minutes. From Oshima had strong head wind and moderate sea, below Rock Island passed a German ship which signalled Q F.S.H

The Japanese steamer *Sendai Maru*, Captain T. Sakai, reports:—Left Kobe the 29th November at 10.10 a.m; had light south-easterly breeze and fine, cloudy weather. Arrived at Shiotsu at 1.45 p.m. and left at 4 7 p.m; had light easterly breeze and rainy weather; after passing round Oshima, light to moderate north-easterly breeze and overcast, rainy weather. Arrived at Yokohama the 30th November at 9 p m.

The German steamer *Nürnberg*, Captain Hugo Walter, reports:—Left Hongkong the 25th November; had fresh E.N E. to N.N E. winds, partly rough sea, and fine weather throughout the voyage; under the coast of Japan northerly winds, smooth sea, and partly cloudy. Arrived at Yokohama the 1st December at 10.6 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, Captain G. W. Conner, reports:—Left Shanghai the 25th November at 11 15 a.m. and arrived at Nagasaki the 27th at 5 a.m.; after a fine passage with light northerly winds and overcast sky. Left Nagasaki the same day at 5 p.m. and arrived at Shimonoseki the 28th at 6 a.m. Left again the same day at 11 a m. and arrived at Kobe the 29th at 8 a.m.; after experiencing light variable winds from E. to N E. on coast and through Inland Sea with fine, clear weather. Left Kobe the 30th at noon and arrived at company's buoy the 1st December at 4 p.m; experienced moderate to fresh winds from north to west to Rock Island; thence to port light winds from E.N E. with fine, clear weather throughout the passage and reports having on board the Captain of the German ship *Schliemann* bound for Yokohama 135 days from New York with 70,000 cases Kerosene Oil and which grounded on S.W. side of Vries Island this morning.

LATEST COMMERCIAL

IMPORTS.

Unfortunately the promise of a slight revival noted in our last has, as yet, not reached fulfilment. Yarns still hang fire and do not appear to tempt purchasers to any extent. Cotton Piece Goods are very quiet, the week's business having been exceptionally small. In Fancies, only a few pieces of Silk-faced Satins and Turkey Reds have changed hands, while Woollens remain unnoticed. Holders are firm and prices consequently show no change.

COTTON PIECE GOODS

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8½ lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	$2 15 to 2 70
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 38½ yds 45 inches	2 35 to 3 12½
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1 52½ to 1 85
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches	1 70 to 2 35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	1 75 to 3 75
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black 32 inches	PER YARD. 0 16 to 0 21
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	6 25 to 8.50
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 32 inches	0 65 to 0 78
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4lb, 24 25 yards, 30 inches	PER PIECE. 1 40 to 1 47½
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1 57½ to 1.82½
Turkey Reds—3 8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.02½ to 2.47½
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2 65 to 2 85

WOOLLENS

	PER YARD.
Flannel	$0 27 to 0 45
Italian Cloth, 10 yards, 32 inches best	0 30 to 0 33
Italian Cloth, 30 yards 32 inches Medium	0 25 to 0.30
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0 20 to 0.25
Mousseline de Laine—Grape, 21 yards, 31 inches	0 13 to 0 19
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0 35 to 1 50
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 1 05
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0 40 to 1 70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 4 to 4½lb per lb	0 45 to 1 87½

COTTON YARNS

	PER PICUL.
Nos 10 24, Ordinary	—
Nos 16/24, Medium	$35.25 to —
Nos 16/24, Good to Best	35 00 to 37.75
Nos 16 24, Reverse	—
Nos 28 32, Ordinary	—
Nos 28 32, Medium	38 00 to —
Nos 28 32, Good to Best	38 50 to 39 50
Nos 38 42, Medium to Best	45 00 to 47 00
No 32s, Two fold	43 00 to 44 00
No 42s, Two fold	47.50 to 49 25
	PER BALE.
No 20s, Bombay	—
No 16s, Bombay	—

METALS

The light demand that has been seen of late in this market has continued during the past week. The principal enquiries have been for various kinds of Iron, but other lines are dull. Prices, however, have a somewhat firmer tendency.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ¾ Inch	$3 80 to 4 00
Flat Bars, ½ Inch	4 00 to 4 10
Round and square up to ¾ Inch	3 20 to 3.35
Iron Plates, assorted	3 25 to 3 35
Sheet Iron	4 45 to 4 60
Galvanized Iron sheets	8 85 to 9 10
Wire Nails, assorted	5 40 to 5 75
Tin Plates, per box	6 20 to 6 40
Pig Iron, No 1	1 45 to 1 50

KEROSENE

Business in this market has been very brisk, and had the available stock been larger quite a good trade might have been done. Holders, however, are very short of supplies and consequently transactions are limited. Prices have ruled high, but demand continues good and some contracts have been made "to arrive." American Oil is especially firm, while about 150,000 gallons of Russian bulk oil have found buyers at 1.65 per 10 gallons.

Chester	$1.75 to 1 77½
Comet	1.72½ to 1 75
Devoe	—
Russian Anchor	1 70 to 1 72½
Russian Moon	1 67½ to 1 70

SUGAR

There has been rather more doing in Browns, owing to holders having conceded still further to buyers ideas. Native dealers, however, do not appear at all anxious to operate, having over 40,000 piculs on their hands not yet delivered to consumers. Whites continue to sell in small lots at unchanged prices.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	$4.40 to 4 50
Brown Manila	5.00 to 5.10
Brown Datong	3.95 to 4.00
Brown Canton	4.10 to 4 30
White Java and Penang	7.00 to 7.10
White Refined	7 55 to 9 20

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last issue was of the 24th ultimo, since which date settlements on this market amount to 1,185 piculs, divided thus: *Hanks* 8 piculs; *Filatures*, 927 piculs; *Rereels*, 205 piculs; *Kakeda*, 45 piculs; In addition to these figures, direct shipments have been 193 bales, making the total business of the week 1,400 piculs.

During the first part of the week the market was very dull, with slow, dragging business, but for the last two or three days we have had an active market with large sales. Buying has not been general, but confined principally to one big operator who has taken altogether 1,500 piculs full-sized Filatures for the New York trade. Prices all round are somewhat lower than last week, but the decline is now checked again and should other buyers enter the market we might even see a slight rise, although with the heavy stocks on hand we do not think that holders would be too exacting, but would undoubtedly be current at quotations to encourage further business. In European sorts the market is still quiet with small sales, but any moment may cause a turn in that direction also and we may then see a general good demand

Arrivals come in to a fair extent and the quality of present receipts shows some falling off as cold weather comes on

Exchange closes at a slight reduction on last week's rates, in sympathy with lower silver in London

From our Export Tables at foot it will be seen that the decrease in export to New York is now no less than 13,400 bales, but the recent purchases will tend to reduce this amount.

There have been two shipping opportunities since we last wrote, the steamer *Oceanic*, 24th ultimo, taking 679 bales for the New York trade; the English mail *Verona*, 26th ultimo, had 322 bales for France, and the total export to date is 18,465 piculs, against 29,353 piculs last year and 23,333 piculs at the same date in 1891.

Hanks.—Only one small parcel has changed hands, the price paid being $580 for some ordinary *Shinshu Hanks*. Stock in this department remains light and is of very little interest to shippers.

Filatures.—Nearly all the business of the week has been in this class, 500 piculs being settled yesterday. The prices paid include the following, *Tenrusha*, $750; *Toeushinsha* and *Choshinsha* $730, with ordinary *Suwa* silks like *Inashosha*, *Hiranosha*, *Kairosha*, *Choyosha* and *Gojosha* at $700. Good *Koshu* have been freely taken at $690. These prices seem very cheap, and it is difficult to see how values can further recede.

Re reels.—About 200 piculs have found buyers; good *Joshu*, like *Tortoise* chop, at $690; *Koriyama*, No. 2, $650; No. 3, $620; common *Joshu* and *Bushu*, $590.

Kakeda.—A small business herein; *Daruma*, $690; *Horsehead I.*, $640. This class of silk seems very cheap at present quotations.

In other sorts, no business.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK.)

Hanks—No 1	$610 to 620
Hanks—No 2 (Shinshu)	600 to 610
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	590 to 600
Hanks—No 2½ Shinshu	580 to 590
Hanks—No. 2½ (Joshu)	570 to 580
Hanks—No 2½ to 3	560 to 565
Hanks—No. 3	550 to 555
Hanks—No. 3½	540 to 545
Filatures—Extra 10 12 deniers	790 to 800
Filatures—Extra 13 15 deniers	750 to 760
Filatures—No 1, 10 13 deniers	760 to 770
Filatures—No 1, 12/15, 14 16 deniers	710 to 720
Filatures—No 1½, 10/14 deniers	720 to 730
Filatures—No 1½, 13 16, 14/17 deniers	690 to 700
Filatures—No 2, 12 15 deniers	690 to 700
Filatures—No 2, 14/18 deniers	670 to 680
Filatures—No 3, 14/20 deniers	650 to 660
Re reels—Extra	—
Re reels—(Oshu) Best No 1	—
Re reels—No. 1, 13 15, 14 16 deniers	690 to 695
Re reels—No 1½, 13/16, 14 17 deniers	660 to 665
Re reels—No 2, 14 18 deniers	630 to 635
Re reels—No. 2½, 14/18 deniers	620 to 625
Re reels—No 3, 14 20 deniers	590 to 600
Kakedas—Extra	740 to 745
Kakedas—No 1	690 to 695
Kakedas—No 1½	650 to 655
Kakedas—No 2	620 to 625
Kakedas—No 2½	600 to 610
Kakedas—No 3	580 to 590
Kakedas—No 3½	—
Kakedas—No. 4	—
Oshu Sendai—No 2½	—
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	640 to 650
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	610 to 620
Sendai—No 2½	—

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Export Raw Silk Tables to 1st Dec., 1893.—

		Season 1893-1894	1892-93.	1891-92.
		Bales.	Bales	Bales.
Europe		12,424	9,887	7,921
America		5,537	18,951	14,880
Total	Bales	17,961	28,838	22,801
	Piculs	18,405	29.353	23,333
Settlements and Direct Export from 1st July		Piculs. 20,100	Piculs. 30,450	Piculs. 27,500
Stock, 1st Dec.		17,500	10,650	15,400
Available supplies to date		37,600	41,100	42,900

WASTE SILK

A moderate daily business transpired in this branch, settlements being 900 piculs, divided thus: *Cocoons*, 140 piculs; *Noshi*, 400 piculs; *Kibiso*, 360 piculs. No direct shipments this week.

Prices have receded a little for some kinds, but generally speaking are fairly well maintained, especially for good qualities. Stock is heavy, but, as usual, contains very much fibre of low grade and poor quality.

There have been two shipping opportunities since we last wrote, the English mail steamer *Verona* taking 51 bales Waste Silk for Europe and the Canal steamer *Ocampo*, 28th ult, having 30 bales *Pierced Cocoons* for the New York trade These departures make the present export figures 8,959 piculs, against 15,098 piculs last year and 12,610 piculs at the same date in 1891.

Pierced Cocoons.—A further quantity of *Bivoltini* have been taken at prices of ranging from $35 to $75 per picul, according to quality.

Noshi.—A fair amount of business has been done, good *Filature* realizing $140; *Oshu*, $132½; *Tegara*, $120; *Kawagoye*, $90, with *Joshu* at from $84 to $64, according to quality.

Kibiso.—Small purchases of *Filature* at prices ranging from $90 to $100, while in *Hira* sorts *Zaguri*, $55; *Oshu* $42, *Mino*, $40; *Joshu*, $33 In order sorts, nothing done.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW WASTE).

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	$140 to 145
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	130 to 135
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	120 to 125
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	135 to 140
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	Nom. 110 to 115
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	Nom. 100 to 105
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	Nom. 90 to 95
Noshi-ito—Bushu, Good to Best	120 to 130
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	85 to 90
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	75 to 80
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	65 to 70
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	110 to 115
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	100 to 105
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	70 to 80
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Good to Fair	40 to 35
Kibiso—Joshu, Middling to Common	35 to 30
Kibiso—Hachoji, Good	35 to 30
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	25 to 20
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	—
Mawata—Good to Best	—

Export Table Waste Silk to 1st Dec., 1893:—

	Season 1893-94	1892-93.	1891-92.
	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Waste Silk	6,522	12,763	12,729
Pierced Cocoons	2,437	2,335	881
	8,959	15,098	12,610
Settlements and Direct Export from 1st July	Piculs. 11,800	Piculs. 20,700	Piculs. 16,950
Stock, 1st Dec	20,300	16,300	14,750
Available supplies to date	32,100	37,000	31,700

Exchange is fairly steady at the following quotations:—LONDON, 4m/s.; Credits, 2/4⅞; Documents, 2/5; 6m/s. Credits, 2/5½ NEW YORK, 30d/s. U.S. $57½; 4m/s. U.S. $58¼. PARIS, or LYONS, 4m/s. fcs. 3.03, 6m/s. fcs. 3.05.

Estimated Silk Stock, 1st Dec., 1893:—

Raw	Piculs.	Waste.	Piculs.
Hanks	90	Cocoons	870
Filatures	10,330	Noshi-ito	9,400
Re-reels	5,240	Kibiso	9,170
Kakeda	1,680	Mawata	120
Oshu	120	Sundries	740
Tavsaam Kinds	40		
Total piculs	17,500	Total piculs	20,300

TEA.

There has been a slight improvement in this market during the past week. Common and Medium grades have changed hands in fair quantities, and prices are very firm.

	Per picul.
Common	$12 to 13
Good Common	14 to 15
Medium	17 to 18
Good Medium	19 to 20
Fine	22 to 23
Finest	24 to 26
Choice	27 to 29
Choicest	31 to 35

EXCHANGE.

Exchange is fairly steady at the following rates:

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	2 4
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	2/4⅛
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	2/4⅛
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	2/5⅛
On Paris—Bank sight	2 95
On Paris—Private 4 months' sight	3 03
On Hongkong—Bank sight	Par
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	⅛ % dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72½
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	73½
On America—Bank Bills on demand	56½
On America—Private 30 days' sight	57⅜
On America—Private 4 months' sight	58⅜
On India—Bank sight	186
Silver	32

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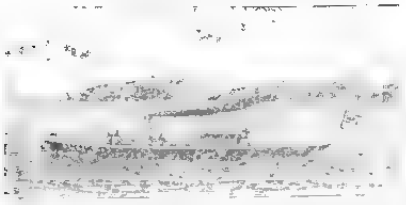

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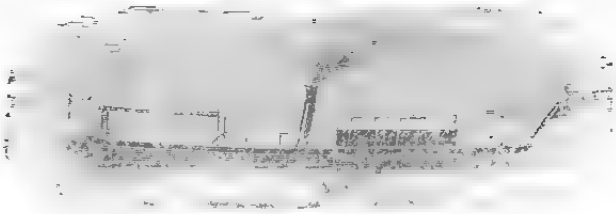

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, DEC. 9TH, 1893.

BIRTH.

On the 7th inst., at No. 144, Bluff, Mrs. M. ENGERT of a Son.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

MR. HOSHI TORU has resigned from the *Jiyu-to*

RINDERPEST is devasting the island of Goto, in Nagasaki prefecture.

M. ALPHONSE GASCO has been appointed Translator in the Italian Legation.

THE German steel ship *Schielmann*, laden with kerosene, has gone to pieces on Oshima.

MESSRS. DRAKIN BROTHERS & Co. have agreed to reduce their capital from time to time.

THE *Nippon* was suspended by the authorities on the 3rd instant for the usual offence.

THE *Yoshino Kan* arrived at Gibraltar on the 30th ult. She is expected to leave for Malta as soon as she completes her coaling.

THE Nippon Yusen Kaisha declare a dividend of 8 per cent. for the past year, carrying forward 3,441 451 *yen* to the next account.

THE Government issued an exequatur on the 1st inst. officially acknowledging Mr. N. W McIvor as U.S. Consul-General at Yokohama.

THE charred remains of the two little Chinese girls who lost their lives in the recent fire in China Town, Yokohama, have been recovered.

JUDGMENT has been given against Mr. Apcar in the case brought against him by the New O B C., (in liquidation) in the Yokohama Chiho Saibansho.

SEVERAL important questions have been submitted to the Government by members of the Lower House during the week. The petitions presented to both Houses since the opening of the Diet are now to be numbered by hundreds.

A STRONGLY worded instruction has been issued to the Tokyo Police in reference to the protection to be afforded to foreigners when passing through the streets of Tokyo.

THE officers of the *Admiral Kornuloff* entertained Count Saigo, Minister of the Navy, and other Japanese Naval officers at the Grand Hotel on the evening of the 4th inst.

THE Government has sanctioned the establishment of Exchanges at Wakatsu (rice), Omi (oil), Tsu (rice), Onomichi (rice), Yokkaichi (rice), Sendai (rice), and Osaka (oil).

THE marriage arranged between a daughter of Count Matsukata and Mr Kawakami, of the Yokohama Specie Bank, took place at the residence of the Count at Mita, Tokyo, on the 5th inst.

THIRTEEN Japanese residents at Fusan, Korea, consisting of women of questionable character and those who took them to that port, were deported by the Japanese Consul-General on the 24th ult.

THE Hoshi affair has again attracted a great deal of attention in the Lower House, the latest step being Mr. Hoshi's suspension from the House for a week, the question of apologising for his language towards the House being dropped.

THE receipts of the Government railroads during the ten days ended the 30th ult. were:—Shimbashi Kobe line and branches: 335,399 passengers, receipts *yen* 104,630; 29,915 tons freight, receipts *yen* 41,254; Naoyetsu-Takasaki line: 30,305 passengers, receipts *yen* 9,823; 4,837 tons freight, receipts *yen* 8,538.

A CURIOUS will case came before the U.S. Consulate-General Court on Monday, a memorandum, written in pencil, undated and not witnessed, being put in as the last will and testament of the deceased. Pending communications with the deceased's relatives, the hearing of the case has been adjurned.

A JAPANESE contractor sued Mr. John Smedley for $170, balance of contract account of the British Court. The money was paid to Mr. Smedley in 1892 by the principal in the affair, but he retained possession of it because the principal owed him money. The Judge found for plaintiff, holding that defendant had no right to detain the money.

THE petition asking for the confiscation of the sealing schooner *Maud S.*, in the British Court, for an alleged contravention of the Behring Sea Seal Fishery Act, has been dismissed, as also the counter-claim in the case, the Judge finding that the vessel was not engaged in hunting at the time of seizure, while the plaintiff was justified in detaining the vessel until the Court could adjudicate in the case. A similar result has attended the case of the *Arctic*.

THE census of Japan according to the returns of the Home Office at the end of last year was as follows:—The whole population was 41,089,940, in 7,817,570 families, of whom 20,752,366 were males and 20,337,574 females. Compared with the end of the previous year, the above shows an increase of 11,201 families, 188,950 males and 182,313 females. The above total may be arranged as follows in accordance with the rank to which they belong;—Peers, 3,253 persons, in 600 families, *shizoku*, 2,010,135 persons, in 430,135 families, and *heimin*, 39,071,781 persons in 7,841,550 families.

MR. GLADSTONE has stated that the British Government was not informed that Russia was acquiring a naval rendezvous in the Mediterranean, and there was no reason to suppose that negotiations are proceeding in the matter; but if Turkey allowed the war-ships of any nation to make the passage of the Dardanelles, Great Britain would of course claim the same privilege; there has been a severe run upon the banks in Italy, notably on the Banca Générale, consequent upon the difficulties of the Credits Mobiliare; a new French Ministry has been formed, with Perier as Minister of Foreign Affairs; the political tendency of this Cabinet is decidedly moderate; a new Italian Ministry has been formed under the Presidency of Signor Zanardelli; the Employers Liability Bill has passed its third reading in the British House of Commons, and its first and second in the Lords; an earthquake which occured in Khorassan destroyed fifty thousand cattle, while twelve persons perished; Miss Mighell's appeal in the suit instituted by her against the Sultan of Johore, has been dismissed; the protocol between England and France in regard to the Siamese Buffer State has been signed, and the Commissioners for the delimitation of the frontiers will start soon for the scene of their labours. *The Times* says that the Buffer State will be under the control of the Chinese Government.

MORE enquiry in the Import trade has induced a hardening of prices, but the amount of actual business in not entirely satisfactory. Yarns continue dull generally, though a demand for certain counts, of which the supply happens to be small, has induced buyers to pay more money to satisfy their particular needs. Transactions in Piece-goods have been small, but settlements were at full rates, and prices are very firm. The Woollen trade may be similarly described. A small "spot" business in Iron has been the principal feature in the Metal market, and some contracts have been made at better figures. Stocks are getting low, and Pig Iron is scarce. The active demand for Kerosene has continued, and the ship reported last week as ashore on Vries Island with 70,000 cases of American Oil, has broken up, and the cargo has drifted away, only a small portion being recovered. With a rising market, this casualty promoted a smart advance, though the arrival of another large cargo caused a slight check upon prices. American Oil is, however, still in good demand, and Russian has also increased in value, notwithstanding that a cargo of over 100,000 cases has also arrived. The Sugar trade is brisk at full rates, and arrivals come freely, Formosa, Manila, and Canton grades being taken at a slight advance, and White sorts find buyers at full rates. A considerable movement of Silk has been effected, and buying both for America and Europe was fairly active in the early part of the week, though business is quieter at the close. Prices have advanced for some kinds, and continue firm, and the sales have this week been greater than the arrivals. The Waste Silk trade has been limited so far as exporters are concerned, but a good many large parcels have been taken off this market for home manufacturers and been returned to the interior. The stock here will probably be further reduced for home consumption, as holders are very firm and the offers made to fill foreign orders are not entertained. The Tea trade has lapsed into dullness, the demand of a week ago having rather suddenly ceased. There is now almost an entire absence of Choice eaf, and no alteration in the value of the grades on offer. Exchange during the week remained fairly steady at late rates, but rules a point higher at the close.

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THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The Hoshi question continues to occupy much of the space in the vernacular press. Mr. Hoshi's enemies being determined on his destruction, care not what method they pursue, if only their object be attained. The latest device they have conceived is to strain beyond all reason the sense of a provision in the Law of the Houses, in order to pass a motion to the effect that, the House having already declared want of confidence in the President, the latter's functions must henceforth be discharged by the Vice-President. The Progressionists seem to be the principal advocates of this extraordinary step. They are trying to induce the National Unionists to fall into line with them, but the latter decline to endorse such an unjustifiable course of action, though ready at any moment to support a motion for Mr. Hoshi's expulsion from the House altogether. Besides the annihilation of Mr Hoshi's commanding influence in the political world, his enemies aim at the disruption of the Radical Party. In this they have partially succeeded, for about seventeen of the Radicals have detached themselves from their Party and formed a new association under the name of the *Dōshi* Club. They consist mostly of men who have always disapproved the attack made by Mr. Hoshi's followers upon the Progressionists. The *Dōshi* Club is, therefore, expected to be willing to cōoperate with the Progressionists and the *Dōmei* Club. The three factions combined are nearly equal in numerical strength to the Radical Party, and with occasional assistance from the National Unionists, the triple alliance may be able to control the situation in the present session of the Diet. But thus far no such alliance has been organized, the factions concerned seem to be awaiting some further development of events.

* * *

The *Dōshi* Club has been welcomed with open arms by the Progressionists. Its members are praisedly the *Kaishin-to* organs as men of virtue and culture, always ready to take a manly course of action. The *Mainichi Shimbun* compares the *Dōshi* Club to "the young and rising Italy," while the Radical Party is likened to "the old and decaying Austria." Certain members of the new Club are especially mentioned. Mr. Kobayashi Kusuwo, M.P. from Okayama, the leader in the abortive scheme against Korea some ten years ago, is spoken of as a worthy representative of liberal views in the Provinces of the San-yo-do and San-in-do; Mr. Haseba Junko, M.P. from Kagoshima, as a leader of opinion in Kyushu; and Mr. Kikuchi Kuro, M.P. from Aomori, as a conspicuous figure in the North East.

* * *

Among other important events of the week, we may mention the speeches delivered by the Minister President and the Minister of Finance in the Diet, and the passing of an Address to the Throne on the subject of official discipline. Engrossed by the Hoshi question, the metropolitan papers have not had leisure to discuss these topics. They have been dismissed with only a few cursory comments, already reproduced in these columns.

* * *

The Budget is now in the hands of the Committee. It is believed that the collision between the Government and the Opposition will take place principally over the Budget. The majority of the Committee belong to the Radical Party, there being among them scarcely any member of either the Progressionists or the *Domei* Club. It may, consequently, be expected that the report of the Committee will be critically examined by these two sections of the Opposition, and may even be rejected by them. The plan of reductions adopted by the Committee is so sweeping and even unconstitutional, that the changes which will be recommended will never be approved by the Government, whatever may be their reception in the House. But it is reported that even this plan is thought too moderate by the *Kaishin-to* and the *Domei* Club. This question is not yet discussed by any of the Party organs, but the extreme course pursued by the Budget Committee is severely commented on by independent papers like the *Kokkai* and the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*.

* * *

The *Kokkai* strongly condemns the Budget Committee for trespassing upon he prerogatives of the Emperor. Our contemporary does not think that the reforms introduced by the Government are satisfactory, and the Budget Committee is perfectly at liberty to suggest whatever reductions they deem necessary. But in doing so they should take care not to exceed the proper limits of the power bestowed upon i.. It is not allowed to the Diet to interfere with the Official Organizations and the Regulations relating to official salaries, such matters being entirely under the direct control of the Emperor. The Diet has, however, attempted to meddle with these things in the past four sessions, each time bringing about a violent collision with the Ministry. It is now time—we are quoting from the *Kokkai*—for the Lower House to see its folly and direct its energies into more legitimate and beneficial routes. The Premier's declaration in his recent speech that the Government had done its utmost in effecting reforms in the administration, clearly shows his determination to reject any demand for further reductions in the sphere of Ordinary Expenditure. So the only result of insisting on such reductions as those now under consideration of the Budget Committee will be, in the *Kokkai's* opinion, to lead either to the non-existence of the Budget or to the dissolution of the Diet. In that not improbable event, which side is to be held blameable, the Government or the Opposition? The latter of course. The *Kokkai*, therefore, advises the Opposition to give up its hackneid policy of attacking the Ministry on the Budget, and direct its attention to such questions as official discipline, the enforcement of the existing treaties, the *Chishima* case, and so forth. To stick to the Budget will give the Cabinet a good pretext for sending back the Representatives to their constituencies, under extremely disadvantageous circumstances

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The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* goes into more minutiæ in criticising the plan of reductions adopted by the Budget Committee. In regard to office expenses, the Committee proposes to reduce them according to the plan adopted at the time of the last session. The Committee does not take into consideration the rise of prices and the fluctuations of foreign exchange since then. The Committee also proposes the reduction of official salaries; but the *Nichi Nichi* maintains that, compared with the salaries now received in certain kinds of private capacity, the salaries of officials are very much lower. In considering the question of official salaries it must be remembered that officials are not at liberty to engage in any private business, and consequently their salaries are their source of income, while men engaged in private capacities have various means of adding to their proper income. The Committee is also reminded of the fact that the members of the Diet receive a pay of 800 *yen* for three months, during which period of time most of them do nothing but talk and chatter. The Committee has refrained from meddling with the Official Organizations, but it proposes to make alterations in the Regulations relating to official salaries. As to the contributions which the officials of all classes are now making for the construction of war vessels, the Budget Committee refuses to regard them in the light of reductions. But the *Nichi Nichi* remarks that they are to all intents and purposes reductions, for though contributions in name, they are forced upon officials by Imperial Rescript. As to administrative reforms, our contemporary maintains that, in its opinion, the Cabinet has erred on the side of reductions, and that consequently in matters of expense nothing more could be desired.

* * *

The question of the enforcement of the existing treaties now engages a considerable amount of journalistic attention. This is a very favourite subject, and with the exception of the Radical organs, the papers belonging to all other parties are in favour of a rigid enforcement of the treaties. The National Unionist, the Progressionist, and the *Domei* Club's organs are at one with Mr. Kawashima Jun and others who have put questions to the Cabinet on this subject. It is not necessary to reproduce the comments of these papers, for their arguments have been already noticed in these columns more than once. Among others, the *Nippon* complains against the alleged severity of the police and other executive officials upon the papers advocating the necessity of rigidly enforcing the existing treaties. Our contemporary fears that undue official interference will only serve to increase the ardour of the advocates of the principle in question and may even lead to some extravagance on the part of youthful persons.

* * *

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* declares that the views of the advocates of the enforcement of the existing treaties are anything but clear. The way in which they write and speak on the subject indicates that they forget the simple fact that the existing treaties are accompanied by various notes and protocols which form an essential part of the system now regulating the relations between the State and the foreign residents. It must also be remembered—the *Nichi Nichi* goes on to say—that foreigners enjoy various privileges by lapse of time apart from the express provisions of the treaty. There are no doubt various imperfections in the present system, and our contemporary is one of those who would wish it were otherwise. But things must be taken as they are, and proper procedure must be followed to alter them. In short, the advocates of so called enforcement of the existing treaties show a lamentable lack of insight and knowledge about diplomatic questions. Concerning the ownership of land by foreigners, they make a loud noise, and demand some remedy. But the Japanese law does not recognize the possession of real property by foreigners, and when a Japanese applies for registration of a piece of land in his name the law court has no power to refuse the application, even if the money be supplied by a foreigner, for it has no means to be sure that the land in question is the property of such foreigner. Japanese who lend their names to foreigners may be blamed on moral grounds, but nobody is warranted in proceeding legally against them, for they are legal owners and there is nothing to controvert this fact.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

PARTICULARS OF THE FUKUSHIMA FRAUD.

DETAILS are now published of the fraud by which the Fukushima Branch of the 1st National Bank was robbed on the 28th ultimo of a sum of 27,000 *yen* by a daring swindler, who chose the premises of the Local Court as his place of operations. We quote from the *Shogyo Shimpo*. At about 10 a.m. on the 28th ultimo, a man dressed like a servant of the Law Court, came to the office of the Fukushima Branch Bank, and handed to the hall porter a letter addressed to the office. On the back of the letter the name of the sender was written, Yamagata Jun, Public Prosecutor of the Fukushima Local Court. The contents of the document were:—"A forgery having been detected in two kinds of convertible notes of 10 *yen* and 5 *yen* denominations, and the persons implicated being now under examination, the officers of the Bank are required to appear at once in Court, bringing with them all the convertible notes of the above denominations now in the possession of the Bank." Quite persuaded of the genuineness of this summons, two clerks of the Bank made a parcel of 50,000 *yen* worth of convertible notes, of 10 *yen* and 5 *yen* denominations, and putting them in a *jinrikisha*, proceeded to the Local Court, accompanied by the supposed messenger. When they arrived there a man, apparently a judge, came out, opened the bundle of money, asked the amount of the notes, and said that there was no occasion to produce the 10 *yen* notes, but that as

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the 5 *yen* were needed for the purposes of the examination then in progress, they would be kept in trust at the Court. He then wrote a receipt to the effect that 27,000 *yen* worth of 5 *yen* convertible notes had been handed to the Fukushima Local Court in trust, affixed a counterfeit official stamp to the document, and went into the inner room carrying the bundle of notes with him. The two clerks were about to return home, having no further business at the Court, when a member of the local bar, a friend of theirs, made his appearance. Asked the business that had brought them there, they told him the particulars of what had occurred. Great was their astonishment to hear that there was no Public Procurator named Yamagata Jun, and that the whole business must be a swindle. They at once applied to the Court to learn whether a summons in the above sense had been addressed to the Bank, and the answer made it clear that they had been swindled to the tune of 27,000 *yen*. Information was at once given to the Police Office and the Local Court, but though the utmost vigilance is said to have been exercised, no trace of the bold robbers has yet been obtained.

MR. HOSHI TORU AND THE "JIYU-TO"

MR. HOSHI TORU has withdrawn his name from the roll of the *Jiyu-to*. There can be no mistake about the import of this step, unexpected as it will doubtless prove to have been by the public in general. Mr. Hoshi retires from the Party in which he has hitherto held such a distinguished place simply because to remain would entail a weakening of its numerical strength. Twenty-four members of the Party signified their intention of resigning from it if Mr. Hoshi persisted in occupying the Presidential seat in the House of Representatives. That would have reduced the strength of the *Jiyu-to* in the Lower House to sixty-three members. The sixty-three were understood to be staunch to Mr. Hoshi, and he might, had he so chosen, have remained the leader of a very powerful coterie in the Diet. But with the sentiment natural to a man who values the cause for which he fights higher than his own personal aggrandisement, he shrinks from producing any split in the *Jiyu-to* ranks, and consequently retires from them. The sacrifice must cost him much, though we doubt whether its practical results will be so considerable as they seem at first sight. It is true that Mr. Hoshi will be excluded from any open share in the Party's Counsels. His influence, however, is too commanding to permit his real exclusion He will be consulted as much as ever, and his counsels will make themselves felt. It is also true that he cannot figure in the House as a party leader. But if he sought to play a prominent *rôle* in the House, he certainly would not lack followers. We imagine, however, that he will condemn himself to comparative oblivion for some time to come, that, though attending to his parliamentary duties, his voice will not be heard again throughout the session. That seems the wisest and most becoming programme under the circumstances.

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It is alleged that among the recalcitrant members who had signified their intention of withdrawing from the *Jiyu to* unless Mr. Hoshi resigned the Presidency, there are twelve who declare that under any circumstances they will not remain in the Party. But probably they will be persuaded to reconsider their determination.

COLLISION BETWEEN A BRITISH STEAMER AND THE JAPANESE WAR VESSEL "TSUKUSHI" AT SHANGHAI.

PARTICULARS of the recent collision between the British steamer *Gulf of Taranto* and the Japanese war-vessel *Tsukushi*, at the mouth of the Shanghai river are given by the *Kokkai*, which claims to take them from the official report sent by the Captain of the *Tsukushi* to the Admiralty. The *Tsukushi* having undergone some repairs at the Dockyard of Lloyd and Company, in Shanghai, proceeded on the 9th ultimo, for a trial trip, towards the mouth of the river. At about 10 a.m. the following day, a violent north-westerly wind began to blow, and the vessel was obliged to lay at anchor. While thus lying, she was collided against by the *Gulf of Taranto*, and received slight injury in various places. Captain Hudson, of the British steamer, who was stopping on shore at the time, immediately came to the war-vessel, as soon as the intelligence of the accident reached him, and offered an apology for what his ship had done. The wind having subsided during the forenoon of the 11th, the *Tsukushi* left the place of anchorage and returned to Shanghai. Negotiations were at once opened with the Shanghai agent of the Company to which the British steamer belongs, and proper indemnity was demanded. No demurrer was raised on the steamer's side, and the repairing of the *Tsukushi*, which was expected to occupy about two days, was commenced on the afternoon of the 15th ultimo. The cost of the repairs is estimated at 150 *taels*. The vessel is owned by a Glasgow company, and is registered at 2,128 tons. She had a cargo of ammunition from America, and was bound for Yokohama.

CANINE SAGACITY

THE *Yomiuri Shimbun* has a story of a remarkable dog, formerly belonging to M. Boissonade, but now in the possession of a French gentleman residing in Tsukiji. This animal, it would appear, was severely punished by its new master some time ago for biting a strange man who came to the house on business. It has since given up biting strangers, and yet contrives to discharge its duties as a watch dog with fidelity and success. The other evening a man came to the house on a suspicious errand, and the dog was down on him at once. But he did not bite him. He simply followed him up and down the yard growling and showing his teeth, and making all manner of hostile demonstrations till the poor man finding escape impossible, took refuge behind some empty casks in a shed, where the dog quietly besieged him. Some hours after, man and dog were discovered by the master of the house, who thinking he had caught a thief was about to summon the police, when he found that it was no thief, but only a harmless lover who had come on an errand of courtship to the fair lady of his fancy.

RAPID REPRODUCTION.

A STRIKING illustration of the rapidity with which attractive works of fiction appearing in England are reproduced in Canada and the United States is furnished by Mr. F. H. Balfour's work, "Dr. Mirabel's Theory." The book appeared in London in September, and at the end of October a cheap edition of it was for sale at the book-stalls in Montreal. That seems about as rapid as anying of the kind could be.

ARREST OF THE CHIEF OF THE SAGA POLICE.

THE arrest of Mr. Yamamoto, Chief of the Saga Police, has created a considerable sensation in the locality. Mr. Yamamoto occupied a similar post in Fukuoka before his recent transfer to Saga, and he was still living in a hotel at the time of his arrest, his family having remained in Fukuoka. On the evening of the 22nd ultimo, a judge and a public procurator of the Saga Local Court, with the chief of the Fukuoka Police Office, and more than a dozen constables, entered the hotel where Mr. Yamamoto was lodging, and showing him a warrant, immediately carried him away under custody to the Fukuoka Local Court. The same day, the house where his family were living was searched by several constables of the Fukuoka Police, and many documents are said to have been impounded. With regard to the cause of the sudden arrest of such an important official, nothing appears to be definitely known as yet. What is stated in the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* as the most probable explanation is this:—When Mr. Yamamoto occupied the post of Chief of Police in Fukuoka, there occurred in the park of that city the assassination of Mr. Yamamoto Yoshisuke, an auditor of the 17th National Bank of Fukuoka and member of the permanent committee of the Hakata Chamber of Commerce. In the discharge of his duty, the Chief of Police took great pains to detect the murderer, but to no purpose. Finally he is said to have borrowed a sum of 1,600 *yen*, for the purpose of organizing a more thorough search. To borrow money in such a manner is considered objectionable on the part of a Chief of Police, the Authorities regarding it in the light of obtaining money under false pretences. Hence the arrest and concomitant measures.

THE TSUKIJI AFFAIR.

A STATEMENT was recently published in the vernacular press to the effect that a Secretary of the German Legation, while riding in a *jinrikisha* in the Tsukiji district of Tokyo, had been stopped by two inebriated students, who pulled him from the vehicle. On inquiry we learn that the story has been considerably exaggerated. The facts are these:—A student-interpreter of the German Legation was passing in his *jinrikisha* over Asahi Bridge in Kobikicho, on the night of the 27-28th of November, when his vehicle was stopped by three evidently drunken students, one of whom shouted "*gwaikoku-jin nara tomare*" (if it is a foreigner, stop!). Immediately afterwards the drawer of the *jinrikisha* was brought to the ground by a kick or trip, in the *Jujitsu* style, probably from the student who had uttered the shout, and while on the ground he received several blows. His assailant was about to transfer his attention to the occupant of the vehicle when the other two youths stopped him and apologized for his behaviour, explaining that he was under the influence of liquor. Meanwhile, a policeman had appeared, who took down the names of all concerned and arrested the three students. Two of them, on the following day, were fined 1,50 *yen* each, in accordance with Arts. 425-9 of the Criminal Code. Doubtless this affair was the proximate cause of the issue of a special instruction to the police of the capital on the 28th ultimo, published in the *Official Gazette* of the 1st instant.

A LOCAL WILL-CASE.

APPLICATION was made on Monday, in the U.S. Consulate-General Court, by Mr. T. M. Laffin for probate of the estate of the late Captain John McGuiness, of which he was sole executor. Mr. Seidmore, who appeared for Mr. Laffin, said that letters of administration had been granted on the 14th July, a thorough search of the deceased's papers was made and at the last moment a memorandum was found, written in lead-pencil, which was to the following effect:—"All I am worth to go to my natural daughter Nelly on the Island of Saipan, Marianas Islands N. Pacific, J. McGuiness." Communication had been opened with a brother of the deceased living in New York, asking whether he should contest this posthumous memorandum. A letter was also sent to the Marianas Islands and the little girl, who was only four years old, discovered. She was living under the care of Mr. Felix Torres at Guam. Mr. Mitchell, of Messrs. Samuel Samuel & Co., had been appointed by the latter gentleman representative for the child here. The estate had all been realised and converted into cash, and placed on deposit in the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank. Mr. Laffin wished to clear up the affair and accordingly applied to the Court so that he might render proper account to the proper persons. As no reply had yet been received from the deceased's brother, the further hearing of the case was adjourned till the 5th March, 1894.

POLITICAL TOPICS.

THERE is a rumour that Count Goto, Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, will resign and that his place will be taken by Count Itagaki. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* emphatically denies the truth of this report, and ascribes it to machinations of the opponents of the Radical Party. This and several other equally absurd stories now circulated about the Radicals are evidently a device for breaking up that Party so that out of the wreck may be re-built a party favourable to co-operation with the Progressionists and the *Domei* Club. These two together now number about seventy in the House, and if they can gain over to their side thirty of forty of the Radicals, they will be in a fair position to begin their attack upon the Cabinet. But such

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a result can hardly be expected under present circumstances. For excepting the fourteen seceders from the Radical Party, the others who subsequently intimated their desire to separate themselves, will probably reconsider their position, now that Mr. Hoshi has left the Party. It is stated that Mr. Kono Hironaka is doing his utmost to preserve the *Jiyu-to* from disintegration.

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The fourteen deserters from the Radical camp have formed themselves into a separate political body under the name of *Dosshi* (men of same aims) Club. They will probably work in concert with the Progressionists and the *Domei* Club.

* * *

There is a rumour of an understanding between the Progressionists and the National Unionists. This report is denied by the Progressionist papers. Whatever may be the attitude of the Progressionists, the National Unionists do not seem to be repugnant to such a step. On Friday last, a certain Radical member, speaking on the subject of the Address to the Throne on the Hoshi affair, had an opportunity to call the National Unionists by the name of *Ri-to* (Official Party), when Mr. Wada Hikojiro, a prominent member of the latter Party, cried from his seat that he and his comrades were no longer partisans of the Government. This circumstance may seem to be of little significance, but the manner in which Mr. Wada denied the allegation shows how impatient he and his friends are to clear themselves of the unpopular situation hitherto occupied by them. Evidently they glory in allying themselves on some questions with those directly opposed to the Government. The *Kokkai*, of which some members of the staff are believed to belong to the National Union, recommends an alliance between the *Kokumin Kyokai*, the *Kaishin-to*, and the *Domei* Club. Another significant fact is that the *Hochi Shimbun* urges the importance of a similar alliance. The Progressionist paper does not designate the particular parties which should be included in the alliance, an exercise of discretion which seems to show that the *Kaishin-to* would not be averse to the inclusion of the *Kokumin Kyokai*. For our own part, we are strongly inclined to doubt the possibility of such a combination.

THE AMATEUR THEATRICALS IN TOKYO.

We are requested to state that the Amateur Theatricals which recently took place in Tokyo, realized a sum of 1,230 *yen* net, which has been equally divided between the Industrial School at Sekiguchi and the Orphanage at Handa. This result is most satisfactory, and we may be permitted to express our hearty congratulations to the ladies and gentlemen who undertook the arduous task of organizing the entertainment, and to those whose kind and most attractive services were given at the eleventh hour to make good the unfortunate default of the Yokohama amateurs. As for the general public, doubtless we should be carrying out the wishes of the charitable promoters of the affair did we constitute ourselves the medium of conveying hearty thanks for the generous support it received, but truly the acting and the music were so exceptionally excellent that it becomes a little farcical to give credit to any one for enjoying such a treat.

MESSRS. DEAKIN BROTHERS AND CO., LIMITED

An extraordinary general meeting of shareholders in Messrs. Deakin Brothers and Co., Limited, was held in Kiel's Building, Yokohama, on Wednesday afternoon. Called for four o'clock it wanted a few seconds to the half hour ere sufficient shareholders were present to form the required quorum. They were Mr. J. Rickett (Chairman), Mr. A. B. Walford, Mr. C. W. Arnould, Mr. T. H. Box, Mr. C. K. M. Martin, and Mr. C. H. Fearon (Secretary). The Chairman announced the object of the meeting, which was to confirm the special resolution passed at the extraordinary meeting of the Company held on the 16th of November. The special resolution ran: "That the Company may from time to time reduce its capital." Mr. C. W. Arnould proposed that the special resolution be confirmed; Mr. A. B. Walford seconded the motion, and it was unanimously carried. This concluded the business of the meeting.

REGULAR MEETING OF THE NIPPON MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

The regular meeting of the Nippon Mail Steamship Company was held at the Kosei-kan, Kobikicho, at 10.30 a.m. on the 1st instant, Mr. Morioka, President of the Company, in the chair. About 400 shareholders were present, the unusually large attendance being caused by the importance of this meeting, as it was known that the re-modelling the Company's system on a new basis, in accordance with the New Commercial Codes, would be discussed. The Secretary of the Company read the following Profit and Loss account of the Company for the year ending the 30th of September:—

8TH REPORT OF THE PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT

Income.	Yen.
Freight	3,362,471 499
Fares	626,838 826
Charges for ships loaned	110,104 865
Lighterage	135 312
Miscellaneous income	148,111 957
Subsidies on Special Navigation	18,200 000
Subsidy from the Government	880,100 000
Total	5,145,862 459
Outlay.	
Office Expenditure	359 601,696
Business Expenditure	1,002,645 551
Ship Expenditure	1,630,531 852
Balance of Interest to be paid	7,297 661
Miscellaneous	3,003 873
Total	3,003,080.633
Balance, profit	2,142,781.826
Rewards to officers	100,000.000
Allowance for wear and tear of ships	357.798 861
Allowance for Insurance	357,545 347
Allowance for important repairs	210,352 983
Toward supplementing deficient Insurance Reserves of the 7th (Previous) period	100,451.046
Toward supplementing deficient Reserves for important Repairs	60,270 628
Interests on the Company's Debts	128,021.510
To Reserve Fund	120,000.000
Dividend (8 per cent per annum)	704,000.000
Carried forward to the next account	3,441.451
Total	5,145,862,459

The above report, submitted by the Company's officers, was unanimously approved by the meeting. In comparing this year's report with those of previous years, it will be found that the Company's profits during the last six months are immensely in excess of those of previous years. Owing to a large increase in passengers and freights, and to the great reductions recently made in staff and working expenses, the profits of the last half year were 461,211 492 *yen* in excess of those of the previous period. After a short interval, the proposed amendments in the by-laws of the Company were explained to the meeting by the Secretary. When the Company was organized in 1885, there was a Government guarantee of 8 per cent. interest on the shares, the Government in return claiming the right of superintending the business, appointing the principal officers, and auditing the accounts of the Company, for the guaranteed period of 15 years from the inception of the Company. Such being the case, the shareholders had at present nothing to do but simply to receive information on the result of the yearly business. The duration of the subsidy having, however, been reduced to 8 years, instead of 15, and its annual amount to *yen* 880,000 irrespective of the yield of the Company, instead of a guaranteed profit of 8 per cent., it had long been deemed advisable to re-model the organization of the Company on a self-governing basis. In the absence of legislation or special sanction from the Government, however, it had not hitherto been possible to put this into effect, and so the old system had been suffered to stand. But as the provisional Commercial Codes had been put into force, it was now possible to amend the constitution of the company, the mode of appointing its officers, the superintendence of its business, the auditing of its accounts; to set forth clearly the rights and obligations which the shareholders of the company have in accordance with the general usage of stock companies and in obedience to the provisions of the Commercial Codes. After this statement, the proposed amended by-laws (the main points of which have already been mentioned in our columns), were read, and after a short discussion, and the rejection of one or two proposed amendments, accepted almost unanimously. The draft application for the Government sanction to the by-laws was then read and approved, and the meeting adjourned for tiffin. When the shareholders reassembled after luncheon, Mr. Morioka informed them that he had during the interval obtained the formal sanction of the Minister of State for Communications, and that the meeting was now in a position to proceed to the election of officers in accordance with the new by-laws. The officers to be elected were, eleven Directors and two Auditors, the salaries of the President and Vice-President (these officers to be elected by the Directors from their own number) and of the Directors to remain as heretofore; Directors undertaking other functions as well as their directorship, and Auditors, to receive an annual salary of 800 *yen*. Mr. Iwaya then proposed that the following gentlemen be elected Messrs. Morioka, Yoshikawa, Uchida, Asada, Kondo, Kato, Shibusawa, Nakakamigawa, Shioda, Isobe and Sonoda, as Directors; and Messrs. Abe and Yamamoto as Auditors. This proposal had been anticipated by everybody and was carried *nem con.* The following appointments have been made by the Directors. President; Mr. Morioka Masazumi. Vice-President; Mr Yoshikawa Taijuro. Directors, Messrs. Uchida Koji, Asada Seibun, Kondo Rempei, Kato Seigi. The remaining gentlemen have other duties as well as their directorship. The meeting closed about 1.30 p.m.

THE APOLOGY DICTATED TO MR. HOSHI TORU.

The terms of the apology which the Disciplinary Committee of the House of Representatives recommended that Mr. Hoshi Toru should be required to pronounce in open session, were as follow:—

> The words uttered by me in this House on the 29th day of the eleventh month of the 26th year of *Meiji*, when the vote of want of confidence in the President was about to be discussed, namely, "I consider these proceedings improper, and whatever decision may be arrived at, I do not think that I am under any responsibility to observe it," were wrong and unbecoming my office, and I beg to ask pardon for my fault.

Mr. Hoshi would doubtless have preferred expulsion to the indignity of offering an apology in such terms—terms that might be dictated to a school-boy standing with his face to the wall in disgrace. A week's suspension is a comparatively trifling penalty.

THE JUBILEE ADDRESS AT SHANGHAI

The Jubilee Address at Shanghai was delivered by Mr Muirhead, a Nonconformist Minister, who has been a resident of the settlement since 1847. Shanghai certainly did itself honour when it selected Mr. Muirhead for this purpose, and he appears to have acquitted himself in a manner worthy of the occasion, for the *North China Daily News* writes thus of this speech:—To those who were privileged to hear it, as well as to those who will read it, the magnificent address made by Mr. Muirhead was one of the great features of the Jubilee that will dwell longest in memory. It was a happy thought inviting Mr. Muirhead to be the orator of the day, and most happily did he carry out the duty imposed on him. He gave with an eloquence which kept his large audience hanging on his spirited words, in a voice which age cannot wither and which custom has strengthened and not staled, a review of Shanghai as it was—which no one was so fitted as he, our oldest resident, to give (he came here in 1847)—and as it is, and pointed out what we have still to do to justify our claim to be a leaven in the vast mass of China. It was a grand speech, grandly spoken. There are not many places which offer a

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better site for such a function than this Settlement with its Bund and broad lawns sloping down to the river; and when the men-of-war fired the salute at noon, and the sailors and Volunteers their *feu de joie*, the spectacle, with myriads of flags and coloured lanterns to give more colour to the scene, and thousands of blue-coated Chinese massed in the roadways, was one which few who were present will ever forget. We may try and fancy to ourselves what Shanghai will be like fifty years hence, and imagine how 1943 will be observed; but it will be many years before we shall have a spectacle here to surpass the picture on the lawn on Friday, when the honoured white-haired orator was recalling to us what we have done and what we have still to do.

THE PRESS ON THE PREMIER'S SPEECH.

ONLY a few papers have commented upon the Premier's Speech of Saturday last, and even their remarks are of a cursory and fragmentary nature. The *Kokumin Shimbun* (friendly to the Progressionists) regrets that it is unable to discover the true nature of the Government's policy either from the past year's administration or from the Acting Minister President's speech last session, to which Count Ito referred the House on Saturday. If the experience of the past year teaches anything, it is, in the *Kokumin's* opinion, the fact that the Government has no fixed policy. As to administrative reforms, that is stated to be a separate question, concerning which our contemporary reserves its opinion.

* * *

The *Mainichi Shimbun* (Progressionist) expresses its disappointment at "the tasteless and matter of fact speech" of the Minister President. Alluding to the singular silence of the House on that occasion, our contemporary tries to conceal the true cause by remarking that "the members did not put any questions to the Premier, because there was nothing worth noticing in his speech."

* * *

The *Yomiuri Shimbun* (friendly to the Progressionists) states that the Government's policy remaining the same as last year, there will be no change in the Opposition's attitude towards it. With regard to administrative reforms, the *Yomiuri* admits that some improvements have been made in the Official Organization, but refuses to acknowledge any reform in the spirit of the Administration. Even in respect of reduction of expenses, the *Yomiuri* states that what the Ministry has accomplished falls far short of the Opposition's demands.

* * *

The *Jiyu Shimbun* (Radical) does not write editorially. But in a short note, it observes that a collision between the Cabinet and the Diet is unavoidable, as the former rests content with reforms which the latter consider insufficient. The Radical organ assures us that on this subject its Party will be far stronger than "parties which habitually sacrifice national interest on the altar of private ambition."

THE BUDGET AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

THE House of Representatives in past sessions has invariably adopted the report of the Budget Committee in dealing with financial questions. To know the basis adopted by the Committee in preparing its report is, therefore, to know the decision which the House will take. The Committee consists, by law, of 45 members, and, as we stated in a previous issue, its constitution this session is 17 *Kokumin Kyokai* (National Union) and 28 *Jiyu-to* (Radical members). It is the custom of the Committee to commence proceedings by appointing a sub-committee, called the *Hoshin-kin*, or "policy committee," that is to say, a committee to determine the general policy which shall be pursued in drawing up the report. Some delay has been caused this session owing to a blunder of the sub-committee: it prepared its programme of policy on the basis of estimates from which the reductions of expenditure resulting from the recent administrative reforms had not been subtracted. The consequence was that when the Budget Committee assembled to hear the sub-committee's recommendations, the error was at once detected, and directions were given for the preparation of a new programme of policy. This has now been compiled, and has received the approval of the Committee, thus becoming the basis upon which the report to the House will be drawn up. The programme indicates that the Opposition's resolve to fight with the Government remains unaltered, and that the Budget, despite the large reductions already effected in the ordinary expenditure, is again to become a weapon for attacking the Cabinet. The programme runs as follows:—

1.—Reduction of Official Salaries.

(*a*) The salaries of High Class Officials and of *Hannin* Officials shall be reduced in approximate accordance with the accompanying table.

(*b*) The present official establishment, as fixed by the recent administrative reforms, being the maximum establishment, due reductions of numbers shall be made, the nature of the functions to be discharged by each office being taken as a basis of calculation.

(*c*) The pay of Officers of the Army and Navy of staff rank shall be subjected to due reductions according to the standard employed in the case of Civil Officials.

2.—The Building Expenses demanded for each Department shall be duly reduced after full investigation.

3.—The same rule shall be applied to Travelling Expenses.

4.—Miscellaneous Expenditures shall be reduced according to the figures adopted in the Committee's Report last session.

5.—Office Expenses shall be reduced according to the figures adopted in the Committee's Report last session.

6.—With regard to the Secret Service Fund, the appropriation on account of the Cabinet shall be altogether disallowed, and the appropriations for other Departments shall be calculated on the basis of last session's Committee Report.

7.—No appropriations on account of New Works shall be allowed except in cases of absolute necessity.

8.—The contribution of one-tenth made by officials from their salaries shall not be included in the official salaries shown in the Budget.

TABLE OF REDUCTIONS OF SALARIES.

CABINET AND VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS.

	Present Salaries. Yen.	Proposed Reduction. Yen.	Average. Yen.
Prime Minister ...	9,600	6,000	—
Secretary general of the Cabinet	3,500	2,500	—
President of the Board of Decoration ...	4,000	2,500	—
Vice-President of the Board of Decoration.....	3,000	2,000	—
Secretary of the Board of Decoration ...	2,000 2,400	1,400 1,600	1,500
Chief of the Board of Legislation ...	4,000	2,500	—
Councillors of the Board of Legislation	800 2,500	800 1,600	1,200
Inspectors of the Board of Pensions	1,200 1,400	1,300	—
Minister of Department	6,000	5,000	—
Vice-Minister of Department	4,000	3,500	—
Chief of Bureau ...	2,500 3,000	2,000 2,500	2,250
Councillor ..... Secretary ..... Private Secretary	800 2,500	800 1,800	1,200

DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

Translator.....	800-1,800	700-1,200	800
Diplomatic official and Consul.	Eliminate allowances for travelling expenses of wives of officials of and above *sonin* rank, with the exception of Consuls General.		

DEPARTMENT OF HOME AFFAIRS.

Chief of the Public Works Superintendent Station...	1,500 2,000	1,200 1,600	1,300
Superintendent of Prison in Hokkaido.....	1,000 1,400	700 1,200	800
Chief of the Metropolitan Board of Police..	4,000	3,000	—
Chief of the Metropolitan Board of Police..	700 2,200	700 1,500	800
Chief of Fire Brigade	1,500	1,000	—
Superintendent of Prisons under the Control of the Metropolitan Board of Police	1,000	800	—
Chief of Police Surgeons	1,000	1,000	—
Chief of the Hokkaido Board of Administration...	4,000	3,500	—
Secretary of the Hokkaido Board of Administration	2,200 2,000	1,600 1,800	1,700
Chief of Police of the Hokkaido Board of Administration	1,800	1,200	—
Chief of Financial Section of the Hokkaido Board of Administration	1,800	1,200	—
Councillor of the Hokkaido Board of Administration	1,000	800	—
Headmen of Districts of the Hokkaido Board of Administration...	600	600	—
Governor of Tokyo.	4,000	3,500	—
Secretary of Tokyo	2,200	1,800	—
Chief Tax-collector of Tokyo	1,400	1,000	—
Governor of the three Cities and eight Prefectures	3,500	3,000	—
Secretary of the three Cities and eight Prefectures	2,000	1,600	—
Chief of Police			
Chief Tax collector of the three Cities and eight Prefectures	1,400	900	—
Superintendent of Prison	800	700	—
Governor of other Localities exclusive of the three Cities and eight Prefectures	3,000	2,500	—
Secretaries of other Localities exclusive of the three Cities and eight Prefectures	1,500	1,200	—
Chief-Police			
Chief Tax collector of other Localities exclusive of the three Cities and eight Prefectures	1,100	800	—
Chief Police of Osaka *fu*	1,800	1,000	—
Headman of Island	1,200	700 800	750
Councillors of *fu* and *ken*.....	700 1,000	800	—
Headman of Districts	600- 800	500 700	600
Superintendent of Prison in Cities and Prefectures	600	500 600	550

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE.

Accountant Treasurer	800-2,500	800-1,800	1,200
President of Privy Council	5,000	2,500	—
Vice President of Privy Council ...	4,500	2,000	—
Privy Councillor ...	4,000	1,500	—
Secretary-general of Privy Council	3,500	2,000	—
Secretary of Privy Council	800 2,500	800 1,800	—
Chief Secretary of the two Houses of the Imperial Diet	3,000	2,000	—
Secretary of the two Houses of the Imperial Diet ...	800 2,000	800 1,800	1,200
Chief of the Board of Audit.....	4,000	3,500	—
Chief of a Section of the Board of Audit	3,000	2,500	—
Auditor of the Board of Audit	1,000 2,500	1,000 2,000	1,200
Probationers of the Board of Audit...	600 900	600 900	700
Secretary of the Board of Audit ..	1,500 2,000	1,200 1,600	1,400
Chief of Administrative Court ...	4,000	2,500	—
Judges of Administrative Court ...	3,000	1,000 2,000	1,200
Custom House Chief	1,200 2,500	1,000 2,000	1,500

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Inspector of Custom House.....	1,200	1,500	800	1,200	900
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.					
President of Supreme Court	5,000		4,000		—
Chief Public Procurator of Supreme Court...	4,000		3,500		—
Chief of a Section of Supreme Court	3,500		3,000		—
Judge Public Procurator of Supreme Court	1,600	3,000	1,200	2,500	—
Chief Secretary of Supreme Court...	1,200		800	1,000	900
President of the Court of Appeal of Tokyo and Osaka	4,000		3,500		—
Chief Public Procurator of Appeal of Tokyo and Osaka	3,500		3,000		—
President of Local Court of Tokyo and Osaka	2,500		2,000		—
Chief Public Procurator of Tokyo and Osaka	2,200		1,600		—
Chief of a Section of Tokyo and Osaka	1,400	2,200	1,400	2,000	—
President of any other Court of Appeal.	3,500		3,000		—
Chief Public Procurator Court of Appeal.	3,000		2,500		—
Chief of a Section, Court of Appeal.	1,400	2,200	1,400	2,000	—
Judge Court of Appeal	900	1,200	800	1,200	—
Public Procurator Court of Appeal.	900	2,000	800	1,600	—
Chief Secretary, Court of Appeal	900	1,000	600	700	—
President of other Local Courts.....	1,400	2,200	1,200	2,000	—
Chief of a Section of Local Court ..	900	1,200	800	900	—
Chief Public Procurator of Local Court ...	1,200	2,000	1,000	1,400	—
Judge of Local Court	600	800	500	700	—
Public Procurator of Local Court					
Judge of Peace Court					
Public Procurator of Peace Court					
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.					
President of Imperial University ...	4,000			3,000	—
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE.					
Judge	1,200			900	—
Inspector	700	1,100	600	900	700
Superintendent of Mines	800	1,500	700	1,200	800
Superintendent of Forests	800	1,500	400	1,200	700
Chemists	500	800	500	700	600
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS.					
Chief Railway Engineer	3,000			3,000	—
Officer for General Affairs in the Bureau of Railways	800	2,500	800	1,800	—

THE TREATIES.

THE following Questions have been submitted to the Government in the House of Representatives:—

QUESTIONS ON THE ENFORCEMENT OF THE EXISTING TREATIES.

It is a generally accepted truth that the primary object of an international treaty is to give assurance of amity, and to facilitate trade and intercourse, between the contracting parties, thereby at the same time contributing to maintain peace and tranquillity in each of the countries concerned. The principal aims of a Government's foreign policy should, be, on the one hand, to secure the confidence of the people at home and, on the other, to win the trust of foreign nations, so that the country's prestige abroad may be properly maintained. In short, there must be some definite and original purpose in a country's foreign policy. History may differ as well as forms of civilization when we pass from the East to the West, but there has never been in ancient or modern times an instance of a country, except the very weakest, which has tried to maintain peace by sacrificing its original rights and individuality for the sake of other nations.

A treaty of amity between one nation and another derives its force from well established principles of international law, and in its finding strength it may be compared with the constitution of the countries concerned, while the various other conventions accompanying the treaty, such, for instance, as the conventions relating to Jurisdiction and Tariff, may be likened to the ordinary laws of the land. These treaties and conventions, therefore, must be carefully observed by the contracting parties for the sake of their mutual benefit. Turning now to our own country, can it be said that our foreign policy has been so shaped and the treaties so enforced as to maintain the country's prestige and promote its interests? Unfortunately the subject of the encroachment of foreign countries upon the sphere of the original rights of the country is now a topic of common talk among all classes of the nation, and facts suggesting unfavourable treatment are frequently brought to light. This is the reason why, in accordance with Art. 48 of the Law of the Houses, we put the following Questions to the Government:—

I.—Is the Government prepared to declare, with responsibility, that the existing treaties are in full force both in name and in reality? It is well acknowledged that the existing treaties are imperfect and at variance with the generally accepted principles governing the intercourse of nations. But so long as they are unrevised, we have to abide by them. Do the existing treaties, however, possess the same binding force as common legal provisions, and if so, is their binding force actually and fully recognised in practice. Have not the sovereign powers of the country been impaired even within the limits of the existing treaties? For example, the jurisdiction which foreign consuls are allowed to exercise in consequence of the extraterritorial clause, ought to be confined to the adjudication of law suits between the Japanese and foreigners. But in point of fact, foreign consuls exercise a part of the administrative power in the foreign settlements, with the result that our local authorities are unable to enforce their orders there. Under the circumstances, the foreign settlements present the appearance of being nothing more than colonies of foreign nations. In the foreign settlements of Kobe and Yokohama, a special system of police is maintained, while at the former place even a system of self government has been granted. In the face of these facts, is the Government prepared to declare, with responsibility, that the existing treaties are in full force both in name and in reality?

II.—Is the Government prepared to declare that, in respect of the enforcement of the existing treaties, it has properly discharged it duties of direction and supervision? It is an open secret that foreigners forsees lands and houses outside the Settlements. Punishmen is never meted out either to these foreigners or to those who violate the express stipulations of the treaties with respect to leasing land or renting houses, partnership in business, journeying in the interior, and the limits of free travel? Can the Government still declare that, in respect of the enforcement of the existing treaties, it has properly discharged its duties of direction and supervision?

III.—Why does not the Government take upon itself the responsibility of strictly enforcing the existing treaties?

What has thus far been stated discloses serious violations of the existing treaties and encroachments upon the sovereignty of the Empire. Why does not the Government deal strictly with these offences and rigidly enforce the existing treaties? The foreign Powers concerned are also responsible for observing the stipulations of the treaties. Why then does not our Government take upon itself the responsibility of strictly enforcing the existing treaties?

The above questions are preferred in accordance with Art. 48 of the Law of the Houses.

[Introducers]	KAWASHIMA JUN, and three others.
[Supporters]	OHIGASHI GITETSU, and twenty-nine others.

Dated 4th December, 1893.

THE SINGAPORE FIRE.

THE damage done by the fire at Singapore on the 15th ult. is estimated, says the *Daily Press*, at close on half-a-million dollars. The buildings destroyed were situated along Bonham Street (just off Raffles Square) and on Boat Quay, and most of the block was gutted. The firms occupying the godowns were Katz Bros., and the Singapore Ice Company; Valtriny and Co.; J. C. David; and Gregory Moses, whose godown turns out of Bonham Street, on Boat Quay, connecting with the godown of Hooglandt and Co. Messrs. Katz Bros. have been the most fortunate, for their damage is comparatively slight compared to that of other firms. The fire took the whole block with the exception of a small corner, by Bonham Street and the Quay. The buildings, which were the property of Mr. Tan Jiak Kim, were not insured, while, in every other case, with the exception of that of Mr. David, the insurances are pretty extensive. Mr. Tan Jiak Kim intends to proceed with the rebuilding of the property at once. The Straits Fire Insurance Company estimate their net loss to be somewhere about $13,000. All the other insurance was in home offices.

ANOTHER FAR EASTERN CABLE.

ALL negotiations in connection with the duplication of the cable between Hongkong and Singapore have been concluded, says the *China Mail*. The new cable will go from Hongkong *direct* to Labuan, thence to Singapore costing, roughly, £300,000, and is being laid by the Eastern Extension Telegraph Company, with the object of affording additional security of communication without practically increasing the Telegraph Company's revenue. The cable-ship *Recorder* belonging to the same Company, left Singapore the other day to repair the line between Hongkong and Haiphong. When this work is completed, she will come in to Hongkong to renew a portion of the cable to Macao and then proceed to take soundings between Hongkong, Labuan, and Singapore preparatory to the laying of the duplicate cable which is expected to be completed and opened for traffic early next summer.

THE HOSHI AFFAIR.

THE Hoshi affair has ended in the suspension of Mr. Hoshi for one week. The recommendation of the Disciplinary Committee was that he should be required to apologise in open session for his contumacious language, it being well understood that such a penalty would have borne very hard on a man of Mr. Hoshi's character. Indeed, when the Committee's decision was made known to him, he is said to have declared that expulsion from the House would have been preferable. He was saved the indignity of an open apology, however, for when the committee had made its report, a member moved an amendment that the suggested penalty should be changed to a week's suspension. Mr. Hoshi doubtless welcomed the change. But assuredly he will now resign his position of President. Indeed, his resolve to do so was formed some days ago, it is said.

THE PRESS ON THE ADDRESS ABOUT OFFICIAL DISCIPLINE.

THE Address to the Throne on the subject of official discipline, which was passed by a large majority in the Lower House on Monday last, has been warmly approved by the party organs. These papers, especially those belonging to the Progressionist Party, insist on regarding the Address in the light of a vote of want of confidence in the Cabinet as a whole. But it does not appear that they wish for the resignation of the Ministry, since they confine themselves to urging upon Count Ito the necessity of advising the Emperor to remove Count Goto from his Ministerial post. The *Mainichi Shimbun* reminds the Cabinet of the disastrous consequences of the ill-advised support which the Radicals have persisted in giving to Mr. Hoshi, and tells it that similar results will follow if it endeavours to shield Count Goto from public attack. Count Ito is warned against the folly committed by Count Itagaki. The *Hochi Shimbun* lays much stress upon the fact that the motion for the Address was introduced by National Unionists. That circumstance alone, it says, ought to convince the Cabinet of the altered state of affairs in the political world. The *Kokumin Shimbun* regrets that the Address passed almost unopposed, for had there been some powerful opponents to its passage, its supporters would have had better opportunities to give full expression to their ideas on the subject of official discipline. As it is, the easy passage of the motion failed to arouse public attention and interest as it ought to have done. However, our contemporary

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consoles itself by reflecting that the one-sided character of the affair affords incontrovertible evidence that the alleged misconduct of the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce is unanimously condemned by the public voice.

* * *

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* strongly criticises the Lower House's rashness in approaching the Throne on this subject without first endeavouring to attain its object by direct communication with His Majesty's Ministers. If the Ministers failed to give satisfaction, then and only then would the House have been justified in adopting the extraordinary course of appealing to the Sovereign. Moreover, the Address mentions no facts to support the serious charges it prefers against one of His Majesty's Ministers, so that the Emperor is left entirely without anything to guide his judgment. The document is also denounced as extremely ambiguous. It may be read as an accusation of only one particular Minister, or it may be taken as a condemnation of the Ministry in a body. On the other hand, the *Nichi Nichi* regrets that no Ministers of State attended the House on the occasion to oppose the passage of the Address by disproving the serious charges contained in the document, for the Cabinet's silence may be erroneously construed into a tacit acknowledgement of the justice of the course taken by the Lower House. The *Nichi Nichi*, however, thinks that the charges brought against the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce are not entirely without foundation. It is also constrained to state that, in its opinion, the Cabinet is not altogether free from the charge of negligence in respect of official discipline. Thus the whole tenor of our contemporary's article is to advise the Cabinet to take some decisive step with reference to the alleged irregularities in the Department of Agriculture and Commerce.

* * *

The *Jiji Shimpo* condemns the Lower House for having concerned itself with a matter which does not lie strictly within the proper sphere of its action. For the subject dealt with in the Address being a moral question, the House had better have left it alone. Not that our contemporary is indifferent to moral questions; on the contrary, it sincerely deplores the complete decadence of the high tone of morality obtaining under the feudal régime. No one regrets the circumstance more deeply than the *Jiji*. But it asks the House of Representatives whether it really thinks itself so pure and virtuous as to be qualified to sit in judgment on the moral failings of others. There are doubtless many virtuous men in the House, but can the majority claim exemption from charges of moral laches similar to those preferred against the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce? Our contemporary earnestly wishes that the members of the Diet would better regulate their own conduct before presuming to blame other people

SOUVENIR OF THE "ROBERT L. BELKNAP."

THE Sultan of Lingga has been presented with a handsome silver trophy by the President of the United States, says the *Daily Press*, for kindness shown to the crew of the American vessel *Robert L. Belknap* when they were wrecked on the Natunas Islands in 1893. The inscription borne by the trophy is:—From the President of the United States to Abdall Rachman Maadlam Siab, Sultan of Lingga, Rhio and Dependencies, in recognition of his humane services to the crew of the American ship *Robert L. Belknap*, wrecked in January, 1893.

MR. TAKANASHI TETSUSHIRO.

THE motion which Mr. Takanashi Tetsushiro asked leave to introduce on the plea of urgency namely, that ingress to the House of Representatives should be forbidden to Count Goto and Mr. Saito Shuichiro, Minister and Vice-Minister respectively of Agriculture and Commerce, was so obviously unconstitutional that we marvel at the Vice-President's complacency in permitting Mr. Takanashi to ascend the rostrum for such a purpose. The Law of the Houses emphatically states that Ministers of State and Government Delegates are competent to enter the Houses at any moment, and address the members. To deny ingress to the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce by a vote of the House would have been a direct violation of the law. No ingenuity could climb round that plain fact, and if ever a presiding officer's authority should have been exercised to interdict a breach of order, the occasion was that of Mr. Takanashi's motion But the present Vice-President of the House of Representatives has not yet distinguished himself for firmness or ability to preserve discipline.

* * *

Mr. Takanashi Tetsushiro is a remarkable figure in the House. In appearance he is distinguished from all the other members by an extraordinary head of hair; beautiful hair it must be admitted, but hanging in such masses to his shoulders and framing such a round, gentle-looking face that one is perpetually beset by the delusion that a woman sits among the representatives. He is perhaps the most finished orater in the House. Mr. Inouye Kakugoro excels him in power and pathos, and Mr. Shimada Saburo in command of erudite diction. But for graces of gesture, charm of elocution, and neatness of style, Mr. Takanashi stands prêem nent. We have heard him descend to the grossest vu garity; or, to speak more accurately, we have heard him employ anguage such as might have been expected from an English navy. But nature in Japan is often nature unadorned. Besides, despite an occasional lapse, Mr. Takanashi in anything rather than vulgar. For the rést, he is a barrister and consequently competent to interpret the plain significance of a law. At no moment can he have been in any doubt as to the hopeless illegality of his proposal last Monday. But he wanted an opportunity of abusing Count Goto and Mr. Saito from the rostrum of the House, and the incompetence of the Vice-Presiden, seconded by the House's willingness to listen to any attack on a Cabinet Minister, gave him the occasion he desired. Parliaments that command public respect are not composed of such *farceurs*.

MR. HOSHI TORU.

MR. HOSHI is entitled to the sympathy of every sober-minded person on account of the bitter and unceasing persecution of which he still remains the object. Mr. Fukuzawa Yukichi, the venerable editor of the *Jiji Shimpo*, doubtless expressed the sentiments of the educated classes outside party circles, when, if we may believe a story that has appeared in print, he asked Mr. Inouye Kakugoro to convey his advice to the President of the House of Representatives never to yield to the unreasonable pressure brought to bear upon him by his political enemies. It had been understood that Mr. Hoshi would resign after the passage of the Address to the Throne, the motive assigned to him being a desire to avert the threatened disruption of his party. But when it became evident that even such a sacrifice would fail of attaining the desired end, he reconsidered his intention to resign. Subsequently, seeing his party was in danger of a further split, he adopted the manly course of himself withdrawing from its ranks, so that, without compromising his own honour, he might save the *Jiyu-to* from the threatened calamity, conduct perfectly in unison with the spirit of chivalry that has characterized his career, private and public. Being now perfectly free to act entirely according to his own inclinations, it is understood that he will resume the Presidential chair on the expiration of the period of one week during which he has been suspended as a disciplinary measure for having defied the House from his seat. Meanwhile his enemies are indefatigable in planning schemes to prevent him from carrying out his intention. Their object in handing him over to the Disciplinary Committee was to contrive his expulsion from the House altogether, and they hoped that the anticipated disintegration of the Radical Party would give them the two-thirds majority required for such an extreme measure. Disappointed in that hope, however, they had to fall back upon a motion to exclude him from the House for a week, their object, according to good authority, being thus to gain time for considering what further method of procedure should be taken. They have never abandoned their hope of expelling him, and zealous endeavours are being still made to obtain the necessary majority of two-thirds. There being, however, little chance of success in that direction, the crafty politicians of the Progressionist Party and the *Domei* Club have now under contemplation the introduction of a motion the absurdity of which exceeds the whole record of Parliamentary blunders in Japan. The motion, as published by the *Mainichi Shimbun*, is as follows:—"Our House having resolved that it places no confidence in its President, the function of his post shall be discharged by the Vice-President." In support of this extraordinary motion, the Progressionist organ refers to Art. 13 of the Law of the Houses, which provides that "in each House, in the event of the disability of the President, he shall be represented in his functions by the Vice-President." The orginal Japanese word for "disability" is *koshō* which, over and above the meaning in which it is evidently used in the text, signifies also "obstacle" or "objection." By straining the import of this word, the *Mainichi* maintains that the fact of the Lower House having passed a motion declaring want of confidence in the President, constitutes a most serious obstacle to his discharge of the duties of his post. It is scarcely necessary to point out the obvious injustice of such a rendering of the provision in question. The cases of disability contemplated in the article are sickness, criminal prosecutions, or any other circumstance which, either from personal or public reasons, prevent the President from attending the House. A vote of want of confidence passed by the House itself, has no binding power upon him and can never theoretically prevent him from discharging the duties of his post. There is thus nothing to justify the course contemplated by the Progressionists. The National Unionists are reported to be averse to such an unwarrantable measure, and as the Radicals will likewise oppose it, the House will at the worst be evenly divided, should the motion be introduced for discussion.

UNITED MEETING FOR THE AMENDMENT OF THE PRESS REGULATIONS.

A UNITED meeting of journalists from the Capital and the provinces, for the amendment of the Press Regulations, was held at the Kinkikan, Kanda, on the afternoon of the 3rd instant. Mr. Shigeno, organizer of the meeting, first addressed the crowded audience, some two thousand in all, on the object of the meeting. He was followed by Mr. Kirihara Sutezo, of the *Kaishin Shimbun*, who spoke on the subject of the Disturbance of Public Tranquility and the Suspension of Publication, and argued in strong terms that the Government is liable to confuse Disturbance of Public Peace with Disturbance to the Government. Mr. Kuwabara Keiichi, of the *Keisai Zasshi*, who was the next speaker, observed, on the topic of the suspension of newspapers and periodicals, that the suspension far from being efficacious of any good, is rather productive of the reverse, in that it evokes the attention of the public and so conduces more to the so-called disturbance of public tranquility. The right of suspending publication was the subject upon which Mr. Yamazaki Chizen, of the *Jiji Shimpo*, chose to speak. He based his argument on the Constitution of the Empire and dwelt on the impropriety of leaving so sacred a right to the control of imperfect executive officials. Mr. Ichijima Kenkichi, of the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, took up the topic of the Suspension of Publication and the strict enforcement of Official Discipline, remarking that a many paragraph which is regarded as an object for censure is really traceable to the decay of official discipline, and he therefore called upon the Government to preserve official discipline from relaxation rather than to attempt to suspend the publication of papers. Mr. Yamaji Yakichi, of the *Kokumin Shimbun*, argued that the bulwark of free speech and discussion should never be assailed with petty

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rules or regulations. The next speaker, Mr. Kusakabe, of the *Meiji Shimbun*, directed his eloquence against the House of Peers, members of which he described in very strong terms as, "servile followers" of the Clan Government, "animals revelling in ease and luxury," &c. Mr. Mizoguchi Ichijiro, of the *Yiyu*, ascended the platform after Mr. Kusakabe had finished. His subject was "How to maintain a Sound Constitutional Government." His argument was that there is nothing so efficacious as public opinion for remedying the diseases to which the State is liable; that the newspaper is the best medium of reflecting this opinion; and that the result of suspending the publication of organs so important to the mechanism of society is simply the encourgement of a secret press. The last speaker of the day was Mr. Minoura Kasudo, of the *Hochi Shimbun*. He pointed out in the beginning of his speech, the great injustice done by the suspension of publication, considered merely as a legal punishment, for while even for offences of so grave a nature as subversion of the laws of the country, the penalty is only the imposition of a fine of about 300 yen, the suspension of publication on the ground of so-called disturbance of the public peace amounts in practice, to the infliction of a loss of from three to four thousand *yen*. The right of freedom of speech, publication, and meeting secured to the Japanese people by Art. XXIX. of the Imperial Constitution, is, said the speaker, only partially enjoyed owing to the continual encroachments made upon it by this law and that. The Press Regulations now in force might be regarded as an instance of laws precluding the people from satisfactorily enjoying the rights secured to them by the Constitution. The Regulations, said he, are clearly at variance with the spirit of the Constitution, and it is on the ground of their being unconstitutional that they should be done away with. To oppose the amendment of the Press Laws, he concluded, is to go contrary to the spirit of the Japanese Constitution, and to constitutional government in general.

BANKERS ENGAGING IN MERCANTILE TRANSACTIONS.

Mr. Kawada Koichiro, President of the Bank of Japan, has pointed out a custom prevailing amongst Osaka merchants of combining banking with business enterprises, a remark which, observes the *Kokkai*, should be extended to Tokyo also where this undesirable practice is far more prevalent than in Osaka. Mr. Shibusawa Eiichi, of the First National Bank, Mr. Yasuda Zenzaburo, of the 3rd, and Mr. Yamanaka Rinnosuke, of the Tokyo Branch of the 32nd National Banks, are cited by our contemporary as noteworthy instances of bankers and business men combined. Mr. Shibusawa appears to have been convinced of the evil attending this practice, for he seems to be endeavouring, as far as circumstances permit, to break off his connection with business enterprises. But for all this, his connection with business not directly related to banking is still extensive; and his interest in spinning, ship-building, paper-making, gas, and coal enterprises, is very well known to the business world. Mr. Yasuda is also well known to the same community as being connected with insurance business of various kinds. Now the funds which these gentlemen employ for such enterprises must, according to the general surmise, come from the banks under their control. If so, it follows that as bankers they are to be regarded as creditors, while as promoters of business enterprises they must be considered as debtors, a state of affairs which can only end unsatisfactorily. These gentlemen are trying to reconcile conflicting interests; for whilst the merchant is anxious to get his money at as low a rate of interest as possible, and with terms of re-payment as easy as they can be, the banker is naturally endeavouring to get the very opposite. It will therefore be very hard for Messrs. Shibuzawa and Yasuda to escape from the difficulties of their inconsistent position, and they are certainly liable to serious misrepresentation. The article concludes by insisting on the necessity of the bankers holding themselves aloof from business speculations. It also states that its criticisms may be applied to several banks in Yokohama.

ST. HILDA'S BAZAAR.

It has been decided to hold a Bazaar in aid of the St. Hilda's Dispensaries on Saturday, the 16th instant, in the School Room, No. 11, Sakaecho, Shiba, Tokyo. The ladies of Tokyo have spared no pains to make the Bazaar attractive, and we learn that the articles offered will include dolls, children's dresses, cushions, lace, water colour sketches, books, and many other objects desirable on their own account and suitable for Christmas presents. These bazaars are free from all the features that so often prove deterrent in like cases, for the prices of the articles are moderate and no undue pressure is brought to bear upon reluctant purchasers. Some of the things for sale have been obtained from Europe, and others are the work of the ladies of the Guild at their fortnightly meetings or in their own homes. Music is also promised, and from every point of view the affair deserves public patronage. The following ladies of the Guild are assisting at the Bazaar:—Mrs. Bickersteth, Mrs. Brinkley, Miss Ballard, Mrs. and Miss Black, Mrs. Duer, Mrs. Dewette, Miss F. Dening, Miss Glover, Miss Hayes, Mrs. James, Mrs. Kirkwood, Mrs. Mason, Miss Mair, Mrs. Nishigawa and the Misses Nishigawa Mrs. Pownall, Miss Ranken, Mrs. Sannomiya, Mrs. Seymour, Mrs. Schurr, and Mrs. Squire.

CHINA NOTES

A telegram received in Shanghai on the 29th ult. from Soochow by the native officials, announced the sudden death of Mr. Wang, the new prefect of Soochow, who was transferred only about six weeks ago to that post from Chinkiang where he was popular with both foreigners and natives.

* * *

A telegram from Peking announces that H.E. Kung Chao-yuan, Minister-elect to Great Britain, France, Italy, and Belgium will not start for the South until about the middle of January next, when His Excellency will go overland to his native town of Lüchowfu, province of Annui. As far as can be judged, writes the *N.-C. Daily News*, the new envoy will not be able to leave China for Europe very much before the end of April, 1894.

* * *

France is organising in Shanghai a political, geographical, and commercial mission to Chungking, under the leadership of Mr. Haas, French Consul at Hankow, who has just returned from leave. The *Daily News* understands that it is to start after the arrival from home of the next French mail, by which some additional members of the mission are expected. An interpreter from the French Consulate-General in Shanghai is to be one of the party.

A BILL RELATING TO THE TREATIES.

The Tokyo News Agency reports that a meeting has been held by the members of the *Seimuchosa-jo*—a small political coterie in the Lower House consisting of Messrs. Abei, Komachi, Arai, Sakata, Wakahara, and a few others—for the purpose of drafting a Representation to the Government on the subject of the strict enforcement of the Treaties. Accompanying the Representation is to be a project of law for dealing with foreigners who oppose the efforts of the authorities to carry out the letter of the Treaties. So, at least, we read the report of the News Agency, but the story of the project of law is perplexing. At any rate, it is stated that these measures are to be introduced to-day.

COMPETITION OF THE P. AND O. COMPANY WITH THE NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA

The P. & O. Company has at last, so the *Shogyo Shimpo* informs us, entered into competition with the Nippon Yusen Kaisha with regard to the freight of goods between Bombay and Yokohama. Our contemporary says that on the afternoon of the 1st instant, it received the following cablegram from its Bombay correspondent, dated the afternoon of the 30th ult. The P. & O. Company has decided to enter into competition with the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, and has therefore reduced freights on cotton to 8 rupees per ton, while for contract customers freights have been further reduced to 6 rupees. Commenting on this, the *Shogyo Shimpo* says that the great reduction in P. & O. freights may be considered as a first result of the new line to Bombay recently started by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha. As the reduction has for some time past been anticipated, it takes no one by surprise; but our contemporary points out that it must have a great effect in extending the commercial intercourse between Japan and India.

PRINCE KONOYE ON THE PEERS.

Prince Konoye delivered a very interesting lecture at the last meeting of the *Kokkagaku-Kai*, the subject which he chose being "The Peers." The Prince commenced by observing that the peers are commonly spoken of as a "bulwark of the Throne," but that most persons are ignorant of the meaning of the phrase. What constitutes a "bulwark of the Throne" was clearly pointed out by the Imperial Instructions issued in 1871 and 1884. It was there laid down that the peers should be strict in their conduct, should properly regulate their domestic affairs, and should, by taking due thought for the public interest, endeavour to become models of life to the common people. The Court had even condescended to enact measures such as might assist the peers to give practical effect to the idea involved in the principle of being bulwarks of the Throne. In the first place, the Prince went on, there were the Admonition Regulations for the Aristocracy, which provide suitable correctionary treatment in the event of any peer having committed an action unbecoming his position or calculated to bring discredit on his order. Another provision working in the same direction was that of hereditary property. But despite the care thus exercised by the Court on behalf of the peers, the Prince was of opinion that they were very far from satisfying the definition of being bulwarks of the Throne. In the first place, he declared them palpably deficient in spirit and courage. To this defect he attributed their haughty demeanour towards the common people, on the one hand, while, on the other, they cried very small in the presence of even petty Government officials. Until they learned to appreciate the honour attaching to the station in which they were born, and to count themselves a highly privileged class, they could never display the spirit appropriate to true nobles. The Prince had a great deal to say about the dignity of the peers as a class. Many nobles, plausibly pretexting a desire to become acquainted with the actual condition of the lower orders, did not hesitate to follow courses of action unbecoming to their position. They sacrificed their dignity to the ambition of being counted "clever men." The haughty bearing of old feudal days was not to the Prince's taste, but he nevertheless preferred even that to the vicious fashion of purchasing a reputation for smartness at the cost of the dignity attaching to a peer's rank. Nothing had contributed more to degenerate the tone of the aristocracy than the shallow ambition to be styled "clever." He then dwelt briefly on the course of procedure which the aristocracy should pursue, pointing out, by way of illustration, that to engage in some business such as might serve for a model to the people at large was the simplest and most effective plan. He spoke very slightingly of the political acumen or activity shown by them. When there was question of electing a candidate for the House of Peers, only a small fraction of the nobility took any interest in the matter, or gave themselves the trouble to cast their votes. Generally they gave their suffrages to whatever candidate happened to call first on them for the purpose of soliciting their support. Some on the other hand, appeared to subserve politics to philanthropy, for they cast their votes for the candidate whose pecuniary circumstances were least flourishing. Members of the House of Peers who owed their election to such strange methods of choice were naturally very far from reflecting credit on their order. They were

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simply a superior class of hired labourers. They stood up and voted exactly as they might be directed by the wire-pullers, without understanding a word of the bill or measure under discussion. A House containing even a small proportion of such members, was liable to be manipulated by the Government, despised by the Representatives, and disregarded by the nation.

* * *

Prince Konoye omitted to show why a House of Peers containing a section of incapables such as he described, should be more liable to be manipulated for Government purposes than for the purposes of clever political leaders like himself. He has his own following in the House. Apparently it is not large enough to satisfy him.

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR EDUCATION AND THE BUDGET COMMISSION.

A SCENE such as might be repeated with advantage on various occasions, took place yesterday at the session of the Budget Committee. It having been intimated by the Committee that they desired information with regard to the recently accomplished reforms in the Administrative organization, three Ministers of State, the Ministers of Finance, Justice, and Education, together with a number of Government delegates attended the Committee's meeting. After many queries had been addressed to the Ministers and Delegates and answered by them, Dr. Hasegawa addressed himself to the Minister of State for Education. Dr. Hasegawa is a well known man. During the whole time of his service in the Diet he has laboured assiduously, and with a certain measure of success, to bring discredit on the House of Representatives and to demonstrate practically what a burlesque can be made of parliamentary functions if they be treated with thorough irresponsibility and in a genuinely light-hearted manner. It was that gentlemen who pronounced all the old foreign employés of the Government to be worn out and antiquated, and urged the advisability of replacing them by new men, and it was he that last session called the Educational Department a *bake-mono-yashiki*, or haunt of uncanny beings. Yesterday his question to the Minister of State for Education was:—"The Educational Department is useless and mischievous. Why did not the Committee on Administrative Organization reform or abolish such a useless and mischievous institution?" Of course this question was merely vindictive impertinence. There cannot have been any idea of eliciting genuine information. Dr. Hasegawa simply desired to insult the Minister with impunity. Mr. Inouye, it is said, became very angry. "As to the Educational Department being useless," he replied, "that is a matter variously viewed by various persons. I cannot find fault with the expression. But the assertion that the Department is" mischievous" (*yugai aru*) it is a piece of rudeness. I beg that the President of the Committee will call for its withdrawal, or, if that be impossible, that the Committee as a whole will exercise its authority." This request of the Minister not being granted, he became still more indignant and addressed the Committee thus:—"The Government having shown all proper courtesy in attending here at the desire of the Committee, and answering its its questions, have a right to expect that the Committee will treat them with corresponding consideration. Yet I find that a section of the Government the Department of Education, is rudely spoken of as 'mischievous.' I decline to continue in attendance at a meeting where such discourtesy is shown." Thereupon the Minister withdrew. It is heartily to be wished that other Ministers would follow Mr. Inouye's example. Then perhaps, the members of the Lower House might learn that insolence and rudeness are both unbecoming and ineffectual.

MR. ABE. IWANE.

MR. ABEI IWANE is the oldest member in the House of Representatives. He appears also to be the most stubborn. It was he that introduced the vote of want of confidence in Mr. Hoshi Toru, and it is he that stands at the head of the anti-mixed residence coterie in the House. People say that he is now a very irate man. For although his assault upon Mr Hoshi—if even it can be called his assault who was only a figure-head—succeeded so far as to secure the House's assent to declare want of confidence in the President, the results of the affair appear to be absolutely *nil*. Mr. Hoshi remains President, and rumour attributes to him the fixed intention of resuming his seat at the expiration of the week during which he has been suspended. In view of this abortive ending to his campaign, Mr. Abei is exceedingly disquieted. The *Mainichi Shimbun* represents him as declaring that he should feel quite too much humiliated were he called upon to sit again under such a President, and that if Mr. Hoshi resumes the chair, he, Mr. Abei, will at once resign his seat. His comrades of the *Seimu Chosa-jo*, says the same authority, are exerting all their influence to calm him, and, in the event of his remaining obdurate, have conceived the idea of getting a majority in the House to restrain him. For that purpose, they are busily canvassing the members of the *Kokumin Kyokai*. We sincerely hope that they will not succeed. For the credit of the House of Representatives, the best thing that could happen would be the resignation of Mr. Abei and some of those who stood on his side in the recent fiasco.

TROUBLE AT BANGKOK.

SOME further trouble seems to be anticipated in connection with the Franco-Siamese affair, says the *Hongkong Daily Press* of the 28th ult. The *Swift*, which only arrived from Bangkok on Saturday, is under orders to return, and the *Severn* left last night. The *Pigmy* has also received orders for the same destination. Several other vessels are expected to follow and great activity prevails at the Dockyard in connection with their fitting out. Several Chinese gunboats are reported to be on their way to Bangkok. Nothing has transpired as to the nature of the trouble that is supposed to have arisen.

LOSS OF THE "SCHLIEMANN"

THE German steel ship *Schliemann*, Captain Sander, laden with 70,000 cases of kerosene from New York, consigned to Messrs. Isaacs and Bro., Yokohama, has become a total wreck. She had made a remarkably good passage for the time of year, 135 days out, when she struck the rocks on the West side of Vries Island. The *Saikio Maru*, Captain Conner, passed her later the same day, Friday, but being a mail-packet could not stop, further than to take off the Captain. She brought him up to Yokohama, and early next day a wrecking party, including Mr. W. H. Hardy and Mr. T. M. Laffin, went down the Bay to the scene of the wreck in the *Yokosuka Maru*. When they reached the vessel they found she was past assistance and was rapidly breaking up. The crew were all saved and brought up to Yokohama, when the ship was left to her fate. The beach around Vries Island is covered with cases of kerosene and other *débris* of the wreck.

MORE RECORDS BROKEN.

THE *Lucania* and *Campania* have each broken the record across the Atlantic, one making the eastern and the other the western passage:—

New York, November 3rd.

The Cunard steamship *Lucania* arrived off Fire Island at 7.37 and crossed the bar at 9.19 o'clock to-night, making the run in five days, eighteen hours and fifty four minutes. This beats all western records by twenty nine minutes. Adelina Patti and Signor Nicolini were among the passengers.

Queenstown, November 3rd.

The Cunard steamer *Campania* arrived this morning, making the passage in five days, twelve hours and seven minutes, beating the best previous eastward record, that of her sister ship, the *Lucania*, by one hour and twenty-three minutes.

DOUBLE MURDER

A DOUBLE murder occurred in Hongkong harbour on the night of the 23rd ult, the victims being a woman and a girl. It appears that two Chinamen hired a sampan for the purpose of boarding a steamer, but on the way threw the master, his wife, and daughter overboard. The women were drowned, but the man swam to a buoy and was picked up. A Chinaman named Chan Lo has been arrested in connection with the affair. The Hongkong papers opine that the two men were trying to smuggle opium and a quarrel arose between them and the boatman.

A SINGAPORE LIBEL.

AT the Singapore Assizes, Baron de Horn was found guilty of a libel on Mr. J. P. Joaquim and was sentenced to two months' imprisonment and a fine of $200. The verdict was given by a majority of six to one. The prisoner said he had been in gaol for one month and twenty days, and he wished to know if that were to be counted in the two months. His Lordship replied in the negative, saying he would not modify the sentence. Baron de Horn was then removed in the custody of the gaoler.

JAPAN AND PORTUGAL

THE *China Mail* of the 28th ult., says:—H.E. Governor Borja has returned by the Pacific Mail steamer *Gaelic* from Japan. We believe his mission has failed. Japan refuses to have anything to do with the restoration of extra-territoral jurisdiction to Portuguese authorities in Japan, and the Japanese Government declines to grant any further privileges than those conferred in the Mexican treaties. We understand the negotiations will be continued in Lisbon through the Japanese Minister in Europe.

ALARM OF FIRE

AN alarm of fire was raised about 11.30 a.m. on Wednesday, in consequence of thick volumes of smoke being seen issuing from the kitchen chimney at No. 34, Bluff, a Japanese girls' school, the Soshu Gakko. The smoke soon cleared away, however, and it was discovered that no cause for fear existed, the chimney having become choked through an accumulation of soot.

THE IMPERIAL PRINCE.

THE Imperial Prince whose birth was briefly announced in the *Official Gazette* of the 1st instant, is the son of Madame Sono Yoshiko, who bore the Emperor's last three children, namely, Prince Michi Hito (died in 1888), and the Princesses Tsune and Kane. Madame Sono is residing at the Aoyama Palace.

A BRITISH CABLE.

SIR THOMAS and Lady Milwraith are passing through Japan on their way to Ottawa. The Premier of Queensland intends to hold conference in Canada with the Government upon the necessity of laying a British cable from Great Britain to the Colonies, touching only at British territory.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE IN TOTTORI PREFECTURE.

A TELEGRAM received by the Home Office, and published in the *Asahi Shimbun*, states that about one o'clock on the morning of the 1st inst., flames burst from a cottage at Tomari-mura, Kawamura District, Tottori Prefecture, and before they were got under control one hundred houses were destroyed. No loss of life is yet reported.

TOTAL LOSS OF A KEROSENE SHIP.

THE German ship *Schliemann*, reported on Saturday as having gone ashore on Vries Island, has not been got off, the *Yokosuka Maru* having returned last night with the crew of the ship, which is a total loss, having gone to pieces on Friday night.

MURDER OF A SULTAN.

TELEGRAPHIC advices received at Penang from Acheen state that the Rajah of Troemoen has been murdered. There are no details beyond the statement that several members of the Rajah's family and some people of Bakongan took part in the affair.

MR. HOSHI TORU

MR. HOSHI TORU has signified his intention of resuming the President's chair in the House today. The probability is that he takes it again only for the purpose of resigning it.

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THE SESSION OF THE LOWER HOUSE ON FRIDAY.

THE session of the House of Representatives on the 1st inst. presented one of the most stormy scenes ever witnessed there. News having gone abroad that the majority intended to take the extreme step of presenting an Address to the Throne on the HOSHI question, the Strangers' Gallery was full to overflowing long before the clock struck one in the afternoon. After the election of a Chairman of Committee of the Whole House and of the members of the various Standing Committees, the expected motion introducing the Address was made by Mr. WADA HIKOJIRO, of the National Unionist Party. Mr. HOSHI then left his Presidential seat, which was taken by the Vice-President Mr. KUSUMOTO. It was now about 4 p.m. Plainly noticeable was the fact that several Radical members had been roused to a state of extraordinary excitement. Especially was this mood conspicuous in the case of Mr. TATEKAWA UMPEI, one of the most devoted followers of Mr. HOSHI. First to speak against the motion, he was, to do him justice, passionately eloquent, and would have enhanced his reputation as an orator had he refrained from indulging in bitter personal attacks upon the supporters of the Address. His excitement increased after he had resumed his seat. He continued to give vent to various abusive expressions directed against the successive speakers on the opposite side, and at the climax of his anger, he called out to Mr. UWOZUMI, a Progressionist, who sat a short distance behind him, and who was interrupting the speech of a Radical member, "You are a rustic; you do not understand these things." An altercation ensued, and Mr. TATEKAWA, springing from his seat, rushed upon Mr. UWOZUMI. Fortunately he was held back by a member who occupied an intermediate seat. During all this fracas, the Vice President, Mr. KUSUMOTO, did nothing to preserve order, and his inaction was severely commented upon by some members. Indeed, looking at the disgraceful scene, it was impossible to avoid the reflection that had Mr. HOSHI been in the chair, order would very quickly have been restored. Mr. NAKAMURA YAROKU, of the *Domei* Club, also allowed himself to be fanned into a white heat. A preceding speaker, Mr. SAITO KEIJI of the Radical party, having made some personal attacks upon him, he loudly vowed that he should bring his calumniator to justice. It goes without saying that Mr. SHIMIZU BUNJIRO was tumultuous. An occasion only is needed for that gentleman to effervesce. Amid all the tumult and excitement, it was strange to observe the composure and studious silence of the notorious Mr. TANAKA SHOZO. The *Kaishin-to* gladiator sought distinction by an astonishing attitude of calm. Mr. INOUYE KAKUGORO, eloquent and bold as ever, wound up the debate with one of his most witty and truculent speeches. He saw that the time was not suited for quiet argument, so he freely showered his shafts of irony upon the Radicals, especially upon Mr. TATEKAWA. But the Address passed. That was a foregone conclusion.

A DISORGANIZED OPPOSITION.

SATURDAY'S session of the House of Representatives illustrated in a manner not to be mistaken how greatly the Opposition is disorganized. The Government Bills being on the Order of the Day for the first time, speeches were delivered by the Minister President and the Minister of Finance. Before the Order of the Day was proceeded with, the Vice-President, who was in the chair, announced that an Imperial Message had been received in connection with the Address presented to the Throne on the HOSHI question. The purport of the Message was to direct that in view of the obscurity of the Address, which might be read either as a prayer to the EMPEROR to remove Mr. HOSHI from the Presidential chair, or as simply an expression of regret for the House's mistake in electing him to that post, a further deliberation should take place. The members thus found themselves in an awkward dilemma. Their wish had unmistakably been to have Mr. HOSHI removed, but to answer in that sense would have directly exposed them to the charge of unlawfully trespassing on the prerogatives of the EMPEROR. Therefore, adopting the Vice-President's suggestion, they had to be contented with answering that their Address was simply intended to convey regret for their own mistake. Then awakening at the eleventh hour to the absurdity of their position, Mr. HOSHI'S persecutors fell back on the only course that they could legitimately take, the course that they ought to have adopted at the outset, namely, to hand him over to the Disciplinary Committee. A motion in that sense was introduced after the Order of the Day had been finished, for to proceed with it sooner would have involved the necessity of seeking the Government's consent. Mr. HATOYAMA KAZUWO, of the Progressionist Party, was to have explained the motion, but as he was detained by some legal business outside the House, the function was discharged by Mr. OOKA IKUZO, a prominent member of the National Union. Mr. OOKA'S speech produced a singular effect on his audience. He bore unstinted testimony to the exemplary manner in which Mr. HOSHI had discharged the difficult duties of his office. Such indeed, was the warmth with which he spoke of Mr. HOSHI'S worth, that, despite some condemnatory remarks towards the close of his speech, the impression produced on his hearers was far from being unfavourable to the object of his attack. The sole ground on which he moved to place Mr HOSHI in the hands of the Disciplinary Committee was that the President, when leaving his chair on the 29th ultimo on the eve of the debate relating to the vote of want of confidence, had showed contempt towards the House by declaring that to whatever decision it might come on the matter, he should not hold himself responsible to obey. The majority being determined on Mr. HOSHI'S destruction, it mattered little what the ostensible reason might be for handing him over to the Committee, so long as that object was attained. Hence the motion was passed by a large majority. According to Art. 95 of the Law of the Houses, "expulsion shall be decided upon by a majority vote of more than two-thirds of the members present." It is doubtful whether Mr. HOSHI'S opponents are numerous enough to satisfy this provision. The vote of want of confidence was supported by 166 members in a house of 285. On that basis the majority would be short of the required number by 24. But Radicals to exactly that number, 24, are now reported to have deserted the Party, and some people are disposed to think that there is a prospect of the required two-third majority being obtained. It seems that the division will be close, and that the result is extremely uncertain.

Another illustration of the Opposition's disorganized state was furnished by the manner in which the speeches of the Minister President and the Minister of State for Finance were received by the House. About the speeches themselves there was nothing remarkable. Indeed, to speak frankly, Count ITO'S address was in a sense disappointing to those who had expected from him a brilliant and scholarly announcement of the Government's policy. He spoke clearly, calmly, and with his usual facility, and his easy delivery was rendered all the more remarkable by the fact that he made no use of notes. But his speech was simple, short, and matter-of-fact. In our opinion, he is a better debater than orator: his eloquence requires the stimulating influence of opposition. Whenever he is under that influence there is something really fine in his impassioned flow of language. Mr. WATANABE, the Minister of State for Finance, spoke neither better nor worse than usual. His voice is not strong, but it is clear and audible in all parts of the Hall. The point, however, to which attention may be particularly directed is the demeanour of the House towards the speakers. In preceding sessions, the House never listened tamely to such addresses: some Opposition members invariably took occasion to assert their importance by uttering critical and even abusive comments. But on the present occasion, no such interruption was attempted, even by the notorious Mr. SHIMIZU BUNJIRO or Mr. TANAKA SHOZO. Still more remarkable was the fact that

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not a single member rose to put any question to either of the Ministerial speakers—a circumstance singularly at variance with the practice invariably followed in the past, and rendered all the more noteworthy by the fact that the Premier's speech dealt principally with Administrative Reforms, a subject on which the coming fight between the Government and the Opposition is expected to turn chiefly. Silence and disconcerted looks were alone observable in the House. The Opposition appeared to be hopelessly broken up and disorganized for the moment. Pending the final disposal of the HOSHI affair, the position was so uncertain, that none of the parties opposed to the Government ventured to commit themselves to a definite line of attack upon those in power. That an onslaught will be made on the Ministry with reference to the Reforms, admits of no doubt. But in the present state of affairs, there is no possibility of a concerted movement between the different parties of the Opposition, and evidently they are at a loss how to open fire against the foe. They will recover their *aplomb*, however. When men are bent on fighting, circumstances seldom baulk their desire.

THE POLICE AND FOREIGNERS.

THE Instruction issued by the Chief of Police in Tokyo on the 28th ultimo ought to produce useful results. Police constables usually give themselves little concern about the language that folks address to each other in the street. A policeman's active duties are supposed to begin when he detects evidence of a disposition or an actual attempt to break the peace. Language calculated to provoke personal violence may generally be used in his presence with impunity, and we do not imagine that it would occur to an English constable to check the freedom of speech of a mob of London urchins if he heard them airing their Arab eloquence at the expense of a Chinese or Persian way-farer. But the Chief of Police in Tokyo thinks that exceptional precautions are advisable at present, and most of us will be disposed to agree with him. Several instances are on record of rude behaviour on the part of Japanese youths towards foreigners during the past two years, and we regret to say that such things have become commoner of late. The case of the Venerable Archdeacon SHAW does not, perhaps, deserve to be classed in the same category with the rudeness of students, for the Archdeacon's assailant was drunk, and drunken men do not reason; and the same comment applies to the story subsequently ventilated that a Secretary of the German Legation had been insulted in Tsukiji by two roughs. But there is this to be said even about such affairs, namely, that though little stock need be taken of the acts of drunken folk in general, we cannot afford to treat them with complete indifference in Japan. The Japanese inebriate being seldom quarrelsome, if we find his ordinarily jovial mood changed into one of truculence at the sight of a foreigner, we may fairly conclude that his every-day sentiments towards the stranger are not friendly. Leaving drunken men out of the account, however, there has been sufficient to render the streets of Tokyo less pleasant than they used to be. In former years one could walk anywhere and everywhere with almost absolute certainty of neither encountering an insulting glance nor hearing an ugly word. But the same assurance does not exist now-a-days. The strong desire on the part of grown-up folks to remove the disabilities under which the country labours, and to assert themselves *vis-à-vis* foreigners, becomes in the case of unreasoning youths a mere sentiment of aversion, and may therefore be translated at any moment into acts of rudeness. General illustrations have been furnished of late by the youths of one of the chief educational institutions in Tokyo, and the principal of the college, a man of wide experience and established sagacity, laments that among the boys now coming from rural districts he observes indications that the anti-mixed-residence compaign of Mr. OI KENTARO and his mischievous disciples has exercised an evil influence on the rising generation. No one supposes, it would indeed be extravagant to suppose, that there is the smallest danger of a recrudescence of the old *jo-i* (barbarian-expelling) spirit of pre-Restoration days. That kind of thing is dead beyond all resurrection. But its memory lives in the breasts of foreigners, and they are not slow to put an unfavourable interpretation on any morbidly self-assertive or hostile ebullitions indulged in by Japanese youths. We have often admitted our full sense of the provocation under which Japan has laboured for many years, from a Japanese point of view. Our own countrymen, under similar conditions, would probably evince even more marked resistance and resentment than the Japanese have shown. But Japan's experience must have taught her that little allowance will be made for her on that score, and that the best, indeed the only, way of attaining her goal is to remain imperturbably patient. She is on her trial. It may hurt her self-respect to be told so, but the fact is not to be gainsaid. The evil consequences of any loss of temper in which she indulges will fall entirely on her own head. Such of her youths as behave with rudeness or roughness towards foreigners are not their country's vindicators, but its enemies. It is because her statesmen recognise this that instructions of an exceptional character have been given to the Tokyo police.—

> Of late it appears that there have occasionally been instances of rude and offensive language being used towards foreigners, and of their being made the objects of other disorderly conduct. The police of the capital are therefore instructed to employ redoubled vigilance and to discharge to the full their duty of affording protection.

This means that it becomes henceforth the business of a policeman to take effective notice not only of acts of rudeness or violence towards foreigners, but also of any insulting language that may be addressed to them. If the police discharge their new duty with any degree of zeal, and if foreigners are careful to report any unpleasantness to which they may be subjected, very wholesome results should ensue. We are unwilling to treat the matter seriously or to discuss it at any length, being persuaded that it does not merit grave notice, and that there is no real cause for uneasiness on the part of foreigners. But many will derive re-assurance from an kowledge of the instructions issued to the police, and for the sake of such persons we give prominence to the event.

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

THE fifth session of the Diet, though still only a week old, has caused much uneasiness to friends of representative institutions in Japan. No one could be greatly surprised if in the early days of Japanese Parliamentary Government the progress of useful legislation was hindered by political effervescence. Something of the kind seemed inevitable. For the opening of the Diet meant that all the enemies of the *Meiji* statesmen, the men who for years had been carrying on a virtually barren campaign, their weapons blunted and their hands tied by official omnipotence and intolerance, suddenly found themselves provided with a platform for the unrestricted ventilation of their long curbed passion. Of course they became slightly intoxicated by such a large draught of freedom administered all at once, but, on the whole, their actions were by no means extravagant, and the impression generally produced was that they showed more sobriety than could reasonably have been expected. In this fifth session, however, when we might fairly look for the growth of calmer counsels and of a larger sense of parliamentary responsibility, the members have behaved in a manner indicating lamentable lack of moral ballast. Their assault upon their distinguished President, Mr. HOSHI TORU, though an obvious outcome of political spleen, might have been condoned, had they adduced any evidence sufficient to establish their own credit for sincerity. But the witnesses put forward by them at the bar of the House, the witnesses cited to warrant a measure of unprecedented character and to justify their own retractation of a step taken only twelve months previously with all deliberation and solemnity, these witnesses were not more tangible than public opinion and the press. The Japanese press, with a few notable exceptions, is at present in the

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hands of men who certainly have not inspired the public with any faith in their fairness or moderation; men who pervert the gravest national questions into party weapons; men whose opinions on any matter may be predicted with certainty so soon as their political complexion is known; men not generous enough to be accurate, without sufficient experience to be discerning, and so wanting in self-respect that they treat the reputations of others as mere toys to be played with. Happily there are, as we have said, several signal exceptions, but on the whole any diligent reader of the vernacular newspapers must endorse our verdict. Nor can we wonder that it should be so, for, in the first place, the Japanese press has not yet been entirely freed from restraints that deter competent pens, and in the second, the rewards of journalistic merit and the credit attaching to it are so small that really able men seek distinction and emolument in other directions. It was this press, however, that the proposers of a vote of want of confidence in the President of the House of Representatives put forward as their warrant. Such levity, bad enough under any circumstances, became little less than scandalous in view of the fact that the newspaper which led the hue and cry against Mr. HOSHI TORU had been criminally prosecuted for libel, that its editor, proprietor, and printer were lying under sentence of imprisonment for uttering the very slanders which the House of Representatives was seriously invited to take as the basis of its vote, and that an appeal lodged by the condemned men was still *sub judice*. It seems scarcely credible that a majority in a parliament supposed to consist of grave legislators careful of their country's interests and their House's fair fame, should have been so blinded by political passion as to arraign and condemn their President on such charges. There was hardly a simulation of seriousness, for the first witness cited, namely, public opinion, was but an echo of the discredited press summoned to support it. Thenceforth every step of the farce was in harmony with its unhappy exordium. The proposers of the vote must have foreseen that no man possessing ordinary courage and self-respect would tamely submit to be condemned on the strength of intangible accusations preferred by disgraced witnesses. But when asked what provision they had made against the contingency of Mr. HOSHI'S refusal to abide by their palpably prejudiced verdict, they had the foolish fatuity to confess that they depended on the intervention of his friends to induce him silently to accept disgrace and undefended to acquiesce in injustice. Of course Mr. HOSHI rebelled. No act could have proved him more unworthy of the high position he held than lightly to surrender it at the dictation of a congeries of political intriguers. His friends, too, did not consent to play the faithful part of helping to compass his downfall. On the contrary, they acted as friends usually do. The misguided majority might even then have rescued themselves from their false position: they might have handed over Mr. HOSHI to the Disciplinary Committee. There would have been a semblance of grace about such a course, for it could have been interpreted to mean that they had desired in the first place to afford the President an opportunity of resigning without the humiliation of a formal trial. But, unprepared to furnish any evidence that would bear the test of formal inquiry, and destined to choose the wrong route from first to last, they decided to address the Throne. There was no ambiguity whatever about their purpose in resorting to this extreme measure. They were the men who, twelve months previously, had recommended Mr. HOSHI to the EMPEROR for nomination to the post of President. It was now their desire to undo their work, and since Mr. HOSHI declined to resign at their dictation, they asked the SOVEREIGN to rescind the nomination. But the vagueness and unsubstantiality of their charges against him tainted their whole proceedings. So ambiguous was the phraseology of their appeal to the Throne that the EMPEROR was obliged to ask for an explanation of the document. Then, if ever, only one course seemed possible. Having committed themselves to the gravest step within their competence, having invoked the aid of the SOVEREIGN himself, they should have had no alternative but to abide by their acts, and to declare frankly that they sought the assistance of the Throne to rid them of a President who, having been nominated on their recommendation, now declined to resign at their suggestion solemnly formulated in the shape of a vote of want of confidence. Yet instead of taking this simple and straightforward step, they bowed their heads, and, with incredible weakness, returned answer to the SOVEREIGN that they had merely intended to apologise for their own want of discernment in recommending Mr. HOSHI for the post of President. That is to say, in much excitement and flurry they had prepared, debated, passed with acclaim and entrusted to their Vice-President for reverential submission to the Throne, a document announcing that they found themselves afflicted with a bad President, but that the fault being their own, nothing remained but to make confession and express contrition in this solemn manner. It is doubtful whether any assembly of reasoning men ever stultified themselves more signally. Their Address to the Throne never could have been presented for any purpose but one, yet when required to state that purpose plainly, they shrank from the sound of their own voices, and declared that their object had been, not to procure Mr. HOSHI'S removal, but to do penance for their own infatuation in choosing him. After that a cloak of friendly oblivion could not be thrown too quickly over the whole fiasco. But the rancour and political resentment that had prompted the persecution could not be satisfied without a sop of some kind. It was found in the chance of punishing a few ill-considered words uttered by the President when his enemies were marshalling their forces to pull him down. He had said that, counting their proceedings unlawful, he should not hold himself responsible to obey any decision they might arrive at. It was a bold utterance, recalling the demeanour of the great Athenian philosopher in the presence of his unjust judges. It was even a contumacious utterance according to the strict letter of the law, though a hardly-pressed man may well be excused if he fails to distinguish at a supreme moment between the respect theoretically due to an impartial, sober-minded tribunal, and the contempt properly attaching to the verdicts of prejudice and passion. However, Mr. HOSHI had placed a weapon in the hands of his enemies, and they hastened to seize it. He was handed over to the Disciplinary Committee, and the latter decided that he must offer an apology to the House in full conclave. That was, perhaps, inevitable. But the Committee went a great deal further: they actually dictated the terms of the apology. Nothing was to be left to the judgment or discretion of the man whom they had thought worthy, only twelve months previously, to elevate to the highest post in their House, and who as they themselves acknowledged, had discharged its difficult duties with the utmost ability and impartiality. Not a sentiment of generosity, not a symptom of grace, relieved the blackness of the wretched affair. The President of the House was to be required to stand up and read an apology dictated by the men who had hounded him into a semblance of rebellion. They themselves had uttered against him, in their places, gross accusations which they had no evidence to support and which they incontinently shrank from any attempt to substantiate. But at the first word of indignant revolt on his part, he was seized and condemned to suffer the cruellest humiliation that could be put on him. Happily at this point the consciences of the Independent members awoke. They proposed that the projected apology should be changed for a week's suspension, and the House consented to the substitution. In truth it was a sorry affair throughout. Men sitting down deliberately to play at parliament could scarcely have simulated sportiveness and irresponsibility more successfully. We have entire confidence in the future of constitutional institutions in Japan, and we hold that, all things considered, the Diet has hitherto acquitted itself in a creditable manner. But we do most heartily wish that the public faith should not be shaken by such displays of prejudice, pettiness, rancour, and vacillation as that just witnessed.

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THE AZABU AFFAIR.

CONSIDERABLE prominence having been given in these columns to the incident which occurred at Azabu on the 15th of November, we have inquired accurately in the sequel of the affair, and are now able to place the facts before our readers. The incident itself is doubtless more or less familiar to the public, but we question whether the details have yet been stated with entire accuracy. What happened was this:—At dusk on the 15th of November, as the Venerable Archdeacon SHAW was standing with Mrs. SHAW and some other ladies at the corner of a road leading to his residence, two drunken youths passed, one of whom pushed the other with considerable force in the direction of the ladies. The Archdeacon intervened and put up his hands to protect Mr. SHAW, whereupon both the youths approached him in a threatening manner, and he was obliged to thrust one of them back. Another youth, apparently a companion but sober, came up at the moment, and the Archdeacon persuaded the three to accompany him to a neighbouring police box where he lodged a complaint, at the same time giving his name and address. Three policemen were present, but they treated the complaint with indifference, nor made any attempt to protect the Archdeacon, though the two inebriated lads presently began to pull him about in the face of a crowd that had assembled, and though the Archdeacon repeatedly invoked their interference. It was this singular perfunctoriness on the part of the police that attracted most attention, contrasting as it did with their usual vigilance and courtesy, and suggesting the unpleasant impression that in the face of the increasing rudeness to which foreigners are subjected in the streets of Tokyo, they can not confidently count on efficient police protection. It is, of course, needless to say that the Statesmen now in power in Japan, in common with all respectable Japanese, would never for an instant countenance any revival of old-time anti-foreign sentiment, or condone any exhibitions of rudeness towards foreigners. On the other hand, the conduct of the Azabu police in the above case implied a distinct want of zeal, to use no stronger term. The matter, we understand, was duly brought to the notice of the proper authorities, and after investigation, the perfunctory constables were severely reprimanded, and the First Divisional Chief of the Metropolitan Police Bureau was instructed to proceed to the house of the Venerable Archdeacon SHAW to offer an apology. It is evident that the salutary effects of these measures would have been much more marked had it been possible to give full publicity to them, for, after all, what the foreign public, in common with the Japanese Government, desires is not merely that satisfaction should be given in a particular case of misconduct, but that any step taken in that sense should exercise a generally deterrent influence. The columns of the *Official Gazette* would have been a suitable medium of publicity, but the rules of the administration do not contemplate the use of the *Gazette* for publishing rewards or punishments of officials below *Hanin* rank. We believe that a sense of incompleteness resulting from this fact, supplemented doubtless by representations from the British Authorities and strengthened by another occurrence in Tsukiji, of which a German Student Interpreter was the victim, led the Minister of State for Home Affairs to adopt the emphatic and re-assuring measure on which we commented yesterday, namely, the issue of special instructions to the police of the metropolis for the better protection of foreigners. Thus the Azabu affair regrettable as it seemed as first, becomes a matter for congratulation since it has led to an official demonstration that cannot fail to produce wholesome results.

One other detail of the story calls for additional mention. After the perfunctory constables had been reprimanded and a police official of high rank sent to apologise to Archdeacon SHAW, the *Jiji Shimpo* gave an account of the main features of the affair. It was, on the whole, an eminently accurate account, and the writer did not shrink from stating fully the punishment that the police had received. But the Police Inspector at the Azabu Station, who appears to have expressed dissatisfaction from the outset at the steps taken by the Authorities, resented the publicity of the *Jiji Shimpo's* columns, and addressed to that journal a formal but general denial of its facts. The *Jiji* as bound by law, had to insert this denial, the result of course being that its readers discredited the original statement as to the constables having been reprimanded, and, further, that an official attitude quite contrary to the truth was suggested. This, of course, called for decided action. Inquiries were instituted, and it having been ascertained that the Azabu Inspector had acted entirely on his own authority, he was immediately dismissed from his post, and the *Jiji Shimpo* was officially authorized to expunge the contradiction addressed by him to its columns, which it did in its issue of the 5th instant.

THE EMPEROR AS PLAINTIFF IN A LAW SUIT.

THE two points raised by Dr. HATOYAMA in the Questions addressed by him, as a member of the House of Representatives, to the Government, have attracted much attention and excited lively interest among both foreigners and Japanese. Dr. HATOYAMA, in explaining the Questions, exhibited to the House a mass of documents amply sufficient to suggest the idea of careful research, and spoke with a degree of confidence that must have gone far to convince his hearers of the justice of his views. Yet we venture to think that he had not devoted to his subject the clear-sighted study generally characterizing his work. With his second point, namely, the propriety of a Japanese plaintiff following an appeal from a British Consular tribunal in Japan to the British Supreme Court in Shanghai, we shall not attempt to deal here. But a few words may advantageously be written about the first question, namely, the use of the Emperor of JAPAN'S name as plaintiff in a suit brought before a Consular tribunal.

It must not be forgotten, at the outset, that the action was brought in a British Court. Therefore, the procedure adopted had to be governed by the rules governing the procedure of British Courts. Now British Courts recognise, in actions for tort, only the owner of the property to which the damage is done. So also in actions on contracts, the person in whom the right is vested must be the plaintiff. This rule is perfectly plain, and no one would be likely to take exception to it where a private person only is concerned. But when the property in question belongs to a foreign State, a distinction, difficult to follow, appears to be made by some persons. For their information—and among them Dr. HATOYAMA seems to be included—we may quote from the Judgment delivered by Lord CAIRNS in "the United States *v.* Wagner." "The SOVEREIGN," his lordship said, "in a monarchical form of government, may, as between himself and his subjects, be a trustee for the latter, more or less limited, over the property which he seeks by action to recover. But in the Courts of foreign States, as in diplomatic intercourse with the Government of a foreign State, it is the SOVEREIGN and not the State or the subjects of the State that is recognised. In him individually, and not in a representative capacity, is the public property assumed by all other States, and by the Courts of all States, to be vested. In a Republic, on the other hand, the sovereign power, and with it the public property, is held to remain and to reside in the State itself, and not in any officer of the State. The right to the public property of the State must draw with it the right to sue for that property." This is a perfectly unequivocal exposition of the principle controlling the procedure of British Courts. In such Courts it is the SOVEREIGN of the foreign State that is alone recognised as the proper plaintiff in actions for tort where damage to State property is in question. We know of no English precedent where, in the case of a foreign monarchical State suing, the action has been brought otherwise than in the name of the SOVEREIGN. On the other hand, there are on record numerous cases in which the SOVEREIGN of a foreign State has been plaintiff. Among monarchs who have ap-

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peared in that character, we may mention the King of the TWO SICILIES, the King of the BELGIANS, the King of SPAIN, the Emperor of BRAZIL, the Emperor of AUSTRIA, the Duke of BRUNSWICK, and the Emperor of JAPAN. In brief, English law recognises only the SOVEREIGN in a monarchy as the owner of the public property of the State, and although Dr. HATOYAMA propounds the doctrine that the dignity of monarch is compromised by suing in a British Court in his own name, no such idea seems to have deterred any European monarch. Much stress has been laid on the fact that Japanese law indicates a different procedure. It is true that in the Japanese Code of Civil Procedure there is an article providing that a Department of State may represent the Government in actions at law where the property of that particular Department is concerned. But English Courts are not supposed to know anything of Japanese law, and certainly would never pay any attention to it on a point of procedure. They require that the owner of the property shall sue. In whom is the property in a man-of-war vested? Clearly in the EMPEROR. The vessels of the Navy are called "His Imperial Majesty's ships," and according to the Constitution, he is the head of the Executive.

It is further noticeable that Dr. HATOYAMA'S speech conveyed the impression that the EMPEROR'S name was directly mentioned in the pleadings. Such was not the case. Probably foreseeing and forestalling the popular objection that exists in Japan to the use of the SOEVREIGN'S name, the suit was brought in the name of the "Imperial Japanese Government," and all proceedings and pleadings were so headed. The distinction, of course, deserves notice only as a matter of sentiment, for the term "Imperial Japanese Government" was actually, and must have been admitted by Counsel to be synonymous with, and the equivalent of, "the SOVEREIGN:" otherwise the suit could not have been proceeded with, inasmuch as the plaintiff had to aver that he was the owner of the *Chishima Kan*, and the EMPEROR alone was the owner. But where so much sentiment centres round the direct employment of the SOVEREIGN'S name, it is right to observe that no direct use of the name was made in the proceedings. When, however, Counsel came to argue the case, he had to remember that in a British Court a Government has no right that is not the right of the SOVEREIGN, nor any privilege that is not his. If the Government through its Counsel had abstained from relying to the fullest possible extent on the SOVEREIGN'S rights and privileges, it would have been justly open to censure.

Dr. HATOYAMA further alleged that no precedent existed for the use of the SOVEREIGN'S name as plaintiff in a suit. That was an error. The Japanese Government did, on a previous occasion, sue in the British Consular Court in Japan in the name of the "Imperial Japanese Government," the term being synonymous with "Sovereign." It did so in an action against MITCHELL and COPE in 1877 for the recovery of land that had been gradually appropriated by the occupants of Lot 95, but which was not included in their title deeds. The Yokohama Court decided against the claim of the Government, an appeal was made to the Supreme Court in Shanghai, and the final decision was in the Government's favour. With this case on the record, Dr. HATOYAMA'S assertion that no precedent existed for the course pursued in the *Chishima-Ravenna* suit, was plainly erroneous. Besides, among the Sovereigns enumerated above as having sued in their own names in British Courts, it will be observed that we have included the Emperor of JAPAN. In point of fact the SOVEREIGN of this empire did bring suit in a British Court under the title of "the Mikado of JAPAN." The purpose of the action was to obtain possession of some KRUPP shells which, though purchased by the Japanese Government, had been seized for breach of patent in the suit of VAVASSOUR v. KRUPP. The Japanese Government on that occasion was advised by eminent Counsel in England that proceedings must be taken in the name of the SOVEREIGN, and in HIS MAJESTY'S name they were accordingly taken. It is strange that both these cases should have escaped Dr. HATOYAMA'S notice. They completely dispose of his allegation that no precedent existed for the SOVEREIGN'S appearance in the rôle of plaintiff.

Turning for a moment to the particular suit which formed the basis of Dr. HATOYAMA'S criticisms, it is to be observed that the Yokohama Consular Court refused the defendants' application for leave to file a counter-claim. The judgment was lengthy, and in it reference was made to the arguments subsequently relied on in the appeal case in Shanghai. The Sovereign of JAPAN was throughout referred to as the plaintiff, because every British Court and every British barrister knows that whether it were the Japanese Government or whether it were the Minister of Marine that appeared as plaintiff, each alike must have appeared merely in a representative capacity, the real plaintiff being the SOVEREIGN, whose property—"HIS IMPERIAL MAJESTY'S ship *Chishima Kan*"—had been damaged. In all the arguments the EMPEROR must have been referred to as the plaintiff, whatever form of phraseology were employed in the pleadings, and as it was only in the arguments that HIS MAJESTY'S name was actually employed, we really fail to appreciate Dr. HATOYAMA'S vehement insistence that a Department of the Government should have sued instead of the Government itself. At all events, Dr. HATOYAMA has still to explain why procedure which European Sovereigns do not hesitate to follow, and which has already been followed twice by the Sovereign of JAPAN, should now suddenly have become destructive of HIS MAJESTY'S dignity.

One word more. If Dr. HATOYAMA, if the Japanese public, were dissatisfied with the proceedings in this case, why did they not raise some objection last June. The judgment of the Lower Court then appeared in all the vernacular papers and provoked much discussion. But no one had a single word to say against the form of the proceedings. Five months later the appeal came on in Shanghai. The same arguments, though at greater length, were laid before the Court and the decision of the tribunal below was reversed. Then, and then for the first time, this discovery of an egregious insult to the SOVEREIGN was made. Can it be that criticism now declared powerful enough to upset the Government, was then silenced by the fact that the judgment was favourable to Japan? We are unable to regard Dr. HATOYAMA'S attack seriously. It appears to us that even an eminent jurist like him has not entirely escaped the contagion of political agitation which is now impelling so many able men to acts of hastiness and extravagance.

IMPERIAL DIET.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1ST.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 10.30 a.m. the Order of the Day being—

1.—Applications from various members for leave.
2.—First Reading of a Government Bill for Amending Portions of the Treasury Notes Regulations
3.—Appointment of a Special Committee to report upon the same.
4.—First Reading of a Government Bill for Changing the Limits of certain Law Courts' Jurisdiction.
5.—Appointment of a Special Committee to report upon the same.
6.—First Reading of a Bill presented by Viscount Hayashi Tomojuki for Transferring to the Charge of the Treasury Prison Expenditures and Prison Building and Repairing Expenses.
7.—First Reading of a Project of Game Law introduced by Count Kyosu.

The first item was passed without dissent.

Mr. Watanabe, Minister of State for Finance explained that the object of the Bill for amending the Treasury Notes Regulations was to prevent unnecessary payment of interest which took place under the present system.

After a brief discussion as to the manner of selecting a Special Committee to report upon the Bill, the House decided that the Committee be nominated by the President.

Mr. Yoshikawa, Minister of State for Justice, explained that the object of the Bill for Changing the Limits of certain Law Courts' Jurisdiction was to facilitate the course of justice and to reduce expenditure.

A few questions were asked, and the House then entrusted to the President the duty of nominating a Special Committee to report upon the Bill.

Mr. Ozaki Saburo, in lieu of Viscount Hayashi, who was prevented from attending, introduced the Bill for Transferring Prison Expenditures to the charge of the Treasury. He said that the same Bill had been presented by the Government to the House of Representatives in the first and second sessions, but had been rejected. In the third session, it had been presented in the Peers, and passed by such a large majority that the House might almost be said to have been unanimous. The advantages of the proposed measure and the arguments for and against it, had been exhaustively stated in their House last session, and he hesitated to weary them by repetition. But, in compliance

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with the duty devolving on the introducer of a Bill, and in deference to the presence of some new members, he should crave the House's indulgence for a few minutes. He then explained at length the reasons for the Bill, going over the ground traversed by speakers in previous sessions, and claiming that under the present system of defraying prison expenses out of local taxes, the organization and arrangements of prisons must remain so defective that an increase of crime was inevitable. In conclusion, he asked the House to entrust the Bill to a Special Committee, for although such a step might seem superfluous in the case of a measure about the expediency of which they were practically agreed, the importance of the Bill suggested that no form of procedure should be abbreviated with regard to it. In answer to questions, he said that the total prison expenditures defrayed by the various localities last year had aggregated 3¾ million *yen* approximately, and that a million *yen* had been realized by the sale of articles made by the prisoners. Further, the building expenses had been about three hundred thousand *yen*. Hence, the burden imposed on the Treasury would be 2¾ million *yen*, approximately. The Budget for the next fiscal year showed a surplus of 5¾ millions on the Revenue side, and there would consequently be no difficulty in finding funds for the proposed change.

After a brief discussion as to the manner of electing a Special Committee, the House finally decided that the Committee should be chosen by the Sections.

Count Kyosu, introducing the Project for a Game Law, reminded the House that the Project sent up by the Representatives last session had been rejected on account of imperfections, and that it consequently devolved on the Peers to devise a satisfactory measure.

Various questions were asked, and the Bill was finally entrusted to a Special Committee chosen by the Sections.

The House rose at 2.20 p.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The House met at 1 p.m. the Order of the Day being,

1.—Election of a Chairman of Committee of the Whole House.
2.—Election of the Standing Committees.

The President announced the receipt of a Bill from Mr. Nakamura Yaroku for amending the Industries Regulations, and of an Address to the Throne, from Mr. Wada Hikojiro, on the subject of the President's tenure of office. He added that the Address was in process of printing and would be distributed among the members so soon as it was in type.

The House then proceeded to ballot for a Chairman of Committee of the Whole. Two ballots had to be taken before a plurality of votes were cast for any member, the results of the ballots being:—

1ST BALLOT.

	Votes.
Mr. Kataoka Kenkichi (*Jiyu-to*)	100
Mr. Sato Shozo (*Kokumin Kyokai*)	75
Mr. Kawashima Jun (*Domei* Club)	62
Mr. Abei Iwane	27
Mr. Suzuki Shigeto	4

2ND BALLOT.

Mr. Kataoka Kenkichi	127
Mr. Sato Shozo	119

32 members did not vote.

Mr. Kataoka Kenkichi was therefore declared duly elected Chairman of Committee of the Whole.

The election of the Standing Committees was then proceeded with, the Sections retiring to their rooms for the purpose; the results being that for the Budget Committee of 45 members, there were elected 17 *Kokumin Kyokai* and 28 Radical members; for the Disciplinary Committee, 7 *Kokumin Kyokai*, 4 Radical, 3 *Kaishin-to*, 1 *Domei* Club, 1 *Seimu Chosa*, 1 *Kiushu-ha*, and 1 *Inouye-Kaku* member; and for the Petitions Committee, 11 *Kokumin*, 21 Radical, 1 *Domei*, 2 *Seimu*, and 1 Osaka member.

At the conclusion of the above business, Mr. Wada Hikojiro said that the Order of the Day was now finished, but he desired to move that the House continue in session so that he might introduce an urgency motion.

The President said that such was his intention. Moreover, the Standing Orders required that a Bill should be two days at least in the hands of the members before being brought up for discussion. Urgency measures were, however, exempted from the rule, and he considered that Mr. Wada's measure was one of urgency. Therefore, without any reference to the House, he should continue the sitting, and take the Address to the Throne as an urgency measure.—(Applause.) The text of the Address was as follows:—

ADDRESS TO THE THRONE WITH REFERENCE TO WANT OF CONFIDENCE IN PRESIDENT HOSHI.

The Vice President of the House of Representatives, Kusumoto Masataka, with profound respect submits the resolution of the House that it cannot repose confidence in the President, Hoshi Toru. The members of the House, in accordance with the Third Article of the Law of the Houses, humbly presented Hoshi Toru's name to the Throne, and gratefully received the Imperial nomination of him. But Your Majesty's servants acted without knowledge, and are now profoundly pained to submit that they erroneously solicited the Imperial consideration on that occasion.

Signed { Wada Hikojiro (*Kokumin Kyokai*) / Nakano Buyei (*Kaishin-to*) / Muramatsu Kambichiro (*Seimu Chosa-jo*) / Kawashima Jun (*Domei* Club.)

The President said that as he was personally concerned in this matter, he should cede the chair to the Vice President, during the discussion.

Mr. Wada, introducing the Address, briefly stated that, however much he desired to avoid troubling the Throne, no other course seemed possible under the circumstances. The House by a large majority, had passed a vote of want of confidence in Mr. Hoshi Toru, but the latter had declined to take the step suggested by such a vote. According to law, the President of the House was nominated by the Sovereign from among three members selected and suggested by the House for that purpose. Nothing remained now but to petition that the Imperial nomination be rescinded.

Mr. Watanabe Koki greatly regretted the crisis that had been precipitated. He thought that, although circumstances might ultimately compel them to resort to the extremely grave step of troubling His Majesty, they ought not to do so at once, but should pause for further reflection. He was opposed to the passing of the Address that day.

Mr. Tatekawa Umpei considered that the House was allowing itself to be carried away by the passion of the moment. The one charge brought against the President was that he had met merchants at restaurants. Was that a subject sufficiently grave to lay before the Throne? He should like to know, too, why the members of the House were at liberty to do things which constituted grounds of impeachment when the President did them. He then gave the dates and other particulars of eleven instances when the leading members of the *Kaishin-to* and other prominent men in the House, whom he named, had met the promoters and officers of Rice and Stock Exchanges in tea-houses, and he asked the House to say why such proceedings were blameless on the part of members and blameworthy on the part of the President. This was not an occasion to approach the Throne. The House had means of its own for punishing members that deserved punishment, and it should exhaust those means before troubling the Sovereign to interfere.

Mr. Nakano Buyei traversed the last speaker's arguments and claimed that to leave an immoral President in the chair would be showing far more disrespect to the Sovereign who had nominated the President at the House's request, than to address His Majesty on the subject. He averred that the whole fault and responsibility lay with Mr. Hoshi Toru. (At this stage the House fell into a state of great confusion, and Mr. Tatekawa Umpei so nearly came to blows with Mr. Uwozumi Itsuji that the members in their vicinity had to hold them apart.)

Mr. Saito Keiji opposed the Address chiefly on the grounds that no proofs were forthcoming of the misconduct attributed to Mr. Hoshi, and that the whole accusation rested on mere hypothesis. He further pointed out that the upshot of their present procedure would be to establish the principle that a combination of parties in the House might at any moment set up or pull down a President to suit their political convenience. The proper course was to hand Mr. Hoshi over to the Disciplinary Committee if he was thought to have acted in such a way as to forfeit their confidence. Besides, what sort of men were Messrs. Wada Hikojiro and Nakano Buyei to introduce an Address to the Throne? The former, while in the pay of the Mitsu-Bishi Company, had divulged its private affairs, and the latter had purchased a piece of land in Shizuoka Prefecture for eight hundred *yen* and sold it for twenty thousand.

Mr. Nakamura Yaroku said that Mr. Hoshi had seemed in every respect worthy of the high position of President at the time of his election to the post, and that he doubtless had been worthy. There had been no want of judgment on the part of the House. But men change occasionally with the times. Mr Hoshi had fallen from virtue. The fall was not to be expected, but having occurred, its results must be faced. As to the contention that the President held office for a term of four years and could not be displaced during that term, the fact was that the President obtained office originally because of the trust reposed in him by the House, and so soon as he forfeited that trust his term of office should be at once brought to an end. He defended himself against Mr. Saito Keiji's accusation and declared that if his conduct had been in any way reprehensible, he would never stand in that House again.

Mr. Misaki Kamenosuke opposed the Bill. The Opposition had taken a day to consider their course, but they had evidently failed to consider it sufficiently. The fact was that having blundered at first, they were seeking some means of escape from the dilemma into which they had plunged themselves. The House possessed under the Constitution power to deal with such matters. It had a Disciplinary Committe especially for the purpose. Instead of referring the question to that Committe, it did not hesitate to trouble the Emperor. Whatever might be expected of the *Kaishin-to* and the *Domei* Club, it was impossible to reconcile such conduct with the previous attitude of the *Kokumin Kyokai*. In the second session of the Diet, when an Address to the Throne on the subject of official interference in elections was introduced, the leading members of the *Kokumin Kyokai*, the very men who supported this present Address, had strenuously opposed that one on the ground that the Emperor ought not to be lightly approached. They had adopted a similar attitude of dissent in the fourth session with reference to the Address to the Throne about the impeachment of Ministers. Yet they now stood forth as the advocates of an Address on a much smaller subject. The *Kokumin Kyokai* were merely making themselves horses for the *Kaishin-to* and the *Domei* Club to ride into office.

The closure was moved but not carried.

Mr. Tsunoda Shimpei supported the motion. He claimed that the whole responsibility of the situation rested with Mr. Hoshi, who showed his contempt for constitutional institutions by refusing to abide by the vote of the House of which he was a member.

Mr. Inouye Kakugoro opposed the motion. He showed that the introducers and supporters of it were the very men who had hitherto opposed Addresses to the Throne on the ground that such an extreme measure should not be resorted to except in extreme cases. He spoke at some length but adduced no new arguments.

The closure was put and carried. The House decided by 147 to 129 to vote by open ballot, the result being 152 "ayes" and 126 "noes."

The President at this stage resumed his seat, and informed the House that he did not consider they were proceeding constitutionally, but that out of reverence to the Sovereign who was about to be troubled by this Address, he should

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resign the chair to the Vice-President for some days.

The House rose at 5.55 p m.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2ND.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House did not meet.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.25 p.m., the Vice-President in the Chair.

The Vice-President asked and received the permission of the House to address its congratulations to the Emperor on the birth of an Imperial Prince.

The Order of the Day was :—

1.—First Reading of a Government Bill providing for Special Re-assessment of the Taxable Value of Land.
2.—Appointment of a Special Committee to report upon the same.
3.—First Reading of a Government Bill for abolishing the Export Duty on Cotton Yarns.
4.—Appointment of a Special Committee to report upon the same.
5.—First Reading of a Government Bill for creating an Emergency Reserve Fund.
6.—Appointment of a Special Committee to report upon the same
7.—First Reading of a Government Bill for amending Portions of the Tax Collecting Regulations.
8.—Appointment of a Special Committee to report upon the same.
9.—First Reading of a Government Bill relating to the Incomes of Persons convicted of Political Offences.
10.—Appointment of a Special Committee to report upon the same.
11.—First Reading of a Government Bill for affording Aid from the Treasury in respect of Long-service Increments in the Salaries of Primary School Teachers.
12.—Appointment of a Special Committee to report upon the same.
13.—First Reading of a Government Bill for affording Aid from the Treasury in respect of the Cost of Technical Education
14.—Appointment of a Special Committee to report upon the same.

The Vice-President announced that he had duly conveyed to the Throne the Address passed by the House the preceding day, and having received a summons on the following morning to attend at the Imperial Household Department, he had lost not a moment in presenting himself there. The following document had been handed to him, which he proceeded to read aloud :—

With regard to the meaning of the Address presented to Us by Our House of Representatives, does the House pray Us to change its President, or is the meaning simply that the House desires to express regret for having fallen into error through lack of knowledge? The House had better deliberate again.

The Vice-President said that with the permission of the House he desired to address to the Throne a reply without delay, and that he thought the reply ought to be in the sense that the House simply asked pardon for its error of ignorance.—(Applause.)

Mr. Kudo Kodan raised an objection, but the House was indisposed to hear him, and the Vice-President at first ruled that as the sense of the House was evidently in favour of entrusting to him the preparation of the reply, the objection of Mr. Kudo was out of order. Mr. Kudo persisted, however, and was ultimately allowed to ascend the rostrum.

Mr. Kudo expressed strong disapproval of the hasty manner in which the House was proceeding. The preliminaries of the Address, its preparation, its debate, and its passing had all been rushed through in a manner quite unbecoming such a grave step, and they had now been ordered by the Sovereign to deliberate once more. Yet they were about to entrust to the Vice-President the duty of preparing a reply without any deliberation and without even consulting the views of the introducers of the Address, though the vagueness of its language had actually called down upon them something very like a rebuke from the Throne.

The House, without further discussion, voted to entrust to the Vice-President the preparation of a reply.

The Secretary announced the receipt of various Bills and motions, among them a motion from Mr. Hatoyama Kazuo to hand over the President to the Disciplinary Committee.

At this point the Cabinet Ministers and the various Government Delegates took their seats on the dais, and the Minister President of State, Count Ito, proceeded to address the House as follows :—

GENTLEMEN,—I count it an honour that, the Government Bills being on the Order of the Day, I have this opportunity of meeting you here in my official capacity in the present fifth session of the Diet. In pursuance of the Imperial Rescript issued towards the close of the fourth session of the Diet, the Government set about effecting reforms in the Administration. The results of those reforms, as you are already doubtless well aware, have been made public in the amended Official Organizations, as well as in the Budget which has been submitted to you. It is, therefore, not necessary for me to make any detailed allusion here to the subject. After I had the honour to be called to office on the 8th of August last year, or, more exactly, after the work of reducing public expenses had been undertaken in concert with you and with your consent in the fourth session of the Diet, the Government was able, before the close of that session, to effect a retrenchment of 490,000 *yen*. Since then, as the result of administrative reforms, a further reduction of about 1,700,000 *yen* has been made in the salaries of officials, office expenses, and various other items. Adding to these sums 10 per cent of the salaries of the civil and military officers which, in consequence of the Imperial Rescript already alluded to, are to be contributed for the purposes of Naval increase during a period of six years, the aggregate reductions since last session are 3,500,000 *yen* approximately. From these and other sources, the gross surplus of revenue in the present Budget amounts to over 8,000,000 *yen*. But, on the other hand, a considerable increase has been made necessary in Expenditures, on account of the progress of the country and the development of the national resources, as well as in consequence of legal obligations and of the growth of administrative business. Among these latter causes, I may mention the effect of the regulations relating to pensions to officials, the development of business under the Department of Communications, the rise in the prices of commodities, and so forth. All these things have unavoidably necessitated an increase in expenditures. Nor have I yet enumerated the whole. A further increase has been rendered imperative on account of riparian works, extension of the routes of steam ship navigation, and the opening and settlement of Hokkaido. Allowing for these increases in Expenditures, the net surplus is reduced to about one half of the gross surplus. These things are on record in the Budget and submitted for your mature consideration and discussion. Administrative reforms in the Government have been accomplished within the limits allowed by the necessities of the State and to the utmost of our ability. As to the line of policy to be pursued by the Government, it is not necessary for me to dwell on that subject, for the Government's policy has not varied in the slightest degree from the programme which the Acting Minister President was instructed, during my illness last year, to lay before you. I therefore confine myself to declaring that in introducing Administrative Reforms, the Government has done everything in its power, within the limits indicated by the existing state of affairs.

The Minister of State for Finance then addressed the House :—

GENTLEMEN,—By Imperial order, I introduced into this House on the 29th of last month the Budget for the 27th fiscal year of *Meiji*, together with various other financial Bills. I deem it necessary, in the discharge of my official duties, to offer for your consideration some observations on the financial projects for the coming fiscal year, as well as on the general financial and economical situation at the present moment. As you must have seen from the Budget, copies of which have been already distributed among you, the Revenue for the year under consideration is estimated at 90,675,000 *yen*, and the Expenditure at 85,472,000 *yen*, showing a surplus of 5,203,000 *yen* on the revenue side. With regard to the disposal of this surplus you will find it indicated in Chapter 15 of the Explanation accompanying the Budget, that about 1,000,000 *yen* is to be employed by way of subsidy for extending the routes of steam ship navigation about 400,000 *yen* as educational aids, and about 3,750,000 *yen* for the re-assessment of the taxable value of land. Some of these measures have been already submitted to you in the form of either Supplementary Budgets or Projects of Law, while others are about to be introduced. I will not elaborate comparisons between the different items of Expenditure and Revenue in the present Budget and those of the preceding year; nor will I enter into explanations of the reasons as to the increase or decrease of particular items, for minute information on these topics is contained in the Explanation and other papers of reference attached to the Budget. Omitting all discussion of such details, I will confine myself to-day to a broad statement of general financial projects. The Ordinary Expenditure for the 27th fiscal year is estimated at 68 875,000 *yen*. Compared with the corresponding amount in the preceding year, you will find an increase of 1,994,000 *yen*. But taking into consideration reductions in public expenditure amounting to 1,694,000 *yen*, the net increase is 299,000 *yen*. The above mentioned reductions of 1,694 000 *yen* are, as the Minister President of State has already pointed out, principally the results of reforms effected in the Administration. As to the increase of Expenditure, it has been caused chiefly by appreciation of gold, rise in the prices of provision, for men and horses in the Army, increase of business in the Department of Communications, and other unavoidable circumstances. The Extraordinary Expenditure is estimated at 16,597,000 *yen*, there being an increase of 5,265.000 *yen* over the corresponding figures in the Budget for the preceding year. Against this apparent increase, however, there has to be set a decrease of 1,941,000 *yen*, and consequently the net increase is 3,324,000 *yen*. With regard to measures newly projected for the fiscal year under consideration, they are twenty-nine in all, as mentioned in Chapter 4 of the Explanation accompanying the Budget. These measures require an aggregate expenditure of 4,829,000 *yen*. In order to promote the prosperity of the country and the welfare of the people, it is necessary, as you all know well, to secure harmonious and healthy working of the different elements of national vitality in matters of war, economy, education, communication, and transportation; and this desideratum has not been lost sight of in elaborating the financial schemes for the coming fiscal year. In matters of war, for instance, projects have been elaborated for the construction of forts at Naruto, in Tsushima, at Kure, and Sasebo; for the erection of a steel foundry; for stationing *gendarmes* at Yokosuka and Sasebo; and for conducting experiments with Shimose powder. To secure economic development, schemes have been devised for a special re-assessment of the taxable value of rice fields and dry-farms, for the improvement of river courses, for the construction of ships to be used in experiments with regard to marine products; for investigations relating to the breeding of horses; and, to mention a measure introduced as a separate Bill, for the abolition of export duties on cotton yarns. In the field of education, provisions have been made for a special increase of salaries to teachers in primary schools who have served for a certain number of consecutive years, for subsidies to industrial schools, and for the establishment of a technical school at Osaka. In the domain of communications and transportation, plans have been prepared for laying cables connecting the mainland with Okinawa and Oki and for another cable across the Saganoseki, for the laying of buoys at Nyudoga saki and Tsunega-saki, for the extension of the telephone service, and for granting subsidies in encouragement of the extension of foreign routes of steamship navigation—for the last mentioned project a Supplementary Budget is to be laid before you. Such, briefly, are the measures which your consent has already been asked or, in some cases, is about to be asked, and such, in outline, are the projects for the fiscal year under consideration. Let me now offer a few observations on the general condition of finance during recent years,—a subject which I had an opportunity to study in connection with the compilation of the Budget for the coming year. As to Revenue, Chapter 2 of the Explanation accompanying the Budget contains a comparative table covering a space of nine years. According to this table, it will be noticed that, in the Ordinary Department, the Revenue has steadily increased during the years under review. This is a matter for hearty national congratulation, as it indicates a corresponding increase of the Empire's wealth. Turning to Expenditure, it is to be observed, as stated in Chapter 3 of the Explanation accompanying the Budget, that a steady increase has taken place during the same term of years in expenditure, necessitated by the healthy progress of national civilization, such for instance, as expenditures connected with communications, military equipment, and education. In the other hand, there is a tendency to a gradual decrease and improvement in the case of purely bureaucratic expenses,—a result on which the country has to be congratulated. Coming, now to consider the connections between the Revenue and Expenditure, it is to be noticed that for several years past part of the Extraordinary Expenditure has been defrayed out of the Ordinary Revenue. Take, for example, the Budget for the 27th fiscal year. You will observe that the Extraordinary Expenditure amounts to 16,597,000 *yen*, while the Extraordinary Revenue aggregates only 7,436 000 *yen*, there being a difference of 9 120,000 *yen*. To the extent of this latter sum, namely, the excess of the Extraordinary Expendi-

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ture over the Extraordinary Revenue, drafts had to be made on the Ordinary Revenue. This circumstance proves that the Empire's finances stand on a solid and sound basis. As to other financial Bills and Special Budgets, mentioned in Chapter 5 of the Explanation accompanying the Budgets, such, for instance, as the Bill for the Creation of an Extraordinary Reserve Fund and the Bill for amending the Tax Collecting Regulations, I wish to refer you to the explanatory documents accompanying them, in which the necessities of the respective measures are fully set out. These are the general features of the financial schemes projected for the 27th fiscal year. I desire now to consider briefly the general financial and economic situation at the present moment. The consolidation of national debts bearing interest at the rate of six per cent. and upwards per annum, as planned by the National Debts Redemption Bonds Regulations, promulgated by Imperial Ordinance No. 66 of 1886, has been completed, with the exceptions of loans regulated by special contract. The result of these operations is that the burdens imposed on the Treasury, in respect of the payment of interest on the National Debts, have been lightened by 2,720,000 *yen*. As to Public Bonds bearing 5 per cent. interest, you know their position in the market is extremely favourable, selling as they do, at a premium. With regard to foreign trade, its progress in recent years has been extremely satisfactory. In 1892, exports and imports aggregated over 162 million *yen*. Comparing these figures with those for 1887, we notice an increase of 68 per cent. in the space of five years; while carrying the comparison further back to 1882, there has taken place an increase of 242 per cent. in the ten years. If we extend the comparison still further back to 1872, the increase in the twenty years has been 376 per cent. This increase in our foreign trade has been accompanied by a corresponding increase in the Customs duties. Taking the same years for comparison, we find that the increase has been 35 per cent. in five years, 87 per cent. in ten years, and 318 per cent. in twenty years. In the present year, the value of the foreign trade during the ten months from January to October inclusive reached 140,900,000 *yen*. Comparing this amount with the sum for the corresponding months last year, we notice an increase of about 10,300,000 *yen*. As the result of fluctuations in foreign exchanges, it is stated that there are still lying in Yokohama as many as 30,000 bales of silk, representing about 20,000,000 *yen* in value. It may, therefore, be inferred that, had it not been for the fluctuations in foreign exchange, the foreign trade of the country this year would have been in a still more satisfactory condition. But American factories having already commenced to feel a deficiency of raw material, I am confident that before long an improvement will take place in the outward movement of products. In truth, the economic development of our country in recent years has been phenomenal, and in the raw silk trade we have already overtaken our neighbour China, who has a territory ten times larger and a population ten times more numerous than ours. Besides, the development of trade in cotton yarns, the increase of the export of manufactured silk and cotton goods, the opening of a steamship service between India and this country—these and many other circumstances all proving a wonderful growth of Japan's foreign trade, are well worthy of attention. To keep up and still more promote this remarkable commercial development is, in my opinion, a political necessity. But reflecting upon the present condition of the machinery of credit in this country, we must confess that there are still many defects in the methods of circulating capital. In recognition of this fact, the Government is endeavouring to secure harmony in the circulation of capital in town and country, by instructing the Bank of Japan to gradually establish branches at important local centres throughout the country. The absence of special machinery of credit for commerce and industry is another defect in the system of our national economy, and investigations are now being carried on, with a view to the filling up of this *hiatus*. Before concluding, let me say a word on the subject of fluctuations in the relative value of gold and silver, a subject which, whether from financial or from economic points of view, cannot be lightly passed over. In 1877, or thereabouts, a silver *yen* was exchanged for 50 pence of English money; but at present not more than 28 or 29 pence are obtainable in exchange for the same piece of silver. To illustrate the results of these changes in the relative value of gold and silver, I call your attention to the Budget for the coming fiscal year where you will find an item of expenditure, put at £803,000, which must be paid in gold. At the rate of exchange ruling on the 1st of November last year, this amount of gold would have been equivalent to about 5,590,000 *yen* in silver; but according to the rate at the same date in the present year, it would have required 7,013,000 *yen* to complete the payment; that is to say, an increase of 1,423,000 *yen* in the short space of one year. In 1877, that is to say when the two metals were yet at par, 4,039,000 *yen* in silver would have sufficed for the payment of this amount in gold, in other words, 2,774,000 *yen* less than the sum required for the purpose on the 1st of November this year. So much by way of illustrating the effects of fluctuations in foreign exchange. This is a question of paramount importance in its bearings upon our economy and finance, and consequently, it is now under consideration by the Commission for Monetary Investigation created under Imperial Ordinance No. 113 of the present year. Such gentlemen, is a brief sketch of the financial schemes for the 27th fiscal year and of the general economic and financial situation at the present moment. I have dwelt on these topics hoping that my statements may be of some use to you by way of reference when you proceed to deliberate upon the Budget. Let me, in conclusion, express my earnest hope that, on mature consideration, you will give your consent to the Budget for the coming year as well as to the different financial Bills that have already been, or are about to be, submitted to you.

The Vice-President announced that the Order of the Day would now be taken; but on the motion of Mr. Suzuki Shigeto the House decided to take a short recess for the purpose of considering the draft reply to the Throne, printed copies of which had in the meanwhile been distributed among the members.

On the re-assembling of the House at 3 p.m. the Order of the Day was changed for the purpose of debating the reply to the Throne.

The draft reply was read as follows:—

Your Majesty's servants, the Vice-President of the House of Representatives, Kusumoto Masataka, reverentially submits that the object of the Address presented to Your Majesty by the House was to crave Your Majesty's pardon for the error committed by the House through want of knowledge, and that the House is deeply pained to find that its Address was framed in ambiguous language.

Mr. Tatekawa Umpei bitterly regretted the false position in which the House now found itself. In a moment of excitement it had presented to the Throne an Address the bases of which were so unstable that even the phraseology of the Address itself had partaken of this ambiguousness, and the Emperor had been compelled to ask them what they intended to say, recommending them at the same time to deliberate more fully. How were they to atone for the gross disrespect they had shown to the Throne? The House had disgraced itself. Its reproach would descend to all generations. Could it be supposed that a few words of regret such as they now proposed to submit to His Majesty would suffice to expiate the gross and irreverent blunder they had committed? (The speaker voice trembled with emotion at this point.) Foreseeing much of this, he and his fellow-thinkers had exhausted every means of inducing the House to pause before presenting the Address, but the mischief was done. How was it to be repaired?

In reply to a question from Mr. Fukuda Hisamatsu, Mr. Tatekawa declared that in his opinion the members could show their sense of the gravity of the situation only in one way, namely, by resigning their seats.

Without further discussion the House voted in favour of the reply as read.

The Order of the Day was then resumed.

The Government Bill for Special Reassessment of the Taxable Value of Land was read as follows:—

PROJECT OF LAW FOR THE SPECIAL RE-ASSESSMENT OF THE TAXABLE VALUE OF LAND UNDER CULTIVATION

Art. I.—In cases where the present valuation of land devoted to cultivation is considered unduly high, it shall be specially amended and reduced, the superior and inferior limits of the total reduction to be 150,000,000 and 140,000,000 *yen*.

Art. II.—The standards observed in amending the above unduly high valuation shall be as follow:—

(*a*) The assumed yield shall be reduced in proportion to the grade of the land and to the average yield in each district.

(*b*) The assumed price of rice per *koku* shall be lowered in the same ratio in the different localities, on the basis of the average market price during the five years from the 21st to the 25th year of *Meiji* inclusive.

(*c*) The assumed rate of interest shall be six per cent.

Art. III.—The general amount to be reduced from the existing valuation of land in each City, Town, and District shall be determined by the Minister of State for Finance, in accordance with the system of territorial division adopted at the time of the Land Tax Revision. The amount to be reduced from the existing valuation of particular farms, in each City, Town, or District, shall be fixed by decision of the Council of Landowners. Provided that, the organization and competence of such Council of Landowners shall be determined by Imperial Ordinance.

Art. IV.—The expenses incurred for purposes of reassessment in each City, Town, or District, shall be defrayed by the owners of the lands the taxable value of which has been reduced.

Art. V.—Lands whose valuation has been amended in accordance with this Law, shall be taxed on the basis of the amended valuation from the 28th year of *Meiji*. Provided that, in the case of Cities, Towns, and Districts, where the work of reassessment has not been completed by the aforementioned year, the land tax shall continue to be levied on the basis of the present valuation until the work of reassessment is completed.

Art. VI.—With regard to the enforcement of this Law, Law No. 105 of the 23rd year of *Meiji*, namely, the Law of Complaint, shall not be applicable.

Mr. Tajiri, Vice-Minister of State for Finance, said that the same Bill had already been introduced by the Government in the preceding session, but had not passed the two Houses. It was unnecessary to repeat the arguments that had been previously submitted, and he trusted that the Bill would speedily obtain the House's assent.

The Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee chosen by the Sections, the Committee being instructed to report at the same time on a Bill introduced with the same object by Mr. Higashiwo Heitaro.

Mr. Tajiri, introducing the Bill for abolishing the Export Duty on Cotton Yarns, said that the members were well aware of the development of the cotton spinning industry in recent times, and of the keen competition that Japanese yarns had to encounter in foreign markets. Every assistance ought to be given to the growth of the trade, and the Government considered that abolition of the export duty was an essential step.

The Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee nominated by the Vice-President.

BILL FOR ABOLISHING THE EXPORT DUTY ON COTTON YARNS

Cotton Yarns exported to foreign countries shall be exempt from the payment of Custom Duties on and after January 1st of the 27th year of *Meiji* (1894).

Mr. Tajiri, introducing the Bill for creating an Emergency Reserve Fund, explained that the resources at the disposal of the Treasury for relieving distress caused by natural calamities were, every year, found deficient, and that a measure such as that proposed had been proved necessary by practical experience.

The Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee nominated by the Vice-President.

BILL FOR CREATING AN EMERGENCY RESERVE FUND.

Art. I.—An Emergency Reserve Fund shall be set apart in the Treasury.

Art. II.—The Emergency Fund shall be employed in cases where, in consequence of unusual calamities, natural or otherwise, there is need of extraordinary outlays such as cannot be defrayed out of the ordinary revenue.

Art. III.—It shall be competent for the Government, with the consent of the Imperial Diet, to appropriate the surplus of the ordinary annual revenue to the purposes of the Emergency Reserve Fund.

Art. IV.—The custody of the Emergency Reserve Fund shall be entrusted to the Savings Bank Bureau of the Department of State for Finance. But the provisions of Law 125, issued in the 23rd of *Meiji*, shall not be applicable to it,

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and no methods of increasing or employing the Fund shall be lawful other than those resorted to by the Savings Bank Section to which its custody is entrusted.

Art. V.—The accounts relating to the Emergency Reserve Fund shall be special, and shall be distinct from the accounts of ordinary revenue and expenditure.

This Law shall go into force on and after April 1st of the 27th year of *Meiji* (1894).

The same course was followed with regard to the Bill for amending Portions of the Tax Collecting Regulations.

Mr. Tajiri, introducing the Bill relating to incomes of Political Offenders, said that the question related to the case of persons who had been deprived of their incomes prior to 1876. Many petitions had been received from time to time on the subject, and there could be no doubt that the matter called urgently for charitable consideration. But, under the present system, the Treasury was powerless to do anything. He commended the Bill to the favourable consideration of the House.

The Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee nominated by the Vice-President.

The Minister of State for Education briefly introduced the Bill relating to State Aid for increasing the Salaries of Primary School Teachers after long service, and the Bill was treated like the preceding, as was also the Bill with regard to Expenses of Technical Education.

Mr. Ooka Ikuzo asked leave to introduce an urgency motion for handing over Mr. Hoshi Toru to the Disciplinary Committee in consequence of the language used by him to the House on the 29th ultimo. He made this motion with great regret, and under a sense that it could not possibly be avoided. Mr. Hoshi Toru's conduct as President of their House had been worthy of all praise. He had admirably preserved discipline and had shown himself not less impartial than firm. It must be fresh in their recollection how, on the occasion of a tumult in the House last session, he had ordered the removal not only of a *Kaishin-to* member, but also a member of his own Party. In short, with his manner of discharging the duties of President, they had not the slightest fault to find. But they expected in their President not merely observance and enforcement of the letter of the law, but also full obedience to moral obligations. The President, being required to check, and if necessary punish, every breach of decorum and every show of disrespect on the part of a member, must himself invariably set an example of decorous and respectful behaviour. Mr. Hoshi, however, on the 29th ultimo, when vacating his chair in favour of the Vice President on the eve of the House's discussion of a vote of want of confidence in himself, had declared that he considered the introduction of such a motion illegal, and that, whatever decision the House might arrive at with regard to it, he should not recognize any obligation to be bound by such decision. Language of that kind evidently showed contempt for the House, and was unbecoming in the mouth of the President. He therefore moved that Mr. Hoshi be handed over to the Disciplinary Committee.

The House agreed to permit the introduction of the motion as a matter of urgency.

The motion was read out as follows:—

In a speech delivered to this House on the 29th ultimo, Mr. Hoshi Toru used the words:—"I regard this question of want of confidence as improper. Consequently, whatever decision may be arrived at, I am under no responsibility to observe it." These words are punishable under the provisions of the 206th Article of the Standing Orders, and Mr. Hoshi ought therefore to be handed over to the Disciplinary Committee.

The Vice-President said that, in accordance with the provisions of Article 196 of the Law of the House, a decision should be taken without discussion.

The House voted for the motion.

Mr. Fukuda Hisamatsu said that the language used by Mr. Tatekawa Umpei when he said that he could neither praise nor censure the language of the House's proposed reply to the Throne, had been contumelious, and that if he used such language outside the House he would be guilty of a crime. Happily for him, he had spoken in a place where no responsibility attached to his language *vis-à-vis* the law. He thought that the words should be expunged from the Record.

Mr. Tatekawa indignantly denied the imputation, and declared himself ready to repeat his words anywhere and accept any and every responsibility attaching to them.

The Vice-President said that he failed to see anything disrespectful in the language employed by Mr. Tatekawa.

The House rose at 4 p.m.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 4TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House did not meet.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The House met at 1.15 p.m. the Order of the Day being:—

1.—First Reading of a Bill introduced by Mr. Kato Masanosuke for the Protection of the Hokkaido Aborigines.
2.—First Reading of a Bill introduced by Mr Nakano Buyei for abolishing the Import Duty on Raw Cotton.
3.—First Reading of a Bill introduced by Mr Hatano Denzaburo for amending the Land Tax Regulations.
4.—First Reading of a Bill introduced by Mr Tsunoda Shimpei for rescinding Law No. 30 issued in the 22nd year of *Meiji*.
5.—First Reading of a Bill introduced by Mr Tsunoda Shimpei for supplementing the City Organization system.

The Vice-President announced that the House's congratulatory message with reference to the birth of an Imperial Prince, and also the reply to the Imperial answer to the House's Address on the subject of Mr. Hoshi Toru, had been duly transmitted to the Palace. The receipt of various matters from members was further announced, as also were the names of the Special Committee chosen to report upon the Government Bills read on the 2nd instant.

Mr. Kashiwada Noribumi, referring to a Question addressed by him to the Government in connection with the speech delivered by the Minister of State for Finance on the 2nd inst., said that while the mere figures of the country's foreign trade certainly furnished matter for congratulation, the nation was dissatisfied by the Government's loose manner of enforcing the Treaties, and the consequent license enjoyed by foreigners, who purchased land outside the Settlements and otherwise exercised privileges not extended to them by the letter of the treaties. He asserted that the value of the lands thus unlawfully held by foreigners aggregated fifty million *yen*. It was true that the money remained in Japan, but the land was gone out of Japanese hands. The Government's defective enforcement of the Treaties must be held responsible.

Mr. Motoda Hajime asked permission to introduce, as an urgency motion, an Address to the Throne with reference to the Conduct of Officials.

The House granted permission, and the Address was read as follows:—

May it please Your August Majesty.—We, Your Majesty's humble subjects, the Vice-President of the House of Representatives and others, with all humility present the following Address to Your Majesty. Your Majesty has fostered among the subjects of Your Realm the virtues of loyalty, filial piety, honour and respect, so that the laws are justly administered and order is rigidly maintained throughout the length and breadth of the Empire. A reign so auspicious was never previously witnessed even in the age of the virtuous Rulers of Antiquity. It is the duty of Your Majesty's Advisers to assist Your Majesty's enlightened administration by preserving strict discipline and, at the same time, carefully regulating their own private conduct. For although, in consequence of Your Majesty's illustrious virtues, the people enjoy peace and tranquility, the state of affairs in the outer world forbids any tendency to idleness and negligence on their part. Your Majesty's Ministers ought, therefore, to be deeply solicitous by day and by night, at every time and at all times, not to forfeit the good will of the people and not to put a stain upon Your Majesty's glorious reign. But unhappily there is a Minister so unmindful of his duties as to attend meetings which he ought not to attend, to associate with persons whom he ought not to meet, to accept entertainments which he ought not to accept, and to authorize his subordinates to receive presents. Scandal and evil reports fill the air, damaging the dignity of the Government, and lowering the credit of the Ministers. Unless these evils be corrected now, we, Your Majesty's humble subjects, fear that a cloud may be cast upon the lustre of Your Majesty's Throne, and that even the alienation of the people's hearts may ensue. Proofs to establish the above facts are forthcoming. Our representations are free from all exaggeration. Derangement of official discipline may look a small affair, but in truth its bearings are most important. This very evil has ever proved one of the principal factors in the decline of nations. Your Majesty can hear where there is no sound, and see where there is no substance. Now that scandal is so great and misconduct so conspicuous, we, Your Majesty's humble subjects, respectfully pray that it may please Your Majesty to impose an effectual restraint upon Your Majesty's Ministers.

Mr. Motoda said that while fully sensible of the gravity of the step which he asked the House to take, he was persuaded that the occasion demanded nothing less. In December of the 18th year of *Meiji*, His Majesty had addressed to the officials of the Government a Message couched in most impressive terms, and in consequence of that Imperial measure Count Ito, who then held the post of Minister President of State, had caused to be issued a body of Regulations for the Conduct of Officials, containing very strict and excellent provisions. Unfortunately neither the present Cabinet Ministers nor the junior officials of the Government observed those Regulations. The Ministers were in the habit of accepting entertainments from all kinds of people, and the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce was especially notorious in this respect. He went to dinners given by persons with whom a Minister of State ought not to associate, and he frequented places where an official of his position ought never to be seen. The case of the Vice-Minister of the same Department, Mr. Saito Shuichiro, was well known to all. He too, had accepted dinners from questionable persons in questionable places, and had acknowledged the acceptance of a gold watch from a merchant with the permission of the Minister of the Department. Mr Saito, acknowledging his responsibility, had tendered his resignation, but the Minister of his Department and the Ministers of State had declined to accept it. The fact was that Count Ito's conduct of the Administration did not accord with the provisions of the Regulations issued by himself. The statesmen of old times, who had the interests of their country really at heart, distinguished themselves by the frugality of their lives and the circumspection of their intercourse, but no such virtues seemed to possess value in the eyes of the statesmen of to-day, though the reigning sovereign exercised his august power with unexampled sagacity and virtue, and set to his subjects an example such as the most illustrious of his predecessors had not surpassed.

Mr. Sakamoto Sokub moved that in view of the gravity of the step, the Address be entrusted to a Special Committee of five, in order that its phraseology be fully examined and if necessary, amended.

After a brief discussion, in the course of which Mr. Ooka Ikuzo claimed that the attempt to entrust the Address to a Committee, though ostensibly for the purpose of correcting its nominally faulty language, was really a device to shelve it, the House voted against the proposal, and agreed to the presentation of the Address.

Mr. Takanashi Tetsushiro asked permission to introduce an urgency motion to the effect that Count Goto, Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, and Mr Saito Shuichiro, Vice-Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, should not be allowed to enter the precincts of the House.

The Vice-President asked whether that would not be a violation of the law.

Mr Takanashi said that while the letter of the law undoubtedly reserved to the Sovereign the power of appointing and dismissing officials, and also provided that Ministers of State and Government Delegates were entitled to enter the House at any time and address it, it was equally certain that the Standing Orders imposed on the President the duty of preserving order in the House and punishing all infractions of discipline or propriety. The House having now passed an Address to the Throne virtually denouncing the conduct of the Minister and

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Vice-Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, should not shrink from the logical sequence of its action, but should decide to exclude the offending officials from its precincts.

The House refused to grant urgency for the motion and proceeded to the Order of the Day.

Mr. Kato Masanosuke, introducing the Bill for the protection of the aborigines of Hokkaido, urged that it would be a national disgrace to Japan to allow the Ainu to fall into the condition of the autochthons of North America or Australia. The Ainu had a place in Japanese history, and were, moreover, a people possessing many natural virtues; a people whom education might elevate to a high rank. At present, however, they were a prey to the heartlessness and cruelty of the Japanese. They lived in a wretchedly squalid manner as compared with the Japanese, and they were subjected to all kinds of extortion and hardship. At Shiribeshi, where there had originally been a village containing some three thousand Ainu, scarcely as many hundreds were now to be found. Gradually and steadily the unfortunate people were being crushed out of existence. As an example of the carelessness shown towards them by officials, the case of the inhabitants of the Tokatsu-gawa district was notable. They had sold their fishing gounds for 300,000 *yen* and placed the money in the hands of officials, who had invested it originally in Nippon Yusen Kwaisha shares, but had subsequently transferred it to such rotten enterprises that the Ainu not only received no returns, but were even unable to recover the principal. The total number of Ainu in Hokkaido was now some 17,000, consisting of 8,400 men and 8,600 women. There were 3,100 children of school-going age, but only 500 attended school, or about 16 per cent., whereas the number of Japanese children attending school was 48 per cent. of the total of school-going age. In every way the Ainu were suffering, and though some folks might contend that they should be left to their own devices, on the principle of the survival of the fittest, he held that such a doctrine was inhuman in the present case; as inhuman as though one should refuse to stretch out a hand in aid of a man dying before one's eyes. In answer to a question he said that about 3,000 families in Hokkaido were engaged in agriculture and 1,000 in fishing. The cost of grants in aid to these folks, according to his proposal, would be an immediate outlay of about 120,000 *yen*, and a yearly outlay of 32,000 *yen* for the first five years, 20,000 *yen* for the next five, and 8,000 *yen* subsequently.

The Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee of 9 nominated by the Vice-President.

BILL FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE HOKKAIDO ABORIGINES.

Art. I.—The Chief of the Hokkaido Administration shall endeavour to induce the aborigines in his district to engage in agricultural pursuits.

Art. II.—In the case of aborigines desirous of engaging in agriculture, the Chief of the Hokkaido Administration shall grant to each family plots of unreclaimed land, as near as possible to its place of residence, measuring from six thousand *tsubo* to fifteen thousand.

Art. III.—To each family of aborigines engaged in reclaiming land, there shall be made a grant of 20 *yen* for the purpose of purchasing agricultural implements, and when the reclamation is concluded, a further grant of 2 *yen* per *tan*, to purchase seed, shall be made for the first year only.

Art. IV.—Lands reclaimed under the provisions of Articles II. and III. shall not be transferable during a period of thirty years. This provision shall not apply, however, to transfers to a man's heirs or children.

Art. V.—Lands remaining unreclaimed for a period of fifteen years from the time of their being handed over, shall be resumed possession of by the Hokkaido Administration.

Art. VI.—The Chief of the Hokkaido Administration shall take steps to induce aborigines who have children to send them to school.

Art. VII.—When aborigines send their children to pursue a course of study, the school fees shall be remitted, and a sum of one *yen* per half-year shall be given to each student to purchase books and school necessaries.

Art. VIII.—The Chief of the Hokkaido Administration shall endeavour to induce the aborigines to pay attention to matters of sanitation and hygiene.

Art. IX.—The Chief of the Hokkaido Administration shall instruct Headmen of Districts, whenever they find that any one of the aborigines is afflicted with serious illness, to engage the services of a doctor of the locality for the treatment of the sick person.

Mr. Nakano Buyei, introducing the Bill for abolishing the import duty on raw cotton, said that the subject had been fully discussed last session. He admitted that the measure might work some detriment to home growers of cotton, but contended that the effect must be very small seeing that the imported and the home-grown cottons differed in their nature and uses. Moreover, no reform was without some disadvantage. They must simply choose the side on which the balance of profit lay, and as to that there could be no doubt when they remembered that, owing to this heavy import duty on the raw material, not only were Japanese cotton manufactures unable to drive foreign goods out of the home markets, but all chance of their successful export abroad was defeated.

Mr. Sumi Risuke opposed the Bill on the ground that it would seriously impair the cotton-growing industry in Japan. The cotton-spinning industry was already prospering exceedingly without any aid of the kind proposed. Between 1886 and 1892, the cotton factories had paid dividends aggregating from 50 to 60 per cent. The cotton-growing industry, however, though next in importance to the cultivation of cereals was gradually and steadily declining. Thus they were asked in fact to still further debilitate the weak and strengthen the strong, to assist foreign cotton at the expense of domestic. He altogether deprecated such legislation.

The closure was put and lost.

BILL FOR THE ABOLITION OF IMPORT DUTY ON RAW COTTON.

From the 1st day of the sixth month of the 27th year of *Meiji* (1894), the import duty upon raw cotton imported from foreign countries shall be abolished.

Provided that if the assessment of a duty be required, public notice shall be given six months beforehand.

Mr. Kurihara Ryoichi strongly supported the Bill on the ground that Japan's future depended on her industries rather than on her agriculture. He also claimed that Japan's soil was not well suited to the cultivation of cotton, and that the land thus employed would give better results were some different crop raised on it.

Mr. Tajiri, Vice-Minister of Finance, said that, in the opinion of the Government, the abolition of export duties upon manufactured cotton would confer sufficient advantage on the factories for the present, and that the abolition of import duties on the raw material, did not appear essential.

Mr. Watanabe Yoshizo opposed the Bill. He said that the measure was quite unnecessary. The raw cotton imported was of a character comparatively little used in Japan, and moreover the home grown cotton was so much cheaper than the imported that the latter could not compete successfully. The quantity of cotton grown in the country was from 8 to 10 million *yen* worth, from which they might form a good idea of the flourishing state of the industry.

The closure was put and carried, and the Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee nominated by the Vice-President.

Mr. Hatano Denzaburo, introducing the Bill for amending the Land Tax Regulations, said that it had been debated and passed by the House in every preceding session, and that he did not see any occasion to parade all the old and well admitted arguments. With regard, however, to the source from which funds might be obtained for the purpose, he considered that no difficulty presented itself. The revenue, as they saw from the Budget, grew steadily every year, and the expenditure, though the Prime Minister alleged that it had been reduced as low as possible, doubtless admitted of further reduction. Besides, the settled accounts always showed a much larger surplus that the estimates. Hence he apprehended no trouble in attaining the 6,800,000 *yen* required for the purposes of the reduction. It was contended by some that to reduce the land tax would confer benefits on the large land-owners only. But the records showed that 39,000 farmers had been unable to pay their land tax, and that the total amount of their indebtedness was only 9,281 *yen*. Forty thousand farmers did not contribute ten thousand *yen* in the form of land tax, or, in other words, did not pay 25 *sen* each. Yet on account of that paltry sum their properties had been distrained. There could be no doubt of the relief brought to these folks by reducing the tax.

Mr. Ushiba Takuzo opposed the Bill. He declared that the agitation for a reduction of the land tax had originated ten years ago when the market price of rice was only 5 *yen* per *koku*, whereas now it was 8 *yen*. To pay their forty million *yen* of land tax the people had then required to raise 8 million *koku* of rice, whereas now 5 millions sufficed for the same purpose. In a word, the tax had been reduced by more than a third in ten years. Hence the original basis of the reform had disappeared. Further, whatever might have been said in the past about reducing the income of the State, they found themselves confronted to-day by such a fall in the gold value of their silver currency that their payments abroad had become very much heavier, and so had the cost of their armaments and their military equipment. The Minister if Finance had adduced a striking example of this in his speech. In fact, they could not possibly afford to diminish the revenue at present. If they compared the state income of Japan with the state income of European countries at present, taking into account the appreciation of gold, they would see that the revenue paid by the taxpayers of this empire had undergone a very large diminution in the past few years. Many of those to whom he was addressing these remarks, considered themselves bound by a promise given to their constituents in former years with regard to reduction of the land tax, but, as honest and prudent legislators, they ought to take note of the changes of the times and alter their own views accordingly. Unavoidable events had absolved them from all obligation to observe a promise made under such different circumstances.

Mr. Tajiri, Government Delegate, explained briefly that the Government could not possibly adopt its finance at present to such a change of income as the proposed measure would involve.

The House voted to entrust the Bill to a Committee of 9 elected by the sections.

BILL FOR AMENDING THE LAND TAX REGULATIONS.

The tax on land shall be of two kinds, namely, 2 per cent of the assessed value of wet and dry fields, and 2½ per cent. of the assessed value of building lands in districts and divisions or in cities, of mining land, of salt fields, of ponds and marshes, of forests, of pastures, of moors, and of miscellaneous lands.

Mr. Tsunoda Shimpei, introducing the Bill for abolishing the special system of local government for the three cities, said that the whole subject had been fully threshed out in previous sessions. He need not repeat hackneied arguments, but he trusted that the House would pass the Bill without any preliminaries.

Mr. Egi, Government Delegate, said that he was compelled once more to state the Government's inability to endorse the measure. He should be happy to answer any questions put to him on the subject.

The House declined to entrust the Bill to a Special Committee and passed it at once. The same course was pursued with the last Bill on the Order of the Day, which formed a necessary addendum to the Bill just passed.

The House rose at 5.30 p.m.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 10.30 a.m., the Order of the Day being:—

1.—Application for leave.
2.—First Reading of a Bill introduced by Mr. Ozaki Saburo for the Abolition of Export Duties.
3.—Report of the Special Committee on the Bill for transferring Prison Expenditures to the charge of the Treasury.

The President asked and obtained the House's

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consent to convey congratulations to the Emperor in connection with the birth of an Imperial Prince.

Mr. Matsuoka Koki moved that the President be authorized to convey the proper expressions of congratulation or condolence on all occasions requiring such action, of his own motion, should the event occur while the House was not in session

The House approved the motion.

The President, for the purpose of proceeding to the Palace, left the chair, which was taken by the Vice-President, Marquis Saionji.

Mr. Ozaki Saburo, introducing the Bill for abolishing Export Duties, said that the two great questions of the day were Treaty Revision and the abolition of Export Duties. In solving the former Japan was not free to find a path for herself: foreign nations had to be consulted. Hence the problem presented some difficulty, though, for his own part he did not believe it to be at all insoluble. However, that was beside his subject. What he wanted the House to note was that the abolition of export duties lay entirely within Japan's sole competence, and might be done at any moment she pleased. Yet, for some strange reason, the step was not taken. It was exceedingly disappointing to observe the attitude of the House of Representatives towards this matter. The Representatives, ever since the opening of the Diet, had busied themselves with Bills for reducing the land tax or reassessing the taxable value of land, but had treated the question of export duties with comparative indifference. Yet it was impossible to over-rate the importance of this question's bearing on the development of Japan's resources. He presumed that those to whom he addressed himself were thoroughly familiar with the incontrovertible arguments in favour of the measure he proposed, but as introducer of the Bill he must ask leave to traverse the ground briefly. Some economists denied the utility of the measure on the ground that export duties came out of the foreign consumer's pocket, and that to abolish them would benefit him only. The fallacy of such a contention could be detected at once. In the case of Japanese products or manufactures which, being unique, did not come into competition with similar products and manufactures of foreign countries, the imposition of export duties made little matter, and undoubtedly such duties were paid by the foreign consumer, though in so far as they increased the price of an article they might narrow the circle of its purchasers and thus more or less injure its producer's or manufacturer's prospects. But where a Japanese article had to contend with a similar article produced abroad, there could be no question of the disability under which the former laboured if it were compelled to pay a tax from which its rival was exempt. Silk, for example, constituted one of Japan's principal staples of export But in the matter of silk Italy, China, and the East Indies were Japan's competitors, and from all those places silk could be exported without paying any duty. In Italy silk had been subjected until last year to an export duty of 5 *yen* per 100 catties; that is to say, a duty five times less than the Japanese exporter had to pay. Yet even that comparatively small impost had been removed by Italian legislators, who saw the unwisdom of handicapping their country's products in foreign markets. It was a matter of surprise that the Japanese agriculturist, required, as he was, to pay a heavy tax, could compete at all successfully with his foreign rivals, and there could be no doubt that were he relieved of the tax his trade would develop appreciably. Among marine products, again, Japan's *kombu*, which was such an important article of her exports, had to compete in Chinese markets with Russian *kombu* upon which no export duty was imposed. It was the same with copper. Japanese copper found itself handicapped in foreign markets by the duty-free copper of America, Spain, and other places. The policy of all civilized countries was to abolish export duties. Japan's indifference on the subject showed her inappreciation of economic problems. The course pursued by her with respect to her exports was equivalent to protecting foreign produce and manufactures at the expense of her own. Doubtless they were aware also of the additional inconvenience connected with an export duty in that it often necessitated the unpacking and re-packing of articles for purposes of examination, thereby not only entailing additional expense but also exposing the articles to damage. Further, so long as export duties were levied, the system of special ports of export could only be of very partial advantage, inasmuch as no articles could be shipped there except those that were duty free; all others had to be sent *vid* the customs ports. Japan was quite singular in her treatment of this problem. It was true that some states still levied export duties on special articles; as Italy on objects of art, and Russia on the bones of horses which were so much needed for purposes of manure. But in both of these cases the object was to check the export of articles which were wanted at home. Even Turkey was so far in advance of Japan economically that her export duties were five times smaller than those levied in their empire. It might be difficult to increase import duties, because there the treaties interfered. But to abolish export duties was the simplest thing in the world. Japan could do it with a stroke of her pen without consulting anyone. At present she lay under the imputation of adhering to the old-fashioned and obsolete notion that obtained in mediæval times, when it was held that every article sold by one country to another impoverished the former and enriched the latter. In these days of industrial progress any policy savouring of that idea was absurd. To develop a country's resources was the way to make it respected and powerful, and for the development of its resources markets were necessary. They should do everything in their power as legislators to facilitate the access of Japanese goods to foreign markets, and he trusted that the House would pass the Bill without delay.

In answer to questions, Mr. Ozaki explained that his arguments as to foreign markets were not effected in any way by the fact that Japan did not directly conduct her own export trade but entrusted its management to foreigners. Whatever might be the agency, the handicapping effects of export duties was the same. With regard to the consequences the measure might produce on the State's income, and the resulting difficulty of simultaneously transferring prison expenditures to the charge of the Treasury, as proposed in another Bill now before the House, he did not think that any embarrassment would be entailed.

Marquis Daigo was not opposed on principle to the abolition of export duties, but thought that as the export trade was in the hands of shrewd foreigners, who thought only of their own profit and paid no attention to the interests of Japan it would not do to abolish export duties altogether. Some discrimination should be exercised

Mr. Tajiri, in answer to questions, said that the Treasury would undoubtedly be embarrassed by the passing of this measure, since it would mean a reduction of revenue to the extent of over 2½ million *yen*. The Government were not opposed to the abolition of export duties. On the contrary, they strongly approved of it, and would follow the policy gradually as circumstances permitted. For example, they had already introduced in the Lower House a Bill for abolishing the export duty on cotton yarns. It was true that the Budget for the next fiscal year showed a surplus revenue of more than 5 million *yen*. But the money was all urgently needed for purposes of vital moment. Hence the Government, though approving of the theory of the measure, must oppose its immediate operation.

The Bill was finally entrusted to a Special Committee of nine.

Mr. Ozaki Saburo, Chairman of the Special Committee on the Bill for transferring Prison Expenditures to the charge of the Treasury, reported briefly that the Committee was unanimous in recommending the measure.

Mr. Tajiri, Government Delegate, referring solely to the financial aspect of the measure, said that as funds for the purpose were not forthcoming at present, the Government could not endorse the Bill

Mr. Hasegawa Sadao opposed the Bill in a speech of some length, repeating the arguments advanced in previous sessions. He quoted statistics to show that crime had decreased steadily during recent years, from which fact he inferred the incorrectness of saying that the present prison system tended to an increase of malefactors.

After some further discussion, the House agreed to carry the Bill to a Second Reading, and finally passed it through all its stages

The House rose at 2 10 p.m.

Bill for the Transfer of Prison Expenditures to the Imperial Treasury.

Art. I.—Among the expenditures which are now met by local taxes those for the building, maintenance, and repairing of prisons in cities and provincial prefectures shall be transferred to the Imperial Treasury from the 27th year of *Meiji*.

Art. II.—The lands, buildings, furniture, tools, implements, and other properties of Prisons in cities and provincial prefectures shall be transferred to the Treasury from the 27th year of *Meiji*.

Presented by Messrs. Hayashi Tomoyuki, Ozaki Saburo, and Yasuba Yasukazu. Supported by Messrs. Daiyo Chuzum and 64 others.

House of Representatives.

The House met at 1.18 p.m., the Order of the Day being:—

1.—Report of the Special Committee on the Government Bill for Special Re assessment of the Taxable Value of Land.
2.—Report of the Disciplinary Committee on the case of Mr. Hoshi Toru.
3.—First Reading of a Bill introduced by Mr. Tachibi Kiichi for amending the Local Government System.
4.—First Reading of a Bill introduced by Mr Fujino Masataka for rescinding Law No. 84, issued in the 23 year of *Meiji*.
5.—First Reading of a Bill introduced by Mr Kagami Kahei for rescinding the Peace Preservation Regulations.

The receipt of various documents having been amended,

Mr. Kawashima Jun, explaining a Question addressed by him to the Government, said that the defective character of the existing Treaties had perhaps been unavoidable considering the circumstances under which they were concluded —Japan's complete ignorance of foreign affairs and her domestic troubles. But defective as the Treaties were, the *Meiji* Government, that is to say the Sat-Cho statesmen, had never been able to revise them. Count Inouye had failed after many efforts, and the *Kaishin-to* Count had been equally unsuccessful. And not only had revision remained unaccomplished, but even the strict enforcement of the treaties seemed beyond the competence of the Government. The result was that many abuses existed. The system under which affairs at the treaty ports were administered by the Japanese was such that effective control could not possibly be exercised. Again, foreign ownership of land outside the Settlements had become an open secret. Yet the Authorities took no step to check it. He trusted that a full and explicit answer would be given to his questions without any attempt to burke the issue on the plea of diplomatic secrecy. Innumerable failures in the conduct of foreign affairs stood to the charge of the Government, as, for example, their neglect of Japan's interests in Hawaii, their helplessness to prevent Korea's breaches of treaty, their tame consent to carry a suit to the English Supreme Court in Shanghai. They had incurred grave responsibilities towards the nation and should be called on for a full explanation.

The Order of the Day was then taken.

Mr. Amakasu Fumiye, Chairman of the Special Committee on the Government Bill for special re-assessment of the taxable value of land, reported that the Committee was in favour of the Bill, and that its provisions had been found preferable to those of the private Bill presented with reference to the same subject.

Mr Muramatsu Kameichiro desired to know how the House, with any show of consistency, could entrust the execution of this important measure to a Government on which it had pronounced such sweeping censures as those embodied in the Address presented to the Throne the preceding day.—(Cries of "Useless.")

Mr. Kozuki Jokei opposed the Bill. He complimented the Government on their action in introducing it. When the Bill was introduced last

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session it had laboured under the imputation of being a mere device to obtain the House's assent to the appropriations on account of the Navy. But this session it lay open to no such charge, being evidently a genuine measure. In so far as it evinced the Government's desire to subscribe to the wishes of the nation, it deserved applause. But he failed to see why the Government, if they were really desirous of consulting popular opinion, did not also introduce Bills for reducing the land tax and abolishing export duties. Be that as it might, however, he felt compelled to condemn the Bill because the country's urgent need of military equipment did not permit such a reduction of revenue. (The speaker elaborated this point considerably but added nothing to the arguments adduced in the preceding session.)

Mr. Muramatsu Kameichiro moved that the discussion of the Bill be deferred for a week, on the ground of the important matters which had occupied the attention of the House during the opening days of the session. Mr. Hoshi Toru had not yet resigned the Presidency, and the Government had taken no notice of the Address to the Throne impeaching the conduct of officials. He was entirely opposed to proceeding with the discussion of Government Bills until an understanding had been arrived at.

Mr. Higashio Heitaro pointed out that if Mr. Muramatsu's proposal were accepted, there would be nothing for it but to return all Government Bills, including the Budget, and close the House.

The House rejected the motion, and voted the closure.

The Second Reading of the Bill was then voted for and the various clauses having been discussed, were passed as submitted. The House then voted the Third Reading, and proceeded, at 3 p.m., to hold a session with closed doors for the purpose of considering the Disciplinary Committee's Report on the case of Mr Hoshi Toru. The Committee recommended that Mr. Hoshi be required to offer an apology to the House in open session, but on the motion of Mr. Muramatsu Kameichiro, the House decided that instead of an apology, he should be suspended for a week.

The doors were re-opened at 4.40 p.m., and the House proceeded to the First Reading of the Bill for amending the Local Government System but, after a brief discussion, the House was counted out at 5 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House did not met, the Committees alone assembling.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House meet at 1.15 p.m., the Order of the Day being,

1.—First Reading of a Bill introduced by Mr. Fujino Masataka for amending Law No. 84 of the 23rd of *May*.
2.—First Reading of a Bill introduced by Mr. Kagami Kahei for rescinding the Peace Preservation Regulations.
3.—First Reading of a Bill introduced by Mr. Asaka Katsutaka for amending the Law of Regulations.
4. First Reading of a Bill introduced by Mr. Mori Toichiro for amending the Second-hand-goods Dealers Regulations.

The receipt of various documents having been announced,

Mr. Ugai Ikujiro explained the purport of certain Questions addressed by him to the Government with reference to official treatment of the Sodo Sect.

Mr. Hatoyama Kazuo, referring to his Questions on the subject of the *Chishima-Ravenna* case, said that in consequence of the collision between the *Chishima Kan* and the steamer *Ravenna*, a claim for 650,000 *yen* had been preferred by the Japanese Government, in the Yokohama British Consular Court, and a counter-claim for 250,000 *yen* had been advanced against the Japanese Government by the Peninsular and Oriental Company, the owners of the *Ravenna*. The question whether this counter-claim should be adjudicated by the British Consular Court had then arisen. It was a question about the legal aspects of which much might be said, but he had no occasion to trouble them on that score. What he wanted to draw attention to was the improper procedure of the Japanese Government in the matter. It appeared from the records that the Emperor of Japan had been put forward as the plaintiff in the case. He need scarcely tell them that never before in the history of this country had His Majesty's name been used in such a manner, but he might add that in foreign countries also the thing was wholly unprecedented. Whether His Majesty's name had been thus employed at the direct instance of the Government, or whether the immediately responsible person was the Government's legal representative, Mr M. Kirkwood, an Englishman more or less unacquainted, of course, with Japanese customs, he did not pretend to say, but as to the fact that the Sovereign's name did so appear, there could be no manner of doubt. They might assure themselves on the point by referring to the answer filed by the Japanese Government's legal representatative in denial of the Consular Court's competence to try the counter-claim. Two reasons were there alleged. The first was that the plaintiff being the Emperor of Japan, and the Sovereign being, by law, considered incapable of wrong-doing, no suit against him could be entertained by any Court. This theory had been endorsed by the eminent Japanese jurist, Mr. Hozumi Chincho. The second argument was that the collision having occurred in the Inland Sea, that is to say, on Japanese territory, any suits arising out of it must fall within Japanese jurisdiction, and must therefore be tried according to Japanese law. But Japanese law did not admit the liability of the Sovereign under any circumstances, and therefore no counter-claim against the plaintiff in this case should be entertained, since he was the Sovereign of Japan. Why had the Emperor's name been brought forward in an inferior tribunal like the British Consular Court in Japan? The Government must be held responsible for such a proceeding; responsible not to the Sovereign alone, but to the whole nation which claimed the honour of being His Majesty's subjects. Never before had such an indignity been put upon the Throne. The mistakes made by the Cabinet were numerous, but they all paled before this one. The whole Cabinet must answer for it. No documentary excuses or explanations would suffice. Some public and decisive measure of atonement must be resorted to. Further, the British Consular Court in Yokohama having decided that it had no competence to entertain the counter-claim, the Peninsular and Oriental Company had appealed to the British Supreme Court in Shanghai, and the Government had sent its legal representative thither to make answer to the appeal. The result was that the verdict of the Yokohama tribunal had been reversed, and a decision rendered that the Inland Sea was not Japanese territory. He should not discuss that question at present. The point to which he addressed himself was that the Government had consented to submit to the jurisdiction of the British Supreme Court in Shanghai. According to the treaties between Japan and Western countries, a Japanese suing a foreigner had to bring his suit in the Court of the defendant's nationality, namely, in the Consular Court. Thus the Consular Courts became by international agreement the only tribunals where cases in which Japanese were plaintiffs and foreigners defendants could be tried. Such tribunals were by right open to the Japanese. They were compelled to have recourse to them in search of justice, and no other tribunals whatsoever were recognised by treaty. On what grounds then did the Japanese Government as plaintiff recognise the jurisdiction of the British Supreme Court in Shanghai, a British subject being the defendant? The treaty simply provided that Consular Courts in Japan should discharge a part of the functions devolving originally on Japanese Courts, and the place for discharging such functions could not possibly be in China. A British Order in Council declared that for the purpose of the jurisdiction acquired by the Sovereign of Great Britain, Japan and China should be regarded as conquered or ceded territory. He should not dispute at that moment the propriety of calling Japan a dependency of Great Britain, but he asked the House to consider whether the Japanese Government acted rightly in admitting a jurisdictional claim based on such a contention, and whether it was justified in appearing in a Court in China to answer a claim connected with a case that had occurred in Japan. Nothing in the treaties could be adduced to warrant such a course, or to confer upon a tribunal in China jurisdiction belonging originally to Japanese tribunals, and exercisable only for the purpose of Japanese plaintiffs in respect of cases arising in Japan. He called upon the Government to answer his Questions definitely and distinctly, and to acknowledge their error if error had been committed. Whatever might be the reputation of the statesmen now in power, it could not support such mistakes, nor should posterity be left to suppose that the men of the time had tamely and blindly acquiesced in blundering subversive of the country's rights and fatal to its prestige.

The Chairman of the Petitions Committee reported that 225 petitions had been received and handed to the Vice-President to be printed and distributed among the members.

Mr. Fujino Masataka, introducing the Bill for amending Law No. 84, said that what he proposed was to change the penalties prescribed by the Law for violations of Administrative regulations. The Law's penalties were a fine of not more than 200 *yen*, or imprisonment for not more than one year. This he would amend so as to read "a fine not exceeding 50 *yen* or arrest." His contention was that the power vested by the Law in administrative officials was unconstitutional, and in excess of any limits that could be justified under representative institutions. The Bill had been before the House in the preceding session, and he need not repeat the arguments then employed, but he might remind the House that the major limit of arrest being fixed by law at 10 days no occasion existed for defining it in Law No. 84.

Mr. Suyematsu Kencho, Government Delegate, opposed the Bill on the ground that the penalties proposed were quite inadequate to secure the enforcement of administrative regulations.

After some discussion, the Bill was carried to a Second Reading and the House proceeded to consider the Bill for abolishing the Peace Preservation Regulations.

The discussion was very brief, and the Bill was passed at once to its Second Reading, the Third Reading being dispensed with

The Bill for amending the Registration Law, differing only in very slight details from that introduced in the previous session, was explained by its introducer.

Mr. Kioura, Government Delegate, repeated at length the Government's objections to the Bill, as set forth last session.

The Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee of 9 nominated by the President.

Mr. Mori Toichiro, explaining the Bill for amending the Law relating to Dealers in Second-hand Goods, claimed that the provisions of the Law imposed needless obstructions in the path of the business it was intended to regulate, and did not serve any correspondingly useful purpose.

The Government Delegate said that the Government approved of many of the proposed amendments, but had others to propose which could be considered if the Bill were submitted to a Special Committee.

The Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee of 9 nominated by the President, and the House rose at 4.25 p.m.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 10.30 a.m., the Order of the Day being :—

1.—First Reading of a Government Bill relating to the Period of Probation of Assistant Judges and Public Procurators.
2.—Appointment of a Special Committee to report upon the above.
3.—Report of the Special Committee on the Bill for amending portions of the Treasury Notes Regulations.

The Minister of State for Justice introducing the first Bill on the Order of the Day, explained that according to the provisions of the Law of Organization of the Law Courts, the period of

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probation for Judicial officers was three years, but inasmuch as at present the number of such officials required annually for the purpose of filling vacancies was 70, it became necessary to create discretionary power to shorten the period to 1½ years. The change was to be operative only for five years from the date of the new Law's going into operation. It would be, in fact, a temporary measure.

The Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee nominated by the President.

Marquis Asano, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported in favour of the Bill for amending portions of the Treasury Notes Regulations.

After a few questions, the House voted to carry the Bill to a Second Reading, and to proceed with the Reading at once.

Mr. Hasegawa Sadao proposed an amendment, changing the period for redeeming the Treasury Notes in question from 1 year to 9 months.

The House rejected the amendment and passed the Bill, carrying it at once through the Third Reading:—

BILL FOR AMENDING THE TREASURY NOTES REGULATIONS

Article IV. in the Treasury Notes Regulations, issued in the 17th year of *Meiji* (1884) as Notification No. 24, shall be amended as follows:—

Art. 4.—The Treasury notes shall be divided into six kinds, viz., notes for 100 *yen*, 500 *yen*, 1,000 *yen*, 5,000 *yen*, 10,000 *yen*, and 100,000 *yen*, payable within 12 months.

The House rose at 11 a.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.20 p.m., the Order of the Day being:—

1.—First Reading of the Government Bill for amending Imperial Ordinance No. 141 of the 22nd year of *Meiji*.
2.—Appointment of a Special Committee to report upon the above.
3.—First Reading of a Government Bill for amending Law No. 9 of the 23rd year of *Meiji*.
4.—Appointment of a Special Committee to report upon the above.
5.—First Reading of a Government Bill relating to increase of the Floating Capital of the Tokyo Military Arsenal.
6.—Appointment of a Special Committee to report upon the above.
7.—First Reading of a Bill introduced by Mr. Matsushima Rinsaku for amending the Local Government System.
8.—First Reading of a Bill introduced by Mr. Yamada Toji for amending the Law of Election of the House of Representatives.

Mr. Kato, Government Delegate, introducing the first Bill on the Order, explained that the proposed amendment was designed entirely to abbreviate official forms in the case of payments of taxes made by farmers into banks.

The Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee nominated by the President.

Mr. Kato, Government Delegate, explained that the purpose of the second Bill on the Order was to facilitate the payment and collection of taxes on Marine Products in Hokkaido.

The Bill was entrusted to the same Committee as the former.

Mr. Tajiri, Government Delegate, explaining the third Bill, said that it was merely for the purpose of transferring to the Arsenal of the Army Department war material valued at 115,323 *yen*, hitherto in the possession of the former Naval Powder Factory at Meguro.

The Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee nominated by the President.

Mr Matsushima Riusaku, introducing his Bill for the amendment of the Local Government System, said that it was identical with the Bill presented by him last session, which had been examined and favorably reported on by a Special Committee, but had not been carried to a Second Reading owing to want of time. The purpose of the Bill, briefly speaking, was to increase local autonomy and diminish the interference of the Central Government.

The Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee nominated by the President.

The Bill for amending the Law of Election in the sense of extending the franchise, was then introduced briefly, and handed to a Special Committee.

The House rose at 1.40 p.m.

ECZEMA.—Book on "Skin Trouble," net, Fee for One Stamp by Messrs. NORTH & RAE Limited, Yokohama.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

OF STUDENTS

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail" Journal.

SIR,—Though I be but one that globe trotteth and therefore of the residents in these parts accounted fit only to pore over a box of curios—which be vulgar toys—yet would I set down in mine room a few saws about the scholars of this land. Certainly I never saw a sadder and sorrier sight in all my travel. And first I will speak of their manners, which is quick done; for they have scarce more than a hedgepig; in the second place of their betering; which were like to prove a labour of Hercules and a purging of Augean stables. Now an English schoolboy is mischievous, but in a waggishness, as a crow; but a Japanese insolent and puffed up with windy vaunts, and hath ever somewhat of a parrot's nature, for he saith but "bummei Kaikwa," or "baka," (which is one of their communia maledicta), and straight thinketh himself in the van of civilization, a Solomon for wisdom; or he doth but cry "Go ad stone," and compareth himself to the G.O.M., whereby unwitting he likeneth himself to a fool led by the nose by knaves. Now our school-boy cons not his task, but gets discipline at school (which I count the more to purpose) howbeit he sometimes cheeketh his grave tutors; but a Japanese student at one time muggeth overmuch, dismissing the usher if he teach not shrewdly enow; at another he taketh free holiday in mid-term, on a pretence that he is overwearied by the athletics, or that study in the summer heat causeth fluxions of blood to the head (which is smal danger where the skull is not cumbered with brains); as they of the Kenguijuku last summer, who struck work on the 15th of July despite the ushers' remonstrances; so that beat leadeth beat leader, as Livy tells of the scholars that whipped their pedagogue back to town. Certainly this sort of respecting boyish humours is *pueris reverentia* inverted, like a sock turned wrong side out. Among the old folk there is much courtesy; among the students scanty, and that but skin-deep; certainly they be no well-tuned cymbals howsoever they ack not brass; for at home they call their parents "uncivilized,"—a bumptious speech of one of them; abroad you shall see that if one hap to stand in their path they yield not place, but make forward over the obstruction or then high clogs, "striding mighty," as Achilles among the Shades, or again pushing by in a manner of "walking swoon," like Mrs. Gamp; not seeming to see the foreigner, or seeing but to blaspheme. And many other ill habits they have, as smoking, which the Germans do wisely forbid in their schools till a boy be confirmed in church, by which time he is come to years of discretion and hath sense to avoid Havanas and the stronger sorts of weeds. But I will leave the subject so, though I have but scratched the soil; for there is scarce one that hath not experience of students' ways and rudeness; and short suggestion oft profiteth better than much trumpeting.

I will now speak of the cure of the evil. In the first place I allow well that every usher, and not the headmaster only, have power to chastise with cane or birch, or for that matter with a bamboo, so it be knotty. Concerning spanking, I commend it not; for it oftimes hurteth more him that giveth than him that taketh. Likewise let the rod be laid on in the softer parts; so shall the sting be the sharper and the music the fuller. But look well that the lad be not padded; for I remember at school a runagate had a birching, whereof the sound made every scholar to quail; but the boy himself smiled sweetly; for though he could never get his Tully into his head he had made shift to get it into his breeks for the nonce. In the second point, when froward boys combine against the masters in a conspiracy of many, as is most the case, it were good that the law courts took cognizance thereof and set the whole crew to a month's treadmill; which measure if harsh were wholesome, and of ready application to a crowd, where the birch can but maugle one or two, as a swarm of bees overheated with vain buzzing in the dog-days must ever be treated widely with tobacco smoke, or the keeper is like to be stung to death, while by ying conclusions with each and every angly. Many have a fond opinion that moral suasion is the best mean; but, contrariwise, the brute of canes is more than the sting of words for the getting of discipline in a school; and without discipline teaching is naught, though one had the learning of Thales or Mr. Chamberlain.

Yours, &c., FRANCIS BACON.

LETTER FROM CHICAGO.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Chicago, November 4th.

Prof E. Warren Clark, formerly a teacher at Shizuoka, now of Rockford, Ill., is owner of the old locomotive "General" mentioned in my last letter.

The directors of the whisky trust have decided to give the Takamine ferment process a thorough trial in connection with the Manhattan Distillery at Peoria. Such a test was begun some months ago, and was interrupted by the long and serious illness of Mr. Takamine; but it will be at once resumed.

It is now hoped that the loss by the wreck of the *City of New York* will not be as large as at first was feared.

Col. J. H. Hoge, recently appointed U.S. Consul to Amoy, was suddenly recalled the very day he was to leave 'Frisco on the *Gaelic*, to answer some charges the nature of which was not stated.

A Chinese murderer in this city was brought to a confession of his crime to Judge Tuthill's court by the administration of the Chinese formula for an oath.

The Senate has passed, and the President has signed, the Act to amend the Geary Law. In consequence of this, Attorney-General Olney has ordered all Chinamen, nearly 100 in number, awaiting deportation, to be released.

At the recent conference of Methodist bishops, the assignment to Japan, Korea, and China fell to Bishop Ninde.

The Chicago Theological Seminary (Congregational) is rejoicing over its success in securing $80,000 excess of the sum of $500,000 which it has been trying to raise for endowment.

A vacancy in the U.S. Circuit Court has been made by the recent death of Judge Hugh L. Bond at Baltimore.

Hon. Edwin F. Uhl, of Grand Rapids, Mich., has been appointed to succeed Josiah Quincy as Assistant Secretary of State.

The Voorhees Repeal Bill passed the Senate on the 29th ult. by a vote of 43 to 32; on the 31st it passed the House of Representatives by a vote of 193 to 94, and on the same day was signed by the President. Here is the bill:—"That so much of the Act approved July 14, 1890, entitled an Act directing the purchase of silver bullion and issue of treasury notes thereon and for other purposes," and directs the Secretary of the Treasury to purchase from time to time silver bullion to the aggregate amount of 5,500,000 ounces, or so much thereof as may be offered in each month at the market price thereof, not exceeding $1 for 371 25 100 grains of pure silver, and to issue in payment for such purchases treasury notes of the United States, be and the same is hereby repealed. And it is hereby declared to be the policy of the United States to continue the use of both gold and silver as standard money, and to coin both gold and silver into money of equal intrinsic and exchangeable value, such equality to be secured through international agreement, or by such safeguards of legislation as will insure the maintenance of parity in value of coins of the two metals, and the equal power of every dollar at all times in the markets and in the payment of debts. And it is hereby further declared that the efforts of the government should be steadily directed to the establishment of such a safe system of bimetallism as will maintain at all times the equal power of every dollar coined or issued by the United States in the markets and in the payment of debts."

R. G. Dun and Co's. report, out to day, says: "The repeal of the Silver Purchase Act does good already. The business world in every part of the country reckons it helpful and the tone of the trade is more confident. It is hardly time as yet for the effects to be felt to any great extent in manufactures, but bankers are more liberal in accommodations and merchants more hopeful in purchases."

Yesterday afternoon the extra session of Congress came to an end. The senate failed to act on a number of appointments, of which the most important were those of Preston as Director of the Mint and Hornblower as Associate Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court. The report and message on Hawaiian matters was held back till the regular session four weeks hence.

The *Oregon*, the most powerful ship in the U.S. navy, was launched on the 26th ult. at 'Frisco.

It is reported that the Arctic explorer, Dr. Nansen, has lost his ship among the icebergs off Northern Siberia, but is himself safe. Nothing was said about the rest of the party. It is, however, believed by some that the story is false.

Daniel Coughlin, who hired the horse that carried Dr. Cronin to his death in the Carlson Cottage, is now on his second trial for murder before Judge Tuthill.

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You have doubtless heard already of the cowardly assassination of Mayor Harrison, within the sacred portals of his own home, on the 28th ult., by a man who owns some or all of the names, Patrick Eugene Joseph Prendergast. He was a newspaper carrier, whose hobby was track elevation, and who, though not well educated, deemed himself qualified to fill the position of corporation counsel. This office, he said, Mayor Harrison had promised him; and because the Mayor "broke his promise" and "betrayed his confidence," he deliberately committed the cold-blooded murder. It is a pity that in our Republic there is no protection against such a "homicidal crank."

The murder was committed on Mayors' Day. Our Mayor had been all day at the Fair where he had been actively assisting in the entertainment of the Mayors of the sister cities. In a speech delivered before the guests he extolled Chicago, and said: "I myself have taken a new lease of life; I intend to live for half a century yet; I shall live to see the day when even London shall be looking to its laurels." (The autopsy revealed a physical condition, which the physicians asserted, was good for twenty more years.) His "new lease of life" was to be strengthened and endeared by his approaching nuptials (set for the 16th inst.) with Miss Annie Howard, of Orleans. After this day of activity he returned to his home; and, after dinner, wearied out, he fell asleep. From this nap he was aroused by the entrance of Prendergast, and went out into the hall to see what his visitor wanted. The latter, repeating in vain his request for the office, fired three shots at the Mayor, who, after a slight but futile resistance, fell to the floor and died in twenty minutes. The murderer gave himself up to the police.

It is needless to say that this brutal deed excited a deep feeling of horror and execration, second, if at all, only to that aroused when Garfield was similarly assassinated by a "crank." Telegrams of condolence poured in to the bereaved from all over the country. The Japanese Commissioners sent the following message:—We express our heartfelt sympathy in your bereavement by the death of your father, Mayor Harrison. The House of Representatives, in which the deceased had served two terms with honour, passed fitting resolutions.

The body lay in state all day, Oct. 31, at the City Hall where it was viewed by thousands. The next day a large and imposing pageant moved, through miles of mourners, from the City Hall to the Church of Epiphany, where impressive funeral services were held. From there the sad procession moved on to Graceland the Cemetery, where the body was laid to rest.

The cowardly assassin has been formally indicted by the Grand Jury, and will be put on trial Monday (6th) before Judge Dunne.

Hon. Carter H. Harrison was born in Fayette County, Kentucky, in 1825. He was graduated from Yale College in 1845, and, after a long trip in Europe, finished a law course in 1855. The same year he came to Chicago, and became interested in real estate. In 1871 he was elected a County Commissioner; in 1872 he was an unsuccessful, in 1874 and 1876 a successful, candidate for Congress. In the House he gained a reputation for humour and spread-eagle oratory ("Carter's Eagle"). In 1879, 1881, 1883, 1885, and 1893 he was elected Mayor of Chicago; and he always insisted, with his characteristic system, that he was the "best mayor" Chicago ever had. In 1884 he was the unsuccessful Democratic candidate for Governor of Illinois. In 1887 he made a trip to Japan, China, and other Oriental countries, and returned by way of Europe; his observations on this journey he published in a book called "A Race with the Sun." For a few years he has been proprietor and Editor of the Chicago *Times*. His ambition was not satisfied, he was a candidate for U.S. Senator; and if successful in that, "might have" become a formidable candidate for the Presidency in 1896. He was a distant relative of ex-President Harrison.

As a mark of respect and sorrow the closing exercises of the World's Fair were omitted, and instead a meeting was held at which appropriate resolutions were passed. Unfortunate it was that the last days of the grand World's Columbian Exposition should have been saddened by such a horrible crime; and that the end which was to have been marked by joyous ceremonies should have been shrouded in gloom. *Sic transit gloria*.

The following are the official figures of the grand total of admissions during six months:—

PAID ADMISSIONS

Souvenir general admission tickets	3,255,167
Daily admission tickets	26,012,190
Railroad coupons	55,511
Children's tickets	2,25 ,938
Total	31,477,812

ADMISSION ON PASSES

Complimentary cards	243,185
Full term photo passes	1,931,7 5
Monthly photo passes	1,600 421
Special press passes	65,803
Workmen's passes	346,403
Trip passes	2,0 1
Bureau of music passes	58,300
Returned checks	1,725,930
Total	6,052,188
Paid admissions	31,477,8 2
Total	37,530,000

The Fair was practically "open" on the 31st when more than 50,000 paid to enter, and had excellent opportunities for sight-seeing. Even now the grounds are open just as they were before May 1st; but, as exhibitors, in their haste to get away, have thrown everything into confusion, it is scarcely worth while to enter.

Some of the concessionaires on the Midway at first tried to keep running longer; but when the authorities closed the Plaisance against visitors, they submitted to the inevitable. The Ferris Wheel is set revolving every day; and the company intended to sue the Exposition for damages in keeping away customers.

The clerical force at the Fair is being rapidly diminished, and officials will resign as soon as their labours are finished. Director-of Works Burnham has already stepped out. The buildings will be moved away or demolished as rapidly as possible. There is a strong effort to retain many of them for other locations; it is planned, for instance, to re-erect the Manufactures Building on the Lake Front to be used as a hall for large public gatherings. The cost of this project is estimated at about $550,000.

Mrs. Potter Palmer has been honoured with a banquet by the Board of Lady Managers, and by her husband's gift of $200,000 for a woman's memorial building.

Marshall Field, of this city, has given $1,000,000 to the Columbia Museum on condition that $500,000 more in subscriptions, and $2,000,000 more in Fair Stock, can be secured. George M. Pullman makes a subscription of $100,000; Mrs. George Sturges of $50 000; and Marshall Field and Co. give $100,000 in Fair Stock. Smaller subscriptions of money and stock are pouring in daily.

Large donations of material are also being secured. Japan gives, not only plaques of embroidery, vases and other superb specimens of art, but also the model of the Imperial Quarantine Station, and her exhibits in Forestry, Agriculture, and Leather and Shoe Buildings. The Forestry exhibits of Johore, Ceylon, Siam, and Korea are also donations. The other gifts from various sources are of many kinds are too numerous to mention.

The following is from the Chicago *Tribune*:—"The Japanese have had no day at the Fair, but they have had a pretty successful six months." Mr. Tadamasa Hayashi has, however, been unfortunate in losing three cloisonné enamel vases, which were probably stolen. Made by Namikawa, they were valued at $1,500.

A score of foreign commissioners, including Dr. C. Matsudaira, have filed a complaint against, not only the loose and inaccurate clerical work of the executive committee on awards, but also against the system itself.

The Japanese, however, ought to be pretty well satisfied with their success in gaining awards. Here are some more lists:—

Japanese Commission, for miniature garden; Miss Kamo Nakagawa, Shiga, white crepe silk; K. Azumi, Tokio, maps and magazines; M. Yara, Kumamoto, books on physical geography of Japan; M. Okura, Tokio, picture books; T. Wada, Tokio, fine arts magazine; N. Takayama, Tokio books on dentistry for the school in Tokio; K. Hirade, Hokkaido, maps, scenery and statistics of Hokkaido; M. Fuji, Kyoto, pictorial art books; J. Takana, Kyoto pictorial art books. Observatory Department of Home affairs, charts, diagrams, reports, etc.; Land surveying Office, Department of War, Japan, maps.

WOMAN'S BUILDING.

[In woman's work Mexico took by far the largest number of awards; Chun Quan Kee received three for embroideries, embroidered screens, and carved ivory fans; the Korean government one for silk embroidery; and Siam several for silk brocades, hand painted silk scarfs and other fabrics].

Japan—Kyoto Kyoto Itomono, crotchet work: Kobayashi Kanjiro, embroidered screen; Yushiro Ihei, tapestry (handwork); Mishibuura Ihei, Hirano Kingoro, Honowa Masunori, Saka a Bunsuke, Hirrerkawa Kamodani Yauchich, Tenkamoto Gisuke, fans; Nishimura Sozayemon, three awards for landscape screens, wall hangings, screens with transparent figures; Ichia Shahichi, three awards for screens decorated with flowers, screens decorated with animals, small landscape screen; Kawashima Jinbei, two awards for tapestry, room model for making tapestry; J. Ono, silk and linen lace; S. Tanaka, two awards for embroidered silk hangings, embroidered silk screen, applique work; J. Ono, silk and embroidery in dress line, silk and embroidery in room decorations; Mrs. N. Iwai, scenes of Arashiyama for panels; Miss S. Yasuda, Mrs. Iida, embroidery; Miss Y. Mimura, lace for bamboo leaves, Mrs T. Matsui, artificial flowers, I. Kumaga, embroidered picture. Tokio—K. Kimura, embroideries, brocade silk, Miss K. Maita, lace work; Miss R. Mochigase, lace work (cotton); S. Nichida, Y. Takawase, fans; Tomozo Watanabe, silk embroidery; K. taoka Gennosuke, artistic embroideries; Bureau of Industry and Commerce, three awards for fans for export, fans for home use, fans to be used in ceremonies; Mr. T. Noguchi, water color painting; Miss K. Aomi, flower seeds mounted on twelve folded frames. Miss Y. Ikuma, butterflies and peonies for panels; Miss T. Takahashi, Miss N. Tsuruta, embroidery; Y. Suzuki, buttons shell; Miss H. Nakabayashi, pouloveins and bird embroidered; Miss T. Kato, lace handkerchief; Mrs. C. Horiuchi, artificial flower; Osaka—Ikanosuke Nakamura, flowers, Kichiro Yamanaka, two awards for bronze lantern, incense burners; Kihei Kawakatsu, Yoichi Kubota fans; S. Kunwai, ornament tassels; K. Kawakatsu, fans; Miss T. Yoshimasa, Osaka, artificial flowers, S. Shieno, Yokohama, embroideries; R. Ota, Shiziioka, open fans; Komasa-Moto, Joshi-Jucanba, Ishikawa, silk embroidery, T. Sowaka, Okayama, fans; Hisuke Shibamai, Ishikawa-ken, silk embroidered round fan; I. Kawakishi, Kumamoto, bamboo ware; Mrs. N. Akashi, Ishikawa, Miss N. Orihara, Tokushime, embroidery mats mounted in frame for panels.

IN H.B.M.'s COURT FOR JAPAN.

(IN ADMIRALTY.)

Before R. A. MOWAT, Esq., Judge.—TUESDAY, December 5th, 1893.

JAMES TROUP, ESQ., H.B.M.'S CONSUL, PLAINTIFF, v. THE MASTER OF THE "ARCTIC," DEFENDANT.

The Court sat at 11 o'clock to-day to deliver judgment in this case. There were present Mr. H. C. Litchfield, Crown Prosecutor, who appeared for the nominal plaintiff; Mr. D. McNeill, for the master of the *Maud S.* defendant; Mr. James Troup, H.B.M.'s Consul, and Prince Lobanow de Rostow, H.I.R.M.'s Vice Consul.

His Honour said—The suit is one of forfeiture instituted by Her Majesty's Consul at this port against the British schooner *Maud S.* in respect of alleged breach of the provisions of "The Seal Fishery (North Pacific) Act, 1893," and of "The Seal Fishery (North Pacific) Order in Council, 1893"—under the combined provisions of which enactments the killing or hunting of seals within a zone of thirty miles round the Komandorski Islands (amongst other specified districts) is prohibited between the 4th July, 1893, and the 1st January, 1894. There is also a counter claim for damages by the defendant, the master and owner of the schooner.

At the close of the case, I had no doubt as to either of the matters in issue, but I thought it desirable under all the circumstances, and more especially as this was the first case brought under the Act and Order in Council, to put my judgment into writing.

The *Maud S.*, which left Yokohama in April last on a sealing cruise, was seized by His Imperial Russian Majesty's despatch-boat *Yakout* at 5 a.m. on the 29th August, at a distance of twenty-two miles from the southern point of Copper Island, one of the Komandorski group; and of the fifty-seven seal skins then found on board, two are described in the Russian protocol of seizure as being "perfectly fresh and still wet." It has thus, under the 6th sub-section of Section I. of the Act, become incumbent on the master to prove that his vessel was not, as a fact, at the time and place in question "used or employed in contravention of the Act." His own evidence and that of the crew have left no doubt whatever on my mind that the two seals were killed, one late in the forenoon, and the other early in the afternoon, of the day previous; and I have further come to the conclusion, on the evidence mainly of the master and his chief officer, that the seals were not killed within the prohibited zone. The evidence of both these witnesses—and I see no reason at all to disbelieve it—is that their vessel was at noon on that day in lat. 53° 24′ N., and that the E.N.E. course set at 12.30 brought her at 4 p.m. into lat. 53° 35′ N., that is to say, when the seals were caught she could not have been within fifty miles of the Island. Indeed, Counsel for the Crown practically abandoned this part of the case. He urged, however, that the ship, being undisputably within the prohibited zone when seized on the morning of the 29th must be considered to have been then in pursuit of seals. Now the master ascribes the fact of his being within the zone at all to an error in his chronometer, by which he was misled as to his true position, and denies hunting for seals while there. Nor is his evidence on these points an afterthought, for at the time of the seizure he appended to the protocol a memorandum as follows:—I Robert McKeil, do hereby declare that my vessel being inside of Thirty Mile Zone of Commander Islands is caused by my chronometer being in error, and in going from the southern waters to hunting grounds north of the island, I got inside of the limit when I thought I was at least fifteen miles to the eastward of my position, and the two first skins were taken yesterday when my vessel was forty miles to the southward of her present position, and I also declare that my boats have not left the vessel nor has there been a seal taken since I have been inside of the above-described zone, and on above grounds I protest against confiscation."

It appears that having been advised a few days before by a brother captain to try the sealing grounds to the north of the Islands, he had started on his way thither on the morning of the 28th, the day on which he caught the two seals. At 7 p.m.

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on that day he made his position long 168° 5′ E. and lat. 53°. 42′. N., and he then set a N.E. by N. course. This course would have carried him clear of the zone had the longitude been correct, but owing to his chronometer placing him 15 miles farther to the E. than he really was, the course set brought him, in the early morning of the 20th, inside the zone instead of to the E of it. If that is an honest account of the matter, I doubt whether actually sealing under the circumstances, *i.e.* under a *bonâ fide* mistake as to his real position, could be properly considered as a contravention of the statute: it certainly would be a very harsh, if a sound, construction of the Act. But his evidence goes on to establish that immediately on land being reported, which was shortly after 4 o'clock—he altered his course to N.E., and a moment later, after consulting the chart, to E. by N, with the view of getting away from the land as quickly as possible, not, however, because he thought himself inside the zone, but because he was nearer the land than he cared to be. Half an hour after this, he says, and while still standing away from the island, he sighted the vessel that turned out to be the *Yakout*.

Now in all this, there is nothing in the slightest degree improbable, nor as will appear, is it in any way inconsistent with the statements in the Russian documents—on which alone inconsequence of the seizors not having thought fit to produce witnesses, the case for the Crown rests. If, then, I believe the master's account of the matter, he will have discharged the presumption which arises against the ship under the Act from the mere presence within the prohibited zone with sealskins on board, and there will then be an end of the case for the Crown. Against the master's version there is, besides the protocol already referred to, one other documents—the decision upon the master's protest of the Commission of Russian officers, but that does not really carry the case against the ship any further than the statements in the protocol do. The grounds upon which the "decision" is based are thus started: Considering that when the schooner *Maud S.* was sighted from the despatch-boat she was going in the direction from the southern point of Copper Island to the sea, on a day when the weather being perfectly clear it was possible in consequence of the distinct visibility of the shores, to take the bearings, and also that there was nothing to bear out the master's declaration (as, on inspection of the schooner, no official log book was to be found), and, finally that on said inspection some fresh seal skins were found and the traces of blood had not yet dried. Now, as to the first ground—viz., that at the *Maud S* when sighted was standing out to sea—that is obviously what an innocent master would do when he discovered that he had got too near the land No doubt a master who had knowingly gone inside the zone to hunt seals would equally have altered his course westwards if he saw a cruiser approaching, and the *Yakout* was fairly entitled, under the circumstances as observed by her, to assume that such was the case with the *Maud S* But the schooner's presence within the zone being susceptible of two explanations, one of them consistent with innocence, the question of guilt or innocence manifestly cannot be determined by that one circumstance alone. As to the error in the chronometer, it appears that chronometers of this class of vessels are frequently more or less incorrect. In the Parliamentary Paper "Russia, No. 3 (1893)," which was referred to for another purpose in the case, I find, in the Report of the Special [Russian] Commission appointed to enquire into the circumstances attending the seizure last year of several British sealers in the vicinity of Copper Island, that the chronometer of the *Marie*, one of the vessels in question, had, curiously enough, precisely the same amount of error as in this case.

The second ground of the "decision" is that as no official log-book was found, there was nothing to bear out the master's declaration. It would appear, from the evidence, that it was probably the absence of an official log-book which really led to the vessel being ordered to Yokohama, and if so, the loss of the log-book—for it seems to have been lost—was a most unfortunate circumstance for the master. But if it had been forthcoming, it would not have contained any entries bearing one way or the other upon the questions of the position or courses of the ship or the time when or place where the seals had been caught, for under English law such entries would not appear in an official log book at all. The absence, then, of the official log book was a circumstance from which no unfavourable inference as to the facts in issue in the case could properly be drawn, though, I may add, I can quite understand the suspicion which such a circumstance would not unnaturally create in the minds of the Russian officers. Then the last ground assigned is that "some" (really only two) "fresh sealskins were found and the traces of blood had not yet dried" No evidence has been given in opposition to that of the master as to the time during which seal skins would remain fresh, and I have no difficulty in believing that skins would remain wet, and traces of the blood upon them would not dry for the interval which elapsed—fifteen and eighteen hours at the most—between their having been taken from the animals and their being found in the damp hold (used as a salting-room) of the ship Moreover, as I have already observed, counsel for the Crown did not seriously dispute the time when the animals were caught.

Having thus gone into the question at some length—as under the circumstances I considered it advisable to do—it appears clear that there is no real conflict between the master's statement and the documentary evidence on the other side. As I am further quite satisfied of his truthfulness, and I will add, of his *bona fides* throughout, I pronounce in favour of the ship and dismiss the petition.

The petition being dismissed there arises the remaining question in the case, the defendant's counter claim for damages. In the pleadings he bases the counter-claim on unreasonable delay in instituting the proceedings and unreasonably long detention of the vessel, but in argument his case was presented on a broader basis, viz, that there was no reasonable ground for the detention at all.

I think there is no foundation for the counter claim. Although the vessel herself arrived in Yokohama on the 25th September, under the provisional certificate given to her by the Russian Commander to enable her to proceed thither, her papers with the Russian documents establishing the ground of seizure did not reach the plaintiff till the 4th October, and early in that month he instructed Counsel to take the necessary steps to bring her before the Court for adjudication. The petition, it is true, was not served till the 4th November, but it was open to the defendant in the meanwhile, under the second sub-section of Section II. of the Act, to procure the release of his ship by giving satisfactory security for her appearance in the event of any legal proceedings being taken; and any delay *after* the proceedings were instituted (which is all that is left to support the "unreasonably long detention of the vessel") could have been dealt with on the defendant's application under our Rule of Procedure 63.

As to the contention that there were no reasonable grounds for any detention of the vessel at all,—a contention which, in strictness, is not open to the defendant on his pleading as it stands—I am unable to accede to it. Plaintiff had the Order in Council from which he learnt both of the prohibition of sealing by British ships at certain places during a certain period, and of the arrangement between Her Majesty and the Emperor of Russia whereby Russian cruisers were authorized to seize British ships found sealing in contravention of the Order in Council; he had also the protocol of seizure by a Russian war-vessel, setting out facts from which he could reasonably suspect that an offence against the Order had been committeed, and though, it is true, he was not aware of the actual terms of the Act of Parliament under which the Order in Council was framed, he had official information of it, and he was entitled to assume that it would prescribe penalties for the offences specified in the Order; and he was therefore in my opinion fully justified in detaining the ship as he did.

In the result, then, both the Plaintiff's petition and the Defendant's counter-claim are dismissed. Each party will bear his own costs.

The Court then rose.

TUESDAY, December 5th, 1893.

This case was called at 10.30 to-day. Mr. H. C. Litchfield, Crown Prosecutor, appeared for plaintiff, Mr. D. McNeill representing defendant.

His Honour upon taking his seat upon the Bench asked the Crown Prosecutor if he was going to open the case at once.

Mr. Litchfield—With your permission, sir, I intend to call certain Russian officers as witnesses before I open the case.

Prince Lobanow de Rostow, H.I.R.M. Vice-Consul, was sworn in as interpreter and took a seat upon the Bench.

Lieut. Constantine Alexanderovitch Panferow, sworn, said—I am a Lieutenant in the Russian Navy and serving on board H.I.R.M.S. *Zabiaka*. On the 22nd July, O.S., 3rd August, N.S., I was on board my vessel. We were cruising in the neighbourhood of Copper Island. On the morning of the 3rd August I sighted the schooner *Arctic*. I was in charge of the party that boarded the vessel. This was about half-past 5 o'clock in the morning. The protocol of arrest, now handed to me, is the one prepared by me as the result of my visit. It is signed by me, amongst others. I did not inspect the armament or equipment of the vesse but looked for sealskins. The latitude and longitude of the *Arctic* was the same as that of the *Zabiaka*. That was lat. 54° 15′ N, long. 167° 33′ E. This reckoning would make the *Arctic* between 26 and 28 miles from Copper Island. The *Zabiaka* took bearings at 9 p.m. the previous evening. The weather was clear and the land very distinctly seen when the bearings were taken so the position is true. From the time these bearings were taken till the time when the *Arctic* was seen, Copper Island was kept in sight. I cannot remember whether the *Zabiaka* was kept steaming the whole of the night, but steam is always kept up; sometimes she is put under sail. The protocol of arrest is signed by the Captain of the *Zabiaka*.

An English translation of the protocol was then handed in. It read as follows:—

PROTOCOL OF INSPECTION of the British schooner *Arctic* made on board the 2nd Rank cruiser *Zabiaka*, 22nd July (3rd August), 1893, Pacific Ocean.

22nd July, (3 August) 1893. At 5.12 a.m. in 54° 15″ lat N. and 167° 31″ E. long. on the horizon towards S to O a sailing schooner was seen, in consequence of which the course was laid on her and the speed increased. Having neared the schooner at 5 55 a.m. to a distance of two cables and lowered the whole-boat, Lieut. Panferow, sub-Lieut. Tigerstedt and six armed men were sent on her to inspect the schooner. After inspecting her, Lieut. Panferow returned on board the cruiser in company of the master of the schooner, Pyne, with his log-book From the facts of the inspection of schooner, the questioning of the master, and the examination of the documents, the following appeared: The schooner's name is *Arctic*, 51 tons, the property of the master, Pyne, himself. The crew, according to the documents, is of 20 men and one passenger, Burnside; but at present were only 14 men to be found, the other six having gone out sealing the Saturday before in two boats and not yet returned on the schooner. The schooner's cargo consist, of fifty-five sealskins, all of which were killed outside the thirty-mile limit, and 3 tons of salt. The schooner left Yokohama April 2/14, for sealing in the Pacific Ocean, killed seals on her way along the coasts of Japan and called at Hakodate to leave there at the hospital five six sailors, and thirteen sealskins On July 16/28 met the British cruiser *Porpoise*, who informed the master of the prohibition to seal nearer than thirty miles to the Commander Islands under fear of having the schooner arrested and the ship's papers confiscated, which is entered in his papers. In the moment of his arrest the master thought himself outside the mentioned limits and was looking for his lost boats

The place where the schooner was arrested is lat. 54° 10′ N and long. 167′ 33″ E., 28 miles distant from the southern point of Copper Island

The log-book and all the documents were found to be in order

Considering that the schooner *Arctic* was at the moment she was met by the cruiser in the limits forbidden to industry, we, the undersigned, on the ground of Paragraph 9 of the instructions given by the Commander of the port of Vladivostock, dated June 7, 1893 No. 2486, to the cruiser for the protection of the Russian maritime industries in the Behring Sea, think it proper:

1.—To take the ship's documents of the schooner *Arctic* from the master, Pyne, and to forward such to the British Authorities.

2.—To deliver the master instead of the taken papers, a temporary certificate to let the schooner proceed to Yokohama, for the master to report himself there to the British Consul, and to present him this protocol and other documents

(Signed.) Lieut LAKUTIEN,
Lieut PANFEROW,
Lieut. KLUPFEL,
Lieut. BEZKROVNY
2nd Rank Captain ARNAUTOW.

I approve this protocol To avoid any objection of the master as to the exact place of the schooner's arrest, I think it my duty to state that the last definiton of the point of the cruiser entrusted to my command was done by bearings of the Northern Point of Copper Island yesterday July 2 at at 9 p.m., and that since we have been going under steam without stopping the engine until the officer was sent on board the schooner

The Captain of the cruiser of 2nd Rank *Zabiaka*
(Signed) Capt of 2nd Rank DOMOJIROFF

To the above statement of the cruiser's Captain the Commission finds its indispensible to add on the protest of the master, Pyne, that his last observation was made on Aug. 1st, N.S., and that he could not since have any astronomical observation in consequence of unfavourable weather.

Signed by the members of the Commission.

Cross-examined by Mr. McNeill—On the night before the seizure a slight rain fell; the weather got very bad after two o'clock in the morning. It had been bad the whole of the night after nine o'clock; but the rain did not come on steadily until two o'clock. The weather was cloudy at nine p.m. when we took the bearings. It was also misty, but we went in close to land in order to get our bearings and so saw it sufficiently distinctly. I remember that when we neared the *Arctic* the sea was rough and there was a wind blowing. The rain came on about two o'clock, but as I was not on deck all night I cannot say whether it rained all the night. When I returned with the master of the schooner it was raining, I think. My watch was from twelve till four o'clock. The previous watch was from four till eight in the morning. I was consequently at the disposal of the captain for the next four hours after I went off watch at four o'clock in the morning; that is the reason why I effected the seizure. I was not on deck when the bearings

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were taken at 9 o'clock, but I came up immediately afterwards and so noticed the near proximity of the land. I can not say, of my own knowledge, what the ship did from the time of taking the bearings until the seizure was effected. The bearings of the *Zabiaka* were laid down by dead reckoning. After the seizure of the *Arctic*, the *Zabiaka* cruised about. I know from overhearing conversation that another schooner had been sighted that day, the 3rd August. I don't remember the gale which took place some few days before the seizure of the *Arctic*. I do not remember any boat being sent ashore to the Commander Islands from the *Zabiaka*, prior to the seizure. I do not know whether any other sealing vessels were cruising about at the time of the seizure, as I was engaged in the search and then in writing out the protocol. Before the seizure there were no other vessels in the immediate neighbourhood. I went on deck that morning about 5 50 o'clock. I was not on deck when the schooner was sighted. I did not know that the schooner was the *Arctic* before I boarded her. I had no previous knowledge of the *Arctic*. I do not remember any photograph of the *Arctic* being taken at Hakodate.

Mr. McNeill—Now, did you expect, when you boarded the schooner, to find her boats away out hunting? The master of the schooner informed me that he had lost two boats, and afterwards it appeared that these two boats were the two boats found on Copper Island.

That is a singular answer to make to my question. My question was, did you expect, when you went on board, to find the boats of the *Arctic* away hunting?—I did not form any opinion.

But the weather was quite unsuitable for hunting, was it not?—Yes, there was a very rough sea.

May I ask from whom the information came of the two boats being on Copper Island?—From the authorities there.

His Honour—Did he mean the boats were thrown up by stress of weather?—Yes, the people in the boats were thrown up on the Island in bad weather, and the boats destroyed.

Mr. McNeill—Was the *Zabiaka* in constant communication with the authorities on Copper Island?—Yes, we often went there.

Was the *Zabiaka* in communication with Copper Island on the 3rd August?—I do not remember.

Will you say positively that she was not?—I cannot say positively whether we were or not, we went there so frequently.

Is the place of seizure—26 to 28 miles from Copper Island—calculated on dead reckoning from the position of the *Zabiaka* at 9 o'clock the day previous to the seizure?—Yes. I have confidence in the officers' calculations, and the distances mentioned in the protocol are correct.

Did the master of the *Arctic* inform you that, according to his observations, he was outside the thirty mile limit?—I don't think he did.

Witness continuing—The master of the schooner was examined by the Commission of which I was a member. The master of the schooner told us that he thought he was outside the limit. We did not ask us to see his chronometer. I do not remember whether we marked the position of the seizure upon the schooner's chart. I think the chart was given back to the master of the schooner. I think we showed him on a chart the position in which we found him. I don't remember which chart we used then, whether the schooner's or ours. I don't remember what instructions are given to Russian officers in regard to the seizure of British vessels, unless I refer to the protocol. The instructions are, I now see, that if the schooner is found within the 30 mile limit, we must send her to the nearest British authorities.

Mr. McNeill—I hope you will take a note of that instruction your Honour.

Re-examined by the Crown Prosecutor—When I first saw the *Arctic* she was under sail.

Mr. McNeil objected to this being taken down as it did not rise upon the cross examination.

Mr. Litchfield—I do not press the point.

Witness continuing—The captain of the *Zabiaka* had an official document sent him regarding two boats on Copper Island, as to the date of their arrival, etc. The information must have come on the day of the seizure.

Upon resuming after tiffin,

Vladimir Lakhtine, Senior Navigating Officer of the *Zabiaka*, sworn, said—I remember the *Zabiaka* sighting the schooner *Arctic* on the 3rd of August last. I was below when she was first sighted, but it was reported to me and I went on deck and altered the course to due North. This was about 5 o'clock in the morning. When the *Arctic* was boarded by our armed party she was in lat. 54° 10′ N, long. 167° 31′ E. The last observation was made on the *Zabiaka* at 9 p.m. on the evening before, and the bearing was made from a dead reckoning which was made from the north point of the Island. The position was worked out by the log and the nine o'clock observation. At nine p.m. the day before, the Island bore 57° N E.; this is only an approximate estimate. The island was then distant, at its northern point, two miles. The dead reckoning observations made were very correct, and almost as correct as astronomical observations could have been, because there was no current to make an error possible.

Witness then worked out the *Artic's* position on a chart belonging to the *Maud S.*

His Honour—I have not had an opportunity of hearing Mr Litchfield's opening, but I should like to know what his case is?

Mr Litchfield—My case is that the *Arctic* was attempting to hunt within the limits. There is no evidence to prove that she was engaged in hunting seals, so we charge her with attempting to hunt within the limits, having been found within twenty-eight miles of the coast.

His Honour—Thank you.

Witness was then asked to mark a second position, lat. 53° 58′ N., long 167° 45′ E., and also lat. 53° 50′ N, and long. 168° 18′, E. The last position, he said was thirty eight miles from the southern point of Copper Island.

His Honour—The second position then, is where Capt. Pyne thought himself to be, and the last, the point where he lost his boats on the 29th July?

Mr. McNeil—Yes.

Cross examined by Mr McNeill—The first position is 30 miles from the southern point of the Island, but the chart is not correct.

Mr. McNeill—I should like you to measure again, and I suggest that it is more than 30 miles away. I have measured it myself and found it to be more?—Well, perhaps it is half a mile more. As navigating officer of the *Zabiaka* I am on deck, on and off, most of the time. She was under steam all the night prior to the seizure. She was steaming about 6 knots an hour. She was steaming the whole night, from nine o'clock till the time of seizure. Immediately after nine she was set on a course due S; about four o'clock the course was changed to S E. About an hour after that the *Arctic* was sighted and we then steered for her. The *Zabiaka* carries a mechanical Walter's log. Two days before the seizure we spoke an American schooner. We did not sight any other schooner before the *Arctic's* seizure. While we were inspecting the *Arctic* we sighted another schooner. We took her bearings, but as the weather was misty she soon disappeared. There was also a steam vessel to be seen at the time we boarded the *Arctic*. I do not know her name, but the master of a German schooner we met during the day said it might have been the *Alexander*. It was not the *Alexander* who told us about the *Arctic's* boats being on Copper Island.

Mr. Litchfield then opened the case for the Crown. He said—The petition in this case is framed on similar lines to those of the case of the *Maud S* so recently before your Honour in this Court, and the answer filed by defendant in this case is on practically the same lines as that of the answer filed in the *Maud S.* case—with this exception, that the only dispute in the present case is as to the exact position of the vessel on the morning of her seizure. I propose, with your Honour's permission, and subject to any objection which my learned friend may raise in the course of the proceedings, to pray in aid of my case, all of the Act of Parliament and the whole of the Order in Council, cited by myself in the previous case, without reading them. I think I shall save a good deal of the time of the Court if I refrain from quoting every or any particular clause referring to the case, as they were quite recently read before you.

His Honour—I don't think there has been time yet in which to forget them.

Mr. Litchfield—Therefore, with the permission now given, I will pass on directly to the matter in hand. My case is that the *Arctic* was engaged in sealing operations within the limits prescribed by the Act and Order in Council, either on the morning of her seizure, or very shortly before that time. That is to say, she was on the sealing grounds hunting or attempting to hunt for seals, that she was within the meaning of the Act fully equipped for hunting, and was there for one where she was for that purpose. The contention of her master is that he was found while innocently engaged looking after some boats, or two boats, which, according to the log of the *Arctic*, disappeared on the afternoon of the 29th July. But we have it in evidence, given by one of the Russian officers, that in regard to one of the boats found on Copper Island information reached his Commander that she was lost on the island on the night of the day prior to the seizure.

His Honour—Who said that?

Mr. Litchfield—It is given in the evidence of Lieut. Panferow.

His Honour—By my notes I find that he only says that official information had been received, he did not say any more than that.

Mr. McNeill—He certainly gave no date.

Mr. Litchfield—I asked the question in re examination, and I certainly thought he said that the boat was lost on the night before the seizure.

His Honour—I heard your question, but I did not take upon my notes the answer you now say he gave.

Mr. Litchfield—The position of the *Arctic* on the 29th July was—

His Honour—Don't you think that this point about the boats ought to be cleared up first? Perhaps the reporters can tell us what was said, their notes are usually fuller than those taken by the Bench.

The Representatives of the Press present all said that they had no recollection of witness having said the words attributed to him by the learned Counsel for the prosecution. Unfortunately, they had sent their notes from the Court to the printers to be set up.

Mr. McNeill said he was willing to take the reporters' notes in evidence, and Mr. Litchfield said he was willing to do the same. The notes were accordingly sent for and produced later in the sitting, when it was found that His Honour was correct in his surmise that no date of the finding or loss of the boat on Copper Island had been given.

Mr Litchfield—Well, the *Arctic* was 38 miles from Copper Island on the 29th of August. That is the last entry in the log, and that entry shows us but they were then actually out in boats engaged in hunting. They were keeping, I submit, from that time till the 3rd of August, upon the hunting ground. I shall also submit that they were hunting during that time whenever opportunity offered. I shall further submit that at the time the boats were lost they were engaged in hunting within the proscribed limits. Not the *Arctic* herself, but some boats belonging to the *Arctic* were engaged in hunting on the 29th July; even assuming that the position of the *Arctic*, as shown by her own log, which log we may for the moment suppose to be correct, was considered by her master to be correct, I shall prove this to be so. But I submit that the positions given in the log are incorrect, and that, therefore, both the vessel and her boats were hunting on the 29th July, or were attempting to hunt, take, or pursue seals within the limits specified. I propose to call before the Court the plaintiff, Mr. Troup, to prove the receipt of various documents, the protocol, etc. I shall also put in the log of the *Arctic*, and shall ask the master and owner to explain to the Court the entries in the log-book.

His Honour—For what purpose.

Mr. Litchfield—I shall submit that according to the mode of operations usually pursued by sealers the boats are sent out East, West, South, and North in search of seals, and also that if the schooner was engaged in seeking for her boats, that those boats had been lost while pursuing on the 29th of July an illicit industry, and also that the presence of the *Arctic* within the zone was not so innocent as my friend wishes us to believe, for I submit that she was very much nearer the land on the last date mentioned than the log book shows.

Mr. James Troup, H.B.M.'s Consul, sworn, said—I received several documents relating to the *Arctic* from Capt. Scott Rogers, of H.M.S. *Archer*, during the autumn of this year. These documents I now hand in. They are the articles of agreement, official log, certificate of registry, and a copy of agreement with the crew, certain Consular accounts, the ship's log book, a list of the documents signed by the Captain of the *Zabiaka*, partly in Russian, partly in English, the protocol of arrest, and a letter from the Captain of the *Zabiaka* to the Captain of H.M.S *Porpoise*, the last is dated 19th August, 1893. The *Arctic* returned to port from her sealing voyage, I think, on the 9th of October; she may have arrived in port before that date, but she was entered on the 9th.

Cross-examined—I have detained the *Arctic* since the date of her arrival.

What offence did you suppose she had committed?—Sealing within the prohibited zone.

How did you arrive at that conclusion?—From the protocol.

Will you look at the protocol and tell me what point in it enabled you to arrive at that conclusion?—I may say that I was basing my action on the action of the Russian Commander.

The fact of his sending you the protocol was sufficient to influence you, independently of its contents?—The contents of the protocol were sufficient to convince the Russian Commander that she had been committing an offence, and I considered it to be my duty to present the case to the Court. I took the protocol as a whole. It was not the presence of the 55 sealskins all shot outside the limits, which led me to think she had

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been committing an offence. I considered there was a *prima facie* case against her. She was described as having fishing and hunting implements on board. I was also in possession of other documents to warrant my action, the Convention between the two Governments, etc.

Walter Edward Pyne, master of the *Arctic*, was then called, and sworn. He said—I am the owner of the British schooner *Arctic*, and was master of her when she was seized. I believe the book produced was the ship's log. I did not keep the book. It was kept by Mr. Burnside, a passenger on board, for his own amusement. The entries are all correct. But the book is only a journal of events which occurred on the voyage. I gave him the latitudes and longitudes sometimes. These entries are correct as far as my knowledge went whenever I had no observations. On the 29th July the *Arctic's* position was entered on the log-book. I agree with the entry in the log-book, because I gave the information. It was lat. 53° 58' N., long. 167° 8' E., this was our observation at noon. I do not remember what course I set, but I made many courses the same afternoon. The boats left the ship about half past one. There were five of them sent out. They went to the westward—that was their instructions. The schooner follows the lee-boat, and the boats follow the lee boat. The lee-boat is the boat furthest to leeward of the other boats. Mr. Burnside mentioned this in the log-book because on that day I explained the circumstances to him. Something had happened to one of the boats and I wanted the matter noted, so that I could place my ship properly before the Court, if the matter should come before it. There was another entry about this lee-boat in the log-book. The lee-boat on the 29th August was in charge of Gillan. I kept my eye on her, as far as I could, most of the time. She went to the westward, and the ship headed towards her. She was one of the first boats to get back. This was about 4.15 p.m. When I came on deck about 4.45 I saw the two lost boats sailing on the opposite tack to the other boats, presumably with the idea of recovering their position. Some of the boats were under sail and some were rowed. The two lost boats were under sail. I did not give them up as lost, but kept firing signal guns and burning blue lights and flares all night, as well as using fog-signals. On the 30th July we had very heavy weather, as hard a gale as I have seen on this coast. We were have to on the starboard tack; the wind was from the N.W. and I must have drifted to the S.W. This was for the safety of the ship. There were several schooners around on the 31st, and I sailed between them, speaking each one, asking them whether they had picked up either or both of my boats. This is entered in the log-book. I could gain no news of the boats, and on the following day I sailed very many courses. I had no one board who understood navigation, and I laid down my courses on the chart. I drew a good many lines, and had to rub them out in order to keep the chart clear. I was in the neighbourhood all the time. I was boarded on the 28th July by an officer of H.M.S. *Porpoise*. On that day my latitude was fixed by observation, but I did not get any longitude, and therefore it is not entered in the log. I received a caution from the office of the *Porpoise* that day. Land was not in sight that morning. I saw the land once, on the voyage, it was probably on the 25th of the month, the observation being obtained then from Behring Island. Two of the sailors in the missing boats are in Court now, they are the hunter and the boat-steerer.

Cross-examined by Mr. McNeill—The latitude and longitude entered on the 29th is quite correct. I have no reason to doubt the correctness of my chronometer, because a few days afterwards I compared it with the chronometer of another schooner, and the Greenwich time agreed to a second. Gillan, the head-hunter, gave instructions to the boats. He said he was going to the westward, and I concluded that he gave an order to that effect. The two boats observed going in an opposite direction were proceeding E.N.E., away from the land. It was fine but overcast that day. In a little while after the boats put off the weather changed to thick rainy and foggy. It might have been an hour afterwards when this change took place. Three boats out of the five returned. The boats were supposed to be provisioned for three or four days. If they had no provisions on board, it was their own fault. No land was in sight when the boats were lowered.

At this point the reporters' notes as to the first witnesses's evidence in regard to the lost boats' were read.

Mr. Litchfield—Then I have fallen into error. I thought the witness said otherwise. Of course I abandon the point on the evidence now read. This closes the case for the prosecution.

Mr. McNeil—Then if the last point is admitted it leaves very little for us to prove. My learned friend has admitted that on the day the boats were lost, the log showed that the *Arctic* was then 40 miles away from Copper Island. If he had proved that there had been an error in the log in this respect it would have invalidated the evidence given by any witnesses on the *Arctic's* behalf. But that allegation is now withdrawn, and it rests with me to deal with the evidence of the Russian witnesses and the protocol. Counsel appears to me to have surrendered whatever slight inference might have been drawn by the presence of the 55 sealskins on board, for the protocol admits that these were all shot outside the limits. It has also been admitted that the vessel was not engaged in hunting, indeed, that when she was searched her master told the officers that he was engaged in searching for two lost boats. The petition, as in the previous case of this kind, alleges a variety of offences—did kill, take, hunt for, or attempt to take seals, etc. In support of their case the other side have brought forward the oral evidence of two Russian officers. The oral evidence we find entirely destroys the allegations of killing or attempting to kill or take seals, so I may conclude that all these allegations are also abandoned.

Mr. Litchfield—I attempted to make it clear this morning that there was no question of killing at all, the case is one of attempting to hunt.

Mr. McNeill—Then there is but one other point for me to address the Court upon, and that is an important one. It is this, whether the prosecution have discharged the burden thrown upon them, to prove that the vessel was found within the limits prohibited under the provisions of subsection 6. She was seized in lat. 64° 10' N., long. 167°33'E., and the plaintiff's witness marked the position upon the chart which I was handed to him. He measured the distance between the place of alleged seizure and Copper Island, and he discovered it to be from 30 to 30½ miles. Now, in the chart of the *Arctic*, if the same positions were laid down, the distance would be found to be about the same, 30 miles and over; I have measured the positions of the chart myself, and I find that the place where the *Arctic* was seized was considerably outside the limit.

His Honour—But if her boats were engaged in hunting within the limits?

Mr. McNeill—Nothing has been put in to show that they were hunting. We have evidence certainly, to prove that they were out several days before the seizure. I could prove, if it were necessary, that so far from the poor fellows being engaged in hunting on the morning of the 3rd August, they were being taken care of by the villagers on the island, having been thrown up on the island in a thoroughly exhausted condition, their boat being smashed; and that they were engaged in recovering from the effects of the hardships undergone, having no strength left for anything else. There has, I submit, been nothing said as to the boats being engaged in hunting, but only evidenced that they left the vessel and some reached the shore where their boat was broken up. But to clearly prove to your Honour that the *Arctic* was not within the prohibited zone, I will refer you to two standard works on Navigation, and if your Honour will work out the easy mathematical rules set out in them—I am sorry I have been unable to do so—you will see that the ship at the time of her seizure was actually 32 miles from Copper Island. The books are Norrey's "Navigation" and Raeburn's "Navigation."

His Honour—But who is to make this easy mathematical calculation?

Mr. McNeill—I would point out that the rules are so simple and clear that your Honour by following them will have no difficulty in finding that the statement I have made is quite correct. Both the works give the latitude and longitude of the Southern point of Copper Island to be 54° 33' N., by 168° 11' E. The charts of the *Arctic* and *Maud S.*, now handed in are in agreement with these two authorities.

His Honour—The officer said the chart was incorrect.

Mr. McNeill—Yes, he said so, but these two authorities and both charts are in agreement, they all coincide as to the position of the Southern point of Copper Island. That being so, I must not be lost sight of that the Russian's position was worked out by dead reckoning, the weather being misty, and this would make the taking of correct observations very difficult. A great authority in the volumes I put in says "that in working out a ship's position by dead reckoning an error of 5 miles is not unreasonable? Another says that the amount of error allowable under dead reckoning is half a point. So I do not see why the dead reckoning of a vessel which has been cruising up and down in stormy weather and rough water should be accepted as absolutely correct. I contend that under the circumstances it was impossible to place the position of the ship with such a nicety as two miles within the prohibited zone, the zone being taken as a correct distance. On this point, I should like to have your Honour's opinion; but doubtless you are not prepared to say at once whether the *Arctic* was or was not within the radius of 30 miles. I repeat though now, that I doubt very much whether plaintiff has discharged his burden of proof, that the *Arctic* was seized within 30 miles of the island and within the prohibited water. If this has not been clearly stated by plaintiff and proved to the satisfaction of the Court, then the burden of proof cannot be shifted from us to our shoulders.

His Honour—I shall look very closely into this matter, of course, but at present I am unable to say anything about it.

Mr. McNeill—Still I shall contend that it lays with plaintiff and he must prove that the seizure took place in the place stated; at present, evidence is given that he was seized at the place marked on the chart. The *Arctic's* chart is a British Admiralty chart, and that is the chart that your Honour must refer to in deciding this case. The chart of the *Maud S.* is an American chart, and of a slightly more recent date. I might mention that Capt. Pyne also protested against the seizure upon the ground that he was outside the limit. It has been proved that his chronometer was in order, and that his position was worked out by dead reckoning from observations obtained two days before. I see no reason why his observation should not be as correct as the Russian officer's, or that his dead reckoning of two days should be set aside for the dead reckoning of the Russian officer's who had not taken observations in misty weather. He also had been cruising in the near vicinity, while they came from considerable distance.

His Honour—I must read the evidence through, and refer to the log book and the charts before I can say anything upon the point. I don't know how far a Judge's mathematical abilities are supposed to extend in the matter of the rules contained in the volumes on navigation which you have put in, Mr. McNeill. Supposing they went no further than the rule of three?

Mr. McNeill—I only put them in for your Honour's assistance in the matter.

The Court then adjourned till 2 o'clock tomorrow.

WEDNESDAY, December 6th, 1893.

Mr. H. C. Litchfield appeared for the nominal plaintiff, Mr. Duncan McNeill representing the defendant.

When this case was called on at two o'clock today, after adjournment from the previous afternoon,

Mr. McNeill inquired whether an answer had not been received from the Navigating Lieutenant of H.M.S. *Mercury* in regard to a question sent him by His Honour, and if so, whether this answer did not say that the position marked upon the chart, as being the place where the *Arctic* was seized was within 28 miles of the nearest point of the Commander Islands, and not the southern point of the Islands as mentioned in the protocol.

His Honour—Is one point nearer than the other?

Mr. McNeill—There is one point from which the distance might be measured which is nearer than the Southern point mentioned in the protocol. The protocol charges us with being within 28 miles of the southern point of Copper Island, and my contention is that from the position marked on the chart to the southern point of Copper Island, there is a distance of over thirty miles. On the chart sent us from the *Mercury*, the position at which the *Arctic* was said to be found, is 30 miles and more from the southern point of the Commander Islands.

His Honour—The senior navigating officer of the *Zabiaka* when marking the position upon the chart put in yesterday, said the place, according to that chart, was thirty miles from the nearest point, but he added that the chart was incorrect.

Mr. McNeill—My objection is that they (the Russians) were not correct in their measurements, and therefore that the charts, as marked by them, place us outside the thirty mile limit.

His Honour—Then you will proceed to call witnesses now.

Mr. McNeill—I have not yet finished my opening. I have a few more words to say upon other points. When we adjourned yesterday, I thought your Honour was going to satisfy yourself upon the correctness of the statement I made in the objection which I raised just at that point. Perhaps your Honour has not yet satisfied yourself upon the correctness of the statement?

His Honour—I have not satisfied myself yet.

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As I told you just now, I sent a messenger off to the Senior Navigating Officer of the *Mercury* asking him for the measurements. Lieut. Morrissey sent in reply the communication whose contents you are now aware of. I thought that this would be a far more satisfactory course of procedure, and would bring out the expert evidence required.

Mr. McNeill—Then your Honour did not measure the distance between the positions laid down upon the chart?

His Honour—I have not measured it

Mr. McNeill—But would it not have been fairer to defendant if the chart had been measured by your Honour, instead of your taking as correct the unofficial statement sent from the Navigating Lieutenant of the *Mercury*, which says that the place laid down is 28 miles from the nearest point of the island.

His Honour—I think it would be better for you to call witnesses to prove that your statement in regard to the position is correct, if you do not wish to accept the statement of Lieut. Morrissey.

Mr. McNeill—I think it would be better if your Honour would measure the distance upon the chart.

His Honour—I do not think it would be sufficiently satisfactory for me to take the compasses in my hand and measure off the distance, and upon the result thus obtained to say right away that she was 28 miles or 30 miles from the nearest point. I thought that it would be more satisfaction to get expert evidence.

Mr. McNeill—I think that it is something of a hardship for defendant that the unofficial evidence of the gentleman on the *Mercury* should be taken as correct without any measurements being taken to prove it.

His Honour—I am not prepared to say that it is, one way or another yet. It may perhaps be better to adjourn the hearing of the case so that you may be able to call Lieut. Morrissey, if you wish, to give evidence upon the point.

Mr. McNeill—I think it rather hard that your Honour does not check the statement, it would simplify matters.

His Honour—I do not quite think that that would be so.

Mr. McNeill—After consultation with my client, I think it would be better to adjourn, as your Honour suggests, in order that evidence may be obtained upon the point.

His Honour—It is a most important point, and I think that it would be better to call evidence upon it.

Mr. McNeill—Then we will do so. I now apply for an adjournment of the case.

His Honour—The point is most important, and it would end the case if you were to prove that the seizure was made outside the thirty-mile limit.

Mr. McNeil—Then your Honour does not take into account at present that the wording of the protocol runs that the vessel was seized within 28 miles of the southern point of the island, and not the nearest point?

His Honour—The plaintiff has got, in the first instance, to prove that you were there, and if he proves that point, then it lays upon you to prove that you were not sealing within the zone, until then you have nothing to do.

Mr. McNeill—If your Honour finds that we were within 30 miles of the nearest point of land, and not necessarily within that distance of the southern point, then my objection would fall to the ground and we should derive no benefit from adjourning.

His Honour—The Court now stands adjourned until 10.30 on Friday morning.

The Court then rose.

Friday, December 8th, 1893.

The case was called at 10.30 a.m. to day, having been adjourned from Wednesday afternoon. Mr. H. C. Litchfield appeared for the prosecution, Mr. Duncan McNeill representing defendant.

Mr. McNeill said he had to express regret for having interrupted the case by asking for an adjournment on Wednesday afternoon. Immediately upon the adjournment of the hearing that day it was discovered that it was unnecessary to call Lieut. Morrissey, as a witness in the case, to prove the correctness of the statement he had made regarding the position of the *Arctic*, as laid down upon the chart. It was therefore a pity that an adjournment had been taken. Resuming his opening address, Counsel said that the case had been brought as far as the allegation contained in the protocol that the ship was within 28 miles of the Southern point of Copper Island at the time of her seizure. The evidence of the Russian witnesses related to the southern point of the Island only; the southern point and not the nearest point was expressed as the point meant. If this was so, he contended that it closed the case so far as the southern point of Copper Island was concerned, for one of the witnesses had said that the place where the *Arctic* was seized, according to the chart he was using, was outside the 30 mile limit, the place being more than 30 miles away from Copper Island. I put in two charts and two authorities to prove that the latitude and longitude of the position asserted to be the place where the Russians seized the *Arctic* was more than 30 miles from the south point of Copper Island. I therefore contend that plaintiff has not established his case, and cannot claim the advantage given by sub section 6 of the Act, and so throw the burden of proof upon our shoulders. When the Court last adjourned, this was the position of affairs, but somewhat unfortunately a question was addressed to Lieut. Morressey which covered a wider ground than did the evidence which plaintiff had led. The answer which that gentleman returned did not mention the south point of the island, but said that the place marked on the chart as being the place of the *Arctic's* seizure was within 28 miles of the nearest point of the island. Of course this statement of Lieut. Morrissey's is not evidence, it does not amount to more than an informal information, but it is certainly in contradiction of the evidence which had previously been laid before the Court. Of course his statement could be taken on oath, but I think that your Honour can hardly hold that it would be fair for the plaintiff to re open his case now, and so let in the evidence on this point,—that is that the place of seizure was not within 28 miles of the south point, but within that distance of the nearest point of the Island. I put it forward for the consideration of the Court, that there is considerable doubt as to the exact place of seizure, and also that it is evident that considerable difficulty must be experienced in attempting to fix the exact place of seizure by the Russian measurements. I must also draw your attention to the fact that the last observation of the Russians was made close to land, then why did not the *Zabiaka* go in close to land after she had affected the seizure and ascertain whether her bearing were correct? I contend that at the time when the last observations were made by her the weather was such that it would be impossible to say how far off the land lay, and any nautical man could easily prove to the satisfaction of the Court that under the conditions then prevailing it would be impossible to say definitely how far off the land was. I also cited to your Honour an important work on navigation which showed how impossible it is for a ship to keep on her course in heavy weather, and how liable to error the dead reckoning is.

His Honour—Well, to pursue that argument further, why should it not be possible for the ship to be brought in much nearer the land?

Mr. McNeill—Yes, it might be possible that the dead reckoning would be in error on that side, but I submit that from Capt Pyne's evidence it is clear that his reckoning took him further from the land than did the Russians.

His Honour—But his was also dead reckoning.

Mr. McNeill—Yes, it was dead reckoning and I contend that it will accordingly be a matter of considerable difficulty to arrive at the conclusion that the Russian dead reckoning was certainly correct

His Honour—I should not have to go so far as that.

Mr. McNeill—Well, it will be very difficult for the Court to even say that it is reasonably correct. Considering that the reckoning, was made up in this way, I contend that the Russians should have gone into the land to check their calculation. They did not do so. I asked a question purposely to ascertain what they did, and I received a reply that they cruised up and down after the seizure. Another point to be taken into consideration is the uncertainty of the charts.

His Honour—I certainly think I ought to say something about the charts here. The difficulty arose, I think, through your putting in such a small chart.

Mr McNeill—I was asked to lend a chart by Mr. Litchfield and I put in the *Maud S.* chart because it looked the largest and lay nearest to my hand.

His Honour—Unfortunately, the *Maud S.* chart was on a very small scale, and the Russian witness, when asked to mark the position upon it, was not able to given definite measurements

Mr. McNeill—I venture to doubt that. He certainly said that his first measurement was not correct, for he amended his answer by saying that the distance was 30 miles or might be 30½ miles away from the south point of the island.

His Honour—I think that if he had used his own chart it would have given more satisfaction

Mr McNeill—At any rate he measured the position from the south point of the island and found that the place was over thirty miles away.

His Honour—It is, I think, unfortunate that he did not find the chart to be correct.

Mr. McNeill—In regard to the correctness of the charts, your Honour, I have here an old Russian chart, which I do not intend to put in, which puts the place of seizure over 38 miles away. As a matter of fact, none of the charts are correct in regard to the position of these islands. Yet your Honour must be reasonably satisfied as to the correctness of the position given. In the *Maud S.* case, the vessel was 10 miles within the zone, here the *Arctic* is alleged to be within two miles of the limit If your Honour is satisfied that the *Arctic* was not within the limits, then the plaintiff will not have discharged the burden of proof thrown on him, nor established his case according to the wording of the sub-section 6 of the Act. That is all I wish to say upon the point.

Mr. Litchfield—It is admitted now that the position of the place of seizure was, as stated by the Russian authorities, actually within the zone. Therefore, whether the measurement is taken from the south point or any other point of the island, matters not, for the place lies within the prohibited distance. I contend, therefore, that she was there for an unlawful purpose, a purpose unlawful within the meaning of the Act, but it lies upon the commander of the vessel to prove that he was not there for that purpose. In regard to the question of the dead reckoning measurement, upon which a lot has been said, your Honour must remember that this Russian vessel was told off for the express purpose of ascertaining correctly first, the actual distance to which the zone extends, and secondly to watch against any trespassers trespassing within that zone. Therefore, the business, the actual business, of the officers of the vessel was to determine their actual position from time to time. The protocol of arrest gives the observations which they made the evening before, while the evidence of the defendant went to prove that his last observation was taken two days previously. It is clear to my mind which reckoning can be taken as the most likely to be correct. Then again, the engines, of the *Zabiaka* were going at a certain rate of speed the whole night, from the time of the last observation, so that it was impossible to make a mistake in the morning's reckoning—the time was too short. She was engaged in cruising up and down just inside the limits so the officers could never be mistaken as to the distances which they had traversed.

His Honour—The petition alleges in the fifth paragraph, that the *Arctic* was in a certain place at a certain distance from Copper Island on a certain date. The petition alleges that this place was within the 30 miles limit placed round the island, and it is stated there as a matter of fact. There is a conflict with the protocol only in so far that the petition does not mention the southern point of Copper Island while the protocol does. In the protocol we have the allegations as to the latitude and longitude of the place and its distance from the southern point of Copper Island, while in the petition the place is stated to be within 28 miles of Copper Island, without any mention of the south point or any other point. That, in itself, would be quite sufficient to throw the burden of proof upon the defendant's shoulders, to show that when seized he was not engaged in any action contravening the Act. The mere fact that the protocol says that the place was within 28 miles of the southern point of Copper Island, and that in reality the place is more than 28 miles from that point, but within 28 miles of another point of the island, does not seem to me to dispose of the question. The evidence of the Russian officer who was called in support of the plaintiff's case gave the same latitude and longitude as the petition set out. He said that he believed the place was between 26 and 28 miles off the land, but it was not his business to check the other officer's observations. The Navigating Officer did not say how far distant the place was from the south point of Copper Island, he merely said it was within 28 miles of the nearest point. When he laid down the position on the chart he said the place was not within 28 miles of Copper Island, but he added that the chart was not correct. As the matter became so important, it became evident that the Court was under the necessity of getting a correct chart. I was asked to measure the *Arctic* chart, but I thought if a it would be much better if an officer on board H.M.'s ship, one who was thoroughly acquainted and used to laying down positions to minutes, should furnish us with the exact information. Mr. Troup consequently requested Lieut. Morrissey to do so. He kindly complied. He says in his letter that the place of seizure was within 28 miles of the nearest point of the island. If that is so, then he proves the allegation contained in the fifth paragraph of the petition. It is perfectly true that his statement is not evidence, but I offered to defendant's counsel the opportunity of calling this officer. Counsel suggested that I should have measured the distance

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on the chart; well, suppose that I had, and then said that I was right in my measurement and he was wrong in his, unless he was called in Court to prove the correctness of his measurement, no good could have come of it. If we had agreed in our measurements, then the matter would have dropped. If we had disagreed and he had not been called as a witness, I could not very well have thrown the point over and let it go by without deciding it. The question before me now is, as to whether the vessel's position was within the prohibited zone? Now what evidence have we upon that. I have been asked not to accept the Russian evidence upon the point Why? 'Because it was based or dead reckoning. Then what am I to take. The measurements and calculations of the master of the *Arctic* were also based on dead reckoning. Therefore, there is no more necessity to take his than there is to take the evidence of those who were on the *Zabiaka*. But, I think, here is something to urge in favour of taking the *Zabiaka's* reckoning. The last observation of the *Zabiaka* was taken at 9 o'clock the previous evening. The *Arctic's* was taken on August 1st. Looked at from that point of view, there is far less reason for the *Arctic's* to be correct than for the *Zabiaka*. There is dead reckoning on either side, but why should not the error take the ship nearer the land than away from it? Of course it requires a man with a considerable amount of knowledge regarding the currents, tides, etc., in those seas, to say which way the error would work. There is, I think, considerable force in Mr. Litchfield's observation as to the ship being very near the limits for some time. The *Porpoise* seems to have boarded him some time previously, having doubts as to his knowledge of his position perhaps, and having overhauled him, told him that he was all right just then, but warned him not to go inside the zone. I think the allegation in the petition as to the place of seizure is fully borne out. The burden of proof therefore lies upon defendant to prove to my satisfaction that he was not, as a matter of fact, engaged in doing anything that could be deemed a contravention of the Act at the time of his seizure.

Mr. McNeill—And now I have a few words to say in regard to the boats. The charge of actually killing, or taking seals has been abandoned, but the charge pursued now is one of attempting to hunt. It was adduced in evidence, upon cross-examination, that the *Arctic* was taken in consequence of instructions being given to the Russian officers to take all British ships that might be inside the limit. It was also admitted that the weather on the day of seizure was too bad to permit of hunting. It was further admitting that when she was seized the vessel was engaged in searching for her boats. I venture to think, if it is not, indeed, a high probability, that they knew that she was so engaged at the time. The protocol admits that the Captain of the *Arctic* thought himself outside the limit. In accordance with an observation which fell from your Honour in the course of the recent case, I think that it is impossible to convict the master upon evidence of this kind of a contravention of the Act. There is no case of attempting to hunt to prove against the vessel, other than that her boats were away. And now, referring to the boat on Copper Island—there really was only one thrown up, the other not having yet been heard of, and the Russian witness made a mistake in saying there were two—I will prove that it was thrown up on Copper Island before the date of the seizure. Captain Pyne will come forward and prove that the Russian officers in Hakodate took a photograph of the *Arctic*, and I think there is reasonable grounds for believing that this photograph was in the possession of the *Zabiaka* before the seizure. We know that constant communication was held with the authorities on Copper Island. We know that one witness, although he endeavoured to correct his answer afterwards, said that his Captain told him that the vessel he was going to seize was probably the vessel to which the boat belonged that was cast upon Copper Island.

His Honour—I think it very improbable that the Captain of the *Zabiaka* would have been on deck at that early hour to give that information to the officer.

Mr. McNeill—He might have had the information conveyed to the officer.

His Honour—Then you wish me to suppose that the *Zabiaka* carried a copy of the *Arctic's* photograph about, and when a schooner was sighted the officers went down below, fetched up the photograph and compared it with the *Arctic*. You forget that it was very early morning at the time of the seizure and the weather bad. I think that in regard to his being told that the schooner was the one to which the boat belonged, you have made a slight mistake. From my notes it appears the witness was not told about the boat being on Copper Island till later in the day. If he did give you the answer like that, then the mistake must have been unintentional.

Mr. McNeill—I submit, with all due respect, that, as a matter of fact, the officer was informed that the schooner was the one to which the boat belonged that was found on Copper Island, and therefore, he and others came to the conclusion that the ship was an easy prey and could all the more easily be sent down to Yokohama.

His Honour—If she was within 28 miles of the land they were entitled to seize her.

Mr. McNeill—Yes, but if there was no evidence against her, when they got on board then she could not have been detained here.

His Honour pointed out that Counsel was now transferring the blame from the Russian officers to the Consul in Yokohama.

Mr. McNeill thought that all were in fault.

His Honour—Well, what do you deduce from all this?

Mr. McNeill—I think it will make the case one of greater hardship. They were aware her boats were away, so they thought that it would be all the easier to establish their case against her.

His Honour—The master has not yet proved that he was not sealing.

Mr. McNeill—I shall recall him to categorically deny that he was engaged in attempting to seal that day. But now, in regard to these boats. If it is true that the Captain of the *Zabiaka* was in constant communication with the authorities on Copper Island, and had received official information of the casting up of the boat, then some persons connected with the prosecution must have known that the boat arrived, and the men in her did really reach the island before the date of the schooner's seizure, and that on that very day they were engaged in recovering from the hardships they had undergone. If the Captain of the *Zabiaka* had been informed of the boat's arrival, then that official information must also have included the date of arrival and also what the men were doing. I think it extremely hard that the Captain was not called to prove the date of the boat's arrival, now that the case is against the boats. He could have proved that they were not engaged in sealing on the 3rd August.

His Honour—Do you take it then that they must have been engaged in sealing on that date, if plaintiff is to prove his case?

Mr. McNeill—The petition says that they were then and there, there or about—that can only mean the date mentioned in the petition.

His Honour—Do you rest your case on the 3rd August only, Mr. Litchfield?

Mr. Litchfield—I don't think I can be tied down to the 3rd only, your Honour. The statement in the petition runs on or about the 3rd August.

His Honour—Yes, but it goes on to say that then and there, etc. Does that mean that it throws the onus on defendant to prove that he was not engaged in killing seals on or about that time?

Mr. Litchfield—No, not killing, but engaged in hunting. I don't think you can tie me down to a day or so. The question is that the vessel was engaged in sealing on or about the date of seizure.

His Honour—Then what time shall you put it?

Mr. Litchfield—Time is as elastic as a man's conscience. It is a matter for judicial decision; or I cannot be allowed to have the whole of the limits lying within the calendar, I know.

His Honour—I hold that you can not go beyond the 3rd August.

Mr. McNeill thought that the petition bound him down to the 3rd August only, it would be a great hardship to have the date put backward and have to answer for every action of the voyage from its commencement.

His Honour—It might have been placed at the 4th June.

Mr. McNeill—The date on which the Act was put in force I think the allegation affects the date of seizure only. Plainly, according to the wording of the Section, the vessel must prove that she was not being used on the date of the seizure for any unlawful purpose. I think it would lead to a most unreasonable conclusion if the date is put back to the beginning of the Act. It would be a great hardship to have to prove that we were not contravening the Act from the day the Act was put into force.

His Honour—The Act is not so clear as it might be; they never are.

Mr. McNeill—I have already said that according to the prosecution a boat was thrown up on Copper Island. I shall lead evidence to prove that she was thrown up between the dates of July 29th and August 3rd, and that during these dates no sealing was attempted. Indeed, one boat has never been heard of to this day. The only member of the cast-up-boat now in Yokohama, will state what he did between the 29th July and 3rd August. It has been suggested that on the 29th July the *Artic* sent out her boats East, West, North and South, she being then eight miles outside the zone. Captain Pyne has proved, however, that his ship went to the westward, following the boats. Two, however, went in an opposite direction, and these were the two that were lost. The allegation that the boats were engaged in hunting within the zone is thus disposed of. The weather on the 3rd August was such that no hunting could be attempted. We had this in evidence from one of the plaintiff's witnesses. If the weather was bad at the place of seizure, it must have been equally bad at Copper Island, and therefore equally unsuited for hunting. But besides this the men had been five days absent from their ship and were hardly in a position to attempt any hunting. Not only were no seals killed on the 29th, but none were killed from that date to the time of seizure. The allegations of the petition therefore falls to the ground.

Captain Pyne, recalled, said—My reckoning as to my position on the 3rd of August differed very much from that of the Russian officers. My reckoning, to the best of my knowledge, was correct, and according to it I placed my ship outside the 30 mile zone. My last observation was taken two days before the seizure. I calculated my position on the 3rd Aug by dead reckoning from that observation. My position on the 1st August was lat. 53°35′ N., long. 168°42′ E.; this was at noon. I calculated my position on the 3rd from this observation. I made it lat. 53°15′, N. and long. 167°46′ N. I had run about 5 miles at noon from the place of my seizure. I run in a S.W. course. The weather was too thick when I returned from the *Zubiaka* to make an observation. I waited till noon in order to get an observation, but even then the weather was bad. I got back to my ship about ten o'clock. I went on board the *Zabiaka* about 6 o'clock in the morning, and the chart was marked; I brought the chart back and waited till the weather cleared to verify the position. On the 29th I was in lat. 53°58′ N., long. 168°8′ E. I was head-reaching when I was seized, searching for my lost boats. I had not been attempting to hunt or take seals on that day. I had not attempted to hunt seals within 30 miles of Copper Island at any time. The weather was thick, and eventually very foggy on the 3rd August. The sea was also rough. My boats were lowered on the 29th July; there were other sealers near me. The nearest one was as close as a mile or a couple of miles. She lay to the S.E., a little further away from the land than I was. I have never heard anything of Cox's boat; that is one of the missing boats. So far as I know, nothing has been heard of it. I made signals all night on the 29th July in order to get the boats in. I reached Yokohama on the 7th October. I had an interview with the British Consul at once. He told me to take nothing out of my ship. I had intended to go on another sealing voyage this winter. I intended to start as soon as possible after the 1st of this month. Other ships have started for the sealing grounds. I have not fitted out the *Arctic* because I did not know to whom she belonged, as she was being detained by the Consul. I have not engaged any crew for the same reason.

Cross examined—The ship I sighted on the morning of the 3rd August was an Hawaiian vessel. To the best of my knowledge my chronometer was correct. I arrived at my position on the morning of the 3rd August by calculating the courses marked on the chart. I have not kept any memoranda of my reckoning. I made a memorandum on board the cruiser on the 3rd. I kept this piece of paper myself. I have lost it, unfortunately. On that paper were the figures of the Russian observations, I don't remember having a paper on which my own calculations were worked out. I have kept the chronometer workings in a book, but the courses and distances are worked out on the chart. I remained on the sealing grounds after the 3rd of August. I continued to look for my boats and seals too after my seizure. I killed one outside the limits.

To His Honour—I put into the Little Kurile Straits to obtain wood and water on way my down. I did not make haste down.

His Honour—If you had made a little haste you could have had your case through earlier and got away again before the 1st of December.

Mr. McNeill—Could the case have been heard before the arrival of the Act?

His Honour—I did not ask him about the Act.

Re-examined by Mr. McNeill—I did not keep the memoranda of my courses. I only kept the chronometer calculations.

To the Court—I could have got down here in three weeks, perhaps, if I had come down straight.

The Court then rose for tiffin.

Frank Pesso, hunter on the *Arctic*, sworn, said—I was not on board the *Arctic* when she was seized; I was on Copper Island at the time. I was

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afterwards told that the *Arctic* was seized on the 3rd of August. I was thrown up on Copper Island on the 31st July. I left the vessel on the 29th July; the next day there was a gale, and the following day it moderated. The boat was capsized as we neared the land, but I scrambled on shore. The boat was broken up, and everything was thrown out of her. After leaving the ship on the 29th I looked for seals till the evening, but saw none. I had no chance of looking for seals after that evening. When I was thrown up on the beach on the 31st., I looked round for habitations, but saw none. On the 1st of August I came to a few huts and wooden houses. This was about midday. I had passed the night on the beach on which I had been capsized. I had no food for forty-eight hours, the boat-steerer forgetting to put the provision-box into the boat. I ate grass the first day, until I reached the Russian village. I was very exhausted, my right arm was broken when the boat capsized. The Russian doctor set the bone on Behring Island. I stayed on Copper Island for four days, and then the Russian Company's steamer took me off to Behring Island. I started in the same direction as the other boats on the 29th July, but afterwards turned round. Another boat also turned with me. I turned to the South East. I tried to speak to Cox's boat on that occasion, but failed. The mist then became so thick that I could not see three hundred yards ahead. I saw a schooner near us, and Cox's boat went to leeward of it, but whether he got to it I do not know. I went in the same direction as this schooner, but lost sight of it. On the 3rd of August I was lying disabled on the island, and could not lift my arm, or move my shoulder.

Cross-examined—I was not steering the boat that was lost. We had a compass in the stern of the boat. The wind was south-west. It continued in the same direction all the afternoon. It was very light, but steady. I did not see Copper Island that afternoon. I can't say whether the wind was favourable or not for taking us to Copper Island. We drifted to Copper Island; we struck sails; the sea was very heavy. The boat was fitted with mast and sails, but we could not use them in the gale of wind. I lost sight of Cox's boat after about a couple of hours. I was pulling at the time we lost sight of one another. I was going in the direction in which I thought my schooner lay, trying to get back to her. I don't remember the course we were steering. I had left the schooner about four hours before I turned to go back.

This closed the case for the defence.

Mr. McNeill—I have now submitted a categorical denial of all the allegations in the petition. Captain Pyne has stated that he did not hunt after the 29th July, and my other witness has said that after the 29th July he was totally disabled. There is nothing left for me therefore to answer. One point, however, I wish to draw your Honour's attention to, and that is in regard to defendant's ignorance at the time of his seizure of the position in which he was in; for it is on this point alone that defendant can be held to have committed an offence. Counsel then cited Sir Fitz-James Stephen upon *bona fide* ignorance which can be held to excuse in certain cases. Continuing, he said sealing on the high seas was a perfectly innocent act, and it is only within a small zone that hunting is prohibited, and there the Act rendered it unlawful. He contended that this was a *bonâ fide* case of ignorance and therefore the legislature cannot have intended the Act to be applied in its most stringent form. With reference to the counter-claim for damages, Counsel said that after the strong opinions which had fallen from his Honour in delivering judgment in the *Maud S.* case, he should have considered it his duty to abandon the claim if the cases had been parallel. But plaintiff in cross examination has said that the sole reason for detaining the *Arctic* was that he had received the protocol. Now, in order to obtain the protection given under section 104 of the Merchant Shipping Act, plaintiff must prove that he had reasonable belief of a state of facts existing which warranted him in forming an opinion that an offence had been committed under the Act. But plaintiff had no reasonable grounds for such belief, because the allegations in the protocol did not exist. Counsel then quoted *Burn v. Noel* in support of his contention. In conclusion, he urged that plaintiff had not shown any reasonable grounds for detaining the vessel and therefore he asked that the petition be dismissed, and damages be awarded the defendant.

His Honour pointed out that in his judgment in the previous case, it was stated that damages had been asked for on account of delay and the unreasonable time which had elapsed in instituting proceedings; and nothing more.

Mr. McNeill contended that as the seizure in the first instance was a wrongful act, the vessel could not be detained. No person was entitled to detain another person's property, except under this section of the Merchant Shipping Act, and therefore he thought it was only reasonable that damages should be awarded, because the detention had been unreasonable, arising as it did from a wrongful act in the very beginning.

Mr Litchfield said that as the case had been very thoroughly discussed he need not take up the time of the Court with a long address. But he should like to call attention to the line of defence which had been set up. First of all, the defendant said, at least that was the only inference he could draw from another schooner's frequent turning up, that he was seized by the Russians in preference to that other schooner. That they treated him as an habitual poacher, in fact, and when they saw him on the ocean said to one another, there is the *Arctic*, look out and seize him at the first opportunity. They had, in fact a prejudice to take him, because he was the *Arctic*. But it turns out that this other schooner was flying the Hawaiian flag. There is no evidence before the Court that there is any agreement between the Governments of Russia and Hawaii to prohibit any part of the sealing grounds, and therefore there was no necessity to seize the other schooner at all, whether she was in the prohibited zone or not. I think I should bring before the Court at this time, that in arriving at a decision in this matter the Criminal Law of England, although it is not binding on the Court, might be consulted for a definition of the offence charged. Counsel then elaborated an argument based on the Game Laws, in which trespass after game was held to mean an attempt to pursue game when ready equipped and only waiting for an opportunity to kill it. That, he held, was the condition of the *Arctic*. She was in a position to hunt for seals. That her boats were out hunting for seals on the 29th July was admitted, while Capt. Pyne had also admitted that after the 3rd August he was engaged in hunting. Counsel suggested that if not actually killing or attempting to kill seals on August 3rd, the vessel was in a position to attempt to hunt for them, and therefore should be held to have been caught before she could carry out her intentions. That he was interrupted before he could do any hunting, was no palliation of the offence. In arriving at a decision the Court should also take into consideration the demeanour of defendant while giving his evidence? Had it been satisfactory or not. He contended that it was not satisfactory, that every attempt had been made to conceal and shift on to other shoulders information which the Court required. In this, there was a marked contrast with the demeanour of the master of the *Maud S.* He had given a perfectly plain and open statement from beginning to end. The question of the *Arctic's* chart, too, was that in order? He should submit that it was not. He tells you that he steered so many courses that he had to rub the lines off the chart to save confusion. He took good care that the Court should not have an opportunity of judging of the correctness of his measurements. The schooner's courses were not produced. They are all in a book he said, but you won't understand them; no one could understand them but himself. But from his calculations, the evidence given by the Russians, and the entries in his log-book this much could be gathered, that right up till the time of his seizure he had been gradually creeping up to the prohibited zone. He had been hunting seals all this time, and not once does he turn round, when he found himself near the zone, to renew the safe pelagic hunting in the open sea. The intention to attempt to commit an unlawful Act, as held by Sir Fitz-James Stephen, must be gathered from the evidence before the Court, and sufficient evidence had been produced in this case to prove that there was such an intention on the part of the *Arctic*.

His Honour—Was it not impossible to hunt on the day she was seized?

Mr. Litchfield—Even then I shall suppose that it was it only the accident of possibility.

His Honour—Then why should he go there at all?

Mr. Litchfield—He was trespassing in pursuit.

His Honour—But trespassing is not sufficient. In a trespass defendant has no right, and is not entitled to be there. Here he can go in.

Mr. Litchfield—He is not allowed to go in for seals.

His Honour—But could he not go in with his boat for water?

Mr. Litchfield—The question of international hospitality is not mentioned in the Act.

His Honour—But could he not go in to find his boats?

Mr. Litchfield—Then he should have gone to the *Porpoise* and obtained permission.

His Honour—That is where the difference comes in between these cases and trespass. Here we can explain why he was there.

Mr. Litchfield—Suppose he had gone in to pick up a boat which had been hunting within the zone? They may not have been hunting that morning, but they were prepared to do so. They had no business, knowing that a prohibited zone had been declared, to put themselves in a position where trespassing could be alleged to take place. That is the intention of the Act. I submit that they were attempting to engage in hunting when they were caught within the proscribed zone. And now, as to the counter-claim. There has been very little evidence given to support it. Even supposing that defendant has been prejudiced, it cannot be by the action of plaintiff; if he is prejudiced at all, it is by the action of the *Zabiaka*. Plaintiff gave instructions for the prosecution of the case upon receipt of the protocol and papers of the *Arctic*. These showed that at the time of seizure he was represented by the Russians to be within the proscribed limits of the zone, and it became, *prima facie*, a case to lay before this Court for adjudication. In *Burns v. Noel* it is laid down that a *bona fide* belief that an unlawful act had been committed is all that is necessary to warrant action being taken under the Act; if that were not so, no officer could take upon himself the responsibility of taking any step, if the responsibility went beyond that point. Whether defendant was prejudiced or not by the action, his counter claim must fall to the ground on the grounds, first, that there was reasonable cause for the detention, and secondly that as a matter of fact there has been no unreasonable delay.

His Honour—I shall state my decision now, so as not to put the parties to the expense of coming here again to hear my written judgment. I have already dealt with the position of the ship, that was disposed of this morning. Nothing has taken place since to modify my opinion, rather evidence been given that has confirmed it. After the evidence of the defendant,—because that was the alternative course to choose as to the position of the ship, other than the evidence given by the Russian officers which had been based on an observation taken 48 hours before the seizure,—it is only necessary to state that the *Arctic's* position, as given by the *Zabiaka*, and alleged in the petition, was the correct one. It is not necessary now to go further into the question. Once the point is established as to whether the *Arctic* was found within the zone, the burden of proof was laid on defendant, and it became his duty to satisfy the Court that his vessel was not being used or employed in contravention of the Act. The evidence upon that point is fairly direct and appears, on the whole, trustworthy and not inconsistent with the evidence given on the other side. Mr. Litchfield denied me to hold that she was, by her mere presence there, attempting to hunt. I think that under the circumstances that it was impossible for hunting to take place, for the weather was such that it made it impossible to hunt, and I see no reason to suppose that he was hunting. I believe that he was not hunting, and I consequently dismiss the petition. I think defendant satisfied me, on the whole, that he was not engaged in any contravention of the Act. As to the counter-claim, I must hold, as I did in the case of the *Maud S.* I think it was open to defendant to have gone to the Consul at any time after his arrival and offered him an explanation. I do not know what the Consul would have said in the matter; still it lay in defendant's power to offer the Consul an explanation. If he does nothing, then there is no grounds for the counter-claim, for the Consul is bound to act as he did. I also dismiss the counter-claim, and make the same rule as in the last case, that each party shall bear his own costs.

The Court then rose.

Books, to the value of £4, have been granted by the S.P.C.K. to Mr. Masaji Kakuzen, who is about to be ordained for missionary work in Japan by the Bishop of Toronto. The application was recommended by the Bishop in Japan. Mr. Kakuzen, who is a native of Japan, has been studying, at his own charges, for Holy Orders in Canada, with a view to returning to his own country to work as a missionary.

An important appeal case, arising out of the refusal of Sir J. Goldsmid, M.P., to present a certain petition to the House of Commons, was decided in the Queen's Bench Division yesterday. It was laid down by Mr. Justice Wills that, though there was a right to petition Parliament, it by no means followed that an action would lie against any particular member because he declined to present a petition. Justice Grantham agreed that there was no duty upon an individual member of Parliament to present to the House any petition that might be sent to him.—*L. & C. Express.*

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THE YOKOHAMA SAILING CLUB.

The racing for this year is now concluded, and with it the seventh and in some respects the most successful season of the Club's existence. During the season twenty six matches have been sailed, viz., thirteen by each Division, of which we now give a full analysis :—

A Division.

Date.	Courses.	Miles.	Wind.	Character of Race.	Winners.
May 20	Home	8½	Light variable airs.	Class	Not Finished.
May 24	Nakano	19½	Light to moderate N.E	Handicap	1 Daimyo 2 Molly Bawn. 3 Princess Maud.
June 10	Home	8½	Light East	Class	1 Maid Marion. 2 Daimyo. 3 Molly Bawn.
June 24	Tomioka	17	Fresh S.	Handicap	1 Da myo. 2 Aborigine. 3 Mountaro.
July 4	Kawasaki-Nakane	26½	Light to moderate S.E	Handicap	1 Mary, and Weston Shield. 2 Daimyo 3 Maid Marion. 4 Aborigine
July 15	Home	8½	Fresh S.S. E.	Class	1 Maid Marion. 2 Mountaro. 3 Molly Bawn.
July 29	Tomioka-Tsurumi	17	Light S.E.	Handicap	1 Mary. 2 Molly Bawn. 3 Aborigine. 4 Princess Maud.
Aug. 12	Home	8½	Light S.E.	Handicap	1 Mary. 2 Molly Bawn. 3 Aborigine.
Aug. 26	Hommoku-Tsurumi	12½	Light East	Handicap	1 Sea Gull 2 Mary. 3 Aborigine. 4 Daimyo, Molly Bawn, Hokiboshi } extra prizes
Sept. 9	Home	8½	Moderate S.E.	Class	1 Maid Marion. 2 Daimyo 3 Molly Bawn.
Sept. 23	Tomioka-Tsurumi	17	Light E.S. E.	Handicap	1 Mary. 2 Maid Marion. 3 Princess Maud.
Oct. 14	Honmoku Tsurumi	12½	Light East	Handicap	1 Tomioka. 2 Dexter.
Nov. 4	Home	8½	Light East	Class	1 Maid Marion. 2 Mary. 3 Molly Bawn.

A Division.

Date.	Distance.	Maid Marion	Wanderer.	Aborigine	Momotaro	Daimyo.
	miles.	h.m.s.	h m s.	h.m s	h m.s	h m s.
May 20	8.5	Not finished.		—	—	—
May 24	19.5	—	6.50.03	—	6.29.26	6.07.35
June 10	8.5	2.18 00	—	—	—	2.14.00
June 24	17.	3.53.30		—	3.45.00	3.41.27
July 4	26.25	9.04.40	—	10.13.24	10.12.50	8.49.50
July 15	8.5	2.19.25	—	2.14.00	2.54.01	2.02.30
July 29	17.	5 20 30	—	5.16 42	—	—
August 12	8.5	2.47.01	—	2.36.42	—	2.34 24
August 26	12 25	3.17.52	—	2.16.24	2.50 45	2.10.11
Sept. 9	8.5	1.48 10	—	2.14.00	2.02.47	1.57 27
Sept. 23	17.	4 39 00	—	—	—	4.44.30
Oct. 14	12.25	2.43 34	—	2.49.36	—	2.45.00
Nov. 4	8.5	2 31 05	—	—	—	2 35.40

A Division.

Date.	Mary.	Tomioka.	Sea Gull.	Nancy Hanks.	Drifter.	Box of Curios.
	h.m.s.	h.m.s.	h.m.s.	h m.s.	h.m.s.	h.m.s.
May 20	—	—	—	—	—	—
May 24	—	8.30.00	7.10 12	—	8.30.00	6.56.35
June 10	—	—	2 43 50	—	—	2.39.00
June 24	—	—	—	—	—	—
July 4	8.38 50	—	—	—	—	—
July 15	2.01.05	3.00.01	—	2.28.32	—	—
July 29	4.27 42	—	—	—	—	—
Aug 12	2.20.14	—	—	—	—	—
August 26	2.09 35	3.05 46	2.32.46	—	2.43.41	—
Sept. 9	2.00 00	3.00.00	2.18.27	—	2.27.25	2.24.40
Sept. 23	4.45.15	—	—	—	—	—
Oct. 14	2 41 05	3.04.00	1.48.35	—	2.58.11	2.51.05
Nov. 4	1.31 26	—	1.40 40	—	2.02.20	1.43.45

A Division.

Date.	Idler	Molly Bawn.	Princess Maud.	Madcap.	Ronin	Fastest Speed:
	hrs.	h.m.s	h.m.s	h.m.s.	h.m.s.	knots.
May 20	—	—	—	—	—	—
May 24	—	6.26.17	6.32.09	—	2 32.00	Daimyo 3.9
June 10	—	2.18.25	2.25.25	—	—	Daimyo 3.8
June 24	—	4 19 17	—	—	—	Maid Marion, 3.8
July 4	—	9.45.30	10.31.25	—	—	Mary 3.0
July 15	—	2.07 57	2.23 48	—	—	Maid Marion, 4.2
July 29	—	4.47 30	5.27 48	—	—	Mary 3.2
August 12	—	2.35.11	2.46 30	—	—	Mary 3.4
August 26	—	2.20.34	2.26.42	3.33.51	—	Mary 3.2
Sept. 9	—	2.15 30	2 25.10	—	—	Maid Marion 4.7
Sept. 23	—	5.02.58	5.21.25	—	—	Maid Marion, 3.6
Oct. 14	—	2.47.48	—	—	—	Maid Marion 4.2
Nov. 4	—	1.43.05	—	—	—	Maid Marions 6

A Division

	Rating.	Number of Starts.	Distance Sailed.	Elapsed Times.	Average Speed.	Prizes. 1st.	Prizes. 2nd.	Prizes. 3rd.	Prizes. 4th.	Other Prizes.	Total.
			Miles	h m	knots						
Maid Marion	30	22	333.75	37 48	3.5	5	5	2	—	6	18
Wanderer	36	2	19.50	6 50	2.9	—	—	—	—	—	—
Aborigine	36	9	92.25	27 42	3.3	1	2	2	—	—	5
Momotaro	32	8	91.00	26 52	3.4	1	—	2	—	—	3
Daimyo	37½	11	244.75	68 52	3.7	4	3	—	—	1	8
Mary	30½	20	226.75	59 50	3.8	5	2	—	—	1	8
Tomioka	28	9	59.00	21.00	2.8	—	—	—	—	1	1
Sea Gull	36	22	67.50	19 18	3.5	1	—	—	—	1	2
Nancy Hanks	26	2	8.50	2 30	3.4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Drifter	25	9	59.00	18 40	3.1	1	—	—	—	1	2
Box of Curios	25	8	56.25	16 05	3.4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Idler	25	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Molly Bawn	24½	12	167.25	46 28	3.5	4	3	—	—	1	8
Princess Maud	24	10	145.00	40.10	3.1	—	2	1	—	—	3
Madcap	23½	1	11.25	3 34	3.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ronin	21	2	8.50	2 51	3.0	—	—	—	—	—	—

* 1 Record. † 1 Weston Shield, 1 Record. ‡ 1 Record, 1 Extra.

B Division.

Date.	Courses.	Miles.	Wind.	Character of Race.	Winners.
May 6	Outside	4½	Fresh S.	Class	1 Akambo. 2 Vixen.
June 3	Outside	4½	Variable airs	Class	1 Vixen. 2 Sayonara.
June 17	Outside	4½	Moderate South	Class	1 Vixen. 2 Sayonara.
July 1	Outside	4½	Light S.E.	Class	1 Petrel. 2 Sayonara.
July 4	Outside and Loop	6½	Moderate South'ly.	Class	1 Sayonara. 2 Vixen.
July 14	Inside and Outside	7	Light S.E.	Handicap	1 Daisy 2 Jessica.
July 29	Outside and Loop	6½	Light S.	Handicap	1 Akambo. 2 Petrel. 3 Sayonara.
Aug. 5	Inside	4½	Fresh S.	Class	1 Hokiboshi. 2 Sayonara.
Aug. 19	Inside and Loop	6½	Strong S.	Handicap	1 Daisy.
Sept. 2	Outside	4½	Light S E.	Class	1 Daisy. 2 Sayonara. 3 Vixen
Sept. 16	Inside	4½	Fresh E	Class	1 Hokiboshi. 2 Sayonara. 3 Petrel.
Oct. 7	Inside and Outside	6½	Moderate E N E.	Handicap	1 Hokiboshi.
Nov. 3	Inside and Outside	6½	Light Variable airs	Class	1 Sayonara. 1 Daisy.

B Division.

Date,	Distance	Isabel.	Hokiboshi.	Vixen	Petrel.
	Miles.	h.m.s.	h.m.s.	h.m.s.	h.m.s.
May 6th	4½	—	—	1.10 25	—
June 3rd	4½	3.30.09	—	3.17 35	—
June 17th	4½	1.09.55	—	1 09.05	1 28 59
July 1st	4½	1 31 27	1.40 33	1.28.01	1 26.12
July 4th	6½	1 50 10	1 56 48	1 5 09	1 56 10
July 14th	7	3 09 28	3 32.20	3.08 25	3.02.00
July 29th	6½	2 49 55	2.53.40	2.50.20	2 46.30
August 5th	4½	2 03.08	56 04	—	57.54
August 19th	6½	—	1.50 10	2.21.17	—
September 2nd	4½	—	—	1.24.07	—
September 16th	4½	2.02.52	51.21	—	53.14
October 7th	6½	2 59 10	1 27 47	—	2 31.35
November 3rd	6½	—	3 14 55	—	—

B Division.

Date.	Violet.	Daisy.	White Wings.	Black Hawk.	Queenie
	h.m.s.	h.m.s.	h.m.s.	h.m.s.	h.m.s.
May 6th	—	—	1.19.40	—	—
June 3rd	—	—	—	—	—
June 17th	—	—	—	—	—
July 1st	2.49.45	—	—	—	—
July 4th	—	2 56.20	—	—	—
July 14th	—	2 53.50	—	—	3.24 20
July 29nd	—	1 47.55	—	—	2 22 56
August 5th	—	1.01 02	—	2 14 54	—
August 19th	—	2 21 15	—	3.03 23	—
September 2nd	—	2 00 30	—	2 33.03	—
September 16th	—	—	—	2 20.44	1.14.17
October 7th	—	—	—	—	—
November 3rd	—	3 2 2.4	—	—	—

B Division.

Date.	Sayonara.	Jessica.	Akambo.	Ikimasho	Fastest Speed
	h.m.s.	h.m s.	h.m.s.	h.m.s.	Knots.
May 6th	1.10 45	1.29.40	1.16 26	—	Vixen 3.7
June 3rd	3 28.00	—	3 31.05	—	Vixen 3.4
June 17th	2 19.24	—	2.36 58	—	Vixen 4.0
July 1st	1 30.51	—	—	—	Petrel 3.1
July 4th	1 55 08	—	—	—	Isabel 3.5
July 14th	2.25 58	3 09 25	3.08 50	—	Daisy 4.2
July 29nd	2.56 55	2.26 25	2 10 04	—	Petre 3.6
Aug 5th	2.08.50	2.20.25	2.23 30	—	Hok boshi 4.7
Aug 19th	—	—	—	—	Da sy 4.8
Sept. 2nd	2 28.18	2.45 13	2 37.33	—	Daisy 3.2
Sept. 16th	2.00.33	2 17 44	—	—	Hokiboshi 3.3
Oct. 7th	2.39 57	—	—	—	Hokiboshi 4.3
Nov. 3rd	—	—	—	—	Daisy 3.9

B Division.

	Rating.	Number of Starts.	Distance Sailed.	Elapsed Times.	Average Speed.
			miles.	h m.	knots.
Isabel	27	13	49	16.36	3.0
Hokiboshi	27	20	53	27.00	3.1
Vixen	18	12	49	27.36	2.8
Petrel	26	9	42	14.25	2.9
Violet	16	2	4½	1.50	2.5
Daisy	26	12	44½	19 47	2 3
White Wings	14½	2	4½	1.40	2.5
Black Hawk	24	4	20	8.02	2.5
Queenie	24	5	18	6 52	2.6
Sayonara	23	13	58	21.00	2.8
Jessica	18	20	33½	18 29	2.5
Akambo	19	8	30	15.34	2 3
Ikimasho	10½	2	—	—	—

B Division.

	Prizes. 1st.	2nd	3rd.	4th	Other Prizes.	Total.
Isabel	—	—	—	—	1 Consolation.	1
Hokiboshi	3	—	—	—	1 Extra. 1 A. Division race	4
Vixen	2	2	1	—	—	5
Petrel	2	—	1	—	—	3
Violet	—	—	—	—	—	—
Daisy	4	—	—	1	1 Record. 1 A. Division. 1 2t Rater Prize.	7
White Wings	—	—	—	—	—	—
Black Hawk	—	—	—	—	—	—
Queenie	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sayonara	1	2	—	—	—	3
Jessica	—	1	—	—	—	1
Akambo	1	—	1	—	—	2
Ikimasho	—	—	—	—	—	—

In the above tables all the distances are expressed in nautical miles, and the elapsed times are computed from the actual times taken to sail each race without any correction for time allowance.

The Record Prizes in the various classes were won by the following boats :

39 Raters.....*Maid Marion* .....19 points.
32 Raters.....*Mary* .....16 points.
26 Raters.....*Molly Bawn* ..... 22 points.
17 Raters.....*Daisy* ..... 9 points.

The average speed of the record prize winners is a trifle better than last year, and has varied little during the last three seasons, which for the sake of comparison we give below :—

	Miles Sailed.	Speed.
1891.		
39 Raters .....*Aborigine*	17	3.28
32 Raters .....*Daimyo*	163	3.73
26 Raters .....*Molly Bawn* ...	143½	3 48
17 Raters ..... *Fessie*	36½	3.32
1892.		
39 Raters .....*Aborigine*	8½	2.17
32 Raters .....*Daimyo*.....	135½	3.71
26 Raters .....*Molly Bawn* ...	155½	3.45
17 Raters .....*Fessie*	58½	2.91
1893		
39 Raters .....*Maid Marion.*	133½	3.54
32 Raters .....*Mary*	116½	3.79
26 Raters .....*Molly Bawn* ...	161½	3 48
17 Raters .....*Daisy*	42	2.91

Although the racing during the past season has, with a few exceptions, been of a rather tame description, it has not been through any lack of enthusiasm on the part of the members of the club, but simply through lack of the breezes necessary to give good racing. The summer breezes which usually blow from the south during the afternoon, and provide a steady breeze for sailing, have, during the past season, been conspicuous by their absence. The prevailing winds during this summer have been easterly, and if anything even lighter than were experienced last year. The average speed of the yachts has been about the same, but that is accounted for by the fact that by reason of the general direction of the wind there has not been so much windward sailing.

The direction and force of the wind may be classified as follows :—

A Division—12 Races Easterly winds, 1 South, 2 Fresh, 3 Moderate, 8 Light.
B Division—7 Races Easterly winds, 6 South, 4 Fresh, 3 Moderate, 6 Light.

There have been 26 races sailed, in which 29 boats have taken part, as against 24 races last year in which 24 boats sailed.

In both divisions the number of entries has been considerably larger than in 1892, and, what is perhaps more to the point, a fair proportion of the starters in each race completed the course. To illustrates this we compare the two years together, as follows :—

	No. of races.	No. of boats.	Average No. of starters.	Completed the course.
1892...A Division,	12	11	5 7	5 0
1892..B Division...	12	13	5.7	4 4
1893 ..A Division...	13	16	9 5	7 4
1893..B D vision...	13	13	7 6	5 8

Plenty of prizes were provided, and in about half the races the boats were handicapped in various ways, so that all might have a chance of carrying off a trophy at some time or other, with the result that 43 prizes were divided amongst 10 boats of the A Division, and 32 amongst 8 boats of the B Division. Several of these prizes were of considerable value, and were specially presented to the Club by members and friends who are interested in yachting as being one of the most healthful and interesting recreations to be obtained in Yokohama. To those who are really interested in this sport, it is a never-ending source of amusement and employment with which to fill up their leisure moments. A real yachtsman is never satisfied until he has designed and built a yacht of his own, and even the man who invests in an old boat, as he will say, just to take an evening sail now and then, soon finds that he must exercise his ingenuity to improve her, and that to go on board his boat with the sails ready hoisted for him and take a turn round the harbour, is only a very small part of the amusement to be derived from owning a yacht.

In the A Division there have been two new boats this year :—*Sea Gull* a 26 rater cat-boat, imported from the United States, and *Madcap*, a 23½ rating cutter built here. Neither of these boats has been successful, both apparently suffering from the same defect, insufficient stability.

The *Mary Jane*, now called plain *Mary*, has again been altered by her enterprising owner, and has at last come out as a full-blown yacht with the modern style of bow and counter, and her close contests with *Daimyo* have given the principal interest to the A Division races during the past summer. She appears to be more than a match for *Daimyo* in light breezes, and can appa-

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rently sail a very close match with her heavier opponent in a fresh wind. Although it has not yet been proved to everybody's satisfaction which is the faster boat, *Mary* has certainly had the best of it so far, and although she has not sailed so many races as *Daimyo*, she has secured the record prize for the season, and also a goodly string of others—mostly first prizes.

Molly Bawn is the only boat that has sailed in every race, and, although not always sailed by the same skipper, shows a very even record of speed throughout the season, and has become the winner of nine prizes. In her own class she has had all her own way, even *Princess Maud* being fairly beaten by her all through.

In the B Division there has been some excellent racing, the small craft having been more fortunate than the other Division in the matter of winds, nine out of the thirteen races having sailed at a speed averaging from three to five and a quarter knots.

Two new boats were built for this class during the early part of the summer, *Daisy* a fin-keel boat, and *Hoshiboshi* a centre boarder. Both of these boats have been previously described, and now that they have competed in several races in all kinds of weather, all that remains to be said of them is that although they are by no means perfect, they have proved themselves faster than any of the other boats, and have broken all previous speed records. *Daisy* is at her best in a light breeze, while *Hoshiboshi* does best with plenty of wind. The latter when reaching with a good strong breeze and smooth water, can show a clean pair of heels to most of the boats in Yokohama, large or small, although she is only an exaggerated form of canoe with a very small sailspread and no ballast. *Hoshiboshi's* record of speed is 5·3 knots, made round the 4½ mile inside course, half of which was close-hauled sailing and included a short tack to fetch a mark. This compares very favourably with the highest speed made by an A Division boat round the 1½ mile home course. *Maid Marion* sailed round that course with a leading wind all the way at the rate of 5.6 knots. These are the two highest records of speed made this season, and if allowance is made for difference in rating, the result is considerably in favour of the little boat.

In addition to the 26 regular races, there was a consolation race at the end of the season which produced an exciting contest between *Isabel* and *Box of Curios*. The race was sailed in a fresh breeze, and *Isabel*, although crippled by the breaking of her masthead during the second round, came in an easy winner of the prize.

Several of the 17 Raters also entered in the 21 Rating class for one of the A Division races, and although they only received their ordinary time allowance from the large boats, acquitted themselves very well dispite the disparity in size.

On the whole the best sport has been with the small boats, several of them sailing very evenly together at all times. Unfortunately they have not yet settled upon a good course, and the practice of sailing races partly outside the breakwater has proved deterrent to the sailers of the little boats, although special prizes have usually been offered for them. This is a matter that requires attention, as to build a full 17 rater capable of winning prizes has already become rather more expensive than suits the pockets of many who would like to own a small boat and take part in the racing.

We already hear rumours of new boats, both large and small, to be built for next season. We sincerely hope that they will be built and afloat in good time ready to once more infuse new life into the noble sport for which the Bay of Yedo is so suitable.

Seven years ago, when the Yokohama Sailing Club first came into existence, there were scarcely any real sailing boats in the place, and perhaps, although it is rather a mercenary way of putting it, there is not a much simpler way of gauging the Club's success than stating the cost of the present fleet of yachts and sailing boats, which may be roughly estimated at $20,000. This valuable property has mainly come into existence under the fostering care of the Yokohama Sailing Club, and considering the small number of foreigners in Yokohama, says volumes for the manner in which the Club has been conducted.

Up to the present time not a single Japanese has joined the Club. Considering that Japan is a maritime country whose people evince every desire to become great upon the seas, this is a curious fact and much to be regretted.

THE LAST OF THE INTERCEPTED LETTERS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "MUMEI SHIMBUN."

London, 14th day of 9th month,
26th year of Meiji.

HONOURABLE SIR,—You and your numerous readers will deeply regret to learn that this will be the last of the extremely interesting letters I have written to you for the last few weeks, and which I trust you have given the prominent place in your various issues which they deserve. I am coming home. Why this is I will explain hereafter. But those who will gather to welcome me home will, I trust, realise that I have performed as perilous a journey as Major-General Fukushima, and will treat me accordingly, for I have held aloft the lambent flame of Japanese truth amid the dark places of the earth and illuminated with its glorious beam the obscurity in which these primitive islanders live.

* * * *

Like another great personage, you will be interested to know that I have forgotten nothing and have learnt nothing. What indeed have these people to teach me! I came here having fully made up my mind regarding the natives, and by carefully avoiding people who might upset my preconceived notions, I have passed unscathed through positions in which other men have been forced to sadly modify their views. I have found the doctrine of superiority to be an excellent means of preventing one set of principles from being overcome by others, as he who holds it firmly does not stoop to learn of his inferiors. There are, I am sorry to say, men of my own nationality in this town who believe that something good can come out of the West, though it is to the credit of the natives that they themselves mostly think otherwise. The latter indeed universally acknowledge that their religion comes from the East, and that what civilisation they have has broadened slowly down to them as the sun rising in the East gradually illumines the farthest provinces of the West. It follows, therefore, that the fountain-head of knowledge is with us, and that these people exist mainly on the crumbs that fall from our overflowing table. They claim to have invented things, certainly, and to have made discoveries by watching tea kettles boil and such-like absurdities, but if we only go back far enough in our own history it will be found that all these things were originally invented by ourselves and then forgotten for some very good reason.

* * * *

During the time I have spent in this country I can look back with pride on the fact that in my literary work I have never allowed to the natives the possession of virtue, honesty, truth, or wisdom. It is something to have lived among a people and yet to hold firmly such notions as these, and to brook no contradiction from anyone, whether they profess to know much or little upon the subject. I have brought everything to the test of my nationality. I have examined native politics and found them English rather than Japanese. I have studied so-called native "art" with a like result. I have glanced at the native judicial system and found it English; I have read native literature and native poetry to the same saddening effect. English, English, English. I have sought here and sought there for some traces somewhere of something of native manufacture which I could pronounce good—which I could say was Japanese or at least a very good imitation. I have found nothing. All was English, all was evil.

* * * *

These things I have set forth at length in my journal. I have shown that England is the worst country in the world to live in; I have condemned its manners and customs, its people, its conformation, and even its scenery, in the most unqualified terms. Though at times sorely tempted, I have sternly refused to be satisfied with anything, and I have set forth my dissatisfaction with all the grace of which the Japanese language is capable and in a journal read by Japanese only. Sometimes I have felt tempted to expose the natives in their own vernacular, and I did once write a letter to *The Times* which produced considerable sensation of a sort. The natives said it ought to have appeared in *Punch*, where it would have the advantage of illustration. I only understood what was meant after I bought a copy of the latter journal, which I found to be engaged in exposing the follies of the natives. It is the only native journal I have cared to study, and I sympathise with its struggles, for it has an uphill task before it.

* * * *

And now to tell you why I have decided to return home. A native who understands Japanese came to me the other day and said he had been reading my journal. I naturally expressed my satisfaction that one at least was on the way to better things. "Yes," he said, "you have a very low opinion of us." I remarked that such a conclusion on his part showed great powers of penetration—for a native. "You think this is a wretched country to live in?" "Yes." "The best of the natives are a bad lot?" "Yes." "The government is abominable?" "Yes." "The people are unpolished, of low intelligence, and debased morality." "You have expressed exactly what I feel," said I. "Well, why do you remain in a country you dislike; why don't you go home?" I disdained to reply, but I have thought over it, and for once I must confess native reasoning to be irresistible. I am now on my way home.—*Kobe Chronicle.*

THE LIBEL ACTION AGAINST MR UCHIYAMA ROSSETSU

BEFORE THE OSAKA COURT OF APPEAL.

Osaka, December 2nd.

The appeal of Mr. Uchiyama Rossetsu against a sentence of fine and imprisonment for a libel on Mr. Asahina contained in the published report of the arbitration in the Antimony Mines case, came on for hearing before the Osaka Court of Appeal at 10 a.m. to-day. Mr. Uchiyama was present with his counsel Mr. Ogura.

The Judge read the evidence given by the witnesses at the Kobe Local Court and asked the appellant if he objected to any part of it. The appellant declared there were many mistakes in the statements. The Public Procurator asked Mr. Uchiyama Rossetsu whether the argument in the arbitration case, out of which this action arose, as printed in the *Hyogo News*, was the same as the argument he had forwarded to Mr. Enslie. The appellant said he did not know, as the argument he forwarded had been recopied, but he believed it was the same. The Judge then asked the appellant whether he desired to make any statement or claim, and Mr. Rossetsu replied that he wished to again call two witnesses to be examined, one English and now living at Yokohama, and the other German and resident at Kobe. He objected that the evidence of these two witnesses was not given on oath at the Kobe Local Court, while the interpretation was an unsatisfactory one. The Judges retired to consider the point, and on the Court resuming, after an absence of about ten minutes, said they had decided to ask for the attendance of the witness of German nationality now in Kobe, and would re-hear his evidence.

The proceedings then terminated.—*Kobe Chronicle.*

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, December 2.

There has been a severe run upon the banks in Italy, notably on the Banca Générale, consequent upon the difficulties of the Credits Mobiliare.

London, December 3.

A new French Ministry has been formed as follows:—

M. Perier, Premier and Minister of Foreign Affairs.
M. Burdeau, Minister of Finance.
M. Spuller, Minister of Education.
M. Mercier, Minister of War.

The political tendency of the new Cabinet is decidedly moderate.

A New Italian Ministry has been formed under the Presidency of Signor Zanardelli, the Minister of Foreign Affairs being General Baratieri.

London, December 4.

The Protocol between England and France, in regard to the Siamese Buffer State, has been signed, and the Commissioners for the delimitation of the frontiers will start soon for the scene of their labours.

The Times says that the Buffer State will be under the control of the Chinese Government.

London, December 6.

The Italian Ministry inspires neither political

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or financial confidence, and Signor Zanardelli is expected to resign forthwith, King Humbert deeming the Cabinet incompetent to deal with the present situation, which is daily becoming graver.

[Specially Telegraphed to the "Japan Daily Mail."] (From the "North China Daily News").

London, November 27.

In the House of Commons, Mr. Gladstone, replying to a question by General Chesney, said that when the Naval Estimates were presented to the House, he found that further shipbuilding was intended to be entered upon at an early date, and that everything had been done to avoid delay. In the course of his remarks, Mr. Gladstone reaffirmed the necessity of maintaining the supremacy of the British Navy.

The third reading of the Employers Liability Bill has passed the House of Commons.

The appointment of Colonel the Right Hon. Sir Joseph West Ridgway, K.C.S.I., K.C.B., to be Governor of the Isle of Man, has been officially announced.

November 28.

The first reading of the Employers Liability Bill has passed the House of Lords.

London, November 28.

A box containing an infernal machine was sent from Orleans to General von Caprivi, Imperial German Chancellor. The General's aide-de-camp unpacked the box and recognising the nature of the contents promptly rendered the machine harmless.

November 29.

The Times publishes a telegram which states that twelve thousand persons perished through an earthquake which occurred in Khorassan, a province of Persia, and that fifty thousand cattle were also destroyed.

November 30.

Signer Zanardelli has undertaken the formation of a new Italian Cabinet

The Ministerial deadlock in Paris continues, and President Carnot has again consulted MM Perier, Develle, and Dupuy with the object of arranging for the formation of a new Ministry.

The new tariff in the United States gradually abolishes the Sugar Bounty, wool being added to the free list, and the duty on castor oil is reduced thirty-five cents per gallon.

The first six clauses of the Parish Councils Bill have passed the Committee of the House of Commons.

December 2.

The second reading of the Employers Liability Bill has passed the House of Lords.

The appeal which had been lodged by Miss Mighell against the decision of the lower court, in the action which she brought against the Sultan of Johore for breach of promise of marriage, has been dismissed.

M. Spuller, having failed to form a new Cabinet, President Carnot has induced M. Casimir Perier to undertake the task.

London, December 2.

The Reichstag has passed, by a majority of third-six votes, a resolution of the clericals to permit the return of the Jesuits to Germany.

It is officially announced that Lieut.-General Fremantle has been appointed Governor of Malta.

[From the "Hongkong Daily Press"]

Paris, November 13.

Spain proposes that the European nations should agree on measures for the suppression of anarchy.

Paris, November 14.

The opening of the Parliamentary Session took place without any noteworthy incident.

The President in his address referred in warm terms to the Franco-Russian fêtes.

Paris, November 15.

M. Georgewitch, formerly Servian Minister, was the victim of an Anarchist attempt at murder. The attack took place in a restaurant. The victim's condition is serious. The perpetrator was arrested.

General Dodds has occupied without resistance the residence of King Behanzin.

The natives of the district are submitting

Paris, November 16.

The Embassy which Behanzin sent to Paris has not been received by the Government.

A dynamite bomb was exploded about midnight at Marseilles at the residence of the Commandant of the Fifteenth Corps d'Armée, who was absent at the time. The building was damaged, but no personal injuries resulted. Great excitement prevails.

Paris, November 17.

Several Anarchists have been arrested at Marseilles.

Paris, November 18.

M. Dupuy is preparing severe measures against the Anarchists.

M. Casimir-Perrier has been elected President of the Chamber of Deputies by 333 votes out of a total of 418.

Several meetings of Deputies have taken place for the purpose of forming party organisations.

Behanzin's Ambassadors have left.

Paris, November 26

A section of the Italian press is becoming markedly hostile to the Triple Alliance.

Paris, November 28.

A great storm has taken place in the English Channel and 200 lives have been lost, chiefly British.

CHESS.

(All communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.

The Yokohama Chess Club meets at the Club Rooms, No. 88, Main Street, on Mondays and Thursdays from 5 to 11 p.m.

The Tokyo Chess Club meets at the Hotel Métropole on Fridays from 1 to 11 p.m.

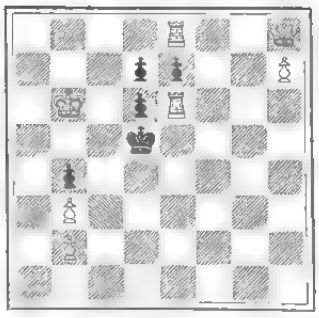
Solution of Problem No. 98.

White.	Black.
1—B — Q 5	1—K × B
2—R × P (K 6)	2—K × R
3—Kt — Q B 7, mate.	

Correct solutions received from O.B., W.H.S., J.D., Omega, J.W.E., and Digamma.

Problem No. 100.
By James Rayner.

Black.



White.

White to play and mate in three moves.

Yokohama Chess Club.

The following are the rules of the Contests now going on in the above Club :—

Handicap Tournament.

Each player will contest two games with every other competitor taking the move alternately. Wins counting 1. Draws ½.

All games to be finished by 28th February, 1894. Two prizes, presented.

There are eleven entries, divided into five classes :—

Class I.—Baltt.
Class II.—Fardel, Griffin, Pollak, Schiff, Squier, Tennant.
Class III.—Mendelson.
Class IV.—Fox.
Class V.—Barrie, C. Griffin.

The odds are P and move, P and two moves, Knight, Rook : in a progressive scale throughout the classes.

Y.C.C. Championship, 1894.

Play commences December 4th, 1893, and closes 31st March, 1894. No Handicap. No entrance fee. Staunton rules (especially "touch and move"). Twelve entries.

To be played in rounds (not less than one round per month). Three won games to decide a heat. Draws count *nil*.

First Round (December, 1893).

Heat 1.—Fox *versus* Schiff.
Heat 2.—Fardel *versus* Batavus.
Heat 3.—Davieson *versus* Balk.
Heat 4.—Pollak *versus* Squier.
Heat 5.—Pownall *versus* Griffin.
Heat 6.—Mendelson *versus* Tennant.

Chess players, with a turn for the history of their strategic amusement, will be interested to learn that all the hypotheses as to the origin of the game have suddenly been "mated" by a recent extraordinary discovery in Egypt. It was generally assumed until now that the ancient Indians had invented chess; that it was introduced from India to Persia in the sixth century; and that by Arabs, and in consequence of the Crusades, it spread from East to West. But here comes news of the latest excavations on the pyramid field of Sakkara, which have brought to light a wall-painting, on which a high official is represented as playing chess with a partner at the time of the government of King Teta, who belonged to the sixth dynasty. Professor Lepsius formerly assigned the reign of that monarch to about the year 2700 B.C. Professor Brugch, correcting this chronology, puts its back to still greater antiquity, namely, to the year 3300 B.C. So that chess would have been known in the once mysterious land of Mizraim something like 5,200 years ago!—*London and China Express.*

Played at New York on August 24th, in a match between Mr. A. B Hodges, the American expert, and Herr Albin from Vienna. We take the score and notes from the *Baltimore News.*

Ruy Lopez.

White. Hodges.	Black. Albin.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to Kt 5	3—P to Q R 3
4—B to R 4	4—Kt to B 3
5—P to Q 3	5—P to Q Kt 4
6—B to Kt 3	6—B to B 4
7—Kt to B 3	

7 P to B 3 is more usual; the text move, however, obviated P to Q 4.

	7—P to R 3
.... To stop the combination of B to K Kt 5 with Kt to Q 5. Black may also Castle here, answering the former move with B to K 2	
8—Castles	8—P to Q 3
9—B to K 3	9—B to K Kt 5
10—B takes B	10—P takes B
11—Kt to K 2	11—B takes Kt
12—P takes B	12—Q to Q 2
13—K to R sq	13—Q to R 6
14—Kt to Kt 3	14—R to Q sq.
... . A most important and harrassing move.	
15—P to B 3	

Both to prevent the entry of the Kt at Q 5 and the immediate loss of a piece by P to B 5.

	15—P to B 5
16—B to B 2	16—P to K R 4
17—K R to Kt sq.	17—P to R 5
18—Kt to B 5	18—P to Kt 3
19—Kt to K 3	19—K Kt to R 4
.. .. The *New York Sun* gives the following variation here: P takes P, 20 B takes P, R takes B 21 Q takes R, Q takes B P ch. 22 R to Kt 2, P to R 6, and should win.	
20—Kt to Q 5	20—Kt to K 2
21—Kt takes P ch.	21—K to B sq.
22—P to Q 4	22—Kt to B 5
23—P to Q 5	23—R to Q 3
24—R to Kt 4	24—Kt to R 4
. .. . Not only preventing R takes Kt, which would break up the attack, but on his own part menacing P to K B 4 in certain cases, and having also Kt to K 6 ch. in hand.	
25—P to R 4	25—P to Kt 5
26—P takes P	

This lets in the other Knight at Q 5, but the move is excusable, having several points in its favour.

	26—Kt to Q B 3
27—R to R 3	27—Kt to Q 5
28—R to B 3	28—Kt to Kt 6 ch.
.. .. A beautiful finish.	
29—P takes Kt	29—P takes P
30—Q to Kt sq.	30—Kt to K 7
31—R takes Kt P	31—Kt takes R ch.

White Resigns.

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MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, Nagasaki, and Kobe	per N Y K	Friday, Dec. 15th.
From America	per O. & O. Co.	Sunday, Dec. 17th.*
From Hongkong	per O. & O. Co.	Friday, Dec. 15th.†
From Hongkong	per P. & O Co.	Sunday, Dec. 17th.
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Dec. 24th.
From Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Dec. 25th.
From America	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Dec. 26th.
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per C P. R. Co	Wednesday, Dec. 27th.

* *Belgic* left San Francisco on November 30th. † *Gaelic* (with English mail) left Hongkong on December 7th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki	per N. Y. K.	Tuesday, Dec. 12th.
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Saturday, Dec. 16th.
For Europe, viâ Shanghai	per M M Co.	Sunday, Dec 17th.
For Hongkong	per P & O Co.	Saturday, Dec. 23rd.
For America	per P. M. Co.	Saturday, Dec. 23rd.
For Victoria, B.C., and Tacoma, Wash	per N. P. Co.	Saturday, Dec. 23rd.
For Hongkong	per C. R. P. Co.	Monday, Dec. 25th.
For Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, Dec. 29th.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co	Friday, Jan. 5th

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Chiyoda Kan (24), Japanese cruiser, Captain Senjiu, 2nd December,—Yokosuka 2nd December

Itsukushima Kan (12), Japanese cruiser, Captain K. Ijichi, 2nd December,—Yokosuka 2nd December.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, R. Tipple, 2nd December,—Otaru viâ ports 28th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, J. Nirei, 2nd December,—Kobe 1st December, General —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ancona, British steamer, 1,880, W. D. Mudie, 3rd December,—Hongkong 24th November, Nagasaki 29th, and Kobe 2nd December, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Bankoku Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,475, Okuma, 3rd December,—Otaru, Coal.—S. Asano & Co.

Hokushiu Maru, Japanese steamer, 735, S. Oka, 3rd December,—Otaru, Coal.—S. Oka.

Oopack, British steamer, 1,730, Davies, 4th December,—London viâ ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Salatiga, German steamer, 1,639, Christiansen, 4th December,—Hamburg viâ ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co

Sorachi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,108, Renny, 4th December,—Hachinohe 1st December, General —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 684, M. Matsumoto, 4th December,—Hachinohe 3rd December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Akashi Maru, Japanese steamer, 876, Sakata, 5th December,—Hakodate 3rd December, General. —Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

Lennox, British steamer, 1,350, Wm. Ward, 5th December,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,053, Thompson, 5th December,—Hakodate 3rd December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Glamorganshire, British steamer, 1,845, A. T. Jackson, 5th December,—New York viâ Hongkong, Oil and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Pender, 5th December,—Kobe 4th December, General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Marion (7), U.S. corvette, Captain G. V. Gridley, 6th December,—Target Practice, 6th December.

Mandjur (9), Russian gunboat, Captain Andreeff, 6th December,—Kobe 5th December.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,168, Crichton, 6th December,—Otaru viâ ports 30th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, T. Sakai 6th December,—Kobe 5th December, General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Dardanus, British steamer, 1,507, Purdy, 7th December, —Liverpool viâ Shanghai, General. —Butterfield & Swire.

Flintshire, British steamer, 1,871, Dwyer, 7th December,—London viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, Marshall, R.N.R., 7th December,—Hongkong viâ ports, 29th November, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Sessiu Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,011, Hayashi, 7th December,—Kobe 6th December, General. —Nada Kogio Kabushiki Kaisha.

Zabiaka (1), Russian gunboat, Captain Domojiroff, 8th December,—A cruise.

Benvenue, British steamer, 1,467, Thompsen, 8th December,—Kobe 6th December, General.—Comes & Co.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 8th December,—Moji, Coal.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Ekstrand, 8th December,—Otaru viâ ports 3rd December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yokohama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,298, Swain, 8th December,—Shanghai and ports 2nd December, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Admiral Kornuloff (18), Russian flagship, Captain Elchammoff, 9th December,—Target Practice, 8th December.

DEPARTURES.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,246, J. T. Smith, 2nd December,—San Francisco, Mails and General —P. M. S.S. Co.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, T. Sakai, 2nd December,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Takachiho Kan (16), Japanese flagship, Captain F. Koyeman, 2nd December,—Vries Island.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 2nd December,—Moji, Light.—Mitsu Bishi Sha

Marion (7), U.S. corvette, Captain C. V. Gridley, 3rd December,—Target Practice.

Nürnberg, German steamer, 2,007, Hugo Walter, 3rd December,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf

Salazie, French steamer, 4,016, A. Paul, 3rd December,—Shanghai viâ Kobe, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Hokushiu Maru, Japanese steamer, 735, S. Oka, 4th December,—Otaru, Light—S. Oka

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, J. Nirei, 4th December,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, R Tipple, 4th December,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Harima Maru, Japanese steamer, 436, Kawamuro, 5th December,—Bonin Islands, General —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Matsushima Kan (20), Japanese cruiser, Captain M. Endo, 5th December,—Yokosuka.

Rasboynik (12), Russian cruiser, Captain Prince Ouchtomsy, 5th December,—Target Practise.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, Conner, 5th December,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sorachi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,108, Renny, 5th December,—Hachinohe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Akashi Maru, Japanese steamer, 856, Sakata, 5th December,—Kobe, General.—Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

Chiyoda Kan (24), Japanese cruiser, Captain Senjiu, 6th December,—Yokosuka.

Zabiaka (1), Russian gunboat, Captain Domojiroff, 6th December,—Target Practice

Arthur Head, British steamer, 1,886, G. W. Leonard, 7th December,—Hongkong viâ Kuchinotsu, Light.—Smith, Baker & Co.

Lennox, British steamer, 1,350, Wm. Ward, 7th December,—New York viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Bankoku Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,475, Okuma, 7th December,—Otaru, Light.—S. Asano & Co

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Pender, 7th December,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,168, Crichton, 7th December,—Kobe and Nagasaki, General —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sesstu Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,011, Hayashi, 7th December,—Shinagawa, General.—Nada Kogio Kabushiki Kaisha.

Admiral Kornuloff (18), Russian flagship, Captain Elchammoff, 7th December,—Target Practise.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, Marshall, R.N.R., 8th December,—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General —Frazar & Co.

Kanazawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 895, Nakai, 8th December,—Hakodate, General.—S. Asano & Co

Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,053, Thompson, 8th December,—Bombay via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, T. Sakai, 8th December,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ancona, British steamer, 1,880, W. D. Mudie, 9th December,—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, from Kobe :—15 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, from Hongkong viâ ports :—Miss Naess and Mrs. Slater in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, from Hongkong viâ ports :—Mr. Gustav Weyersberg, Mr. Leyburn, Captain V. C. Smyth, Mrs. Morse, Miss Johnson, Miss C. Johnson, Mr. Charlton Evans, Mr. A. P. Simpson, Mr. Alfred Letester, Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Matthews, M. Winckler, Mr. P. S. Lalcona, Mr. O. Don Vinals, and Miss Band in cabin ; 7 passengers in second class, and 162 Chinese and 32 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, from Shanghai and ports :—Mr. and Mrs. N. Hashiguchi and 3 children, and Mrs. Nickel and child in cabin ; Miss S. Morie, Mrs Terazawa, Messrs. C. Higuchi and Cheong Seng Ting in second class.

Per Japanese steamer *Omi Maru*, from Otaru viâ ports :—2 passengers in second class and 40 passengers in steerage.

DEPARTED

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, for San Francisco :—Mr. R S. Bradley, Mr. Godfray, Miss Horsburgh, Mr. A. E Jones, Mr. J. King, Rev. Graham Lee, Mr. J. L Mayers, Mr. Geo. W. Middleton, Mr. C. Preile, Mr. Chas. H Sawyer, Mr. H. Thompson, and Mr. P. H. Wheeler in cabin.

Per German steamer *Nürnberg*, for Hongkong viâ ports :—Messrs. H. Sharp, Ernest Lay, Robt. L. Ratcliff, and Thom in cabin ; 4 Chinese in second class, and 22 Chinese on deck.

Per French steamer *Salazie*, for Shanghai viâ Kobe :—Mr. Jubin, Mr. Kobayashi, Mr. and Mrs. Sheridan P. Read, infant, and boy, Mr. O. P. Benson, Mr. F. A. Hardy, Mr. Sestier and 3 boys, Mr. Wilcox, Mr. Eulalio D. Ritchie and 3 infants, Mr. Frelat, Mr. Asse, Mr. A. de Lapérouse, Mr. J Pérot, Mr. John Lee Carrol, Jun., and servant, Mr. E. J. Edgar, Honorable S. Tollemache, Comte de Nolstiz and servant, Mr. Schneider, M. Jean Britonis, Mr. Démosthene Bourgon, Mr. and Mrs. Brigham, 2 infants, and servant, and Colonel Tadayoshi Ando in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, for Shanghai and ports :—Miss Edith Stewart, Mr. and Mrs. J. Meyers, Messrs. Roudwisky, McKenzie, J. Bonavides, S. Uyeno, S Tajima, Fujimoto, and A. Amano in cabin ; Miss Nakegksa, Mrs. Fujimoto, and Mr. Westerston in second class, and 38 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, for Vancouver, B.C. :—Mr. J Berrick, Mr. Date, Mr. Charlton Evans, Miss Johnson, Miss C. Johnson, Mr. Letetsu, Mrs. Morse, Mr. Ohmaye, Lieut. Peltier, Colonel and Mrs Ravenhill, Miss Robinson, Mr. J. H. Rosenthal, Mr. A. P. Sumpson, and Mr. Gustav Weyersberg in cabin.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, for Hongkong viâ ports.—Mr. G. W. Smith, Miss Temple Frere, Mr. R. W. Bates, Mr. H. W. Taylor, Mr. V. Taylor, Mr. and Mrs. Chang Hok Tong, Mrs. Ah Lung, Mrs. Ah Sam, Miss Roper, and Mr. J. Walsh and servant in cabin ; 8 Chinese in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, for San Francisco :—

	SAN FRANCISCO.	TRANSFER NEW YORK	CHICAGO.	MONTREAL.	TOTAL.
Hyogo	134	422	—	—	556
Yokohama	2,730	89	144	151	3,116
Hongkong	79	—	—	—	79
Foochow	—	—	—	678	678
Total	2,943	511	144	831	4,429

SILK.

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	MARYFORD.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	—	19	—	19
Hongkong	—	40	—	40
Yokohama	—	977	—	977
Total	—	1,036	—	1,036

Per French steamer *Salazie*, for Shanghai viâ Kobe : Raw Silk for Europe, 210 bales ; Waste Silk for Europe, 88 bales. Treasure for Shanghai, $200,000.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, for Shanghai and ports :—Treasure, $206 700 00

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, for Vancouver, B.C. :—

	CHICAGO AND CANADA.	NEW YORK AND WEST.	PACIFIC COAST.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Hongkong	12	—	91	25	128
Colombo	27	—	—	—	27
Foochow	1,515	—	61	—	1,576
Shanghai	2,064	1,630	810	—	4 644
Hyogo	1,314	492	—	—	1,806
Yokohama	1,252	36	327	—	1,615
Total	6,184	2,178	820	589	25	9,796

SILK.

	NEW YORK.	MONTREAL.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	15	—	15
Yokohama	1,008	—	1,008
Total	1,023	—	1,023

Per British steamer *Ancona*, for Hongkong viâ ports :—Silk, 582 bales ; Waste Silk, 17 bales.

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REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, Captain R. Tipple, reports:—Left Otaru the 28th November at noon; had fine weather with moderate S.W. and W. winds to Hakodate, arriving the 29th at 6 15 a.m. Left the 30th at 8 a.m.; had light S.W. winds and fine weather to Oginohama, arriving the 1st December at 5.45 a.m. Left the same day at 2.42 p.m.; had light to moderate N.W. to W. winds and fine weather; passed Inuboye at 5.15 a.m. Arrived at Yokohama the 2nd December at 5 30 p.m.; south of Inuboye experienced heavy S.W. swell.

The Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, Captain Nirei, reports:—Left Kobe the 1st December at noon; had fine, clear weather and moderate northwesterly breeze; passed Oshima at 10 p.m.; on the 2nd fine weather and moderate to strong westerly gale with heavy sea; made Rock Island at 2 p.m. Arrived at Yokohama at 8 40 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Sorachi Maru*, Captain Renny, reports:—Left Hachinohe the 1st December at 3 a.m.; had light S.W. winds and fine weather. Arrived at Kuji the same day at 7.15 a.m. and left Kuji the 2nd at 0 30 p.m.; experienced moderate to strong westerly winds with fine weather; passed Noshima Light the 4th at 4.50 a.m. Arrived at Yokohama the same day at 10 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Miike Maru*, Captain W. Thompson, reports:—Left Hakodate the 3rd December at 6.40 a.m; passed Kinkasan the 4th at 3.32 a.m.; passed Inuboye the same day at 5.40 p.m. Arrived at Yokohama the 5th December at 6.40 a.m.; from Hakodate to Inuboye experienced strong N.W. winds and clear weather; thence to port moderate northerly winds and clear weather.

The Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, Captain Pender, reports:—Left Kobe the 4th December at noon; had moderate to fresh westerly winds and fine, clear weather throughout the passage; met steamers *Saisho Maru* and *Akashi Maru* off Sagami. Arrived at Yokohama the 5th December at 4.10 p.m. From Rock Island to Sagami passed a large quantity of kerosene tins and cases.

The Japanese steamer *Sagami Maru*, Captain Crichton, reports: Left Otaru the 30th November at 2 p.m.; had light winds and fine weather to Okushiri; thence to port light to gentle N.E. and N.W. winds with cloudy, overcast weather and passing showers of rain and sleet. Arrived at Hakodate the 1st December at 12.45 p.m. and left again the 4th at 6 a.m.; had gentle to moderate north-westerly winds and clear weather to Yamada Head; thence to port light variable breezes and clear weather. Arrived at Oginohama the 5th at 6.45 a.m. and left again the same day at noon; had light to gentle S.W. winds and clear weather to Inuboye; thence to port gentle to moderate and fresh W. to S.W. breezes and clear weather. Arrived at Yokohama the 6th December at 6 30 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Sendai Maru*, Captain Sakai, reports:—Left Kobe the 5th December at 10 10 a.m.; had light westerly breeze and clear weather. Arrived at Shiotsu at 1.10 p.m. and left again at 3.45 p.m.; had gentle north-north-easterly breeze and fine, clear weather throughout the passage; at 12 54 p.m. on the 6th after passed Rock Island Lighthouse gentle to fresh westerly breeze and clear weather with following sea. Arrived at Yokohama the 6th December at 7 35 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, Captain Swan, reports:—Left Woosung the 2nd December at 9 a.m.; had light northerly to north-east winds and fine, clear weather up to arrival at Nagasaki the 3rd at 11 p.m. Left Nagasaki the 4th at 5 p.m.; had light variable winds and continued fine, clear weather, arriving at Shimonoseki the 5th at 6.40 a.m. Left Shimonoseki the same day at noon (in company with *Genkai Maru*); had light variable winds through Inland Sea with remarkably fine weather, arriving at Kobe the 6th at 8 45 a.m. Left Kobe the 7th at noon; had moderate to fresh northerly and north-west winds and clear weather; passing Oshima at 8.25 p.m. with fresh to moderating N.W. winds and clear weather up to Rock Island the 8th at 10.30 a.m.; thence to arrival at Yokohama at 4.30 p.m., moderate to light variable winds and fine, clear weather; passed *Miike* and *Sendai Maru* off Vries Island, steering southward, also a quantity of kerosene cases floating around same locality.

The Japanese steamer *Omi Maru*, Captain J. W. Ekstrand, reports:—Left Otaru the 3rd December at 2 p.m.; had strong N.W. winds with snow squalls and high sea. Arrived at Hakodate the 4th at 9 a.m. and left the 6th; had strong westerly winds and misty rain. Arrived at Oginohama the 7th at 6.30 a.m. and left the same day at 4 p.m.; had strong W.N.W. winds and clear weather sundown gentle winds, fine and clear weather; winds variable, north and west. Arrived at Yokohama the 8th December at 5.40 p.m.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS

The Import Trade has experienced another unsatisfactory week in Cottons and Woollens, but there has been rather more enquiry in some lines which has given prices a hardening tendency. Yarns, both Single and Double, have been very dull, but owing to a slight demand and small stocks 16/24's are a little dearer. Cotton Piece Goods have continued very quiet—a few small purchases in Grey Shirtings comprising the week's business. Prices, however, are decidedly firm. Woollens remain quiescent without enquiry.

COTTON PIECE GOODS

	PER PIECE.	
Grey Shirtings—8¼lb, 38¼ yds. 39 inches	$2 15	to 2 70
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 38¼ yds. 45 inches	2 35	to 3 12½
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1 52½	to 1 85
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches	1 70	to 2 35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	1 75	to 3 75
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 32 inches	PER YARD. 0 16	to 0 21
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	6.35	to 8.70
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 32 3 inches	0 65	to 0.78
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	PER PIECE. 1.40	to 1 47½
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb. 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1 57½	to 1.82½
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.02½	to 2.47½
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2 65	to 2.85

WOOLLENS

	PER YARD.	
Flannel	$0.27	to 0 45
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0 30	to 0 33
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0 25	to 0.30
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0.20	to 0.25
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0 13	to 0 19
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0 35	to 0 50
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0 60	to 0.65
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0 40	to 0 70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 4 to 5½lb. per lb	0 45	to 0 57½

COTTON YARNS

	PER PICUL.	
Nos 10/24 Ordinary	—	
Nos 16/24, Medium	$36.75	to —
Nos 16/24, Good to Best	36 00	to 38.00
Nos 16/24, Reverse	—	
Nos 28 32, Ordinary	—	
Nos 28 32, Medium	37 75	to —
Nos. 28 32, Good to Best	38 50	to 39 50
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	45 00	to 47 00
No. 32s, Two fold	43 00	to 44 00
No 42s, Two-fold	47.50	to 49.50
	PER BALE.	
No 20s, Bombay	—	
No 16s, Bombay	—	

METALS

There has been but a small "spot" business done in Iron during the week, but some forward contracts have been entered into at slightly higher rates. Stocks generally are low, while supplies of Pig Iron are exhausted.

	PER PICUL.	
Flat Bars, ¾ inch	$3 80	to 4 00
Flat Bars, 1 inch	4 00	to 4 10
Round and square up to 2 inch	3.20	to 3 35
Iron Plates assorted	3 35	to 3.45
Sheet Iron	4 55	to 4 70
Galvanized Iron sheets	8 85	to 9 10
Wire Nails, assorted	5 40	to 5.75
Tin Plates, per box	6 20	to 6 40
Pig Iron, No 3	1 45	to 1 50

KEROSENE.

Another week of active demand has been seen in this market, but again business has been curtailed by the shortness of supplies. Owing to the loss of the German ship *Schliemann*, with about 69,000 cases of Comet, prices for American Oil rose sharply until the arrival of the steamer *Glamorganshire* with 66,000 cases, which checked the advance. Holders of Russian Oil, notwithstanding an arrival of 105,000 cases ex steamer *Helen Rickmers*, have hardened in sympathy.

Chester	$1 85	to 1 87½
Comet	1 82½	to 1.85
Devoe	—	
Russian Anchor	1.80	to 1 85
Russian Moon	1.77½	to 1.80

SUGAR

Buyers have shown rather more inclination to operate in Browns, and a fair day-to-day business has been transacted throughout the week. In spite of arrivals keeping pace with sales, prices for Manila and Canton grades show a slight advance. Whites have enjoyed a well sustained demand and holders are firmly inclined.

	PER PICUL.	
Brown Takao	$4 40	to 4.50
Brown Manila	5.15	to 5.25
Brown Daitong	3.95	to 4 00
Brown Canton	4 10	to 4 45
White Java and Penang	7.00	to 7 10
White Refined	7 50	to 9 10

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last issue was of the first instant, since which date settlements on this market amount to 2,719 piculs, divided thus: *Hanks*, 97 piculs; *Filatures*, 1,759 piculs; *Re-reels*, 652 piculs; *Kakeda*, 211 piculs. Direct shipments have been 163 bales, making the total export trade for the week 2,900 piculs.

The large buying for America mentioned in our last continued during the first half of the present week, and some business was also done for Europe. Holders have succeeded in advancing prices for some things and in several instances the advance has been paid. There is less doing at the close; prices are nominally firm at quotations, although dealers would be soon anxious to move were any signs of stagnation to appear.

Arrivals come in to some extent, but the stock figures show a smart reduction upon last week, and summer reelings of full sized Filatures and Rereels are by no means abundant.

Exchange is fairly steady at last week's quotations and has been practically without change all the week.

There have been two shipping opportunities since we last wrote, the American mail *City of Rio* 2nd inst. taking 976 bales for the New York trade, while the French mail steamer *Salazie*, 3rd instant, had 210 bales for Europe. These departures make the present export figures 19,677 piculs, against 29,687 piculs last year and 26,515 piculs at the same date in 1891.

Hanks.—The stock of medium *Shinshu* has been cleared out at $590 per picul, and the total stock of Hanks remaining on the market is down to 30 piculs. Arrivals, settlements, and shipments in this class this season have been of a very retail character.

Filatures.—As usual, the bulk of the trade has been in this class and prices have been advanced for full sizes. Among the latest sales are *Taiyosha*, $780; *Saishinsha*, $770 and equal grade at equal price. *Kaimeisha* was done a few days ago at $735, holders now asking $740. In fine sizes, best No. 1 is noted at $780, with other grades in proportion. These, without any actual rise in prices, are perhaps slightly firmer in sympathy with American kinds.

Re-reels.—Active market and good enquiry, prices having advanced $10 or $15 per picul. *Tengensha*, *Tortoise*, were done at $700; *Koriyama* (Girl) $685. Some advance is now required on these prices, the owners of *Five Girl* chop asking $710, with other well-known chops at equal rates.

Kakeda.—A fair amount of business has been done at quotations, which seem fairly reasonable and remain as last noted, there being no advance and no decline.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK.)

Hanks—No 1	$610	to	620
Hanks—No 2 (Shinshu)	600	to	610
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	590	to	600
Hanks—No. 2½ (Shinshu)	580	to	590
Hanks—No 2½ (Joshu)	570	to	580
Hanks—No. 2½ to 3	560	to	565
Hanks—No 3	550	to	555
Hanks—No. 3½	540	to	545
Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers	790	to	800
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	770	to	780
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	760	to	770
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den	740	to	750
Filatures—No 1½, 10/14 deniers	720	to	730
Filatures—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 den	720	to	730
Filatures—No 2, 10/15 deniers	690	to	700
Filatures—No 2, 14/18 deniers	700	to	710
Filatures—No 3, 14/20 deniers	670	to	680
Re-reels—Extra	750		
Re-reels—(Oshu) Best No 1	720	to	730
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	700	to	710
Re-reels—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	665	to	675
Re-reels—No 2, 14/18 deniers	640	to	650
Re-reels—No 2½, 14/18 deniers	630	to	635
Re-reels—No. 3, 14 20 deniers	600	to	610
Kakedas—Extra	740	to	725
Kakedas—No 1	690	to	695
Kakedas—No 1½	650	to	655
Kakedas—No 2	620	to	620
Kakedas—No 2½	600	to	615
Kakedas—No 3	580	to	590
Kakedas—No. 3½	—		
Kakedas—No. 4	—		
Oshu Sendai—No 2½	—		
Hamatsuki—No 1, 2	640	to	650
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	610	to	620
Sodai—No. 2½	—		

Export Raw Silk Tables to 8th Dec., 1893.

		Season 1893-1894.	1892 93.	1891 92.
		Bales	Bales	Bales.
Europe		12,534	10,209	9 094
America		6,513	18,951	16,738
Total	Bales	19,147	29,160	25,832
	Piculs	19,677	29,687	26,515
Settlements and Direct Export from 1st July		Piculs. 23,000	Piculs. 31,100	Piculs. 30,400
Stock, 8th Dec.		15,600	16,900	14,000
Available supplies to date		38,600	47,000	44,400

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WASTE SILK.

Settlements in this branch amount to 400 piculs, divided thus: *Noshi*, 60 piculs, *Kibiso*, 340 piculs, No direct shipments this week.

Arrivals come in on a free scale and sales for export are very limited; but our stock has been lightened considerably by native spinners taking off several hundred piculs of low *Cocoons*, *Boseki-wata* and *Neri*, which goods have been returned into the interior for use in the native factories. Quotations generally are about the same as last week. Shippers say they have plenty of limits in hand, but cannot purchase at the prices which holders ask. In spite of the heavy stock, dealers maintain their position wonderfully well and we must wait yet further for developments.

There have been two shipping opportunities since we last wrote, the German mail steamer *Nuernberg* and the French mail steamer *Salazie* both taking a fair amount for European ports. These departures bring the present export figures up to 10,671 piculs, against 17,839 piculs last year and 13,947 piculs at the same date in 1891.

Pierced Cocoons.—There has been no export business in these during the week but, as noted above, the native spinners have taken off several hundred bales of the ultra-common.

Noshi.—A small business in *Joshu*, prices ranging from $65 to $85, according to quality. Nothing done in other provinces.

Kibiso.—Considerable business in these, *Filatures* especially being in demand; prices ranging from $110 to $90, according to quality and grade. In *Hira* sorts, *Zaguri* has been done at $50, with *Oshu* at $40 and *Joshu* at $32.

Nothing done in *Mawata* or *Sundries* for export.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW WASTE).

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	$140 to 145
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	130 to 135
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	120 to 128
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	135 to 140
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	Nom. 110 to 115
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	Nom. 100 to 105
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	Nom 90 to 95
Noshi-ito—Bushu, Good to Best	120 to 130
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	85 to 90
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	75 to 80
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	65 to 70
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	110 to 115
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	100 to 105
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	70 to 80
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Good to Fair	40 to 35
Kibiso—Joshu, Middling to Common	35 to 30
Kibiso—Hachoji, Good	35 to 30
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	25 to 20
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	—
Mawata—Good to Best	—

Export Table Waste Silk to 8th Dec., 1893.—

	Season 1893-94. Piculs.	1892-93. Piculs.	1891-92. Piculs.
Waste Silk	8,072	15,504	12,620
Pierced Cocoons	2,599	2,335	1,327
	10,671	17,839	13,947
Settlements and Direct Export from 1st July	12,200	22,500	18,000
Stock, 8th Dec	20,200	15,100	14,300
Available supplies to date	32,400	37,600	32,300

Exchange:—This has remained fairly steady at last week's rates, closing a point higher:—London, 4m/s. Credits, 2/5; Documents, 2/5⅛; 6m/s. Credits, 2/5¼. New York, 30d/s. U.S $58; 4m/s. U.S, $59. Paris, or Lyons, 4m/s. fcs. 3.04, 6m/s. fcs. 3.06.

Estimated Silk Stock, 8th Dec., 1893.—

Raw.	Piculs.	Waste.	Piculs.
Hanks	30	Cocoons	340
Filatures	9,260	Noshi-ito	9,840
Re-reels	4,640	Kibiso	9,400
Kakeda	1,520	Mawata	130
Oshu	110	Sundries	490
Taysaam Kinds	40		
Total piculs	15,600	Total piculs	20,200

TEA.

The slight improvement noted in our last has not been sustained, and during the past week demand has again fallen off. There is now an almost entire absence of Choice Tea on offer, so we withdraw our quotations for the highest grades. Other sorts show no change in value.

	Per Picul.
Common	$12 to 13
Good Common	14 to 15
Medium	17 to 18
Good Medium	19 to 20
Fine	22 to 23
Finest	Nominal.
Choice	
Choicest	

EXCHANGE.

Exchange remained fairly steady during the interval, but rates rose a point at the close.

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	2 4⅛
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	2/4⅝
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	2/5
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	2/5⅛
On Paris—Bank sight	2 96
On Paris—Private 4 months' sight	3 04
On Hongkong—Bank sight	Par.
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	⅛ % dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	73
On America—Bank Bills on demand	56⅛
On America—Private 30 days' sight	58
On America—Private 4 months' sight	59
On India—Bank sight	Nominal.
Silver	32⅛

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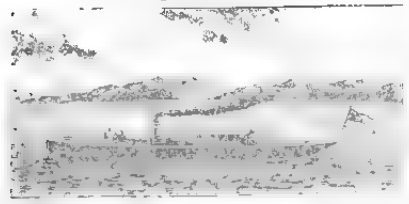

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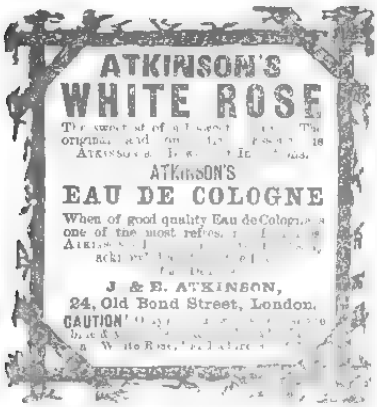

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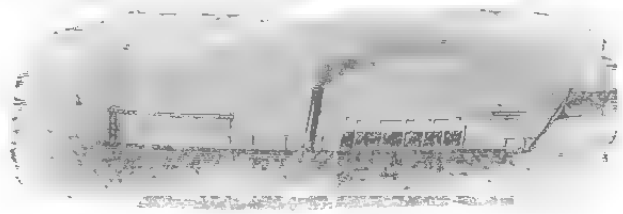

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A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, DEC. 16TH, 1893

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

SNOW fell in Tokyo about half-past five o'clock on Wednesday morning.

MR. TAJIRO ICHIJIRO has been elected President of the Yokohama Town Assembly.

SMALL-POX has broken out in Osaka. Dysentery, however, is nearly stamped out there.

A WHOLE block of houses near Isesakicho, Yokohama, was destroyed by fire on Monday evening.

TWO members of parliament have been assaulted this week by *soshi*, while proceeding through Tokyo.

A CONCERT will be given at Uyeno Park, Tokyo, on Sunday next by the pupils of the Academy of Music.

OVER sixty applications for the construction of private railways have been received by the Railway Council.

MARQUIS TOKUGAWA, an Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary, has been released from his post at his own request.

THE marriage arranged between the Crown Prince of Korea and a daughter of Kim Shi shun took place on the 6th inst.

THERE is a prospect of a band being engaged to play at the skating pond during some evenings of the Yokohama Skating Club's season.

SEVERAL degrees of frost were registered in Yokohama on Thursday and Friday mornings, the coldest weather yet experienced this season.

ADMIRAL SKERRETT, U.S.N., arrived by the *China* on Saturday last, and at once assumed command of the U.S. Asiatic Squadron, hoisting his flag on the *Lancaster*. The new U.S. Flagship *Baltimore* is expected early next year.

IT is stated that over fifty *soshi* of the Radical Party arrived in the Capital from the interior on the 13th and 14th inst.

IT is expected that the notification forbidding the export of rice from Korea will soon be withdrawn, the Chinese Minister having urged its abrogation.

THE Government sanctioned on the 12th inst. the establishment of the Yokohama Exchange promoted by Mr. Iijima and other Japanese traders of the port.

THE members of the Japan Trade Society (*Nippon Boyeki Kyokai*) propose establishing a branch at Yokohama, and appointing Mr Otani Kahei director.

THE new Commander-in-Chief of the U.S. squadron on the Asiatic Station, paid a visit on the 12th inst. to the Captain of the *Itsukushima Kan*, now at Yokohama.

THE last fortnightly meeting of the Yokohama Literary Society was a great success, Prof. Burton delivering a Lecture on Modern Photography, accompanied by stereopticon views.

IT is announced that, on the 19th instant at 9.30 a.m., His Majesty the Emperor will leave the Palace and proceed to the Imperial Naval College for the purpose of witnessing the winter commencements.

A TELEGRAPHIC message from Nemuro dated the 13th inst., published in the *Asahi Shimbun*, states that during a heavy snow storm which visited there the other day, a fishing boat was wrecked, and thirteen lives were lost.

AN application by the Yokohama Amateur Rowing Club for the reclamation of ground about one hundred *tsubo* in extent, near the French Hatoba, was submitted to the consideration of the Yokohama Town Assembly on the 12th inst.

THE Judge of H.B.M.'s Court for Japan has dismissed the petition filed in the suit brought by the next-of-kin of the men drowned by the sinking of the *Chishima Kan*, against the P. & O. S. N. Company. An appeal will be lodged in Shanghai.

THE *No. 1 Taiko Maru*, of the Great Lake Steamship Company, Otsu, was wrecked off Yobuko, Matsu-ura District, Saga Prefecture, shortly after seven o'clock on the morning of the 9th inst. All the passengers and crew were saved.

AN incendiary fire took place at Yokomachi, Ishikari District, Hokkaido, on the morning of the 10th inst. The flames burst out at half past three o'clock, and continued during two hours, by which time 178 houses, one boat, and 2 telegraph posts were destroyed.

DURING the week a small exhibition of bromide enlargements of negatives taken by Mr Otis A. Poole by a hand camera, has been held in Main Street, for the purpose of raising a prize fund for the boys of the Victoria Public School.

THE *John Y. Robbins*, while leaving Hakodate this week for San Francisco, sulphur laden, got ashore on Mussel Point, opposite Hakodate Head. There are several miles of sand in the vicinity, and it was hoped that the ship was on a soft place and would be got off, but a telegram was received here yesterday announcing that the vessel has been abandoned, her cargo being under water. This would lead to the supposition that she had got upon a reef in the neighbourhood of the point.

THE American sealing schooner *Emma* has arrived at Nagasaki in distress from Saghalien, with her rudder broken. The vessel was seized by the Russians, and the captain and crew imprisoned at Vladivostock, where orders were received from St. Petersburg to try the case in a Civil Court under Russian law.

A JAPANESE merchant of Yokohama has bought the wreck of the German ship *Schliemann* for the sum of some twenty-thousand dollars. A great deal of the oil has yet to be recovered from the sea, but some hundreds of cases have been cast up on the beach at Vries Island, and also at Atami, Misaki, and other places on the coast.

MR HOSHI TORU, President of the Lower House of the Diet, has been expelled the House by a vote of the Representatives upon the report submitted by the Disciplinary Committee, to which body he had been handed over by reason of his refusing to acknowledge the House's vote of want of confidence in him and resigning his chair.

SIGNOR ZANARDELLI, who recently undertook to reconstruct the Italian Cabinet has resigned, and subsequently Signor Crispi had a long interview with King Humbert; the anarchists of London are creating trouble, they are forbidden Trafalgar Squar and have been charged by foot and mounted police; Professor Tyndall is dead, his wife having given him a dose of chloral in mistake for magnesia; Mr. Dupuy is the new president of the French Chamber of Deputies; the U.S. Tariff bill will add sixty million dollars to the already existing deficit, which amounts to twenty-eight millions; Mr. John Morley is suffering from influenza.

THE Import trade remains much as last reported. Yarns being slow of sale, "singles" especially, and the demand for "doubles" has not been large. Shirtings are more or less neglected, Fancies and Woollens being in much the same case, and holders all round are firm, declining offers at reduced prices. The Metal market remains unaltered, the small stocks being firmly held, and there is nothing to report but a few contracts on a limited scale. The activity recently noted in Kerosene has been fully maintained, and all the transactions that have been put through have commanded full rates. The stock has been increased by the arrival of two cargoes of American Oil, yet is anything but large notwithstanding. Russian Oil is also in good demand, and the stock is not great. There has been a fair trade in Sugar, Browns being unchanged in value and taken in fairly large parcels. Whites are also in good request at late rates. The Silk trade has not been extensive, settlements only amounting to 1,000 piculs, of which over 100 bales were direct shipments. For the small daily business that resulted in this total, prices were well maintained, and in certain kinds holders succeeded in obtaining an advance. The stock is well kept up, arrivals promptly replacing the parcels taken, and there are still over 15,000 piculs on this market. Only a small business has been done in Waste, and the stock increases, but holders will not give way, and the trade is consequently restricted. Tea has seen another dull week, and such demand as exists is checked by holders, who will make no concessions whatever. Exchange has receded slightly from the rates of a week ago, and closes with an element of uncertainty.

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THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

Political rumours fill the air. The announcement that Count Yamagata, who had been staying at Yoshino in Yamato, was instructed by His Majesty to return to the capital, led some people to suppose that changes in the *personnel* of the Cabinet were imminent. It is even rumoured that Count Ito intends handing over the Cabinet to the President of the Privy Council. Some papers go still farther and predict that the Ministry will resign in a body within ten days. Yet another rumour has found its way into print that the Cabinet is waiting for a favourable pretext to dissolve the Diet, and the paper which publishes this reports adds that, after dissolving the Diet, the Cabinet will quietly resign and ask Count Yamagata to form a new one. Again, it is rumoured that Count Ito and a few other Ministers alone will leave the Government, and that the next Minister President will be either Count Saigo or Count Kuroda. The diversity of rumours and the class of papers in which they are published, make it safe to conclude that, for the most part, they are fabrications of artful politicians now directing the policy of the disorganized Opposition. Having at last succeeded in overthrowing—in an unjust and disgraceful manner be it remembered—their bitterest enemy, Mr. Hoshi, whom they supposed, rightly or wrongly, to be an unsurmountable obstacle in an effective attack upon the Government, they now think that the time has arrived for them to close with the Ministry for a last and decisive struggle. And in order to put heart into their comrades, the leaders of the Opposition assiduously circulate rumours tending to indicate irresolution and weakness on the part of their adversaries. On what question will the fight take place? That is the topic now engaging attention in political circles. Some papers say that it will be over the Budget, while others maintain that the Progressionists and others seem resolved to concentrate their energies upon the question of official discipline and a few other subjects, such as the *Chishima* case and the strict enforcement of the Treaties. The latter view seems to us to be the more likely, for, while on the question of the Budget the Progressionists and other extreme sections of the Opposition will be unable to obtain the full cōoperation of the National Unionists, the latter will heartily assist them in pushing the other subjects specified above. Thus on these questions, the Opposition being sure of an overwhelming majority in its favour, is rightly resolved to concentrate its whole energies in a safe direction. It is even reported that the Progressionists are not averse to a formal alliance with the National Unionists, on condition of a secret understanding for the formation of a coalition Cabinet in the event of the resignation of the statesmen now in power Thus far, however, there is no indication to confirm this rumour. At all events, it seems likely that the Opposition, guided by the Progressionists and assisted by the National Unionists, will ere long put forth its whole strength to dislodge the Ito Cabinet from office. Possibly the parties of the Opposition, especially the *Kaishin-to*, would be better pleased with the dissolution of the Diet than with the resignation of the Cabinet, for their organs are openly advising the Government to appeal to the country. Meanwhile, the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* and the *Jiji Shimpo* recommend the Government to be firm and resolute in its policy toward the Diet.

* * *

The *Nichi Nichi* observes that its prophecy that the present session would witness confused fighting has unfortunately been fulfilled. Starting with the inconsistent and absurd conduct of the Diet thus far, as well as to the unreasonable reductions which the Budget Committee is understood to propose, our contemporary thinks that it is now high time for the Government to adopt some decisive and radical measure to cure the country of its intolerable political malady. The predominance of a single party in the Diet might be productive of several evils, but it would be better than the co existence of numerous small parties incapable of effecting a combination sufficiently permanent and strong to secure consistency of policy. While the Opposition is indulging unchecked in extravagances of all sorts, the Ministers stand irresolute and hesitating. Such an attitude on the part of the Cabinet, says the *Nichi Nichi* may be of some use as a temporizing measure, but statesmen who have the preservation of the Constitution really at heart, and who are honestly devoted to the lasting good of the country, ought to be prepared to take some radical measure for clearing the Diet of its destructive elements

* * *

The *Jiji Shimpo* is surprised at the weakness of the Cabinet in its contests with the Opposition. What is the actual condition of the Opposition? It is disorganized and incapable of any strong cohesion. With such assailants before it, the Cabinet ought, in the *Jiji's* opinion, to have no difficulty in defending its citadel against attack. The Cabinet may even sally out and effectively disperse its faint-hearted besiegers. But in point of fact, not only is the Government unable to attempt any aggressive line of action, but it not infrequently suffers its enemies to close round the keep of its castle. Is this due to any inherent weakness on the part of the Government? Some people are inclined to think that all energy has gone out of the clan Government, and that it is almost as rotten and tottering as the Tokugawa Government was in the latter days of its existence. But this view is not shared by the *Jiji*. Individually speaking, the statesmen composing the present Cabinet show no signs of intellectual decline, nor have they anything to fear from competition with the young politicians of the Opposition. Not want of energy or lack of ability is responsible for the defeats suffered by the present Ministers of State in their encounters with their opponents. The cause of their apparent weakness must be sought, the *Jiji's* thinks, in want of concord among themselves. They need only to be united in order to secure their tenure of office against disturbance by the Opposition.

* * *

The Progressionist organs continue their attack upon the Government on the subject of official discipline. The *Mainichi Shimbun* tells Count Ito that his supposed fears about the results of turning Count Goto loose in the field of party politics are entirely unfounded. The present Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce undoubtedly possesses some followers, but none of them, in the *Mainichi's* opinion, are loyally devoted to him. It is true that he was once able to collect about him a formidable following under the banner of the *Daido Danketsu*. But the manner in which he deserted his followers to join his avowed enemies, makes it absolutely impossible for him to repeat the device with success. Our contemporary advises Count Ito to be in no way troubled about the consequences of Count Goto's leaving office. Perhaps, says the *Mainichi*, age is responsible for the Premier's attention to such baseless apprehensions.

* * *

The Hoshi question has been the absorbing topic of discussion during the week under review. So much has been already written on the subject in these columns, that it is not necessary to dwell on it again here. The by-election to fill the vacancy caused by Mr. Hoshi's expulsion will take place early in January. The constituency is the first election district in the Prefecture of Tochigi. Mr. Hoshi will of course present himself as candidate. His probable rival will be Mr. Yokobori, who sat for the District in the first Diet but was defeated by Mr. Hoshi at the last general election. Mr. Yokobori will be supported by the Great Japan Union, of which he is a member, and the popularity which the cause advocated by that political body enjoys in country districts generally is believed to be a great advantage in his favour. Some papers even report that Mr. Oi Kentaro, the leader of the anti-Mixed Residence movement, will contest the place. Whoever may compete with Mr. Hoshi, it is certain that the latter's opponents will appeal to the prejudices of the local population on the subject of Mixed Residence. Being thus the first election in which that question will be brought to the front, the contest promises to be extremely interesting. Mr. Hoshi's personality is not one that excites either affection or regard. He has never been and probably never will be a favourite with any class of people. But the way in which he has been treated by the House of Representatives has temporarily roused a general sympathy with him, while the eminent capacity he displayed in the exercise of his authority as President of that House wrung admiration even from his enemies. There is, therefore, little question that he will be successful in the coming election.

* * *

With regard to Mr. Hoshi's expulsion from the House of Representatives, we will notice only a few journalistic comments. The *Yomiuri Shimbun*, enumerating his offences, remarks that "he sold his Party; he committed immoral acts; he caused anxiety to the Sovereign; he showed contempt for the unanimous voice of the House of Representatives; and he has violated the Regulations governing the House." For offences like these, expulsion was a mild punishment, so thinks the Progressionist organ. Another organ of the same party, the *Mainichi Shimbun*, endeavours to defend the arbitrary conduct of the infatuated majority in the Lower House against the just criticisms of the papers outside Party circles. But its ingenious arguments are vitiated by the assumption that the original vote of want of confidence, for disobedience of which Mr. Hoshi was expelled, was irreproachable in point of legality and warranted by facts. In fact, the *Mainichi*, like every other defender of the unwarrantable conduct of the Lower House, begs the question from the outset and tries to mask the disgraceful action of the House under the disguise of sacred motives of morality which were entirely alien to the heated minds of Mr Hoshi's persecutors.

* * *

The *Jiji Shimpo* may safely be taken as the mouthpiece of the sober, educated section of the public. That journal is not favourably impressed with Mr. Hoshi's character. "Had we been," it says, "an elector in his constituency, we might probably have hesitated to cast our vote for him." The *Jiji*, however, observes that his personality has nothing to do with the question of the propriety of the measure taken against him by the House of Representatives. Our contemporary sincerely regrets that the House so far allowed itself to be carried away by party spirit and passion for political revenge as to create a precedent in respect of meting disciplinary punishment to a member against whom no offence has been established. Mr. Hoshi's expulsion under these circumstances may even be considered in the same light as the case of the prisoners in the Soma affair, supposing that they were sentenced to death without considering the evidence brought against them. The *Jiji* extremely regrets this incident for the sake of the honour and reputation of the House of Representatives.

* * *

The Budget question does not as yet receive the attention it deserves, owing to the Hoshi affair, which has nearly engrossed the attention of metropolitan papers, as well as to the general expectation that a decisive collision may perhaps take place before the Estimates are brought up for discussion. The Budget Committeee is now proceeding upon a plan, to which the Premier has declared that the Cabinet can never agree. The Radicals who compose the majority of the Committee have taken it into their heads that the contributions which officials are obliged to make out of their salaries for the purposes of the increase of the Navy, are not reductions of salaries, and consequently insist on a further decrease in this section of the Budget. As to the contributions, their idea, judging from an article in the *Jiyu Shimbun*, seems to be that if the Diet vote a corresponding sum for Naval purposes out of the Ordinary Revenue, the Ministers should advise His Majesty to

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revoke his orders for the compulsory contributions. The Progressionist papers seem to regard the reductions proposed by the Committee as too moderate. The National Unionists, on the other hand, will not countenance the attempted meddling with Official Organizations. So it is believed that the Lower House will be divided into three nearly equal sections on the subject of the Budget, and it is feared that neither the original Estimates prepared by the Government nor any of the amendments proposed by these antagonistic parties will obtain a majority in the House.

* * *

The same causes that make the newspapers indifferent to the Budget also combine to divert their attention from the speech which the Premier recently delivered at a meeting of the Budget Committee. The *Mainichi Shimbun* remarks that the Premier having declared his Opposition to the moderate reductions proposed by the Budget Committee, it would be useless for the Opposition to make the slightest departure from the policy of sweeping reductions followed since the first session of the Diet.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE ADDRESS TO THE THRONE ON OFFICIAL DISCIPLINE.

THE Central Intelligence Company, quoted by the *Mainichi Shimbun*, alleges that the various Ministers of State have held a meeting to consider the Address to the Throne on Official Discipline, and that they have resolved to submit a joint memorial to the Emperor on the subject. We do not know how much truth there may be in this story, but we entertain some doubts whether the Cabinet would consider such a vague and unsubstantiated Address worthy of such serious notice. It is impossible to reply satisfactorily to charges couched in language so general that they amount simply to an expression of irresponsible opinion. The framers of the Address seem to have appreciated that fact fully. It seems to us that there is but one form of reply:—"The Cabinet Ministers have acted in accordance with the canons that commend themselves to their judgment as well as to their appreciation of a Minister of State's dignity. They have nothing to say to an accusation of the nature formulated by the House of Representatives." When it becomes an accepted doctrine of modern civilization that to associate with merchants and manufacturers disqualifies a high official for his post, the outcry of the mediæval sticklers in the House of Representatives will begin to have some weight.

MR. KAWADA KOICHIRO ON ECONOMIC QUESTIONS.

THE *Kokumin Shimbun* sent a representative to interview Mr. Kawada, President of the Nippon Ginko, on the economic questions of the day. His opinions on the problems now attracting the attention of thinking men in Japan, namely, the future of the Nobles' Bank, and the inauguration of an iron foundry, possess considerable interest. He declares himself strongly opposed to the winding up of the Nobles' Bank after the expiration of its prescribed term. For he discerns no manner of safely and profitably employing the large capital now involved in the Bank's operations, unless the institution be preserved. It is, he thinks, because the wealth owned by numerous peers in varying amount has been collected to subserve one purpose that they have been enabled thus far to compete with others in an age of the keenest business rivalry. So soon, however, as they are required to stand individually, as they would be were the Bank closed, they would lose their competence. He is of opinion that whatever different views may be entertained on the subject, the Bank ought to be preserved, not alone for the sake of the peers as a whole, but also because of the fact that the money invested by nobles in the 15th Bank is the hereditary property of their families. He thinks it distinctly strange that the Bank should lately have decided to allow the unrestricted sale of its shares.

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As to the establishment of an iron foundry, he would have the project under the control of men convinced of its importance, resolved to realize its objects, and ready to maintain the business, whether it prove profitable or unprofitable for at least five or six years. He holds that to aspire to follow the example of England in this matter and to regard the work of an iron foundry in Japan in the same light as it is regarded in England, would be a complete mistake. Iron differs much in quality according to the place of its extraction, and if iron differs in quality the uses to which it is applied must also differ. But Mr. Kawada doubts whether there are specialists in Japan competent to manage foundry work. Moreover, this country does not enjoy advantages such as are possessed by England in the close proximity of the districts where iron and coal are produced. All these considerations lead the President of the Bank of Japan to conclude that iron in Japan cannot be regarded with the same importance as that attached to the mineral in England. Finally, he thinks that the time is still premature in Japan for an enterprise of the kind. But whether in the Occident or in the Orient, those that seek to invest a great capital so as to secure a good profit, should in his opinion, devote themselves to mineral, enterprises in the following order, namely iron, coal copper, silver, and gold.

KOREAN NEWS.

ACCORDING to the latest correspondence from Sōul published in the vernacular press, political circles in the Korean capital do not seem to be free from a certain measure of excitement and intrigue at the present moment. Bin Eikan (Japanese pronunciation), who has been leading a retired life mourning for his deceased parent, is expected to resume his official career before long, and this circumstance is said to have set a large number of officials intriguing lest their positions be imperilled by the return to power of this influential Minister. In addition to the well known feud between Bin Eikan and Bin Eishun, the Korean Court is divided into several antagonistic coteries all striving for ascendency in the councils of State. The strife of these factions appears to have reached a dangerous point, if we may believe reports circulating about recent occurrences. On the night of the 21st ultimo, a plot to blow up the residence of Bin Eishun was discovered, and about the same time, Bin Eitatsu was assaulted on his way from a visit to his family burial ground. The Minister of Foreign Affairs, Nan Teitetsu, is said to have tendered his resignation, the reason assigned being that he feels himself unequal to cope with the pressure brought to bear by Russia to obtain the lease of a tract of Korean land for purposes of agricultural experiment. But why such an incident should drive His Excellency Nan to the verge of desperation, we do not perceive.

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Considerable excitement is said to have been caused in Sōul by reports of a rising of about or hundred of the *Togaku-to* malcontents at Hō on. They attacked a certain local grandee's residence, but were defeated and their ringleaders are now in prison. The occurrence nevertheless seems to have given a violent shock to the Sōul authorities, for at the time when the correspondence from which we are quoting was mailed, soldiers were patrolling the streets of the capital. Several Korean constables, it is said, are stationed in front of the Japanese Legation, nominally to guard the inmates against the attack of malcontents, but really to keep a watch over Koreans who may visit Japanese officials. How much of all this is trustworthy, we do not pretend to discriminate, but we may note, at any rate, that if even a small fraction of the stories told by correspondents of the vernacular press were true, Korea would be perpetually seething with sedition and intrigue.

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Loud complaints are made by Japanese merchants against interference on the part of Korean local authorities in the purchase of grain, not for exportal on but for disposal in the country. Meanwhile, Mr. Otori seems to be taking steps to induce the Korean Government to revoke the Ordinance for the prohibition of the export of rice. The price of that staple is said to have fallen considerably in Sōul, and this circumstance, together with a decrease of revenue from custom duties, is believed to have had a salutary influence on the Korean Government. The Chinese Resident is also stated to be working for the abolition of the objectionable Ordinance.

THE LATEST DEVICE.

IT really seems as though there might be some grain of truth in the singular story recently published about the device contemplated by the malcontents in the House of Representatives with regard to the Hoshi Toru affair. Having failed to move Mr. Hoshi from his seat either by a vote of want of confidence based upon the froth of party jealousy and passed by the strength of prejudice, or by an Address to the Throne that was proved to mean nothing at all, they are now said to have conceived the project of falling back, in their extremity, on the 13th Article of the Law of the Houses. That Article says:—"In each House, in the event of the disability of the President, he shall be represented in his functions by the Vice-President." "The disability" here referred to signifies, of course, sickness, bereavement or some other of the causes that occasionally admit of any other interpretation. But Mr. Hoshi's enemies seek to include among "disabilities" forfeiture of the House's confidence, and are contemplating a motion to oust Mr. Hoshi from the chair and replace him by the Vice-President on the strength of Article XIII. When this incredible scheme was announced a few days ago by the *Mainichi Shimbun*, we found it totally beyond belief. But it is now gravely advocated by the *Kokumin Shimbun*, a journal said to be edited in the interests of the *Kaishin-to*. The *Kokumin Shimbun* recommends a species of baiting process. It would commence by a vote of the House declaring Mr. Hoshi disabled. Then, if he declined to regard such a vote, it would hand him over to the Disciplinary Committee for contumely. The Committee would recommend a sentence of suspension for a fortnight. If, at the expiration of that time, Mr. Hoshi remained obdurate, the whole process could be repeated again, and thus, by a series of such manœuvres, he might be kept out of the Chair until the end of the session. This is a serious programme. No one will be disposed at first to regard it as anything beyond a sorry jest. But it is serious. If the House of Representatives adopts it, the public will laugh even more heartily than it has done already, and Japanese parliamentary institutions will be brought into permanent ridicule.

MARRIAGE AND DIVORCE IN TOKYO.

THE *Official Gazette* towards the end of last month, published a table showing the total number of marriages and divorces during the month of October in the 15 urban sections of Tokyo. The table shows that the total marriages were 591 and divorces 162. On examining the respective ages of the married couples, we find that 114 males from 20 to 30 years of age married females of from 15 to 20 years; 173 males of the same age married women from 20 to 30 years old, whilst 122 males from 30 to 40 years of age took as wives women from 20 to 30. These taken together made up the total of 409, or about two-thirds of the whole. It seems, therefore, from the statistical returns, that the marriageable age of the citizens of Tokyo is from 20 to 40 years in men and from 15 to 30 in women. One striking feature of these Tokyo marriage statistics is the fact that the divorce rate in men and women from 40 to 50 years old is greater than the marriage rate. For instance, against 12 couples who married at that age, there were 17 couples divorced during the same month.

FREE EMIGRATION TO HAWAII.

MR. WAKAMOTO, of Yamaguchi Ken is now waiting at Yokohama with his family and 17 associates to be taken to Hawaii by the *City of*

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Peking, which leaves for Honolulu at the end of this month. Mr. Wakamoto has been resident in the Hawaiian Islands for over four years, engaged in commerce, but recently leased 50 acres of land from the ex-Queen, and is contemplating a further lease of 300 acres, with the object of starting a farm. Last October he came home for the purpose of enlisting the aid of some of his fellow-countrymen and the 17 persons now returning with him have engaged to help him in his enterprise. The lease of the lands to be taken up is for thirty years: during the first three years he is to pay nothing, from the fourth year he will have to pay a tax of one and a half *yen* per acre. The agreement has been made between Mr. Wakamoto and the manager of the ex-Queen's estates, and has been certified by a notary public, and sanctioned by the Minister of State. The Japanese Consul does not, however, seem to have been a party to the transaction. It is stated by the *Mainichi Shimbun* that there are more than 54,000 acres of unreclaimed land available for similar free grants in the neighbourhood of Hilo alone.

THE STEAMER "MIOWERA"

LATEST accounts show that steamer still remains on the reef at Honolulu, and from reports in the Hawaiian papers it appears that the best appliances for releasing a ship from the position the *Miowera* occupies are not available there. Trouble has also arisen in regard to the men who have been engaged on the work, and it appears that, not having been able to get the wages due to them, they have left the job, and the contractor has had to seek the protection of the police. The Naval Court of Inquiry to investigate the circumstances of the stranding of the *Miowera* has declared its finding. As yet the document is not prepared for publication. It is learned, however, that Captain Stott is declared clear of blame for the stranding of the steamship under his command. Accordingly, the Court has returned Captain Stott his certificate. The steamer *Arawa*, has been chartered to take the place of the *Miowera* and will leave Sydney, Nov. 18th, so that only one voyage between Vancouver and Australia, as a result of the mishap to *Miowera* will missed. She is a very fine vessel, and can carry 30,000 carcases or animals, in addition to other produce, in its freezing chambers. An immediate opportunity is thus offered for a large trade in meat and dairy produce from Australia, and in salmon and other products from Canada. Her dimensions are 439 ft. 6 in. length; 46 ft. 3 in. breadth, 28 ft. 9 in. depth; 3,267 tons net and 5,026 tons gross; of 800 nominal horse-power. She is a 4-masted steamer, with three decks and eight bulkheads, and provided with two smoke-stacks. The *Arawa* was built in 1884 by the Denny Bros. of Dumbarton for the Shaw Saville & Albion Co., is furnished with electric lights and the latest improvements, and carries three classes of passengers. She holds the record from New Zealand to Plymouth of 34 days around the Cape. Capt. Stuart, R.N.R., is in command. She will be due at Honolulu, November 30th.

PROJECT OF LAW FOR THE PUNISHMENT OF PERSONS IMPEDING THE OPERATION OF THE FOREIGN TREATIES

THE following is a translation of a Bill now awaiting discussion by the House of Representatives:—

Art. I.—Any Japanese subject who, by any device whatsoever, holds land in trust for an alien, shall be liable to major imprisonment for not less than one day and not more than one year, with a fine of not less than twenty *yen* and not more than two hundred *yen*.

Any Japanese subject who holds buildings in trust for an alien outside the limits of the foreign settlements shall be liable to the same punishment as mentioned in the foregoing clause.

Art. II.—Any Japanese subject who by whatever method possesses shares of a company in trust for an alien shall be liable to major imprisonment for not less than fifteen days and not more than six months, with a fine of not less than ten *yen* and not more than a hundred *yen*.

Art. III.—Lands, buildings, and shares possessed by any Japanese subject in the manner described in the two foregoing articles shall be confiscated.

Art. IV.—Any Japanese subject who, not on his own account, but that of an alien, engages in an industrial or agricultural enterprise of business outside the limits of the foreign settlements, shall be liable to a fine of not less than fifty *yen*.

Art. V.—Any Japanese subject who leases land or a building to an alien not possessing the privilege or permission to live outside the limits of the foreign settlements, shall be liable to the punishment specified in the preceding article.

Art. VI.—Any Japanese subject who wittingly sells land, buildings, or shares, or who in any way assists in the perpetration of offences mentioned in Arts I., IV., and V., shall be liable to the punishment provided for the respective offences mentioned therein, lessened by one degree.

Art. VII.—Any Japanese subject who lodges an alien not provided with a passport for travel in the interior, shall be liable either to confinement of no less than three days and not more than ten days, or to a fine of not less than one *yen* and not more than 1.95 *yen*.

Art. VIII. Any Japanese subject who may be in process of committing the offences mentioned in Arts I., II., IV., and V., at the date of the coming into operation of the present Law, shall be allowed a period of three months from that date, during which he may take steps to conform with the provisions of the present Law.

PROJECT OF LAW FOR THE REGULATION OF FOREIGN TREATIES.

THE following is a translation of an interesting project of law now awaiting debate by the House of Representatives:—

Arts. I.—Aliens shall not enjoy any civil privileges beyond those specially granted them by treaty or by law.

Art. II.—Any Japanese subject who sells or transfers in any other way to an alien the ownership or use of lands and houses, shares of companies, the lease of mines, patents, and so forth, shall be liable to major imprisonment for not less than four months and not more than four years, with a fine of not less than a hundred *yen* and not more than a thousand *yen*. The property thus sold or transferred shall be confiscated. Any Japanese subject who allows his name to be used by a foreigner or otherwise assists in the above mentioned sale or transfer, shall be liable to punishment less severe by one or two degrees than that inflicted on the principal in the transaction.

Art. III.—Any Japanese subject who suffers his name to be used by a foreigner for purposes of business outside the limits of the foreign settlements, shall be liable to major imprisonment for less than three months and not more than three years, with a fine of not less than a hundred *yen* and not more than a thousand *yen*.

SUPPLEMENTARY RULE.

Persons who have been guilty of any of the offences enumerated in the present Law previous to the date of its coming into operation, shall be held absolved of all liability to punishment if they make confession within six months after the above mentioned date.

THE LATE DHULEEP SINGH AS A SHOT.

THE late Dhuleep Singh was one of the originators of the heavy day's shooting so much in vogue nowadays. When settled down at Elveden Hall, near Thetford in Norfolk, many years ago, he was, says a writer in the *Pall Mall Gazette*, surrounded by everything that makes life easy and pleasant. Fond of sport, he had located himself in the best sporting district of England. He set to work to ingratiate himself with his county neighbours, and in this he admirably succeeded. He welcomed them at his own house and gave them princely entertainments, and in return was pleased to accept their hospitality. Elveden eventually became nothing more nor less than a game farm. Enormous bags of pheasants were killed there, and then this extraordinary man set himself the task of killing more partridges in one day than had ever been done before. In nine days' shooting in September, 1876, to his own gun he shot 2,530 partridges. In one day he killed 780, and to do this he is reported (and it is so officially recorded in "Badminton") to have fired just 1,000 shots. Thus, if he shot for eight hours that day, he would have had to fire over two shots per minute without allowing any interval for lunch. In that same year at Elveden, four guns killed from October 10 to 13, 829, 557, 662, 483 partridges in the four days. In the year 1885, 856 partridges were bagged by only three guns. The Badminton book also relates that in September, 1885, the same three guns shot in fifteen days no fewer than 6,509 partridges. The Maharajah also distinguished himself as a grouse shot, on one occasion bagging 440 grouse in one day in Scotland.

JAPAN AND PORTUGAL.

WE quoted in a recent issue, a paragraph from the *China Mail* to the effect that H.E. Governor Borja had returned from Japan *re infecta*, and that negotiations would now be continued in Lisbon through the Japanese Minister in Europe. The impression suggested to us by this statement was that the *China Mail* merely referred to the intentions ascribed to Portugal by Governor Borja, but it would appear that some of our readers have construed the paragraph to mean that negotiations commenced here were to be continued in Lisbon with Japan's consent, she having entrusted their conduct to her Representative at the Portuguese Court. We hasten to say, therefore, that such an inference is entirely erroneous. There are no negotiations in progress, so far as Japan is concerned, and therefore her Minister in Lisbon cannot have been entrusted with any duty of the kind.

THE MOST VENERABLE MEMBER IN THE LOWER HOUSE

MR. ABEI HANKON, according to the News Agency, continues to be painfully perturbed about the Hoshi Toru business. The oldest member in the House of Representatives has already acquired historical notoriety. His name will go down to posterity as the proposer of the most irresponsible and least defensible measure ever discussed by an assembly of legislators or passed by a giddy majority. Yet he is not content. He wants to be even more conspicuous. We learn that he adheres obstinately to his resolve to resign his seat if Mr. Hoshi Toru resumes his. Moreover, there are one or two other members prepared to follow Mr. Abei's lead. It is to be sincerely desired that no one will baulk their purpose. Let them go by all means, these men who have been chiefly concerned in bringing ridicule on the Japanese Diet. Shame should induce them to resign any how.

THE PEERS AND THE ADDRESS TO THE THRONE ON OFFICIAL DISCIPLINE.

A STRONG effort is being made by the Opposition in the House of Peers to follow the example of the Representatives, and present an Address to the Throne on the subject of official discipline. If the promoters of this measure succeed in their project, they will at least have the satisfaction of demonstrating that the Peers are prepared to take their cue from the Commons. That will be an achievement, especially when the purpose of the united action is to inform the Sovereign that really his faithful Peers and Representatives entertain a very poor opinion of His Majesty's competence to choose his Ministers or to appreciate their disgraceful behaviour when they are chosen.

THE ADDRESS TO THE THRONE ON OFFICIAL DISCIPLINE.

IT was rumoured that the Cabinet intended to present a joint memorial to the Sovereign by way of reply to the Address submitted by the Lower House on the subject of official discipline. But if intelligence published by the *Fiji Shimpo* be trustworthy, the Cabinet has not taken such a step. Indeed, our readers may remember that when news of the intention was first made public, we expressed doubts whether the Ministers of the Crown would find it consistent with their dignity to take conspicuous notice of an indictment so vague and sentimental as that formulated by the House of Representatives. The *Fiji's* information is to the effect that, so soon as the Address reached His Majesty, the Minister President made a communication to the Sovereign declaring that he was unable to discover any evedence of the disorderly behaviour attributed to officials, but that the fact of His Majesty's being troubled about the matter constituted cause of deep regret. Count Goto

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also presented to the Emperor a written statement, averring that while he found nothing to repent of in his own conduct as a Minister of State, he could not but be painfully sensible of the misfortune that had made him individually a source of trouble to the Sovereign. The *Jiji* adds that when Count Goto carried this representation to the Emperor, he was accompanied by Count Kuroda, and that the two statesmen spoke to the Sovereign at considerable length about the charges preferred against Count Goto. What kind of notice, if any, the Emperor will take of the Address, no one has yet ventured to conjecture.

POLITICAL AMENITIES IN FUKUSHIMA PREFECTURE

THE partisans of the *Kokumin Kyokai* in Miharu-machi, Fukushima Prefecture, reports the News Agency, invited Mr. Oi Kentaro and his friends of the *Dai-Nippon Kyokai* to deliver political lectures on the 8th instant. The subject of the lectures is not stated in the Agency's account, but we may fairly assume that the speakers devoted themselves to anti-mixed-residence theme, together with disquisitions about the importance of enforcing the strict letter of the Treaties. The chief opponents of all that kind of blundering patriotism at present are the *Jiyu-to*. Their followers in Miharu-machi are said to have contemplated a violent inruption of the lecturing, but for some unexplained reason they abandoned that part of their programme and contented themselves with an irruption of two or three *soshi* into the inn of Mr. Oi when he had returned thither. It would be rather quaint if Mr. Oi Kentaro were to fall an easy victim to any violence at the hands of *soshi*, considering that he himself has always been recognised as a leader of those gentry and that he is usually accompanied by a strong following of them. On the other hand, there is a kind of retributive justice in the fact that he encounters such embarrassments, for certainly if any one deserves to suffer from *soshi* lawlessness it is the man who has been eminently instrumental—unless common report greatly belies him—in bringing these pestilent youths into vogue. Mr. Oi's *soshi*, however, were too much for the Miharu-machi intruders. Two of the latter were seized and handed over to the police, a result so unsatisfactory to the comrades of the impounded men that three or four hundred of them made a raid upon the police station, bombarded it with stones, smashed the windows, and gave the inmates a very hot ten minutes. In a very brief time the guardians of the law mustered in force. Seven of the would be rescuers were arrested and sent to share the incarceration of the youths whom they had thought to deliver from durance.

IMPORTED COTTON.

THE *Kokkai Shimbun* maintains that the opponents of the proposed free admission of foreign raw cotton have a great deal of justice in their contention that this measure will be highly injurious to the prosperity of the country. The advocates of foreign-grown cotton have always pleaded that the superior firmness of its fibre and its consequent greater adaptibility for making yarns, together with its relative cheapness, make it more desirable than any cotton of native growth. But recent experiments made in Settsu and Kawachi point to a different conclusion. American cotton has been grown there at a cost not exceeding three *yen* per ton, whilst the yield amounts to about twenty-two *yen* per ton. Indigenous cotton costs about 7 *yen* per ton for manuring and irrigation, so that in this point alone there is a very considerable gain to be got from the cultivation of foreign cotton. If the 80,000 *cho* of cotton plantations in Japan were planted with the American varieties, there would be a yield of about 15,000,000 *yen*, after deducting the costs of cultivation. Last year about 12,700,000 *yen* worth of cotton was imported, about 11,000,000 *yen* of which represented cotton already ginned. The existing plantations would therefore almost be sufficient for the present demand, and more land would doubtless be brought into cultivation so soon as the profitableness of cotton-growing was demonstrated. Should, however, the duty on foreign cotton be removed the native cotton-growers would be practically driven out of their own market, and a valuable native industry would receive its deathblow. If the Treasury is so rich that it can afford to remit any duties, would it not be better, argues the *Kokkai*, to devote a portion of its surplus to the encouragement of cotton growing at home?

THE BUDGET COMMITTEE.

THE various sections of the Budget Committee are said to have finished their labours and prepared to present their reports to the Chairman of the Committee without further delay. The Committee will therefore hold a general meeting to-morrow to consider the reports and prepare its own statement for the House. It is alleged that the programme submitted by the Committee to the House will be virtually the same as that submitted last year. The most marked difference between the Government's Budget and the Committee's recommendations will be in respect of official salaries. There the Committee would reduce in accordance with the table published in one of our recent issues. We do not imagine that there is the smallest prospect of the Government's agreeing to any such sweeping and extravagant reductions. Hence the old deadlock will arise, and how an exit is to be found for it this session we fail to perceive. Some impediment must be placed in the path of the House's headlong retrenchments. The ten per cent. already taken off official salaries for purposes of military equipment should be more than sufficient to satisfy the most radical reformer. If is, of course, more than probable that some few officials still receive higher salaries than the functions they discharge entitle them to. But, on the whole the pay of Japanese officials seems to be very moderate, and in not a few cases it is certainly too small either to procure efficient men or to prevent corruption. There could be no policy more hurtful to the best interests of the State or less economical than to cut down the emoluments of office until only the most mediocre persons will consent to receive them.

THE TROUBLE BETWEEN NO. 64, KOBE, AND THE JAPANESE FANCY WARE DEALERS UNION.

THE *Jiyu* informs us that as the foreign firm has intimated to the Fancy Ware Dealers Union that it is ready to consider any proposals the Union may make to it, the Union have resolved that the boycott which has been for some time in force against the firm shall be removed. The officers of the Union are now drawing up draft rules for the regulation of transactions between the firm and the Union. Our contemporary summarizes these rules as follows:—

1.—The foreign merchants are requested to show more consideration and straightforwardness in their dealings with Japanese merchants

2.—When goods sold by contract are received by foreign merchants, their inspection should be completed within five days from the day of delivery, and the goods should be paid for not later than the following day

3.—The price of samples shown should be paid under all circumstances.

4.—When goods are received by foreign firms, the seal of the firm should be affixed to the books of the Japanese merchants as a proof that the goods have been duly received.

We hear, says the same authority, that Mr. Mitchell, of Messrs. Samuel Samuel and Co., Yokohama, was expected to go down to Kobe on the 26th ult., to confer with Mr. Bardens of the Kobe branch of the firm on the question of the boycotting of the firm by the Japanese Fancy Ware Dealers. Previous to the departure of Mr. Mitchell for Kobe, Mr. Goto Katsuzu, who is to act as arbitrator, was to come up to Tokyo and call upon Mr. Mitchell in Yokohama for the purpose of submitting to him the proposals of the Japanese merchants. It is expected that the trouble will be settled ere long.

AGITATION AGAINST THE PROPOSED FREE ADMISSION OF IMPORTED RAW COTTON.

A MEETING of the opponents of this measure, which seems to have the support of the majority of both houses of the Diet, was held in the Hall of the Society of Agriculture, Akasaka, Tokyo, on the evening of the 2nd inst. The following members of the Diet were present:—Baron Katoi, Messrs. Tomita Ginnosuke, Tanaka Yoshio, Fujimura Shiro, and Nango Shigemitsu from the Upper House; and Messrs. Abei Iwane, Komuchi Tomotsune, Ishihara Hanyemon, Nagai Matsuyemon, Hashimoto Zenyemon, Watanabe Yoshizo, and Mizuochi Kan, from the Lower House. There were also present Messrs. Oshima, Inouye Jintaro, Hida Rōichi, Yokoi Jikei, and, from the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, Messrs. Oshikawa, Sawano, and Tamari. Mr. Oshima, of the *Niroku Shimbun*, told the meeting that the proposals shortly to be laid before the Diet made it advisable for all those who were opposed to the free admission of foreign cotton to bestir themselves. Hitherto they had always been conscious of one weak point in their contention. It had been a matter of doubt whether foreign cotton would thrive on Japanese soil. But he was glad to say that this doubt was now set at rest. It had been abundantly proved that the exotic varieties of cotton did well in this country. Mr. Oshikawa, and others then gave details of successful experiments in cotton growing which had recently been made in various parts of Japan, after which Mr. Oshima reminded the meeting that as this Bill would probably come before the House during its present session, though it might be postponed to the next, it would be advisable to form an association of persons interested in the subject, and to rouse public opinion against the measure. This suggestion meeting with unanimous approbation, Mr. Oshima and one other were appointed to draw up a scheme for the projected association, and were requested to summon another meeting so soon as their draft scheme should be ready for discussion. After a few words from Mr. Komuchi on the Import duties on cotton, the meeting was brought to a close.

MR. HOSHI TORU.

MR HOSHI TORU'S term of suspension expires to-day, and his intention, so far as we can ascertain, is to take his seat once more in the Presidential chair. His re-appearance there will be the signal for another urgency motion, but as to its purport we have no information, unless, indeed there be some truth in the extraordinary reports recently circulated to the effect that the President's persecutors contemplate an attempt to flagrantly and openly pervert the meaning of Art. XIII. of the Law of the Houses. We find it impossible to believe anything of that kind, though truly it is difficult to set any limit to the extravagance of which the majority in the House seem capable at present. As for Mr. Hoshi, rumour attributes to him the intention of addressing the House to-day, so soon as he resumes his seat, on the subject of the vote of want of confidence. If he does so, his speech will be of great public interest.

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In our opinion the simplest course for Mr. Hoshi and his supporters to follow would be to go on with the business of the House irrespective of the malcontents, supposing that the latter decide to adjourn rather than sit under a President that they dislike. One-third of the total number of members in the House constitutes a quorum. In other words, so long as a hundred members are present, the work of legislation can go on. In the first division when the vote of want of confidence was passed, Mr. Hoshi had 119 supporters. Since then the majority against him appears to have being gradually diminishing. Why should not he and his 119 occupy the Chamber and go on debating and legislating just as though the 144 recalcitrants had no existence?

FIRES IN YOKOHAMA.

A VERY destructive fire broke out in the Japanese portion of Yokohama about half-past six o'clock on Monday evening. The conflagration started in an out-house attached to the residence of Mr. Tamura Toyokichi, at No. 37, Umegaye-cho, and fanned by a strong breeze quickly spread. In a few minutes most of the houses in the block were ablaze and the reflection cast upon the sky was intensely lurid. The

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native fire brigades and police were quickly on the scene, and every endeavour was made to stay the progress of the flames. The block, however, was doomed to destruction, and attention had to be directed to the houses on the opposite sides of the street, upon whose roofs huge showers of sparks and fragments of burning wood were falling. By half past seven o'clock all danger was over, but 24 houses had been completely destroyed and eleven others very much damaged. Fortunately no loss of life occurred. The cause of the outbreak is yet unknown Another fire broke out at Hachiman-yato about ten o'clock, but the efforts of a large body of firemen prevented it from doing much damage, the fire being confined to the house in which it originated.

KEROSENE CARGOES.

THE following vessels were loading on Nov. 4, or to load, at New York:—British ship *Queen Victoria* (Hongkong or Japan) 65,000 cases; British bark *Semantha* (Hongkong, Japan, or Shanghai), 90,000 cases; British ship *Wray Castle* (Hongkong, Japan, or Shanghai) 70,000 cases; German ship *Henrietta* (Japan), 70,000 cases; British ship *Clan Robertson* (Hongkong or Japan) 60,000 cases; British ship *Glencora* (Hongkong or Japan) 90,000 cases; British ship *Ardrosa* (Hongkong or Japan), 80,000 cases; British ship *Matterhorn* (Hongkong or Japan) 70,000 cases; British bark *Silberhorn* (Hongkong or Japan) 75,000 cases; British ship *Bahama* (Hongkong or Japan) 95,000 cases; British ship *Siren* (Japan), 60,000 cases; British ship *Columba* (Hongkong or Japan), 70,000 cases; British ship *Benjamin Lee* (Hongkong or Japan) 70,000 cases; British ship *Glenclova* (Hongkong or Japan), 90,000 cases; British bark *Muskoka* (Hongkong, Japan, or Shanghai) 90,000 cases; British ship *Crofton Hall* (Hongkong or Japan) 80,000 cases.

THE MIHARU MACHI AFFAIR.

FULLER particulars now published indicate that the Miharu-machi affair was more serious than the first reports indicated The *soshi* who created the disturbance had obtained re-inforcements from the band of itinerant actors who find the histrionic stage more profitable than the political, but who nevertheless seem prepared to resume their old rôle on the latter whenever occasion offers. Having obtained a considerable amount of success in interrupting the speeches delivered by Mr. Oi Kentaro and his friends, the *soshi* conceived and carried out the idea of intimidating all the *jinrikisha* men of the little town, so that the political lecturers and their associates, unable to procure any vehicles, had to proceed on foot from the place of meeting to the *réunion* subsequently organized. We have already related how, after that, three or four more adventurous spirits forced their way into Mr. Oi's inn and and behaved so rudely that two of them were seized and handed over to the police. Thereafter followed the seizure of the police station by about 300 *soshi*. The constables, being in very small force, could not do more than defend the entrances to the station and await the arrival of re-inforcements from Fukushima, whither a telegram had been forwarded. Nightfall brought an increase of numbers to the beseigers, they being joined by idlers from the town who found something piquant in the idea of beleaguering a police office. The mob did not confine its attentions to the Police Station: the Tax Collectors' office and some private houses in the immediate vicinity were also considerably damaged. As the hours passed, the beseiging force dwindled considerably, but those that remained kept up a very spirited din and display of violence. Towards dawn, a small body of constables—nine in number—arrived from Fukushima, and being quickly followed by some judges and public procurators, they assumed the aggressive and arrested seven of the ringleaders, the rest dispersing incontinently.

AMERICA AND HAWAII.

SECRETARY GRESHAM'S Report to the President of the United States, seems to establish beyond question a fact previously suspected, namely, that the Hawaiian revolution by which Queen Lil.uokalani was dethroned, owed its temporary success chiefly, if not entirely, to the display of military force which Mr. Stevens, United States Representative in Honolulu, was persuaded by the revolutionists to authorize. The declaration addressed by the Queen to the Provisional Government would alone constitute a strong piece of evidence. Her Majesty wrote:

"I, Liliuokalani, by the grace of God and under the Constitution of the Hawaiian Kingdom, Queen, do hereby solemnly protest against any and all acts done against myself and the constitutional government of the Hawaiian Kingdom by certain persons claiming to have established a provisional government of and for this Kingdom, that I yielded to the superior force of the United States of America, whose Minister Plenipotentiary, his Excellency John L. Stevens, has caused United States troops to be landed at Honolulu and declared that he would support the provisional government. Now, to avoid any collision of armed forces and perhaps the loss of life I do, under this protest and impelled by said force, yield my authority until such time as the Government of the United States shall, upon the facts being presented to it, undo the actions of its representative and reinstate me and the authority which I claim as the constitutional sovereign of the Hawaiian Islands"

But even in the absence of any such testimony as this document affords, the verdict of Secretary Gresham is conclusive:—

The earnest appeals to the American Minister for military protection by the officers of the provisional government after it had been recognized show the utter absurdity of the claim that it was established by a successful revolution of the people of the islands The appeals were a confession by the men who made them of their weakness and timidity Courageous men, conscious of their strength and the justice of their cause, do not thus act

It is not now claimed a majority of the people having the right to vote under the constitution of 1887 ever favoured the existing authority or annexation to this or any other country. They earnestly desire that the government of their choice shall be restored and its independence respected

Mr. Blount states that while at Honolulu he did not meet a single annexationist who expressed willingness to submit the question to a vote of the people, nor did he talk with one on that subject who did not insist that if the islands were annexed suffrage should be so restricted as to give complete control to foreigners or whites, and representative annexationists have repeatedly made similar statements to the undersigned

The Government of Hawaii surrendered its authority under a threat of war, until such time only as the Government of the United States, upon the facts being presented to it, should reinstate the constitutional sovereign, and the provisional government was created to "exist until terms of union with the United States of America have been negotiated and agreed upon."

A careful consideration of the facts will, I think, convince you that the treaty which was withdrawn from the Senate for further consideration should not be resubmitted for its action thereon

Should not the great wrong done to a feeble but independent State by an abuse of the authority of the United States be undone by restoring the legitimate government? Anything short of that will not, I respectfully submit, satisfy the demands of justice Can the United States consistently insist that other nations shall respect the independence of Hawaii while not respecting it itself? Our Government was the first to recognize the independence of the islands, and it should be the last to acquire sovereignty over them by force and fraud.

There cannot be any doubt about the course that the United States Government will adopt in view of this Report. America has happily been able hitherto to shape her foreign policy in accordance with the dictates of right and justice. She is not likely to make any departure from her wholesome habit in Hawaii's case.

THE MIYE LOCAL ASSEMBLY.

THOUGH it is quite the fashion for Prefectural Assemblies to appeal against their Governors to the Home Office, the Miye Assembly seems to have especially distinguished itself in this way. It is alleged that the Governor of that Prefecture has been grossly neglectful of his duties in the way in which he managed the repairs undertaken by Government after the inundations of last summer. Contrary to the general custom, he informed the contractor as to the amount that the Government was willing to pay, gave him a contract for that amount, 16,000 *yen*, and allowed him to make a handsome profit of 8,000 *yen* out of the job. To these charges the Governor has replied, that he was not aware of the amount of profit made by the contractor, and that it was not a matter of prime importance. The important thing in a case of emergency like this, when the lives of over 6,000 people were in peril, was to have the work done speedily and satisfactory. The delay which would have been caused by advertising for tenders and securing the lowest offer, might have cost the country far more than the present contractor's profit. He was convinced that he had acted rightly and that he could not have done otherwise. We are informed that a good number of members withdrew from the Assembly Hall during the Governor's speech. It was therefore in a somewhat thin House that one of the discontented members moved a vote of censure on the Governor for having departed from the customary procedure in awarding the contract. The motion was carried by a slender majority of 26 to 24; and a petition embodying it has been duly forwarded to the Minister for Home Affairs. It remains yet to be seen what the Home Office will do in the matter.

THE PRESS AND TUESDAY'S SESSION OF THE LOWER HOUSE.

IT goes without saying that the extravgaant motion passed in Tuesday's session of the House of Representatives for handing over Mr. Hoshi to the Disciplinary Committee, is warmly approved by the party organs in the capital, with the exception of the *Jiyu Shimbun*. Unfortunately Mr. Hoshi's conduct on that occasion was not free, as we have already pointed out, from errors which, though by no means justifying or even excusing the extreme course adopted against him, give his enemies a good opportunity to indulge their passion for ridicule and malicious comment. This phase of the affair is, therefore, made the most of by the organs of the Progressionists, the National Unionists, and the *Domei* Club. The independent section of the metropolitan press is unanimous in its condemnation of the extravagant conduct of the Lower House.

* * *

The *Jiyu Shimbun* justly complains of such a flagrant perversion of the power of disciplinary punishment for purposes of political revenge. The resumption of the Presidential chair by Mr. Hoshi on the 12th instant, so far from being an indictable offence, was a duty which the President was bound to discharge. With reference to the vote of want of confidence on which his enemies required him to act, the Radical organ observes that the vote, as acknowledged by themselves, had no binding force upon him, and that his refusal to resign in obedience to the unlawful dictation of the House could never constitute a proper ground for placing him in the hands of the Disciplinary Committee. Our contemporary admits that Mr. Hoshi's ruling to allow a debate on Mr. Takata's motion, as well as his declaration that the motion had not been brought within the prescribed limits of three days, were erroneous. Had he persisted in these false positions to the last, there might have been some ground for the resolution moved by Mr. Ooka. But in point of fact, Mr. Hoshi did not persist in his errors, and the House would have acted more manfully and justly had it refrained from giving its easy assent to Mr. Ooka's proposal.

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The *Nippon* expresses surprise at the ignorance and perversity of the House of Representatives. It severely condemns the House for having sacrificed the interests of the country on the altar of private political passion. With Mr. Hoshi personally, our contemporary expresses no sympathy. But it holds that the House can never be pardoned for disgracing itself by conduct such as it was guilty of on Tuesday last.

* * *

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* observes that the sentence of suspension which the House recently pronounced upon Mr. Hoshi, justifies the inference that it simultaneously acquiesced in his refusal to resign, for suspension and a demand for resignation are in their nature incompatible with each other. Therefore Mr. Hoshi only did what was proper and unavoidable when he resumed his chair on the expiration of the period of suspension. It would be, says the *Nichi Nichi* in conclusion, too disgraceful to the members of the Lower House to suppose, as some people are inclined to do, that their object in taking these extravagant measures against Mr. Hoshi was to provoke him into some act of rashness such as might furnish a fair pretext for resorting to the

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last measure of punishment, namely, expulsion from the House.

* * *

The *Jiji Shimpo* is one of the staunchest friends of Mr. Hoshi. It remarks that the ultimate object of his persecutors is to weaken the position of the Cabinet. The Address to the Throne on the subject of official discipline is tantamount to a vote of want of confidence in the Ministry. The opponents of the Cabinet think that the practical force of their Address will be seriously affected by the manner in which the House of Representatives disposes of the Hoshi question. So soon as that question has been settled, they will directly turn upon the Government and endeavour to pull it down.

EXHIBITION OF BROMIDE PICTURES.

THE exhibition of bromide pictures now being held at No. 28, Main Street, is well worth a visit, not only on account of the object in view—the promotion of a prize fund for the boys of the Victoria Public School—but also for the high degree of artistic excellence which the majority attain. They are, for the most part, enlargments by Mr. Tamamura of small negatives obtained by Mr. Otis A. Poole with a hand camera. The yachting pictures are extremely good, and equally interesting are the views taken in different parts of the New Road, and which comprise a field of iris, rice-fields, and bits of the paths by the side of the Bluff. A very pretty picture is that of the stretch of water near Dzushi. Among the collection is also a very fine life-size reproduction of a photograph of Dr. Wheeler, in which the soft tones of the bromide process are seen to great advantage. The exhibition will remain open for several days, and we strongly advise a visit.

M.M. STEAMER AGROUND.

WRITING on November 21st., the *Singapore Free Press* says:—News was received in Singapore yesterday afternoon, after we had gone to press, that the M.M. steamer *Godavery*, plying between here and Batavia, had run aground at Pulau Sauw in the Rhio Straits. She was sighted about one o'clock by a small vessel, the *Emily*, which runs between here and Rhio, a little to the north of the port of Rhio and about 28 miles from Singapore, and the chief officer of the *Godavery* coming off in a long-boat boarded the *Emily* and was brought on to Singapore. It appears that the *Godavery* ran on to a sandbank during a heavy rain squall, when the engines were going slowly, but no damage seems to have been sustained by the vessel which is expected to float off during the day. Tugs have been sent off to her assistance, and M. Brasier de Thuy, the mail agent, went off this morning to see after the passengers and mails, who are expected to arrive per the tugboat *Bangkok* this afternoon

NAVAL NEWS.

THE U.S.S. *Monocacy* is going up to Hankow in a few days. The French gunboat *Comète* has left Shanghai for Hankow. The *Caroline* left Shanghai on the 7th inst., for target practice and a visit to Ningpo, and was to return within a week. The *Porpoise* left Chinkiang on the 8th inst. for Shanghai. The *Daphne* having reached Hankow, the *Redpole* was expected at Shanghai on the 9th. She will shortly leave that port for Hongkong

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While H.M.S. *Caroline* was on her way out of the Shanghai river for target practice, on 7th inst., she collided with the *Tungsha* lightvessel and carried away the latter's bowsprit. The *Feiho* was sent out to the damaged vessel.

POLITICAL GOSSIP.

COUNT YAMAGATA'S expected return to the capital in obedience to an Imperial message, has given rise to various rumours. He was to have arrived in Tokyo ere this, but it is now stated that, owing to sickness, his return will be delayed a few days more. At present he is staying at Otsu. As to the anticipated consequences of his return to the capital, some people believe that he will be offered the portfolio of Agriculture and Commerce, which, they take it for granted, will be resigned sooner or later by Count Goto. Others opine that he will be requested to use his endeavours for inducing Count Goto to resign. According to these persons, it is believed that, when the newspapers began to make comments on the subject of official discipline, the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce asked the Premier whether it was necessary for him to resign. Count Ito, we are told, answered in the negative, and now finds himself in an awkward situation, because his former assurance precludes him from insisting on the resignation of the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce Hence, say they, the necessity of calling in the aid of the President of the Privy Council! The most absurd of the stories is that Count Yamagata's return will lead to the formation of a Military Cabinet composed in the following manner:—

Count Yamagata—Minister President of State, and Minister of State for Foreign Affairs;

Viscount Shinagawa—Minister of State for Home Affairs;

Mr. Yasuba Yasukazu—Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce;

Viscount Kabayama—Minister of State for the Navy;

Viscount Takashima—Minister of State for War;

Mr. Nakai Hiromu—Minister of State for Education;

Count Matsukata Minister of State for Finance;

Viscount Tanaka (Kōken)—Minister of State for Communications;

Count Kuroda—President of the Privy Council.

A candidate for the portfolio of Communications is still wanting. This rumour is published in the *Jiyu Shimbun*. According to our information there is not the slightest foundation for such a story. The Radical organ may perhaps have had some party purpose to serve in giving publicity to it. Indeed we should not have reproduced the above list of an imaginary Cabinet, had it not been for the fact that the names mentioned show what sort of men are popular in Military circles. According to the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, an authority not to be ignored on any subject of this nature, Count Yamagata's expected return has no direct political connection. The simple explanation is that the Emperor has instructed him to be at his post at a busy political time like the present.

THE PROGRESSIONISTS.

THE Progressionists, about 140 in all, held a réunion on the 11th instant at the Kinkikan, Kanda, Tokyo. They adopted two resolutions; namely, that during the present session of the Diet a deputation should be sent to the Capital from every City and Prefecture with a view to the adoption of united and energetic action by the party; and that, during the New Year's recess of the Diet, lecturers should be despatched to provincial districts. When the assembly sat down to a social repast, Mr. Ozaki Yukio is said to have delivered a speech on the subject of the *Chishima* case. No detailed report of what he said has been published, but the *Mainichi Shimbun* would have us believe that he made a powerful appeal to the patriotism and loyalty of the audience, from which it is not difficult to infer that he did not fail to dwell on the question of the use of the Emperor's name both in the Consular Court at Yokohama and the Supreme Court at Shanghai. The Progressionists are determined to make the most of this subject in their desperate opposition to the Government. In response to the unanimous request of the assembly, Mr. Shimada is also said to have spoken on some important current topic which is not clearly mentioned. Speeches were made by several other members of the party. Twenty-two localities were represented at the meeting.

CIGARETTE MAKERS AND THE TOBACCO TAX REGULATIONS.

A RECENT amendment in the Tobacco Tax Regulations has, according to the *Jiji Shimpo*, caused great distress in the cigarette manufacturing industry, an industry which employs several thousands of persons of both sexes in the capital alone. By this amendment, which came into force on the 19th of October last, it was provided that no tobacco should be left in the charge of any mechanic engaged in the cigarette manufacture. As by far the greater part of the cigarette makers' work at home, and only visit their employers' offices for the purpose of delivering the manufactured cigarettes and getting fresh supplies of tobacco and paper, the result of this amendment was that over 10,000 women and girls in Tokyo were thrown out of work. The cigarette manufacturers, and notably Mr. Iwaya Matsuhei, have taken the matter up, and have secured the interest of the Governor of Tokyo on their behalf. It is needless to say that the Financial authorities had no intention of injuring so important an industry: the object of the amendment being simply to secure the revenue against loss arising from the illegal sale of untaxed tobacco. The Finance Department has therefore consented to postpone the operation of the obnoxious amendment till April next; so that the cigarette manufacturers have several months before them during which to agitate for better terms.

NAMIKAWA'S FUJISAN.

"THE TRIBUNE" has published a glowing enconium, written by Mr. Gustavus Goward, on Namikawa's enamel plaque, shown at the Chicago Exposition. Reading Mr. Goward's praises, we are vividly reminded of the conditions in which fancy waistcoats have their *raison d'être*. Our own secret opinion of the great plaque was that a more unlovely and less commendable object had never been produced at such an expenditure of labour and material. We have seen a representation of Fujiyama's peak in many coloured enamels on a dagger haft from the atelier of the old time artist Hirata. It was curious. On the same plane one would have been disposed to place many other grotesque misapplications of technical skill. But Hirata's enamelled Fujiyama had at least the merit of being frankly unreal. It did not aspire to be anything more than a quaint bit of enamelling. Mr. Namikawa's Fujisan, on the contrary, pretends to be a picture, in the sense that an oil or a water colour is a picture. It is hard, under any circumstances, to believe in the art that takes cloisonnéss enamels as a medium for re-producing sea-scapes, land-scapes, and other displays of nature. But when there is question of reproducing, in a hard, solid-coloured substance like enamel, not only mountain peaks that owe their tints to distance, but even the tender, inexpressively soft cloud effects that add so much to their charm, we can not think that the artist treads a true groove. Besides, the Chicago plaque was eminently unsuccessful. It fell far, very far, short of its maker's and designer's ideal. Had it come from any other atelier, there would have been little chance, we think, of its finding a place in the Japanese fine arts section. Why, however, *The Tribune* lithographed it, and why Mr. Commissioner Goward sings its praises journalistically, we are at a loss to comprehend.

PANORAMA OF MATSUSHIMA

PROFESSOR W. K. BURTON and Mr. Ogawa, to whom we are indebted for so many beautiful albums illustrating Japanese scenery and costumes, have issued another very pretty work in the form of a coloured panorama of the celebrated Matsushima Archipelago, one of the loveliest spots in Japan. The panorama is divided into five sheets folding into an album of convenient size, and clear directions are given as to the manner of bending the sheets so as to obtain a panoramic view of the exquisite seascape. It is an ingenious idea, most successfully carried out. The little album ought to become a favourite.

ASSAULT ON MR. SHIMADA.

THE *Mainichi Shimbun* gives details of an assault which was committed on Mr. Shimada Saburo, the distinguished *Kaishin-to* M.P., by some roughs, while that gentleman was leaving the Kinkikan Hall, Kanda, Tokyo, shortly after eight o'clock last night. A number of Progressionists had been holding a social entertainment at this place. Mr. Shimada, who received two or three cuts upon his face, was

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immediately conveyed back to the Hall, and medical assistance was promptly procured. He was able to return home shortly afterwards. The wounds, happily, are not very deep.

PERTINACITY.

THE members of the Opposition in the Lower House are said to be growing very impatient about the success or rather the failure of their Address to the Throne on the subject of official discipline. More than a week has passed since the Address was presented, yet Count Goto and Mr. Saito remain in office and the Emperor remains silent. Under these circumstances the agitators are drafting questions to elicit the Government's views, and are further planning a motion to abstain from discussing the portion of the Budget that refers to the Department of Agriculture and Commerce. Evidently these gentlemen still labour under the impression that it rests with them to dictate to the Sovereign what officials shall continue in office and what officials shall be removed. If that were possible it is plain that the House of Representatives might pull down a Cabinet piecemeal with the greatest ease imaginable. Nothing would be necessary except to present an Address to the Throne accusing the Ministers, one at a time or even two or three together, of any offences that might suggest themselves to men coveting their places. The House has shown that it experiences no difficulty whatever in constructing offences out of any shreds of rumour that may be blown about by winds of political passion. The impugned Ministers would then have to resign incontinently and the principle of Party Cabinets would be established at once. The other device attributed to the Opposition might not be less effective and would have the added charm of still greater illegality. By simply declining to grant any money, whether in the shape of "already fixed expenditures," or of outlays controllable by the Diet for the uses of a Department presided over by an obnoxious Minister, the House might effectually control the Emperor's choice of advisers. But these are fancies. The Opposition may build castles in the air, but a resolute touch of the Government's hand will soon pull the pretty edifices into ruins.

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE GOVERNMENT

So soon as the House of Representatives had voted for the expulsion of Mr. Hoshi Toru, it caused the following notice to be addressed to the Government:—

> This House, in accordance with the 93rd Article of the Law of the Houses, has decided on the expulsion of Hoshi Toru. Inasmuch as Hoshi Toru held the office of President, the Government is requested to report the fact to the Throne.

The House of Representatives is evidently a little uncertain of itself. Under ordinary circumstances there would, of course, be no manner of reason to report to the Government any of the acts of the House. But since Mr. Hoshi Toru held the Emperor's commission as President, the sentence of expulsion pronounced against him is tantamount to depriving him of his semi-official position without reference to the power that nominated him. The House appears to think that this difficulty can be negotiated by simply reporting the fact to the Government for the information of the Sovereign. In criticising these proceedings, we have always to remember that Japanese Constitutional legislators are like men groping in the dark. Conceive for a moment how hopelessly perplexed our own legislators would be were they suddenly deprived of the library of precedents in which a chapter can be found to suit every imaginable text. The Japanese have no such guides. They are required to make precedents for themselves, and it would be a little unreasonable to expect that the kind of men now sitting in the Lower House are thoroughly competent for such work. Mistakes they cannot hope to avoid, and they have made so many lately that perhaps a brief respite may now be looked for. This particular question of Mr. Hoshi's persecution has a dual aspect. While on the one hand the House has an indisputable right to expel the member, Hoshi Toru, it has no manner of right to pull down the President Hoshi Toru of its own authority. Yet the former act necessarily involves the latter. Probably we shall hear nothing more of the dilemma, but it is not the first of its kind that Japan's juvenile legislators will have to resolve.

DOMESTIC AND FINE ART PORCELAINS.

AN incidental illustration of the want of adaptability shown by the Japanese in suiting their art industries to the foreign markets, upon which they have now chiefly to rely, is furnished in the newspaper comments evoked by the Columbian Exhibition. Japanese Keramists sent to the great fair a number of specimens of unquestionable beauty and technical excellence. Their display evoked no little praise. Indeed so enthusiastic are the accounts published of Japan's exhibits by American journals that we scarcely recognise the origin of the much belauded porcelains. One journal writes, for example:—"There are to-day in Chicago three of the finest private collections of Japanese porcelains in the United States. They are not large collections, but contain so many valuable specimens that they have been a source of pleasure to connoisseurs even from the Orient. These collections of porcelains have been much enriched by additions to them from the beautiful exhibits that were exposed in Jackson Park. The one-colour pieces in powder blue, tea colour, green, lavender in globe-shaped vase and gallipots, that are to remain here, are surpass ugly beautiful." Assuredly had we been asked to name the varieties of Japanese modern ware most deserving of mention in connection with the Chicago Exposition, it would not have occurred to us to speak of monochromes. Happily the same thing conveys different ideas to different minds. Japan many congratulate herself on the impression she has produced. However, it is not this general verdict we desire to speak of, but the following criticism:—"The useful china of Japan is inferior to that of any other country both in design and glaze. The Japanese are such clever artists that they will return home with new thoughts of table china, and before many years there will be found in European and American markets a table China worthy to be called Japanese porcelain." It is evident that the author of this criticism, when he speaks of "useful China," means useful from a Western point of view, that is to say, means that dessert services, breakfast and dinner sets, and such things, suited for European or American households, are difficult to obtain in Japanese porcelain. In that sense his comment admits of no question. The Japanese have indeed managed to produce tea and coffee cups of beauty and good form, but, strange to say, they are lamentably backward in the matter of other table utensils such as are likely to please Western taste and serve Western purposes. At all their domestic exhibitions one looks in vain for any evidence of progress in that direction. Even a cream-ewer or a teapot for foreign use seems to be beyond their capacity as modellers. They produce the most execrable shapes, so that not uncommonly one sees a tea set the cups and saucers of which are in every respect desirable while the other vessels are detestable. Yet it ought to have dawned upon Japanese potters ere this that their great hope of large custom abroad depends upon producing wares suited for every-day use rather than upon catering for decorators or connoisseurs. The demand for art china must always be comparatively small, but the demand for porcelains that can be employed for every-day purposes is practically unlimited. What adds to the curiosity of the Japanese Keramists' want of perception in this matter, is that in former times they devoted themselves almost exclusively to manufacturing domestic porcelain and faience. That fact, indeed, is one of the chief difficulties standing in the way of a collector. For one piece that he finds designed to appeal purely to artistic or decorative instincts, a thousand are met with that can never be made to seem other than what they are, namely, plates, dishes, cups, bowls, bottles, and so forth, intended to serve the purposes of eating and drinking, not to stand in a show-case or furnish an over-mantel. The Japanese, in short, have always recognised in their own case that the main end of porcelain and pottery is to satisfy the wants of the household and the table, but they are singularly slow to give practical effect to the same theory when they have to cater for foreign demand.

CHEAP NEWSPAPERS IN THE STREETS OF TOKYO.

WONDER is often expressed, says the *Fiji*, at the low price for which papers can sometimes be bought in the streets of the metropolis. This may partly be accounted for by the excessive discount allowed by some of the dailies to their itinerant agents. But the remarkable point is that newspapers like the *Fiji*, which do not give so liberal a discount, are sold at a curiously low figure. Simultaneously with the appearance of the newspaper under cost price the *Fiji Shimpo* office has been receiving many complaints from its subscribers about the non-delivery or irregular delivery of the paper. Most of the complaints have come from the thickly populated districts of Kanda, Nihonbashi, and Kyobashi, where the paper is delivered at a very early hour whilst the inmates are still asleep. The *Fiji* has discovered that there is a set of thieves who follow the messengers at a respectful distance and fish the newspapers out of the letter-boxes. If the owners of houses would improve the construction of their letter-boxes, they would get their newspapers regularly, and the newspaper under cost price would disappear from the streets of the metropolis.

THE IMPERIAL FISHERY COMPANY.

AN extraordinary general meeting of the shareholders of the Teikoku Suisan Kaisha was held at the Koseikan, Kobiki-cho, on the afternoon of the 6th instant, Mr. Nakayama, a director of the Company, being in the chair. The Chairman regretted to inform the meeting of the resignation of Mr. Murata Tamotsu, President of the Company, also of Mr. Murayama Chotaro, one of the directors. He also stated that it was advisable for the present not to attempt to increase the capital of the Company to 750,000 *yen*, as decided upon at the last meeting; and he was glad to announce a grant from the Government of 3,600 *yen*, for the expenses of experimental sea-otter fishing off the northern coast of Awa. Certain amendments in the bye-laws of the Company were then introduced and approved of, after which the Chairman announced that a compromise had been effected whereby the original remuneration offered to Mr. Ito Kazutaka, the Company's technical officer, had been commuted for a sum of 4,000 *yen* in cash. Mr. Kano, auditor, reported that in consequence mainly of the heavy initial expenses of the Company, the capital had been decreased by about 60,000; and that in the event of Government registration the Company would do well to bear this in mind. Mr. Ito Kazutaka was then elected as a Director, on the motion of Mr. Kato. The same gentleman was subsequently appointed President of the Company by a unanimous vote of his brother directors. It is said that the Department of Agriculture and Commerce have made the following stipulations with the Company with regard to their grant:—

1. Experimental sea-otter fishing is to be undertaken under the direction of the Fisheries Institute.
2. The Government allowance shall not exceed 3,600 *yen*, and shall be paid by instalments as thought most convenient.
3. The results of the experimental fishing shall be communicated to the Fisheries Institute as soon as ascertained.
4. The books of the Company, so far as they concern the expenditure of the Government allowance, shall at all times be accessible to the officers of the Fisheries Institute.

NATIONAL BANKS AND REGISTRATION.

THE Registration Authorities of the Department of Justice have lately begun to urge National Banks to prefix the words "joint stock" in accordance with the provisions of the Commercial Codes, and also to undergo the process of registration in the proper Courts of law. To this the National Banks have replied that as they are

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subject to special Regulations, there is no need for them to conform to the provisions of the Commercial Codes. As neither the Department nor the Banks would make any concession, the Minister of Finance attempted to mediate between thm with a view to effecting a compromise The Department of Justice, however, was resolved to make the Banks conform to the provisions of the Code. The well-meant endeavours of the Minister of Finance to settle the matter by compromise were consequently unsuccessful, and he had no alternative but to persuade the Banks to comply with the demand of the Shihosho. The Managers of the Banks subsequently held a special meeting on the evening of the 2nd inst. in the Clearing Hall, Sakamoto-cho, to discuss the proper steps to be taken, and as a result of their deliberations passed the following resolutions:—

(1)—We cannot conform to the provisions of the Commercial Code.

(2)—We are not absolutely opposed to registration in the Courts of law, but are decidedly against designating ourselves "joint stock companies."

(3.—We will watch the procedure of the Nippon Ginko, which is subject to special regulations, and will then determine what course to pursue with respect to the demand made by the Department of Justice.

On the 4th inst., the managers of the Bank of Japan held a long deliberation at which it was decided that though the designation "joint stock company" could not be adopted, the Bank would nevertheless comply with the demand of the Department of Justice in the matter of registration. The rest of the Banks have now followed the example of the Bank of Japan, and it is rumoured on good authority, says the *Shogyo Shimpo*, that all the National Banks will shortly apply for registration to the Courts under whose jurisdiction they come.

COUNT ITO AT A MEETING OF THE BUDGET COMMITTEE.

In reply to questions asked by Mr. Haseba Junko at a meeting of the Budget Committee of the Lower House, held on the 13th instant, the Minister President of State spoke as follows:—

The questions just raised by Mr. Haseba cover a wide range of subjects. But I understand that in the first place, with reference to the reforms effected in obedience to the Imperial Rescript issued towards the close of the last session of the Diet, he criticises them on the ground that they are concerned more with the form than with the spirit of the Administration. The second point raised by him relates to the defences of the country, and on this subject he seems to be glad that there is now more unity of purpose between the Army and the Navy. Thirdly, I take him to be dissatisfied with the qualifications of the present Minister of State for the Navy. Fourthly and lastly, he refers to the subject of official interference in elections. I will briefly answer each of the points in succession. After a sharp collision in the last session of the Diet, the Government and the Diet, in obedience to the Imperial Rescript already alluded to, were able to arrive at harmonious cöoperation. On the issue of that Rescript, the House of Representatives elected a Committee of nine members to ascertain the views of the Government with regard to the manner in which the latter intended to carry out the Imperial commands. All the members of the Committee are not present here at this moment, but Mr. Haseba was one of them, and so, too, was Mr Ishida, the Chairman of the present Budget Committee. These gentlemen and possibly some others now present, who may have been members of the Committee, will remember my positive declaration that, in carrying out reforms, I should direct my attention to the reduction of expenses, but that no reduction would be made in the salaries of officials You also know that since the issue of the memorable Rescript, official salaries have been practically reduced, and that the money thus economized is being appropriated for the construction of war-vessels. It is all very well to say that reforms must reach the spirit of the administration, or be fundamental, but it should be borne in mind that in political matters practical results ought to be the first and principal consideration. Reforms may be directed to the spirit of a system, but in the case of the Budget, unless they produce practical consequences upon the Expenditure they are of no use. It is my firm conviction that a constitutional Government must be before all things economical, avoiding all superfluous outlay and employing the public money for useful purposes. There are limits, however, and degrees in all things. I should like to know how far you propose to carry out the so called fundamental reforms. According to the comments of the press, fundamental reforms seem to consist in the demolition of clan Government. If that be the case, I decline to undertake such a task, neither am I allowed by my official duties to adopt such a measure. What is the position of the Ministers of State under the present *régime*? They are appointed and dismissed at the pleasure of the Sovereign, and it is not necessary for me to observe that their clan connections are no qualifications for their posts. If you mean to contend that no reforms effected by persons belonging to the most powerful of the former clans can be radical and fundamental, you ought not to have asked us to accomplish such reforms. For our own part, it had been our desire from the outset to effect administrative reforms, and as we perceived that there was some room for economy, allusion was made to that circumstance in the speech which I dictated just previous to the accident that befel me at the commencement of the last session of the Diet, and which the Acting Minister President of State was instructed to read in the House of Representatives The responsibility to carry out our original object was rendered still more imperative by the subsequent issue of the Imperial Rescript already referred to, and we have endeavoured to do all in our power. But I sincerely hope that you will bear this fact in your minds, that the conduct of administrative business requires a certain system of State machinery which is essentially the same in all countries. I am compelled to think that no statesman, however adroit he may be, can ever effect reforms in disregard of what is actually required for efficiency of the machinery of State: reforms carried out on such abnormal lines could never be permanent. Considering the official establishment with regard to the present condition of the country and the actual requirements of the administration, and also bearing in view the effect which the general progress of society and the development of private enterprises cannot fail to exercise upon the amount of business devolving upon the administration, we are firmly convinced that the present constitution of the administrative machinery is suited to the present state of things. On this point, perhaps, you may differ from us. Outsiders may naturally think such and such things ought to have been done in some other manner, but those in responsible positions are not allowed even for a moment to disregard their responsibility, and in discharging that responsibility, it is not permitted them to rely upon the advice of outsiders—they must form their judgment in consideration of the actual requirements of the time. It is in this way that we have carried out reforms in the administration. You may be dissatisfied with those reforms; that cannot be helped. We only wish it to be understood that the reforms have been undertaken with due consideration of the actual requirements of the Administration, and with due regard to the importance of giving them a fundamental character. With respect to the defence of the country, though refusing to express entire satisfaction with what has been done in this field, Mr. Haseba has been good enough to say that he is rejoiced to notice more unity of purpose between the Army and the Navy. He could not have said otherwise. I am paying particular attention to the question of national defence. Those disposed to hostile criticism say that the national loan of 17 million *yen* raised in 1886 has been used for no good purpose, and that nothing has come out of that amount of money. Such persons should remember that, had it not been for the loan, most of the powerful war-vessels now floating on the waters round our country would not have been built at all The sums spent for the establishment of Naval Depôts at Kure and Sasebo do not constitute even one-third of the above-mentioned amount. I need not here invite you to discuss the propriety of the manner in which the loan of 1886 has been spent; I will only ask you to remember that the greater part of the 17 million *yen* has been converted into powerful men of war. About the same time want of funds threatened to necessitate the closing of the arsenal at Osaka. Nothing could be more regrettable than that an arsenal with a staff of experienced specialists should be suffered to lie idle. Nevertheless, the Government's endeavours to avert such an undesirable result were not wholly successful, as the money available for the purpose did not suffice. Thereupon we considered it desirable to appeal to the patriotism of the people, a measure for which the Government was severely criticised at the time by the newspaper press. But the Government's motives in adopting this course will be clear if you peruse the Imperial Rescript issued on the occasion. The money contributed by patriotic Japanese amounted to more than two-and-a-half million *yen*, which, together with a sum contributed from the Imperial family, was spent for the construction of 212 pieces of ordnance. Thus I believe that I have made every possible effort to complete the defence of the country. As to the military policy of the Government, to which Mr. Haseba alluded, I am deterred from entering into minute particulars through fear of violating military secrets. But I may safely allude to the general aspects of the situation The insular position of our country exposes it on all sides to hostile attack. There would be almost insuperable difficulties in defending it against a combined attack by a large number of Powers. At present, therefore, the equipment of our Navy is governed by the contingency of possible operations against one or two particular Powers. A great change has been introduced in the method of organizing fleets. Formerly a fleet consisted of a large number of vessels, as many as fifty or sixty, but now attention is directed to concentration of strength and increased speed. In elaborating plans for the Navy, financial considerations should never be lost sight of. Another important point is the selection of arms in accordance with the particular purposes for which they are to be used. Investigations on this subject have already led to some practical results. As to the policy to be pursued in the defence of the country, the mode of defence must always be studied by the Military and Naval authorities, but it is not possible to adhere at all times to one and the same policy The policy pursued must necessarily differ according to the varying strength of the enemies that may have to be encountered. These matters are now under serious consideration in the General Staff Office, and must be left to the care of the special authorities concerned. At all events, you will agree with me in thinking that the defence of the coast and the increase of the Navy are questions of the most vital importance to the Empire. If you desire further information on these subjects, it will be freely supplied to you by the authorities concerned, in so far as is consistent with due military reticence. Mr. Haseba is discontented with the manner of settling the question of official interference in elections. Perhaps he takes Kagoshima as the basis of his complaints. As to the state of affairs in Kagoshima, I have heard much from other members of the Diet belonging to the locality, and I may tell you that the Government is about to deal with the matter in a proper manner. But at a time like the present when party strife is intense, it is impossible to give satisfaction to one party without offending others; all can never be satisfied simultaneously. The Government does not harbour either ill will or special good will towards any of the political parties, and as a result its position is isolated. You are doubtless aware that the Government does not rely upon the support of any Party. Our principal aim being to lay foundations for the permanent continuance of Constitutional Government, we are not biassed towards any of the Parties, but simply endeavour to conduct administrative affairs justly and impartially. There are rumours that the Government is moving hand in hand with the Radical Party; that the National Unionists are, therefore, indignant and so forth. But the Government does not think it possible in the present state of things to carry out the Constitution in cöoperation with any particular political Party. We therefore only strive to be fair and impartial towards all Parties alike. It is, let me repeat, our earnest wish that a sound basis may be laid for the everlasting existence of the Constitution. I am not, however, averse to criticisms of our conduct on your part, for they serve to stimulate perpetual improvement and progress. As to the Minister of State for the Navy, it is not perhaps necessary for me to reply to Mr. Haseba's question, for the appointment of all officials belongs to the exclusive prerogative of the Emperor. I may, however, state my conviction that the present Minister of State for the Navy is well fitted for the post, though on this point I apprehend my views may not be shared by Mr. Haseba. Little more than ten years having elapsed since the creation of our Navy. It is not free, doubtless, from imperfections, but I can assure you that it is far ahead of those of some other countries. I may also state that the reforms in the Navy have been carried out by the present Minister of State for that Department. In conclusion, I wish to say a word on the question of the Budget as a whole. I must tell you that, if you proceed, as you have done thus far, in pursuance of your present plan of reductions, the Government will have positively to refuse its approval to the reductions you propose. I will not here enter into any discussion of the questions about official salaries and the cost of some important undertakings, for these topics have been already dealt with when announcing the policy of the Government. The Government has no intention of disregarding its promise, but I wish you to

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remember that, if you amend the Budget in accordance with your present scheme, the Government will never give its consent to your reductions

THE SIXTY-TWO "CHISHIMA" FAMILIES.

If Judge Mowat's decision, delivered on Wednesday, be sound law—a question which, of course, it would be premature to raise until the possibility of appeal no longer exists—the law of England is, in some respects, most unfortunate. Sidney Smith is credited with having said of the British Law Courts, "They sell the best of justice there, but sell it very dear." His comment is forcibly illustrated by the present case. Sixty-two families of men who lost their lives by the sinking of the *Chishima Kan* consider that they have a claim for compensation. Probably they are all families in poor circumstances; indeed, we may take that for granted. Hence, by combination, and by combination only, could they scrape together money sufficient to pay the cost of a civil suit instituted in a British Court. Moreover, there is one question and one question only at issue, namely, which of the two colliding ships was responsible for the accident. If ever there was a case where the ends of justice and expediency would seem to be best served by combining the actions of the 62 families and trying them all together, this surely is such a case. But Judge Mowat has decided that British law does not permit such procedure, and that the individual claimants must each bring an independent suit on his or her own account. There are 116 individuals, so that the result of the decision may be very easily stated. A hundred and sixteen separate trials will have to be brought before 116 separate juries, to try a hundred and sixteen times the question of the collision and the liability therefor. If that be British law, it is a very farcical and senseless law. Practically it deprives the plaintiffs altogether of access to a legal remedy, for even if they could scrape together money to bring separate suits, they certainly could not find means to answer the appeals which would assuredly be made were the Peninsular and Oriental Company beaten in the first instance. We can scarcely conceive a grosser hardship upon 62 families consisting of 116 members who have already lost their means of support in whole or in part. If such inexplicable obstacles bar the way to justice in our Courts, we can scarcely wonder that the Japanese often murmur against our legal system.

THE YOKOHAMA LITERARY SOCIETY.

A very entertaining evening was spent by the members of the Yokohama Literary Society and their friends at the usual fortnightly meeting on Friday. Prof. Burton, of the Imperial University of Tokyo, gave a lecture on the modern practice of photography, with demonstrations and lantern exhibition. The evening's programme commenced with Keler Bela's pretty "Lustspiel," nicely executed by Miss Young and Miss Moss. Mr. S. L. Goldman followed with "Mona," and then Prof. Burton was introduced. In an amusing introduction he explained that he had promised to give the lecture many months ago, while in a weak and absent-minded mood. Then he had forgotten the affair, and was only reminded of his promise when the other day a letter had reached him from their President preremptorily demanding the title of his subject. To confess the truth, he had no title and no subject, at any rate not anything which could by any means be called a literary lecture; all he intended to do was to crave their kind attention for a few spare minutes while he explained some of the methods of modern photography. The address would be neither literary nor scientific, and he beseeched all those who were in any way acquainted with photography to leave the room. He also warned his hearers that whatever success attended the experiments would be due to Messrs. Kajima, Tamamura, Nakajima, Ando, and Honda, who had most generously responded to his appeal for help, while if the thing were a failure he wished the audience to lay all the blame upon himself—after which modest introduction, Prof. Burton proceeded with his experiments, accompanying them all with a lucid explanation in the simplest terms. First of all a flash light photograph was taken of the audience. This was developed by Messrs. Kajima and Nakajima and later in the evening thrown upon the screen, one of the neatest and quickest pieces of photographic work ever done in this country. It was an excellent plate, and its producers well merited the hearty applause which they received. A negative was developed into a positive, and then printed upon a bromide enlargement; a negative was also developed before the whole assembly, and the processes and chemical actions of the various salts explained. After a recess, Miss Wheeler gave a beautiful nocturne of Chopin's, while Miss Rice and Mrs. Campbell gave a sweet rendering of "The Magic Lantern," a duet. A collection of slides from negatives taken by Mr. Kajima, was then exhibited. Many lovely views of the Matsushima archipelago were thrown upon the screen, together with other famous views, street-scenes and bits of ordinary every-day life, together with some amusing plates which the Professor called "abuses of the wide-angle lens." A hearty vote of thanks to the lecturer was carried by acclamation at the close

INTERNATIONAL MARRIAGES.

Here is an item that will interest some of our readers. We take it from a Chicago journal:—"The love affairs of the Midway continue to culminate at Marriage License Clerk Salmonson's window. This morning two handsome Japanese stepped up and in cultured English asked for permits to bind themselves for life to a couple of Egyptian damsels. The men gave their names as Ton Magi, aged 25 years, and Samud Watanabe, aged 27 years. The former will wed Juanita Chorba, a 19-year-old beauty. The other bride-elect is a winsome woman of 21 years, named Cora Ragab. Both men were well attired in nea. European costumes and spoke fluent English. They were intelligent and well educated. Magi, who was spokesman, said:—"We will all settle in Chicago and go into business. I cannot state what our plans are. We will be married this afternoon by a Methodist minister on the west side. How did we fall in love? Oh, we met at the Fair. Oh, just the same old story. Good day."

LOSS OF THE "CARL FREIDRICH."

The latest details of the loss of the German ship *Carl Friedrich* (Captain Frohlich), 1,980 tons, is to be following effect:—The vessel left New York on the 11th June last, with a cargo consisting of 74,246 cases of kerosene for Messrs. Reuter, Brockelmann & Co., all the which had been sold 'to arrive.' The *Carl Friedrich* passed Anjer on the 9th of October, and some anxiety was being felt for her safety. On December 2nd Messrs. Melchers & Co. of Hongkong received the following telegram from Singapore:—'*Carl Friedrich* total loss: send ship's letters here.' On the 4th inst the following telegram was received by Messrs. Reuter, Brockelmann:—'Crew abandoned *Carl Friedrich* Borneo Coast.'

THE AMERICA CUP CONTEST.

Lord Dunraven and Lord Lonsdale, says the *Madras Mail*, intend to build a yacht in concert specially designed to compete for next year's America Cup. This yacht will probably be conveyed across the Atlantic on one of the great liners. For it has been found that certain qualities which are indispensable to a craft that has to commence by making the ocean voyage to New York, as was the case with the *Valkyrie*, militate against its fitness as a competitor for the America Cup. We hope Englishmen will persevere till they bring back the Cup to England.

WOOSUNG BAR

It will be learnt with great satisfaction, says the *N.-C. Daily News*, that Mr. N. J. Hannen, H.M.'s Consul-General, whose services the Chamber of Commerce invoked in the matter, has succeeded in persuading the Taotai to pay his promised half of the estimated expense of getting Sir Charles Hartley to come and report on the Woosung Bar, and that the Taotai has already placed in Mr. Hannen's hands for this purpose the sum of three thousand taels, promising to pay a similar sum on the arrival here of the distinguished engineer.

ANOTHER KEROSENE SHIP LOST.

News has been received by wire at Shanghai of the total loss of the German ship *Carl Friedrich*, which left New York on the 12th of June with a cargo of kerosene oil for Hongkong. She was a vessel of 2,208 tons, says out Shanghai morning contemporary, formerly the *Red Cloud*, built at Quincy Pt., Mass., in 1877. Her cargo was insured in the London Assurance Corporation for $45,000 gold.

ROUGH WEATHER.

The *Tsukushi Maru* arrived at Shanghai on the afternoon of Dec. 9th, from Kuchinotsu. While going across, a huge sea came over the bows and washed five of the sailors, including the Japanese boatswain, against the fore winch. The boatswain was so badly injured that he died five hours after the accident, but the other men have been able to resume work. The body of the dead man was taken to Shanghai for burial.

DEPLORABLE STEAMSHIP FATALITY.

To-day's *Official Gazette* prints a telegram from Hiroshima which says that a steamer, belonging to Mr. Amagasaki Isaburo, of Osaka, struck a hidden rock in the Tada-no-umi, Toyota District, Hiroshima Prefecture, on the 10th inst. at 10.40 a.m., and sank almost immediately. More than ten passengers, out of seventy or eighty, were drowned.

TWO SENDO SUFFOCATED.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun* says that two Japanese *sendo* were suffocated by charcoal fumes during the night of the 8th inst. They had fallen asleep under a *futon*, in which a charcoal brazier was placed, while their boat was lying near the Sangoku Bridge, Yokohama.

CONCERT IN TOKYO.

A concert, for which a capital programme has been issued, will be given on Sunday next, 17th inst., by the pupils of the Academy of Music, at the Hall in Uyeno Park, Tokyo. The concert will commence at half past one, and the interesting programme of a dozen numbers includes five choral pieces.

COUNTESS TODA'S RECEPTION DAY.

We are requested to state, with reference to the list of reception days published in a recent issue, that although, as there stated, it is the intention of Countess Toda to receive every Friday, she will unfortunately be unable to do so during the current month, the death of an uncle having necessitated a period of mourning.

FIRES IN TOKYO.

About two o'clock on the morning of the 10th inst. a destructive fire broke out at Honminato-cho, Kyobashi, Tokyo, and seventy houses were destroyed, twenty-four others being partly damaged. Nearly twenty houses were burnt at Asakusa during the previous night.

THE U.S. ADMIRAL

Admiral Skerrett, who has taken over the command of the U.S. Asiatic Squadron, from Admiral Irwin, arrived with his family from Honolulu on the *China*. His flag was saluted as he boarded the *Lancaster* on Saturday afternoon.

SERIOUS SCALDING ACCIDENT.

On the afternoon of the 29th ult., by the bursting of a steam-pipe on board the *Kwong Hoi* at Canton three men were severely scalded. Two Chinese were taken to the Civil Hospital, Hongkong, but the second engineer, Mr. Spinks, was taken to his own home.

FIRE ON THE "STRATHDON."

The fire on board the British steamer *Strathdon*, from Yokohama via Batavia, for New York, has been extinguished. Her decks and sides from the foremast aft to the engine room are badly damaged, and the cargo in No. 2 hold is destroyed.

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MR. HOSHI AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

TUESDAY'S session of the House of Representatives had been looked forward to with more than usual interest and impatience by the public since it was known that Mr. HOSHI intended to resume his seat, and also that his enemies would again bring in a motion of some kind to preclude him from the discharge of the Presidential functions. The general excitement was so great, that fully an hour before the usual opening of the daily session, the Strangers' galleries were already crowded with eager-looking visitors. As for the body of the House, by a little after one o'clock all the seats, with very few exceptions, were occupied by members, whose earnest looks, taken in conjunction with the ominous silence that pervaded the whole place, indicated general expectation of some exceptionally important event. At a few minutes past one o'clock the door behind the Presidential seat swung back, and Mr. HOSHI entered, calm and dignified as usual. Every eye was fixed upon him, and so admirable was his mien under the trying circumstances of his situation, that a low murmur of admiration rose from the whole audience friends and enemies alike. Mr. HOSHI did not make any speech, as had been expected by some persons. Taking the Chair, he simply announced to the House that on receiving news of the regrettable assault upon Mr. SHIMADA SABURO the preceding night, he had caused enquiries to be made, in the name of the House, about Mr. SHIMADA'S condition, and that he was happy to be able to report that the injury suffered was not serious. Needless to say that during these preliminaries the notorious Mr. TANAKA SHOZO was boiling with impatience. Ere long, he lost all control of himself, and as the President was making the above mentioned announcement something resembling howls began to be heard from the eminent Progressionist's seat. At first, nobody could extract sense from this clamour, but finally it appeared that Mr TANAKA, with much force of gesture and violence of articulation, was denouncing Mr. SHIMADA'S cowardly assailants in terms that referred their action to Mr. HOSHI'S instigation. This characteristic incident was treated with contempt by the President, and the Order of the Day was about to be proceeded with when Mr. TAKATA SANAYE, editor of the *Yomiuri Shimbun* and one of the most promising members of the Progressionist Party, rose and asked the House's permission to introduce an urgency motion for handing over Mr HOSHI to the Disciplinary Committee a second time. In order to discuss this motion, it was necessary to ask the Cabinet's consent to a change of the Order of the Day, inasmuch as the first Bills on the Order were Government measures. Only a minute or two were required for the purpose, the request being made by the telephone. The Government declined to grant permission for the proposed change, and the House had to proceed with the Order of the Day. But so soon as the three Government Bills had been disposed of—and they were rushed through with evident haste and impatience in less than one hour—Mr. TAKATA'S motion was again formally introduced. Thereafter ensued a tumultuous scene which lasted for an hour and a half. The substance of the motion was that Mr. HOSHI, by resuming the Presidential chair in defiance of the House's vote of want of confidence, had insulted the House and should be handed over to the Disciplinary Committee. In explanation of the motion, Mr. TAKATA observed that the one week's suspension, which expired the preceding day, had been meted out to Mr HOSHI on account of objectionable expressions he uttered from his seat on the 29th ultimo, and that his persistent defiance of the well expressed wish of the House for his resignation constituted another and separate ground for disciplinary measures. It had been known that the Progressionists contemplated the straining of Art. XIII. of the Law of the Houses so as to prevent Mr. HOSHI resuming his Presidential seat for the rest of the present session, but that the National Unionists, being firm in their refusal to support such an obvious violation of law, the plan had had to be abandoned. Thus, not until late on Monday night, had the Progressionists, the National Unionists, and the members of the *Domei* Club agreed upon the measure which the House has now asked to adopt. Great excitement evidently prevailed. Mr. TATEKAWA UMPEI and Mr INOUYE KAKUGORO put some pertinent and perplexing questions. They asked, among other things, why the motion had not been introduced when Mr. HOSHI occupied the Chair on the 29th and 30th ultimo. But Mr. TAKATA, strong in the feeling of numerical support, treated these queries with scant concern. It was generally anticipated that Mr. HOSHI would surrender the chair to the Vice-President, as he done on the previous occasion when a question about himself came up for discussion But, to the surprise of the House, he retained his seat and attempted by various devices to obstruct the passage of the motion. Sincerely sympathizing with him as we do, and admiring the remarkable *sang-froid* and presence of mind he displayed on this trying occasion, we are obliged to say that the methods he resorted to for the purpose of embarrassing his persecutors were not altogether dignified or politic. The second clause of Art. XCV., of the Law of the Houses provides that "when a case for disciplinary punishment occurs, the President shall, in the first place, instruct the Committee [Disciplinary] to enquire into the matter and shall pronounce sentence after having submitted the case to the consideration of the House." But Mr. HOSHI declared that, before instructing the Committee to enquire into the matter, the House ought to debate whether the action complained of really constituted a case for disciplinary punishment. In other words, he proposed that the House should perform the very functions which the Disciplinary Committee is constituted to discharge. The procedure in such cases is made still more clear by a provision in the Standing Orders of the House of Representatives, where it is laid down that, when a motion for disciplinary punishment is introduced in accordance with Art. XCVI., of the Law of the Houses, a decision whether the case be intrusted to the Committee or not should be taken without any debate. When, therefore, Mr. HOSHI announced the course he proposed to adopt, the House quickly fanned itself into a white heat of indignation, and vehement protests were raised on all sides. Mr. OOKA IKUZO, of the National Unionist Party, then introduced a separate motion that the President be handed over to the Disciplinary Committee for having attempted to violate the obvious provisions of the Law of the Houses, and the Standing Orders of the House of Representatives. The motion was received with loud cries of approval, but Mr. HOSHI pronounced it out of order on the ground that the act complained of related to interpretation of the Regulations governing the House, and that, so far as such interpretation was concerned, the House did not possess competence to exercise disciplinary authority over the President. The House apparently acquiesced in the justice of the President's ruling, for the motion introduced by Mr. OOKA was not immediately pressed. But vehement protests against Mr. HOSHI'S course with regard to Mr. TAKATA'S motion grow louder and more numerous. Here, Mr. HOSHI fell into another error. He declared his intention to reject Mr. TAKATA'S motion altogether, saying that it had not been introduced within three days after the commission of the act complained of. Evidently his mind must have been directed to something not under consideration, for the act complained of had taken place that very day. The excitement now because so intense, that Mr. INOUYE KAKUGORO advised the President to order some of the most tumultuous members to leave the Chamber. This counsel was not followed, and Mr. HOSHI finally abandoning his position, proceeded to take the House's sense as to the propriety of allowing debate before entrusting the matter to the Disciplinary Committee. Not a member, not even his warmest supporters, stood up in favour of such a plainly illegal course. He then put the question whether the matter be entrusted to the Committee; and a large majority

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voted in the affirmative. Having been thus duly placed once more in the hands of the Disciplinary Committee, Mr. HOSHI surrendered the Chair to the Vice-President, and thereupon Mr. OOKA again introduced his motion to punish the President for having illegally attempted to prevent the passage Mr. TAKATA'S motion. The Vice-President took the sense of the House without debate, and it goes without saying that the motion passed by a large majority. Thus the Disciplinary Committee is to consider two separate indictments. That it will decide against Mr. HOSHI is a foregone conclusion, but there is uncertainty as to the kind of punishment it will recommend. The probability is that Mr. HOSHI will once more be suspended from attending the House for a period The apparent purpose of his enemies is to pursue the same course whenever he resumes the chair, thus altogether preventing him from discharging his duties during the rest of the session.

THE LAST ACT OF THE HOSHI TORU DRAMA.

THE House of Representatives yesterday crowned the edifice of injustice and prejudice to the building of which its time had recently been devoted with so much diligence. It expelled Mr. HOSHI TORU. A year ago it raised him with acclaim to the highest honour it could bestow. Yesterday it declared that he was not fit even to be a member: not fit to sit in legislative conclave with Messrs. TANAKA SHOZO and SHIMIZU BUNJIRO! It has long been understood that the fond hope of Mr. HOSHI'S enemies was to compass his expulsion from the House. They did everything in their power to push their fellow-members to that extraordinary excess. But it was not supposed that they could succeed. The law requires that expulsion must be voted for by more than two-thirds of the members present at the time of the introduction of the motion. Few persons imagined that such a majority could be persuaded to perpetrate such a wrong. But it is evidently impossible to forecast the acts of Japanese politicians in these times of passion. What took place yesterday in the House is not public. The debate was conducted with closed doors. But it is known that the Disciplinary Committee was by no means unanimous in recommending Mr HOSHI'S expulsion On the contrary, only nine voted for expulsion, six opposing it. But when the question came before the House, political sentiment over-rode everything. There was a debate, indeed. This at least may be said in palliation of the wretched affair, that some semblance of deliberation was preserved. Two hundred and seventy-seven members were present, and on an open ballot being taken, 185 cast their votes for expulsion and 92 against it. Arithmetically speaking, two-thirds of 277 is 184⅔. Hence the vote of 185 just, and just only, satisfied the terms of the law, "a majority vote of more than two-thirds." But we greatly doubt whether the spirit of the law was satisfied. No such thing as a fraction of a vote being possible, it is evident that anything less than 185 does not amount to two-thirds of 277, and anything less than 186 can not be called "more than two-thirds." However, such petty considerations need not concern us in view of the great fact that 185 members out of 277 were found to vote in such a sense. For it must be remembered always that the only offence charged against Mr. HOSHI at this final stage of his persecution, was his refusal to resign the Presidential chair. For that, and for that only, he was handed over to the Disciplinary Committee, and for that alone he was expelled. At no time previously had there been any question of conduct unfitting him for membership of the House. Even when the original indictment was preferred against him, the line openly taken by his assailants was that he should be invited to resign the Presidency. Had he done so, there can not be the smallest doubt that all proceedings against him would have ended then and there, and that he would be sitting safely in his place as a member to-day. But he declined to bow to a verdict based upon accusations so vague and supported by testimony so unsubstantial that the impartial section of the public could only laugh. For that refusal he has been expelled from the House. Not his conduct as member but his conduct as President, has brought this sweeping sentence upon him. Yet he is the EMPEROR'S nominee. The House, before passion carried it wholly beyond the control of reason, recognised fully that in the event of Mr. HOSHI'S refusing to bow to its judgment, no resource remained but to ask the EMPEROR to remove him. Now, however, it has proceeded against him as though the SOVEREIGN never had any share whatever in his appointment. Mr. HOSHI held his position as President under the EMPEROR'S commission. No power was competent to remove him except the SOVEREIGN. The House of Representatives, by expelling him because he refused to accept his *congé* at its hands, has distinctly violated the Imperial Prerogative, and has emphatically shown how very slender is its real sense of respect for the SOVEREIGN whom it professes to hold in such reverence. No legislative assembly of thinking men could have written up a worse record against themselves than the Japanese House of Representatives has now compiled. The difficulty of the situation is easily appreciated. Every one will admit that from the moment of passing a vote of want of confidence in Mr. HOSHI, the House could not consent to sit under him as President. But failing his consent to resign, only one proper course was possible, namely, appeal to the EMPEROR. To expel him for refusing at the House's bidding to surrender an office to which the SOVEREIGN had nominated him, was to perpetrate an act of injustice towards him and of disrespect towards the EMPEROR.

THE OUTSIDE OF THE CUP AND PLATTER.

COULD the present Japanese House of Representatives see itself as others see it, the impression conveyed would not be very flattering. A majority of the members devoted themselves for weeks, with persistence that closely resembled vindictive rancour, to the persecution of their President. They were determined to drive him from his seat, although they have not a single substantial charge to prefer against him. It is true that he associated with some of the leading merchants of his country, was not ashamed to be their guest, and even dined and wined them in return. European and American Ministers of the Crown see nothing derogatory in such proceedings, and would be laughed to scorn if they attempted to set themselves above the most important class in the nation. But that is neither here nor there: Japan has her own standards, or rather the very punctilious gentlemen now entrusted with the duty of legislating for her, are resolved to set up special standards. They are for the most part merchants and farmers themselves, these sticklers for parliamentary *hauteur*, and among merchants and farmers they do not by any means occupy such respected places as the men with whom they denounce their President for associating. But that, too, is neither here nor there. They are quite entitled to their own estimate of the magnificence of being members of the Diet. It is also true that their President did what every Japanese, almost without exception, does continually and thinks no shame in doing—frequented tea-houses and drank *saké*, in company with degraded merchants so lacking moral decency that they actually execute orders for the State. The members of the House also go to tea-houses, dispose pleasantly of their due allowance of mulled wine, and enjoy, without blushing, the ministrations of pretty dancing girls. But that is neither here nor there. What the members do their President must not do. He is a species of divinity bound to sit on a pedestal of proud isolation, abstaining from everything that smacks of common or garden life. Having, therefore, neglected to hold himself at an ideal height about the world in which he lives and moves, he must be pulled down, trampled upon, and disgraced in the most signal manner. All that is certainly very quaint and very novel. It savours agreeably of the stage, where actors often simulate dignity and converse in heroics with pretty skill and well assumed conviction. If the Japanese House of Repre-

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sentatives really set itself in sober earnest to live up to a divine standard, the public might smile but would have no right to sneer. But when the House of Representatives, while clamouring so vehemently about its dignity and resorting to such extreme measures with the object of showing how much it respects itself, at the same time allows its debates to be flagrantly disgraced, and takes not the smallest notice of conduct on the part of its members that would bring contempt on a meeting of school-boys, we begin to think that the whole thing is a farce, and that dignity and self-respect are not, after all, objects of such keen concern to the Lower House of the Japanese Diet. This criticism, though it does not by any means apply to one day's proceedings only, has special reference to the occurrences of last Tuesday. During and immediately preceding the debate—if a long wrangle may be designated by such a term—that took place on the subject of Mr. HOSHI TORU'S resumption of the Presidential chair, Mr. TANAKA SHOZO, the notorious *Kaishin-to* member, made use of four expressions, any one of which would have sufficed to evoke the severest censure in any other parliamentary assembly in the world. In the first place, he accused Mr. HOSHI TORU, almost in so many words, of having instigated the assault of which Mr. SHIMADA SABURO was the victim. In the second he called Mr. HOSHI a "horse," which is an offensive way of saying "fool." In the third, he shouted out that Mr. HOSHI was "the Government's dog, a beast." And in the fourth he addressed to the President an expression too filthy and obscene to be quoted here. Not one of these outrages evoked the slightest protest or comment from any member. Billingsgate and obscenity such as even publicans or navvies would shrink from resorting to at an out-door meeting, were quietly tolerated within the walls of the Japanese House of Representatives. Yet this is the House that so rigidly asserts its dignity as to pull down a President who dines at tea-houses, and to arraign Ministers of State who associate with merchants. Nothing could be more farcical.

COUNT ITO AND THE BUDGET COMMITTEE.

COUNT ITO'S speech before the Budget Committee, a translation of which we publish elsewhere, marks a somewhat new departure in the attitude of the Ministers of the CROWN towards the Lower House. It has hitherto been the Government's habit to treat the Diet somewhat *de haut en bas*: to answer its questions curtly, and to offer no detailed explanations of policy. Presumably that is the wisest and most dignified course, for, in the Lower House at all events, the object of the Questions addressed to the Government by the members, in the great majority of cases, is not to elicit information, but to create embarrassments. The propounders of the queries hope for no higher good fortune than to find in the Government's answers some material for attack. It is, in short, a process of baiting, inspired by anything rather than concern for the public interests, and we can not be surprised if the Government, finding itself set up, like QUILP'S figure-head, to be buffetted, sometimes treats its assailants with contemptuous brevity. But Count ITO has adopted a different attitude towards the Budget Committee. His Excellency doubtless feels that the Government must make every effort to avoid the responsibility of a fresh fight over the Budget. The House of Representatives may be resolved to pervert the Budget into a weapon for assailing the Government session after session, and in pursuance of that resolve may be entirely careless as to the justice and soundness of its financial criticisms. We do not affirm that such is the House's mood, though many people may find the conclusion inevitable. But we do think that the Government's duty is never practically to recognise such a mood and to treat the Lower House persistently as though its behaviour about the Budget were dictated by purely patriotic motives. That is evidently Count ITO'S idea. Maintaining a perfectly dignified tone, he has nevertheless set before the Budget Committee a thoroughly clear *exposé* of the Cabinet's policy, not even shrinking from the consideration of issues seldom openly broached. He does not in so many words tell the Committee what he might very well have told them, namely, that no practical measures of reform can ever satisfy men who confine themselves to vague talk about the "spirit of the Administration," and "fundamental measures," but who carefully abstain from defining what they mean by either the one or the other. He does tell them, however, that if their real aim is to set up Government by Party, they must not count on his cöoperation, for his purpose is to support the present Constitution not to radically alter its bases at this early stage of its existence. There is something very like sarcasm in his grave comment that if they object to see the State served by any members of the great clans, they should not have asked the latter to carry out administrative reforms. They may find the Government's reforms defective or insufficient from their point of view. But Count ITO declares his conviction that efficiency of the Administrative machine does not permit any larger reduction of staff or abolition of offices, and, at the same time, quietly reminds the House that responsibility for the consequences of these reforms rests, not with glib and nebulous critics, but with the Government which has made them, and which is required to administer in accordance with them. He enters, further, into an interesting explanation of the causes that dictated the Naval Loan and the call for patriotic contributions made about the same time, and he gives a brief but suggestive outline of the military policy of the Cabinet. He speech, from first to last, is statesmanlike, excellently constructed, and explicit without being in any sense petty. It concludes with an emphatic note of warning that the Government will stand firm now, as it has always done, against the extravagant reductions of official salaries proposed by the Budget Committee. Count ITO'S declaration on that point is not novel. It was made by him with equal emphasis to the Special Committee appointed by the House of Representatives last session for the purpose of conferring with the Government on the subject of administrative reforms. He repeats it to-day when the Budget Committee seems about to recur to its former unreasoning attitude. There is not yet any apparent hope that the present session of the Diet will end more peacefully than its predecessors.

DR. HATOYAMA'S QUESTIONS.

THE House of Representatives yesterday passed one of those strange resolutions that suggest an intention to insult the Government even at the cost of bringing ridicule on the House. It voted that, in view of the importance of the Questions addressed by Dr. HATOYAMA to the Government, the members of the Cabinet, from the Minister President of State downwards, should be invited to attend in the House and answer the Questions in person. Now the Government has already answered Dr. HATOYAMA'S Questions. The Questions of his at present awaiting reply are merely repetitions of the first. Their very repetition is at best an ungracious act. Moreover, they are in no sense important Questions. Dr. HATOYAMA wants to know why the Government permitted the EMPEROR'S name to be used by Counsel in the arguments adduced before a British legal tribunal. But Dr. HATOYAMA has not attempted to formulate any reasons against such a use of the SOVEREIGN'S name. He is well aware that no European monarch hesitates to sue in his own name before a foreign Court of Law, and he must be equally well aware that unless there be claimed for the Emperor of JAPAN some extraordinary sanctity such as never yet belonged to any earthly monarch, no valid objection can exist to the use of his name by Counsel in Court. Another fact also must be well known to Dr. HATOYAMA, namely, that the reference made to the EMPEROR both in the lower and upper Courts was for the purpose of asserting on HIS MAJESTY'S behalf prerogatives claimed for every crowned head in the West. The Japanese Government's leading counsel raised on Japan's account point after point that ought to have given the greatest satisfaction to patriotic Japanese.

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He brought to the aid of this empire's interest remarkable acumen and industry Yet because, in claiming that the EMPEROR ought to possess in a British Law Court within his own dominions prerogatives not inferior to those possessed by the Queen of ENGLAND in the same Courts, he spoke directly of the SOVEREIGN of this country, the Government whom he represented is to be arraigned by the Lower House of the Diet and found guilty of insulting the Throne. The thing sounds like a story from mythological annals; a legend of the days when Kings were regarded as veritable divinities. Why, in the name of all common-sense, why should not HIS MAJESTY have been referred to in Court? How could his dignity suffer by procedure that no Western monarch considers unbecoming? No wonder that Dr. HATOYAMA carefully refrains from attempting to explain the objections suggested by his Question. The only wonder is, and a great wonder we find it, that an eminent Japanese barrister, educated in Europe, should become the champion of such antique sentimentalism, and that a majority in the House of Representatives should blindly follow his lead. The Japanese Cabinet Ministers would indeed cut a noble figure solemnly appearing at the bar of the House and submitting to be cross-examined about a proposition that will not bear stating in the presence of men of common-sense. Dr. HATOYAMA'S second Question is not much more worthy of attention than his first. He is thoroughly well aware that ever since British Courts of Law were established in this Empire according to Treaty, Japanese plaintiffs have been obliged to follow their suits on appeal to Shanghai. Whether the thing is right or wrong, it has been the recognised and uncomplained-of practice for more than a quarter of a century. That the House of Representatives should suddenly flare up about it now, and summon the Government to answer with its official life for obeying such a time-honoured precedent, is a grave farce. If these and these only be the kind of crimes that the leaders of the Opposition find to charge against the Government, the latter may go on its way smiling, and the former should pray heaven to grant them a truer sense of proportion. Once before, too, the House perpetrated a similar piece of silliness. It invited the the whole Cabinet to attend for the purpose of being questioned. The reply of the Cabinet was that since the Ministers of State are entitled by the Constitution to enter either House of the Diet at any moment, and to address the members, the latter need not be at the pains to invite them. We should imagine that a similar response will be given now. And we should further imagine that the Government will quietly decline to reconsider its replies to the same Questions propounded a second time. Dr. HATOYAMA and his friends will then have achieved the feat of creating a very strained situation between the Cabinet and the Diet, which is probably the end they hope to accomplish. But in the eyes of outsiders they cut a very sorry figure, for their inability to discover any tangible cause of complaint against the Government argues as great a lack of ingenuity as their readiness to effervesce about bagatelles evinces an absence of moral ballast.

RAILWAYS AND RIVERS IN CHINA.

ONCE again people's hopes are revived that China may emerge from her deep rut of conservatism, and set earnestly about prov.ding herself with railways. These hopes recur periodically whenever anything happens that hurts the monster empire sufficiently to set her nerves vibrating. Every one has given up imagining that appeals to reason can ever become an active power in China's case. It is an accepted doctrine that by suffering only can her senses be quickened out of their present state of apathy Great results were supposed to be contingent on the continuation of her struggle with France eight years ago, and similar expectations were based on the terrible famines that decimated some of her provinces in recent years. So it is now. The temporary paralysis of transport facilities by the Peiho River embarrassed the capital to such an extent that the need of a railway ought to be felt, if it is ever to be felt. Peking is accessible from the sea by road or by river. Either route is terrible at the best of times from an Occidental point of view. As for the road, the eighty or ninety miles that stretch from Tientsin to Peking can probably claim incomparability of badness. A succession of deep ruts and deeper holes, in dry weather a Sahara of dust, in wet a morass of mud—probably no nation in the world except the Chinese would long endure the penalties of such a route. But the Chinese are generally content to take things as they find them. To repair the road would necessitate organization, combined effort, and heavy expenditure, whereas to bear the discomfort of travel by it and to build vehicles stout enough to surive the strains and shocks of negotiating its inequalities, these are questions that concern individuals only. Besides, for persons not capable of braving the hardships of such travel, there is the river route. On the river an enormous fleet of boats plies, furnishing employment, directly and indirectly, to some two million persons. There are passenger boats and cargo boats. The latter need not be described. The former are filthy craft having a species of roof resembling that of a house-boat. One can cook in them, after a fashion, and one can sleep in them, after a fashion. On their up-stream journey they are usually dragged along by means of a tow-rope to which one or two men are attached, the rate of progress being at most two miles an hour, and if, as is not infrequently the case, a strong head-wind blows, to advance becomes altogether impossible: the boat has then to be tied up and the unfortunate traveller may find himself planted for two, three or even four days among clouds of dust that render every function of life a misery. But of course such contingencies are not vital where the transport of merchandise alone is in question, and it results that the capital receives a large portion of ts supplies by the river, while, on the other hand, Tientsin with its seven or eight hundred thousand souls and its flourishing industries, obtains by the down-stream route great stores of camel's wool, hides, vegetables, and such things. During the summer of the present year, however, the river burst from its usual course at a place where centuries of gradual embanking and silting had raised its bed far above the level of the surrounding country, and the waters that had hitherto served as a highway between the two cities spread themselves destructively over hundreds of square miles of millet and barley fields. Measures were speedily organized to restore the stream to its usual course, but the task must have been immensely difficult. Whether it was undertaken intelligently, many persons doubt. But scepticism that goes hand in hand with irresponsibility is always easy, and, besides, whatever China does is invariably wrong in the eyes of the all wise foreign critic. Months passed, however, and the river remained useless as a carrying agent. News of the embankment's restoration would be received one day, only to be followed the next by intelligence that a fresh breach had occurred. Meanwhile Peking and Tientsin had to receive their supplies. Above all, the former city's winter store of rice and salt had to be procured, and since the water-way was impracticable, all the traffic was transferred to the road, which, already cut up by the long rains that had rendered the river ungovernable, soon fell into an exceptionally evil condition under the thousands of carts that rolled along it daily. Peking began to suffer. The price of rice rose by leaps and bounds, and multitudes of folks, reduced to starvation point by the devastation of the floods flocked citywards in search of shelter and sustenance. Such invasions of indigence are not allowed in the capital. A large force of troops was posted at the eastern and southern gates to keep back the tide of misery, and no perceptible increment of mendicancy took place within the city. But all the echoes of trouble could not be excluded from the precincts of the Palace, and it is said that the august lady who sways the sceptre behind the throne, began to put very suggestive questions as to the capabilities of railway transport and the cost of railway construction. Neither the EMPRESS DOWAGER nor the EMPEROR is altogether without

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practical knowledge of railways. Within the grounds of the palace there is laid a DECAUVILLE line on which run carriages gorgeously fitted up for the recreation of the Imperial folks. Half a dozen years ago, in the days when syndicates were supposed to have at length found the knife that would open the Chinese oyster, this toy railroad and its handsome rolling stock were presented to the EMPRESS. No outsider knows precisely how far the little affair has since then been allowed to serve its purpose of familiarizing those in high places with the advantages of locomotion by steam. Perhaps after a few trips the carriages and engine were permanently laid aside, and perhaps the whole thing is now a piece of forgotten furniture. But at all events the SOVEREIGN and the EMPRESS DOWAGER, as well as Princes and great personages of the Government, have had actual experience of what in meant by railway travelling, and must understand that if the line from Tong-ku to Tientsin were carried on to Peking, the capital would be secure against embarrassments such as recently overtook it. Possibly the contrast between what is and what might be has now become sufficiently vivid to dispel the mist of conservatism. Another point is that whereas the inconvenience and cruelty of depriving of their means of livelihood the immense population engaged in the river transport service have always alarmed Chinese advocates of railway extension, the floods have now done this evil thing in the suddenest and most mischievous manner, creating a situation incomparably worse than anything that railways could create. It is not easy to understand, indeed, why such a chimera should have possessed any deterrent power, for by merely looking round them the Chinese can see how quickly and smoothly men adapt themselves to alterations of bread-earning conditions. Not many years ago an immense transport service on the Grand Canal gave employment to multitudes of people. But steamers came, and the goods hitherto sent by the inland route were all shipped coastwise. The Canal silted up to a mere ditch, and its quondam army of dependents turned without trouble or tumult to other pursuits. So it would be were the railway extended from Tientsin to Peking. Many think, as we have said, that the much needed moral motor has been supplied by the calamity of the floods and their consequences. They may be right, but the eternal spring of hope has well nigh ceased to flow in the arid regions of Chinese progress.

IMPERIAL DIET.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 10 30 a.m. the Order of the Day being:—

1.—First Reading of the Government Bill for Special Amendment of the Taxable Value of Land: sent up from the Lower House.
2.—Appointment of a Special Committee to report upon the same
3.—First Reading of a Bill for rescinding Law No. 12 of the 22nd year of *Meiji*; sent up from the Lower House.
4.—Appointment of a Special Committee to report upon the same.
5.—First Reading of a Bill for Supplementing the City Government System; sent up from the Lower House
6.—Appointment of a Special Committee to report upon the same.
7.—Report of the Special Committee on the Game Law Bill

The Minister of State for Finance introducing the Bill for amending the Taxable Value of Land, repeated briefly the arguments set forth in the Lower House.

A number of questions were asked as to whether the Government anticipated a repetition of such a measure, or whether it regarded the present Bill as permanently sufficient, and why the committee of investigation suggested last session by the House had not been appointed. The Minister replied that if the Bill passed, the Government saw no occasion for a committee; that the purpose of the Bill was not to curry popular favour but to remove serious inequalities now existing in the incidence of taxation, and that no definite statement could be made as to future prospects. Messrs. Yasuba and Ozaki Saburo repeated their question in various forms as to the intentions of the Government in the event of the Bill's failing to satisfy the people, and in the event of further inequalities in the incidence of taxation being subsequently discovered. The Minister, however, declined to say anything except that if a necessity for further re-assessment presented itself, the problem would be suitably dealt with at the time.

Viscount Ogasawara wished to asked a question that might provoke the mirth of the House, but which he considered advisable. It seemed to him a matter for great congratulation that the Government had so far respected public opinion as to introduce this Bill. But he could not forget that the same measure had been presented by the Government last session, and had been the victim of so much official coldness that people called it the Cabinet's step-child. He thought it would be well to have some assurance this time as to whether the Government really wished the Bill to pass or whether it was again to be allowed to die of neglect.

The Minister said that undoubtedly the Government wished it to pass.

The Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee of 15 appointed by the Sections, and the House refused to limit the period within which the Committee's report should be presented.

On coming to the Bill for rescinding Law 12 of 1889, namely, the Law providing a special system of local government for the three cities of Tokyo, Kyoto and Osaka, Mr. Engi, Government Delegate, set forth at some length the Government's objections to the Bill, as explained in previous sessions of the Diet.

Several questions were asked, and the House finally, by a vote of 74 to 72, decided to hand the Bill to a Special Committee of 9 nominated by the President.

The Bill for supplementing the City Government System was entrusted to the same Committee, without discussion.

Viscount Tani, Chairman of the Special Committee on the Game Law Bill, reported in favour of the Bill with some few alterations, and the House decided to carry it to a Second Reading, the Reading to be proceeded with the following day.

The House rose at 3.20 p.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.15 p.m., the Order of the Day being:

1.—First Reading of a Press Law Bill; introduced by Mr. Hatano Denzaburo.
2.—First Reading of a Bill for establishing a Local Assembly in Hokkaido, introduced by Mr Kato Masanosuke.
3.—First Reading of a Bill for supplementing the Business Tax and Miscellaneous Tax Regulations; introduced by Mr Kato Masanosuke
4.—First Reading of a Bill for rescinding Imperial Ordinance No. 6 of the Sixth year of *Meiji*; introduced by Mr. Kato Masanosuke
5.—First Reading of a Bill for amending the Local Tax Regulations, issued in the 13th year of *Meiji*; introduced by Mr Kato Masanosuke.
6.—First Reading of a Bill for supplementing Imperial Ordinance No. 6, of the 21st year of *Meiji*; introduced by Mr. Hyakuman Umeji.

The President announced the receipt of the Government's Reply to the Questions presented by Dr. Hatoyama with refence to the *Chishima-Ravenna* law-suit. The Reply was:—

The name employed to represent the plaintiff in the suit for damages arising out of the collision between the *Chishima Kan* and the *Ravenna* was "the Imperial Japanese Government."

The defendants' appeal to the British Superior Court in Shanghai was answered by the plaintiff, such course being in accordance with precedent.

The receipt of the following was announced:

(1) A Bill relating to the Enforcement of the existing Treaties; introduced by Mr. Sasaki Tomofusa.

(2) A Representation to the Government on the subject of the strict Enforcement of the existing Treaties; presented by Mr. Abei Hankon.

(3) A Project of Law for dealing with Persons obstructing the Enforcement of the existing Treaties; presented by Mr. Abei Hankon.

Dr. Hatoyama expressed regret that the Government's Reply did not address itself to the real purport of his Questions. With regard to the first Question, he understood the Government to say that the Sovereign's name was not used in the pleadings, but they were in the name of the Imperial Government as plaintiff. He was well aware of that and made no query about the pleadings. His point had been that the Emperor's name was used by the barrister conducting the Japanese case, and that it was used for the purposes of his argument in opposing the right of the defendants to file a counter-claim. He had asked why it was so used, and the Government's reply was not a reply to his question. With regard to the second question, precedent was relied on as the Government's sole justification. But surely it was not contended that all precedents must be followed. A man was not warranted in continuing to do wrong because he had done wrong already. His Question was *why* had the Government appeared in the Shanghai Court, and he did not take it to be any answer that they were in the habit of appearing there. Admitting the habit, what he wanted to know was its propriety or otherwise. Doubtless the House was interested in the matter. Another opportunity would occur to re-open the subject.

Mr Hatano Denzaburo, introducing the Press Law Bill, said it was the same Bill as that passed by the House in every preceding session, but prevented from becoming law owing to want of time or the opposition of the Upper House. The existing press law conferred on the Administration power of an unconstitutional and arbitrary character; power which was exercised by those in authority, not according to the dictates of justice but in defence of their own reputation. The Bill expressed the earnest wish of the House and ought certainly to pass after so many resolute attempts to push it through the Diet.

Mr. Tsuzuki, Government Delegate, was obliged to repeat the Government's often repeated objection to this Bill. The Government knew the value of free speech, and desired earnestly to grant it. But complete freedom was not yet possible. He need not again traverse ground travelled over repeatedly in the past. It would suffice to say that the Government could not agree to the Bill as it stood.

The Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee of 9 nominated by the President.

Mr. Kato Masanosuke introducing the Bill for establishing a Local Assembly in Hokkaido, dwelt on the importance of the island from a strategical as well as a material point of view. Capable of supporting ten millions, some said 20 millions, of people, it had as yet only a few hundred thousands. With two and a half million acres of arable land, only a hundred and twenty-five thousand had been brought under cultivation. Since the Restoration seventy million *yen* had been spent on it, but there was nothing to show except a few roads and money-losing official enterprises. The only hope for the development of the place was to make the people autonomic, and let them have an Assembly to decide upon the best steps of progress.

Mr. Tsuzuki, Government Delegate, said that it was true that the Government had spent large sums on Hokkaido since the Restoration: not seventy millions, however, but fifty millions. And there was much to show for the money. Thus the population had been increased by half a million, and the exports had grown to twelve millions. But when they came to speak of establishing a Local Assembly, they had to remember, in the first place, that innumerable preparations must be made before taking such a step, and in the second, that the conditions existing in Hokkaido were altogether different from those in the rest of Japan. He entered at considerable length into an explanation of this point, and argued that until it had been found possible to bring Hokkaido into the pre-

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fectural system obtaining elsewhere throughout the empire, the establishment of a Local Assembly there was out of the question.

Mr. Kozaki Jokei opposed the Bill. He contended that in many parts of Japan Local Assemblies were still premature, and that anything of the kind could not be safely considered for a moment in Hokkaido. He held that, in view of the importance of the subject, the Minister of State for Home Affairs should have appeared in the House himself and opposed the Bill.

The Bill was entrusted to a Committee of 9 nominated by the President.

The same course was pursued with regard to the remaining Bills on the Order of the Day, no discussion taking place, and the House rose at 2.40 p.m.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 10.45 a.m., the Order of the Day being,

1.—Report of the Special Committee on the Bill for Changing the Limits of certain Jurisdictions.
2.—First Reading of a Bill for rescinding the Peace Preservation Regulations; sent up from the Lower House.
3.—Appointment of a Special Committee to report upon the same

Mr. Matsuoka Koki, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported in favour of the Bill for Changing the Limits of certain Jurisdictions, with a few amendments the principal of which was that cases arising in the Tsukui District shall be carried to the Yokohama Local Court instead of the Odawara District Court, it being considered that such an arrangement would be more convenient for local litigants.

The House voted for the Second Reading of the Bill and proceeded with it at once. The amendments proposed by the Committee were adopted and the Third Reading was passed.

BILL FOR AMENDING THE LIMITS OF THE JURISDICTION OF LAW COURTS.

Art. I.—In the table giving the positions of law courts and the extent of their jurisdiction, the Hachioji Court, now under the jurisdiction of the Yokohama Local Court, shall be transferred to that of the Tokyo Local Court, and shall have jurisdiction over the Districts of Minamitama, Nishitama, and Kitatama. The following 7 villages, Nitso, Asamizo, Oyama, Aibara, Ono, Mizo, and Tana in the county of Takaraza, Sagami, shall be included in the jurisdiction of the Yokohama Peace Court under the control of the Yokohama Local Court. The District of Tsukui, Sagami, shall be included in the jurisdiction of the Yokohama District Court under the control of the Yokohama Local Court.

Art. II.—In accordance with the provisions of Art. I., cases which, previous to the enactment of this law, were brought before the Yokohama Local Court or the Hachioji District Court, shall now come under the jurisdiction of the Tokyo Local Court, the Yokohama District Court, or the Odawara District Court, respectively. Appeals from sentences given by the Hachioji District Court shall, in accordance with the foregoing provisions, be referred to the Tokyo Local Court.

Art. III.—Appeals from sentences given by the Hachioji District Courts previous to the enforcement of the present law shall be referred to the Yokohama Local Court.

SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISION.

Art. IV.—This law shall come into force on and after the 4th of April of the 27th year of *Meiji* (1894).

Marquis Daigo said that he had always hitherto been an opponent of the Bill for abolishing the Peace Preservation Regulations, but he now desired that the Bill should pass. He did not pretend to think the Regulations altogether unnecessary, but he thought them less necessary than they had formerly been, and at any rate it seemed to him unadvisable that the House of Peers should reject, session after session, a measure sent up by the Representatives.

Mr. Ando Sokumei desired to have an explanation from the Government Delegate as to the Government's views about the Bill. He presumed that the Government itself had not been unreluctant to enact the Peace Preservation Regulations, but had been obliged to do so owing to the necessity of the time. He should be pleased to know if it was officially considered that the Regulations were still needed.

Mr. Suyematsu Kencho said that it was a mistake to suppose that the Government had enacted the Peace Preservation Regulations as a temporary measure to meet the exigencies of a season. Their usefulness had been expected to continue for a long time. Nevertheless, conditions change with the lapse of years, and he was not by any means prepared to deny that the time might come when the Regulations could be safely dispensed with. In the Government's opinion, however, that time had not yet come. A law existed against wearing swords in public, and its provisions were observed so far as they went. But it was notorious that certain persons carried arms of various kinds, and showed an unfortunate disposition to resort to deeds of violence. The scenes of disturbance and bloodshed that occurred at elections must be fresh in the minds of all. The Government, therefore, felt compelled to oppose the rescinding of the Regulations.

Mr. Ando persisted in seeking a reply as to the degree of progress that was considered a necessary preliminary to the repeal of the Regulations. They might have been required at the time of their enactment, but he could scarcely believe that there existed now any serious tendency to acts such as the Regulations were designed to punish or prevent. Did the Government think that such a tendency existed, and for what reason was it considered likely to become practically influential?

Mr. Suyematsu denied the possibility of postulating any definite future conditions such as might warrant the repeal of the Regulations. Neither was it advisable to enter into an open explanation of the contingencies that seemed, in the Government's eyes, to require their continued operation at present.

Mr. Ando said that his particular objection had reference to the Article of the Regulations that seemed to indicate danger to the Throne as the chief cause of their enactment. Did not the Government regard as very undesirable a law owing its origin to such a cause.

Mr. Suyematsu replied that the same question had been asked and answered in the last session. He referred the member to the records of the House.

The Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee nominated by the President.

The House rose at 11.35 a.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.15 p.m., the Order of the Day being,

1.—Report of the Special Committee on the Bill for abolishing the Export Duty on Cotton Yarns.
2.—First Reading of a Bill for transferring Prison Expenditures to the charge of the Treasury; sent down from the House of Peers.
3.—Appointment of a Special Committee to report upon the same.
4.—Second Reading of the Bill for amending Law No. 84 of the 23rd year of *Meiji*.
5.—First Reading of a Bill, introduced by Mr. Sasaki Zenyemon, for supplementing the Special Export Ports.
6.—Representation, introduced by Major-General Aoyama Hogara, on the subject of an Iron Foundry.

The receipt of various Bills having been announced,

Mr. Kato Masanosuke spoke at some length with reference to a Question addressed by him to the Government on the subject of the repair of river banks. He dwelt upon the great losses suffered annually by the country in lives and property owing to the breaking of river banks, and on the heavy expense consequently incurred by the Treasury and the localities. The problem of river banks was one that demanded the most earnest consideration of the Government and the best skill of the country's experts. Upon whom did the responsibility rest at present? Did it not rest on a Minister of State who enjoyed a high reputation for his capacity, namely, Count Inouye? It was not to be supposed that Count Inouye had ceased in any way to be the competent statesmen of former times, yet during his two years of office no thorough-going plan for riparian improvements had been introduced. The speaker felt that some steps must be taken in the matter, and had accordingly propounded Questions to ascertain the relation existing between the problems of forests and rivers, the source whence funds for riparian purposes were to be drawn, and the amount which the Treasury was prepared to give for the purpose of supplementing the sums contributed by the localities.

Mr. Nakazawa Hikokichi, on behalf of the Special Committee, said that the Committee had very fully investigated the question of the present state and prospects of the cotton-spinning industry in Japan, and had found that enterprise of this character is growing rapidly. There were already 46 large cotton-spinning factories in Japan, with a total of 684,200 spindles, and the quantity of yarn produced was in excess of domestic demand. Undoubtedly the necessity of finding markets abroad was beginning to be urgent. The Committee, on investigation, had ascertained that at present the chief market for Japan Yarns was Shanghai. They there came into direct competition with Bombay Yarns, and it appeared that the Indian product could be sold at a rate 1.84 *yen* cheaper per bale than the Japanese. But if this Bill passed, and the export duty were withdrawn, the Japanese Yarns could be placed upon the Shanghai market for 1.36 *yen* less per bale than the Indian. Hence there was good prospect of extending the demand for the former, and the Committee, considering that every possible encouragement should be given towards the attainment of that object, recommended the Bill to the favourable consideration of the House.

Mr. Tatekawa Umpei briefly supported the Bill, and the House voted to carry it to a Second Reading, but declined to proceed with the Reading at once.

Mr. Kato, Government Delegate, said that, with regard to the Bill for transferring prison expenditures to the charges of the Treasury, the Government must oppose the measure for financial reasons. The surplus revenue for the next fiscal year was already disposed of, and no funds were available for the purpose of this Bill.

The Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee elected by the Sections.

The Second Reading of the Bill for amending Law No. 84—relating to penalties for breaches of Administrative Ordinances—was then voted without discussion, and the Third Reading was passed.

The Bill for supplementing the System of Special Ports of Export, was then read:—

The Special Ports of Export established by Law No. 12 of the 22nd year of *Meiji*, shall be increased by the addition of Sakai in the province of Hoki.

Mr. Sasaki Zenyemon, explaining the Bill, said that the port of Sakai was frequented by vessels belonging to three steamship companies, and that a brisk trade flowed to it—the trade between the provinces of Izumo and Hoki. Considerable quantities of rice and barley were exported yearly, namely, 300,000 *koku* to Osaka and Kobe and 30,000 *koku* to foreign countries, yet there was no port of export within 500 miles (English) and great obstacles were thus placed in the way of trade. Finally, the expense of opening the port would be trifling, only five or six hundred *yen* annually.

Mr. Kato, Government Delegate, said that the Government desired nothing less than to place any obstacles in the path of trade, and would not advance any objections on the score of expense were there corresponding advantages to be secured. But it did not appear that any sufficient cause existed for the opening of Sakai. The proposer of the Bill had stated that rice and barley were exported thence annually to the extent of 30,000 *koku*. The Government's investigations, however, showed that the export did not exceed from three to five thousand *koku*. One steamer could carry away that quantity. There were many other places not less favourably circumstanced than Sakai as ports of export, and though the expense of opening any one of them might be small, the aggregate outlay on account of the whole would be very considerable. Hence the Government must oppose the Bill. In answer to Mr. Sasaki, he said that, though he could not enumerate all the ports having equal claims with Sakai, he was in a position to say that applications based on similar grounds had already reached the Government from 13 or 14 places.

Mr. Watanabe Yoshizo traversed the Government Delegate's views. He said that the expense attending the despatch of cereals from Sanin-do to Osaka and Kobe was very great at present—from 50 *sen* to 1 *yen* per *koku*. Sakai was the most progressive place in the whole re-

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gion, and the House knew that a railway debouching there was among the projects for the First Construction Period. He failed to see how such a place could be counted unsuitable for purposes of special export. On the contrary, Sakai appeared to him eminently fitted for foreign trade.

The House rejected the Second Reading of the Bill.

The Representation relating to the establishment of an Iron Foundry was then read, and explained by Mr. Kashiwada Yoshibumi, who asserted that it must be evident to every observer that the prime object of all countries at present was to strengthen their military organization and place them on an independent footing. Japan was bound to suffer if she neglected to adopt the same policy. Investigations had shown that she possessed an ample supply of excellent iron, and that the metal was even better suited for her purposes than imported iron; she had plenty of coal, also, and it cost her much less than it cost other countries where iron foundries flour shed. In short, from a practical point of view, everything favoured the establishment of an iron foundry in Japan as urged in the Representation. With regard to the question of establishing the foundry under official auspices, he himself, speaking generally, was opposed to official meddling in such matters. But there did not appear to be any reasonable prospect of success under private management, for the present, at all events. The Government alone could command sufficient capital and a sufficiency of expert assistance. The argument in favour of the foundry had acquired much additional force from the recent heavy depreciation of silver. Any goods bought abroad had now to be paid for at a cost far higher than was formerly the case, when converted into the currency of Japan. On the other hand, they were confronted by the imminent necessity of having to make very heavy purchases in foreign markets unless they established a foundry of their own. The spirit of railway enterprise was active. The country was about to spend at least a hundred millions on railroads. Already, in addition to the works of that kind contemplated by the State under the provisions of the new Railway Law, applications for charters to build lines had been received from over thirty private associations. He need not remind them that a considerable part of the money spent on railway construction must go abroad, unless they had an iron foundry at home. Then again for the construction of iron men-of-war an outlay of some three millions annually was needed, and he thought that the House was agreed as to the necessity of increasing that sum to five millions at least. Here was another channel through which large sums must flow out of Japan every year. Again, it might at any moment happen that owing to international complications Japan's supply of iron and war material from abroad would be cut off. In that event, what resource had she? He failed to see any except application to China. The neighbouring empire was so far ahead of Japan that an iron foundry had already been established there. Thus Japan might at any moment find herself a suppliant for supplies from China, whereas the rôle they must all desire to see their country play would be that of supplying China. He might remind them that great opposition to the establishment of an iron foundry in Japan had come from the foreign side, a fact which, in itself, should suffice to establish the advisability of the step.

An animated dialogue occurred between Mr. Hashimoto Kintaro and the last speaker, the President being twice compelled to call them to order.

Mr. Kagami Kahei opposed the Representation in a speech of great length. He expressed surprise that the House should be asked to accept as conclusive the investigations hitherto made as to the supply of iron in Japan. Those investigations had been conducted entirely under the auspices of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, which was the Department of all others deemed least worthy of the House's confidence. Several places were mentioned as sources of iron supply but among them incomparably the most important was Kamaishi. It was alleged that Kamaishi alone could give all the iron needed, but according to information obtained by the speaker from a thoroughly competent expert, the vein at Kamaishi was not continuous, and although a certain quantity of suitable iron might be procured near the surface, deeper workings would give ore quite unfitted for the manufacture of wrought iron. Experience did not recommend Kamaishi. Already the State had spent some three million *yen* on the mines there, and had obtained virtually nothing in return. So hopeless had the prospects of the place seemed, that the Minister of Finance had declined to devote a comparatively small sum annually for the purpose of keeping the works open. It was therefore more than problematical whether, if they had an iron foundry, they could find in Japan iron to keep it going. Then again, could they be sure of manufacturing fire-proof bricks for their furnaces? At present, England was the only country in the world where such bricks were produced. Russia had to obtain a supply of them from Great Britain. The probabilities were against Japan's being able to furnish herself with this important item, yet the promoters of a foundry talked as though its establishment would make the country absolutely self-supplying in the matter of war-material. As to coal, again: experts said that Japanese coal, with the exception of that of Chikuzen, was too sulphurous for smelting iron such as they needed. Could Chikuzen be counted on to give a sufficient supply? They were aware, also, that not even the question of locality had been agreed upon, so vague and nebulous was the whole project. Experts, too, were said to be wanting in Japan. He had heard that only one competent man was available. From every point of view he recommended the House to pause before addressing such a Representation to the Government. He himself was not opposed, in the abstract, to a project of the kind advocated. But he was emphatically of the opinion that they did not yet possess sufficient information to justify them in advocating a heavy expenditure of public money for such a purpose. He might remind them in conclusion that even the Government's ideas were not yet fixed, and that the Minister of State concerned was still understood to be making investigations.

Mr. Ooka Ikazo had listened with interest to the erudite speech of Mr. Kagami. He was curious to know, however, to whom Mr. Kagami had referred when he spoke of "the Minister of State chiefly concerned who was still engaged in investigations.' Did he mean Count Goto? And was it then possible to place immediate confidence in the doings of Count Goto? Perhaps the House might remember that Count Goto was among the Ministers of State who affixed his seal of approval to the Bill introduced by the Government in the third session for the establishment of an iron foundry. Yet they were now told that the same Count Goto was engaged in investigations essential to forming a decision as to the advisability of the foundry. For his own part, he considered that the House had better wait until some definite information was forthcoming as to the results of the small experimental foundry, the establishment of which had been recommended two years previously.

The closure was moved and carried, and the House rejected the Representation.

The House rose at 3.25 p.m.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 11TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 10.40 a.m. the Order of the Day being,

1.—Second Reading of the Game Law Bill.

The receipt of various Bills, &c., having been announced, the Order of the Day was proceeded with.

The Game Law Bill was discussed clause by clause, and various amendments having been introduced, it was finally passed through its Second and Third Readings.

The House rose at 3.30 p.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.15 p.m. the Order of the Day being,

1.—Report of the Special Committee on the Government Bill for giving Aid from the Treasury for purposes of Technical Education.

2.—First Reading of the Government Bill for amending portions of the Treasury Notes Regulations.

3.—Appointment of a Special Committee to report upon the same.

4.—Second Reading of the Government Bill for abolishing the Export Duty on Cotton Yarns.

5.—First Reading of a Bill introduced by Mr. Ooka Ikuzo for amending the Bail Bond Regulations.

6.—First Reading of a Bill introduced by Mr. Nakamura Yaroku for amending the Mining Regulations.

7.—First Reading of a Bill introduced by Mr. Ono Ryosuke for amending the Regulations for the Control of Pawnbrokers.

8.—First Reading of a Bill introduced by Mr. Kozaka Zenmosuke for amending the Banking Regulations.

9.—First Reading of a Bill introduced by Mr. Kakano Toshiro for amending Law No. 10 of the 22nd years of *Meiji*.

The Vice-President announced the receipt of a Supplementary Budget which the Government desired to have treated as a matter of urgency.

The receipt of various Bills, &c., having been reported,

Mr. Watanabe, Minister of State for Finance, explained that the Supplementary Budget introduced by the Government was necessitated by the recent sudden depreciation of silver, and the time for the payments affected being close at hand, the Budget was presented as a matter of urgency.

Mr. Kashiwada Moribumi complained that a proper answer had not been given by the Minister of Finance to the Question submitted by the speaker on the 4th instant. The Minister, in his speech recently delivered in the House, had adduced the growth of the country's foreign trade as a proof of national prosperity, noting especially the marked increase of exports recorded during recent years. But on examining the statistics, it appeared that during the 13 year period from 1879 to 1891, the exports had aggregated 613,442,311 *yen*, and the imports, 608,639,548 *yen*, the excess of the former being 4,802,763 *yen*. But it had to be remembered that the imports appearing in the statistics were calculated at their prices at the ports of export. To obtain their selling value in Japan, at least 10 % of those prices must be added on account of freight, insurance, and charges. If this correction were made, it resulted that imports exceeded exports in the period under consideration by no less an amount than 56,061,191 *yen*. Turning again to the movement of coin and bullion in the same period, it appeared that gold and silver to the value of 104,165,571 *yen* had been exported against a total import of 98,121,596 *yen*, the excess on the side of export being 6,043,975 *yen*. Hence it appeared that the country had paid away some fifty millions less than it ought to have done were there question merely of the difference in value between the exports and imports of commodities. What had become of that money? To what purposes was it applied? He believed that it represented funds brought to this country by foreigners to purchase land or employ as capital in businesses organized by them in violation of the Treaties. Had the Minister of State for Finance taken these points into consideration when he spoke of the increasing bulk of the exports as a sign of the country's development? That was what he, the speaker, had wished to ascertain when he addressed his Question to the Government. But the Minister of State for Finance had merely replied that the Government counted an increasing export trade as one proof of national prosperity. Determined not to be content with such an irrelevant answer, he had re-formulated his Question, and he should go on doing so until he obtained a satisfactory reply.

Mr. Murayama Riyobei, on behalf of the Special Committee, asked permission to defer the Committee's report on the first Bill set down for discussion. Leave was granted and the House proceeded to the Bill for amending the Treasury Notes Regulations, which was entrusted to a Special Committee nominated by the President.

The Second Reading of the Bill for abolishing the Export Duty on Cotton Yarns was then passed without debate.

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Mr. Ooka, introducing the Bill for amending the Bailiffs Regulations, said that no explanation was needed, as the Bill had been before the House last session, and as the abuses existing under the present Regulations were well known to all.

The Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee nominated by the President.

Mr. Nakamura Yaroku, introducing the Bill for amending the Mining Regulations, said that it had been before the House in the preceding session. Experience had demonstrated the necessity of changing the law now in force, which was only a copy of the German law, and in many respects unfitted for Japan.

The Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee of 9 nominated by the President.

Mr. Ono Rinsuke, introducing the Bill for amending the Regulations for the Control of Pawnbrokers, said that the present Regulations caused great inconvenience to a class of persons who carried on a trade representing some 80 million *yen* annually.

The Government Delegate said that the Government also recognised the necessity for some amendment, and was engaged in investigations with that object. The Bill now before the House seemed commendable in all respects but one, namely, the provision for bringing pawnbrokers and dealers in second hand goods into the same category. Against that the Government wished to enter a protest.

The Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee of 9 nominated by the President, as was also the Bill for amending the Banking Regulations.

Mr. Katano Toshiro, introducing the Bill for amending Law No. 10 of the 22nd year of *Meiji*, said that the present Physicians' Regulations were based on the system of feudal times: they allowed doctors themselves to compound medicines for their patients, a method that gave rise to many abuses. The time had come for distinctly separating the professions of apothecary and physician. The Bill now under consideration had been framed chiefly with that object.

Dr. Hasegawa Tai opposed the Bill at great length. After considerable discussion, the House refused to carry the Bill to a Second Reading, and rose at 3.45 p.m.

TUESDAY, 12TH DECEMBER.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House did not sit, the Committees alone meeting.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.15 p.m., the Order of the Day being:—

1.—Report of the Special Committee on the Government Bill for amending the Tax Collecting Regulations.
2.—Report of the Special Committee on the Government Bill for making certain Additions to the capital of the Tokyo Military Arsenal.
3.—Report of the Special Committee on the Government Bill for creating an Emergency Reserve Fund.
4.—First Reading of a Supplementary Bill introduced by Mr. Kagami Kahei for amending the Law of the Houses.
5.—First Reading of a Bill introduced by Mr. Inouye Hikosaburo relating to the Management of State Property.
6.—First Reading of a Bill introduced by Mr. Kozuki Jokei for amending the Medical Diploma Regulations.
7.—First Reading of a Bill introduced by Mr. Motoda Hajime for amending the Law of Organisation of the Law Courts.

The receipt of various Bills, &c., having been announced, the President, who had resumed his seat after a week's suspension, informed the House that an assault having been committed the preceding evening on Mr Shimada Saburo, he had addressed to that gentleman a message of condolence in the name of the House.

Mr. Takata Sanaye asked leave to introduce an urgency motion for again handing over Mr Hoshi Toru, the President, to the Disciplinary Committee, on the ground that he had shown contempt for the House's decisions by resuming the Presidential seat after the passage of the House's vote of want of confidence.

The House voted by a large majority to permit the introduction of the motion, but on application for the Government's permission to change the Order of the Day for the purpose, the permission was refused. Mr. Takata therefore announced that he should re-introduce the motion so soon on the Government Bills were disposed of.

At this point Mr. Tanaka Shozo, who had made several attempts to speak out of order, shouted from his seat that the assailants of Mr. Shimada Saburo had been instigated by a person now in disgrace (evidently referring to the President). The President took no notice of the interruption, and the Order of the Day was proceeded with.

Mr. Ando Kiuka, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported in favour of the Bill for amending the Tax Collecting Regulations and the House voted to carry it to a Second Reading.

Mr. Awaya Shinazo, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported in favour of the Bill for making certain additions to the capital of the Tokyo Military Arsenal. He said that the Bill embodied a measure of which the House had always approved, namely the transfer of the Naval Powder Factory to the Army Department.

The House, without question or debate, voted to carry the Bill to a Second Reading.

Mr. Kawashima Jun, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported that as the 62nd and 69th Articles of the Constitution contained provisions enabling the Government to take financial measures in the event of calamities requiring grants from the Treasury, the Committee saw no reason to create the Emergency Reserve asked for by the Government in the third Bill on the Order of the Day. There were plenty of pressing uses for any surplus revenue that might be forthcoming: there were reforms such as reduction of the land tax and reassessment of the taxable value of land. To provide for the storing up of such money in the Treasury vaults would be like creating a special fund for a spendthrift son to squander. Therefore the Committee were opposed to the Bill.

Mr. Tajiri, Government Delegate, said that the object of the Bill was simply to place the Government in a position to deal promptly with emergencies such as the country was unfortunately liable to. There were provisions in the Constitution for imposing a new tax, raising a national loan, or contracting other liabilities to the charge of the Treasury, and also for creating a reserve fund in the Budget, but there were no means for meeting emergencies such as this Bill contemplated.

Mr. Fukuda Hisamatsu thought that the Bill, though it had the mien of a god, carried the heart of a demon, as the saying went. It might be pleasant for folks that suffered from natural calamities to have large sums lying ready for their succour, but it was not equally agreeable to the country that money should be held idle on the chance of such occurrences. There was a Famine Relief Fund amounting to many millions, and moreover, the Government, provided that it adopted a proper course of procedure, might at any time make large grants in aid of afflicted people. The House had raised objections to grants made on the occasion of the Ai-Gi earthquake, inasmuch as the procedure followed had been faulty, but the Government need never fear that there would be any reluctance to endorse State munificence exercised in a worthy cause and in accordance with constitutional provisions.

Mr. Suyematsu Kencho supported the Bill. He did not hesitate to say that if the question of the proposed measure's expediency were submitted to the constituencies there would be an almost unanimous vote in its favour.

Mr. Awaya Shinazo remarked that Mr. Suyematsu's position was somewhat ambiguous. One day he appeared as a Government Delegate; the next he addressed them from his place as a member. It was like listening to singing with too loud an accompaniment; one never could get a clear idea of either the song or the *samisen*.

Mr. Suyematsu said that, though a member of the House, he was a Government Delegate. This position was perfectly intelligible to any one familiar with the methods of constitutional Government. If Mr. Awaya had practical experience of being a Minister of State, he would find no difficulty in understanding these matters.

The House voted against carrying the Bill to a Second Reading.

Mr. Takata Sanaye now introduced his urgency motion. He was well aware, he said, of the old proverbs "do not follow a beaten foe" and "the hard-pressed rat will bite the cat," but in a case like the present, where the House's decisions had been despised and its dignity insulted, the strongest measures must not be shrunk from. Mr. Hoshi Toru, in the face of a vote by a large majority that the House no longer placed confidence in him, and in the face of an Address to the Throne, had persisted in retaining his seat, thereby showing contempt for the decisions of the House, and bringing it into disrepute.—(Mr. Tanaka Shozo at this point shouted out, "He is a fool.") The motion he had to propose was this:—"Hoshi Toru, member of this House, by resuming the Presidential seat to-day, has treated the vote of the House with contumacy, and has insulted the House. It is therefore resolved that he be handed over to the Disciplinary Committee for proper punishment." Some persons might imagine that Mr. Hoshi was entitled to resume his seat at the expiration of the sentence of a week's suspension previously pronounced against him, but that sentence had been entirely unconnected with the original vote of want of confidence; it has been necessitated by Mr. Hoshi's conduct when the motion for the vote was on the eve of debate. He had then declared that he should not respect the House's decision, and the contumacy displayed by that language had been punished by a week's suspension. He had now acted up to the declaration then made, thus showing his contumacy by deed as he had previously shown it by word. For this second act he must be punished a second time. He claimed, indeed, that his refusal to respect the House's decision was because of illegalities in the procedure adopted. Concerning that, nothing need be said except that Mr. Hoshi seemed unable to recognise an offensive object when it came under his eyes—(Mr. Tanaka Shozo in a loud voice, "He is the Government's beast,")—for while himself refusing to obey the dictates of the House and treating it with contempt, he ventured to accuse others of illegality. It was out of the question that the matter should be dropped at this stage. The House must assert its authority, and the only way to do so was to hand over Mr. Hoshi to the Disciplinary Committee.

Mr. Tatekawa Umpei had a question to ask. If Mr. Hoshi's appearance in the Presidential chair to-day constituted an offence, why had not his appearance there on the 30th ultimo and the 1st instant equally constituted an offence?—(Mr. Tanaka Shozo, "Hold you tongue, No. 300.")

Mr. Takata replied that the events referred to had occurred while the vote of want of confidence and the Address to the Throne were on the tapis.

Mr. Inouye Kakugoro said that, according to the wording of the vote of want of confidence, the question of resignation had been left to Mr. Hoshi's discretion. Further, the House itself had declared that its Address to the Throne did not exceed an expression of its own want of light and leading. Were they then entitled to punish Mr. Hoshi for not choosing to do as they wished, when liberty of choice was expressly reserved to him, and for not taking upon himself the consequences of a blunder which the House confessed it had made?

Mr. Takata replied that whatever might have been the wording of the vote of want of confidence, it amounted to an injunction addressed by the House to Mr. Hoshi, and he was bound to abide by it. As for the Address to the Throne, there could be no greater mistake than to suppose that it did not directly concern Mr. Hoshi.

The President said that as the motion before the House was for handing over a member to the Disciplinary Committee, the pros and cons of the step must form the subject of preliminary debate.—(Cries of "No, No," from all parts of the House, especially from Messrs. Tanaka Shozo and Shimizu Bunjiro.)

The President said that his ruling was in accordance with Art. 117 of the Law of the Standing Orders.—(Mr. Tanaka Shozo here shouted out a filthy expletive.)

Mr. Muramatsu Kameichiro moved, as a preliminary motion, that no debate take place.

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The President, however, persisted in his ruling and the House became much excited.

Mr Ooka Ikuzo moved that the President's present ruling was a violation of the Standing Orders, he should be handed over to be Disciplinary Committee.

Mr. Yamaguchi Chiosaku supported the motion, but the President ruled that as he could not be punished for his interpretation of the Rules in the discharge of his Presidential duties, Mr. Ooka's motion was out of order.

Mr. Hashimoto Kintaro pointed out that it was for the Disciplinary Committee to decide whether Mr. Hoshi should be punished or not: consequently, no occasion existed for the House to debate the question,

Mr. Inouye Kakugoro recommended the President to expel the members who were creating such a disturbance.

Mr. Nakamura Yaroku recommended the President to resign his chair to the Vice-President, since his own acts were under consideration.

The President declined.—(Confusion.)

After some further altercation, the President, in deference to the urgings of many of the members, put the question to the House whether the propriety of handing him over to the Disciplinary Committee should first be debated, The House voted unanimously in the contrary sense.

Mr. Takata Sanaye's motion was then put and carried by a large majority.

The President then left the chair.

Mr. Ooka Ikuzo, pressed his motion for handing over the President to the Disciplinary Committee on the separate count that he had violated the Standing Orders in the discharge of his Presidential functions.

The House passed the motion, and proceeded with the Order of the Day.

Mr. Kagami Kahei having explained his Bill for amending the Law of the Houses, it was handed to a Special Committee nominated by the President. The same course was pursued with regard to the remaining Bills on the Order of the Day, and the House rose at 4.50 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 10.35 a.m., the Order of the Day being :—

1.—Report of the Chairman of the Petitions Committee.
2.—Report of the Special Committee on the Bill relating to the Period of Probation for Judicial Officers.
3.—First Reading of the Bill sent up from the Representatives for amending Law No. 84 of the 23rd year of *Meiji*.
4.—Appointment of a Special Committee to report upon the same
5.—Representation to the Government with regard to the Law of Election for Representatives of the Highest Tax payers in the House of Peers.

Prince Tokugawa Iyesato, Chairman of the Petitions Committee, reported that the total number of Petitions received by the Committee was 1,792, of which 436 had been presented every session since the first. Among these the Committee had decided that 4 should be submitted to the House; that 14, relating to railway construction, should be considered later on, in conjunction with others of a like nature; that 6 were not in accord with legal provisions, and that the remainder need not be laid before the House.

The Order of the Day being taken, Prince Tokugawa, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported in favour of the Bill relating to the period of Probation for Judicial Officers, and after a debate of some length, the House voted to carry the Bill to a Second Reading, and to proceed with it at once. The Second and Third Readings were passed.

The Bill for amending Law No. 84 of the 23rd year of *Meiji* was then entrusted to a Special Committee nominated by the President.

Mr. Takeguchi Kichiro, introducing the Representation relating to the election of members to represent the highest tax-payers, explained that according to the present law, when a vacancy occurred among such members after the 1st of April in any year, an election to fill the vacancy could not be held until June of the following year, the result being that the highest tax-payers in a City or Prefecture might find themselves unrepresented in a session of the Diet, since the latter met in November and rose in February. The Representation sought to have this defect remedied.

The House passed the Representation and rose at 1.37 p.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.20 p.m., the Order of the Day being :—

1.—Third Reading of the Bill for abolishing the Export Duty on Cotton Yarns.
2.—Report of the Special Committee on the Bill for amending Imperial Ordinance No. 141 of the 22nd year of *Meiji*.
3.—Report of the Special Committee on the Bill for amending Law No. 4 of the 22nd year of *Meiji*.
4.—Report of the Special Committee on the Bill for amending the Law of Registration.
5.—Report of the Special Committee on the Bill for the Protection of the Aborigines of Hokkaido.
6.—Representation to the Government, introduced by Mr. Imaizoich ro, with relation to Moors and Forests.

The receipt of various Bills, etc., having been announced, the Government's Reply to Questions addressed to it by Mr Kawashima Jun and others was read follows :—

With regard to the first question, the Government affirms that the existing Treaties are validly enforced in fact as well as in name.

In the statement of Reasons attached to the above Question, it is alleged that the executive power in the Foreign Settlements is more or less usurped by the Foreign Consuls, and that as a consequence, the orders of the Japanese Local Officials cannot be directly enforced. But the municipal system in force in the Settlements of Osaka and Kobe was established by the provisions of a treaty with Foreign Governments that has been in operation since the fourth year of the *Keio* era, and is therefore a part of the existing treaties. Excepting these two Settlements, however, police functions, that is to say the duty of preserving peace and good order, the arrest of offenders and their prosecution are now actually exercised by the Imperial Government. Further, in the cases of Yokohama and Nagasaki, matters relating to engineering, sanitation, and police were all regulated by special treaty from the time of the *Bakufu* Government, but the provisions of that treaty were gradually abolished or relaxed until the Treaty ceased altogether from the 10th year of *Meiji* to have any practical existence.

As to the second question, its meaning is not quite clear, but in reply to the accompanying explanation, it may be stated that foreigners have no right of ownership in land even within the Settlements still less without them; further, that since there is no express clause in the Treaties forbidding business partnerships, persons entering into such partnerships are not directly liable to penalties. Of course it is contrary to the Treaties that foreigners should carry on business outside the Settlements, and therefore the Government has no reason to overlook such transactions. With regard again to the travelling of foreigners in the interior, that is limited to persons having received special permission from the Government. Should any foreigners travel beyond Treaty Limits without such permission, the Government never fails to take proper steps for their punishment.

With the exception of the above questions, none of those addressed to the Government calls for any answer.

(Signed) MUTSU MUNEMITSU.
Minister of State for Foreign Affairs.

The President announced that Mr. Osaka Katsutaku had been attacked on his way from Tsukiji to the House, but had received no injury.

Mr. Yamoto Yoshinori, explaining Questions addressed by him to the Government on the subject of river control, dwelt upon the sufferings of the people from inundations, and the apparent neglect of the Government to investigate the subject thoroughly.

Mr. Hatoyama Kazuo said that not having received satisfactory answers to his previous Questions about the *Chishima-Ravenna* lawsuit, he had addressed fresh Questions to the Government. In reply to his query why the Emperor's name had been used in bringing the suit, the Government had replied that the suit had been brought in the name of the Imperial Japanese Government. But it was beyond all doubt that the Sovereign's name had been employed in the arguments used to oppose the motion for a cross action, and he now wished to know why it had been so employed. In the second place, if the Government claimed that whereas the suit had been brought in the name of the Government, the counsel on the Japanese side had, of his own motion, used the Sovereign's name in his arguments, then the query arose, why had not proper steps been taken with regard to the counsel. But in point of fact, the Government could not claim anything of the kind, inasmuch as the counter-claim had been rejected by the Yokohama Court last June in consideration of the arguments in which the Emperor's name was employed, and His Majesty's prerogatives were asserted. Hence the Government must have had full cognisance of the affair, and must have allowed the case to go before the Appeal Court in Shanghai with a complete understanding that the same arguments would be adduced. In the third place, the Government had stated that it appeared in the Shanghai Court to answer the appeal in accordance with precedent. What was the precedent? He desired to have accurate information. In the fourth place, was the precedent pretexted by the Government a proper one to follow? There were many precedents to follow which would be obviously mischievous. For example, the Treaties did not impose upon the Government any obligation to protect foreign copyright or foreign trade-marks. Nevertheless, when a Japanese reprint of an American book appeared, the American Government had complained to the Foreign Office and the sale of the work had been suspended. Similar action had been taken with regard to English soap and German beer, the trade marks of which had been copied in Japan. Were such precedents as these to be necessarily followed? If all precedents were to be observed, every error made by the Government during the *Meiji* era would be repeated in perpetuity. There was no conceivable reason why British Orders in Council should have any binding force upon the administration of justice in Japan, and a Japanese suitor could not lawfully be required to follow a case in which he was plaintiff to a British tribunal in Shanghai. He trusted that the Minister President of State and the other Ministers of the Crown would attend in their places and give a full and complete answer to his Questions.

Mr. Haseba Junko moved that, in view of the national importance of the subjects referred to in Mr. Hatoyama's Questions, the President invite the Minister President of State and the other Cabinet Ministers to attend in their places and make answer.

The House agreed to let this motion stand over until the Order of the Day was concluded.

Mr. Otsubo Rishiu explained that the ships of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, on their voyages to Korea, had hitherto touched at the Goto Islands and at Tsushima, but although the Company was in receipt of a large subsidy from the Treasury, and although the people of those islands had incurred considerable expense to secure the service, it had been abandoned. He desired to know the reason.

The Chairman of the Petitions Committee made a report of the Committee's progress. The number of petitions received since the last report was made had been 752.

The Bill for abolishing the Export Duty on Cotton Yarns was then passed through its Third Reading without debate.

The Chairman of the Special Committee asked for and obtained permission to defer the Committee's Report on the Bill relating to Imperial Ordinance No. 141

Mr. Takanashi Tetsushiro Chairman of the Disciplinary Committee, asked that the Order of the Day be changed so as to allow of the presentation of the Committee's Report on the case of Mr. Hoshi Toru.

The House agreed and proceeded, at 2.45 p.m., to receive and discuss the Report with closed doors.

The doors were re-opened at 4.20 p.m., and the President announced that the House had decided to expel Mr. Hoshi Toru.

The House took a recess and re-assembled at 5 p.m.

The House was counted out at 5.05 p.m.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House did not sit, the Committees alone meeting.

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.25 p.m. for the purpose of electing a new President. The first ballot resulted as follows:—

Names.	Votes.
Kusumoto Masataka	111
Kono Hironaka	105
Abei Hankon	93
Kataoka Kenkichi	80
Sasa Tomofusa	77
Suzuki Shoji	70
Kikuchi Kuro	58
Haseba Junko	40
Hatoyama Kazuo	26

A final ballot was then taken for the first five on the above list, the result being:—

Names.	Votes.
Kusumoto Masataka	149
Kono Hironaka	108
Abei Hankon	119
Kataoka Kenkichi	67
Sasa Tomofusa	82

Hence the names of Messrs. Kusumoto, Kono, and Abei were sent up to the Emperor.

The House rose at 3.40 p.m.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

LYNCH LAW IN THE UNITED STATES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Though separated by time and distance from Japan and from your leader on Lynch-Law in the United States" (Sept. 30th, 1893), I do not think it right to let the matter pass without a word from one whose deep interest in the community for whom you write and in the people of whom you write, must plead pardon for re-opening so painful a subject.

For many years your paper has contended with the false impressions, the shallow judgments, the unjust and oft-times cruel aspersions, which find their way into print with reference to the Japanese people, and none the less has it stood for defence of the fair name and fame of the foreign community residing in Japan. It is therefore with regret that we note in the leader referred to just those same faults and failings which have been so plain to you in dealing with the views of others in reference to the social, civil, and moral tone of Japan and of its foreign population.

There is the argument, resting on the sensational newspaper article (how often you have held it up to scorn), the parading of ill-gathered statistics (how keen has been your blade into the lying form of truth-telling figures), the appeal to Judge Tourgee's statement, Judge Tourgee who stands alone as the reckless defamer of the South (how your righteous soul has been stirred by some ill tempered Japan-phobist): the inapt comparison of the Southern States to the West Indian Islands (with what skill you have often shown how ill odorous and odious mis-matched comparisons are); and lastly, there is the sweeping indictment of a whole people at the bar of editorial opinion—"a persistent and successful attempt ..... to keep the coloured population of the South in a hopeless condition of social, political and industrial inferiority"—an indictment framed I claim, in ignorance of the true facts, and with a Caligula like comprehensiveness that puts to blush Clement Scott and all the little Scotts who ever put a whole nation in the moral ditch. I do not believe you so intended it, but this is the way it reads on our side. No, Mr. Editor, I appeal to your English sense of fair play, no thing more and nothing less. Speaking for the best elements in the South, with you we deplore the prevalence of lynching—without you, we would do all we could to stop it. My own father adventured his life thirty years ago to save a criminal from lynching in my native town, and many like instances of brave men are on record to-day. The fact that the newspapers call the mob "the most distinguished Citizens" does not make them so. There is no defence for lynching in cases of homicide, but the state of the case is this, that in the Southern States any brutal crime, whether committed by black or white, is in danger of the sentence of Judge Lynch. White men are lynched in the South and lynched repeatedly, negroes lynch negroes. The other day, white men shot down a white desperado for beating brutally (not killing) an inoffensive coloured man. This last instance you say is exceptional. So it is, and so is the Coy case quoted by Judge Tourgee one as rare as the latter, and only quoted here to show the fallacy of a single instance. Why are more blacks than whites lynched? Because more crimes are committed by them, and the crimes accompanied by greater brutality. In Washington City, where the negro enjoys all the privileges of the "ward of the nation" he constitutes one-third of the population, and contributes nine-tenths of the crime. (See the last annual report by Maj. Moore, Superintendent of Police, D.C., U.S.A.) Note please that we do not defend lynching, but we do deny that it is a part of any plan to "wither the fruits of emancipation."

But the part of your leader where you discuss rape is, of the whole, the worst. In the South, a woman's honour is counted dearer than life. They may be mistaken, the breach of promise case, the divorce court, the cross-examination, may mark a higher type of civilization, but the South is yet in the rear. The seducer and the betrayer are as a rule shot without trial, and there is no colour line. You say that rape is the act of a lunatic, by a like use of words so is incest, so are other unnamed crimes, but before what English Court would a barrister invariably plead lunacy as a defence in such cases? That women in the South, in order to extort money, should falsely accuse a negro of rape is so pitiful an argument that to state it is to confound it. That the charge is brought by women of unsound mind, has no bearing on one in one hundred cases, is as evident. The shame, the humiliation, aye more, the poor wounded frames, the horrible bruises, the sickening wounds, plead mute witnesses against any suggestion save that of a horror which takes hold on hell. That mistakes are made sometimes as to the guilty party, is true, but no oftener, we venture to state, than mistakes in courts of law arising from circumstantial evidence.

Against the sweeping judgment upon the whole Southern people, I plead the large sums spent on negro education, the increase in their holdings of real estate, the protection they enjoy with reference to property, the general condition of the race as evidenced by investigators on the spot.

I have written at length and endeavored to show the errors of your leader. Let me say in conclusion that as a reader of the *Mail* for ten years, I cannot recall an instance in which your paper ever did such flagrant injustice to a whole people, and I am unwilling to believe you will let your verdict stand when you review the case.

Respectfully yours,

J. THOMPSON COLE,

1777, Madison St., Washington, D.C.

November 15th, 1893.

A LOCAL RUSKIN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Mr. Wores must consider himself fortunate in having elicited the brilliant essay on Art in general and criticism of his own work in particular, that appeared in a recent issue of the *Herald*, and the Yokohama community is to be no less congratulated on the discovery of a local Ruskin, who, although at present hiding his identity under the modest pseudonym of "Q." will not be long allowed to evade the penalty of genius.

Here in Japan we have so little opportunity of educating ourselves in the tenets of modern art and of becoming learned in its technicalities, that we find ourselves unable, when, once in a way some "travelling artist" (as "Q." gracefully phrases it) kindly gives us an opportunity of viewing his work, to express ourselves in correct artistic, terms to discourse on tones, values, technique, and chiaroscuro. We can only acknowledge the pleasure we feel in seeing, what appears, at least to us, a faithful rendering of bits of every day Japanese life, well known points of interest of our walks and rides, and the many colours of the changing year.

But "Q." knows better than this. A glance tells him whether the "School" has been the ponderous method of Munich or the fantastic impressionism of Paris, and he proceeds to offer some valuable hints which Mr. Wores can not fail to appreciate. Artists are too prone to ignore in their pictures the passing effects of cloud, sunlight, and atmosphere, and do not sufficiently study these phenomena. They are too anxious to make photographic reproductions of their subjects without considering whether the hour be early morn or dinner time. These points, "Q." remarks, should be more faithfully observed, as it is an indubitable fact that sunlight has an appreciable effect on nature, and it appears to him curious that Mr. Wores should have overlooked that important fact.

It is somewhat strange that we have not had the benefit of our local Ruskin's art opinions before, and it should be a source of gratification to Mr. Wores that it not his work which first evoked his criticism, but as "Q." says himself "there has not been so much as a single artist who has really succeeded in making by means of his productions thoroughly unexceptional counterfeit presentments of scenes and life in Japan." Dillon, Gay, Varley, Alfred East, La Farge, Alfred Parsons; none have succeeded in satisfying his cultivated and fastidious taste. They have failed and gone away. Where indeed shall we find a Turner for our Ruskin?

Perhaps some day "Q." will give the world the work of his own hand. No meretricious attempt to "show how many sketches can be made in a limited space of time," but the rich results of a long life's work. For, of course, "Q." is no rising star, his letter tells this much itself. As a certain French Artist remarked, on seeming a beautiful painting by an unknown hand, "*C'est la fin d'une vie.*" Only after years of the contemplation of nature, amongst the smiling paddy fields of Yokohama or the breezy slopes of Ikao could such mastery of expression be attained or such a specimen of transcendental impertinence and abounding self-conceit be written.

I remain, yours obediently,

X.

Yokohama, December 14th, 1893.

ASPECTS OF LIFE.

ADDRESS DELIVERED AT THE BIRMINGHAM AND MIDLAND INSTITUTE ON THE 10TH OCTOBER, 1893, BY SIR EDWIN ARNOLD, M.A., K.C.I.E., C.S.I., PRESIDENT FOR THE YEAR.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:—It is thirty-five years ago from the day when I last stood in Birmingham. More than a generation has, in fact, elapsed since, as a very young man, newly graduated at Oxford, I had the good fortune to be selected as a Master in your King Edward's School. And now a much greater honour—one far beyond my merits—has fallen upon me; to be chosen to address this important and enlightened Institute, in your famous, patriotic, and prosperous City. I should hold it an impertinence to dwell at any length on that which must be too obvious, my inability to discharge with becoming credit the responsibilities of such a succession. For, you have established upon the Records of your Institute, in its list of Presidents, a dynasty of such intellectual and social splendour, as hardly any other Association could rival. Finding myself in the place which they have rendered august, it is with true respect that I recall some among the names of my brilliant predecessors. That Master of all English hearts has spoken here—Charles Dickens—as well as those illustrious physicists Professors Huxley and Tyndall; and Lord Kelvin. The wide and gentle genius of my friend Sir John Lubbock has graced this seat; and the kindly learning of my old Tutor, Arthur Stanley; together with the research and the philosophy of renowned historians like Mr. Lecky, Prof. Keeley, and Mr. Froude. You have been addressed by a Primate of all England in His Grace of Canterbury; an Indian Viceroy in Lord Northbrook; by a chief of critics in Mr. James Russell Lowell, and by an accomplished Astronomer in Sir Robert Ball. The glory of these and other names which glow upon your catalogue during the past quarter of a century forbids to him who follows them here to-day any hope of being worthy of so grand an inheritance. He must regard himself as but a link of silver in the chain of gold, contented if the current of your high traditions passes safely by him; and relying for your indulgence on two qualities only; an appreciation of the eminence of his Antecessors, and a desire to show his regard for this important Institute, and his gratitude for its choice of him, by saying the best he may.

That galaxy of great minds to which I have alluded has illuminated well-nigh all possible topics of speech in this Hall. I have, indeed, asked myself with no small anxiety what was left which might be handled with freshness and profit, since it would not seem decorous to talk of science, of history, of education, and many other tempting subjects, after such commanding authorities. Still, experience, if any one, honestly stated, has a value; and seeing that I am here again, after so many years, it is natural to ask myself, and it may not be useless to answer briefly before you, what I have learned—and to what conclusions study, observation, travel, public toils, and private meditations have led me—upon life in general. Will it be worth while frankly to compare the aspirations of the youth of twenty-one with the realisation of the grown-up man of the world? Shall I venture once more, and for an hour or two, to become a Teacher in Birmingham? If you can have the patience to listen, I think I will have the courage to speak; and my address to-day shall therefore, be upon some aspects of Human Life, free of course, from all Theology and Politics.

I fear I must alienate certain friendly minds, and appear to commence by presumption, when I

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say that I return to Birmingham just as convinced of what can never be proved as when I left it. I have found life in the highest degree charming and interesting, and this notwithstanding an ample share of what are styled,—sometimes I think, a little too querulously,—its "pains and sorrow." I quitted Birmingham in the pleasant beginning of my days, glad to live; I come back to it, after much experience and many labours, glad to have lived—well satisfied with my share in the world, and a resolute, philosophical opponent of those who love dismal dialectics and drape the Universe in the black hangings of pessimism. If there have been ages in which because it did not know much—our race had good reason not to hope much—the time seems to me to be now arrived when the despair which has been so fashionable grows foolish as well as needless. It is true we have inherited so much fear and superstition from the past; dogmatic religions and artificial moralities have wrought so much to degrade natural virtue and check instinctive joy; our inner vision is still so rudimentary and our sense-knowledge so limited, that I dare not say worse of the pessimists than that they seem to me stupid. As for that noble love of fact and truth which is at the bottom of sincere agnosticism, there is nothing, I think, to be more respected. We must not deceive each other with soft sayings. Ajax demanding light from Zeus, even though he must die in that light, is the immortal example of a faithful and valiant human spirit. Speaking from this place in 1877, Professor Tyndall well remarked. —"When facts present themselves, let us venture to face them, and let us be equally bold to confess ignorance where it prevails." But the day seems to be arrived when there is really so much to make us think well of the destiny of man; such fair reason to rejoice in the mere fact of existence; so large a promise of ever extending human knowledge and insight; such general softening of manners, spreading of intelligence, and enlarging of average happiness; that it appears more becoming for Man, the chief, at least, of animals, to be singing with the lark in the sky than croaking with the frog in the swamp. Mahommedans follows a habit of reciting their morning formula of praise—the *Fatihah*—as soon as the light enables them to distinguish a black garment from a white one. I think we also have by this time passed far enough through the night of ignorance and fear to discern in our beliefs what is the black of wilful blindness from the white of rightful hopefulness, and to realise the truth of that fine line of Mr. Frederick Myers:—"God will forgive us all but our despair."

From the lowest points of view, hope is very cheap, and gladness is a sovereign medicine. Consider the social, moral, and individual advantages of a cheerful view of life contrasted with the cheerless view. Sunshine has not a stronger effect in developing the beauty of flowers and the form of leaves than radiance of mind and lightness of heart in bringing forth all which is best in men and women. We have partly found this out as regards children, and Society conspires pretty generally now-a-days to render their early years happy. The Japanese knew that high duty, two thousand years ago, and possess in consequence the best mannered and most joyous little ones in the world. But why stop at childhood? I should like to see the pastimes and recreations of the people made henceforth a department of administrative solicitude. I should like to have a Minister of Public Amusement sitting in every Cabinet; and Municipal Councils spending rates royally upon new popular pleasures of the right kind. There is nothing better than to be happy; joy is the real root of morality: no virtue is worth praising which does not spring from minds contented and convinced, and free of dread and gloom. No religion was ever divine which relied on terror instead of love; and no philosophy will bear any good fruit which propounds despair and deduces annihilation. This is where, by their own true instincts the great Poets have done so much more for mankind than most of its benefactors—delighting as they do in life and preserving amid its deepest mysteries and hardest puzzles a divine serenity about origin and purpose. Observe our English Shakespeare! How calm, how complacent! How assured his glorious genius always abides! A page of him taken almost anywhere—set beside a page of modern pessimism—is like the speech of a prince in his pleasure-house compared with the moanings of a sick wretch in a Spital. All genuine Poets—from Homer to Browning—are radically joyous. Keats writes:—

> They shall be accounted poet-kings,
> Who simply tell the most heart-easing things.

And Hafiz says:—"It was whispered of me in Shiraz that I was sad, but what had I to do with sadness?" Art, in all its highest forms, bears no message so imperative as to emphasise the beauty and maintain the dignity and delight of life, and you may judge first class writers and painters, as we shall some day judge philosophers, by their fidelity to this wholesome errand of joy.

Poets, however, are not much accepted as authorities in certain quarters; and beyond doubt we must have better reasons than their melodious verses furnish, if we are to be securely glad of life, and serenely unperturbed by death. Yet, upon the face of facts, is life—even were it transient—so bad a thing as some people make out? Look at common modern existence as we see it, and note to what rich elaboration and large degrees of comfort it has come. I leave aside for the moment uncivilised nations, and the bygone struggles of our race; its wars and woes; its tyrannies and superstitions; all of which History has greatly exaggerated, not telling us of the contemporaneous contentments. I invite you briefly to contemplate an artisan's existence in your own Birmingham. Let alone the greatness of being an Englishman, and the supreme safety and liberty of his daily life, what King of old records ever fared so Royally? What magician of fairy-tales ever owned so many slaves to bring him treasures at a wish? Observe his dinner board! Without being luxurious, the whole globe has been his serving-man to spread it. Russia gave the hemp, or India or South Carolina the cotton, for that cloth which his wife lays upon it. The Eastern Islands placed there those condiments and spices which were once the secret relishes of the wealthy. Australian Downs send him frozen mutton or canned beef, the prairies of America meal for his biscuit and pudding, and, if he will eat fruit, the orchards of Tasmania, and the palm woods of the West Indies proffer delicious gifts, while the orange groves of Florida and of the Hesperides cheapen for his use those "golden apples" which Dragons used to guard. His coffee comes from where jewelled humming-birds hang in the bowers of Brazil, or purple butte flies flutter amid the Javan mangroves. Great clipper ships, racing by night and day, under clouds of canvas convey to him his tea from China or Assam, or from the sunlit Singalese Hills. The sugar which sweetens it was crushed from canes that waved by the Nile or the Orinoco: and the plating of the spoon with which he stirs it was dug for him from Mexican or Nevada mines. The currants in his dumpling are a tribute from classic Greece, and his tinned salmon or kippered herring a token from the seas and rivers of Canada or Norway. He may partake if he will of rice that ripened under the hot skies of Patna or Rangoon; of cocoa, that "food of the gods" plucked under the burning blue of the Equator. For his rasher of bacon, the hog-express runs daily, with 10,000 grunting victims, into Chicago; Dutch or Britanny hens have laid him his eggs, and Danish cows grazed the daisies of Elsinore to produce his cheese and butter. If he drinks beer, it is odds that Russia and Bavaria have contributed to it the barley and the hops; and when he has finished eating it will be the Mississippi flats, or the gardens of the Antilles, that fill for him his pipe with the comforting tobacco. He has fared—I say—at home as no Heliogabalus or Lucullus ever fared; and then, for a trifle his daily newspaper puts at his command information from the whole globe, the freshness and fulness of which make the news-bearers of Augustus Cæsar, thronging hourly into Rome, ridiculous. At work, machinery of wonderful invention redeems his toil from servitude, and elevates it to an Art. Is he fond of reading? There are free libraries open to him, full of intellectual and imaginative wealth. Is he artistic? Galeries rich with beautiful paintings and statues are prepared for him. Has he children? They can be excellently educated for next to nothing. Would he communicate with absent friends? His messengers pass in the Queen's livery, and bearing his letters everywhere by sea and land; or in hour of urgency the Ariel of electricity will flash for him a message to the ends of the Kingdom at the price of a quart of small beer. Steam shall carry him wherever he would go for a penny a mile; and when he is sick, the charitable institutions he has too often forgotten in health, render him such succour as sick goddesses never got from Æsculapius, nor Ulysses at the white hands of Queen Helen. Does he encounter accident? For him as for all others the benignant science of our time, with the hypodermic syringe or a waft of chloroform, has abolished agony; while for dignity of citizenship he may help, when election-time comes, by his vote, to sustain or to shake down the noblest Empire ever built by genius and valour. Let fancy fill up the imperfect picture with those thousand helps and adornments that civilisation has brought even to lowly lives; and does it not seem stupid and ungrateful to say as some go about saying that such an existence, even if it were transitory, is not for itself distinctly worth possessing?

But will it last? That ordinary human life is fairly agreeable stands sufficiently confessed by the fact that people want it to go on in the same way for ever. Very few, even among our gloomiest pessimists, appear to be in any particular hurry to die. And they, too, are obliged to allow that human life exhibits everywhere an almost universal advance in social elevation and range of perception. Two fatal blows, among others, have fallen upon the old narrow minded theologies and philosophies. One was the Copernican discovery that instead of being the centre of things, furnished with sun, moon, and stars for lamps, and created as the sole care of Heaven, our globe is but a small obscure islet of the celestial archipelago, an almost insignificant speck in the galaxies of glory-filling space. The chief religions of the world have not even yet adjusted their doctrines to the great verities of Galileo and Newton, although they will have to adjust them. A second revolutionary announcement which has altered bygone ideas is that of the revealed vastness of geological time followed by Darwin's "Origin of Species." Modern Astronomy and Evolution have silently swept away "dark-tangled schemes of sad salvation," and the belief in special creations. It seemed at first to some conservative minds that all was hereby lost for human hope and pride, if we were indeed so closely akin to lower life, and so humbly placed in the stellar systems. But those prodigious truths have really enhanced unspeakably the dignity and value of human existence. If Earth knows now that she is only, as it were, a bit of drift-wood in the "blue Pacific of Infinity," she has also learned that she influences by attraction every orb in the sky, and is influenced by every orb. The descent of man from an ascidian mollusc immediately implies his ascent towards unimagined perfections. If we started so low down, we have already climbed up most promisingly. The amphioxus has no cerebrum at all: the halibut, as big as a man, possesses that organ in size smaller than a melon-seed; while the cranial capacity of the Australian savage exceeds that of the gorilla by ten cubic inches, and our Birmingham artisan's skull is better than the "Black Fellows" by forty cubic inches; to say nothing of those convolutions of the brain in the civilized man which are its most important feature. There, by the way, is the physical throne of that consciousness which puzzle the boldest materialist and obliges him—if really scientific—to confess his ignorance. An illustrious interpreter of the ways of nature, Professor Tyndall, asked from this very place, "What is the casual connection, if any, between the objective and the subjective—between molecular motion in the brain and states of consciousness? Does water think and feel when it runs into frost ferns upon a window pane? If not, why should the molecular motion of the brain be yoked to this mysterious companion, consciousness?" His answer was, "I do not know, and nobody knows." In the same honest spirit, Dr. Burdon Sanderson said in his Address this year to the British Association at Nottingham: —"Between sensation and the beginning of action, there is an intervening region which the physiologist willingly resigns to psychology, feeling his incompetence to use the only instrument by which it can be explored, that of introspection." I quote these not to lead you into the wilderness of physiology, but merely to show that science has no final or final word to say about the prospects of continuous Life. She capitulates here by the lips of two of her truest and most fearless spokesmen, to the unseen and the unknown. Do not therefore think that you are warned off from endless hope and utmost probabilities of immortal and ever-increasing gladness by the scalpel of the brain-doctor or the dyspeptic logic of the Agnostic. A boundless aspiration is not only cheap, but strictly reasonable; and what has come from evolution in the visible region is nothing to what may come from it in the invisible. The dove of right Reason can bring you back a branch of olive from the waste of physiological waters, where the raven of Unfaith never finds so much as a single leaf.

The "Cosmic process," as Professor Huxley calls it, has led us thus far; yet that justly famous expositor of science, in his Romanes Lecture at Oxford, delivered on the 18th May last, arraigned the cosmos for immorality and declared that "the ethical progress of society depends not on imitating the Cosmic process, but on combatting it." I could not speak of my illustrious predecessor here without gratitude and admiration, and should ordinarily distrust myself in differing from him. But so luminous a mind certainly over-looked the fact that the ethical faculty and the ethical ideal which he contrasted with the course of nature, have likewise come, by evolution, forth from the cosmic process, just as much as those things that shock

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h m in the natural world. As I have written in my "Light of Asia,"

"Out of the dark it wrought the heart of man,
Out of dull shells the pheasant's pencilled neck:
Ever at toil it brings to loveliness
All seeming wrath and wreck."

"It is not marred nor stayed in any use
All liketh it the sweet white milk it brings
To mothers' breasts, it bri gs the white drops, too,
Wherew th the young snake stings."

"Reckless of Good or Evil," writes another highly enlightened metaphysician—Mr. John Fiske of America—"natural selection develops at once the mother's tender love for her infant and the horrible teeth of the ravening shark." But the cosmic process is not immoral on that account; not even cruel! On the contrary, it is supremely equitable and ultimately tender. It is as sedulous to provide the shark with the means of living as the newborn heir of a Queen with his natural food. Professor Huxley accordingly erred, I think, in saying at Oxford:—"The practice of that which is ethically best—what we call Goodness or Virtue involves a course of conduct in all respects opposed to that which leads to success in the Cosmic struggle for existence. In place of ruthless self-assertion it demands self-restraint. In the place of thrusting aside or treading down all competitors—it requires that the individual shall not merely respect but shall help his fellows. Its influence is directed, not so much to the survival of the fittest as the fitting of as many as possible to survive." Yes, but the nobler specialised justice reached in this passage is exactly what has been developed out of the initial imperfections of the natural course. The morality has come forth from the "immorality." Out of the simple instinct or gregariousness we see Nature making something like citizens even of bees and ants, penguins and seals—teaching rudimentary ethics by lessons of the savage struggle itself; and in the brain and heart of man she attains to that goal of all morality embodied in Christ's Golden Rule. Is there not a clear demonstration here of the fundamental and far-off beneficence of the cosmic process, if we will only get two foolish notions out of our heads, one that the Universe was made for us alone, and the other that death is an ending and an evil? I do not know how Mr. Huxley could more nobly justify the ultimate objects of the cosmic process than, being as he is its brilliant product, thus to reproach it with precisely what he has derived from it. It is Coriolanus at the head of his army splendidly rebuking his mother Volumnia, by warrant of those very qualities which he drew in at her breasts. Well might she say:

"Thy valiantness was mine, thou suck'dst it from me
But owe thy pride thyself."

The gifted orator put the problem back, I readily confess, into a very different region when he asked me at Oxford, "Why among the endless possibilities open to omnipotence—that of sinless, happy existence among the rest—should this present actuality be selected in which sin and misery abound?" That eternal dilemma puzzled the Buddha himself; as in the "Light of Asia" where Prince Gautama says:

"Since if all powerful—He made us so,
He is not good, if not all powerful,
He is not God."

There is no present answer to it. Mr. John Stuart Mill in a valuable letter which I possess upon the question, wrote me:—"I can believe in a God or Gods, but not, as matters appear to stand, in an Omnipotent Deity." As to the "sin and misery" business, however is it not now-a days absurdly exaggerated? I have alluded to the almost universal willingness to live which of itself shows that pleasure and satisfaction largely preponderate over pain and discontent. The average number of days of sickness in every decade for each man is said to be only sixteen. Under rules of scientific hygiene and principles of health better practised, our span of life—be this desirable or the reverse—has by the evidence of insurance societies considerably increased. The power of mitigated physical pain to terrify or trouble is practically at an end with the general use of those benign anæsthetics which have brought a new era of confidence to the hospital and sick room, and taken away all its horror from the surgeon's knife. Doubtless, to judge from your average daily journal, murders and suicides, crimes and catastrophes, wars and feuds, and frauds would seem to remain the staple of the human record. But be it remembered that for obvious reasons all our worst and darkest is collected there. One might as well judge of public health by the painful cases described in a Medical Publication as of the vast mass of solid human happiness and innocent living joy by the daily catalogue of these really trivial exceptions to it. As for "sins" (the most serious of which are only such as are malicious), though the population increases, they seem steadily to diminish. We had 87,668 "habituals" in 1868, now the evil roll is only 52,153. When the population was 19,257,000 in 1889 there were 2,589 persons undergoing penal servitude; now with a population of 27,830,179 the number is only 947. In 1878, the entire number of prisoners in our gaols was 20,833: the entire number at the same date last year was 12,663, though the population had increased by six millions. Pauperism is also declining. In 1870, 1,079,391 persons were in receipt of relief: in 1891, with an addition of more than seven million inhabitants, there were only 774,905. The upshot of these figures—without pressing them too much—seems surely to be that the "cosmic process" in our own little corner of the universe is not doing so badly.

If in truth that process contained and developed no other wonder of love and wide reaching purpose than the far-reaching instinct of motherly affection, Professor Huxley's indictment against it would have to be abandoned. I say nothing here of the beauty which its action has produced on land and water; in wood, and field, and garden; of the glories of form and colour, and the delights of sound and taste and touch; nor of the faculty to rejoice in these which it has also bred out of the salutary struggle. I would be content to trust a defence of the cosmic scheme to that one profound and ever-present passion for futurity which is at its centre; the love namely of the mother for her offspring. Why, except for glorious ultimate ends and rewards, should it exist in all its strange gradations from the fish which feels the diluted rudiments of its mandate, to the fierce and fearless maternal devotion of the tigress and bear; and the unwearying and unselfish tenderness of the Christian mother? Why should the eider duck pluck the down from her breast to make her delicate nest, at one end of the scale; and the Princess Alice at the other die so divinely from the kisses of her sick child, if the Universe were not bound together in some sweet secret of a common life; and in some far-off profits of a vast hidden partnership, as to which female parents are the semi-conscious trustees. I have always greatly admired an answer made to me by an American woman when I was wondering at the patience of a nursing wife with her complaining child, and at the general marvels of maternal care throughout nature. "Well! Stranger!" she said, "God Almighty can't be everywhere at once, and so I guess he invented Mothers."

Nevertheless, in spite of parental protection and individual effort to live—the "cosmic process" no doubt, has plenty of innocent victims, and to some minds seems to be likely to end by cutting short all which it has developed, including progress, pleasures, arts, learning, races, realms, and eventually the planet itself; nay even the solar system amid which these were produced. But that is only in the Visible Sphere. The Cosmic Progress perhaps secretly mocks at those whom it thus succeeds in deceiving for their own good, like a mother administering hidden medicine. Its strenuous purpose, in the midst of its slaughters and by means of its very terrors and cruelties may be to make everything strive to live. If its tribes and races knew too much, they would not be sufficiently anxious to exist. Two conditions have been necessary to the full exploitation of our earthly passage, dread of death and ignorance of the future. Nature hoodwinks her children everywhere. When she has trained a bird to feed on butterflies, she teaches the butterfly to look like the dead leaf of a tree; when she has given the fish hawk his keen vision, she makes his food—the fish—take on the colours of the weeds and riverstones to escape him. She has put man to school here with Death and Pain and Want for his stern teachers; but possibly it is only because we are children that we think our instructors merciless. Deeper down we evidently know better than to be afraid of them. Note, in those moments when they leave a man to the best and greatest that is in him, how we let go and give up of those lower instructions. Pliny says in vigorous Latin that the cessation of the breath is probably the most delightful moment in life, and I myself have conducted to the dinner-table a charming actress, twice drowned (and twice restored to consciousness), who protested that dying was the nicest sensation she knew.

As is written in my "Death and Afterwards," "What a blow to the philosophy of negation appears the sailor leaping from the taffrail of his ship into an angry sea to save his comrade, or to perish with him! He has never read either Leopardi or Schopenhauer—perhaps not that heavenly verse, "Whoso loseth his life for my sake, the same shall save it." But arguments which are as far beyond dismal philosophies, as the unconscious life is deeper than the conscious, sufficiently persuade him to plunge. "Love that stronger is than death" bids him dare, for Love's impetuous sake, the weltering abyss; and any such deed of sacrifice and heroic contempt of peril, in itself almost proves that man knows more than he believes himself to know about his own immortality. Every miner working for wife and children in a "fiery" pit; every soldier standing cool and firm for his country and flag in the face of instant death, offers a similar endorsement of Walt Whitman's indignant sentence:—"If rats and maggots end us, then alarum! for we are betrayed." It is quite possible that in respect to the mysteries of life and death we precisely resemble the good Knight Don Quixote, when he hung by his wrist from the stable window and imagined that a tremendous abyss yawned beneath his feet. Fate, in the character of Maritornes, cuts the thong, with light some laughter; and the gallant gentleman falls—four inches!

As to this aspect of the question, Asia—from which you have derived all your past religious ideas, and from which you have many more to learn—is far in advance of our West. St. Paul's great declaration, "The things seen are temporal; the things not seen are eternal"—accepted timidly here by the pious, but regarded as a mere phrase by materialists—is in India a common place of daily certainty. Nobody there doubts the continuity of life, any more than he doubts that the setting sun will rise again, the same orb, tomorrow. I have heard a Mahratta woman, while chiding her child for spilling milk, exclaim,—"You must have been a very bad girl in your last life!" The popular reason why Hindoo widows do not remarry is because the loss of a betrothed or wedded husband is looked upon as the fatal expiation for some extreme offence in a previous existence, to be borne with patient continuance in this one; on which condition the family of the deceased husband will faithfully maintain the widow, as still belonging to the dead man, and to be surely reunited with him. This was the basis of the heroic though tragical custom of "Sati," or widow-burning, one of the grandest defiances ever flung by human faith and love at the face of the doctrine of annihilation. The respect for the animal world, general in Hindoo and Buddhist societies, is founded, with the tenet of transmigration, on the same fixed belief in the endurance, and evolving advance, of every individual being. No spot is empty of life to the Indian mind. A Deccani or Bengali labourer, at his meal in the jungle, throws behind him fragments of his chupatty for the invisible Bhuts and Prets to eat. In India, as in Japan, festivals (*shraddhas,*) are made for the Dead with scrupulous regularity, at which their seats are duly set. The East is saturated with the mental and social results of this universal acceptance of the notion that individual life is inextinguishable. A dignified calm spreads throughout the Oriental populations, a permanent unenquiring placidity—noticeable by the most careless or prejudiced eye. India would never indeed have invented the locomotive, or the Gatling gun—but her poorest peasants, by inheritance from profound philosophies, and by the religious atmosphere of their land, stand at a point of view far beyond the laboured subtleties of a Priestley or a Hegel. And if they could be familiar, as you are, with the splendid achievements and vast researches of modern science they would not, any the more, abandon their fixed faith in the Unseen and Unknown. Rather would they think it odd that Western savants would teach the law of the Conservation of Forces to abandon it when the highest and most elaborated of all forces come into question; that they should study cell-life under their microscopes and not perceive that the same Protamœba they examine—that shapeless jelly—has been living 40 thousand years, as certainly as 40 minutes; that an illustrious chemist like Prof. Dewar should compress the air we breathe into a skyblue liquor, and, when he lets it loose again, fail to suggest to his audience that what their eyes see of the real life and furniture of the Universe is next to nothing. The wisest Indian philosophy has never boggled, like ours, over that silly word "supernatural." The Upanishad says:—"What is in the Visible, exists also in the Invisible, and what is in Brahm's world that is also here." The Ultimate, albeit Unreachable, is as real to the Asiatic mind as Force, and in the Bhagavad-Gita Arjuna is actually permitted to behold the embodied Infinite. Indeed it is rather this present existence which India regards as the illusion, the *Maya*. To see the stars we must wait for night, and to live we must die. Nor is it uninteresting to note in Hindoo classics, how these large and happy serenities of Oriental view have softened personifications of Death. I have translated from the Sanskrit of the Mahabharata*, among other episodes, two remarkable examples of this. In one, the Princess Savitri follows Yama, the god of death, who has taken away her husband's soul, and sings to him

* Vide "Indian Idylls."

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such beautiful words of love and faith, that, bestowing many boons to show his delight in her virtue, the vanquished Deity at last gives back to her the spirit of her lord. In the other, "The Birth of Death," it is represented how Death was created by the Supreme Being in the form of a most lovely and compassionate girl, to lighten the earth of that growing burden of living things, of which it had complained. But Death, "Mrityu," is pictured as too full of love and tenderness for all living creatures to kill them, until "Bhagavan" turns the tears which she has shed upon his hand into diseases, and ordains that she shall bring lives to an end indirectly by these.

"So passed she from the Almighty Presence, mute,
The tender Angel made to slay mankind:
And works the will of Heaven, and slays what lives,
Not with her own kind hand, she doth not kill!
By ills and pests which foolish pass ons breed
As many as those pitying tears that rolled
Forth from her eyes, they perish."—*Indian Idylls.*

I do not presume to say that Asia is wiser than Europe, or than our illustrious agnostic Professors, but her children live more happily and die more easily. Since it is not the eye which sees, or the ear that hears, but the self behind those instruments; they believe in that self and discount by peace its assured perpetuity. Masters of metaphysics, they sweep the puzzle of Being aside with one decisive maxim:—"Never can the thought know the thinker." Of that which daunts and troubles us, the boundless mystery of the Universe, their quiet genius has made a daily delight, congenial to the limited powers but illimitable desires of the ever-awaiting Soul. They have perceived, without seeking to explain, the two supreme celestial laws that govern the Cosmos,—Dharma which is Love, and Karma which is Justice. By light of these they have partly discerned how, under an immutable and sometimes seemingly pitiless equity, all things will advance from good to better, and from better to best, until it be time for a new and higher order. "Ahimsa," therefore, "the doing no injury" is their central commandment, as it was that of Christ in the "Golden Rule," and as it is the last word of Hafiz in his Persian verse:—

"Do no one wrong, and then do what thou wilt,
My statutes recognise no other guilt."

They await death, not as some of us do, like complaining prisoners under a tyrannical sentence without appeal, attending with gloomy courage the last day in this condemned cell, the flesh—but rather like glad children of a Great Mother, whose will is sweet and good, whose ways are wise, and who must lull them to the kind brief sleep of death, by and bye, in order that they may wake ready for happier life, in the new sunshine of another and a larger Daylight.

If you would banish the evil taste of Pessimism from your lips, read sometimes a page or two of the "Leaves of Grass." There lived recently that great and gifted, if somewhat outspoken, Poet of the West, my dear and venerated friend Walt Whitman, who had somehow learned this vast Asiatic complacency, which comes from acceptance of the cosmic process, and from good will to all its living things. Walt Whitman will tell you that:—

"Whatever happens to anybody it will be turned to beautiful results:
And nothing can happen more beautiful than death.

He will say:—

"All goes onward and onward—nothing collapses!
And to die is different from what anybody supposed it, and luckier!"

He sings right cheerily

I know I am deathless;
I know this orbit of mine cannot be swept by a carpenter's compass;
I know I shall not pass like a child's carlacue cut out with a burnt stick."

Yes! I read a little sometimes in that large minded and clear-sighted Master—alive with the vast new life of America—who has seen with eyes divinely opened and inspired heart how persistently kind is the unkindness of the Cosmos, and how the beginnings of its work point to far off consummations alike in the visible and invisible. The Cosmos is not immoral for him! He writes:—

"I believe a leaf of grass is no less than the journey work of the star,
And the pismire perfect; and a grain of sand, and the egg of the wren,
And the tree-toad, a chef d'oeuvre for the highest;
And the running blackberry, an adornment for the parlours of heaven;
And a mouse, miracle enough to stagger sextillions of infidels."

In his wide affection for humanity, the sense of comradeship with all life, high or low, you may perceive what Buddhism taught to Asia, and what Christ tried to teach to Christendom, that the secrets of content, the spells which bring us into harmony with the cosmic process, are faith in its purpose, work for its furtherance, and fixed goodwill towards all creatures (*Ahimsa* the desire to help, the readiness to love), which qualities the Cosmos has cheaply evolved by rivalries, and destruction, and the temporary wretchedness of hating. Not is it only inspired teachers, and authentic poets who have seen this. The shrewdest minds all know it. Talleyrand was sharing once in a round game of "questions and answers" at a French Chateau, where one of the queries was:—"What is the proper object of Life?" Which received an almost unanimous reply in the word, "Happiness." The next question ran:—"What is the secret of securing it?" But this caused deliberation, and greatly perplexed a young and gay Countess, who accordingly consulted in private the Prince of Benevento. That cynical old Diplomat, who had seen and done everything, and had no illusions left, exclaimed with impetuous simplicity, "Le secret du Bonheur, chere Madame! il n'en a qu'un. a Bienveillance!"

To what point then have I to day ventured to lead you? To this! I say this to my age:—"Sursum Corda!" Lift up your hearts! I say that it seems time for enlightened minds to lay aside misdoubt regarding the continuity of individual life, as wholly contrary to the balance of evidence—to taste the easy pleasure of trust in the cosmic process, as gradually justifying itself; to become partners in the objects of that process by active, earnest, rejoicing good will to all that live, and so to pass at last out of the rudimentary stage where fear and incertitude have been necessary and natural. We must put aside that deeper question which Mr. Huxley asks, as to why it all is so; and must take things as they are. Nay; there is a charm and an advantage in this similar to the delight which a healthy man feels in breathing the air in which he was born, the delicate medium which so softly and fittingly surrounds him. Mr. Ruskin has admirably written:—"Our happiness as thinking beings must hang on our being content to accept only partial knowledge, even in those matters which chiefly concern us . . . Our whole pleasure and power of energetic action depend upon our being able to breathe and live in a cloud; content to see it open here and closing there, delighting to catch, through the thinnest films of it, glimpses of stable and substantial things; but yet perceiving a nobleness even in concealment, and rejoicing that the kindly veil is spread where the intempered light might have scorched us, or the infinite clearness wearied." If, as seems certain, the social virtues have been evolved out of the social alliance forced upon Man by the fierce and universal struggle of life, then we will not call the Cosmos immoral. And if, out of the uncertainty that hangs over Death and the Future have sprung—like flowers in a shadowed place—courage and self sacrifice; faith and love; poetry, art, and religion—we will not call the "Cosmos" blundering. It it be keen necessity that has sharpened wits, deadly dangers that have bred courage, anxious fears that have produced faith and aspiration, and Death that has intensified and glorified Love; we will not think the Cosmos cruel. Among Mr. Walter Besant's charming works is one remarkable book entitled "The Holy Rose," in which that ingenious author draws a thoughtful and instructive picture of Society relieved from the laws of change and dissolution. A German savant has discovered the elixir which prolongs human life indefinitely, and nobody any more in this new city of hard facts grows old or in any way alters. A vast and featureless equality is established, a ghastly democratic sameness; everybody is like everybody else and takes an idle share in the common commodities which all powerful science commands, instead of more happily joining under the shield of a common justice, in the old fashioned common struggle. The end is a superb but miserable monotony; which is broken up at last by a glad return on the part of the leaders in the Improved Order to the pleasant anxieties and agreeable mysteries of Life as we also day know them. I neither ask you, nor am I competent to ask you, to live any other life. It has been good enough, and sweet and wonderful enough for me, and I rejoice to believe there is no end to it and nowhere any limit to what we have to earn. It would be death indeed, if there were any such boundary fixed! Never can "the thought compass the thinker," and never shall we get nearer, nor need we wish to get nearer, to a final definition of the infinite existence than that mystical verse from the Sauscrit:—

"He is unknown to those who think they know
And known to those who know they know him not."

But my humble contention is that, having now such ever-augmented glimpses of the wisdom and benignity of the cosmic process, we ought all to begin henceforth to import into life a quite new delight, an entirely fresh solace, a very much happier comradeship and confidence. If Epictetus, the lame Phrygian slave, could cry "Lead me Zeus and Necessity withersoever ye ordain, I will follow," an enlightened Englishman to-day might—I think—repeat, at once with the largest freedom of the philosopher and with the lowliest simplicity of the child, neither attaching himself to any special dogmas nor detaching himself from the Eternal Love, which is the last and largest and truest name for God, those words that fold the wings of the soul, and stay the beatings of the heart—"Thy Will be done!"

YOKOHAMA SKATING CLUB.

The annual meeting of the Yokohama Skating Club was held on Tuesday evening at the Club Hotel. Mr. C. D. Moss was voted to the chair, and there was also present Messrs. W. W. Campbell, H. V. Henson, E. R Morriss, C. S. Averill, and W. W. G. Ross.

The following accounts were taken as read:—

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE YOKOHAMA SKATING CLUB

There was no meeting of this Club held last season. Although duly advertised, only two men put in an appearance. The accounts for the previous season having been placed before the members, in the form of a circular, and the support of a sufficient number to pay expenses, being secured, the Club was carried on by Mr. Campbell and Mr. Averill, of the old committee, on the same basis of cost as the previous two years.

The season proved a most successful one. Owing to unusually early frosts, we had our first skating on the morning of Dec 19th During the season we had skating 64 times: 34 mornings, 24 afternoons, and seven times after dinner. Twenty-two new members joined the club, and we had in all nearly seventy names on the list.

This is, so far as known, the best record ever made by the Club. Christmas Day is the earliest date in previous years for the beginning of the skating, and 46 times is the best record of the duration of the skating, and the membership list was probably larger than ever before.

Attached to this report will be found a record of the temperature, direction of the wind, condition of the ice &c., during the season, and also the Accounts of the Club.

C S, AVERILL.

Yokohama, December 5th 1893.

SEASON 1892-1893.

C. S. AVERILL IN ACCOUNT WITH YOKOHAMA SKATING CLUB.

Dr.

To Balance received from A. H Dare		$ 2.50
To Subscriptions: 41 at $3	123.00	
" 22 at $4	88.00	
" Visitors	2.00	213.00
		$215 50

Cr.

Dec. 22.—By payment to Aoki on account Rink.		$ 30.00
Dec. 31.—By payment to Aoki on account Rink.		30.00
Jan. 21.—By Cushies for carrying Benches, Tables, &c., from Settlement to Club House.		50
Jan. 31.—By payment to Aoki on account Rink.		30.00
Feb. 15.—By ½ dozen Tea Cups, ½ dozen Spoons		
Tea, Sugar, &c.		1.95
Mch 1.—By Sundries paid Aoki:—		
Extra Fees to Kencho month of Dec.	5.00	
Rent of place for rice lost to Aoki on account of mud being removed	3.00	
Closet and Shelves for Skates, a new touch for cutting out Stones, &c., 3 Gimlets	3.51	15.51
Mch. 31 By Bonus to Aoki		10 00
By Balance carried forward		57.56
	$215 51	$215.50
To Balance at Credit of Club	$ 57 56	

E. & E. O.

Yokohama, December 5th, 1893.

C. S. AVERILL.

Mr. AVERILL proposed, and Mr. CAMPBELL seconded, the adoption of the report and accounts, and the were carried unanimously.

Mr. H. V. HENSON proposed that Messrs. C. S. Averill, W. W. Campbell, and W. Sutter form the Committee for the following year.

Mr. E. R. MORRISS seconded.—Carried unanimously.

A discussion arose as to the disposal of the Club's balance.

Mr. CAMPBELL suggested that a band might be engaged for some nights during the season

Mr. MORRISS thought that the suggestion was an excellent one.

The CHAIRMAN opined that there was no necessity carry to forward a large balance from year to year.

Mr. HENSON thought that the members had every confidence in the new committee and that the matter should be left to them

The CHAIRMAN said that would be the best thing, but he thought that if it was known that on good freezing nights a band would be engaged, the membership would be increased.

Mr. H. V. HENSON proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Messrs. Averill and Campbell for their admirable efforts in backing up King Frost last season and helping him to provide good skating.—Carried unanimously.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman concluded the proceedings.

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THE PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY OF JAPAN.

A regular meeting of the above mentioned Society was held at the rooms of the Geographic Society (Chigaku kiokai) Nishi Konya cho, Tokyo, on the 8th inst., at 5 p.m., Prof. J. Milne in the chair. The minutes of the last meeting, having appeared in the *Japan Mail*, were taken as read.

The following gentlemen were duly proposed seconded, and balloted for. They were unanimously elected. Capt. W. H. Forbes and Messrs. L. Brower, C. M. Duff, Kano, Emil Marx, and K. Sato.

Mr. Kajima Seibei showed a panoramic camera for working films 45 × 16 inches and including an angle of about 120°. The principle of the camera is as follows:—The film is placed in a flexible dark slide that can be bent into a circular form constituting about one-third of a complete cylinder. The lens can be revolved on a vertical spindle, the axis of which passes through the optical axis of the lens. The light is allowed to reach the film only through a narrow slit close to the film, this slit being at the end of a tapered box fixed to the same front as the lens and revolving with it. The camera is by Scovil, Adams and Co, and is a very handsome and substantial piece of work.

An ingenious arrangement for photographing from a captive balloon was shown by Mr. K. Ogura, of the Photographic Laboratory of the General Army and Navy Staff. The camera is suspended on gimbals on a frame so arranged that the ground glass will remain either in a vertical or a horizontal plane or in a plane at any intermediate angle as desired. The exposure can be made by an ingenious electrical arrangement.

Two prints from the same negative were shown by Messrs. W. K. Burton and K. Arito. In one far too great an expanse of nearly white sea appears between the foreground and the middle distance; in the second the distance is reduced, and the sky is added to with the effect that the picture is greatly improved. The effect is got by double printing. Mr. W. K. Burton presented to the Society, in the name of the Duke of Newcastle, several bottles of Messrs. Burrough, Welcome and Co.'s Photographic "Tabloids." These are small disks or "tabloids" of compressed photographic chemicals, of exact weight. Both Mr. Burton and Mr. K. Arito could testify to the extremely good results that could be got with these tabloids. They are likely to be of the greatest use to photographers either amateur or professional, whilst travelling.

Some excellent results of the balloon camera already mentioned, were shown by Mr. K. Ogura Also a very beautiful collotype, 16×10 inches on paper 26×18 inches, from his own negative, by Mr. I. Tanaka.

The proceedings ended with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

LETTER FROM CHICAGO.

(From our own Correspondent)

Chicago, November 16th.

"Imperial Powers of Japan" is the title of an article by Nancy Mann Waddle in the November *Ladies' Home Journal*.

The *Tribune* of this city recently gave as an art supplement to a Sunday issue a reproduction of Namikawa's cloisonné enamel of Fuji San. That same issue contained a strong commendation of both the original and the reproduction from Mr. Gustavus Goward; and a later issue contained similar praise from Mr. H Shugyo, the famous art critic.

The Japanese, by the way, have again lost valuable exhibits, probably stolen. Several small articles of bric-a-brac have been taken from the Manufactures Building; and two vases, valued at $550, have disappeared from the Fine Arts Section. The thieves displayed good taste and judgment!

It is possible that the new Liberty Bell may go on a journey around the world with a message of peace and good will.

Mr. R. C. Givins, of this city, has returned from his trip to Japan. During his stay in that country he sent the Chicago *News Record* a series of interesting letters, which, though containing nothing new, were yet also unusually free from the errors of hasty travellers

Mr. E. Burton Holmes, who spent a few months of 1892 in Japan, is lecturing on "The Country" and "The Cities" with stereoptican views.

Mme. Minnie Hauk is on her way to Japan, where she will favour audiences in the large cities with her beautiful voice

A Methodist Minister, Dr. J. O. Peck, who had been designated to make a tour of mission fields in Asia and Malaysia, has declined the junketing trip in the interests of economy.

The Methodist Conference appropriated for the work in Korea $15,967, in Japan $52,308, and in China $118,711. An earnest appeal for the Japanese in California was made by Bishop Goodsell, who also expressed regret that the mission among the Japanese in the Hawaiian Islands had been abandoned.

Among the speakers at the recent Inter-Seminary Missionary Alliance were Pres. Kozaki, Mr. L. D. Wishard, and Mr. J. H. Kobayashi. Mr. Wishard spoke on "The Christian Movement among the Students of Asia"

Fourteen Chinese, in the custody of the U.S. Marshal at San Francisco, were yesterday released per U.S Attorney General Olney's orders.

The situation in Hawaii is, of course, the great topic of discussion at present. In spite of the fact that Blount's report was supposed to be favourable to Hawaiian royalists, it was, nevertheless, a great surprise to learn from the papers of the 11th inst., that Minister Willis had gone to Honolulu with instructions to restore the former Queen to her throne. The public had accepted the bloodless revolution as an historical fact, and regarded the provisional government as at least a *de facto* government which had become a *de jure* government by the official acknowledgement of the Powers. But President Cleveland and Secretary Gresham, relying on the testimony of Blount's report, claim that the Queen was dethroned by a conspiracy in which the U.S. Minister and naval officers took an active past inconsistent with their duties and the doctrines of international law, and that it is, therefore, only justice that the old *status* should be restored.

It is needless to say that the publication of these recommendations made by Secretary Gresham to President Cleveland aroused a fierce discussion. Republican papers and politicians have exhibited an unseemly bitterness in assailing Secretary Gresham; have attempted, as usual, to obscure the real points at issued by Jingô appeals to sentimentalism, and have displayed partisan prejudice by not waiting to hear the testimony on the other side. Nobody censures either ex Minister Stevens or ex-Pres. Harrison for defending his own acts or policy. No one can blame the Republicans even for trying to make the most of a possible vantage-ground, if they discuss the question reasonably without appeals to prejudice But most independents, while regretting the necessity of the position, yet acknowledge and admire the courage of Secretary Gresham and President Cleveland in recommending, on the simple ground of justice, a course well fore-known to be unpopular. This is not the first time that Cleveland has had the courage of his convictions; he pursued a similar course on the silver question, and has been sustained therein by the verdict of time. That trait of character is, in fact, an important element of his popularity among non partisans. He may be wrong on the Hawaiian question; but he and Gresham certainly do not deserve the torrent of abuse and vilification which partisan papers have heaped upon them. They are, very properly and wisely, attempting at present no defence; they are waiting until, probably, by the publication of Blount's report in connection with the President's message to Congress, they can present their evidence. That will be the proper time for discussion; until then fair minded men will reserve their verdict.

The Chinese Minister is said to be dissatisfied, because the U. S. Government declines to accept the certificates of the Chinese Consul General at Havana. This is, however, said to be a loop-hole through which thousands of Chinese have come in.

An episode with Honduras has been forgotten in the excitement over Hawaiian affairs. The Pacific Mail Steamship *Costa Rica* flying the U.S. flag and carrying U.S. Minister Baker, had on board a political refugee named Bonilla. When the vessel entered the harbour of Amapala, President Vasquez, of Honduras, demanded the surrender of the fugitive, and, receiving, of course, a refusal, ordered the guns of the port to be turned on the ship. When the U.S. authorities complained of this clear breach of international law, Honduras promptly apologized.

The Canadian Pacific Railway received the highest award at the World's Fair for its standard passenger train and locomotive. One "Sleeper" of this train bore the name "Satsuma."

The U.S. cruiser *Olympia* on a recent trial trip made an average speed of 21 knots and since then the *Columbia*, our first triple screw war ship, on an unofficial trip, made the "unprecedented" time of 22.87 knots per hour.

Hon. J. M. Rusk, ex-Secretary of Agriculture, is rapidly sinking from the effects of an operation recently performed.

Francis Parkman, the eminent historian, died on the 9th inst. at Boston.

The elections this month resulted in a tremendous land slide in favour of the Republicans, who carried Ohio, Massachusetts, New York, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Kansas, Iowa, and Nebraska; while the Democrats won only in Kentucky, Virginia, and Maryland. In this city Judge Gory, opposed by the Anarchists and Democratic "bosses," led the Republican ticket to victory. McKinley has 80,000 or more majority in Ohio, and stands now as the "logical" Republican Nominee for President in 1896. But as the "off year" elections invariably go strongly against the party in power (see *Tribune* Almanacs), no meaning is attached to this landslide. Members of the Ways and Means Committee of the House of Representatives say that the election will have no effect on their tariff reform measure.

Alderman George B. Swift (Rep.) has been elected Mayor *pro tem* of this city.

The late Mayor Harrison has been called a millionaire, but, according to his will, he rated himself at only $96,000.

In both the Coughlin and the Prendergast cases no jury has yet been secured. The latter, having entered insanity as his plea for defence, has been examined by experts, who will make known their conclusions at the trial, which is to be opened on the 27th inst.

Wm. T. Stead, the famous London editor, has been in this city, and has been stirring us up with some of his radical ideas on social questions. An attempt is being made to carry into effect his plan for a civic federation.

The mills of Minneapolis, Duluth, and Superior are reporting big outputs of flour.

This city has now another elevated railroad, running on Lake Street on the West Side.

The chrysanthemum show at the Art Institute was a magnificent success, and enjoyed a large attendance. From the place where it was held it was jocosely called the "Congress of Chrysanthemums."

The Ferris Wheel proved a big success financially, and brought its owners a dividend of over $150,000.

The price of admission to the Fair has been reduced to 25 cents. The daily paid attendance now averages about 1,000, of whom the majority go in probably to make purchases.

Treasure Seeberger's report shows a total disbursement up to Oct. 30th of $31,031,585.

The Ceylon Building has been sold for $2,800, and will become a summer residence at Geneva Lake, Wisconsin.

The Foreign Commissioners united the other evening in a grand banquet to Director General Davis.

The "Columbian Museum" continues to have a fairly good "boom." Recent donations of exhibits include "a number of embroidered tablets and two rare porcelain vases from Commissioner Tejima;" the statistical tables and diagrams of the Department of Home Affairs in Japan; and negotiations are going on to secure the unique façade of the Japanese Pavilion in the Manufactures Building. Cash contributions include $50,000 from the Chicago City Railway Company; $10,000 from Mr. H N. Higinbotham; and $10,000 from Mr. L. Z. Leiter. The last-named makes two conditions; that the museum be located in Jackson Park, and be known as the "Columbian Memorial Museum."

This prospective museum is not getting all the treasures of the Fair; the University of Pennsylvania has secured large educational exhibits from many foreign countries, including Japan; and the University of Chicago has received from Korea a collection of costumes, and from Japan an exhibit illustrating Shinto.

The University of Chicago has also been so fortunate as to receive a gift of $500,000 from Mr. John D Rockefeller on condition that another $500,000 are secured under the terms of Mr Ryerson's pledge of $100,000. In short, if by July 1, 1894, the University can raise $500,000, Mr. Rockefeller will add the same amount. Of the half million to be raised, $275,000 have already been pledged.

Prof. S. W. Burnham, formerly connected with Lick Observatory, has been elected Professor of practical astronomy in the University of Chicago.

A famous French doctor and professor of medicine contended that every disease was due to a process of inflammation. On dissecting one of his patients, not a trace of inflammation could be found. He explained the circumstances to his pupils as follows:—"Gentlemen, you see that our mode of treatment was thoroughly effective. The patient is dead, but he died cured."

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CLOSE OF THE WORLD'S FAIR.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

Chicago, November 7th.

The great Fair is over. The tragic death of Carter Harrison, Mayor of Chicago, and also Director of the Fair, threw a deep gloom over the closing ceremonies, which, in view of this terrible murder, only consisted of a prayer, an organ recital, a few addresses of condolence to the bereaved family, and a benediction pronounced by a clergyman over man's efforts at this immense and successful exhibition.

I will to-day complete our tour around the Woman's Building, which has lasted us several months, and I hope my readers will be as sorry to take leave of it as I shall be.

American women artists have contributed many beautiful paintings in the Gallery of Honour, as have also women artists all the world over. "Eurydice falling back into Hades," attracts a great deal of attention. The artist, Miss Rae, has shown the moment when Orpheus looks at her whom he has brought safely through the shadows, and she, knowing that her doom has come upon her, hopelessly prepares to turn back

In another picture a boy's dirty foot claims notice, and every mother who has ever had a tenant son, pauses to look. It is such a perfect foot, so dirty, so callous and seamed that one scarcely notices the face above it, or the girl blowing bubbles.

Marie Bashkirtseff has at least one picture there, two sturdy urchins of the order of street *gamins*,—a delicious bit of rowdyism. A sculptured head in basrelief is the work of Sarah Bernhardt. A great picture of a dead maiden in a boat, caused many a one to say half aloud, "the dead steered by the dumb," and yet it is not Tennyson's Elaine who sleeps there, but Hermione; no lily-white maid, but one wrapped in rich robes fit for a queen.

There are bits of English landscape, fishing scenes, and fruit pieces, a wealth of beauty destined to be an unfailing source of pleasure to the purchasers thereof.

From the four corners of the Gallery of Honour, stairs lead to the corridors above, and in the landings midway, exhibits of Mexican and Turkish work were laid out. On the east side are rich decorations of tapestry; while in the west, the women have fitted up a bridge, over which in stately and solitary grandeur a grim old Indian warrior keeps watch.

At the north end of the corridors is the Assembly Room, devoted to Congresses and other notable gatherings, as well as for a reception room and a music hall. There are three stained windows in this room sent by the women of Massachusetts, and on the platform is the furniture of mahogany and gold, the gift of the women of Mobile. The walls are hung with the pictures of noted English women, of yesterday as well as to-day. Among them is the full length portrait of the Baroness Burdett-Coutts. In this room, daily, during the whole Exposition, prominent American and foreign women gave addresses and read papers.

Off the Assembly room opens the model cornkitchen where Mrs. Rorer, Superintendent of the Philadelphia Cooking School, gave, at 10 30 every morning, ectures on the preparation of corn products. The walls of this room are artistically draped with fishing-nets, senes of dark brown, with corks and leads, which gave a quaint and fantastic look to the room

At the south end of the corridor are the rooms devoted to the use of the Lady Managers and the Women's Organization Room. Fifty organizations are represented there. The Women's Christian Temperance Union has, perhaps, the largest space. Among the organizations represented are religious societies, relief corps, editorial and educational associations, the Order of the Eastern Star, industrial societies, societies for physical culture, and many others. In order that no organization should interfere with another, the dividing lines are brass hand-railings, from which blue silk draperies hung suspended.

Just outside the door of this room is the lift, running from the ground floor to the café and roof-garden. Off the eastern corridor, open two private committee-rooms, while further along are three splendid reception rooms, donated to the building by the city of Cincinnati and the States of Kentucky and California.

The Cincinnati room is in the centre of the suite, and is in every respect an ideal drawing room. The ceiling and walls are decorated in the perfection of high art, and the furnishings are exquisite. At one's feet, as one looks from the gallery opening out of these three rooms, the lagoon lies with the wooded island, and all around the mystic, dome-like palaces of the White City

Kentucky's room is in cream and gold in the old Colonial style, while California's is red wood splendidly carved and polished, the spaces above the panelled dado being filled with fresco paintings, many of them scenes which suggest the days of 1849.

Next to the California room is one devoted to Japan, the crossed flags over the door, the screens in the designs so familiar to all, the paintings on the walls all telling their own story.

The rooms for the western corridor are of equal interest, none probably attracting more attention than that devoted to the British Nursing Section. The cases in this room contain all surgical appliances, bandages, and hygienic crockery, reclining chairs and invalid cots, and models of the nurses belonging to the Royal British Nurses Association; native Indian nurses as well as British are represented. The walls are hung with the portraits of nurses and philanthropic women; Her Majesty Queen Victoria and Princess Christian, patroness for the London and Windsor schools for trained nurses, being conspicuous. Florence Nightingale and Sister Dora, too, are there.

Three rooms "en suite" are next, and these three comprise the Library and two record rooms. The Library occupies the centre room, and is the donation of New York's women. The building is fitted up from floor nearly to ceiling with handsome dark-wood shelves and book cases. There are collected the works of all feminine authors considered worthy of such a place of honour. The task of cataloguing this library has been tremendous, and is not yet completed. The Library and record rooms, which contain charts and statistics of women's work in all nations, are very handsome.

Connecticut's room comes next, and is very dainty. The ceiling is in cream and gold, with coverings of robin's egg blue. The walls are of tan with a frieze a shade darker. The windows are of stained glass with jewelled effects. This room was placed at the disposal of the Foreign Lady Commissioners and Representatives, but as it was also thrown open to the public as an exhibit room it was quite impossible for any private use, and so the poor foreign ladies had nowhere to lay their heads.

Outside the New York room, in the gallery, is the New York Loan exhibit, consisting of rare old foreign laces, tapestries in gold and silver, fans with sticks of pearl and tortoise, jewellry quaint and ancient, and miniatures set in gold and precious stones.

Not the least of the attractions of the Woman's Building, was the roof-garden and café, the latter doing an immense business all the time the Fair was open. As the summer advanced, the garden on the roof, with handsome urns and other garden pottery filled with flowers and shrubs, made a beautiful resort, and of all the attractive places on the grounds, there was none to equal it. The view was superb; turn which way you would, almost every building was in sight. But if beautiful by day, it was still more beautiful by night, whether the moon rode in silver glory in the sky, or only the stars looked down upon the "Fairy City," which one might well imagine the realization of some fabled dream.

In nights when the grand illuminations took place, the scene was indeed beyond comparison; as the flashing search-lights brought out in bold relief the white palaces and the golden dome of the Administration Building which gleamed in lines of fire against the evening sky,—its crown of glory more brilliant than any diadem monarch ever wore.

But with all its beauty of interior and exterior, its rich treasures of art, etc., the lesson this building teaches is more beautiful and of more worth than ought else besides. It typifies woman's emancipation from bonds worn for ages past. It does not repudiate wifehood and motherhood. It but glorifies them, for what man or woman in the ages to come but will point proudly to the fact that his ancestors were among them who, by earnest prayer and labour of mind and body helped to erect in the year 1893, in the youngest and most pushing city in the world, a monument which will not crumble into nothingness now that the six months of the Exposition are past, but will be perpetuated in the memories of men and women of all nations.

Regardless of the sneers of both men and women, the Board of Lady Managers has gone steadily on, and in the dark days when even men's hearts grew faint with the fear of having undertaken too much, this little Board worked on, cheered by the thought of the good they were doing for their sisters.

To day they have seen the consummation of their dream, and not only America but all the world acknowledges that "when a woman wills, she will, you may depend on't," and that in fair competition with man she has not fallen behind in the race.

It has been no suffrage movement. The Woman's Building does not stand for that, but it is the first link in an endless chain which will bind in sweet sisterhood the women of the world, whether from the Occident, the Orient, or from climes nearer here.

It is, typically, when we consider what it represents, a temple more beautiful than that which stood in Jerusalem, and though its foundation stones were not laid with mystic rites, a password has been uttered in the universe more potent, because more holy, than that given by the old master mason to his followers, and that password, graven deep in the heart of every woman, is "sisterhood."

IN H.B.M.'s COURT FOR JAPAN.

Before R. A. MOWAT, Esq., Judge.—MONDAY, 11th December, 1893.

TSUNE KIJIMA AND OTHERS, PLAINTIFFS, v. THE P. & O. S. N. COMPANY, DEFENDANTS.

MOTION TO DISMISS THE PETITION

The Court assembled at 10.30 to-day.

Mr. A. B. Walford said he appeared to resist the granting of the application, with him sat Mr. Okamura Teruhiko; Mr. Lowder appeared to support the application for the motion.

Mr. Lowder said that the application which he had to support was a motion that a certain petition which had been filed in a case brought by Tsune Kijima and others to recover damages from the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company, in respect to damage done to them by the collision of the *Ravenna* with the *Chishima-kan*, be dismissed and substantial costs be awarded defendants. The motion was based upon rule 39 of the Order in Council dated March 9th, 1865, which defined the discretion of the Court in matters pertaining to the dismissing of petitions.

Rule 9—In case a petition states two or more distinct causes of suit by and against the same parties and in the same rights, the Court may either before or at the hearing, if it appears inexpedient to try the different causes of suit together, order that different records be made up and make such Order as to costs as justice may require

In case a petition states two or more distinct causes of suit but not by and against the same parties, or by and against the same parties but not in the same rights, the petition may on the application of any defendant be dismissed

In case such application is made within the time for answer the petition may be dismissed with substantial costs to be paid by the plaintiff to the defendant making the application; but in case the application is not made within the time for answer, the petition when the defect is brought to the notice of the Court may be dismissed without Costs, or on payment of Court fees only, as to the Court seems just

The Rule being cited, the learned Counsel said that his case lay upon the construction to be placed upon the second paragraph, which dealt with the granting of such an order as the Court was now asked to make. The terms of the motion ran that the Court should make an order that the petition be dismissed and award substantial costs to the defendants in regard to it. The petition, Counsel proceeded, concerned 62 different and distinct causes of action which 62 different and distinct plaintiffs could bring in respect of damages sustained by 116 different plaintiffs, and these causes of action were in respect of different and distinct rights. The propositions which he wished to lay before the Court were two. The first was, that there were 62 groups of plaintiffs who brought 62 distinct cases in respect of 62 rights of action. The second proposition would be, that under the rule just cited, No. 39, the word *may* in that rule should be read as *must*. In other words, that it was obligatory on the Court to grant the application if the first proposition is borne out—that, in fact, it was not in its discretion to do otherwise. The proposal made to the Court was, in effect, that it was asked to exercise its authority in a case that falls under the words "may on the application," the application being, in the first place, duly made, and secondly made by a person having the right, by duly received authority, to make such application.

His Honour, to Mr. Walford—Do you dispute that.

Mr. Walford—Yes, I dispute that.

His Honour—You think I have discretion?

Mr. Walford—Yes.

Mr. Lowder—I have seven authorities to cite. The first one is in 1878, *Lamb v. Walker*, 3 Q.B.D., in the judgment of Chief Justice Cockburn; the next is in 1884, *The Darley Main Colliery Company v. Mitchell*, 14 Q.B.D., p. 125 and p.p. 400-402; and 11 Appeal Cases 127. The next case is in 1884, *Brumsden against Humphrey*, 14 Q.B.D., p. 121; and also 11 Appeal Cases at p. 139, where it was cited with the approval of Lord Blackburn. In 1884, the case of the *Vera Cruz*, 9 Probate

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Division, p. 99, an exequatur. In 1884, *Seward v. the Vera Cruz*, 10 Appeal Cases, page 67. These cases are cited in support of my first proposition; and in support of my second proposition there is the leading case of *Julius against the Bishop of Oxford*, reported in 5 Appeal Cases p. 214. The first question to be discussed is, what is a cause of action? At the first blush it would appear to be a question easy to answer, but I need not remind your Honour that it is a question which has puzzled the heads of many learned judges during a long series of years.

His Honour—First of all, does Mr Walford dispute that there are 62 plaintiffs?

Mr. Walford—I do not dispute that. In fact I will admit that there are 62 plaintiffs, at least at present

His Honour—Then that point is settled.

Mr. Lowder—Then I need only go on with my second proposition, in support of which I shall cite *Julius against the Bishop of Oxford*—that it is obligatory on your Honour to grant the application. The whole question in this case turned on the construction to be placed on the words, "it shall be lawful," which occur in the Church Disciplinary Act. I cite this case because all the authorities relating to the construction to be placed upon these words are collected in the judgment delivered in this case. I think that however frequently the case, and the judgment, is read over, that its perusal will always be worth the time spent upon it. But first of all, I will refer back, for the consideration of the meaning to be placed on the word *may*, to the judgment given on page 224 and again on page 242, in the case of *McDougall v. Patterson*, cited with approval before the Lord Chancellor, Earl Cairns, and also before Lord Blackburn. Counsel then cited the judgment of Chief Justice Jervis, which had been quoted in support of the case previously mentioned. The judgment of Lord Cairns in this case was afterwards cited, Counsel contending that it had a direct bearing upon the case then before the Court. Upon his judgment Counsel submitted that his conclusion would be that the power reposed in the Court was given to it to be used for the benefit of the parties now appearing before the Court in the motion for dismissal of the plaintiffs' petition. Mr. Lowder then cited the case of *King v. Barlow*, and was going to quote Lord Justice Blackburn upon the rule, but

His Honour thought that it was unnecessary.

Mr. Lowder—Your Honour, I perceive, sees the points upon which I rely in asking that the petition be dismissed, it is therefore unnecessary to say anything further just now.

Mr. Walford, in reply, said that he could see that his Honour would have some difficulty in acceding to the arguments addressed to him by his learned friend, that the word *may* will have to be construed into *must* No doubt there are some cases that can be cited where *may* has been construed into *must*, but they do not apply to the present case. Those were all cases of applications made to enforce a right. Of course, if he has a right to what he applies for, then the Court must be satisfied that it is necessary, in the interests of justice, to grant that right. My learned friend urges that the Court has the power which he suggests, conferred upon it, and must exercise that power as it is coupled with duty. Now such a power, if it is conferred, is in no sense coupled with duty. In fact, I submit that my learned friend is wholly mistaken in bringing forward this application, for it is brought under a rule that is now obsolete. The rules of procedure which prevailed at home when the Rule, under which this motion is brought, was made, do not now exist. I submit that under the new rules of procedure in the home practice the Rule relied upon by the other side has ceased to have any application whatever. It may be convenient in this place to refer to the Order in Council under which this old rule was made. I refer to it simply to show that under no circumstances can the word *may* be so construed as to mean *must*. I refer to it also, because even in the days when it was made, although cases may have arisen in which such a construction could be urged, it was as a matter of fact, never brought forward. Section 4 of the Order in Council of 1865 section 25, and section 27, having been read, the learned Counsel submitted that they must be taken together in order to gather the object of the Rules. It was this. They were framed so as to provide a simple mode of procedure for this Court to follow, and where our rules are silent, then the rules of the home procedure are to be followed, in order to make the procedure as simple as possible. When, therefore, the practice of the Courts in England was simplified, it followed that the Rules of this Court must necessarily conform with the simplified procedure of the Courts in England. It was obvious that this was the intention of the framers of Rule 39, for even in 1865 it was a common mode of procedure that all creditors of a deceased person should join in an action for the administration of the estate.

His Honour—But is that in the Order itself?

Mr. Walford—According to my learned friend's contention Rule 39 must overrule all the Rules

His Honour—You cannot overrule all the Rules. How about Rule 139?

Mr. Walford—I was referring to the practice which enabled all the creditors of a deceased person to join together to bring an action.

His Honour—Have the Rules any reference to it?

Mr. Walford—Only indirect reference. In Rule 34 it is assumed that it can be done.

His Honour—Then your answer to him will be that Rule 39 must be read subject to Rule 34

Mr Walford—Then I shall further submit that these Rules were drawn up in accordance with the practice that prevailed at the time in Eng and. The petition is framed, I submit, in accordance with the practice now prevailing in England.

His Honour—Could you have one petition in which 62 plaintiffs are concerned?

Mr. Walford—Yes, I will prove, on reference to Order 16, Rule 1, of the New Judicature Act of 1883, that "All persons may be joined as plaintiffs in whom the right to any relief claimed is alleged to exist, whether jointly, severally, or in the alternative. And judgment may be given for such one or more of the plaintiffs as may be found to be entitled to relief, for such relief as he or they may be entitled to without any amendment," etc. This rule has been before the Courts on several occasions I will refer your Honour to the case of *Booth v. Briscowe*, 2 Q.B.D., p.496. In that case eight plaintiffs were joined in a libel action, and the question arose relative to costs. Lord Bramwell in delivering judgment, said that if the case had arisen before the new Judicature Act this procedure would have been erroneous, but under Order 16, Rule 1, the plaintiffs may be joined together as plaintiffs in the action. Counsel then quoted *Viscount Gort v. Rowney*, 17 Q.B.D., p. 633, reading Lord Esher's judgment, as Master of the Rolls, on the following page. The next case cited in support of his contention that the new rules of procedure in the Home Courts must apply here, was *Harrison v. Smith*, 41 Ch D., p. 98. In this case there were 54 different plaintiffs, and judgment was given by Mr. Justice Lindley. All the plaintiffs had seperate rights in that case, but all were joined. I shall submit, continued the learned Counsel, that all these cases go to prove beyond doubt what the practice is in England. The present petition has been drawn up in accordance with the English practice, and therefore the plaintiffs in this case are properly joined in seeking relief from the P. & O. Company in respect of damage received from the defendant Company. The petition was framed in accordance with Order 16, Rule 1, and relies with faith upon the case of *Scott v. Forrester*, a case which your Honour must remember, as it was heard and decided in the Supreme Court at Shanghai, and is reported in the *North China Herald* of August 1881, p. 177. The question in that case arose upon Rule 55, as to whether a counter-claim should be admitted with the leave of the Court first obtained, or whether the Rule should not be followed but the practice obtaining at home pursued, in which a counter claim is filed without leave. That case is a conclusive authority enabling the plaintiff to be joined under Order 16, Rule 1, for judgment was given in favour of following the simplified forms of procedure in the Courts of England. The judgment points out that our Rules were framed to give a simple form of procedure to these Courts of China and Japan. I have now established the practice prevailing in English and proved that the word *may* confers simply a discretionary power on the Court and does not compel your Honour to act in the sense understood by the Rule. As my learned friend was about to insist when I agreed with him, this action shows many causes of action. Causes of action, it has been laid down, mean the discovery of every fact material to be proved to enable plaintiff to succeed. Every creditor in a bankruptcy administration case has a distinct cause of action, because he has to prove his individual debt. If so, then this Court would never dismiss an action of the creditors of an estate, simply because the cause of action was different for each plaintiff. Rule 34 assumes that all creditors may be joined, although provision has not been found for such a case.

His Honour—Then that would be a good reason why it should be read with the other Rule.

Mr. Walford—Rule 34 only provides that an action be taken by one creditor, but it can be assumed that the others would be joined with him.

His Honour Then the petition should run, "A" suing on behalf of "B," and so on.

Mr. Walford—It is not necessary that one creditor only should sue, but that all should be joined.

His Honour—But may not the names be set out, as in this case?

Mr. Walford submitted that one creditor could not sue on behalf of the other creditors unless all the creditors were entitled to sue. Rule 36 enabled a plaintiff to sue several defendants in respect of several causes of action, but if my learned friend's construction of Rule 39 is correct, the Court would have power to allow such to petitioned to be dismissed.

His Honour—But the two Rules must be read together. Rule 36 deals with one plaintiff with two parties as defendants, Rule 39 deals with several parties being defendants.

Mr. Walford did not see the matter that way; he thought Rule 39 would apply whether the parties were too many plaintiffs or too many defendants.

His Honour—If Rule 36 did not exist that would be so, but as things are, it did not follow.

Mr. Walford—I contend that your Honour cannot ignore the spirit of the Order in Council. The suggestion that *may* shall be construed into *must* would be absurd, for it would be in conflict with the spirit of the Order in Council. If there is any distinction to be drawn in this Court as to the wording of the Rule, my friend has not shown any reason why it should be exercised in favour of his clients. He has not shown that it was inconvenient to them at all. Rather had his argument tended to prove how inconvenient it would be if the application were granted. If it was not possible to bring the case under the rules of the Judicature Act, then each case would have to be tried before different juries.

His Honour—I hope it will not prove so, for the juries' sake.

Mr. Walford—I was only proving that under this Rule there would be many different causes of action, as many as there are plaintiffs. There were 116 different causes for action in the petition, and if those 116 different causes had to be taken separately upon their merits then the action of the defendants would not only be inconvenient to all concerned, but most unjust; because the question as to the liability of the collision, the original cause of action, would have to be argued 116 times before different juries. Defendants would then no doubt apply to have all the actions consolidated, and, as likely as not, would argue that the bringing of the case in that way, was both vexatious and unjust. The effect of consolidating the various causes of action was to place the plaintiffs in the same position as co plaintiffs. The whole proceeding now stands in a form most correct and proper. It was convenient to all concerned, and had the effect of saving expense, and also enabled a number of poor plaintiffs, who could not under ordinary circumstances have instituted proceedings, to appear before the Court and apply for justice to be done them, in company with other plaintiffs.

His Honour—What is the date of the letter in which dfendents undertake to abide by proceedings entered against them by the next-of-kin?

Mr. Walford said he did not know, being away from Japan at the time.

Mr. Lowder said it was towards the end of Decembe. last year. It had been filed in the other case.

His Honour Yes, I will send for it. The date was then found to be 29th December.

Mr. Walford, continuing, said that if the application was granted, after the decision in the *Scott v. Forrester* case the effect would be—

Mr. Lowder—I must object to that.

His Honour—Let us hear it first.

Mr. Walford—The effect would be that plaintiffs would never be allowed to bring another action.

His Honour—Why, because of the lapse of time?

Mr. Walford—I can explain why there has been a seeming delay in the case, why the time has elapsed.

His Honour—I do not think that matters.

Mr. Walford—It would be very hard for foreigners, by that I mean Japanese, who are invited to apply to the Court in these matters, if their petitions are to be dismissed because the decisions of a concurrent Court in regard to the question of Rules, is not upheld in this Court. It would, in my opinion, inflict great hardship, and one which I feel sure this Court will never inflict. This discretion, as I shall call it, given by Rule 39 would apply to a case where the parties have been improperly joined, according to the old practice prevailing at home. But Order 16, Rule 11 provides that no cause shall be defeated by misjoinder of parties. That Order and Rule have the force of a Statutory provison and takes away any discretion which may have once existed under Rule 39.

His Honour—The Rule goes on to say that if there has been misjoinder, the Court may strike out the names of the parties so misjoined.

Mr. Walford—If *may* is to be read *must*

His Honour—It is in order that justice may be correctly rendered.

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Mr. Walford—But the case must not be stopped; the case must go on. Rule 18 provides that the Judge may split up the causes of action. Therefore the Court is justified in making an order striking out of the petition the names of all plaintiffs improperly joined in order to render justice.

Mr. Lowder—That is not the application before the Court. The application now under the consideration of the Court is based on Rule 39 of our Rules.

Mr. Walford—I am contending that if there has been no misjoinder there can be no dismissal of the action under these Orders. If there has been no misjoinder then we come under Order 18, Rule 1.

His Honour—Your argument really rests on Order 16.

Mr. Walford—Yes, on Order 16. It shows that joinder is permitted and Order 18 shows what procedure must be followed—

His Honour—That refers to trial, we have not got so far yet.

Mr. Walford—This application then, is resisted on the grounds of Order 16, Rule 1 of the Rules prevailing at Home, and rests on the authority of the judgment of *Scott* v. *Forrester*.

His Honour (to Mr. Lowder)—I only wish to hear you in reference to Order 16 and on *Scott* v. *Forrester*.

Mr. Lowder—I have not had an opportunity of reading that case your Honour, and before proceeding further, I should like to draw your attention to the judgment given in the Shanghai Supreme Court recently, in the *Chishima-Ravenna* case, in reference to the Rule to be followed in the case, the question being whether I should apply for leave under the Rules of the Court or under Admiralty Rules. Counsel went at some length into the case which he personally conducted in Shanghai, and gave extracts from the finding of Chief Justice Hannen, who said in regard to the Rule of H.M.'s Courts for China and Japan that it must be followed in preference to the Rule of the Admiralty procedure. In this opinion, he added, Mr. Jamieson bowed to the Chief Justice, although he said he was inclined to think otherwise. The Court at Shanghai had found in that case that there was no necessity to go outside that Rules of the Court.

His Honour—That action was in Admiralty *in personam*.

Mr. Lowder—I should say that it was, to look at the original cause, an action *in rem*. But I don't think it makes any difference.

Mr. Walford—It was an action *in personam*, the ship not being seized.

Mr. Lowder—The arrest of the ship was got over by arrangement between the parties, so I should say that it was an action *in rem*.

His Honour referred to the title of the action, and inferred that as no ship's name was used the action was *in personam*, and accordingly the action should be conducted in accordance with the Rules of the Court, and so the Rule in the case would be 55.

Mr. Lowder—I may state that in cases where our Rules do apply, those Rules should be looked to and not the general practice.

His Honour—That is precisely the point taken by the other side in *Scott* v. *Forrester*, that the Rule in the Judicature only applied.

Mr. Lowder—I don't know whether I am justified, in my recent knowledge of the case, to ask whether, supposing the whole of our procedure to be dependant on the home procedure, that in the event of the home procedure being simplified our own Rules would have to be simplified also?

His Honour—That is the point on which the other side relies.

Mr. Lowder—It is a new point to me. I don't think it was applied in the case of the *Chishima*.

His Honour—Our own Admiralty Rules, I take it; do not they embody the English Rules? If our own Rules do not provide, we have to turn to the home procedure.

Mr. Lowder—Our own Rule 139 decides the point. If anything is provided for in our own Rules, then if not provided for in the home procedure it does not matter, because our own Rules are what have to be followed.

His Honour—In the case of *Scott* v. *Forrester* it is not mentioned.

Mr. Lowder—No, it was not mentioned. But turning to the case of *Harrison* v. *Smith*, cited by my learned friend, I shall also cite the judgment of Lord Chief Justice Cotton and Lord Justice Lindley, and draw your Honour's attention to the fact that they call attention to the great inconvenience arising from the joining together of 54 plaintiffs. No objection was made to the joining of groups of plaintiffs in any of the cases cited by my learned friend, but if objection had been made it would have been sustained in every case. Rule 16 referred to, deals only with the misjoinder of parties, but this is a case of misjoinder of causes of action, and therefore the Rule does not apply. Referring to the case of *Cook* v. *Bristowe*, Counsel admitted that it was certainly a case were co-directors had been libelled and that a legal relationship existed between them. In the case of *Gort* v. *Rowney*, Counsel for the other side read only part of the judgment of the Master of the Rolls, but he did not read the judgment of Lord Justice Bowen upon which, he (Mr Lowder), should rely. Lord Justice Bowen declined to followed the interpretation put on Order 16 by the Master of the Rolls. Now we have got to this point, that eminent judges are not of the same opinion as to the use of Order 16 Rule 1. Counsel then cited *Booth* v. *Burn*, to prove his contention as to the difference of opinion as to the construction to be placed on the Order

His Honour—The cause of action in this case seems to have been the same; each seem to have had the same right.

Mr Lowder—I should say the cause of action is distinct in each case.

His Honour—"A" sues in consequence of the same collision, so does "B," and "C," and so on.

Mr. Lowder—I assume that in this case there is a distinct cause of action in each case. I was going to demonstrate this when your Honour stopped my pleadings, and my friend concurred I am arguing that these 64 persons have 64 rights; there was one element which bound them—

His Honour—One collision damaged them all

Mr. Lowder—I am about to meet the argument that because no objection was made to the joining of plaintiffs in the case cited, that no application can be made. For this reason I shall cite the case of the *Vera Cruz*, No 2, Appeals. I cite these two adverse opinions to the Court in order to prove that the Court is at liberty to follow one opinion or the other.

His Honour—I don't think Lords Bowen and Esher disagreed; they granted the application.

Mr. Lowder—But they disagreed as to the reading of Order 16, Rule 1. Bowen declined to follow *Booth* v. *Briscowe*. In *Harrison* v. *Smith* the Judges spoke of the joining together of 54 plaintiffs as an inconvenient experiment. Counsel then quoted *Smith* v. *Richardson*, C.P.D. p 112, arguing therefrom that where there was no identity of interests there could be no identity of causes of action. The last case cited was that of *Sands and another* v. *Wildsmith*, 1893, 1 Q B.D. p. 771, and the judgment of Mr. Justice Wills. That was the latest case on record, and would meet the difficulty which Counsel could see was in his Honour's mind. The three cases cited by the other side were a group in which the construction of the Rule was questioned. But he would remind the Court that reference to the procedure of the Courts at home was only allowable where its own Rules were silent Sir Richard Rennie's instructions, issued to the Courts in China and Japan in 1885, were cited in support of the contention. Counsel failed to follow his learned friend in his contention that the Rules of the home practice should be followed whenever they simplified procedure, because Rule 39 was infinitely easier than the home practice. In reference to the plea of ignorance put forward on behalf of foreigners in regard to the Court Rules of Procedure, it did not hold good in the present case, because Counsel on the other side had admitted that the petition had been carefully thought out by him, and based on the home procedure.

Mr. Walford—I did not say that. I do not appear for the plaintiffs generally.

Mr. Lowder—I do not refer to my friend personally, I merely refer to the manner in which the petition has been drawn up, for it is evident that most careful attention has been paid to the rules of of procedure prevailing at home. Section 127 was relied upon my learned friend to prove that the spirit of the Rules was that too excessive regard should not be paid to technicalities in interpreting the procedure to be pursued in this Court. But I would remind him that Section 127 and Rule 39 were drawn up by a Judge of the Court and received the sanction of a Secretary of State, both at the same time, so it would be absurd to think that they would be allowed to be in conflict one with the other. With these remarks he left the matter in the hands of the Court.

His Honour intimated that he would read the authorities and cases cited, and judgment was reserved.

The Court then rose.

WEDNESDAY, December 13th, 1893.

Judgment was delivered this morning upon the application made by defendants to dismiss the petition of the plaintiffs, the next-of-kin of the men drowned in the collision which took place between the *Chishima-Kan* and the *Ravenna*, in the Inland Sea last November twelvemonth.

Mr. A. B Walford appeared for plaintiffs, Mr. J. F. Lowder representing defendants.

His Honour said—This is an application by the defendants, under the second and part of the third paragraphs of our Rule of Procedure 39, to dismiss the petition in the suit. The whole Rule reads as follows:—

"In case a petition states two or more distinct causes of suit by and against the same parties, and in same rights, the Court may either before or at the hearing, if it appears inexpedient to try the different causes of suit together, order that different records be made up and make such Order as to costs as justice may require.

"In case a petition states two or more distinct causes of suit, but not by and against the same parties, or by and against the same parties but not in the same rights, the petition may on the application of any defendant be dismissed.

"In case such application is made within the time for answer the petition may be dismissed with substantial costs to be paid by the plaintiff to the defendant making the application, but in case the application is not made within the time for answer, the petition when the defect is brought to the notice of the Court may be dismissed without costs, or on payment of Court fees only, as to the Court seems just."

It is admitted by Counsel for the plaintiffs that in the petition there are as many as sixty-two distinct causes of suit brought by as many different plaintiffs, or rather groups of plaintiffs, for the actual number of individual plaintiffs was stated by defendants' counsel to be 116. But it is contended, in the first place, on behalf of the plaintiffs that the Court has a discretion in the matter, and that it is not bound to dismiss the petition on the defendants' application. The defendants, on the other hand, contend that it is a matter of right and not of discretion, and in support of their view of the construction to be put on the word "may" in such a provision, they refer to the case of *Julius* v. *The Bishop of Oxford* (L.R., 5 Appeal Cases, p. 214). Apart even from that case, it seems to me impossible to hold, on the true construction of the Rule, that the Court has any discretion at all in the matter. When the 1st and 2nd paragraphs are read together, it is seen that there is a sharp distinction drawn between petitions stating distinct causes of suit by the same parties. Petitions of the former class are permitted, but even then subject to the Court directing in any given case that different records shall be made up if it should appear inexpedient to try the different causes of suit together. There is no such provision as to the petitions of the other class, viz., those stating distinct causes of suit *not* by the same parties—which are, it seems to me, treated as so "defective" that the Court is not permitted to deal with them in any way except by dismissal—dismissal on certain terms if the defendant applies before answer; and if not, then on one or other of the terms specified "as to the Court seems just." But it is dismissal in any case. The first ground on which the plaintiffs rely therefore fails.

It appears to me unnecessary to say anything as to *Scott* v *Forrester*. The construction of the rule under the Judicature Act on which the plaintiffs rely has been several times before the Courts in England, and the Judges have not always been in accord as to its meaning. The latest case upon it is that of *Sandes* v. *Wildsmith* (L.R., 1 Q B.D., 1893, p. 771) tried in May last, to which defendants' Counsel referred me. There Mr. Justice Wills said:—"The meaning of the rule is, that where it is doubtful in whom a right sought to be enforced is vested, it is permissible to put in all possible claimants, but it does not mean that, where there are two rights which are essentially different from each other, and there is no doubt as to the person in whom each of those rights is vested, it is permissible to roll two actions into one:" and Mr. Justice Lawrence concurred. That being the latest decision in England as to what the Rule means and what it does not mean, I must hold that such an action as the present one is not permissible under the Judicature Act. It plainly is not permissible under our own Rules. I therefore grant the application. Costs must follow the event.

The Court then rose.

ECZEMA.—Book on "Skin Trouble," net, free for One Stamp by Messrs. NORTH & RAE Limited, Yokohama.

Two broomsellers were rivals. Said one to the other, "How can you undersell me, for I steal the stuff and make my brooms myself?" "Why," replied the other, "I steal them ready made."

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CHESS.

(All communications to be addressed to the CHESS EDITOR.)

The Yokohama Chess Club meets at the Club Rooms, No. 88, Main Street, on Mondays and Thursdays from 5 to 11 p.m.

The Tokyo Chess Club meets at the Hotel Métropole on Fridays from 1 to 11 p.m.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 99

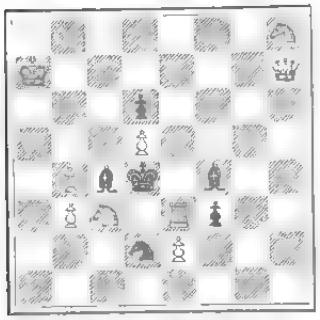
WHITE.	BLACK
1—P — K Kt 4	1—Anything.
2—B or Kt, mate accordingly.	

Correct solutions received from Digamma, W.H.S., J.D., Omega, J.W.E., and O.B.

PROBLEM No 101

BY W. B. MASON, TOKYO.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in two moves

There is not much local news of interest. Tournaments and Championship contest are in full swing, but the results are still far distant.

TARRASCH-TSCHIGORIN MATCH.

We have not yet learned the final outcome of this world-renowned contest. The players appear to be well-matched, although we believe that German science must eventually win against Russian brilliancy. We give from the *London Times* one of the games in which Dr. Tarrasch brought off a "Ruy Lopez" in grand style

Fifth game of the match. (Games 3 and 4 were two hard and well-fought games of 62 moves each, resulting in one win for each).

WHITE. Tarrasch.	BLACK. Tschigorin.
1—P to Q 4	1—P to Q 4
2—K Kt to B 3	2—Q Kt to B 3
3—B to Kt 5	3—P to Q R 3
4—B to R 4	4—Kt to B 3
5—Kt to B 3	5—B to Kt 5
6—Kt to Q 5	6—B to R 4
7—Castles.	7—P to Q Kt 4
8—B to Kt 3	8—P to Q 3
9—P to Q 3	9—B to R Kt 5
10—P to B 3	10—Kt to K 2
11—Kt takes K P (*a*)	11—P takes Kt (*b*)
12—Kt takes Kt ch.	12—P takes Kt
13—Q takes B	13—Kt to Kt 3
14—B to Q 5	14—R to Q Kt sq.
15—P to K B 4	15—P to B 3
16—B takes Q B P ch.	16—K to K 2
17—B to Q 5	17—P to Kt 5
18—P takes K P	18—Q to Kt 3 ch.
19—K to R sq.	19—Kt takes P
20—Q to R 5	20—Kt to Kt 3
21—R takes P (*c*)	21—K takes R
22—B to Kt 5 ch.	22—K to Kt 2
23—Q to R 6 ch.	23—K to Kt sq.
24—R to K B sq.	24—R to K B sq.
25—B to B 6	25—Q takes B
26—R takes Q	26—Resigns.

(*a*) A coup of surprising beauty. White, it will be found on close analysis, wins a pawn. Supposing 12—, B takes Q; 13—Kt takes Kt ch., K moves (if P takes Kt he is mated in two); 13—Kt at K 5 checks and the Q must capture.

(*b*) As we remarked Game 1, this is equal to resignation. Black loses the pawn clear, and the position is also such that the defence can only be a short one. We of course have regard to the character of the players here engaged.

(*c*) Playing for the brilliancy prize. Of course Q dare not capture on account of B to Kt 5 and it will be observed there is no real help after this. A fine game elegantly finished.

We reprint the following (also from the *Times*) and are delighted to find that Herr Lasker has shown his magnificent ability to play the Royal Game in spite of his apparent failure to produce a first-class magazine in the *London Chess Fortnightly*.

THE NEW YORK MASTERS' TOURNAMENT.—The tournament which has just been held in New York has proved in many respects of uncommon interest. It was quickly arranged, conducted in a business-like fashion, and the games produced were just such as commend themselves to our taste. Quite a large proportion were full of point, and, a very great recommendation, not too long. A few great mistakes were made of course. Jasnogrodsky left a piece simply *en prise* first game, but he redeemed this by playing a really pretty game against Lee. Delmar, Showalter, Taubenhaus, and the young Boston Champion, H. N. Pillsbury, have performed in the brilliant manner expected of them. Lee's score is good.

But the feature all through has been the play of Herr E. Lasker, who scored game after game with unerring precision. His performance on this occasion, taken in connexion with others which have preceded, stamps him as one of the most remarkable of the great players of the game. His record, a very consistent one be it observed, includes—first prize, without any loss, in a tournament at the Kaiserhof, Berlin, 1889; first prize in the Haupt-Turnier of the German Chess Association at Breslau in the same year; second prize in the Master Tournament at Amsterdam same year, losing only one game, to Van Vliet; while, still in 1889, he defeated Bardeleben by 2½ to 1½. In 1890 he defeated Mieses by 6½ to 1½, and coming at this period to England he, at Liverpool, defeated Bird and Miniat easily. Yet more remarkable are his recent triumphs. In 1892, having apparently adopted chess as a profession and England as his home, Lasker entered the British Chess Association's tournaments, and came out first, three defeating Blackburne and losing only one game in the two contests—to Bird. The result was a match between Blackburne and Lasker, in which the young German scored 6 to 0 and four draws. Since that period Lasker has travelled through the States and to Havana, and everywhere has proved victorious. A contest, single-handed, between him and one of the great masters of chess is eagerly desired by students; but it will be observed that already the evidence of his superiority to the vast majority of first-rate players is abundantly clear. And he is not yet 25 years old.

The following is a most interesting game in itself, and a capital specimen of Lasker's style. Played in the New York Tournament.

(FRENCH DEFENCE)

WHITE. Lasker.	BLACK. Delmar.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 3
2—P to Q 4	2—P to Q 4
3—Kt to Q B 3	3—Kt to K B 3
4—B to K Kt 5	4—B to K 2
5—P to K 5	5—Kt to Kt sq. (*a*)
6—B to K 3	6—P to K B 4
7—P to Q R 3	7—P to Q Kt 3
8—P to R Kt 4	8—P takes P
9—Q takes P	9—B to B sq.
10—B to Q 3	10—Kt to K 2
11—Kt to R 3	11—Kt to B 4
12—Kt to B 4	12—P to K Kt 3
13—P to K R 4	13—P to Q B 3
14—P to R 5	14—P to K Kt 4
15—Kt takes K P	15—Kt to K R 3
16—Kt takes Q	16—Kt takes Q
17—B takes P	17—B to K 2
18—B takes B	18—K takes B
19—Kt takes B P ch. (*b*)	19—Kt takes Kt
20—Kt takes P ch.	20—K to Q sq.
21—B to K 4	21—B to Q 2
22—P to K B 3	22—Kt to R 3
23—Kt to B 6	23—Q R to B sq.
24—K R to Kt sq.	24—Kt to B 4
25—Kt takes B	25—Q Kt takes Q P
26—B takes Kt	26—Kt takes B
27—Castles Q R and White wins.	

(*a*) A novelty. The moves so far are, however identical with a game played in the Divan first-class Tourney, 1892, Lee v. Tinsley, when the latter player successfully adopted the text move instead of the book continuation, which is of course, K Kt to Q 2.

(*b*) White loses a piece, but gets four pawns which suffices.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, December 8.

Signor Zanardelli, who recently undertook to reconstruct the Italian Cabinet, has resigned, and subsequently Signor Crispi had a long interview with King Humbert.

Mr. Gladstone is confined to his room with severe pains arising from indigestion.

London, December 14.

During a sitting of the Chamber of Deputies in Paris, a bomb was thrown from the public gallery, but fortunately the missile exploded in mid-air. As it was there were eighty persons wounded, including fifteen deputies. The perpetrator of the outrage was arrested, and confessed that he was a notorious anarchist, and that when he threw the bomb he aimed at the President of the Chamber

The Italian Ministry is nearly complete. Signor Crispi will be Premier and Minister of the Interior.

Mr. Gladstone is better.

["SPECIAL" TELEGRAMS TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

Nagasaki, December 9.

The American sealing schooner *Emma* has arrived here in distress from Saghalien, with her rudder broken. The vessel had been seized by the Russians, and the captain and crew imprisoned at Vladivostock, where orders had been received from St. Petersburg to try the case in a Civil Court under Russian law.

[SPECIALLY TELEGRAPHED TO THE "JAPAN DAILY MAIL."]
(FROM THE "NORTH CHINA DAILY NEWS").

December 5.

Despite the prohibition of the authorities against the proposed meeting of anarchists in Trafalgar-square, a great crowd assembled yesterday, and, after repeated warning, the foot and mounted police charged the crowd and dispersed the meeting.

December 7.

The death is announced of Professor Tyndall.

M. Dupuy, ex-Premier, succeeds the present Premier, M. Cassimir Perier, as President of the Chamber of Deputies.

Mr. John Morley, Chief Secretary for Ireland, is suffering from influenza brought on by overwork, and is ordered absolute rest.

December 8.

The United States Tariff Bill will add sixty million dollars to the already existing deficit, which amounts to twenty-eight millions.

Sir Edward Grey, Parliamentary Secretary to the Foreign Office, announced in the House of Commons yesterday that the protocol between France and England in reference to the Siamese Buffer State would be presented to the House on Monday next, and added that no definite agreement had been concluded for placing the state under the control of the Chinese Government

An inquest has been held on the body of Professor Tyndall, and the jury returned a verdict of "Death by mischance," the Professor's wife having given him a dose of choral in mistake for magnesia.

[TYNDALL, John, LL.D., F.R.S., was born about 1820, in the village of Leighlin bridge, near Carlow, in Ireland. His parents were in very humble circumstances, but they gave him the best education in their power, and sent him to a school where he acquired a sound knowledge of mathematics. At the age of nineteen he joined in the capacity of "civil assistant" a division of the Ordnance Survey which was stationed in his native town. In 1844 he was engaged by a firm in Manchester, and for about three years he was employed in engineering operations in connection with railways. In 1847 he accepted an appointment as teacher in Queenwood College, in Hampshire, a new institution, devoted partly to a junior school and partly to the preliminary technical education of agriculturists and engineers. Here he became acquainted with Mr (now Dr.) Frankland, who was resident chemist to the College, and here he began those original investigations which have placed him in the foremost rank among the explorers of science. In 1848 the two friends quitted England together and repaired to the University of Marburg, Hesse-Cassel, where they studied under Bunsen and other eminent professors. Afterwards Mr Tyndall prosecuted his researches in the laboratory of Magnus, at Berlin. He conducted investigations on the phenomena of diamagnetism, and on the polarity of the diamagnetic force, including researches on the magneto-optic properties of crystals, and the relation of magnetism and diamagnetism to molecular arrangement. He has recently published a volume on these subjects. In 1853, having been previously elected a Fellow of the Royal Society, he was chosen Professor of Natural Philosophy in the Royal Institution of Great Britain, and succeeded the celebrated Faraday as Superintendent. The publication of an essay on the cleavage of slate rocks was the proximate cause of his joining his friend Professor Huxley in a visit to the glaciers of Switzerland in 1856; and they afterwards published a joint paper on the structure and motion of glaciers. He returned to Switzerland, in 1857, 1858, and 1859, and pursued his investigations, reaching Chamouni on Christmas night, 1859, through deep snow, and two days afterwards succeeded attaining the Montanvert, where he remained nearly three days, for the most part amid blinding snow, and determined the winter motion of the Mer de Glace. In 1859 he commenced his researches on Radiant Heat, which disclosed relations previously unthought of between the agent and the gaseous form of matter. Numerous memoirs published in the "Philosophical Transactions," are devoted to this subject. Mr. Tyndall is a Rumford Medallist of the Royal Society, and a member of various foreign scientific societies; he was made LL.D. of Cambridge in 1855, and LL.D. of Edinburgh in 1856, when Mr. Carlyle was installed Rector of the University. In 1872 Professor Tyndall went on a lecturing tour in the United

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States, in the course of which he delivered thirty-five lectures, which returned him $25,000. After paying expenses, a fund of over $13,000 remained, and this, before leaving for Europe, the Professor placed in the hands of a committee, who were authorised "to expend the interest in aid of students who devote themselves to original research." On the occasion of his receiving the honorary degree of D.C.L. from the University of Oxford, June, 28, 1873, Dr Heurtley, Margaret Professor of Divinity, protested against the proceeding, on the ground that Professor Tyndall "had signalised himself by writing against and denying the credibility of miracles and the efficacy of prayer, thus contravening the whole tenor of that book, which, with its open page inscribed 'Domus illuminatio mea,' the University still bears as her device, and therefore still professes to acknowledge as her guide." Professor Tyndall presided at the annual meeting of the British Association held at Belfast, in Aug. 1874. He accepted the presidency of the Birmingham and Midland Institute for the year 1877. For some years Professor Tyndall was Scientific Adviser to the Board of Trade and to the Lighthouse Authorities, but he resigned those offices in May, 1883, when he also withdrew from the special committee appointed by the Board of Trade to investigate the subject of the best illuminants for lighthouses. He has written "The Glaciers of the Alps," 1860; "Mountaineering," 1861; "A Vacation Tour," 1862; "Heat considered as a Mode of Motion," 1863; "On Radiation: the 'Rede' Lecture, May 16, 1865," published in 1865; a volume on "Sound," 4th edit., 1883; "Faraday as a Discoverer," "Fragments of Science," "Notes on Electricity," 1870, "Notes on Light," 1871, "Hours of Exercise in the Alps," 1871; "The Forms of Water in Clouds and Rivers, Ice, and Glaciers," 1872, "Address delivered before the British Association assembled at Belfast, with Additions and a Preface," 1874; "Fragments of Science: a Series of Detached Essays, Addresses, and Reviews," 5th edit., 1876; and "Essays on the Floating Matter of the Air in relation to Putrefaction and Infection," 1881. He married, Feb 29, 1876, Louisa Claud Hamilton, eldest daughter of Lord and Lady Claud Hamilton.—*Men of the Time.*)

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, Nagasaki, and Kobe ..	per N. Y. K.	Friday, Dec. 22nd.
From America ...	per O. & O. Co	Sunday, Dec. 24th *
From Hongkong ...	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Dec 17th †
From America ...	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Dec. 26th.‡
From Hongkong ...	per P. M. Co.	Friday, Dec. 22nd §
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Dec. 24th.
From Canada, &c. ...	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Dec 25th
From Europe, viâ Hongkong ...	per N. D. Lloyd	Wednesday, Dec. 27th.
From Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, Jan. 4th.

* *Belgic* left San Francisco on November 30th. † *Persia* left Kobe on December 15th. ‡ *Peru* left San Francisco on December 9th. § *City of Peking* left Hongkong on December 13th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For America	per O. & O. Co.	Sunday, Dec. 17th.
For Europe, viâ Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Dec 17th.
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki	per N. Y. K.	Tuesday, Dec 19th.
For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, Dec 23rd.
For America	per P. M. Co.	Saturday, Dec. 23rd.
For Victoria, B.C. and Tacoma, Wash .	per N. P. Co.	Saturday, Dec. 23rd.
For Hongkong	per C. R. P. Co.	Monday, Dec. 25th.
For Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, Dec. 29th.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co	Friday, Jan. 5th

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, M. Fukui, 9th December,—Yokkaichi 8th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yarra, French steamer, 2,126, de Maubeuge, 9th December,—Marseilles 29th October, Hongkong 1st December, Shanghai 4th, and Kobe 8th, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

China, British steamer, 2,600, Wm. Ward, 9th December,—San Francisco, viâ Honolulu, 21st November, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, R. Tipple, 9th December, Kobe 8th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,580, C. Anderson, 10th December,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Setsuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,011, Kawano, 10th December,—Kobe 9th December, General.—Kabushiki Kaisha.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, Y. Arai, 10th December,—Yokkaichi 9th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha

Esmeralda, British schooner, 130, Harrison, 11th December,—Guam, Copra.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Charles E. Moody, American ship, 1,915, R. L. Leonard, 11th December,—New York 1st July, 70,225 cases Oil.—Jardine, Matheson & Co

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. Young, 11th December,—Otaru viâ ports 6th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sorachi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,108, Renny, 11th December,—Yokkaichi 10th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, Kenderdine, 11th December,—Kobe 10th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mogul, British steamer, 1,827, T. Golding, 26th December,—Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C., 24th November, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Suruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 447, Muramatsu, 12th December,—Kobe 11th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, Y. Arai, 12th December,—Yokkaichi 11th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, M. Fukui, 12th December,—Yokkaichi 11th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

St David, American ship, 1,536, Lyons, 12th December,—New York 24th June, Oil.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Oopack, British steamer, 1,730, Davies, 13th December,—Kobe 12th December, Light.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, T. Sakai, 13th December,—Kobe 12th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sessin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,011, Hayashi, 14th December,—Kobe 13th December, General.—Nada Kogio Kabushiki Kaisha.

Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 684, M. Matsumoto, 14th December,—Hachinohe 13th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Ekstrand, 14th December,—Kobe 13th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, J. Nunes, 14th December,—Otaru viâ ports 10th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Adolph Harboe, Danish bark, 1,049, Petersen, 15th December,—New York 26th May, 36,480 cases Oil.—R. Isaacs & Bro.

Hinode Maru, Japanese steamer, 789, G. Sofuye, 15th December,—Otaru, Coal.—S. Asano & Co.

Saipan, British schooner, 75, J. T. Blanchfield, 15th December,—Guam, Copra.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, Y. Arai, 15th December,—Yokkaichi 14th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, M. Fukui, 15th December,—Yokkaichi 14th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, W. G. Pearne, 15th December,—Hongkong viâ ports, 7th December, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,358, Haswell, 15th December,—Shanghai and ports, 9th December, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Inconstant (6), French cruiser, 15th December,—Yokosuka 15th December.

Mutsu Maru, Japanese steamer, 552, J. Miyagi, 15th December,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nippon Maru, Japanese steamer, 720, Hayashi, 15th December,—Moji, Coal.—Captain.

Cassius, German steamer, 1,830, Unruh, 16th December,—Hamburg viâ ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co

DEPARTURES.

Sorachi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,108, Renny, 9th December,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Oopack, British steamer, 1,730, Davies, 9th December,—London viâ ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Dardanus, British steamer, 1,507, Purdy, 10th December,—London viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 10th December, Moji, Light.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Ekstrand, 10th December,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Salatiga, German steamer, 1,639, Christiansen, 10th December,—Hamburg viâ ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, Y. Arai, 10th December, Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, M. Fukui, 10th December,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Setsuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,011, Kawano, 11th December,—Shinagawa, General.—Kabushiki Kaisha.

Benvenue, British steamer, 1,467, Thompson, 11th December,—New York viâ ports, General.—Cornes & Co

Mercury (13), cruiser, Captain W. Fawkes, 11th December,—Target Practice.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, R. Tipple, 11th December,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,540, C. Anderson, 12th December,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

China, British steamer, 2,600, Wm. Ward, 12th December,—Hongkong, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Glamorganshire, British steamer, 1,845, A. T. Jackson, 12th December,—London viâ ports, General. Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Suruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 447, Muramatsu, 12th December,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha

Sorachi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,108, Renny, 12th December,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yokohama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,298, Swain, 12th December,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mogul, British steamer, 1,827, T. Golding, 13th December,—Hongkong viâ Kobe, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, Y. Arai, 13th December,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, Kenderdine, 13th December,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 742, M. Fukui, 13th December,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. Young, 13th December,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha

Sessin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,011, Hayashi, 14th December,—Shinagawa, General.—Nada Kogio Kabushiki Kaisha.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, T. Sakai, 15th December,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 684, Matsumoto, 15th December,—Hachinohe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED

Per French steamer *Yarra*, from Marseilles viâ ports:—Mr and Mrs Ledebour and family, Messrs Yasuzo Wadagaki, Saku Yamada, Adam, Pomakoski, W. H. B. Urch, Miss Rose, Messrs. Adal, Ganter, Mahomet Hassan, Langermann, Philippe, Aguade, Arratoon, and Jubin in cabin.

Per British steamer *China*, from San Francisco viâ Honolulu:—Admiral Skerrett, U.S.N., Mrs. Skerrett, Miss Skerrett, Miss E. Skerrett, Lieut. Chas. E. Fox, U.S.N., Lieut. Downs L. Wilson, Mrs. Downs L. Wilson, Mr Franz Weintz, Mr. U. M. Upcraft, Rev. H. J. Openshaw, Rev. and Mrs. G. W. Hill and infant, Rev. and Mrs. C. F. Viking, Miss Frances C. Bliss, Rev. C. A. Salquist, Rev. F. J. Bradshaw, Rev. W. F. Beaman, Miss Mattie Walton, Mrs. J. D. Handbury and 2 children, Mrs. Ovan Schaante Wood, Mr. Wm. G. Hebbard, Mr. Wm. G. Hebbard, Jun., Mr. F. V. H. Hebbard, Mr. A. Ehlers, Mr. F. Shevaishi, Miss Carrie Rose, Rev. and Mrs. J. B. Hale, Mr. B. W. Smith, Mrs. L. Moon, Mr. E. Murai, Mr. S. Saito, Mr. F. Minami, Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Seaman, Mrs. E. M. Yates, Mr. and Mrs. M. H. Wilson, Mr. and Mrs. R. Hill, Miss Hill, Mr. Ohkura, Mr. M. T. Morimura, Mr. T. Okamoto, F. E. Wright, Mrs. Ivy and son, Dr. E. E. Malcolm, Mr. C. H. Irwin, Mr. A. S. Lockard, Miss C. Davis, Mr. W. B. Tuttle, Major Taro Semba, Mr. D. W. Learned, and Mr. M. Shioda in cabin. For Hongkong: Mr. W. E. Hunt, Miss Hunt, Mr. Geo. Hunt, Mrs. Stafford, Miss Orissa W. Gould, Mr. J. E. Stevens, and Rev. Wm. H. Lingle in cabin, 840 Chinese and 78 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, from Otaru viâ ports:—4 passengers in second class and 63 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, from Kobe:—Mrs. Smith in cabin.

Per British steamer *Mogul*, from Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C.:—Colonel J. Hickson in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Sendai Maru*, from Kobe viâ Shiotsu:—1 passenger in cabin and 9 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, from Otaru viâ ports:—2 passengers in second class and 46 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Rev. W. T. Austen, Rev. and Mrs. M. Lang, Dr. Y. M. Kin, and Mr. H. V. Gielen in cabin. For San Francisco: Lieut. E. H. Watson, Mrs. Clements and child, Rev. A. B. Leonard, Bishop R. S. Foster, Mr. Ching Ying Chu, Mr. L. A. Susser, and Mr. M. R. Meyer in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Mr. Yeend Duer, Mr. A. T.

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Macnab, Mr. and Mrs. G. Hayashi, Mr. and Mrs. S. Hisamizu, Mr. Yu Sai Lun, Mr. J. Akakabe, Dr. N. A. Stevens, Governor Nagamine, Miss Nagamine, Mr. and Mrs Mikumi, Mr. Matsunabe, Mr. Ichinomiya, and Mr. Nings in cabin; and 40 passengers in steerage.

DEPARTED

Per British steamer *China*, for Hongkong:—Mr. David Jackson and servant, Mr F. Leyburn and servant, Mr. and Mrs. Stokes, Mr. W. E Hunt, Miss Hunt, Master Hunt, Mrs. Stafford and maid, Miss Orissa W. Gould, Mr. J. E. Stevens, and Rev. W. H. Lingle in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Miss Francis C. Bless, Miss M. Walton, Miss C. W. Davis, Miss L. Moon, Mrs. F. E. Wight, Mrs. E. M. Yates, Mrs. Ivy and son, Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Seaman, Mr. and Mrs. Viking, Mrs. Yamada, Rev. and Mrs. G. R Hill, Rev. W. M. Imperaft, Rev. H. J. Openshaw, Rev. C. A. Solquist, Rev. W. F. Beaman, Dr. E E. Malcolm, Messrs. A. Eilers, F. J. Bradshaw, H. Dharmapala, H. Baehr, L. Bobstein, C. N. Crasse, N. Soma, H. Kubota, and K. Yoshisuye in cabin; Mrs. Eguchi Mon, Messrs. M. T. Arratoon, G. A. Carlson, N. S. Jackson, and Tong Man Chun in second class, and 54 passengers in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per Japanese steamer *Yokohama Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, $174,400.00.

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, Captain Tipple, reports:—Left Kobe the 8th December at noon; had moderate variable winds and fine weather; passed Rock Island the 9th at 12.12 p.m. Arrived at Yokohama at 6.50 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, Captain C. Young, reports:—Left Otaru the 6th November at 2 p.m.; had strong westerly gale and high westerly sea to Hakodate, arriving the 7th at 10 a.m. Left the 9th at 8 a.m.; had moderate westerly gale to Yamada Head; thence moderate variable winds to Oginohama, arriving the 10th at 6.15 a.m. Left the same day at 1.8 p.m.; had moderate westerly winds and fine weather to Inuboye; thence variable winds to port. Arrived at Yokohama the 11th December at 2 38 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, Captain T. S. Kenderdine, reports:—Left Kobe the 10th December at noon; had light breeze and fine, clear weather; at 2.26 p.m. passed Tomonga shima Lighthouse; thence to Oshima, light variable winds; at 9.15 p.m. passed Oshima Light; thence to Rock Island breeze gradually freshened and blew strong from W.N.W.; on the 11th at noon passed Rock Island Lighthouse; thence to Vries Island breeze fresh and steady; at 2 p.m. passed Observation Point (Vries Island), breeze gradually decreasing; thence to Sagami-saki became light and variable, from Sagami-saki to port fresh westerly breeze; at 4.10 p.m. passed Sagami-saki Lighthouse; at 4.55 p.m. passed Kannon-saki Lighthouse. Arrived at Yokohama at 6.15 p.m.

The British steamer *Mogul*, Captain T. Golding, reports:—Left Tacoma, Wash., the 23rd November and Victoria, B.C., the 24th; had light variable winds and fine weather to the Meridian; thence strong N.N.W. gales and heavy sea with overcast, cloudy weather until the 11th December; thence to port strong N.W. winds and clear weather. Arrived at Yokohama the 12th December at 1 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Sendai Maru*, Captain T. Saka, reports:—Left Kobe the 12th December at 10 a.m.; had gentle westerly breeze and fine weather. Arrived at Shiotsu at 1.15 p.m. and left at 5 p.m.; had gentle north-easterly breeze and fine weather; after passing round Oshima, moderate north-north-easterly breeze and fine weather, with following sea throughout the passage. Arrived at Yokohama the 13th December at 7.45 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, Captain J. Nire, reports:—Left Otaru the 10th December at 2 p.m.; had strong westerly gale and frequent snow squalls with heavy sea. Arrived at Hakodate the 11th at 11.40 a.m and left again the 12th at 8 a.m.; had strong westerly gale and occasional snow. Arrived at Oginohama the 13th at 8 50 a.m. and left again the same day at 2.40 p.m.; had fine, clear weather and smooth sea, with gentle to strong north-westerly breeze; made Inuboye at 5 44 a.m. on the 14th; thence to port fine weather and moderate north-westerly breeze. Arrived at Yokohama at 5.30 p.m.

The British steamer *Gaelic*, Captain W. G. Pearne, reports:—Left Hongkong the 7th December at 5.30 p.m., viâ ports; had easterly winds and fine weather to Kobe; thence to port fresh westerly winds and clear weather. Arrived at Yokohama the 15th December at 2.17 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, Captain E. W. Haswell, reports:—Left Shanghai the 9th December at 11 a.m. and arrived at Nagasaki the 11th at 2 a.m. Left Nagasaki the same day at 5 p.m. and arrived at Shimonoseki the 12th at 6 a.m. Left again the same day at 11 a.m. and reached Kobe the following day at 7 a.m. Left Kobe the 14th at noon and arrived at Yokohama the 15th December at 2.30 p.m.; experienced moderate northerly winds, and fine, clear weather to Nagasaki; thence to Shimonoseki had moderate north-west winds and cloudy weather, with occasional showers; similar weather continuing through Inland Sea; with variable winds to Kobe; along the coast fresh westerly winds were met, with fine, clear weather to arrival.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS

The past week has seen no revival in the Import Trade. Single Yarns remain practically unnoticed, but Doubles meet with a light intermittent demand. There has been but one transaction reported in White Shirtings—other lines of Piece Goods failing to attract purchasers. Fancies and Woollens are also neglected, but holders do not appear inclined to lower their quotations.

COTTON PIECE GOODS

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8¼lb, 38½ yds. 39inches	$2.15 to 2.70
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 38½ yds. 45inches	2 35 to 3 12½
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1 52½ to 1 85
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches	1 70 to 2 35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	1 75 to 3 75
	PER YARD.
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 32 inches	0 16 to 0 21
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7 35 to 8.70
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42 3 inches	0 65 to 0.78
	PER PIECE.
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1 40 to 1 47½
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1 57½ to 1.82½
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2 02½ to 2.47½
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2 65 to 2.85

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel	$0 47 to 0 45
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0 30 to 0 33
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0 25 to 0.30
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0 20 to 0.25
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 21 yards, 31 inches	0 13 to 0 19
Cloths—Pilots, 51 @ 56 inches	0 35 to 0 50
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 0.65
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0 40 to 0 70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 4 to 5½ lb per lb	0 45 to 0 57½

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	—
Nos. 16/24 Medium	$36.75 to —
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	36 00 to 38 00
Nos. 16 24, Reverse	—
Nos. 28 32, Ordinary	—
Nos. 28 32, Medium	37 75 to —
Nos. 28/32 Good to Best	38 50 to 39 50
Nos 38/42, Medium to Best	45 00 to 47 00
No. 32s, Two-fold	43 00 to 44 00
No. 42s, Two-fold	47.50 to 49 50
	PER BALE.
No. 20s, Bombay	—
No 16s, Bombay	—

METALS

The situation remains as last advised. The market continues firm with a few small contracts for various kinds of Iron.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ¾ inch	$3 80 to 4.00
Flat Bars, ½ inch	4 00 to 4 10
Round and square up to ¾ inch	3.20 to 3 35
Iron Plates, assorted	3 35 to 3.45
Sheet Iron	4 55 to 4 70
Galvanized Iron sheets	8 85 to 9.10
Wire Nails, assorted	5 40 to 5 75
Tin Plates, per box	6.20 to 6 40
Pig Iron, No 3	1.45 to 1.50

KEROSENE

Demand has been well sustained in this market, and prices are very firm notwithstanding the arrival of two cargoes of American Oil. The ship *Charles E. Moody* came in on the 11th with about 70,500 cases, while the ship *St. David* arrived on the 13th with about 60,000 cases. Russian Oil is also well held, as demand is brisk and stocks are running low.

Chester	$1.85 to 1 87½
Comet	1.82½ to 1.85
Devoe	—
Russian Anchor	1 80 to 1 85
Russian Moon	1.77½ to 1 80

SUGAR.

Browns continue to move off at a fair pace, but prices show no change. Whites are also in good demand and rates are firm.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	$4.40 to 4.50
Brown Manila	5.15 to 5.25
Brown Daitong	3.95 to 4.00
Brown Canton	4.10 to 4 45
White Java and Penang	7.00 to 7.10
White Refined	7 50 to 9 10

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last issue was of the 8th instant, since which date settlements on this market amount to 852 piculs, divided thus: *Hanks*, 8 piculs; *Filatures*, 635 piculs; *Re-reels*, 131 piculs; *Kakeda*, 74 piculs; *Oshu*, 4 piculs. Direct shipments have been 111 bales, making the total export trade for the week 1,000 piculs.

There has been distinctly less business done than during the previous week; at the same time there has been a fair daily business, prices generally being well maintained. For some sorts, of which there is a small stock temporarily, holders have succeeded in getting an advance, and at closing they do not look nearly so weak as they did a few days ago. Full-sized *Filatures* and *Re-reels*, seem to hold their own well, as do also the better classes of *Kakeda*.

Arrivals are about equal to sales, the stock list showing but a small increase upon that of a week ago.

Exchange has declined somewhat in sympathy with lower silver in London.

There have been two shipping opportunities since we last wrote, the Canadian mail, *Empress of India*, 8th instant, taking 1,008 bales for the New York trade, and the English mail, *Ancona*, 9th instant, having 582 bales for Europe. These departures make the present export figures 21,305 piculs, against 31,036 piculs last year, and 28,993 piculs at the same date in 1891.

Hanks.—Small arrivals dribble in, but the total stock does not exceed 50 piculs. Nothing has been done beyond one or two retail purchases of fair *Joshu* quality at $590.

Filatures.—This class, as usual, has enjoyed the largest share of patronage, and in some cases good prices have been paid. In fine sizes, best No. 1 have brought $780, with No. 1½ at $750; No. 2, $710. In full sizes, the latest sales are *Shojokan*, *Roku-mon-sen* and *Shinyokan* at $780, with *Tokushinsha*, $750; *Choshinsha*, $745; *Kaimeisha*, $732½. *Koshu* sorts have brought $735 for *Kusanagisha*, with *Koseisha*, $710. Lower grades of sundry districts have been bought down to $670.

Re-reels.—These are well held, and a fair amount of business has been done on the basis of *Five Girl* at $705, with *Bushu* sorts at prices ranging from $665 down to $625, according to quality.

Kakeda.—A small business, but prices are well maintained; in fact, some advance has been paid upon the lower grades. The most recent sales are *Horsehead* I., $655, with *Three Roses* at $607½.

In other sorts nothing done beyond one small purchase of *Hamatsuei* at $620.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK.)

Hanks—No 1	$610 to 620
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu	600 to 610
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)	590 to 600
Hanks—No 2½ (Shinshu)	580 to 590
Hanks—No. 2½ (Joshu)	570 to 580
Hanks—No. 2½ to 3	560 to 565
Hanks—No. 3	550 to 555
Hanks—No. 3½	540 to 545
Filatures—Extra 10 12 deniers	790 to 810
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	780 to 785
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	760 to 770
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den	740 to 750
Filatures—No. 1½, 10/14 deniers	720 to 730
Filatures—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 den	720 to 730
Filatures—No. 2 10/15 deniers	690 to 700
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	700 to 710
Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	670 to 680
Re-reels—Extra	750
Re-reels—(Oshu) Best No. 1	720 to 730
Re-reels—No 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	700 to 710
Re-reels—No 1½, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	665 to 675
Re-reels—No 2, 14/18 deniers	640 to 650
Re-reels—No. 2½, 14/18 deniers	630 to 635
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	600 to 610
Kakedas—Extra	730 to 735
Kakedas—No 1	700 to 705
Kakedas—No 1½	660 to 665
Kakedas—No 2	630 to 635
Kakedas—No 2½	610 to 615
Kakedas—No 3	590 to 595
Kakedas—No 3½	—
Kakedas—No. 4	—
Oshu Sendai—No. 2½	—
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	640 to 650
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	610 to 620
Joshu—No. 2½	—

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Export Raw Silk Tables to 15th Dec., 1893

	Season 1893-1894.	1892-93	1891-92.
	Bales	Bales	Bales.
Europe	13,215	10,506	9 858
America	7,521	20,155	18,468
Total { Bales	20,737	30,461	28,306
Total { Piculs	21,305	31,036	28,993
Settlements and Direct Export from 1st July	24,000	32,900	30,500
Stock, 15th Dec.	15,700	10,000	15,500
Available supplies to date	39,700	42,900	46 000

WASTE SILK

A small business, settlements being 490 piculs, divided thus: *Cocoons*, 40 piculs; *Noshi*, 220 piculs; *Kibiso*, 230 piculs. No direct shipments this week.

The sales for export remain very limited and stock is slightly increased, but holders will not reduce their prices sufficiently to make business. They either cannot or will not sell at less than present quotations just now, and the trade is consequently hampered.

There has been one shipping opportunity since we last wrote, the English mail *Ancona* taking 17 bales of *Waste Cocoons* for Europe. The *Flintshire* has also a few bales of *Cocoons* for the United States, particulars of which will be given in our next.

Pierced Cocoons.—Business is limited to one parcel of *Najiko*, for which the prices realized were from $34 to $40, according to quality. The stock now is small in this department and consists entirely of the lower grades.

Noshi.—The trade has fallen away, and the principal business has been in *Tegara*, averaging $110 per picul. Some *Oshu* of fair quality was also booked at $125, with a small parcel of *Filature* at $130. Very little done in *Foshu*, ordinary stock, at $65.

Kibiso.—Considerable business in *Filature* of medium grade, prices ranging from $90 to $100 for the ordinary uncleaned stock. A trifle of better quality was done at $108; *Zaguri* was noted at $55, with no business in other kinds.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW WASTE).

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	$140 to 145
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	130 to 135
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	120 to 125
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	135 to 140
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	Nom. 110 to 115
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	Nom 100 to 105
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	Nom. 90 to 95
Noshi-ito—Bushu, Good to Best	120 to 130
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	85 to 90
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	75 to 80
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	65 to 70
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	105 to 110
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	90 to 100
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	70 to 80
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Good to Fair	40 to 35
Kibiso—Joshu, Middling to Common	35 to 30
Kibiso—Hachoji, Good	35 to 30
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	25 to 20
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	—
Mawata—Good to Best	—

Export Table Waste Silk to 15th Dec., 1893.

	Season 1893-94.	1892-93.	1891-92.
	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Waste Silk	8,122	16,974	13,632
Pierced Cocoons	2,599	2 362	1,643
	10,721	19,336	15,275
Settlements and Direct Export from 1st July	12,700	23,800	19,600
Stock, 15th Dec	20,400	14,300	13,500
Available supplies to date	33,100	38 100	33,100

Exchange:—This has receded from last week's rates, but closes about as follows:—LONDON, 4m/s. Credits, 2/4⅛; Documents, 2/4⅛; 6m/s. Credits, 2/4⅜. NEW YORK, 30d/s. U.S. $57½; 4m/s. U.S. $58⅛. PARIS, or LYONS, 4m/s. fcs. 3.00 6m/s. fcs. 3 02.

Estimated Silk Stock, 15th Dec., 1893:—

Raw	Piculs	Waste.	Piculs.
Hanks	50	Cocoons	360
Filatures	9,400	Noshi-ito	10,000
Re-reels	4,600	Kibiso	9,420
Kakeda	1,470	Mawata	140
Oshu	100	Sundries	480
Tavsam Kinds	20		
Total piculs	15,700	Total piculs	20,400

TEA.

Another dull week has been experienced in this market, and daily transactions have been very small. Holders, however, are firm and refuse to lower their prices.

	Per Picul.
Common	$12 to 13
Good Common	14 to 15
Medium	17 to 18
Good Medium	19 to 20
Fine	22 to 23
Finest	Nominal
Choice	Nominal
Choicest	Nominal

EXCHANGE.

Exchange has slightly receded, and closes at the follow rates:—

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	2 3½
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	2 4½
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	2/4⅜
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	2/4½
On Paris—Bank sight	2.93
On Paris—Private 4 months' sight	3 00
On Hongkong—Bank sight	Par
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	⅛ % dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72½
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	73½
On America—Bank Bills on demand	55⅜
On America—Private 30 days' sight	57½
On America—Private 4 months' sight	58½
On India—Bank sight	Nominal.
Silver	32

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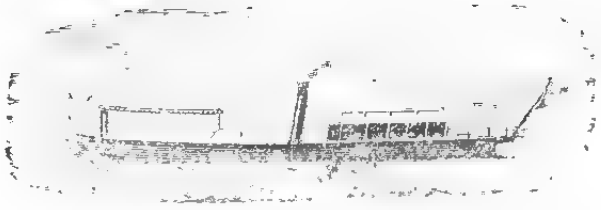

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, DEC. 23RD, 1893.

BIRTH

On the 18th inst., at the Imperial German Consulate, Nagasaki, MRS. HELMA MÜLLER-BERCK, of a Son.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

HEAVY snow fell in Nagano, Wakamatsu, and Hiroshima on the 15th inst.

THE British Court in Yokohama rises to-day for the Christmas and New Year holidays.

THE Diet has been prorogued by the Emperor for a period of ten days, commencing from the 19th inst.

A SMALL fire occurred in a house at Ota, near Yokohama, on Tuesday morning. Little damage was done.

MR. HOSHI TORU is seeking re-election in his old constituency, the First Electoral District of Tochigi Prefecture.

LORD HERSCHELL'S Committee are said to be considering Hongkong's proposal to legalize the Japanese *yen* in the Crown Colony.

THE frosts of the last few mornings have proved very severe, and skating prospects for the Christmas holidays are looming bright.

THE capital of the Yokohama Dock Co. has been reduced from *yen* 3,000,000 to *yen* 500,000, which sum will be raised among the promoters.

THE immediate cause of the Diet's prorogation is attributed to the motion about to be introduced by Mr. Abei Hankon with reference to the treaties.

MR. KOIZUMI TANEKICHI, ex-Governor of Kanagawa Prison, has been appointed to the Governorship of Nugata Prison, that position being vacated by Mr. Kobayashi Saburo, who has been promoted to the Osaka Prison.

KIRISHIMA-YAMA, in Osumi Province, broke into violent eruption on the 21st ult. Pumice stone was thrown for a distance of a *ri* in all directions.

THE annual Christmas dinner to seamen will be given on the 26th inst., at the Seamen's Mission. An entertainment is being arranged for the 30th inst.

THE Choral Society's Concert on Wednesday evening proved a very delightful affair. Barnett's "Ancient Mariner" was the principal piece in the programme.

THE Mutual liner *Oopack*, having been purchased by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, has been renamed the *Nagoya Maru*. She is intended for the Bombay-Kobe line.

A RUMOUR is current that the Ito Cabinet will soon resign; Mr. Mutsu is said to have presented his resignation, and Count Goto and Count Saigo will follow suit.

THE reparation obtained by Mr. Consul Bock for the murder of the two missionaries at Sungpu, is the striking-off of the heads of two men, and a payment of forty thousand dollars.

THE *Choya Shimbun* is to be revived by Mr. Kawamura Jun, a late editor, under the title of the *Shin Choya Shimbun*. The policy of resuscitated journal is not yet made public.

THE naval authorities at Yokosuka have recovered the torpedo boat which sank off Haneda some time ago, after laborious exertions. The boat was towed into Yokosuka on the 14th inst.

THE *Kaishin-to* were roughly received by the *soshi* at a recent meeting held in Tokyo. So disorderly did the proceedings become that the police had to bring them to a summary close

OWING to last Saturday being a mail-day, the foot-ball match nearly fell through, teams having finally to be picked up from the spectators and members of the Club then on the ground.

SOME nine Russian sailors had a ducking in the harbour the other evening, owing to their sampan capsizing. Fortunately they were near the landing steps at the English Hatoba and so were able to scramble ashore.

DURING the night of the 17th inst. a robber, armed with a drawn sword, broke into the residence of Major-General Yamakawa Ko, at Morikawacho, Hongo, Tokyo, and decamped with a small sum of money.

THE new Governor of Tokyo gave a congratulatory banquet at the Seiyoken, Tsukiji, on the 16th inst., to a number of leading officials in the Home Department and the Tokyo Municipal Government Office.

THE antipathy between Mr. Hoshi Toru and the members of the *Kaishin-to* continues unabated. In the speeches and addresses which the ex-President of the Lower House has been delivering of late, he makes some bitter onslaughts upon that Party.

ALL the European Chambers are considering what measures can be taken against bomb-throwing; the Princess of Wales has been suffering from influenza, but is now convalescent; the strength of the British Navy is being hotly debated by both political parties in the House of Commons; serious riots by Socialists have broken out simultaneously in Rome, Genoa, and Naples, the military failing to restore order, even after firing upon the mob.

A FATAL landslip occurred at Nakamura, Yokohama, on the afternoon of the 17th inst. Four coolies were engaged in cutting the cliff when a huge mass of earth fell, burying one man. He died almost immediately.

COUNT YAMAGATA, President of the Privy Council, who returned to the capital on the 17th inst., proceeded to the Palace at 1.30 p.m. the following day and had a lengthy interview with the Emperor. The Count left the Palace at four o'clock.

THE Oriental Radical Party has been dissolved. This organization was composed of followers of Mr. Oi Kentaro in his Anti-Mixed Residence campaign. The members have, however, joined other political associations having similar objects in view.

MR. HIRANUMA, the well-known and equally well detested Yokohama money-lender, has been arrested and thrown into prison on a charge of forgery, in connection with the Nishigori affair, which has developed out of the Soma case. It is this man's avowed object to bring ruin on the members of the noble families of Japan. He started life as a common coolie.

THE following are the latest returns of epidemic diseases:—12 typhoid fever cases and one death in Aomori; 15 typhoid fever cases and 3 deaths, and 28 small-pox cases, and 4 deaths in Yamanashi during the week ended the 16th inst.; 20 typhoid fever cases and 4 deaths, 22 dysentery cases and 20 deaths, and 10 diphtheria cases and 11 deaths in Hyogo; and 16 typhoid fever cases and 2 deaths in Ibaraki during the week ended the 17th.

THE Import trade remains much as last reported, though perhaps there is an improvement to be noted in Yarns, Singles being in demand at better figures, holders of certain counts asking more money, but Doubles are quiet. Grey Shirtings are in some demand at better rates, and there is also an enquiry for certain lines of Fancies, while others are dull, and Woollens neglected. There is nothing to report from the Metal market. The late heavy purchases and free arrivals of Kerosene have had a weakening effect upon the market, in which there is now not much doing at unchanged values. A moderate business continues to be done in Brown Sugar, certain grades hardening in value, and all fetching full rates. Whites are still in fair request at late prices and close firm. The Silk trade has been on much the same scale as that of the previous week, and not counting the direct export, less than 1,000 piculs have been settled during the interval. The business done was principally for Europe, and at the close prices hardened all round, and holders are firm at the full figures obtained. Arrivals keep pace with settlements, and the stock on this market is practically unchanged. In Waste Silk more has been done, and there are settlements said to be pending of 2 000 piculs. Holders are very firm, and have succeeded in raising the price of the grades in particular request; arrivals have not quite kept up with the transactions concluded. The stock still totals 20,000 piculs, though a large quantity of this consists of undesirable descriptions. There has been but few operations in Tea, and for the small parcels of leaf taken recent rates have been paid. Exchange has been steady during the interval, and closes at about last week's rates.

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THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK

The political situation remains uncertain. Rumours of all sorts are circulated about probable changes in the Cabinet. To mention some of them—it is stated that Count Yamagata will form a new Ministry with Viscount Shinagawa, Mr. Shirane, and other statesmen of the so-called military school; that Count Yamagata, though extremely unwilling to enter the Cabinet at a juncture like the present, will consent to take the portfolio of Agriculture and Commerce in obedience to the pressing command of the Emperor; that Count Ito, Mr. Mutsu, Count Kuroda, and Count Goto will resign; that Count Goto alone will resign. It would in fact be tedious to enumerate the endless items of political gossip. We may observe that at the time of writing this, the impression prevails in political circles in the capital that, despite all that is written to the contrary, Count Ito will not resign, and that, though possibly Count Goto may go out of office, the Cabinet will remain essentially unaltered. Count Yamagata's acceptance of a Ministerial portfolio seems to be still uncertain. As to the Diet, the papers of course state that the Government's principal hope lies in "taking the backbone" out of the members by threats of dissolution and possibly by the use of money. Some papers report that one-half of the National Unionists have already shown a disposition to give up the position they have thus far taken on the questions of official discipline, the strict enforcement of the treaties, and the *Chishima* case. Nothing could be more desirable than that the House of Representatives should reconsider its course of action. But, despite the libellous rumours which some papers circulate concerning the inconstancy of the members of the Lower House, there is as yet but slender hope of the rejection, on the Lower House's reassembly on the 29th inst., of the proposed Representation to the Government concerning the strict enforcement of treaties and the Address to the Throne on the *Chishima-Ravenna* affair. Dissolution seems at present to be the most likely outcome of the present situation.

* * *

The Progressionist papers call upon the statesmen in power to resign. We will notice here a representative article in the *Hochi Shimbun*. Our contemporary thinks that the issue is not between the present Cabinet and the Diet but between the clan Government and the people. The clan Government is the root of all evil; if only that be done away with, everything will go on right. The Cabinet Ministers are recommended to recollect their own attitude towards the Bakufu in the troublous pre-Restoration days. They represented the general opinion of the country, and they were therefore uncompromisingly opposed to the Government of the time. They now occupy the very position in which the Tokugawa Government was then placed. Public opinion may be wrong in its dissatisfaction with the clan Government, but it is nevertheless an inevitable consequence of public opinion that clan Government must fall one of these days. Such being the case, those now in office are advised to resign *en bloc* and await the development of events. Should public opinion be wrong in opposing clan Government, the mistake will be discovered sooner or later, and a revulsion of sentiment in favour of the clan statesman is sure to take place. Moreover, the present Opposition politicians supposing them required to form a Cabinet, might commit blunders, and thus give an opportunity to the clan statesmen to come into office once more with their effective strength increased and with the people heartily in sympathy with them. Hence the *Hochi* strongly advises the present leaders of officialdom to retire into private life for some time and hand over the reins of power to the Opposition.

* * *

The *Kokkai* is dissatisfied equally with the conduct of the Government and with that of the Opposition. Why did not the Cabinet, it asks, allow the Diet to proceed with the discussion of the questions of the enforcement of treaties and the *Caishima-Ravenna* case, and do its utmost to refute the arguments of the Opposition members? To order prorogation before these subjects had been fully discussed and the sense of the House clearly taken, was, in the *Kokkai's* opinion, an act of cowardice on the part of the Cabinet. On the other hand, the Opposition's tactics have not been above board. Why did they not put their intended measures in the Order of the Day and thus give due notice to the Cabinet, instead of introducing their motions at most unexpected moments, as if they had been uncertain of their majority in the House? Both the Cabinet and the Opposition are recommended by our contemporary to be more courageous and open-handed in their policy against each other.

* * *

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* is firmly convinced that, in spite of occasional extravagances on the part of both the Government and the Diet, the Constitutional system of Japan is in no real danger of a fate like that which befell an essay in Constitutional Government in Turkey. As to the present political situation, our contemporary takes a similar view to that of the paper noticed in the preceding paragraph. The Opposition is strongly censured for inconsistency in its attitude toward the Ministry, for while, on the one hand, it has charged the Ministers of State with putting a stain upon the honour of the Throne, and injuring the national rights of the country, it seems to think, on the other, that these offences would be more than atoned for, did the Ministers resign their official posts. In the *Nichi Nichi's* opinion, if the Ministers are really guilty of such offences, stronger measures than mere resignation should be meted out to them. On the other hand, the Cabinet is not less stoutly censured for its hesitancy and weak policy toward the Diet. Do the Ministers of State think that they can cöoperate with a House which has called them the ughest of names? If they think that they have done nothing of which they need be ashamed, why have they not dissolved the Diet instead of ordering its prorogation for ten days? "The one side," says the *Nichi Nichi*, "thinks thus: If we attack them in this way, they may perhaps resign. The other side hopes thus: If we take their attacks in good part, they may perhaps become reconciled." Thus neither is marked by any strong self-confidence; they are both vacillating and undecided.

* * *

The *Jiji Shimpo*, as usual, writes in an interesting manner. It seems to have been not a little disappointed in the *Gen-kom* Cabinet. When asked to choose between the present Cabinet and an imaginary Cabinet composed of the politicians of the parties in Opposition, our contemporary would not easily declare itself for either, for in neither does it repose much confidence. Comparing individual members of both sides, the *Jiji* observes that the Government camp can show men of experience, but the Opposition is strong in ability and energy. But the latter must yield the palm to the former in point of possessing the confidence of the general mass of people, for the statesmen of the clan Government have the credit not only of experience but also of long and splendid services to the country—services which none dares to dispute. Yet it is a singular circumstance that, while occupying such an advantageous position, the clan Government is unable to accomplish anything remarkable for the benefit of the country. To be frank, there is not on the Government side any great statesman capable of uniting his comrades in an effective combination. What deprives the clan Government of its vitality, more than anything else, is the prevalence of personal considerations (*jôjitsu*). The *jôjitsu* is the blight of clan Government. As to the distinction between the statesmen of the Civil and Military schools, it is stated to be of little consequence, for while the former are weak and vacillating, the latter are deficient in talent and knowledge. So, there being little hope of getting a good Administration out the clan statesmen, our contemporary is tempted to raise its voice for calling the Opposition politicians into power. There are, in the *Jiji's* opinion, many statemen of superior calibre and energy in the Opposition, who would find no difficulty in disposing of some of the questions that perplex the clan Government. The only drawback to such an experiment would be that, since these young men do not as yet enjoy a large measure of public confidence, no Cabinet composed of them would be long lived. But then the same may be said of the clan statesmen: what Cabinet formed by them has been of long duration? Party Government is inevitable in Japan, and perhaps it might be better to begin the experiment early. At first there will be much trouble and confusion, but that need not cause any anxiety, for, in the *Jiji's* opinion, an age of political improvement and progress is always marked by trouble and confusion. However, our contemporary would be well satisfied with the present Cabinet, if it be willing to fulfil its responsibilities.

* * *

The question of the so-called strict enforcement of the treaties attracts much journalistic attention. The *Nippon* devotes itself almost entirely to the discussion of this question. It is a noteworthy circumstance that many of the facts mentioned in the explanatory document attached to the proposed Representation to the Government on the same subject, are exactly those published by the *Nippon* in a recent series of articles to which allusion was made at the time in these columns. The *Nippon* was also the first to publish the document in question. Our contemporary makes some significant hints, to the effect that either the President or the Chief Secretary of the Lower House used his official authority to prevent the appearance of the explanatory document in its original form, thus causing a delay in the distribution of copies among the members of the House. What alleged corrections may have been made, we are not told. At all events, it seems silly to maintain that either the President or the Chief Secretary of the Lower House would or could have introduced the alleged corrections in opposition to the wish of the introducers of the motion. The *Nippon*, to say the truth, is perhaps too much excited to appreciate the force of any reasoning except that of its own partisans. In one of its latest articles on this subject, is remarks that the controversy is not between the Government and the people, but between Japanese and non-Japanese. Everybody who opposes the so-called strict enforcement of the treaties is declared to have no claim to be considered a Japanese.

* * *

This hysterical tone is echoed by the *Niroku Shimpo*. The latter paper observes that the strict enforcement of the treaties could be opposed by none but the foreign residents, the Government, and the Radical party.

* * *

The Progressionist papers generally maintain an attitude of silent approval. They know very well the absurdity of the agitation for the strict enforcement of the treaties, but nothing is unwelcome to them which can be turned into a weapon of attack upon the Government.

* * *

The Radical Party's attitude on this subject is a little ambiguous. It is known that the Party recently decided to oppose the motion for the Representation, should it be brought up for discussion on the re-assembling of the Diet. This resolve has brought down upon the heads of the Radicals the ridicule and wrath of the papers in favour of the motion; they held up the fact as a proof of the Party's connection with the Government. The Radical organ, the *Jiyu Shimbun*, at first wrote in a tone which clearly indicated that its Party was resolved to offer a stout opposition to the passage of the motion in the Lower House. But now it declares, in answer to a libellous article of the *Nippon*, that, should the motion again come up for discussion, the Radical Party will not oppose it, though not attaching much importance to the question. Of course electoral considerations must not be lost sight of.

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The newspaper comments on the prorogation of the Diet have already been noticed separately.

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EDITORIAL NOTES.

ADDRESSES TO THE THRONE.

THE following Address to the Throne has been introduced in the Lower House of the Diet by the *Kokumin Kyokai*, and will doubtless come up for discussion immediately :—

ADDRESS TO THE THRONE.

May it please Your Majesty—Your Majesty's humble servant, Kusumoto Masataka, President of the House of Representatives, with the utmost humility and respect ventures to submit :—

Your Majesty, on the 10th day of the 2nd month of this year, was graciously pleased to convey a Message to Your Majesty's Ministers and to the two Houses of the Diet, to the effect that, as the military defences of the Empire must be completed without delay, Your Majesty would reduce the expenditures of the Imperial Household, and grant a sum of three hundred thousand *yen* yearly towards the construction of ships of war. Your Majesty's subjects, profoundly touched by Your Majesty's gracious and far-seeing design, would have seconded it in however humble a manner, but Your Majesty benevolently refused to allow this, and Your Majesty's servants could only feel painfully sensible of the shortcomings and neglect of duty on their part that had been responsible for causing such concern to Your Majesty. Your Majesty's servants, sensible that did they decline Your Majesty's contribution for ship-building purposes they would have been opposing the Imperial will, while, on the other hand, did they accept the Imperial munificence, the nation would be disturbed by a consciousness of unmerited benevolence, have remained until now in doubt and perplexity. Now, however, Your Majesty's servants venture to Address Your Majesty.

There is now a surplus in the national Treasury, and no occasion exists for Your Majesty to be troubled about the matter of ship-building. Your Majesty's servants, therefore, would humbly desire to return Your Majesty's contributions from henceforth. Most humbly do Your Majesty's servants entreat that, in consideration of the nation's earnest hope, Your Majesty will graciously approve the prayer thus conveyed to Your Majesty through Your Majesty's servant, Kusumoto Masataka.

* * *

Another Address, the text of which is not yet in our hands, has been introduced in the Lower House by the *Jiyu-to*. It bears the names of Messrs. Kono Hironaka, Kataoka Kenkichi, Suzuki Shoji, Sugita Teiichi, Ishida Kwannosuke, and others, and its object is to pray that the contributions of 10 per cent. from official salaries, which the Emperor last session ordered to be made on account of ship-building, shall henceforth be dispensed with.

* * *

Of course the object of these Addresses is to enable the House to deal freely with official salaries in the Budget. The House has not a particle of right constitutionally to touch official salaries: they are fixed by the Emperor, and when the House attempts to reduce them in the Budget, it frankly and flagrantly invades the Imperial Prerogatives. On the other hand, official salaries offer the only ground on which the Opposition can hope to fight a battle *à l'outrance* with the Government, and since the Sovereign's message last session amounted to a clear intimation that His Majesty considered a reduction of ten per cent. quite sufficient, the House, whatever may be its ultimate estimate of the respect it owes the Throne, dare not attempt further reductions without at least an effort to dispense with that troublesome ten per cent. In a word, these two Addresses mean that the House wants a free hand for cutting into official salaries, and does not wish to be hampered by any delicate considerations such as the Sovereign's munificent action and wise direction continue to suggest to the nation. It is not easy to preserve a semblance of respect while saying to a Sovereign, "We decline Your Majesty's arrangement and propose to make our own," and the framers of the Address have evidently felt the difficulty. Besides, they had to deal with the dilemma that, a few months ago, they accepted with acclaim the plan which they now rebel against. That obstacle they quietly surmount by confessing that they were in a quandary last session, but have recovered their wits now. "Truly we did not then know what to do, Your Majesty; but we see our way more clearly now, and we can not conform with Your Majesty's methods. We must be at entire liberty to cut the Budget about in our own fashion, for a fight we must have under any circumstances." It is a curious object lesson in parliamentary procedure. Consistency is evidently the last thing that the present House of Representatives desires to be credited with. A few days ago it solemnly assured the Throne that it had made a sad blunder in recommending Mr. Hoshi Toru for the post of President. Now, it adds a confession that it lowered its arms last session, and enthusiastically accepted the Sovereign's ruling, not because it approved His Majesty's wisdom, but because it was really too much bewildered to know what to endorse and what to reject.

COUNT ITO AND THE CABINET

THE *Kokkai* says that Count Ito has spoken some very strong words to the Cabinet with reference to the Address to the Throne on the subject of Official Discipline. The view of the Minister President, according to this authority, is that the Address is a kind of impeachment of the Government, for although the power of impeachment is not vested in the House by the Constitution, the right to address the Throne is accorded to it, and of course that right may be exercised so as to amount virtually to an impeachment. The Count therefore told his colleagues either that the Cabinet must accept the whole responsibility and resign in a body, or that a decisive step must be taken towards the House of Representatives. None of the Ministers of State present at the meeting, adds the *Kokkai*, raised any objection to this view.

* * *

We cannot, for our own part, see that serious importance attaches to the Address in the sense of an impeachment. The House's treatment of Mr. Hoshi Toru has furnished a fatal guide for gauging the value of its impeachment. It is a House swayed at present by a majority without any sound sense of justice or responsibility. We do not believe that in the history of nations there is recorded a parallel instance of a solemn conclave of legislators carrying a complaint to the Throne that their Sovereign's Ministers keep low company and frequent vulgar resorts. It these be the kind of matters that the Japanese Legislature considers itself bound to supervise and make the subject of Addresses to the Throne, this country stands in sad need of a few masters of satire. The whole affair is supremely petty and ridiculous. To notice it at all involves a loss of dignity. To leave it unnoticed, is to run the risk of being misunderstood by the unreasoning section of the public. What it displays before everything is the very shallow character of the House of Representatives' respect for an Emperor whom it troubles about such trifles, and the great difficulty that the leaders of the Opposition experience in finding straw to construct bricks for breaking the Government's head.

* * *

Count Goto's view of the affair, according to the *Kokkai*, is characteristic. He was visited recently, says our contemporary, by a leading member of the *Jiyu-to*. The conversation turned on the Address to the Throne and the visitor said :—"Now that the Emperor has been troubled about the business, the Ministers of State ought to take the responsibility on themselves and distinctly clear up the rights and wrongs of the accusation. You, Excellency, are very intimately connected with it. What is your view?" To which Count Goto is said to have replied, laughing :—'You gentlemen will make nothing of it, however much you agitate. So long as my conscience tells me that I have nothing to reproach myself with I shall not be moved by silly theories. The charges brought against me amount simply to this, that I have associated with merchants and frequented teahouses. I am a connexion of Mr. Iwasaki. He is a merchant. The majority of his acquaintances are merchants, and I have often accepted invitations from him to meet his friends and dine with them. If any commotion is to be raised whenever I associate with merchants, then obviously I must sever all relations with my relative. Not a few of your Party's members came to me and wanted me to join them in a choice scheme about that affair of the Exchanges, but I declined to have anything to do with such shady transactions. Instead of making a row about nothing, don't you think you might be better employed pulling the beams out of your own associates' eyes. I can give you their names." Rather a hot retort that for the leading Radical, whoever he may have been, though the *Kokkai's* comment is the old proverb "You can't make a carving in rotten wood," by which our contemporary would apparently have us understand that Count Goto's reputation is beyond the chisel of slander.

MR. HOSHI TORU.

ACCORDING to the *Mesamashi Shimbun*, Mr. Hoshi's organ, it is stated that the ex-President of the House of Representatives has addressed the following manifesto to the inhabitants of the First Election District in the Prefecture of Ibaraki :—

GENTLEMEN,—As you did me the honour to elect me, I believe you have informed yourselves about my conduct in the recent affair. On which side does the blame lie, on mine or on the House's? It is for you to decide. Have I acted falsely towards the House of Representatives or has the House of Representatives acted falsely towards me? It is for you to decide. I appeal to your impartial judgment, and I intend to abide by whatever verdict you may be pleased to pronounce. Had I betrayed your trust, and had you disowned me, I should have had nothing to say to you. But your faith in me has hitherto been so great that even when I was the object of indiscriminate criticism and censure, you repeatedly assured me of your unaltered trust, and thus strengthened my self-confidence. I, therefore, entertain no doubt that, in the election of a member, you will again honour me with your votes, not only that I may be able to resume my seat in the Diet, but that you may re-assert the rights which have been trampled upon by the House of Representatives. This statement of my purpose and persuasion I respectfully submit to you.

* * *

It is interesting to notice the attitude of some papers towards Mr Hoshi at the moment of his fall. The *Hochi Shimbun*, as might have been expected, seems determined to pursue its enemy to the bitter end. Addressing the inhabitants of the election district lately represented by Mr. Hoshi, the Progressionist organ tells them that a locality which produced Gamo Kumpei, the celebrated Imperialist and patriot, ought to be ashamed to be represented by an agent of the Clan Government, a deserter from the cause of the people. Entirely different is the attitude of the *Kokkai*, which declares itself disgusted with "the base and unmanly" persistence of the Progressionist organ's persecution of Mr. Hoshi. Strongly as it condemned his obstinate refusal to resign his Presidential chair, the *Kokkai* can not but admire the indomitable will and unflinching resolution displayed by him. Our contemporary heartily wishes all success to his canvass of his old constituency.

PARTY INTELLIGENCE.

IT was generally supposed that the *Doshi* Club, a political body composed of the recent seceders from the Radical Party, would on all subjects act in concert with the *Domei* Club and the Progressionists. But this natural expectation has not been fulfilled. Out of the seventeen or eighteen seceders there are doubtless several who sympathise with the Progressionists. But the majority seem to be well affected towards their former comrades of the Radical Party. This fact was clearly demonstrated in connection with the election of candidates for the Vice-Presidentship of the House of Representatives. The *Doshi* Club voted for Mr. Kataoka Kenkichi of the Radical Party, while the *Domei* Club and the *Kaishin-to* supported Mr. Abei Iwane in co-operation with the National Unionists. It is reported that the *Doshi* Club proposed to act concurrently with the *Domei* Club on this question, but that the latter declined, saying that it preferred to act independently. But in point of fact the *Domei* Club worked in common with the *Kaishin-to* and the *Kokumin Kyokai*, and this circumstance has, it

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is said, given great offence to the *Doshi* Club, the members of which are, consequently, resolved to avoid cōoperation with those parties as far as possible.

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The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* reports that a section of the National Unionists are dissatisfied with the policy which their leader, Viscount Shinagawa, instructs them to pursue. On the 14th inst., Messrs Sato Shozo, Tsubota Shigeru, and a few others waited on the Viscount and advised him to return to the original policy of the Party. Viscount Shinagawa—so the story runs—acknowledged that he himself was responsible for having landed his Party in a false situation, but could not give satisfactory answers to his visitors as to a future course of action. Our contemporary also states that frequent inconsistencies in his conduct have led his most devoted followers to entertain doubts as to his sincerity of purpose. The principal point of dissatisfaction seems to be the present alliance of the party with the *Kaishin-to*. The *Nichi Nichi* fears that the National Unionist Party may, under the circumstances, undergo serious disruption.

HOW A JAPANESE PAINTER TOTALLY IGNORANT OF ENGLISH MANAGED TO TRAVEL IN AMERICA.

Mr. Kubota Beisen one of the most prominent Japanese painters of the Western school, started for America some time ago, to visit the World's Fair in Chicago, being almost entirely devoid of any knowledge of English. On the road from New York to Chicago, he made a mistake in the name of a certain station, and thinking that the train was to stop there for some while and that he had ample time for lunch, he left the train, went into the dining-room of the station, and there took an ample meal congratulating himself on the quietness of the refreshment room which he had all to himself. When he had finished his repast he found to his utter confusion that the station was deserted and that the train had gone off with all his personal effects. He was indeed in a sore fix, for he knew not how to inform the officials of his awkward situation. An idea struck him however, and he went off and bought a note-book in which he hastily drew a sketch of a lone traveller staring in a sad plight after a train going off in the distance, and showed the sketch to a station official. The officer comprehended the situation at once and drawing a picture of telegraph wires and a few houses, intimated to Mr. Kubota that he had better wire to the next station. The painter then represented to the officer by pictures what things he had left in the train and in which cars they were to be found, and he wired the information to the next station, adding that the passenger could understand no English. Desirous of knowing when the next train was due the painter drew a clock, and the quick-witted officer filled in the long and short hands in their right places. Presently the next train arrived, he got back his effects and so reached his destination without any further accident. This story is taken from the *Nippon*.

DISSOLUTION

The *Niroku Shimpo* attributes to the Cabinet a resolve to dissolve the Diet, and assigns various reasons for the step. Count Ito, it says, is in favour of dissolution when the Lower House becomes more violent in its demeanour towards the Government. Mr. Mutsu, on the contrary, is of opinion that the measure is justified by the Address to the Throne on official discipline; while Count Goto would deal the *coup de grace* in connection with the Hoshi affair, or the Bill for the rigid enforcement of the Treaties. All this sounds very interesting, but we do not see how it is to reconciled with another statement in the same article, namely, that the Ito Cabinet is resolved to resign in favour of the Military Party, and that negotiations are in progress with Count Yamagata to that end. The whole story seems to be nothing more than an ill-considered hypothesis

WRECK OF THE "UNYA MARU."

It appears that this unfortunate vessel, belonging to the Osaka Steamship Company, left Onomichi Harbour for Tadami, Aki, at 7.30 a.m. on the 10th inst., having about 70 passengers on board. Encountering bad weather off Futamado, she struck on the Ushiuo reef and sank in a few minutes, at about 11 o'clock a.m. Fortunately the accident was observed from the shore, and boats were at once sent off which succeeded in rescuing the crew and sixty passengers, the remaining ten, mostly aged persons or infants, having succumbed before assistance could be brought. The survivors were cared for by the Police authorities at Tadami, and, the vessel having sunk in shoal water, the bodies of the drowned passengers have been recovered, and a portion of the cargo salved. Much compassion is felt for a young man named Naruto Toyokichi, a Hokkaido colonist, who with his father and mother, was on his way to his native village in Yamaguchi to visit the tombs of his forefathers. His parents, being old and infirm, were both drowned, and the young man is well-nigh maddened by his sudden bereavement. We take these particulars from the *Kokumin Shimbun*.

THE NEW ITALIAN CABINET.

A TELEGRAM received yesterday in Tokyo announces the formation of a new Italian Cabinet as follows:—

Signor Crispi	President of Council and Minister of the Interior.
Signor Calenda	Minister of Justice.
Signor Sonnino	Finance.
Signor Blanc	Foreign Affairs.
Signor Saracco	Public Works.
Signor Mocenni	War.
Signor Morin	Navy.
Signor Bacelli	Education.
Signor Boselli	Agriculture & Commerce.
Signor Ferraris	Communications.

Signor Blanc, who takes the portfolio of Foreign Affairs, was formerly Italian Representative at Madrid, and subsequently at Constantinople. He is a disciple of the great Cavour, and is married to an American heiress. The return of Signor Crispi to power is an event that calls for congratulation both on Italy's account and on England's, for not only is he one of the leading statesmen of the time, but his friendship for England has been established beyond question.

THE LORD MAYOR AND THE "YOSHINO'S" OFFICERS.

The Lord Mayor of London, at the suggestion of the Japan Society, invited the captain and officers of His Imperial Japanese Majesty's ship *Yoshino*, then in British waters, and the members of the Council of the Japan Society to luncheon at the Mansion-house on 7th November. Captain Kawara, while expressing his thanks for the invitation, stated with much regret that the ship having to undergo some naval and torpedo practice off Portland from the 7th to 13th, he was unable to bring her into the Thames. He conveyed his sincere acknowledgment for the mark of courteous and friendly feelings shown on the part of the first magistrate of the City towards the naval officers of Japan. Captain Y. Kawara and the officers of the *Yoshino* invited the members of the Japan Society to visit the vessel in Plymouth Sound on the 3rd November to celebrate his Imperial Majesty the Emperor of Japan's birthday.

COUNTS OKUMA AND ITAGAKI ON THE HOKKAIDO

We read in the native papers that a deputation from Hokkaido, consisting of Messrs. Hisamatsu and Soshi, lately waited on Counts Itagaki and Okuma with a view to ascertaining their opinions on the development and prospects of that island. Count Itagaki is reported to have told the deputation that although many petitions from the Hokkaido had been sent to the Diet, they had mostly miscarried, owing to defects in the manner of presenting them. This misfortune would, he hoped, be avoided in the future by the appointment of a Board of Investigation, which would take care of such petitions through the preliminary stages. He was very strongly of opinion that more should be done to develop the island and regretted the fact that so many members of the Diet were indifferent to this question. He believed that the clearing and opening up of the country should begin from the sea coast and that the fishing industries had a prior claim to agriculture upon their attention. The coast defences he considered should be very carefully elaborated, and everything done that the Government could do to give the colonists a feeling of security and a reasonable prospect of material advantage. He hoped that much good would be done by the building of the palace at Kanikawa. Count Okuma was also of opinion that the development of the sea-board ought to come first, for which purpose he recommended a railway from Soya in the province of Kitami, along the rich coast of Teshiwo to Nemuro, a distance of about one hundred *ri*. If this were built and Soya, which is separated from Saghalien by only a narrow strip of sea, well provided with fortifications, the richest part of the island would be opened, and also, rapid and easy communication with the Kuriles be secured. The Count was further of opinion that the Hokkaido should possess a legislative body of its own, with powers very similar to, though perhaps somewhat wider than those now enjoyed by the local assemblies on the Main Island. This, he said, would secure for the Island Government according to the wishes of the people: it would also obviate the necessity of re-establishing the Colonial Department, or of separating the province of Oshima from the rest of the Island and erecting it into a separate prefecture.

CLIMBING IN THE WATER.

When a man who cannot swim falls into deep water, he begins to climb. He knows perfectly well that no method of procedure can possibly be worse. He knows, in fact, that to climb is to sink. Yet he climbs. He has been taught that if a man does not know how to swim, his only chance of safety lies in dropping his hands and endeavouring to float calmly. Yet the unfortunate person acts exactly as though he were endeavouring to climb, "thrusts his hands, alternately upwards, with open clutching fingers, as if to grasp something above his head, his legs moving in unison with his arms." Dr. Louis Robinson, writing about this curious propensity, says that it is the recrudescence of habits learned when the human beings of to-day were monkeys. "The drowning man," he writes, "is unwittingly employing those instinctive routine movements which, throughout the vast evolutionary epoch when the tree-tops were the chief place of safety, contributed to survival in sudden emergencies more than any other form of activity."

A VALUABLE SALVAGE JOB.

On the 1st inst., writes our Hongkong morning contemporary, a coasting steamer brought the news to Manila that an American ship was stranded on the Labuan coast, and was understood to have on board a cargo of 76,000 cases of kerosene. The steamer *Batuan*, which was leaving for Iloilo, received orders to go to the scene of the accident to see if she could render salvage services. Mr. Robinson and others who might possibly be interested in the work took passage on the *Batuan*. The stranded vessel was no doubt the *Carl Friedrich*, though the nationality of the latter is German. As already reported, the *Carl Friedrich*, which was bound for Hongkong, was abandoned by her crew. Her salvage will probably be a valuable job for those who reached her first. Another party set off from Sandakan on the news reaching that port.

INCONVENIENCE OF THE ABT SYSTEM.

Numerous complaints are being made about the working of the line over the Usui Pass, an important channel for the ever-increasing traffic between the Hokuetsu district and Shinano on the one side, and the Kwanto districts on the other. The *Nippon* says that, far from being a convenience, the line, as at present worked, is a positive obstruction to commerce. There are now about 200 car-loads of goods waiting for transportation at Yokogawa station and about 30 loads at Takasaki. There are six trains a day, each train taking about five freight-cars. Thirty cars a day is therefore the maximum that can be taken over the pass, so that, at the present

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rate of traffic, goods are generally delayed at the foot of the pass for about a week—a serious delay in the case of perishable articles. To make things worse, the pack-horse has almost entirely disappeared from the neighbourhood since the opening of the railway, so that there are no means at hand for relieving the strain.

TWO LECTURE MEETINGS.

THE *Kaishin-to's* course with regard to Mr. Hoshi Toru does not appear to have earned for them much popularity. On the contrary, if we may judge from the results of a lecture meeting organized by them at the *Kinki-kan* on Sunday, the present position closely resembles that in which they found themselves at the time of the agitation against Count Okuma's Treaty. Not one of their lecturers could get a hearing, though some of them kept the platform for twenty or thirty minutes, vainly endeavouring to outstay the uproar. Obviously the audience had come there not to listen, but to prevent any one speaking. The din was perpetual and deafening. No one was allowed to make himself audible except an Inspector of Police, who delivered a brief speech to the effect that, though he was not authorized to interfere with any due expressions of criticism or dissent, his duty forbade him to allow a disturbance that obstructed all speaking. The audience listened to this warning quietly enough, but afterwards became more unruly than ever, and finally a struggle took place between the police and some *soshi* that led the commotion. All hope of restoring order was then abandoned, and the meeting was dispersed.

* * *

The next day (Monday) Mr. Hoshi Toru held a lecture meeting on his own account at the same place. The ex-President alone was advertised to speak, and by one o'clock every spot in the house was crowded by an audience of over three thousand people, who listened most attentively to Mr. Hoshi's powerful speech. It may well be supposed that Mr. Hoshi delivered some home thrusts at the members of the House of Representatives who had combined to effect his downfall. He declared that their attitude against their former colleagues of the Radical Party and against himself had been solely due to jealousy of the popularity enjoyed by the Radicals, and that they had attacked him merely for the purpose of robbing him of his seat as President of the House of Representatives. They pretended that it was chiefly through his action that the combination between the three sections of the Opposition, the Radicals, the Progressionists and the *Domei* Club, became dissolved in the present session of the Diet, but for his own part he could not discover what unjustifiable course he had followed to be exposed to such a charge. He believed it to be simply a reflection of their own hostility to the Radical Party. As a proof that their charges against the Party and himself were devoid of any truth, he reminded the audience how the Progressionists and members of the *Domei* Club had lately acted toward the members of the National Union. The members of the House of Representatives identified with the Party led by Viscount Shinagawa were really the off spring of official interference in the general election held last year, against which the Progressionists and the *Domei* Club in conjunction with the Radical Party had gone so far as to carry their complaint to the Throne itself. The National Unionists, in short, had last session been the inveterate foes of the Progressionists and of the *Domei* Club, and ought to be equally their foes this session. But everything had apparently been forgotten and they were all now working in unison. On the other hand, swayed by unprincipled and unscrupulous envy and hatred of the Radical Party, they had turned against it, and treated the President of the House with gross injustice, thus renouncing their former allies and embracing their old foes. What again, had they to urge against him, the speaker? They alleged that his conduct with regard to the Bourse question and the Soma affair had been open to censure. The Progressionists were especially busy in discrediting him, and had employed for the purpose a petty daily newspaper professing their principles the *Kaishin Shimbun*. But what evidence were they were able to bring against him? Nothing whatever of a tangible nature. They relied wholly on a vague pretence that he had been guilty of some wrong-doing or other. As for the Bourse question, he had nothing to say. So shadowy and obscure was the accusation that he knew not how to refute it. But with reference to the Soma affair he wished to speak a word or two. It was simply owing to a chivalrous desire to check the strong and uphold the weak, that he had undertaken to be Counsel for Viscount Soma. In the beginning of that famous case, the situation of the Viscount had been truly piteous; almost everyone was against him, and none would consent to become his Counsel, though it was know from the first to men of sense that the horrible charges brought against the stewards of the house and the Viscount were merely a plot worked up by a band of speculators. To consent, under such circumstances, to become Counsel for the house of Soma did not appear in any sense blameworthy; on the contrary, he thought it should rather be counted one of those chivalrous acts for which the Japanese people are generally praised by outsiders. Yet it was on such vague and indefinable grounds that the notion of want of confidence in the President had been introduced, and finally passed. Surely it was more than singular that if his acts has been really blameworthy, his case was not entrusted from the outset to the Disciplinary Committee to be investigated. His opponents knew, however, that if a charge is really to be brought against any member of the House for a wrong action alleged to have been committed, that charge should be made within the limit of three days from the day on which the action was committed. The limit of time had long expired with regard to the wrong-doing attributed to him. But that was not the main reason why the charge against him had been framed in language so ambiguous and inexplicable. The fact was that his opponents knew that they would be unable to attain their cherished object, the ousting of the President, should the matter be submitted for due investigation by the Committee. Hence their uncermonious and strange way of dealing with this grave affair. Still, out of respect to the decision of the House, he obeyed the unjust sentence and abstained from appearing within the Chamber for the stated period of one week. What had then happened? His re-appearance after the lapse of the prescribed time had been considered an act implying contempt of the House's decision, and on that sole ground he had been expelled from the House. Could anything have been more irrational, more unconstitutional, and more unparliamentary than such a resolution? If his re-appearance at the end of a week was wrong, why did the House vote for his suspension for that period? He was accused of holding a decision of the House of Representatives in contempt, because he carefully observed the period of suspension, and made his re-appearance after that period had expired, strictly in obedience to the resolution of the House. Whether he resigned or did not resign the Presidency of the House, was a matter resting with himself entirely, and his conscience had told him that to resign on such grounds would have been not only absurd but very injurious to the future progress of Parliamentary institutions in Japan. He feared that a bad precedent would be established for the Japanese Diet, if he resigned his Presidency as hinted in the original resolution against him. But his effort was of no avail, and a precedent, which was a novelty not only to the infant Parliament of Japan but to the older ones of Europe and America, had been established. It is an accepted doctrine in every country where constitutional systems prevail, that to overstep the limit of advice and to compel a man to obey the counsel of others is to strip him of his right and to rob him of his freedom. Yet the majority of the House of Representatives has been guilty of this very offence toward Mr. Hoshi. They had robbed him of his seat when he did not do as he was advised to, and thereby trampled upon the right belonging to him. That practically amounted to trampling upon the right of representation of the people living in the 1st Electoral Section of Tochigi Prefecture, which Mr. Hoshi represented. For the wrong he has suffered from the unenlightened *(fumei)* members of the House of Representatives, there was no means for him to obtain redress, it being useless to resort to the common way of appealing to a Court of Law. Hence he has been refused "the right of being tried by judges," as provided in Art. XXIV. of the Constitution. One point which should be considered with special attention in the present affair was in connexion with the right of the Sovereign to nominate the President, as has been pointed out in our columns. Should the President who owes his appointment to the nomination of the Sovereign, be dismissed from his office, at the free choice of the House of Representatives, does it not amount to an invasion of the rights or functions of the Sovereign? He said that he had great doubts on this point, but since it was a question of grave importance connected with the Constitution of the country, he did not venture to give any definite conclusion. He then spoke as to his intention of seeking his re-election from the First District of Tochigi. He was fully convinced, he said, of the unconstitutional practice of the majority of the House of Representatives in expelling him from the House; and he was equally convinced that it was a great stain on the parliamentary history of the country. The primary object of his seeking re-election from the district he had lately represented, was to undo this unconstitutional doing of the House and to wash away the blot with which it has chosen to stain itself. He should move for the reversion of the resolutions voted against him and for blotting out of that part of the proceedings of the House—the record of the debate of the day. This was to guard the Constitution from being disgraced, and the House of Representatives from being placed in a ridiculous situation, both in the present and hereafter. He alluded in this connection to the famous case of John Wilkes in the English House of Commons. He next addressed himself to the question whether or no the House of Peers and the Government itself were not culpable in having remained as idle spectators of the scene, and in having suffered the motion to pass without even trying to interfere. His answer to this question was in the affirmative. He argued that the President of the House of Representatives duly nominated by the Emperor had been prevented from discharging his functions as provided in the Law of the Houses; in other words, the majority of the House of Representatives acted in Mr. Hoshi's case in defiance of the Article in the Constitution in which the competence of the President is set forth. Now the administration of a constitutional country is conducted by the combined effort of the two Houses of Parliament and the Government, and if one of the Houses acts in defiance of the provisions of the fundamental law of the country, is it proper for the other House and the Government to leave the affair disregarded? In the last part of his speech he reminded his hearers of the needlessness of submitting to the opinion of the majority and of public opinion, so long as that opinion is so far perverted from the right course as to affect unjustly the right and freedom of others, as in his case. It was half-past two when the speech ended, amid the applause and cheers of the audience.

TWO MEETINGS.

Two meetings of an interesting character were recently held in the capital. The one was a meeting of firemen organized for the purpose of agitating the claims of the fire brigades to be entrusted with the laying of the water-pipes in the streets. Much enthusiasm was evoked by an enthusiastic orator who "with the characteristic bluntness of a Son of Yedo," ascended the platform in full fire-brigade uniform, and told the audience that in consideration of the self-

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denying services of the firemen the least the citizens of Tokyo could do would be to entrust them with the duty of laying down the pipes. We fully appreciate the bravery of Japanese firemen in general, and of the Tokyo firemen in particular, and certainly think they have some claim upon the substantial gratitude of their fellow-citizens, provided always of course that, in this particular instance, they know how to lay down water-pipes. Amateur water-arrangements are not always successful.

* * *

The other gathering was a meeting of shampooers, for the purpose of organizing a guild for their trade. Competition, it appears, is playing havoc with this old-world industry. The ladies have taken up shampooing with great vigour and are cutting out the men. There is something really touching in the complaint, uttered by one of the speakers, that "girls of seventeen and eighteen who are not even blind," are becoming shampooers now, and get many more customers than the poor old blind men who make our nights melancholy with their sad sounding pipes. We give the shampooers all our sympathy, but we doubt whether they will be able to keep the fair sex out of the business. For the sake of general morality we wish they could.

THE EASTERN RADICALS.

THE *Toyo Jiyu-to*, or Oriental Radicals, a political coterie formed by Mr. Oi Kentaro after his retirement from the *Jiyu-to*, has now been dissolved. We regret to say that the fact must not be taken as any indication of diminished activity in the cause of mischief on the part of the pernicious politicians that muster under Mr. Oi's banner. They all continue their *metier* as agitators though in differently titled associations, several of them have joined the *Kwan-to Sonen kai*, or Young Men's Society of Kwan-to, and the rest have been drafted into the *Dai Nippon Kyokai*, or Unionists of Great Japan, where they will continue with unabated energy to propagate the anti-mixed-residence doctrine. They are a worthy outcome of these topsy-turvy times.

THE ALLEGED CASE OF BRIBERY AT NAGOYA.

WE have already alluded in our columns to the fact of domiciliary visits having been made to the houses of Messrs. Matsumoto, chief of the Nagoya Branch of the Imperial Estates Bureau, and Saiga, chief clerk of the Nagoya Court of Appeal, on a charge of having received bribes in connection with a case now before that Court. We gather from the vernacular press that some time ago two speculators, Nishizawa Shinzo and Tokida Kosuke, procured from Government 150 *cho* of forest land in Mikawa, which they undertook to reclaim. Difficulties, however, arose between the two, and the result was a law-suit which was tried first before the Local Court, and afterwards before the Court of Appeal, at Nagoya. The verdict was given against Tokida, who to revenge himself maliciously brought a charge against his late partner of having forged official documents. In this charge, Messrs. Matsumoto and Saiga, as also Mr. Imai, one of the representatives from Mikawa in the Diet, were implicated; and it was in connexion therewith that the domiciliary visits already alluded to were made. There are, however, many conflicting rumours on the matter, which is being very carefully examined into by the Nagoya authorities.

POT, CUP, AND TEA.

IT is a neat and concise idea to sell a tea-pot, its contents of hot tea and a cup wherewith to drink the beverage, all together. That is what is done at several of the stations on the Tokaido Railway, especially those in the great keramic provinces of Owari and Mino. On the arrival of a train, men pass up and down the platform carrying trays full of tea-pots containing hot tea just made, and on the lid of each pot a cup rests in an inverted position. The pot is a common affair enough, shapely but of unglazed pottery. The cup is of porcelain decorated with blue under the glaze. For the whole little equipage the traveller is asked to disburse two *sen* and a half, or a sum somewhat less than three farthings. The idea is well worth adopting in Europe and America. Nothing comparable in the way of cheapness could be expected, but there is plenty of margin.

TROUBLE BETWEEN NO. 166, YOKOHAMA, AND THE SAWA FIRM.

THE Sawa Exporting Firm, Minami-Nakadori, Yokohama, made a contract, writes the *Shogyo Shimpo*, with certain weavers, in March and April of the current year, for about 800 *hiki* of *habutaye*, in consequence of an order received by them from No. 166, Yokohama. In the month of June, most probably in consequence of tradal depression in America, the foreign firm asked the Sawa Company to annul the order, and the latter, though it was impossible for it wholly to comply with this request, assented to reduce the amount of silk ordered by about 300 *hiki*, the weavers not having yet fully completed the original order: and the balance was delivered by the Sawa House at No 166, as it was received by them from the weavers. The foreign firm, however, steadily declined to inspect the goods thus delivered, and demanded reductions, first in the quantity to be delivered, and then in the price, till finally the Japanese firm was obliged to break off the transaction. The latter claim to have lost about 2,800 *yen* over the affair. We give these particulars for what they are worth.

CHILD-STEALERS.

THE Chungking correspondent of the *North China Daily News* writes thus:—

What seems a well authenticated story comes from an adjoining district of the abduction of children by two women who lived by themselves in a lonely place and were given to fortune-telling and the like. It transpires that they were accustomed to steal children and sell them, or, if they proved intractable or of little value, they were put to death. This gave rise to the usual stories of foreigners kidnapping children, taking out their eyes and hearts, eating them, etc. The discovery came about in this wise. A man, being childless had adopted his brother's son, who was soon after stolen. Search was made in vain for a year or two by both men, but without success. At length a relative of theirs who knew the boy, passing by where these women lived, saw a boy clothed in rags working in the field. Upon questioning him, he found that he was indeed the lost boy. He hastened to give information, and the women were arrested and taken before the magistrate. It is said that they confessed to having stolen twenty-seven children. Nine of these had been sold at points near enough so that they were recovered. The wretched women met with the death which they so richly deserved. Still, there is such a settled conviction that foreigners abduct children that it is almost vain to hope that they will not be blamed the next time children are missing.

ECONOMYIN NAVAL CONSTRUCTION.

THE *Kokkai*, in an article on the expenses of constructing and maintaining an efficient fleet, estimates the average life of a war-ship at 30 years in times of peace and 22 years in times of war, and reckons that, in order to maintain a fleet of 120,000 tons in proper condition, an addition of 5,500 tons every year should be made to take the place of old ships passing out of the service. This would altogether entail an expense of about five million *yen*. The authorities, it is said, have therefore resolved to fix the average estimated life of a warship at 25 years, but to ask for a construction grant every 22 years. The surplus thus gained by the three years added to the life of the warship will be devoted to the construction of new vessels. This measure will shortly be submitted to the Cabinet.

FURTHER CONSTRUCTION OF WAR-SHIPS.

THE *Jiji* reminds us that though the last session of the Diet negatived the proposal for adding to the strength of the Imperial Navy, the project for constructing additional men-of-war was not allowed to fail. H M the Emperor having graciously appropriated a sum of 300,000 *yen* a year for six years out of the Privy Purse, a noble example which was followed by a voluntary contribution of 10 per cent. on all official salaries. The Government, however, in spite of this forcible expression of His Majesty's wishes, seem to be very slow in carrying into execution so laudable a project, and have not yet entered into any contract for the construction of the vessels, though it is said that designs and specifications have been requested from several ship-building firms in England. Our contemporary further adds that it is the intention of several members of the Diet to ask questions in the House about this matter.

THE RADICAL PARTY'S MANIFESTO.

THE following Manifesto has been issued by the Radical party on the question of want of confidence in the President of the House of Representatives:—

We, at the head-quarters of the Radical party, hereby address a circular on an urgent question to all our sympathizers throughout the whole country. We are tempted to cry "O, liberty, in thy name," as did Madame Roland when she made a touching appeal on behalf of liberty. What do we now observe around us but men actuated by motives of personal resentment and bent upon the gratification of their malicious passions, uniting together, on the pretext of the so-called wish of a House of the Diet, to pervert the Legislature into an instrument for indulging unworthy sentiments of private malice and retaliation, not even shrinking from trespassing upon the sacred Throne of the Emperor and trampling upon the constitutional laws of the land. As if they are not satisfied with these extravagances, they are intent upon wreaking their wrath upon the Radical Party to their hearts' content. And what are the grounds for such a high handed procedure? Public opinion, they answer, and the wish of a House of the Diet. Is such, indeed, public opinion, and is such the wish of a House of the Diet? Is it not, under such circumstances, the bounden duty of a party like the *Jiyu to*, which constituted itself the guardian of liberty and the corner stone of Constitutional Government, to rise up and, before things come to an irretrievable pass, to turn the wave of public sentiment into the right direction? Do not you, our sympathizers throughout the country, believe with us that it is high time for the Radical Party to do its duty in order to remove the cloud hovering over liberty and rescue the constitutional system of government from its false position?

What has been the state of things thus far in this fifth session of the Diet? The first thing brought up for discussion was the question as to want of confidence in the President of the House of Representatives. Whether or not the President was unworthy of confidence will be considered presently. Let us first consider whether the Diet is authorized to pass such a resolution. This is a question which ought to be approached in a spirit of perfect fairness and impartiality. In the exercise of its undoubted power of legislation, the Diet is not allowed to overstep the limits imposed upon it by the Constitution and the Law of the Houses. If there be imperfections in the Constitution or the Law of the Houses, procedure should be taken for its amendment in accordance with the method provided for it in the Constitution. Such is the essence of our constitutional system, and anybody disregarding this fact must be regarded as the open enemy of the Constitution. Now the President of the House of Representatives receives his appointment from the Emperor, through the recommendation of that House, and his term of office is fixed for four years. Such being the case, can a mere vote of want of confidence have competency to alter the legally fixed term of his office? It can have no such competency, and is it not, then, clearly at variance with the spirit of the Constitution to attempt in that way to interfere with the tenure of that office? The case is different with a vote of want of confidence in the Cabinet; administrative officials are not, originally appointed for any fixed number of years, and whenever they come in collision with the Legislature in respect of their policy of administration, it is necessary to put the Legislature's confidence in them to the vote as a due gauge of the state of public opinion. To confound these two clearly different cases and to vote want of confidence in a President who is appointed for a fixed number of years and whose office consists merely in the maintenance of order in the House, is an act inconsistently with the spirit of the Constitution. Such is the reason why our Party has pronounced as unconstitutional the vote of want of confidence in the President of the House of Representatives.

Were Mr. Hoshi really guilty of the immoral conduct with which he has been charged by men intoxicated by sentiments of personal malice, why did not the Diet take the proper course of placing him in the hands of the Disciplinary Committee for punishment, and exercising its right of expulsion instead of merely declaring want of confidence

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in him as President? On a question of morality like that, no distinction should be drawn between the President and a mere member of the House in favour of the former. Such a distinction is plainly a great insult to the private members. As to the alleged immorality of Mr. Hoshi, the question originated in this manner. Some men, impelled by motives of private resentment, caused a baseless story to be circulated in a shameless illustrated journal, which is not considered worthy of perusal by respectable persons, and it was these very men who afterwards joined in the cry and insisted upon a vote of want of confidence. Were the charges preferred against Mr. Hoshi founded on fact, he would not have been worthy of appearing in the House of Representatives even for a day, and the House, instead of voting an ineffectual resolution, ought to have at once proceeded to a disciplinary measure and driven him out of its sacred presence altogether. But what has the House done? It has recorded that conduct, which in a private member would lead to expulsion, does not warrant, in the case of the President, any measure severer than the deprivation of his Presidential chair. It is thus clear that the motive of Mr. Hoshi's persecutors was neither morality nor the dignity of the Diet, but their object was simply to dislodge him from his Presidential chair. The detractors of Mr. Hoshi at first boasted that they possessed proofs of their allegations, but when the production of evidence was permitted in an open court of law, they argued much but utterly failed to substantiate their charges. Instead of apologizing for having falsely accused Mr. Hoshi, as they ought to have done, they were brazen-faced enough to say that, though he had escaped legal punishment, he was still accountable to a moral tribunal. Their conduct is not worth even the pity of respectable persons. Such is the reason why our Party has declared the vote of want of confidence in the President the result of blind personal malice.

Our Party thus came to the conviction that, whether viewed in the light of the constitutional laws of the country or judged from the standpoint of fact, the vote of want of confidence in the President passed in the present fifth session of the Diet has no binding force whatever. Seeing that our Party was firm and immovable, men enslaved by malice charged us with a disregard of the wish of the Lower House. They are evidently ignorant of the true nature of law and public opinion. Public opinion must be obeyed, but at the same time the law of the land must be considered to be legitimately in force in virtue of the general approval of public opinion. Which, then, is of greater consequence, such law or mere public opinion? The answer is self evident. When, as in the present instance, temporarily prejudiced public opinion tramples upon the law of the country, our decision not to obey it must be regarded as an act of homage to true public opinion

But this is not the worst thing done by the Diet Being incapable of perceiving their error in passing the vote in question, their insatiable malice and resentment betrayed them into approaching the Throne on the subject, saying that, as they did not repose confidence in President Hoshi, they did not wish him to continue in office, and that they had acted without knowledge and were profoundly pained to submit that they had erroneously solicited the Imperial nomination of him originally. Such was their language; what could they have meant? When, however, they were subsequently confronted with interrogations from the Sovereign, they were confounded, not knowing what to do, and finally submitted that their object was to crave His Majesty's pardon for the error committed by the House through want of knowledge, and that they were deeply pained to find that their Address was framed in ambiguous language. Now, if the House of Representatives had acted erroneously through want of knowledge, was it sufficient for it simply to present an apology to the Throne? Had they known their duty to the Emperor, the members of the Lower House ought, while their apology was on its way to the Palace, to have resigned their seats for having betrayed the trust reposed in them by His Majesty as well as by the people. Failing that course, they ought at least to have apologized to their constituencies. They know how to ask the Emperor's pardon, but they have done nothing to apologize to their electors. This shows that they have no regard for the people, and that they lack the spirit of constitutional government.

How many of the members of our Party have offered their property, and even their lives, and how many of them have undergone the most painful hardships in resisting the tide of tyranny and in securing the establishment of a constitutional system? The Imperial Diet has been in session five times, but the Government has not entirely succeeded in the reform of evils, and the foundations of Constitutional Government cannot be said to have been yet firmly laid Is it not, then, a most regrettable thing for the sake of liberty that, at a juncture like the present, men infatuated by malice and resentment should endeavour by underground intrigues to destroy an important part of the machinery of Constitutional Government? It is now your duty, our sympathizers throughout the country, to rise and fulfill the great mission of the Radical Party, as the central pillar of Constitutional Government, by turning back the current of unconstitutional waves in the sea of politics.

THE EMPLOYMENT OF WOMEN IN THE PUBLIC SERVICE.

If that dear, silent *Spectator*, who so genially showed up the foibles of our forefathers nearly a couple of centuries ago, had only been present at a recent debate held in Tokyo about the employment of women in the public service, as telephone, telegraph, and postal clerks, what an amusing account he would have given us. What puzzles us, in the account which we have taken from our esteemed contemporary the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, is why on earth the fair sex should be dissatisfied with a verdict which is so eminently flattering to them. It is true that the meeting voted, as all sensible men in this country would vote, against the employment of women in the public offices. Here we thoroughly agree with them, though for reasons which we hope have more weight than those alleged by the speakers at this meeting. But the very rejection of the proposal was a compliment to the women. "It is a virtuous custom of Japanese women from olden times to remain at home and apply themselves to their domestic duties," is the first reason mentioned in our contemporary report. We fully agree with it, and should be the last persons to disturb so salutary an arrangement. But what are we to say of reason number two? "Women are by nature passionate and difficult of control." It must have been, surely, an assembly of hen-pecked husbands that came to such a conclusion. Women are generally tractable, that is, when you get them in companies. An individual lady may at times rule her husband. But when you get them together they are wonderfully amenable to discipline. They have no great powers of combination; they never strike for higher wages; they never make themselves corporately disagreeable. Even individually they—but perhaps we had better not express our sentiments. These sages, however, continue: "Woman is devoid of the power of judgment, and therefore unsuited for postal affairs, which require knowledge of an abstract and inductive character" We wonder what abstract and inductive knowledge is shown by the male functionary who gives you wrong information and bungles your postal arrangements? Men are just as likely to make mistakes in these things as are women. And, as to the inability of women to keep a secret, why a woman when she pleases can be as deep and as silent as a millpool. But lastly, it was conceded, "woman's voice is very useful in the telephone business." Ask the American, where would be the romance of the thing, if it were not for the distant "Hello!" and "Aren't you through yet?" of the "telephone gal?" In that great continent (we beg its pardon, Great Continent) where woman rules the roost, instances are not wanting of men having fallen in love with the voice of the young lady at the Central! Of course, woman's voice is very useful in this business: it is useful everywhere. The real objection to the employment of women is that it invariably lead to a cutting down of wages all round. A woman can, and will, work for much lower remuneration than a man Her husband or brother, therefore, must in the long run come down to her prices or be thrown out of work. It is therefore no economy to send a women out to earn her bread. Further, where father and mother both go out to work, the children must go to the wall, and it is the family life upon which rests the moral well-being of the State.

NATIONAL BANKS AND REGISTRATION.

The Bank of Japan met with a refusal, writes the vernacular press, when it applied for registration at the Law Court under whose jurisdiction it falls, on the ground that the expression "joint stock company" has not been affixed to its title in the application. The Court has declared that the application had in other respects been made in accordance with the provisions of the Commercial Code and the detailed regulations made for its practical execution, and, consequently, it saw no reason why those provisions could not be complied with in matters relating to the designation of the bank. In other words, the opinion held by the Court with reference to this question appears to be that it is absurd to comply with the provisions of the Code in one respect but not in another. Some such decision was anticipated from the outset by the Bank itself, and it had been previously resolved that in the event of registration being refused the question should be referred to the decision of a higher court. In pursuance of this resolution it is expected that an appeal to a superior tribunal will shortly be made, and that Messrs. Takahashi Suteroku and Kishimoto Tatsuo, of the Tokyo bar, will be engaged as counsel.

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The *Jiji Shimpo* writes that the cost to the bank of adding the four characters which stand for Joint Stock Company, and of altering the bank's notes and other papers to bring them into harmony with this decision, would be about 600,000 *yen*, and pleads that even on that consideration alone, there is ample ground for the Bank's protest against the decision. The *Shogyo Shimpo* gives its opinions as follows:—We are curious to know what treatment is to be extended to the National Banks if they fail to be registered within the period specified in the Commercial Code and its accompanying detailed regulations. It is there provided that in case registration does not take place within six months, computed from the day on which the Code shall come into force, the managers of the firm so failing to be registered shall be liable to a fine not exceeding 50 *yen* nor less than 5 *yen*, and that its business certificate shall be suspended by order of the local Court On this point the *Shogyo Shimpo* is of opinion, that though the managers of a National Bank thus neglecting to be registered within the prescribed period may not escape the fine, yet in respect of the suspension of the business certificate there is the greatest possible difference between a bank and an ordinary commercial company. The reason for this contention is that the IXth Article of the Regulations for National Banks provides that the business of a National Bank may be carried on so long as the provisions enacted in these Regulations are observed. Even from the standpoint of practical convenience, and apart from any question of law, it is the last thing to be expected from the Government that it should suspend the business of National Banks and so throw into confusion the whole monetary system of the country. The only step which need be taken at this juncture is to add a clause either to the Commercial Code or to the Regulations for National Banks, stating that a National Bank need not affix the expression "Joint-stock Company" to its designation. The main cause of the present difficulty is that while, on one hand, National Banks are averse to affixing this title "Joint-stock Company" to their designations on various grounds, the Department of Justice insists that they shall do so simply because it is so provided in the Commercial Code. Our contemporary therefore concludes that the addition of such a clause would remove all such difficulties and offer a solution satisfactory to both parties. Those who have followed the Diet's debates as reported in these columns are aware that a Bill for adding a clause in the above sense has passed both Houses.

THE VERNACULAR PRESS ON THE PROROGATION OF THE DIET.

The *Mainichi Shimbun* (Progressionist) observes that the Cabinet's object in advising the Emperor to prorogue the Diet must have been either to cool the heat of the Opposition or to effect changes in the *personnel* of the Ministry. If the former be the Government's object, our

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contemporary is persuaded that the measure adopted will prove entirely futile. Supposing Count Goto removed, the Diet's complaints on the subject of official discipline might be lessened, but so long as the Government refuses to give satisfaction to the Opposition about the *Chishima-Ravenna* case, about the Treaties, and about the Budget, a "fight *à l'outrance*, thinks the *Mainichi*, is inevitable between the Executive and the Legislature.

* * *

The *Yomiuri Shimbun* (philo-Progressionist) has no doubt that the strong attack which the Opposition had been expected to make upon the Cabinet with regard to the strict enforcement of the Treaties, and the *Chishima-Ravenna* case, compelled the Ministers to resort to prorogation. What are they going to do next? In our contemporary's opinion, they must either resign in a body or advise the Emperor to dissolve the Diet. Of these two measures, the Ministers are recommended to adopt the former. There is no prospect of any good resulting from a dissolution; while, on the other hand, the Government's conduct in respect of the *Chishima-Ravenna* case being plainly unjustifiable, the *Yomiuri* thinks that the Cabinet ought to resign even on that question a one.

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The *Kokumin Shimbun* (philo-Progressionist) is inclined to believe that the prorogation was decided upon to give the Cabinet time to effect changes in its *personnel*. What course will the Ministers pursue after the expiration of the period of prorogation? The *Kokumin* does not think that they have any definite idea on that point.

* * *

The *Chū-ō Shimbun* (National Unionist) agrees with the above-mentioned paper in believing that the object of the prorogation is to effect changes in the Cabinet. Should a new Cabinet be formed to meet the Diet after the New Year's holidays, the *Chū-ō* thinks that the situation may probably be improved.

* * *

The *Kokkai* (friendly to the National Unionists) thinks that both the implacable attitude of the Opposition and the necessity for effecting changes in the Cabinet, conspired to bring about the prorogation of the Diet. Our contemporary is at one with the journals already quoted, in thinking that the measure will not be of any efficacy in pacifying the Diet.

* * *

The *Niroku Shimpo* (friendly to the anti-Mixed Residence movement) does not believe that any amount of changes in the *personnel* of the Cabinet will have the slightest effect upon the attitude of the Diet, so long as a radical change is not made in the Government's foreign policy. For, in our contemporary's opinion, the Diet only represents the sentiments of the people, who are thoroughly roused to revolt against the weak and pliable foreign policy of the *Meiji* Government during the past two decades and a half.

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The *Nippon* (Independent) seems to believe that the Cabinet's designs may be sounded in the columns of the *Nichi Nichi* and the *Jiyu*. From the manner in which these two papers have of late been criticising the actions of the House of Representatives, the *Nippon* is induced to infer that the prorogation of the Diet may be intended by the Cabinet as a measure of punishment. At all events, the step must have been welcome to the Radicals, who were afraid of facing the questions about the strict enforcement of the Treaties and the *Chishima-Ravenna* case. The *Nippon*, however, thinks that the Government must have some other purpose in view in deciding upon the prorogation, but what that purpose may be our contemporary does not venture to say.

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The *Jiyu Shimbun* (Radical) believes that the object of the Cabinet in proroguing the Diet was to call for the latter's reconsideration with regard to the strict enforcement of the Treaties. Should the Lower House persist in voting a Representation on that subject after the expiration of the period of prorogation, the Radical organ has no doubt that the Cabinet will not hesitate to advise the Emperor to order the dissolution of the Diet. Is it worth while to precipitate a dissolution on such a subject? This question is addressed not to the Cabinet but to the members of the Lower House. Our contemporary answers in the negative. The strict enforcement of the Treaties might not be bad in itself, but our contemporary refuses to attach such paramount importance to that question as some parties do. Of incomparably greater importance is the problem of Treaty Revision; if that be properly disposed of, there need be no occasion to make such a mighty fuss about the strict enforcement of the existing incomplete Treaties. The *Jiyu*, therefore, hopes that, instead of wasting energy in advocating such an absurd cause, the true lovers of the country will concentrate their attention upon the all-important question of Treaty Revision. "Has the House of Representatives," asks the *Jiyu*, "the courage to persist in its mad career in the face of a dissolution? For our own part, we have no such courage."

* * *

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* (Independent) is of opinion that the childish conduct of the Lower House, commencing with the Hoshi question, and culminating in the attempt made on Monday last to pass a Representation to the Government on the strict enforcement of the Treaties, brought upon it the order for prorogation. The reckless manner in which the House of Representatives has thus far conducted itself deserves, in our contemporary's opinion, a more decisive measure than prorogation, but, at all events, it would have been better policy for the Cabinet to let Mr. Abei finish his speech on the subject of the strict enforcement of the treaties, and suffer the House to remain in session until his arguments had been refuted either by the Premier or the Minister of Foreign Affairs. But to speak the truth, continues the *Nichi Nichi*, the prorogation will have no effect upon the attitude of the House, and consequently the Ministry ought to have advised the Emperor to order the dissolution of the Diet. From every point of view, the members of the present House of Representatives, says our contemporary, ought to be sent back to the country.

* * *

The *Jiji Shimpo* (Independent) writes in an interesting manner. Our contemporary has always been opposed to the temporizing measures affected by the present Cabinet, notably the measure for the re-assessment of the taxable value of land. One concession leads to a demand for another. The Opposition will never be satisfied until the reins of power shall have been wrested from the hands of the clan Government. This truth has been well illustrated by the doings of the Diet in the present session. Allusion is then made to the proposed sweeping reductions in the Budget, and to the noise that has been made about such subjects as official discipline, strict enforcement of the treaties, and the *Chishima* case. The present Opposition may, in the *Jiji's* opinion, be compared to the *Joi to* of the pre-Restoration days. The object aimed at is simply to embarrass those in power. The politicians in the Opposition are well aware that, were they in power, they would shrink from carrying out what they now press upon the Government so persistently. Thus it has been the Ito Cabinet's mistake to pursue a conciliatory policy towards these persons. The *Jiji* regrets that its repeated warnings against the dangers of such a course have not been duly attended to by those in power. Be that as it may, the House of Representatives having proceeded to extremes of indiscriminate attack upon the Government, it was a proper course for the latter to prorogue the Diet. On the one hand, our contemporary recommends the Opposition to be more reasonable in its attitude toward the Cabinet; while, on the other, the Government is strongly advised to give up the fatal policy of conciliation it has thus far followed with such unsatisfactory results, and adopt a new policy securing perfect unanimity of views among its members.

KOBE WATER-WORKS.

In view of the increasing impurity of the drinking water used by the inhabitants of Kobe, the construction of Water-works has become a question of pressing importance to the citizens of that port. The Government seems fully in favour of the scheme, and an annual subsidy of 60,000 *yen* for 5 years has been included in the Budget for the next year, which has been laid before the Diet. We are now informed by the *Nichi Nichi* that, in order to further the successful passing of the subsidy through the Diet, the citizens of Kobe have appointed a committee, who are already in the capital, to persuade the members of both Houses of the Diet to support the Government proposals about this Water-works. It will be remembered that the designs for these works were originally prepared by the late General Palmer, and were subsequently completed by Mr. Burton. The estimate of the cost of construction is 970,000 *yen*, and as the city is resolved to bear 670,000 *yen* of this sum, the aid asked from the Treasury amounts to only 300,000 *yen*. The Government has already granted a third of the cost of constructing the Water-works of Tokyo, Osaka, Nagasaki, and Hakodate, and the Kobe people therefore hope that there is no reason why the subsidy asked for should be refused to them alone.

GOVERNMENT SANCTION FOR THE FORMATION OF NEW COMPANIES.

The *Jiji* has been discussing the law now in force, making it necessary for a Company to obtain the sanction of the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, and advocates its abolition. This provision, says our contemporary, is practically an innovation. It is not found in the Western Codes of Law, after which the Japanese Commercial Code was modelled, and was only inserted as an after-thought. It is, in a sense, a dead letter, because the sanction is invariably given. Our contemporary admits, however (and this we think is an important admission), that the Department as a rule points out any legal defects in the bye-laws of the proposed Company, and insists on their being rectified before granting its sanction. It argues, however, that this is not the business of the Agricultural Department, but of the Department of Justice. Further, an individual needs no license before opening a shop. Why should a Company require one? And lastly, says the *Jiji*, a great deal of precious time is lost at the initiation of a new Company by the delay involved in the technicalities of a Public Department. For all these reasons it pleads for an amendment of the Commercial Code in this respect.

THE VARIOUS POLITICAL PARTIES ON THE TREATY ENFORCEMENT QUESTION.

The Government's action in proroguing the Diet was quite unexpected by the general public. Even among officials of the higher ranks outside the Cabinet no anticipation of anything of the kind seems to have existed until the last moment. That is to be referred, of course, to the fact that the Government's final decision is understood not to have been taken until Mr. Abei Hankon's motion with respect to the strict enforcement of the letters of the Treaties actually came up for hearing in the Lower House. But it is plain that no doubt whatever exists in the minds of the various political parties as to the proximate cause of the Government's action. They all comprehend quite well that the Cabinet is resolved not to suffer the empire's foreign relations to be impaired by any rash displays in the Diet. Hence it has become necessary for them to consider what programme they will adopt on the re-assembly of the House, for it is certain that if Mr. Abei Hankon's Representation be again brought up and endorsed by a majority of the members, dissolution will follow. The vernacular press reports that meetings have been held at the headquarters of the various parties for the purpose of discussing this question. The *Jiyu-to*

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members met on the 20th instant, and came to the conclusion that the subject of Mr. Abe's motion possesses no great importance. In their opinion the consummation of Treaty Revision, as urged in the Address to the Throne adopted by the House of Representatives last session, should be the paramount aim of all persons honestly solicitous for the national interests. The strict enforcement of the letter of the Treaties is not a matter so vital as to constitute a reason for risking the dissolution of the Diet or provoking a contest with the Government. Hence if Mr. Abe's motion be again introduced after the Diet re-assembles, the Radical Party, while not actively opposing it, will certainly vote against it.

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The *Doshi* Club, which consists, as we have already explained, of men that have seceded from the *Jiyu-to* in consequence of the Hoshi Toru affair, is now a coterie of some importance. It numbers 27 followers in the House of Representatives, and by the defection of its members the *Jiyu-to* partisans in the House are reduced to 71. A considerable section of the Independent members, however, now range themselves on the side of the *Jiyu-to* in parliamentary divisions, so that the Liberal votes may be reckoned at about 100 in any matter of party significance. The *Doshi* Club also held a meeting on the 20th instant to consider its policy with regard to the Treaty-enforcement motion. In view of its former relations with the *Jiyu-to*, and also of the fact that its separation from the latter was not the result of any wide political difference, the public expects it to vote with the *Jiyu-to* as a general rule. But in this particular case there seems to be a marked difference of opinion between the original Party and its recalcitrant branch. Perhaps their separation is too recent to permit any immediate cooperation. At any rate the view attributed to the *Doshi* members is that, considering the combination now existing in the Lower House against the Government, dissolution has no terrors, and that, so soon as the Address to the Throne with reference to the *Chishima-Ravenna* affair is passed, they do not care how soon they are sent back to their constituencies. That would seem to indicate a resolve to support Mr. Abe's Representation, provided that its consideration be deferred until after the *Chishima-Ravenna* Address is presented.

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The attitude of the *Dai Nippon Kyokai* (Great Japan Association) may easily be divined. This society had its origin in the anti-mixed residence sentiment, and of course, on an occasion like the present, it is resolved to stand unflinchingly to its guns. Dissolution or no dissolution, it will agitate for the introduction of Mr. Abe's Representation, and support it vehemently when introduced. Happily the Association commands only three votes in the Lower House, whatever may be its mischievous capacities outside.

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The *Domei* Club is reported to have come to a similar resolution. It considers the question of the strict enforcement of the letter of the Treaties so vitally important from a national point of view, that it will adhere firmly to its purpose of supporting Mr. Abe's Representation to the Government, as well as the Address to the Throne on the *Chishima-Ravenna* question. The latter, we may observe *en passant*, is generally connected with the former by persons enumerating the bombs which the Opposition is preparing to explode for the Government's destruction, but in point of fact the House might amuse itself with a good many play-things of the nature of the *Chishima-Ravenna* controversy before it provoked any sentence of prorogation or dissolution. The real issue at stake is the *Reiko-Kengian*, or Representation for strict enforcement of the Treaties, together with its correlated projects of vexatious and offensive laws. It is against those measures that the Government has set its face, and will continue to set its face with the utmost rigour permitted by the Constitution. The *Domei* Club knows that, but its 25 members in the Lower House nevertheless seem bent upon forcing matters to a crisis.

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The little coterie called *Seimu Chosa-jo* (Administrative-affairs-investigation office), with its following of 10 members in the Lower House, is declared to be working doggedly under the same banner as the *Domei* and the *Doshi* Clubs, and to be prepared for dissolution or anything else rather than abandon the Strict-enforcement Representation.

* * *

The *Kaishin-to, mirabile dictu*, is in the same camp. What on earth it has to do in such a gallery we can not conceive, except that its members are resolved to be on the crest of any wave threatening to swamp the Government. The 43 representatives of the *Kaishin-to* in the Lower House are all—with one or two exceptions—shrewd men, thoroughly versed in the true inwardness of the country's foreign policy. They know as well as possible that to insist on enforcing the strict letter of the Treaties is not at all calculated to promote the cause of Revision, and with that cause, under its most legitimate aspects, they have always hitherto been associated. Yet they are now standing in line with Mr. Abe's supporters, and since an appeal to the country is always regarded by them in the light of an opportunity to increase the number of their Representatives in the Lower House, the prospect of such a step on the Government's part does not at all deter them.

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The ambiguous factor in the problem is the *Kokumin Kyokai*. This Party and the *Jiyu-to*, in their attitudes towards the Government, are compared by some political analysts to the two buckets of a well—when one descends the other ascends. In other words, whenever the *Jiyu-to* engages in a violent campaign against the Government, the *Kokumin Kyokai* shows a disposition to support the latter, and whenever the *Jiyu-to* lowers its arms, the *Kokumin Kyokai* takes the field vigorously. If this estimate be just, the followers of Viscount Shinagawa ought now to be in the same camp with the *Domei* Club and the Progressionists. But they are reported to be vacillating. Their 76 followers in the House are of many minds, some being in favour of supporting the Strict-enforcement Representation, and others being against it. No definite forecast can therefore be made of this Party's conduct when the Diet re-assembles. Upon its members, probably, the sentence of prorogation will have a more salutary effect than upon any others, for it is not to be supposed that the *Kokumin Kyokai* desires to appeal to the country, or that it can hope to find itself in a better position after the ordeal of another general election.

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According to the above analysis, we have the following :—

PLEDGED TO SUPPORT THE STRICT-ENFORCEMENT REPRESENTATION.

	Members.
Doshi Club	27
Dai-Nippon Kyokai	3
Domei Club	25
Seimu Chosa-jo	10
Kaishin-to	43
Total	108

On the other side are 70 Radical members with a following of about 30 Independents, and the 77 undecided members of the *Kokumin Kyokai*. It is plain, therefore, that if the obnoxious Representation be pressed to a vote, the result cannot yet be predicted.

FIRST GENERAL MEETING OF THE COLONIZATION SOCIETY.

THE first general meeting of the Colonization Society was held on Sunday last at the Koyo Kan, Shiba. More than sixty members were present, among whom were Viscount Enomoto, President of the Society, Messrs. Hoshi Toru, Inouye Kakugoro, Tachikawa Umpei, Kato Heishiro, Ehara Soroku, Ando Taro, Sakuma Teiichi, Shiga Shigetaka, and Inagaki Manjiro. Viscount Enomoto delivered a speech on the present condition and prospects of the Society. Mr. Tsuneya Seifuku made a report on the history of the Society since its inauguration, after which Mr. Sakuma Teiichi made a brief speech relating to the investigation conducted by the Society with respect to the establishment of an Emigration Company. Owing to the resignation of Mr. Mayeda Masana, it became necessary to fill up the vacant chair of the Vice President. This business, however, was consigned, with the sanction of a large majority of those present, to the care of the President and Councillors of the Society. Certain amendments in the by-laws of the Society were then made, among which was one relating to the times of holding the general meeting of the Society. There will in future be only one general meeting—in the month of February. This part of the business done, Mr. Tsuneye again ascended the platform and informed the members of the facts which he had been able to collect bearing on the extension of maritime communication with Mexico and Australia, and of the results he had arrived at thus far in carrying these methods into practice. His speech was received with great applause. The regular meeting was then closed, after which a friendly meeting was held upstairs, during the course of which Mr. Magariki, Private Secretary to the Minister of Justice, and Mr. Koyanagi, lately returned from Hawaii, delivered brief speeches. The gist of the speech made by Viscount Enomoto as President of the Society was as follows :—The reports monthly issued by the Society have already amounted to 3,865 copies since the organization of the Society. They are chiefly filled up with communications, either public or private, which have been received from the officers of the Japanese Consulates stationed abroad, and from others staying abroad on their own private business. These communications must indeed be said to contain valuable information, not only for the business with which the Society is directly interested, but also for the future economical and political interests of the State. The Society should be thankful to its members abroad for having furnished it with such precious materials. How far the reports of the society and the diligence of its members have succeeded in influencing the people at large, may be inferred from the fact that although ten months have not yet elapsed since the inauguration of the Society, its list already contains more than six hundred members, while the letters that have been received by the Society asking for information about emigration are literally lying in a big heap on the desk in the Society's Office. Of the localities from which those questions come, the two Prefectures of Kochi and Kumamoto are found to be most earnest in their enquiries. On the other hand, the business undertaken by the Society appears to receive but cold looks from those who occupy important positions in the Government service, and this the Society regards with great regret. The attempt to establish a Japanese community abroad being something that has never yet been regularly undertaken, should be conducted with the greatest precaution and deliberation. The Society has entrusted a Special Committee with the task of carrying on investigations for the organization of a big emigration company. The result of the investigation, expected to be completed shortly, will be submitted for the deliberation of the members. The investigation is really related to the sending of Japanese people to Mexico, and it is hoped that the most trustworthy information on the subject will be received when Mr. Nemoto, now travelling in Mexico on the special business of the Society, shall return in February next. It is a fact well known to all interested in the subject, that there are about a million *cho* (2½ million acres) of land which the Mexican Government is intending to dispose of to foreigners desirous of emigrating to that Republic. Moreover, there are private companies also willing to part with the lands owned by them, and the Society has already been asked by a certain Company in Mexico to pur-

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chase 1,380 square miles of land owned by it on the sea coast at a price of 30,000 English pounds sterling. Such a large transaction cannot be undertaken by the Society, unless possessing of the organization of an emigration company furnished with sufficient funds. The purchase which the Society is at present intending to make is a piece of Government land, of about 20,000 *cho* (50,000 acres) in extent, which the Mexican Republic is willing, as a favour to the Japanese emigrants, to sell at a very cheap rate. The Society's purpose after having secured that land, is to turn it into what may be termed a model plantation. The most important point connected with emigration is maritime transportation. It is satisfactory to learn that the Government is reported as intending to introduce a Bill in the Diet for the extension of navigation. The thing which the Society is mostly interested about in this connection is to open regular services with Mexico and Australia. Investigations on this subject are already being carried on by several members of the Society, the results of which will, with the approbation of the Society, be hereafter submitted to the Government.

PROPOSED REGULAR SERVICES BETWEEN JAPAN AND MEXICO AND JAPAN AND AUSTRALIA

VISCOUNT ENOMOTO, in his capacity of President of the Emigration Society, has laid before the Communications Department an important document on this subject, based on investigations made by Mr. Tsuneya, one of the Directors of the Society and well known amongst his fellow-countrymen as a traveller. The vernacular papers state that according to this document a Government subsidy of from 180,000 to 320,000 *yen* at least is required in order to establish these two lines of steamers. Several new ships will also be required, there being only one suitable Japanese ship, the *Mike Maru*, which is already engaged on another line. It is estimated that not less than four new ships would be required for the Mexican, and three for the Australian service. The document further urges that no time should be lost in establishing the Mexican line, because the Japanese project is already in danger of competition from French and German Companies.

ALLEGED EMBEZZLEMENT BY THE OFFICERS OF THE ISHIKAWA-JIMA PRISON

THE vernacular papers note that one Sato Koichi, who was till lately confined in the Ishikawa-jima prison, has brought an action in the Tokyo Local Court against Mr. Tejima, chief-accountant of the prison, four of his subordinates, and two prisoners, on the ground that they embezzled rice and barley belonging to the prison. The document which the accuser has forwarded to the Chief Procurator of the Court, by whom it has been accepted, is reported by the papers as setting forth in detail a process of systematic embezzlement alleged to have been going on for years. The 8 *sho* measure used in the prison kitchen had its edges shaved down, and in order to provide against discovery thin pieces of bamboo were nailed on to the parts so planed down. By this process the accused managed to filch 3.3 *go* of rice out of every 8 *sho*. The success which the conspirators met with in their sinister dealing further excited their cupidity, and this ultimately led to the detection of their knavery. In June last, they took off the bamboo pieces and pared down the edges still more, so that they were able to filch half a *sho* out of every eight, more than 6 per cent. of the total. The prisoners now began to suspect that there was something wrong with their daily ration, and their suspicions were at last corroborated by the unguarded conversation of the accomplices in the kitchen who told their fellow prisoners how the edges of the measure had been pared down. This discovery is said to have caused great excitement among the prisoners. The plaintiff in the present action succeeded once in seizing the mutilated vessel, and concealing it with a view to future evidence, but it was unfortunately discovered by some of the gang and burned. The accuser then attempted to represent the case to the Chief Gaoler, but here also he was unsuccessful, having been interrupted by some of the accomplices. More than that, Sato was removed shortly after to a section of the prison where he was least likely to trouble the chief-accountant and his confederates. This systematic peculation was not confined to rice, but also took place with the barley which is used in the prison along with rice. The accuser complains that the one-*sho* measure used for barley was also similarly pared down, and that it really held only nine *go*, thus enabling these betrayers of public confidence to illegally appropriate a tithe of the measure. It is estimated in the document that, assuming that the embezzlement committed was at the rate of 3 *go* for every 8 *sho* of rice, and calculating the number of prisoners in the Ishikawa-jima Gaol at three thousand, about 27 *sho* must have been stolen daily for years by those officers. This at the rate of 8 *yen* per *koku*, would amount to 2.16 *yen* per day, or 64 80 *yen* per month. If we reckon the barley at 18 *sho* per diem, or about 27 *yen*, we shall see that the Government has been losing over 1,000 *yen* per annum through the unfaithfulness of its prison officials. It is said that several merchants acted in collusion with the confederates.

THE KOFU RAILWAY.

A DIFFICULTY has arisen, writes the *Mainichi*, between the Home Office and the Army Department with reference to the intended grant of land by the latter to the Kofu Railway Company. The Company at first intended extending its line from Shinjuku to Misaki-cho, Kanda, to take the route through Okubo and Yotsuya. In consequence, however, of advice received from a certain quarter, this route was changed for one through Sendagaya and the Aoyama parade-ground. The increase of construction expenses involved in this change is by no means small, but the chief consideration that weighed with the Company in choosing the new route, was a promise from the Army Department that were that route adopted, more than ten thousand *tsubo* of land within Aoyama Parade-ground would be granted gratuitously, while the cost of constructing a station there would also be defrayed, as the line would be of the utmost convenience to the Department. This free grant of land, however, was objected to by the Home Office; consequently the Army in lieu of granting the land in Aoyama, made an offer to lease its land in Misaki-cho to the Company rent-free for 30 years. This transaction was again objected to by the Home Office, which maintained that if that land was of no use to the Army, it should either be transferred to the Home Office or sold at a suitable price. The Company does not appear to be much concerned over this difficulty between the two Departments, for as it holds several documents from the military authorities promising the Company the free lease of the land, it intends to take legal proceedings against the War Office in the event of the promise being revoked.

THE "JIYU SHIMBUN" AND THE "KOKUMIN SHIMBUN."

A BITTER and painful controversy is going on between the *Jiyu* and the *Kokumin*. There was a time when the versatile and well-informed *Kokumin* was regarded as a true friend of the Radicals, but latterly its uncompromising attacks on Mr. Hoshi have led to an open rupture between it and the Radical organ, the *Jiyu*. A few days ago, the latter journal accused the former of an underhand plot against the Radical party. It has been, and still is, the practice with the *Kokumin* to affect a friendly attitude towards the "genuine" Radicals, strongly as it may be opposed to the "false." Radicals. The Radical organ now alleges that the *Kokumin's* true object in all this studied affectation of friendship for the so-called "genuine" Radicals, is to cause a disruption in the Radical Party in the interests of Count Okuma and his followers. The article containing that charge was the origin of the present controversy. We refrain from pronouncing any judgment on the merits of the case, but are constrained to observe that, whatever may have been the justice of its complaints, the *Jiyu* has completely marred its case by indulging in vulgar and disgraceful invectives, calling the *Kokumin* a "viper," a "mad dog," and so forth. It is a patent fact in Japanese journalism that the hot-tempered and honest Radicals are no match in controversy for the cool and astute Progressionists and their friends. We sincerely advise the leaders of the Radical party to put some restraint upon the vagaries of their avowed organs.

THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AND HAWAII.

THE News Agency reports that the Japanese Representative in Washington has addressed to the Foreign Office in Tokyo the following telegram:—

The President of the United States instructed the United States Representative in Hawaii to employ all measures, short of recourse to military force, for the purpose of replacing the Queen of Hawaii on the Throne. The President caused, however, that two conditions should be prescribed as essential preliminaries to the return of the Queen to power: first, that amnesty should be granted to all engaged in the recent revolution; and secondly that the Queen should recognise all legitimate debts incurred by the Provisional Government. Her Majesty declined to comply with these conditions, and the President accordingly submitted the whole question to the Senate in a sense strongly hostile to the republican Government of Hawaii. The President however, has not as yet made any definite recommendation as to the future policy that ought to be pursued.

This message presents no inherent improbabilities. The President must have learned by this time that public opinion in the States is opposed to the restoration of Queen Lilinokulani, and must have resolved, in consequence, to assume a neutral attitude which will compromise neither his hitherto expressed views nor the interests of his nationals in Hawaii.

KOREAN AFFAIRS.

AN Osaka telegram dated the 21st inst. published in the *Tokyo Asahi*, states that intelligence has reached there to the effect that Mr. Otori, the Japanese Minister, has held a conference with the Foreign Representatives in Söul, and as a consequence negotiations were commenced on the 16th inst. pressing the Korean Government to withdraw the notification prohibiting the export of rice from Korea. The matter is likely to be satisfactorily settled, as the Peninsular Government is somewhat hampered with the accumulated stocks of rice. The Japanese merchants are preparing to hold a congratulatory banquet, being convinced that the negotiations will conclude in their favour. The message further states that Nan Teitetsu, who became Foreign Minister in April last, has resigned. The appointment of his successor will not take place until the rice trouble is settled, during which period Kim Ka-chim, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs, will act as Foreign Minister.

THE PROGRESSIONIST LECTURE MEETING OF SATURDAY LAST.

THE occurrences last Saturday at the abortive lecture meeting held by the Progressionists in the *Kinki-kan*, furnish an excellent subject of jest and ridicule to the Radical journals, the Progressionist organs; on the other hand, being in a white heat of indignation against the Radicals, for they suppose that the wild *soshi* of Saturday belong to that party. They call the Radicals enemies of liberty and enlightenment, and summon all who really love the country to crush such a mischievous gang of politicians before they endanger the peace and tranquillity of the State. The Progressionist papers also fancy that their Party has a real cause of complaint against the Police authorities, who are accused of wilful neglect of duty wherever the interests of the *Kaishin-to* are concerned. The *Mainichi Shimbun* goes the length of demanding the abolition of the Metropolitan Board of Police.

THE ANTI-MIXED-RESIDENCE AGITATORS DISTURBED.

YESTERDAY the anti-Mixed-Residence politicians, headed by Mr. Abe Hankon, assembled at the big tea-house called Nakamura-ro, near Ryogoku Bridge. There were over two hundred persons present, representatives of Three Cities

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and Twenty Prefectures. Mr. Abei delivered a lecture, explaining his unflinching resolution to push the Strict-enforcement Representation and to agitate for the revision of the Treaties on a proper basis of equality. Two or three other addresses were delivered when the meeting was suddenly invaded by an army of over twenty constables, who, alleging that the proceedings were injurious to the public peace, ordered the meeting to disperse. In vain the hungry politicians urged that they should be given time to eat the tiffin prepared for them. The police were inexorable. Mr. Abei is not fortunate in his political essays.

REPRESENTATION ON THE STRICT ENFORCEMENT OF THE TREATIES.

THE following is the Representation introduced by Mr. Abei Hankon in the House of Representatives:—

The present Project of a Representation on the Strict Enforcement of the Treaties is hereby introduced in accordance with established regulations.

(Introducer)	ABEI IWANE.
(Supporters)	SASA TOMOPOSA, and thirty-two others.

REPRESENTATION ON THE STRICT ENFORCEMENT OF THE TREATIES.

Whereas it is considered that, in regard to the enforcement of the existing treaties, the Government has suffered the national rights of the Empire to be infringed, the House of Representatives herewith makes the present Representation to the Government, in the earnest hope that the Government may observe clear definitions of treaty rights and obligations and secure the strict enforcement of the treaty stipulations.

EXPLANATION OF THE REPRESENTATION ON THE STRICT ENFORCEMENT OF THE TREATIES.

Twenty years have elapsed since the date originally fixed for the revision of the existing foreign treaties, but they still remain unrevised. The existing treaties are injurious to the Sovereign rights of the Empire, and prejudicial to the interests of the country and the welfare of the people. Therefore their revision should not be delayed even for a single day. Even though their revision be effected, however, it is clear that it can be of no use, unless the revised treaties are rigidly enforced. It will thus be seen that it is always important to secure the strict enforcement of treaties. Unjust and improper beyond expression as the existing treaties are, that cannot be helped, so long as they remain in force. If, however, the scope of the treaty stipulations and the rights and obligations arising out of them be clearly defined and strictly enforced, it may yet be possible to maintain the dignity of the Empire and to secure the well-being of the people.

Taking the subject of jurisdiction, it is found that the privileges granted foreigners by treaties are as follow:—

1. In civil matters, the foreigner is permitted to be judged in a Consular Court of his own country, when he is sued by one of his own nationals or by a subject or citizen of any other foreign Power or by any Japanese subject.

2. In criminal matters, a foreigner committing an offence against a Japanese subject or other foreigners is to be tried in the Consular Court of his own country.

3. A foreigner violating treaty stipulations or trade and tariff regulations accompanying them is to be tried in the Consular Court of his own country.

The sovereignty of a country involves the exercise of supreme control throughout the whole extent of its territories, and over all persons residing within its borders without distinction of race. The existing treaties contain the above mentioned special provisions in respect of Consular Jurisdiction; but where no express concession has been made, it goes without saying that, according to the general principle just laid down, our sovereignty remains fully in force. In point of fact, however, it is noticed that the case is otherwise.

According to the existing treaties (that with Mexico excepted), foreigners are permitted to reside and trade at the open ports of the empire and to travel under certain limitations. They are not allowed to engage in manufacture, farming, mining, and so forth. In other words, although occupations other than trade proper but incidental to residence and trade, such as the keeping of hotels, and restaurants, medical practice, and so forth are necessarily permitted, no foreigner is warranted in engaging in manufacture, farming, fishing, mining, and so forth.

Thus, although foreigners are permitted to reside, trade, and travel, as well as to engage in such business as may be incidental to and inseparable from the privilege of residence and trade, persons in the enjoyment of these privileges must be subject to the ordinary administrative control of the Imperial Government, the right of taxation included.

No special provisions are made about police administration, and consequently, in so far as consists with treaty stipulations, the Imperial Government is authorized to exercise police control over foreigners.

Are violations of treaty stipulations properly dealt with? Is the police authority exercised? The actual state of things passes description. We will adduce a few practical instances and thus point out the urgent necessity of having the treaties strictly enforced.

CIVIL JURISDICTION.

Treaty stipulations on the subject of Civil Jurisdiction are as follow:—

All questions in regard to rights, whether of property, or of person, arising between Austro-Hungarian citizens residing in Japan, shall be subject to the jurisdiction of the Imperial and Royal authorities. In like manner the Japanese authorities shall not interfere in any question which may arise between Austro-Hungarian citizens and the subjects of any other Treaty Power.

If an Austro-Hungarian citizen has a complaint or grievance against a Japanese subject, the case shall be decided by the Japanese Authorities.

If, on the contrary, a Japanese has a complaint or a grievance against a citizen of the said Monarchy, the case shall be decided by the Imperial and Royal Authorities.

Should any Japanese subject fail to discharge debts incurred to an Austro-Hungarian citizen, or should be fraudulently abscond, the competent Japanese Authorities will do their utmost to bring him to justice, and to enforce recovery of the debts. And, should any Austro-Hungarian citizen fraudulently abscond or fail to discharge debts incurred by him to a Japanese subject, the Imperial and Royal Authorities will do their utmost to bring him to justice, and to enforce recovery of the debts.

Neither the Austro-Hungarian nor the Japanese Authorities shall be held responsible for the payment of any debts contracted by Austro-Hungarian or Japanese subjects.

Austro-Hungarian Treaty Art. V (This treaty was concluded by the *Heijo* Government, and of all the treaties, it is the most complete. The most favoured nation clause in the treaty is more explicitly worded than in other treaties. On these accounts the Austro-Hungarian treaty is always referred to as authority by all the Treaty Powers with the exception of Mexico, China, and Korea. This treaty therefore will be quoted in the present document).

From these stipulations, it will be noticed that, although a foreigner is permitted to be tried at the Consular Court of his own country when he is sued by a Japanese subject, no such privilege is granted him in case he is proceeded against by the Japanese Government. In that case, he must be tried in a Japanese Court of Law.

Let us see what the Government has done with respect to the *Chishima-Ravenna* affair. The Government declares that it has brought the case in its own name, but its counsel, in reply to a question what was meant by the Government, answered in the Consular Court that it meant His Imperial Japanese Majesty. When the defendants appealed to the British Supreme Court at Shanghai, the Government instructed its counsel to appear in that Court, and in the Judgment delivered there, occurs this passage:—"It might possibly be suggested that neither the Court for Japan nor this Court has any jurisdiction to try this case at all, being a case where the Emperor of Japan alleges that he has reason to complain of a British subject, and such a case does not seem to me to have been provided for specially in the Treaty, or the Orders in Council, or the Rules. But the plaintiff by coming to the Court admits that it has jurisdiction, and it is not denied by the defendants."

In reply to a question presented by the House of Representatives, Why did the Government submit to the jurisdiction of the British Supreme Court at Shanghai? the Government has answered that it "merely followed precedent." What an indignity! How is the Government going to clear itself of the humiliation it has stooped to? It has already been pointed out that where no specific provision is made in the treaties, the jurisdiction of the Japanese Courts of Law applies. Why, then, did not the Government institute the present case in a Court of the country, instead of taking such an undignified course? It is difficult to understand the motives of the Government. Evidently the responsibility must be borne by the Government for having adopted such a step.

It is an established rule that the Japanese language should be used in Japanese Courts of Law. But when foreigners appear in our Court as plaintiffs they are allowed to use their own national tongue instead of Japanese, and our Courts of Law are thus obliged to be provided with translators and interpreters. In the opposite case, where Japanese subjects bring a suit in a Consular Court, they are not allowed to use their own language. Again, the compulsory use of stamps on legal documents is a kind of tax as well as a necessary form of legal procedure. But foreigners are exempted from the use of such stamps when they institute a suit in a Japanese Court of Law. On the other hand, when merchandize is to be exported from Japan to the United States of America, it is not allowed to be landed unless a certificate of the United States Consul in Japan has been obtained on payment of fees. Such things may appear to be trifles, but they affect the dignity of the country. These examples suffice to show what kind of attitude is adopted by the Government.

CRIMINAL JURISDICTION.

Treaty provisions regarding Criminal Jurisdiction are as follow:—

"Austro-Hungarian citizens, who may commit any crime against Japanese subjects, or the subjects of any other nation, shall be brought before the Imperial and Royal Consular Officer, and punished according to the laws of their country.

"Japanese subjects who may commit any crime against Austro-Hungarian citizens, shall be brought before the Japanese Authorities and punished according to Japanese laws."—Austro-Hungarian Treaty. Art. VI.

According to these provisions, the foreigner is allowed to be tried in the Consular Court of his own country only when he is charged with ordinary criminal offences against Japanese subjects or any other foreigners. In other words, this privilege applies only to cases of the commission of offences against individual Japanese or individual foreigners. For crimes committed either against the Imperial family or the State, the foreigner must be tried in a Japanese Court according to Japanese law.

Now and then we hear of acts of disrespect to the Imperial Family on the part of foreigners, but fortunately such cases do not seem to reach limits calling for interference. This is to be ascribed to the exalted position held by the Imperial family. But in discussing the question of the strict enforcement of treaties, it has been thought advisable to draw the attention of the Authorities to this matter.

POLICE AUTHORITY.

The existing treaties contain no provision bearing upon police authority. But by means of conventions other than the treaties proper, such, for instance, as the Arrangements for Foreign Settlements, Land Regulations, Memorandums, and so forth, agreements have been made for the maintenance of a special police for foreign settlements, and for the appointment of foreign police officers, and such appointments have been actually made. But in no case has the police authority been ceded to Foreign States. The maintenance of special police for foreign settlements and the appointment of foreign police officers are unjustifiable measures, and still more blameworthy was the action of the Government in allowing the formation of the so-called municipal police in the settlements of Kobe and Osaka, thereby virtually handing over the police authority in those places to foreigners. In the following paragraph we proceed to describe the present condition of the exercise of police authority by the Government.

The administrative police is concerned with the execution of administrative measures, and so long as the administrative autonomy of the Government is not restricted by treaties no exception should be made in favour of foreigners in the exercise of the functions of administrative police. But according to the Instructions to Police Constables as to the Treatment of Foreigners, issued by the Minister of State for Home Affairs in 1885, the treatment of foreigners is made different from that of Japanese subjects. In Article XXXI. of the Instructions, it is provided that "When a foreigner attempts to cross in a carriage or on horseback a thoroughfare closed for carriages and horses, and refuses to turn back, he should be let go, after ascertaining his name and address; and the matter should be reported to the police office." That is tantamount to an admission that the Japanese Government has no right to exercise the power of administrative police over foreigners. For the moment the foreigner has passed the closed thoroughfare, he comes within the pale of judicial police and is no longer subject to administrative police. Why should not a foreigner be, in such a case, turned back by force, if he does not obey the injunctions of the police? To direct the police that the foreigner should in such cases be let go, is to spontaneously abandon the legitimate authority possessed by the Government, and to neglect that discharge of its duty. Such things, trifling as they seem, have important bearings upon the maintenance of the national rights. The case of George Rice, an American, who recently passed through a street in Yokohama closed for traffic, may be cited as an example of the evil results produced by the mistaken policy followed by the Government.

The power of administrative police is not exercised alike over the persons and the houses of foreigners. This is true, again, not only in the settlements but even in the mixed quarters at Kobe. It is an open secret that in these places foreigners hire Japanese women for immoral purposes, and invite the dregs of the Japanese com-

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munity to hold gambling places there. Our police officers have not done anything to correct these evils. The Government, then, is not free from the charge of neglecting its duty. The state of things at Kobe may be judged from the recent scandalous case there. Moreover, the power of our administrative police is not extended to our own nationals who may at the moment be in the houses of foreigners. It is a well-known fact that it is impossible even to effect the registration of Japanese living in the houses of foreigners. Does not this argue extreme neglect of duty on the part of the Government?

Coming next to the subject of judicial police, the arrest of criminals may be considered under different aspects, according to the place of the commission of the crime and according to whether it is a flagrant or non-flagrant offence. In case of a foreigner committing a flagrant offence in Japan, explanations are given in the Instructions to Police Constables (already alluded to) as to the Treatment of Foreigners, and from the very nature of the case, such an offender ought to be arrested by the police. But practically there have been instances where no arrests were made. In the case of a non-flagrant offence, a distinction must be observed between the different kinds of crime, and in some cases the offender ought certainly to be put under arrest. But in practice no case of such arrest has been known. In Kobe and Osaka, the existence of the so-called administrative police prevents the Japanese police authorities from exercising their rightful power. The same difficulty is experienced with regard to Japanese subjects taking refuge in the settlements at those places.

In the case of a foreigner coming to Japan after the commission of a crime abroad, he cannot be arrested unless through the process of extradition, and the matter comes entirely under the control of the Japanese Government. On this point, there is not much to be said, although this right of extradition was with difficulty guarded from the encroachment of the Spanish and British Consuls.

A practical example may be given of the treatment of foreigners by Japanese police. On August 5th, 1892, an Englishman, named Webster, struck with a stick a citizen of Niigata, Kazama Yoichiro by name, when the latter was passing along Ishizuye machi in that town, and the victim of the assault died on the 22nd of the same month. At the time the assault took place, a policeman was standing by, but he pretended not to notice the affair and passed on. When, however, he saw the unfortunate man bleeding profusely he went to his assistance, together with some private individuals of the neighbourhood, and enabled him to reach his house. Nevertheless, the constable still refrained from exercising his rightful authority, and when some by-standers, indignant at his inaction, reported the incident to the police office, they were simply told that, a foreigner being implicated, the matter could not be lightly treated. When the man died, it being known that his death had been caused by the injury received from the foreigner, the police authorities became alarmed, and caused an autopsy to be held on his body. The autopsy showed that death had been caused by the blows, and a criminal prosecution was instituted before the British Consul by the Public Prosecutor of the Local Court at Niigata. Meanwhile, how did the police treat the foreigner? Instead of confining him in the non-convict prison of Niigata, they allowed him to take lodgings at an ordinary Japanese hotel, instructing the proprietor to treat his guest with care and consideration. The man, on his part, increased in insolence, even openly complaining to the Prefectural Government of the food supplied him at the hotel. He also took walks in the streets, and offered violence to the citizens. Indeed, his insolence and rudeness while there passed the power of description. Despite these facts, newspapers daring to discuss the matter were prosecuted on a charge of insulting officials in the discharge of their duties.

This example will be sufficient to show how the power of judicial police is actually exercised over aliens, and how our police authorities discriminate between Japanese and foreigners. In a speech delivered to Local Governors at the Rokumei-kan, in October, 1894, Count Inouye, then Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, is reported to have told his listeners that, in view of the possible opening of the country to foreigners, they should pay especial attention to the conduct of administrative and police business, so that future dangers and troubles might be avoided. He is also said to have impressed upon them the importance of treating all foreigners with due consideration and courtesy. In view of this fact, it appears that for the above mentioned affair at Niigata the police authorities alone are not to blame.

OWNERSHIP OF LAND AND HOUSES.

Under the existing treaties, foreigners are allowed to rent land, build houses, and reside in the settlements laid out at each of the five open ports. But they are not permitted to own either land or houses outside the limits of these settlements. They were not even suffered to live outside those limits, until September, 1871, when diplomatic and consular officials of Foreign Powers were permitted to rent houses and live anywhere in the city of Tokyo. This permission was given only in consideration of temporary convenience and expediency. But a vulgar and mistaken opinion that to prohibit the residence of foreigners outside the settlements was not beneficial to the progress of civilization, gradually gained ground, and the prohibition was relaxed in favour of foreigners hired for teaching useful arts to the Japanese. Subsequently the same favour was extended to foreigners who came to Japan for purposes of study. Foreign boys and girls were allowed to attend school anywhere within the limits prescribed for the movements of foreigners. At first they were not allowed to be matriculated in dormitories outside the settlements, but afterward permission was given. The restrictions provided for in the treaties were thus gradually relaxed by our Government, until in the space of a few years the evil became so extensive that there really appeared to be no longer any restrictions whatever in force. Taking advantage of this state of things, foreigners, combining with some abandoned Japanese, easily devised pretexts for living outside the limits of the settlements under the false character of *employés* of those Japanese; while on the part of Japanese there were many who did not scruple to draw up false agreements in the hope of obtaining rents for their houses. Troubles having arisen out of this system of relaxation, the Government became aware of its mistake, and in November, 1877, it prohibited the residence of all foreigners outside the limits of the settlements, with the exception of those engaged for teaching arts or conducting experiments. But the evil, already firmly rooted, was encouraged by some short-sighted persons, and there being also a tendency to relaxation on the part of the Government, matters went from bad to worse.

The possession of land and the erection of houses by foreigners outside the limits of the settlements, is not only excluded from the privileges granted by the existing treaties, but is also prohibited by the law of the land. Imperial Proclamation No. 124 of April, 1872, runs as follows:—

It is hereby proclaimed throughout the country that no person shall be permitted either to sell or mortgage land to foreigners under any circumstances.

The following provision is found in Art. 11 of the Regulations for the Mortgage and Hypothecation of Lands, issued by Imperial Proclamation No. 18, January, 1873:—

Land or the title-deeds thereof shall in no case be permitted to be mortgaged or hypothecated to foreigners for the purpose of obtaining or borrowing money from them.

This it is seen that the transfer of land to foreigners is strictly forbidden by the express provisions of the law of the land. But foreigners are now suspected of owning land and houses not only in the five open ports, but in various other places throughout the country; and in some cases they almost form a village by themselves. Some of them even prohibit Japanese from entering their premises. Such a state of affairs is wholly contrary both to the treaties and to the law of the realm. Foreigners living at Karuizawa not only violate the laws of the country by owning land and houses, but they almost constitute an independent community indulging in all sorts of rudeness and arrogance. For instance, the following notice is found on a board erected at the gate of a villa reputed to belong to a certain foreigner:—

NOTICE.

1.—No Japanese is permitted to enter these premises except on business

2.—No injury to plants is permitted.

3.—Nobody is permitted to walk on the lawn.

These prohibitions shall be strictly observed.

What Japanese can help being moved to a strong feeling of indignation at the sight of such a notice? Is it not the height of rudeness and insolence on the part of foreigners to set up such a notice at a place like Karuizawa, where they live in open violation of the treaties as well as of the law of the land? In pre-Restoration days, notices were exhibited everywhere throughout the country for "the prohibition of the evil religion" These notices were considered by the Representatives of the Foreign Powers contrary to the friendship professed by the country toward those Powers, and a strong demand was made for their removal. But it is now foreigners themselves, living in tranquillity in Japan, that do not hesitate to set up boards prohibiting Japanese from entering their premises. Who is to be held responsible for such a state of affairs? We are forced to conclude that it has been brought about by our own Government's neglect to rigidly adhere to the treaty stipulations, thus encouraging foreigners to be presumptious and insolent. The fact that lands and houses are owned by foreigners is well known, and it may seem unnecessary to dwell upon it at any length. But in order to confirm our assertions, reference will be made to a few of the facts most widely talked about in the country.

On favourable sites at Negishi, Yokohama, there are a few foreign houses, inhabited by Mr. W. B Walter, head of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Co., and other foreigners. But these lands and houses are nominally in the ownership of Japanese.

A foreign Professor in the Imperial University owns several lots of land at Zushi. A house called "Hayama Kan," at Hayama, is also his property, though ownership is nominally vested in a person named Arai. The same foreigner has bought parcels of land adjoining the lot on which the above mentioned house stands, and has rented it to another foreigner, who is now building a house there.

Another foreigner, in the name of a Japanese, bought land on the beach in the same village, and erected there several houses, one of which was recently sold to the Japanese in question, while another was sold to a Marquis, this through the mediation of a high dignitary of State.

At Hachioji, Houmoku, in Kuragi District, there are two foreign houses, one of which is named "Yamato Kan." This Yamato Kan is occupied by a Frenchman, while in the other house lives a foreigner connected with Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Co. These houses are really owned by the above named company. There are, besides, in the same locality, in foreign ownership, five patches of cultivated land, three lots of building ground, and nine tracts of foresta.

In Kobe and its vicinity, it is calculated that there are 64 plots of land in foreign ownership, 6 in Yatabe Gun, 7 in Akashi Gun, 3 in Arima Gun, 4 in the town of Himeji, 1 in Jinto Gun, 8 in Muko and Uhara Gun, and 4 in Kawanobe and Asago Gun; there being thus 97 plots of land in all in foreign ownership in the Prefecture of Hyogo. As to places in nominal ownership, they may be classified as follow:—60 in the names of concubines, 11 in those of Eurasian children, 4 in those of the relatives of concubines, 12 in those of *employés*, 4 in those of intimate Japanese, and 6 in those of Japanese Christians.

The numerous lots of land and houses in the possession of foreigners at Kanazawa in the Province of Shinano are registered in the names of *bantō*, concubines, cooks, *bettō*, and so forth.

At Toyama, a certain inhabitant recently sold a plot of land and a house to a stranger who is now actually living there.

In Goto, in the Prefecture of Nagasaki, the whole village of Hamaura is said to be in the possession of foreigners in the settlement of Nagasaki.

At Mayebashi, a plot of land, containing 1,367 ½ *tsubo*, with buildings on it, and extending from Kita-uragawacho to Shimmeicho, is stated to have fallen into the hands of a foreigner.

At Kofu, the ground and houses occupied by a female school at the western extremity of the town, as well as the land and buildings appropriated for a meeting place at Sakuracho, are reported to belong to foreign owners.

In the Province of Settsu, foreigners are believed to be the owners of nearly all the lands in the village of En-ya which lies between Suma and Maiko.

At Enoshima, in the Province of Sagami, a piece of ground, about a *cho* in extent, with buildings on it, is owned by a foreigner. So are also three houses standing on a sandy hill at Katase, opposite Enoshima, as well as a few pieces of land on the sea shore at Koshigoye and Kugenuma.

Besides those thus far enumerated, foreigners are reputed to possess in Niigata house lots, cultivated lands, and forests, with an aggregate extent of 1½ *cho*; while at Kamakura, they own 4 *tan* 9 *se* and 18 *bu* of house lots at Inamuraga-saki and Sakanoshita, a piece of grass land, containing 1 *tan* 3 *te* and 17 *bu* at Shimo-shirohara, Ichinotori, Zaimoduza, Midarebashi, and a house-lot of 2 *tan* 4 *se* and 4 *bu* Kurayashiki. These lands and houses are registered in the names of Japanese subjects.

These are only some instances of what must no doubt be true in every place throughout the country. With cunning people working in secret, there is of course no knowing what other acts of wrong they may not be guilty of. To this state of affairs may be ascribed the constant increase of diplomatic difficulties. Under the present circumstances, the revision of the Treaties must appear to foreigners a useless task, for they already enjoy all practical advantages without taking the trouble of revision. Our demand for revision is, therefore, always refused by foreigners on one pretext or another, and Japan is placed in a more and more disadvantageous position. Consequently, if we wish to have the existing unjust and unequal Treaties pro-

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and preservation of game. On the broad questions of a close season and the restriction of game-pursuing privileges to holders of licenses, the new law and the old are practically at one. But in each alike the same unfortunate hiatus is observable: no provision is made against the sale of game birds and animals out of season. The mere fact of offering game in the market before the lawful season opens or after it closes constitutes clear evidence of illegal capture, and until the police are invested with power to supervise the markets in this sense it is almost hopeless to expect that any steps taken for the preservation of game will be effectual. So much had been written and said on this subject that the drafters of the new project of law ought to have remedied the defect. But apparently they were not sufficiently practical to do so. The first noteworthy change introduced by the new law as passed by the Peers is that an amateur sportsman will have to pay twenty *yen* for a license instead of ten. That of course hits the foreigner directly: his license will cost him twice as much as it has done hitherto. It may be supposed, at first sight, that so far as the text of the Law is concerned, no provision prevents foreigners from obtaining a professional license of Class B, which costs only one *yen*. Certainly the foreign resident does not fall under any of the categories enumerated in Art. VIII. as ineligible for professional licenses, though it might be difficult for a tea-taster or a silk-inspector to persuade the Japanese Authorities that he pursues game as an occupation. Art. XVI., however, settles the question inferentially, since it provides that any foreigner possessing an Amateur License may pursue game within the limits fixed by Treaty. It follows, of course, by implication that unless a foreigner holds an Amateur License he can not pursue game, and he is thus plainly precluded from holding a Professional License. This is the first essay of the Japanese Diet to legislate directly with regard to foreigners. The Law not only doubles the fee which foreigners have hitherto been required to pay for the privilege of pursuing game, but it also prescribes that among the four kinds of licenses now created, one alone shall be obtainable by foreigners. Further, and this point is even more interesting, Art. XVI.—which, we may note *en passant*, was inserted as an amendment at the recommendation of the Special Committee appointed to report upon the draft Law—provides that any foreigner pursuing game beyond Treaty Limits shall forfeit his license. It is not immediately apparent how this provision is to be enforced. If by sentence of a Japanese tribunal, then the Law marks a startlingly novel departure. If by sentence of a foreign tribunal, then the insertion of such a clause in a Japanese law is powerless to effect its purpose with regard to all foreign nationalities, until the process of re-enactment by the Foreign Representatives has been completed. We have often predicted that in the exercise of its legislative authority the Diet would soon discover incompatibility between the Constitution and the situation created by the Treaties. Our forecast begins to be verified.

A most notable change in the law is that all provisions relating to game preserves are absent. From the debate in the Peers we learn the reason of this omission, namely, that game preserves are regarded as a foreign institution and that the idea of devoting large tracts of land to purposes of sport is distasteful to the Japanese. That is not surprising. On the contrary, the adoption in its entirety of a system that has provoked so much hostile criticism and entailed so many abuses in Europe was scarcely to be expected of Japanese legislators. But, of course, without the legalization of preserves, there never can be anything like good sport in Japan. How long will it take, we wonder, for the upper classes in this empire to discover that the SOVEREIGN is not the only person entitled to the privilege of preserving game over large tracts of country. The new Law re-affirms the exclusive character of Imperial Preserves while omitting all the provisions in the existing Regulations that refer to private preserves. In this context it may interest our readers to know that the framers of the Law were not opposed to the principle of preserves. On the contrary, not only did they insert the Articles bearing on the subject in the present Regulations, but they even extended the maximum area of a private preserve from 3,750 acres to 12,500 acres. The House of Peers, however, at the instance of the Special Committee, excised all these Articles. But it must be confessed that the situation created by this Bill, in the event of its becoming law, is a little peculiar. The private right of property in game is recognised, since hunting is forbidden in fenced or enclosed private grounds without the consent of the owner or his agent. Presumably, therefore, a landowner may sell the privilege of pursuing game over his estate. But he is not entitled to let his estate to another for purposes of preserving. He must do the preserving himself. At the same time, while it is forbidden to rent land for the declared purpose of preserving, we do not see what is to prevent any one from renting a tract of land without assigning any purpose, and then surrounding it by a fence of some kind, when it immediately becomes a preserve. Folks in Europe are accustomed to say that an astute barrister can drive a coach and four through any law that ever was drafted. It seems to us that the legislators in the Japanese House of Peers have purposely built a highway for the process through their new Game Law.

IMPERIAL DIET.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House did not sit, the Committees only assembling.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.18 p.m., the Order of the Day being:—

1.—Second Reading of the Government Bill for amending the Tax Collecting Regulations.
2.—Second Reading of the Government Bill relating to the capital of the Military Arsenal.
3.—First Reading of the Government Bill, sent down from the Peers, relating to the Jurisdictional Limits of certain Law Courts.
4.—Appointment of a Special Committee to report upon the above.
5.—Report of the Special Committee on the Bill for amending the Law of Registration.
6. Report of the Special Committee on the Bill for the Protection of the Hokkaido Aborigines.
7.—Representation to the Government on the subject of Forests and Moors.
8.—First Reading of a Bill introduced by Mr. Matsuda Gengoro for Supplementing the Regulations for putting certain Parts of the Commercial Code into Operation.

The receipt was announced of a Bill introduced by Mr. Ando Kinka for encouraging the direct export of silk; a Bill relating to the Establishment of a Silk-conditioning Warehouse, introduced by Mr. Uwozumi Itsuji; and a Bill for augmenting the Special Ports of Export, introduced by Major-General Aoyama.

Mr. Kawashima Uichiro asked the President what step had been taken with regard to a motion introduced by Mr. Haseba Junko on the 12th instant. Mr. Haseba had moved that, in view of the importance of the Questions addressed to the Government by Dr. Hatoyama and others on the subject of the *Chishima-Ravenna* collision, the Ministers of State be invited to attend in their places at the time of replying. The motion could not be debated without changing the Order of the Day, and its discussion had consequently been deferred.

The Vice-President replied that the intention had been to bring on the motion at the close of the sitting, but as the House had been counted out, the thing had ended there.

Mr. Matsuda Gengoro asked leave to have the Order of the Day changed for the purpose of at once debating his Bill relating to the Commercial Code, which now stood at the end of the subjects for the day.

The House refused permission.

The Second Reading of the Government Bill for amending the Tax Collecting Regulations was then taken, but during its progress,

Mr. Konishi Jinnosuke asked whether the House would not be wanting in respect towards the Emperor if it proceeded with its debates before His Majesty had nominated a President from among the names submitted to him the previous day.

The Vice-President expressed the opinion that no such delay was necessary, and the House supported him.

The Bill for amending the Tax Collecting Regulations was then carried through its Second Reading, and the Third Reading was passed at once.

The Bill relating to the Capital of the Tokyo Military Arsenal was then passed through its Second and Third Readings.

Mr. Yoshikawa, Minister of State for Justice, explained the objects of the Bill relating to a Change of Jurisdictional Limits in certain Districts, and it was entrusted to a Special Committee nominated by the President.

The House then agreed, on the motion of Mr. Kurata Jungoro, to change the Order for the purpose of immediately debating the Bill relating to the Commercial Code.

Mr. Matsuda Gengoro, introducer of the Bill, said that the object of the Bill was to exempt from the operation of the Second Clause, Eighth Article, Joint Stock Companies established by Law. The House was doubtless aware that much inconvenience in the matter of registration had been caused to certain institutions, notably the Bank of Japan, because of the defective character of this Article of the Commercial Code. The few words which he proposed to add—namely, "Joint Stock Com-

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CONCERT AT THE UYENO MUSIC HALL.

ANOTHER of the agreeable entertainments for which the public is indebted to the School of Music in Uyeno, was given on Sunday last before an unusually large audience, whose appreciation of the several performances was attested by hearty and earnest applause. The evidences of approval might perhaps have been still more emphatic if the listeners had known the difficult circumstances under which the concert was arranged and prepared. The system by which the School is regulated offers but small encouragement to the formation of a competent body of musicians. It has, apparently, no such purpose in view. The particular aim, we understand, is to educate individual students to a degree of ability that shall qualify them to act as teachers in other institutions; and when that point is reached, they are liable to be sent away at short notice, without regard to the loss which the little orchestra suffers from their departure. Extraordinary efforts are therefore necessary to maintain a steady rate of co-operative progress. It is only through the indefatigable exertions of their chief instructor that the young ladies and gentlemen at Uyeno are periodically enabled to unite in performances of such merit as to win the favour of the entire musical community, and to attract visitors from a distance, as well as the better part of the foreign residents of this city.

It was probably owing to recent deprivations that the violins were less prominent in last Sunday's programme than on previous occasions. The number of players on this instrument was materially reduced, and while those who appeared showed no diminution of the accustomed skill, the comparative lack of strength and volume was obvious. Some of the best pupils, fortunately, are still retained. Miss KODA, *facile principissa*, continues to take the lead, and among her companions are more than one whose claim to distinction has long been recognized. Everything that they did was well done, and it was largely the value of what they contributed to the entertainment that made it a truly enjoyable concert, instead of an ordinary school exhibition, after the conventional and perfunctory pattern. Since the luxury of orchestral production, on a broad and full scale, is denied to us who dwell in this land, we have reason to be grateful for such suggestive impressions as are conveyed by the intelligent artistic group under Mr. DITTRICH'S command No one—not even the most fastidious of critics—could listen without keen and vivid gratification to the themes selected from the works of SCHUMANN, SAINT-SAENS, and HANDEL; themes which were worthily interpreted, and which charmed the ear, each in its turn, with the spell of poetry, of romance, and of majestic power.

Concerning the specimens of Japanese music which were offered, it is needful to say only that they were played by experts of high repute, and were greeted with acclamation by the majority of the audience, to whose national instincts they appealed with irresistible force. Whatever may be said for or against the æsthetic properties of Japanese minstrelsy, there can be no doubt that those who labour to preserve these native growths of song perform a meritorious public service. In times to come, the melodies of the masses will, with the words to which they are wedded afford substantial aid, both direct and illustrative, to the recorders of the nation's real history;—not the writers who put forth mere compilations of political commentary, without colour or flavour, and who leave the inner life and core of the people untouched, but those who seek to lay bare the soul and spirit of the race. It is right that the music which influenced the past of Japan, and is cherished by the immediate present, should be kept intact and available for proper uses hereafter; but to exalt it to a fictitious ideal, or pretend that it is capable of "development" in any scientific sense, is the sheerest waste of time. The two examples that were given on Sunday supplied proof of its irredeemable crudeness, in a rather curious way. In each piece one note told the whole story. As a naturalist like Professor MITSUKURI, of the University, can theoretically reconstruct a fish from a fragment of bone, so an experienced musician may sometimes determine the character and the possibilities of a representative melody from a single tone. The concluding note, in both of these Japanese compositions, demonstrated their close affinity to a musical mode which, though once in vogue, has long since been discarded as not amenable to harmonic treatment. It was familiar to the ancient Greeks and continued to be practised in Europe until music began to be governed by fixed laws, when it was declared unfit to survive, and was no more known, except to archæological research. How it happens that the last notes of two typical Japanese tunes can serve to establish the virtual identity of their construction with that of an obsolete European form might easily be explained, but the process would be tedious to the general reader, while to adepts it would be superfluous. Precisely as the Doric mode passed out of existence, so will the style of music now current in this country, for it can be made suitable for harmonization only by radical alterations which must destroy its individuality and bring it into conformity with modern European principles. Music that defies harmony has no place in the domain of art, as all enlightened Japanese will discover before many years have gone by. When the union of sympathetic sounds, simultaneously delivered, comes to be understood here, a new world of beauty will be opened to the senses of the people. It will be seen that by such apparently simple devices as the addition of an underlying third, or sixth, the expression of a melody may be varied at pleasure, and the accents of tenderness, passion, or sorrow imparted to a strain which, if heard alone, might suggest scarcely any definite meaning. In the concert of last Sunday, a gay little violin arrangement of an *entr'acte* by ROGER was performed. The opening theme, taken separately, was quite insignificant, not to say puerile; yet by weaving beneath it a slight supporting thread, the composer succeeded in producing a very dainty and ingenious effect. This, however, is but a small indication of the value and importance of harmony, and represents one of the least of the services it renders. Its resources are, in truth, immeasurable. But it cannot co-exist with the Japanese music of to-day, and as it is indispensable to all music that deserves the name, Japan has no alternative but to take, sooner or later, what is called "a new departure." A nation that sets itself the task of emulating, in all directions, the intellectual achievements of Western civilization will hardly be content to lag behind forever in the cultivation of the highest art known to humanity.

A NEW GAME LAW.

IT will be fresh in our readers' recollection that the House of Representatives last session made an abortive attempt to repeal the Game Regulations enacted and promulgated a short time previously by the Government. The effort was accompanied by some bluster and provoked much controversy, but ended in nothing. A resolution was indeed placed on record by the House of Representatives to the effect that the Government's Regulations, being *ultra vires* and unconstitutional, had no binding effect. But the regulations continued in force all the same. The House's next step was to introduce a new project of Game Law, in which no reference whatever was made to the existing Regulations although the two were in many respects identical. In the Peers, this project underwhat ▮sent change necessitated a conference of the Houses, and the session closed ere an agreement could be elaborated. This session the Upper House has taken the initiative and passed a project of law of which we publish a translation elsewhere. The Peers, like the Representatives, appear to think that no direct notice need be taken of the Game Regulations already in force, from which we infer that the Upper House also entertains strong doubts as to the legality of the Government's procedure in issuing those Regulations. Without re-opening that hackneyed controversy, however, we proceed at once to notice the differences between the legislative ideas of the Peers and those of the Government with regard to the pursuit

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stitution. But session after session the Opposition have endeavoured to violate this Prerogative, and in the present session they went so far as to reject the SOVEREIGN'S method of reducing salaries in order to be in a position to take the task unlawfully upon their own shoulders. Yet another Address was in course of preparation, and would certainly have been passed had not HIS MAJESTY interrupted the House's proceeding by proroguing it. This last Address referred to the *Chishima-Ravenna* law-suit. The grounds of complaint were that, in order to procure recognition of the Imperial Prerogatives, HIS MAJESTY'S name had been used by Counsel before a foreign legal tribunal, and that the Government had consented to answer an appeal made to a tribunal beyond the sea; the former complaint being based on romantic sentiment, and the latter directed against a custom which had received the sanction of thirty years' observance. HIS MAJESTY must have been a little surprised to find such antique solicitude for the sanctity of the Imperial name on the part of men whose actions contrasted so palpably with any sentiment of the kind, and a little perplexed to learn that his faithful House of Representatives, in their fifth session, had suddenly been thrown into a fever of excitement about a form of legal procedure pursued without protest for thirty years previously. The EMPEROR'S Minister's would have been wanting in solicitude for the Imperial dignity had they failed to advise HIS MAJESTY that some check should be imposed upon these repeated appeals to the THRONE about shadowy trifles, and these continued efforts to drag the SOVEREIGN down into the arena of party struggles. It is probable that they also urged a consideration palpable to everybody, namely, that the Opposition has no aim beyond embarrassing and discrediting the Administration, and that, in default of substantial charges against the Ministers of the CROWN, they are ready to trump up the most contemptible and irresponsible accusations. The prorogation of a Diet which has seriously shaken public confidence in the justice and self-respect of Japanese legislators, and has shown them to be so wanting in practical reverence for the THRONE, may be regarded as an inevitable measure.

THE REASON OF THE DIET'S PROROGATION.

IN an article published immediately after the prorogation of the Diet, we gave a brief summary of the various acts which, by their aggregate force, appeared to have necessitated an extreme step on the part of the Government. We now learn, however, that though the general course of procedure followed by the Opposition in the Lower House, from the passing of a vote of want of confidence in Mr. HOSHI TORU to the Resolution importuning the SOVEREIGN, undoubtedly created a situation which might have culminated at any moment in an unavoidable exercise of the powers reserved to the EMPEROR by the Constitution, the proximate cause of the prorogation was Mr. ABEI HANKON'S Representation to the Government with reference to strict enforcement of the text of Japan's Treaties with Foreign States. For some days it had been known that such a measure might be introduced in the Lower House, but the degree of support its promoters were likely to obtain remained uncertain, and did not, at all events, seem sufficient to encourage any speedy step on their part. The present, however, is not a time when politicians obey the dictates of logic and reason with much fidelity. Such is the mood of a considerable section of the Lower House that any proposition calculated to embarrass or discredit the Cabinet is pretty sure to enlist their approval whatever its bearings or consequences. In this absence of calm judgment and presence of strong political passion, Mr. ABEI HANKON and his colleagues found their opportunity, and on Tuesday they brought forward their Representation. It is a sufficiently uncompromising document as it stands, though we believe that some of its most injudicious utterances had to be sacrificed as the price of support from men less extreme in their views than the drafters of the original Representation. Moreover, its passage by the House, had such an unfortunate event occurred, would not have ended the mischief, but would only have preluded the introduction of two Bills, the text of which we have already published, providing means for the restraint and punishment of Japanese who might aid foreigners to enjoy privileges not specifically secured to them by Treaty. The Representation to the Government and the correlated projects of law would have created a situation most galling to foreigners, and would have involved such an employment of administrative and legal machinery as modern civilization does not sanction. The Government is determined that Japan's foreign relations shall not be disturbed by any procedure of the kind. Large latitude may be granted to the House of Representatives so long as its Resolutions and Representations are limited to domestic affairs, but when excursions are made into the region of foreign policy, and when the nation's friendship with Western States is imperilled by measures that have their origin in ignorance and owe their development to party passion, it becomes the duty of those in power to interfere resolutely. The political situation at present bears some resemblance to that which existed immediately before the Restoration. Attempts are made, in pursuit of ambitious ends, to produce factitious umbrage against foreigners, and to employ the Government's friendly attitude towards them as a means of discrediting the Ministers of the CROWN in the eyes of the nation. There is, of course, a radical difference of degree. No one now-a-days dreams of expelling foreigners or reverting to a state of national isolation. But a good many persons do believe that Japan must assert herself or be counted a spiritless, unpatriotic country, and that her only hope of inducing foreigners to release her from the national disabilities imposed by the Treaties, is to make the Treaty situation as unpleasant as possible for the foreign residents. It is a theory based on a totally false conception of the situation, but its mere error weighs little in comparison with the immense mischief it might work. By a long and patient exercise of hearty hospitality and goodwill Japan has effaced the prejudice against her that grew out of three centuries of isolation, and first among Oriental nations, has established her title to be treated as an equal by Occidental Powers. But her position is still very precarious. She has not yet obtained practical recognition of her efforts, and nothing would be easier than to re-create the distrust with which she was regarded twenty years ago. That is what would inevitably follow did the Diet adopt measures such as those advocated by the followers of Messrs. OI KENTARO, ABEI HANKON, and other agitators, who imagine that rough and brutal methods will serve to solve one of the most delicate and difficult problems ever presented for the consideration of diplomatists. Happily the Japanese Government has a thorough appreciation of the liberal attitude now taken by foreign States towards this Empire, and will never allow their friendship to be alienated by ill-considered and unwarranted displays of resentment, or by vexatious and abortive attempts to withdraw privileges the enjoyment of which by foreigners has inured chiefly to Japan's benefit and helped materially to win Western esteem and confidence. It may fairly be assumed that the *Meiji* statesmen are not less earnestly solicitous about the country's real interests than amateur politicians like Mr. ABEI HANKON and Mr. ARAI SHOGO, and that they will suffer no breach of the Treaties such as might tend to compromise the cause of Revision. But they are determined that the Diet shall not be betrayed by party passion into excesses offensive to Foreign Powers, and we confidently predict that if the House of Representatives, when it re-assembles, insists on proceeding with Mr. ABEI'S motion, which was interrupted by the order to prorogue, or, still worse, approves the motion, sentence of dissolution will be at once pronounced.

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that the House, by the Resolution just passed, desired the Premier to resign, such was not the case, the House's intention being simply to express its wish that some action should be taken speedily. Possibly Mr. KAWASHIMA meant to say that the House did not desire Count ITO'S retirement, but that it would be satisfied if the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce was removed. But that explanation is inconsistent with the terms of the resolution in which "the Cabinet Ministers," and not any particular Minister, were desired to resign. We learn that Mr. KAWASHIMA'S explanation was afterwards a subject of strong complaint from the Opposition members.

PROROGATION OF THE IMPERIAL DIET.

ONCE more the Government has felt itself under the necessity of proroguing the Diet. The period on this occasion is ten days, but inasmuch as the Diet would have risen under any circumstances on the 24th instant for the New Year's recess, its session is actually shortened by only four days and a half. There will probably be a merely formal re-assembly on the 29th instant, after which the Houses will rise until the 8th or 9th of January. No expectation of such a measure seems to have existed among the members of the Lower House. It was only Tuesday morning that representatives of the various sections forming the present Opposition met in the Imperial Hotel for the purpose of discussing, among other things, the propriety of introducing a proposition that the House should suspend its sittings for one week or longer in order to await the SOVEREIGN'S answers to certain Addresses to the THRONE then in course of preparation or already presented. The decision arrived at was that no suspension of proceedings should take place until all the great guns which the Opposition was engaged in loading had been discharged at the Cabinet. Coming down to the House with this resolve fresh upon their records, the agitators had no sooner completed the portion of the Order of the Day relating to Government business, than they received the SOVEREIGN'S commands to prorogue for ten days.

The most noteworthy point about this step is that it has not been taken with reference to any special act on the part of the House of Representatives, but has been forced upon the Government by the general conduct of the House throughout the session. Briefly stated, the Opposition has been engaged ever since the present Cabinet came into power, in searching for some stick to beat the Government, and finding only the most microscopic twigs, has made itself ridiculous and brought Japanese parliamentary institutions into contempt, by endeavouring to construct a cudgel out of these altogether paltry materials. We do not suppose that the action of the House with regard to its President can be regarded as one of the factors directly responsible for the present issue. But unquestionably that extraordinary display of prejudice and passion must have taught the Government, as it taught every unconcerned observer, that political sentiment had carried the House beyond all considerations of justice or responsibility, and that the majority forming the Opposition could no longer be trusted to bring to the discharge of their legislative duties the essential qualities of reflection and impartiality. It will not, indeed, be any exaggeration to conclude that the Cabinet must have desired, as every friend of Japan desired, to impose an immediate check upon the proceedings of a House so careless of the country's reputation. Nevertheless the HOSHI incident cannot be connected directly with the present *dénouement*. We must look for the causes elsewhere, and they are easy to find This fifth session of the Diet has been distinguished above all others by the number of Addresses presented to the THRONE. In previous sessions the members seemed to be imbued with something like a due sense of the importance attaching to the gravest step authorized by the Constitution. This session, on the contrary, they have not hesitated to approach the SOVEREIGN on issues so paltry as to bealmost, if not altogether, farcical. Their first Address to the Throne with reference to their President was proper enough, considered independently of the shadowy grounds constituting the bases of their charges against Mr HOSHI. Having lost confidence in him, and being without competence to deprive him of his office, they naturally appealed to the power from which he held his commission. Strange and self-stultifying as was their subsequent conduct with regard to the Address, their action in presenting it would have been comprehensible enough had their reasons for withdrawing their confidence from Mr. HOSHI been capable of demonstration. But in the absence of anything worthy to be called reasons, their Address to the THRONE became simply an appeal for Imperial assistance towards the consummation of an act of political prejudice and injustice. Neither respect for the THRONE nor appreciation of parliamentary responsibility was discernible in such conduct. Even less defensible, if anything could be less defensible, was their second Address, on the subject of Official Discipline. The alleged pretext of the Address was that a Minister of State had associated with persons of inferior position and frequented places of vulgar entertainment. Even supposing that the accusation had been true, its employment as the basis of an Address to the THRONE impeaching the whole of the SOVEREIGN'S Ministers would have been ludicrous. But when it appeared that the persons of so-called inferior position were the leading merchants of the Capital, and that the places of vulgar entertainment were tea-houses at which members of the Diet themselves, and even of the nobility, do not scruple to meet in friendly converse, the Address became something very like an insult. Such a step could never have been taken by a body of responsible legislators had they not been blinded by political prejudice and forgetful of the respect due to the THRONE. They followed it by a measure equally foreign to the best traditions of Japanese loyalty. For when thirteen days had elapsed without a reply from the SOVEREIGN, they actually passed a resolution condemning the delay and declaring that an immediate reply ought to be given. This act admitted only one of two interpretations: either the Resolution was addressed directly to the SOVEREIGN, in which case it amounted to a parliamentary censure of HIS MAJESTY'S deliberation and a summons to reply speedily; or it was addressed to the Government, in which case it signified by implication that HIS MAJESTY'S answer as well as the time of making it were dictated by the Cabinet Ministers, not determined by the EMPEROR himself. Whichever interpretation be taken, we are bound to conclude that both alike were unappreciated by the House of Representatives, for certainly to whatever extremes of passion party strife might drive them, it is impossible to conceive the Representatives of the Japanese people openly reproving their EMPEROR'S want of precipitancy, or publicly pronouncing HIS MAJESTY a puppet in the hands of his Ministers. These acts constitute a sufficient indictment of the conduct of the majority now controlling the Lower House of the Legislature. But they do not represent the whole record. Another Address to the THRONE was passed informing HIS MAJESTY that the House declined to accept a yearly donation of three hundred thousand *yen* from the Privy Purse on account of naval ship-building. The EMPEROR'S announcement of this donation had been received by the nation with acclaim a few months previously, and had been welcomed by the House itself as a happy solution of the deadlock then existing between the Executive and the Legislature. Yet now a majority in the same House turned round, declared that their previous attitude of assent had been due to perplexity, and that, on mature deliberation, they really must decline to endorse the SOVEREIGN'S programme. The reason of this historically unprecedented step was, not reluctance to see the Imperial circumstances straitened in any way, but simply a desire to obtain a free hand for cutting down official salaries in the Budget. The House has not a shred of right to touch official salaries. Their determination and control belong explicitly to the Imperial Prerogatives reserved by the Con-

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shipping facilit es He drives bargains for the marine transport of his goods, whereas his Japanese rival is tied down to fixed rates. That is not difficult to comprehend if we postulate a resolution on the part of a Japanese to ship solely by vessels flying his country's flag. But why should he be fettered by any such determination? Apparently not sentiment but want of practical shrewdness stands in his way. The Chinaman derives his third advantage from adroitness in evading customs duties, partly or wholly. Anyone who compares the conduct of Chinese custom-house officials towards Japai ese travellers with their conduct towards their own nationals, finds no difficulty in inferring the possibility of still wider and more effective discrimination. The Chinaman's personal baggage, his bundles and so forth, pass uninspected, whereas everything that the Japanese carries is subjected to searching scrutiny. How much unscrupulous advantage is taken of this liberality we do not pretend to say. Estimates differ. But it is very conceivable that official partiality may be elastic, and that douceurs said to be skilfully distributed by the Chinese may obtain even for their admittedly dutiable imports terms fatal to competitors not similarly aided. Probably the most serious obstacle in the way of Japanese success, however, arises from a cause very familiar, *mutatis mutandis*, to the foreign merchant in Japan. Just as the Japanese in this country combine to bring into a few hands the market for each staple of import, so the Chinese in Shanghai combine to close the market against the Japanese importer until he is compelled to accept their terms. It is not to be supposed that motives of patriotism sway them very strongly in business. But where they can obtain the same commodities on at least as good terms through agents of their own nationality as through Japanese agents, they naturally resort to the former, and when they not only satisfy sentiment but also reap practical advantages by combining to embarrass the Japanese, what can be more natural than that they should so combine? Here, then, are a good many reasons explanatory of the ill success that has attended the attempts of Japanese to conduct import operations in Shanghai Probably the analysis is far from being exhaustive. As it stands, however, it indicates distinctly larger business aptitude on the part of the Chinese, according to present standards of business aptitude.

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND OFFICIAL DISCIPLINE.

TRUE to general expectation, the question of Official Discipline was again brought up for discussion in the House of Representatives on Monday. On similar occasions, the previous custom of the House had been to pass an urgency motion for changing the Order of the Day at the very commencement of the sitting. But the first Bills on Monday's Order being Government measures, it would have been necessary to apply for the Cabinet's concurrence before making any such change, and taught by recent experience, the House was astute enough to refrain from making an application that would have merely elicited refusal. It waited until the Government measures had been disposed of, when, of course, there was no obstacle to any change that the members might wish for. Thus four Government measures, all of minor importance, were hurried through with the greatest possible despatch in the short space of about forty minutes, and then the expected motion was introduced by Mr. KAWASHIMA JUN, a leading member of the *Domei* Club, who was so impatient to discharge the important duty entrusted to him by his confederates, the Progressionists and the National Unionists, that he proceeded to explain the object of the motion before the last Government Bill had been fully disposed of. The Order of the Day having then been duly changed with the unanimous consent of the House, Mr. KAWASHIMA ascended the rostrum to explain his motion. He is a well made, somewhat portly Satsuma man, with an abundance of hair on both face and head, and his age is a little over forty. Had he remained in office, he would now be at least a Vice-Minister of State. But, unable to conform with the views of his chief, Count MATSUKATA, then Minister of Finance, he threw up a promising official career shortly before the establishment of the Diet, and has since played the part of a free lance in the Opposition. He is not an orator, but on the present occasion he spoke well, his utterance being deliberate and clear. He proposed that the House should pass a resolution, to the effect that the Cabinet Ministers having taken no step in response to the Address to the THRONE on the subject of Official Discipline, the House now called for the speedy correction of that omission. Mr. HASHIMOTO KYUTARO, an insignificant member of the Progressionist Party, took the lead in supporting the motion. His matter-of-fact speech contained nothing worthy of notice, and the same may be said of the next speaker, Mr. NODE SHOZABURO, an equally obscure member of the *Doshi* Club, a political association composed of recent deserters from the Radical camp. Nobody spoke against the motion. It would, indeed, have been unless to do so in the present state of the House's feelings. When the question was put to the House, all the members, with a few exceptions, rose to signify assent. Among the exceptions were Mr. INOUYE KAKUGORO, and Mr. ABE KO, Director of the Shrines and Temples Bureau in the Home Office. It is singular that Mr. KURODA TSUNAHIKO, a Councillor of the Home Department, now on the Retired List, joined the supporters of the motion. If he thinks the Cabinet Ministers unworthy of confidence, he ought ere this to have removed his name from the official list. So soon as the motion had been passed, Mr. KONO HIRONAKA, of the Radical Party, moved that, pending the Cabinet's decision on the question of Official Discipline, the House should adjourn for a week. But the House declined to consider the proposal, chiefly, it is said, because the majority do not desire any delay until they have discharged their remaining shafts at the Government, namely, an Address to the THRONE with regard to the strict enforcement of the Treaties, and the *Chishima-Ravenna* collision. At this stage of the proceedings, the Premier, followed by a few of his colleagues, appeared and took his usual seat on the right of the President. He at once proceeded to the rostrum and spoke on the subject of Official Discipline. The occasion was suited to the style of oratory in which he excels, and his speech, albeit short, was delivered in such a determined and dignified manner that murmurs of admiration were heard in the Strangers' Gallery, and it was easy to see that the House felt the force of the speaker's words and the commanding character of his address. Respectful silence was preserved throughout, except on the part of Mr. SHIMIDZU BUNJIRO, who took care to disgrace himself as usual. It is also to be noticed that Mr. MOTODA HAJIME, usually a sober and well-balanced person, interrupted the Premier by remarking that he ought to have spoken before the passage of the Resolution. A translation of Count ITO'S speech being published elsewhere, we need not refer to it in detail here. Its substance may be stated in a few words. He told the House that the Ministers of State received their appointments directly from the EMPEROR and were in no way bound to resign at the Diet's bidding, and he took the opportunity to read an Address that he had presented to the EMPEROR, praying for HIS MAJESTY'S decision. The EMPEROR had not yet been pleased to give any decision, and the Premier was respectfully awaiting HIS MAJESTY'S pleasure. The Opposition papers will no doubt criticise Count ITO as having shirked responsibility by asking for the EMPEROR'S decision, but under the Japanese Constitution, such a course seems inevitable, seeing that, as the Count told the House, a Minister of State in Japan owes no responsibility to the Diet. We may observe here that Count YAMAGATA, having returned to the capital on Monday, will be consulted by the EMPEROR, and the Imperial decision, one way or the other, will be given in a few days. When the Premier's speech was concluded, Mr. KAWASHIMA again ascended the rostrum and remarked that, although the Minister President seemed impressed with the idea

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MR. THEODORE WORES' PICTURES.

JAPAN has been fortunate of late years in receiving visits from several artists whose work has contributed immensely to familiarise folks in the West with the beauties of her scenery and the attractiveness of her manner of living. Of course there is no possibility of estimating, with any pretence to accuracy, the material benefit conferred on the country by these painters, but one thing is certain, namely, that the stream of tourists now annually visiting Japan's shores is among the most important factor in her economy. It is a veritable PACTOLUS. Millions of dollars are yearly brought by it to the country's coffers, and everything that tends to swell its volume is an emphatic gain. Looked at from this point of view, the beautiful pictures that men like PARSONS, EAST, DILLON, GAY, BLUM, WORES, VARLEY, and MEMPES have carried to Europe and America to delight the artistic sense and provoke the curiosity of people beyond the seas, should be regarded with gratitude by Japan. As invitations to tourists, they serve even more effectually than objects of virtu, for they convey a suggestion of things that every one may see for the mere looking, without either the knowledge of the connoisseur or the purse of the collector. Mr. THEODORE WORES was one of the first to turn his attention to the novelty and loveliness of Japanese scenery and the apparent quaintness of things Japanese. He came here several years ago, and settled down in Tokyo, with all the abandonment of a true student, to study every phase of his novel environment. The result was a series of pictures remarkably accurate as representations of domestic and street life. Living in a city, Mr. WORES naturally had his attention directed chiefly to figure subjects and interiors, a fact probably fortunate for him, since he thus came to study the Japanese type closely and acquaint himself with many details usually overlooked by tourist-painters. Some points in the pictures then painted by him provoked hostile criticism, but on the whole he made a decided success, and we are glad to remember that moral and material appreciation of his efforts was first evinced by the London public. An American artist seems to encounter some obstacles in winning the sympathy of his own countrymen. Whether not having yet acquired entire confidence in their own judgment, they await a foreign verdict before committing themselves, or whether they frankly prefer imported works of art to domestic, they certainly do not patronise the efforts of their nationals as readily as might be expected. At any rate, Mr. WORES seems to have found a clearer perception of his merits in London than in New York, and his experiences there encouraged him to pay Japan another visit which has been prolific of very admirable paintings. We say "prolific" advisedly, because, during a residence of only 15 months, Mr WORES has made about 130 pictures, some finished, others still requiring considerable work, but all sufficiently advanced to produce a most pleasing impression on those who visited them a few days ago, in response to the artist's invitation. Evidently Mr. WORES must have devoted himself to his easel with unflagging assiduity. He appears also to have worked systematically, following the effects of the four seasons wherever they were most likely to be displayed to advantage, and painting not only landscape and sea-scape, but also scenes from the life of the people as varied by the time of year. In many cases he has been most happy. Possibly his work is open to the criticism of occasional crudeness, but it is difficult to depend with certainty on an impression that may have been due entirely to the presence of unfinished pictures. Some of his studies of lotus blossoms, irises, and wistaria are admirable, and will be keenly appreciated in Europe and America. Moreover, the advantages of his previous study are very perceptible in the fidelity with which he depicts the Japanese type of face and figure, and in the greatly widened range of his choice of subjects A really charming effort is a study of two girls' figures lying on the mats in a Japanese room. This picture belongs to a series of small canvases excellently illustrating the pretty little peeps of scenery and road-side life that lend such a charm to travelling in Japan. But in none of his productions is the artist seen to better advantage than in the Lotus at Kamakura, the White Wistaria at Kameido, the Street Scenes at Ikao, the Iris at Horikiri, and Plums at Sugita. In all of these he is eminently satisfactory to those who appreciate the merit of a faithful story told upon canvas, and he ought to be in much request with men who desire to have upon their walls really sincere reproductions of the prettiest things Japan has to offer.

JAPANESE AND CHINESE IN TRADE.

COMPETITION between Japanese and Chinese merchants engaged in the import trade in Shanghai appears to give results unfavourable to the former. Many persons would have accepted that from the first as a foregone conclusion. The balance of foreign opinion in the East sways strongly to the view that the Chinaman is a much better man of business than his neighbour the Japanese. He seems to possess, in a marked degree, many of the qualities essential to commercial success. He is quick in forming decisions. He is not prone to sacrifice the substance of large gain in the present to the shadow of larger in the future. He has the courage to avert disaster by accepting definite and endurable loss. Above all, he knows the value of integrity and credit. None of these qualities appears to have been vouchsafed to the Japanese in an equal measure, and consequently, other things being equal, it might generally be assumed that the issue of any tradal competition between the Chinese and the Japanese would be favourable to the former. But no rational person can imagine that nature has really been partial in her equipment of the two races. If the Chinaman seems better qualified for the struggle, it is not because he was born with a better adapted mind, but because training, environment, and tradition have aided him. He does not live in a land where, until quite recently, to be a merchant was to be despised. For him to embrace trade as a career never involved any loss of self-respect, as it involved for a Japanese twenty-five years ago. In passing the threshold of a mercantile calling, he did not lose social caste, neither was his obligation lessened towards any of the canons dictated by respectability. It might be a difficult matter to trace accurately the practical effects of this difference between the attitudes of the Chinese and Japanese nations towards trade during past generations, but there is no difficulty in being sure that the general result must have been to make the Japanese merchant work on a lower level and adjust his methods to lower standards. That explanation, however, does not appear to apply to the competition between the two in Shanghai There the Chinaman gets the upper hand, but the reasons assigned for his success are not connected with any far-reaching questions of morality. On the contrary, they are very common-place reasons. They even go to indicate that victory is wrested from the Japanese by the exercise of qualities not entirely respectable or laudable. In the first place, it is alleged that even in the matter of purchasing Japanese produce in Japan for export to China, the Chinaman manages to get better terms than the Japanese. One can hardly conceive, at first sight, why that should be. On the contrary, it seems natural to suppose that dealing with his own countrymen in staples of their own production, the Japanese should be the more advantageously situated. But he says that he is not. He says that his business affairs are too well known; that he cannot conceal the extent of his wants, and that he is consequently debarred from resorting to a system of progressive purchase which sensibly reduces the general average of price. We do not pretend to be quite clear about the working of this factor, but the long and short of the matter is that a Chinese purchaser is said to make more capital out of Japanese producers' pliability than a Japanese purchaser does, which is a sufficiently curious allegation. In the second place, the Chinaman is supposed to obtain cheaper

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Government, and he supported the position assumed by him by referring to the reply which he had made to the Minister of Foreign Affairs on the 23rd of the 8th month of the 3rd year of *Meiji* in connection with an affair already alluded to, as well as to the so-called Memorandum of the 2nd year of *Bunkyu*. With respect to the landing of the French officers, he recognized that they ought to have obtained the permission of the Japanese Government. Our Government, it is said finally acquiesced in the views maintained by the French Minister and cancelled its correspondence on the subject.

In the case mentioned in the foregoing paragraph, our Government is noticed to have rashly surrendered its rightful position in view of the demand of a foreign Representative, thereby leading to gradual encroachment of foreign Powers upon our national rights. Nothing could have been more regrettable than such conduct on the part of the Japanese Government. However, it may not yet be too late to recover the right thus surrendered by adhering to the just interpretation of treaty stipulations, and that is the responsibility falling upon the shoulders of the Government.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

INTERRUPTED REUNIOUS.

THE season is not suitable for assemblies organized by politicians who advocate the strict enforcement of the letter of the treaties. On the evening of the 21st instant, reports the News Agency, about ten members of the *Seimu Chosa-jo* met at the Yaoya restaurant in Asakusa, to celebrate the fall of the year—rather a premature performance at present, one would think. By and by they were joined by Messrs. Abei Hankon, Komuchi Tomotsune, and a few others who had been attempting to hold a political meeting in the Nakamura-ro, but had been obliged by the police to abbreviate their programme before the dinner stage. These gentlemen had not long added themselves to the *Bonen-kai* in the Yao-kan, when an Inspector of Police arrived with a considerable following of constables, and sought an interview with Mr. Chiba, a member of the *Chosa-jo*. Having obtained admission, the Inspector watched the proceedings for a time, and then intimated that the party must disperse, as he considered it injurious to the public peace. Two of the convives, Messrs Komuchi and Tanaka—not the notorious Tanaka Shozo—were playing *go* with all the innocence imaginable. Being required to abandon the harmless pastime, these greatly aggrieved politicians endeavoured to obtain from the police an explanation of the interruption, but the inspector told them that he was not called upon to offer any explanations, the propriety of the course he had adopted being left by law to his own judgment. We shall probably hear loud complaints by and by about the arbitrary conduct of the police, and shall be asked to believe that the members of the *Seimu Chosa-jo* are the most guileless persons imaginable, never assembling at restaurants for any purpose more terrible than to eat a dinner or drink a glass of wine. However, every one is at liberty to believe what he pleases. For our own part, we can only wish for the advent of the day when the public peace can be secured in Japan without such measures as those described here.

THE REASSEMBLY OF THE DIET.

ACCORDING to present appearances the Representation relating to the Strict Enforcement of the Treaties will be again brought up for discussion in the Lower House on the 29th instant, and if passed, will be followed immediately by the Address to the Throne on the subject of the *Chishima-Ravenna* law-suit. It is stated that some members of the House of Peers are endeavouring to have the Representation debated in secret session, and that the Government advocates a similar course. The *Jiji Shimpo* writes strongly on the advisability of secrecy, but at the same time urges the Government not to attach too much importance to the measure, since, even if it be passed by the Lower House, it is sure to be rejected by the Upper. Apparently the *Jiji* is labouring under a false impression. A Representation to the Government does not follow the route prescribed for an ordinary Bill: if passed by either House, it goes to the Government at once in the name of that House, and is not submitted to the other House. Besides, the Government, as we understand, is not at all concerned about the ultimate fate of the Representation. By simply adopting none of the steps recommended in it, the whole thing becomes a dead letter. What the Ministers of the Crown desire to avoid is that foreign sympathy and friendship should be alienated by a display of hostile unreason on the part of the House of Representatives.

COUNT GOTO BEFORE THE EMPEROR

THE *Kokkai* professes to have become acquainted with the gist of the statement made to the Sovereign by Counts Goto and Kuroda when they visited the Palace in the sequel of the Address to the Throne on the subject of official discipline. We suspect that the *Kokkai* merely publishes a shrewd guess at what passed, for there are no apparent means of obtaining information about such a matter. At all events, the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce is represented by our contemporary as having identified himself and Mr. Saito Shuichiro with the charge contained in the Address that Ministers had frequented improper places and associated with improper persons, and that officials had received presents. His Excellency then explained that the accusation, so far as concerned the Ministers of the Crown, had no basis except in visits paid by him to his son-in-law Mr. Oye Taku, and Count Okuma's son in-law, Mr. Sagara, who had invited him to a restaurant to talk over Exchange matters. As for the question of presents, nothing had occurred except that the Vice-Minister, Mr. Saito Shuichiro, had accepted a gold watch openly given to him in token of appreciation of the trouble he had taken in collecting information and assisting in the comp iling of the Bourse Law.

A TIMELY WARNING.

THE *Jiji Shimpo*, with timely wisdom, reminds its readers that the duty of observing a treaty devolves equally upon both the signatories, and that if one side insists upon enforcing the strict letter of the agreement, the other side must be expected to do the same. Japan's treaties with foreign Powers, our contemporary goes on to say, were concluded at a time when she possessed practically no knowledge of foreign intercourse, and the consequence was that there were included in the treaties many provisions distinctly disadvantageous to Japan. If the Japanese, adopting the advice of their most recent agitators, decide to enforce the strict letter of the treaties against foreigners, they must be prepared to find that foreigners will adopt the same policy towards them, in which event the programme of Messrs. Abei Hankon, Oi Kentaro, and their followers might prove more injurious to the country originating it than to the countries against which it is directed.

ARREST OF MR. HIRANUMA SENZO.

THE well known Yokohama merchant, and still better known Yokohama usurer, Mr Hiranuma Senzo, has been arrested and thrown into prison on a charge of forging documents. The offence, we learn from the News Agency, was committed in connection with the Soma affair. When Nishigori, the original complainant in that case, was imprisoned, Mr. Hiranuma had some transactions with Judge Yamaguchi, and was arrested in their sequel. A great many people will rejoice over the fate that has overtaken this singular man, whose ruling passion was said to have been the destruction of the Japanese nobility.

HABUTAYE MERCHANTS AND THE ABOLITION OF EXPORT DUTIES.

WE learn from the *Jiyu* that much dissatisfaction is felt among the silk manufacturers of Fukui and Joshin, as well as among Yokohama export merchants, at the proposed total abolition of export duties, a measure which will, as they maintain, almost ruin some of the silk manufacturing industries of the country. At present, under the McKinley Tariff, no duty is laid upon raw silk imported into the United States, whilst a very heavy duty is laid upon the manufactured article. If the Japanese export duty be removed, the American silk manufacturers will reap the advantage. They will get their raw silk cheaper, and be consequently better able to undersell the Japanese manufacturers.

AN ECCENTRIC COLONIST.

THE *Yomiuri* tells us of a Mr. Wada Heibachi, of Tokushima-ken, who is likely to have a very poor time of it this winter. He started last summer with the intention of settling in Hokkaido, but on arriving at Hakodate persuaded the Captain of H.I.J.M.S. *Iwaki*, to take him on a surveying expedition to the Kuriles, and to leave him on an uninhabited island quite to the north of the Kuriles. Here he determined to settle, in spite of all expostulations. As he had only a few thin clothes and three sacks of cleaned rice, it is feared that he will fare very badly, in spite of his intention of subsisting mainly on seaweed and fish. The man-of-war's men built him a small hut before they left him for his winter's adventure.

THE WOOSUNG BAR.

THE *Tsukushi Maru*, outward bound, grounded on the Inner Bar at Woosung at about 5 a.m. on the 11th inst., and the *Tomsui* coming in slowly also took the Bar, but floated some time before noon. The *Tsukushi* was still ashore at 3 p.m. and was then broadside on the spit where the strong flood tide had swept her. She floated the next afternoon after a part of her cargo had been discharged, being assisted off by a tug. It was anticipated that she would reload her cargo and proceed at midnight.

FOOTBALL ON CHRISTMAS-DAY.

THERE will be a football match on Christmas-day, commencing at 3.30 sharp. Members desiring to take part are requested to communicate with Mr. Lias, No 71. The teams will be published this evening, but sufficient players have already notified their desire to take part in the game to ensure an excellent match. Tea and cake will be provided for the ladies.

SEAMEN'S CHRISTMAS DINNER.

WE are requested to say that the Annual Christmas Dinner to the seamen in port will be given on Tuesday, the 26th inst., and the Christmas ship entertainment on Saturday, the 30th inst., at the Seamen's Free Reading Rooms, No. 82, Settlement. All who may wish to assist by contributing to the entertainment fund are requested to communicate with the Seamen's Chaplain, at the Chaplaincy, No. 82-B.

STEAMSHIP ACCIDENT.

AN Osaka telegram which has reached the *Jiji Shimpo* states that the steamer *Tokwia Maru* went ashore off Kajima, in Genkai-nada, on the 17th inst. at 6 p.m. She was severely damaged, and the greater portion of her cargo was injured by water. The message further says that the *Urato Maru* sustained an accident to her engines while proceeding through Suo-nada.

A JAPANESE SCHOOL IN ITALY.

THE *Yomiuri Shimbun* says that a new school for the study of the Japanese language has been established in Venice, the building chosen for the purpose being in the vicinity of the Japanese Consulate. The name of the chief instructor is also given by our contemporary. In its Romanized form it reads like Gacinoni.

REVIVAL OF THE "CHOYA SHIMBUN."

MR. KAWAMURA JUN, former editor of the *Choya Shimbun*, which journal, as our readers doubtless remember, was discontinued some months ago, has now made arrangements to start another political journal under the title of *Shin-Choya Shimbun*, or the "new *Choya Shimbun*." We have no information as to the policy of the projected journal.

CHRISTMAS.

WE wish our readers the compliments of the season, and trust that next Christmas may see realized all the hopes remaining unsatisfied from the year now approaching its close.

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perly revised, it is absolutely necessary for the attainment of our object to put a stop to the various practices opposed to the treaties now in force.

It is in some respects pardonable, though not justifiable, for concubines, *banto*, and grooms in the employment of foreigners to suffer their names to be registered as nominal owners of lands and houses belonging to their masters. The matter assumes a different aspect in the case of respectable merchants and Government officials, who, it is reported, assist in the transfer of real property to foreigners or even consent to lend their names to foreigners for the performance of illegal acts. If such be really the case, it is a sincerely regrettable fact, for it proves that not only the ignorant people but officials and respectable merchants are now ready to sell their country in consideration of some pecuniary profit. The Government may probably plead that it is not responsible for the acts of the individual members of the community. But when men of this description continue to increase in number, where does the Government intend to lay the blame? If facts were closely investigated, it might possibly be easy to show that the evil is already in active operation.

TRADE IN THE INTERIOR.

By no stipulations in the existing Treaties are aliens allowed to engage in business in the interior. They may enter into contracts with people in the interior for commercial purposes; but in no case are they warranted in forming partnerships with our people in the interior and carrying on manufactures or business there. Through the neglect of the Government to rigidly enforce the Treaties, what was as first a small evil has gradually grown in dimensions, and now foreigners openly conduct business operations in the interior without exciting either the wonder or censure of the general public. Not only vulgar and shameless people but even persons of social standing, who usually go by the name of *shin-sho* (gentlemen merchants), are not ashamed to act as the tools of foreigners, and by fraudulent and unscrupulous means evade the laws of their country. So prevalent, indeed, has the evil become that men not only do not reproach themselves for violating the laws of their country, but are even shameless enough to ridicule as conservative and bigoted persons who know how to respect law and make distinctions between things domestic and things foreign. Such vile conduct is detested by every good and true subject of the Emperor; such conduct is only possible for men who set personal gain above the honour and reputation of their country. The evil no doubt is not of recent origin, but it must be pronounced the result of neglect of duty on the part of the Government. It is reported that in various towns of Kwan-to, Kwan sai, Chugoku, and Ou, stores have of late been opened for the sale of various foreign goods, such as toilet articles, iron ware, implements, petroleum, and so forth, by men formerly known to be entirely destitute of capital. Some of them men may have borrowed money from foreigners, but the majority are said to do business openly as the agents of foreign residents. Such a practice does not appear to be attended with any direct disadvantage, but it is none the less opposed to the enforcement of the treaties. The object of establishing stores in various centres of business in the interior under ambiguous names, is to use them, on the one hand, as the means of selling foreign goods in the interior and, on the other, as a means of buying Japanese manufactures and products. The existence of such stores, moreover, enables foreigners, whenever they think it desirable, to bring about changes in the market price of things to the great disadvantage of the Japanese merchants in the interior.

In Tokyo, foreigners recently competed with Japanese in offering tenders for supplying iron pipes for the Water works. There are also foreigners in the capital who openly possess business places outside the limits of the settlement. As to the establishment of agencies by foreigners for the purpose of making purchases, they are found mostly in localities, where silk and silk goods are produced, such, for instance, as the Provinces of Echizen, Owari, Shinano, Kozuke, and Iwashiro. Of the firms and merchants engaged in business in the interior, the most conspicuous are A. S. Rosenthal and Co., E. H. Tuska, and R. D. Robison.

As to the encroachment of foreigners in the field of manufactures, it is said that the Japan Brewery Company, No. 123, Bluff, Yokohama, is a branch of a large beer company with its head office at Hongkong. A well-known Japanese business man is on the Board of Directors of the above-mentioned company at Yokohama, while a certain newspaper in Tokyo presented a gold medal to the product of that Brewery. The company also obtained a medal at a National Exhibition. Besides the Brewery, mention may be made of the Yokohama Rigging Company, 161, Settlement; the Yokohama Engine and Iron Works, 159 Settlement; and the Yokohama Ice Works, 184, Bluff. Reference may also be made to Murata's watch factory, a soap factory at Kanagawa, a dye-house at Takashima-cho, soda works and a tea refinery in the Yokohama Settlements, Ikeda's Manganese mines in Tochigi and Gumma, Misawa's alcohol manufactory at Yokohama, and Hirama's spinning factory at Osaka. Examples of enterprises of these descriptions are in fact too numerous to be enumerated. Some years ago, the brewing of *saké* by foreigners was attempted at Nigata, Nagasaki, and Tokyo; and although the Government succeeded by a roundabout and troublesome process in stopping it, it must be noted, it was not attained by any exercise of the ordinary administrative authority of the Government. The Government might have thought that the general revision of treaties being possibly near at hand, it was better to deal leniently with these cases of the infraction of treaties. But it is in respect of such matters that the strict enforcement of treaties is of particular importance.

TAXATION.

There are no provisions in the treaties bearing upon the taxation of land leased to foreigners, but the matter is provided for in the agreements entered into between the Japanese Authorities and the foreign Consuls, and though the rates and method of taxation are in some respects open to criticism, the system cannot be changed. Apart from an arrangement with regard to land tax, there is no express provision in the treaties or in subsequent agreements tending to exempt foreigners from general taxation. Consequently, whether living within or without the settlements, foreigners ought to be subject, equally with Japanese subjects, to national and local taxation. Should any aliens fail to pay taxes, their property may justly be seized and the proceeds of its sale may be applied for the purpose, in accordance with the Law for Dealing with Failures in the Payment of Taxes.

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Let us now mention some well-known historical facts connected with the subject under consideration. In the 8th month of the 1st year of *Meiji*, Ito Shunsuke, Governor of Hyogo (present Minister President, Count Ito Hirobumi), by a memorandum signed by him conjointly with the Consuls of the United States and Holland, agreed to set apart a certain extent of land in Kobe outside the settlement for the mixed residence of both Japanese and foreigners. This was a singular measure and will be considered presently. Ito Shunsuke made a communication to the foreign Consuls that foreigners living within the above mentioned zone of mixed residence would be subject to taxation in the same manner as the Japanese. But instead of proceeding at once to the imposition of taxes upon foreigners, Ito took no steps in that direction until the 4th year of *Meiji*. In that year efforts were made to collect taxes from foreigners in the district in question, but these efforts met with opposition from the Ministers of England and other Treaty Powers. Since then repeated attempts were made, but they always proved unsuccessful on account of the stout objection of the Ministers. In 1885, the Governor of Hyogo applied to the Central Government for permission to levy local taxes and communal rates upon the foreigners in the district for mixed residence, but he was told that, as negotiations for the revision of the treaties were then going on, the matter should be let alone for the moment. In February or March, 1888, Count Okuma Shigenobu, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, and Viscount Aoki Shuzo, Vice Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, entered into an agreement with reference to house taxes on the Bluff in Kobe with the Representatives of England, the United States of America, France, Russia, Germany, Italy, Austria, Holland, Denmark, Switzerland, Belgium, Spain, and Hawaii. The Government then instructed the Governor of Hyogo to levy house-taxes upon foreigners residing in the district in question, but with respect to failures to pay the tax, the Governor was ordered to bring the matter to the Consular Court, instead of dealing with such cases in accordance with the law of the land. The Governor of Osaka is said to have urged upon the Central Government the importance of imposing taxes, in the same manner as Japanese, upon those foreigners in the mixed quarters in Osaka, who are engaged in the sale of Japanese manufactures or in the making and sale of foreign clothes and trunks, and upon those engaged in the professions of hair-dressers, actors, wrestlers, and the like. The Government, however, is believed to have replied that, although it recognizes the right to impose such taxes, the present is not a proper time to assert that right.

Applications have also been made by the Governors of Nagasaki, Tokushima, Shizuoka, and Fukuoka for the imposition of local taxes upon foreigners, and the Government is reported to have at first given its approval. But with regard to the method of dealing with the cases of failures to pay those taxes, there arose two different opinions in the Government, one set of officials maintaining that, if there is a right to impose taxes upon foreigners, that right should be enforced under the laws of the country, while another class contended that by proceeding in that way, the Government would lay itself open to the charge that it thereby interfered with the property rights of foreigners and might thus bring upon it the protest of foreign Powers. In consequence of this diversity of opinion, the approval which had been given to the proposed measure is said to have been afterwards withdrawn by the Government in Tokyo.

Though a way has been opened for the imposition of taxes upon aliens living outside the limits of foreign settlements, no step has yet been taken to extend the operation to those residing with in these settlements; nothing has as yet been done to levy national taxes upon foreigners. In the question of stamp-duties on an American patent medicine, and also in that of the engagement of a certain Swiss in the tobacco trade without a license, the demands of the Japanese Government were with difficulty attained. But in dealing with questions of this kind, the Government is said to have seldom adopted a resolute and decisive attitude.

THE VISIT OF FOREIGN MEN-OF-WAR TO NON-TREATY PORTS

The existing treaties contain no stipulation bearing upon the visit of foreign war-vessels to ports not opened for foreign intercourse. But foreign war-vessels are now freely entering all ports and harbours in any part of the country. Especially the recent entrance of English men-of war into the port of Muroran was virtually an act of defiance to the national rights of the country. This state of things is no doubt the result of erroneous precedents in the past left unconnected under the fatal policy of systematically neglecting the enforcement of treaty stipulations. To state some historical facts:—In the 4th month of the 3rd year of *Meiji*, a French man-of-war, desiring to visit Saga in Hizen, gave notice to that effect to the Governor of Nagasaki, through the French Consul at that place. The Governor replied that no foreign war-vessel was permitted to enter a non treaty port without the special permission of the Government. The French Minister refused to recognize such right on the part of the Japanese Government, and after consulting with the officer in command of the war-vessel in question, caused it to proceed to Saga. On arriving at that place, the French officer asked the local authorities for permission to go ashore, but that permission was refused. Thereupon the French Minister addressed a note to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, the late Sawa Nobuyoshi, protesting against the action of the local authorities of Saga, taking for his authority the Memorandum of the 2nd year of *Bunkyu*; to which the Minister of Foreign Affairs answered that, it being stated in the said Memorandum that without sufficient reason no foreign war-vessel should enter any of the non treaty ports, the Japanese Government had the right to decide whether the reason assigned in a given case is sufficient or otherwise, and that, consequently, no foreign war-vessel was allowed to enter any non-treaty port without the permission of the Japanese Government. The French Minister again wrote the Minister of Foreign Affairs, maintaining that the right to decide on the sufficiency of reason for the visit of foreign war-vessels to non-treaty ports resided entirely with the foreign Representative concerned, and that, it being stated in the Memorandum in question that foreign war vessels should be free to visit any of the ports in Japan, it was not necessary to obtain the permission of the Japanese Government. The Japanese Government is said to have made no reply to this second protest of the French Representative. The Memorandum alluded to is not found in the *Yoyaku Isan* ("Treaties and Conventions concluded between the Empire of Japan and Foreign Nations"), and it is doubtful whether the French Minister rightly quoted the text. In the 7th month of the 9th year of *Meiji*, a French man-of-war entered the port of Yamada, in the Prefecture of Iwate, and her officers went ashore and made an excursion as far as a village named Miyafuru. The Japanese Government at once protested to the French Minister against the breach of treaty committed by the French war-vessel and her officers, requesting him to prevent the ship in question from repeating similar actions. In reply to this, the French Minister maintained that French war-vessels were entitled to enter any non-treaty port without the permission of the Japanese

panies established by law shall not be required to insert the words 'Joint Stock' for purposes of registration"—would correct the defect.

After a brief discussion the Bill was passed through all its Readings at once.

Mr. Haseba Junko now asked permission to introduce, as a matter of urgency, a motion that, in view of the importance of the Questions addressed to the Government by Dr. Hatoyama with reference to the lawsuit arising out of the *Chishima-Ravenna* collision, the Ministers of State, from the Minister President downwards, should be invited to attend in their places and answer the Questions verbally.

The House agreed to change the Order of the Day so as to debate the motion at once.

Mr. Haseba desired to add that the Cabinet Ministers should be invited to attend within three days from that time.

The House voted the motion without debate.

Mr. Asaka Katsutaka, Chairman of the Special Committee, reported that three Bills relating to the amendment of the Registration Law had been before the Committee, and that they had taken the Asaka Bill as a basis, making certain additions and alterations as suggested by the other Bills.

Mr. Asakura opposed the Bill for the reasons often previously advanced, namely, that the transfer of the function of registration from the Courts of Law to the District Headmen, was a retrogressive measure.

The House, without further debate, voted to carry the Bill to a Second Reading.

Mr. Kato Masanosuke, Chairman of the Special Committee, reported in favour of the Bill for protecting the Hokkaido Aborigines, with several amendments.

After a brief debate the House voted against the Second Reading of the Bill.

At this point the Vice-President announced that he had been summoned to the Palace, and the House must either elect a temporary President or take a recess. The latter course was pursued, and at a few minutes past 4 o'clock, the House having re-assembled, the Vice-President, Mr. Kusumoto Masataka, announced that he had been nominated President by the Emperor. He expressed his thanks to the House for the great honour it had done him in electing him, and begged that his want of proficiency would be overlooked. Mr. Sato Shozo, on behalf of the House, heartily congratulated the President, and said that the members were much gratified by the Sovereign's prompt nomination of the man upon whom their choice had fallen.

On the motion of Mr. Konishi, it was decided to suspend further proceedings until a Vice-President had been elected, and the House rose at 4.40 p.m.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 10.30 a.m., the Order of the Day being:—

1 and 2.—Applications for leave of absence.
3.—First Reading of the Bill sent up from the Lower House for abolishing the Export Duty on Cotton Yarns.
4.—Appointment of a Special Committee to report upon the same.
5.—First Reading of a Bill introduced by Mr. Murata Tamotsu with respect to the Fishing Industry.
6.—First Reading of a Bill introduced by Baron Watanabe Kyoshi on the subject of the City Government System.
7.—Petition relating to the Opening of a Port in Chishima during the Winter, and the laying of a Submarine Cable.
8.—Petition relating to the Amendment of the Pawnbrokers Regulations.
9.—Petition relating to Shonai River.
10.—Petition relating to a Change of Districts.

Mr. Watanabe, Minister of State for Finance, briefly stated that the object of the Bill for removing the Export Duty on Cotton Yarns was to encourage Japan's foreign trade, and asked the House to pass the Bill.

Baron Ozawa asked what amount of duty was involved.

Mr. Kato, Government Delegate, replied that the figure was small: 224 *yen* in 1890, 203 *yen* in 1891, 283 *yen* in 1892, and 2,127 *yen* for the first 10 months of the current year.

The Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee nominated by the President.

Mr. Watanabe Jinkichi asked to have the Order of the Day changed for the purpose of immediately debating the Bill sent up from the Lower House for amending the Second Clause of the Eighth Article of the Commercial Code. The House knew what inconvenience had already been caused by the ambiguous wording of this clause. It seemed to require that certain kinds of trading institutions, as specified, should include the words "Joint Stock Company" in their business appellation, and should register that appellation. The Bank of Japan had applied for registration in Tokyo, and had been refused on the ground that the words prescribed were not included in its appellation, whereas the Specie Bank and others had obtained registration in Yokohama under precisely similar circumstances and without including any such words. The House of course understood that to make a change in the appellation of a Bank, especially a note-issuing Bank, involved serious operations in correcting all the Bank's paper. It was obviously desirable to prevent anything of the kind, and expedition had to be used inasmuch as the Law allowed only six months for registration, and that period would elapse at the close of the current year.

The House agreed to change the Order, and the Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee with directions to report on it by the 19th inst.

Mr. Murata Tamotsu, introducing the Fisheries Bill, explained that owing to the want of proper control, this most important branch of Japanese industry was gradually declining. He gave figures to show how the export of the principal marine products was falling off, for example, the export of dried *awabi* had declined from 1,550,000 *yen* in 1890 to 1,100,000 in 1892, and that of *bêche de mer* from 890,000 *yen* in 1890 to 860,000 *yen* in 1892. The chief cause of the decline was that fishing was carried on without the smallest discrimination, young, undeveloped fish being taken just as freely as the old and full grown. (The speaker here produced some dried *awabi* from a parcel, and showed that they had been only a few weeks old when taken.) It was scarcely necessary to point out that such recklessness was suicidal, for not only were the various classes of fish exterminated, but the immense enhancement of value secured by merely letting them remain for a year or two to develop was lost to the country. Nearly all other kinds of industry had laws to protect them, but fishing, which meant so much to Japan, had remained entirely neglected by legislators.

Several questions having been asked, the Bill was finally entrusted to a Special Committee of 9 chosen by the Sections.

Mr. Yasuba Howa explained the Bill relating to City Government, which was a measure intended to be carried into effect after the abolition of the present special system for the Three Great Cities. A Bill sent up from the House of Representatives and now awaiting discussion by the Peers, provided simply for rescinding the provision of law that exempted Tokyo, Osaka, and Kyoto from the general scheme of municipal government. The Bill now presented was intended to provide a proper system after that rescission had taken place.

Several lengthy questions having been asked and answered, the Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee elected by the Sections.

The four Petitions standing next on the Order, having been recommended by Prince Tokugawa, Chairman of the Petitions Committee, were adopted for presentation to the Government, and the House rose at 2.35 p.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.20 p.m., the Order of the Day being:—

1.—Election of a Vice-President.

The President announced the receipt of (1) a Bill for abolishing the Export Duty on Mining Products; and (2) an Address to the Throne with reference to the Subscription of 10 per cent. of their Salaries made by Officials for purposes of Military Defence.

The election of the Vice-President was then proceeded with, the result of the first ballot being:

	Votes
Mr. Abei Hankon	136
Mr. Kataoka Kenkichi	96
Mr. Suzuki Shoji	71
Mr. Kayetsu Ujifusa	66
Mr. Ando Kuka	64
Mr. Tsuda Mamichi	62
Mr. Kono Hironaka	42
Mr. Haseba Junko	35
Mr. Kawashima Jun	34
Mr. Shimada Saburo	27
Mr. Sasa Tomofusa	17
&c.	&c.

A second ballot was then taken to determine two other names besides that of Mr Abei, the result being:—

Mr. Kataoka Kenkichi	107
Mr. Ando Kuka	103
Mr. Suzuki Shoji	61
Mr. Kayetsu Ujifusa	26

The names of Messrs. Abei, Kataoka, and Ando were therefore submitted to the Emperor for His Majesty's nomination.

The President announced the receipt of a reply from the Government to the motion passed the preceding day to the effect that the House commissioned the President to invite the presence of all the Cabinet Ministers within three days for the purpose of answering the Questions propounded by Dr. Hatoyoma. The reply was that as the Ministers of State were entitled by law to attend in the House whenever they pleased, it was unnecessary for the House to take the trouble of inviting them on any particular occasion.—(Loud laughter throughout the House.)

The House rose at 3.08 p.m.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 18TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met at 10.40 a.m., the Order of the Day being:—

1.—Bill for amending the Tax-collecting Regulations, sent up from the Lower House.
2.—Appointment of a Special Committee to report upon the same.
3.—Bill relating to the capital of the Tokyo Military Arsenal.
4.—Appointment of a Special Committee to report upon the same.
5.—Report of the Special Committee on the Bill for making an addition to the Commercial Code.

After an explanation from Mr. Tajiri, Vice-Minister of State for Finance, the Bill for amending the Tax-collecting Regulations was entrusted to a Special Committee nominated by the President, as was also the Bill relating to the capital of the Tokyo Military Arsenal.

Count Ohara Shigetomo, Chairman of the Special Committee; reported in favour of the Bill for making an addition to the Commercial Code, as sent up from the Lower House, with, however, a slight verbal amendment.

After some discussion, the amendment proposed by the Committee was rejected, and the Bill was carried through its Second and Third Readings as sent up from the Lower House.

The House rose at 12, noon.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.50 p.m., the Order of the Day being:—

1.—Report of the Special Committee on the Bill for amending Imperial Ordinance No. 243 of the 22nd year of *Meiji*.
2.—Report of the Special Committee on the Bill for amending Law No. 4 of the 23rd year of *Meiji*.
3.—Report of the Special Committee on the Bill for amending the Treasury Notes Regulations.
4.—Report of the Special Committee on the Bill for amending the Banking Regulations.
5.—Report of the Special Committee on the Bill for amending the Bailiffs' Regulations.
6.—First Reading of the Bill for adding to the Law of Special Ports of Exports, introduced by Major-General Aoyama.
7.—Representation relating to Moors and Forests, introduced by Mr. Imai Isoichiro.
8.—Bill relating to the Preservation of Forests, introduced by Mr. Nakamura Yaroku.
9.—Law relating to a Special Financial System for the Capital of Forest Lands, introduced by Mr. Nakamura Yaroku.
10.—Petitions relating to the Establishment of an Agricultural Experiment Office, and the Control of Practitioners of Acupuncture.

The President announced the receipt of Replies from (1) the Minister of State for Home Affairs to Mr. Kato's Questions about the Control of Rivers, and (2) of the Minister of State for Communications to the Question by Mr. Otsubo Rishin with reference to a steamer service to the Goto Islands. The former was to the effect that the Government was fully alive to the importance of undertaking thorough

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works for the control of rivers, but that the nature of the investigations necessary before forming any comprehensive plan was such that the Government did not yet find itself in a position to make any definite statement of policy. The second reply was that the company whose steamers had been in the habit of calling at the Goto Islands had found it more expedient to increase the number of their voyages elsewhere, and consequently had ceased to make their boats touch at the Gotos, but inasmuch as the subsidy granted to the Company did not depend upon the particular voyages made by their boats, it had not been changed.

The President also announced the receipt of a Government Bill for including Mororan in the Special Ports of Export; also a Bill for allowing vessels to enter, load, and discharge cargo at Nahako in the Riukiu Islands; also a Bill for allowing ships engaged in trade with Saghalien to enter, load, and discharge cargo at Otaru; also, a Question from Mr. Shimizu Bunjiro with reference to Exchanges; also, an Address to the Throne introduced by Mr. Suzuki Manjuro on the subject of Lieut.-General Baron Ozawa's removal from the service; also, a Bill from Mr. Suzuki Manjuro relating to Home-brewed *Saké*.

Mr. Shimizu Bunjiro, explaining his Question with reference to the policy pursued by the Government in granting licenses to Exchanges, made a long, rambling speech, in which he charged the Ministers and Vice-Ministers of State, especially Count Goto and Mr. Saito Shuichiro, with receiving entertainments and presents from persons desiring to establish exchanges; claimed that even the services of the wives of Exchange-promoters were made use of to cajole the wives of officials; and in offensive terms called upon the Ministers of State not to hoodwink the House, but to come forward personally and give a frank explanation of their policy. During the course of his speech he was frequently interrupted by bursts of laughter from the House.

Mr. Ando Kiuka, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported in favour of the first two Bills on the Order of the Day, the object of both being to diminish the burden of tax-payers by a slight but important change in the places where taxes are payable, and by authorizing banks to become direct recipients of payments on account of taxes.

The two Bills were carried through their Second and Third Readings.

Mr. Sato Shozo, Chairman of the Special Committee, reported in favour of the Bill for amending the Treasury Notes Regulations, and it was carried through its Second and Third Readings.

Mr. Kozaka Zennosuke, Chairman of the Special Committee, reported in favour of the Bill for amending the Banking Regulations. The object of the Bill was to rescind the clause forbidding Banks to lend to one person or to one company a sum greater than one-tenth of their capital, and to change the banking hours so that they should be from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. instead of from 10 a.m to 4 p.m., as at present, with the proviso that the time might be increased according to the demands of business

After a brief discussion, the House voted to carry the Bill to a Second Reading, and passed it through the Second and Third Readings.

Mr. Kawashima Jun asked leave to introduce an Urgency Motion, in order that the House might pass a resolution calling upon the Government to adopt without further delay some decisive action with reference to the Address to the Throne on the subject of Official Discipline.

The House granted leave to change the Order of the Day, and Mr. Kawashima explained that the Address to the Throne had been passed on the 4th instant, yet the Government had taken no notice of it up to the present. If the charges preferred against the Cabinet Ministers admitted of rebuttal, they ought to be at once rebutted. If not, the Government should be under no doubt how to proceed. At all events, unless proper notice were taken of the matter, the House would be compelled to decline to pass the Budget or any Government Bills. He therefore moved a resolution that: "Whereas, on the 4th instant, the House had passed an Address to the Throne declaring that the Government's prestige had fallen to the ground, that it had become necessary to trouble the Imperia. hearing, and that the hearts of the people had become alienated, nevertheless the Government up to the present time had adopted no decisive course with regard to the Address, therefore now this House declares that some course should be adopted without delay."

Mr. Hashimoto Kiutaro supported the motion. He urged that an Address to the Throne was an affair of too great importance to be treated with neglect such as the Government had shown, and that the Cabinet Ministers, being personally charged with improper conduct, should not lose a day in coming forward either to defend themselves or to accept the responsibility.

The House voted the Resolution without debate.

Mr. Kono Hironaka asked to have the Order of the Day changed for the purpose of introducing an urgency motion to the effect that the House, in view of the Resolution just passed, should suspend its sittings for a week.

The House, by a vote of 131 to 119, refused permission to introduce the motion as a matter of urgency.

His Excellency Count Ito, Minister President of State, then addressed the House as follows:—

GENTLEMEN,—On the 4th instant, you introduced an urgency motion and passed an Address to the Throne on the subject of Official Discipline. You did not take the trouble to put any question to us on the subject. But the event is already of the past. There is no use now to make any complaint on that score. As matters stand, you have approached the Throne on the subject of Official Discipline, declaring that the Government's dignity has been impaired and that the Cabinet's credit has been lowered. The introducer of the motion further stated that the responsibility must be borne by the Minister President of State. I do not think it necessary to discuss the question of responsibility here. Now, while your views are actually before His Imperial Majesty, you have again passed a resolution to day, calling upon the Ministers to take some prompt step in connection with the Address. Let me inform you that on the 5th instant, that is to say, the day following that on which you voted the Address to the Throne, I waited on His Majesty and presented an Address which, with His Majesty's permission, I now propose to read to you.—(Cries of "Hear, hear!) The Premier then read the following document:—

"May it please Your August Majesty:—The undersigned, Your Majesty's humble servant, respectfully submits the present Address to Your Majesty. The undersigned, incompetent as he is, by Your Majesty's gracious favour, is charged with the grave responsibility of presiding over the Cabinet. It is his earnest wish by day and by night, to be worthy, in some small degree, of Your Majesty's unbounded favour by putting forth his utmost strength. The House of Representatives has presented to Your Majesty an Address relating to the relaxation of Official Discipline. The undersigned is exceedingly pained to find that, through his incapacity, Your Majesty's attention has been disturbed in respect of matters which he is charged with the duty of controlling. The undersigned herewith respectfully asks to take the responsibility upon himself and humbly prays for Your Majesty's decision.

(Signed) ITO HIROBUMI,
Minister President of State."

Do you still say that no step has been taken on the matter by the Cabinet? I must state to you distinctly that, since I am charged with the grave responsibilities of the State by the pleasure of His Majesty the Emperor, I cannot hastily desert my post in obedience to your resolution. I have simply to act in accordance with the Imperial decision, which has not yet been given, and for which I am respectfully waiting.

Mr. Suzuki Manjuro wished to ask the Minister of State for Education about what had passed at the Budget Committee's session when Dr. Hasegawa had spoken of the Department of Education as useless and mischievous, but the President ruled him out of order,

Mr. Kawashima Jun declared that the Resolution passed by the House had not been in any sense intended as pressing for a reply from the Throne, but had merely called on the Government to act constitutionally.

The Order of the Day was then resumed, and the Bill for amending the Bailiffs' Regulations was passed through its Second and Third Readings.

Major-General Aoyama, introducing the Bill for adding Mororan to the Special Ports of Export, explained that it was the only good port on the southern coast of Yezo, and that the railways projected for the first Construction Period would make it the converging point of a large carrying trade.

After a few questions and some discussion, in the course of which it was objected that Mororan being a military depôt, its conversion into a trading port of export by the effect of law would be a violation of the Imperial Prerogative, the closure was put and carried, and the Bill was carried to a Second Reading, but the House declined to proceed with the Reading at once.

The Representation urging the Government to take thorough steps for the protection of forests was entrusted to a Special Committee of 9 nominated by the President, and the same course was pursued with respect to Mr. Nakamura Yaroku's two Bills with reference to forests.

The two Petitions standing last on the Order were then adopted for presentation to the Government, and the House rose at 5.15 p.m.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House did not meet, the Committees alone assembling.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.15 p.m., the Order of the Day being:—

1.—Supplementary Budget for the 26th year of *Meiji*.
2.—Report of the Special Committee on the Bill for granting aid from the Treasury for purposes of Technical Education.
3.—First Reading of a Bill sent down from the Peers with reference to the Period of Probation for Judicial Officials.
4.—Appointment of a Special Committee to report upon the same.
5.—First Reading of a Government Bill for promoting Navigation.
6.—Appointment of a Special Committee to report upon the same.
7.—First Reading of a Project of Game Law, sent down from the Peers.
8.—Appointment of a Special Committee to report upon the same.
9.—First Reading of a Bill introduced by Mr. Kozaka Zennosuke for amending the Savings Bank Regulations.
10.—Second Reading of the Bill for amending the Law of Registration.
11.—Report of the Special Committee on the Newspaper Bill.

The President announced the receipt of (1) a Reply from the Government to Mr. Ugai Ikujiro's Question on the subject of the Sodo Sect; (2) a Question from Messrs. Suzuki Shoji, Misaki Kamenosuke and others on the subject of Treaty Revision; and (3) a Bill introduced by Dr. Hatoyama Kazuo for abolishing the Tax on Confectionery.

Mr. Suzuki Shoji, explaining the Question on Treaty Revision, referred to the Questions addressed to the Government in previous sessions and the Replies elicited. In each case assurances had been given that every possible effort was being made to solve the great problem, but as yet no solution seemed in sight. It became, therefore, most desirable to have a clear *exposé* of the Government's policy and of the degree of progress hitherto made towards its realization.

Mr. Ishida Kannosuke, Chairman of the Budget Committee, reported in favour of the Supplementary Budget. The sum involved was 843,721.437 *yen*, and the Government had been compelled to ask for it in consequence of the extraordinary fall that had taken place in the gold price of silver.

Mr. Nakano Buyei moved to defer the discussion of this Budget for two days, as the amount in question was large, and many items of expenditure were concerned.

The Minister of State for Finance objected to any postponement. The time for making the payments referred to in the Supplementary

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Budget was close at hand, and the Government had been obliged to introduce the Bill as a matter of urgency. He trusted that the House would discuss it at once.

The House rejected Mr. Nakano's motion for postponement, and passed the Supplementary Budget item by item without discussion.

Mr. Murayama Ryohei, on behalf of the Special Committee, reported in favour of the Bill for granting Aid from the Treasury for purposes of Technical Education, a few trifling amendments being, however, suggested by the Committee. In reply to a question, he said that the Committee had debated the fact of aid being limited to public schools and withheld from private, but the Government Delegate had informed them that private schools specially sanctioned would also be eligible for aid.

Mr. Amakasu Fumiye moved that as the funds to meet the expenditures required for the purposes of this Bill must be considered in connection with the Budget, further discussion of the Bill be deferred until the House had debated the Budget.

The President, in putting the motion to the House, elicited a universal burst of laughter by formulating, not Mr. Amakasu's words but his motive, namely, "that the discussion of the Bill be deferred until the question of Re-assessment of the Taxable Value of Land had been disposed of."

The House, by a vote of 99 to 96, adopted the motion.

The Minister of State for Justice explained the Bill relating to the Period of Probation of Judicial Officials, giving the same reasons as those already adduced by him in the Upper House. After a few questions the Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee nominated by the President.

Mr. Suzuki, Government Delegate, introducing the Bill for promoting navigation, said that although the navigation along the coasts had received considerable development, that to foreign countries was still in its infancy, and seemed unlikely to grow unless some measures such as the Bill contemplated were taken.

The Bill was entrusted to a Special Committee nominated by the President, and the same course was adopted with regard to the Game Law Bill.

Mr. Abei Hankon sought the permission of the House to change the Order of the Day for the purpose of introducing a Representation to the Government with reference to the Strict Enforcement of the Treaties.

The House consented, and Mr. Abei was proceeding to explain the Representation when the President announced the receipt of an Imperial Message ordering the Prorogation of the Imperial Diet for a period of ten days, namely, from the 19th to the 28th instant.

The House rose at 3 p.m.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

A CORRECTION.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—Allow me to call your attention to a slight error in the report given in yesterday's *Mail* (13th inst.) of the proceedings in the House of Representatives on the previous day.

Mr. Tanaka Shozo is reported to have interrupted Mr. Tatekawa Umpei's speech with the words, "Hold your tongue, No. 300." Now, when I read this, I naturally imagined that it was in accordance with the usual procedure of the Japanese Parliament, in which the members are addressed by numbers chosen by lot at the commencement of the first session, and not styled, as with us, "honourable members" for the places they represent. Commenting this morning upon this incident to some Japanese friends, I ventured to suggest the original of the remark, and was rather surprised to find my rendering, "*Sambyaku-ban damare*," was as completely wrong as it could be. I then learnt that what Mr. Tanaka actually said was, "*Sambyaku daigen, nani wo iu ka?*" By these words a studied insult was conveyed. For *daigennin* is a word for lawyer, now as a rule replaced by the word *bengoshi*. With *sambyaku* the word *mon* is understood, *i.e.* the tenth part of a *sen*. Three hundred *mon* equal three *sen* at the present day, and to call a lawyer in good practice a "pettifogging attorney" whose advice is not worth more than three *sen* a day is as insulting to the Japanese ear as to call a consulting physician a *yabu-isha*.

I am, Sir, yours, &c., Q.E.D.

December 14th, 1893

[We are much obliged for the correction. Our stenographic report gave only the words "*Sambyaku damare*." Evidently "Q. E. D.'s" version is correct.—Ed. *J.M.*]

INTOLERANCE AND BAD TASTE.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—In reading the reports of the Parliament of Religions, two notes of discord in the general harmony struck my attention.

The first was the advocacy of polygomy by Muhammad Webb, ex-U.S. Consul, who has embraced Islam, embracing at the same time probably a plurality of wives. He was hissed. The other was a reiterated charge of "falsehood" against Christianity, by Rev. H. Doki, a member of the Buddhist delegation from Japan. After enumerating the benefits conferred on Japan by Buddhism, he went on to say:—"It is a pity to see some *false* and obstinate religionists trying to introduce some *false* religion into our country. We Buddhists welcome any who are earnest after the *truth*, but can we keep silent to see the *falsehood* disturbing the peace and nationality of our country?"—(*Japan Weekly Mail*, November 18th.)

He was not hissed; but the use of such language before an audience consisting chiefly of Christians was, to say the least, hardly in keeping with the good manners characteristic of the Japanese people. While admitting the claim put forward by the speaker that Buddhism has conferred many benefits on Japan, the Christians who listened to him are not prepared to acknowledge that Buddhism possesses a monopoly of "*truth*." In their estimation one of its greatest merits is that of having prepared the way for a religion of greater spiritual power—one whose renewing energy Japan must feel before she attains the last stage in her upward progress.

W. A. P. M.

Peking, December 3rd, 1893.

JAPANESE CHARACTERISTICS.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—I was once told by a Japanese that the Japanese people, even the educated and intelligent classes, had no true appreciation of the meaning of law and legal rights. "They favour law," he said, "so long as it favours their side; but they override it, as soon as it stands in their way." I have also heard it stated (this time by a foreigner) that the Japanese do not know really how to trust each other, that their suspicions are awake, that they do not believe each other. These generalizations I have always treated, hitherto—as so many other generalizations concerning the Japanese—as half-truths, not any more applicable to them than to any other people.

But the recent developments in the Lower House of Parliament have been of a character to undermine even the staunchest faith. Hoshi Toru has been a man known to political life for many years. His career has been a long one, filled with distinguished services to the Liberal cause in Japan. His ability and his devotion cannot be denied even by his enemies. Nor can they deny that he filled the chair of President most admirably, always impartial, dignified and resolute. Even the bitterest enemies of parliamentary government in Japan usually became silent when Hoshi Toru's name was mentioned. It was felt that he adorned his position, and would have adorned a similar position in any civilized country.

A year or more ago this man was admired by all the Liberal parties. All the newspapers thought the choice of the Liberals for President of the Lower House was irreproachable. There was practically but one voice. But for an action, or actions, that so far as I can understand (and also so far as a few independent and capable Japanese understood) would be held innocent in any Western country—on a trumped up charge—Hoshi Toru is fairly hooted out of Parliament. He is treated like a criminal, and the vast majority seem to have taken a positive delight in adding a parting kick to this eminent man. The law is twisted to suit the tastes of a majority. Indeed, the original charge is wholly laid aside, and the only charge on which he is expelled is that he did, what he clearly had a right to do, viz., resumed his chair at the end of a week's suspension. This is the sense of law and sense of gratitude of the vast majority of the Lower House. I confess the whole proceeding is sufficient to stagger one's faith in the Japanese. "The Japanese wish to have all the advantages, but none of the disadvantages of laws," said my Japanese friend. Is not the treatment of Hoshi Toru an illustration of this? If law is worth anything it must be good at a crisis. All the Japanese members of parliament want is to override a law by a sufficient majority. All the need, to show a plentiful lack of gratitude to a distinguished man, is a trumped-up charge against him.

December 16th, 1893. T. F. L.

YOKOHAMA SAILING CLUB.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—It is to you we fly when we have a question which the proper parties ought to be able to answer and can't—or won't. The "proper person" in this case is the "Yokohama Sailing Club—and the "daily question" is why does not the Committee settle up with the Prize winners of last summer, or give them some reason for the peculiar state of affairs. Many of us have won prizes (?) and have purchased trophies and called them "Won by yacht 'So-so,' May, or June, or July, 1893;" and for these we have paid out of our own pockets in hopes that the Committee, as in olden times was always their custom, would send along the equivalent before very long. Not a single Club Prize has been allotted yet, and we certainly would like to know the reason why.

I am, yours truly, BREEZE.

Yokohama, December 23rd, 1893

THE JAPANESE EXHIBIT AT THE WORLD'S FAIR (No. V.)

(From our own Correspondent.)

FINE ARTS.

Chicago, November 6th.

To treat satisfactorily and justly the subject of Japanese Art at the World's Fair, would require several columns. Little, moreover, remains to be written on this topic for the readers of the *Mail*, whose editor, *facile princeps*, has already lengthily and critically discussed the subject. It is left to me, without much knowledge of æsthetics, merely to record the impressions made on this side of the Pacific by the numerous and excellent specimens of Japanese art on exhibition at the World's Fair.

The manifestations of the Japanese artistic instinct were by no means confined to the exhibits in the Art Galley. It may be true that the latter alone, from the strict and scientific standards of Japanese æstheticism, deserved to be classed under "fine arts." But the public in general, with perhaps less philosophy, but more feeling or sentiment, have found in all the Japanese exhibits evidences of taste and art. A writer in the *Nation* says of the exhibit in the Transportation Building:—"Even the Japanese show, by comparative illustrations of their ancient and modern work, that we may hope that the accuracy and strength of European and American engineering may yet be combined with the exquisite taste and finish of the Orient." The visitors to the World's Columbian Exposition have learned, what visitors and residents in Japan so quickly learn, that in everything Japanese everywhere "art reigns supreme." In the department of pure manufactures Japan has been accorded first place, and in that of artistic manufactures has been placed second, if to any country, only to Germany.

It is unnecessary, perhaps, to single out the most striking and attractive articles of the exhibit, almost every item of which elicited sincere and deserved encomiums. At the same time it was, of course, difficult for the uninitiated to comprehend the mysteries of Japanese art, as the following witnesseth:—"The Japanese and the Russian sections of the department of fine arts of the Exposition are now open to the public. Each is exceedingly interesting, and nothing could be much more striking than the contrast between the art of the Russian north and the Japanese south. While each is interesting, from them little can be learned which will serve to advance art knowledge. The latter especially belongs more to the realm of curios, one is prone to think, than to that of picture painting."

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More appreciative, however, was the *Tribune* art critic in the following characterization.—"In the Oriental exhibits that wonderfully artistic nation, Japan, takes the lead, and its exhibits have been the centre of popular attraction, whether in carving, painting, embroideries that rival the finest effects of the brush, or in bronzes that challenge those of Russia for artistic skill. Had Japan sent only the twelve falcons its exhibit would have been one of the notable features of the gallery." To drop "from the sublime to the ridiculous," from the artistic to the practical, it may just be noted, that "Japan reports its greatest sales in porcelains and cloisonné. Boston has been the most liberal purchaser. Chicago has made a few judicious selections." I hope to be able later to state what disposal shall have been made of the most prominent articles.

"HOÔDEN."

The triune structure called *Hoôden* (Phœnix Hall) is Japan's permanent exhibit, and has won universal admiration; it is acknowledged to be one of the greatest "wonders" of the wonderful exposition. Its curious "architecture, decorations, furniture, and reliques have attracted much attention:" its corridors have been crowded with visitors eager to inspect the quaint and beautiful rooms with the various articles of exhibit.

"AS OTHERS SEE."

In order to obtain various expert criticisms upon the Japanese exhibit, I sent out twenty four circular letters to Exposition officials and Editors of Chicago dailies, and requested from each the favour of a brief opinion of the Japanese and their exhibits (in each department). Mayor Harrison, chosen also to represent *The Times*, could not have received my letter till the day before he was assassinated, and, as no response has come, evidently had laid it aside temporarily, now permanently. From eleven I have thus far had answers, and hope to receive from others later; but do not expect to get replies from all. Here follow the essential portions of each letter.—

FROM THE EDITOR OF THE "NEWS RECORD."

"The Japanese exhibit, as a whole, is magnificent, almost perfect in its way, and has won golden opinions. The *Hoôden* is especially marvelous. The Japanese have come nearer than any other foreign country, except Germany, to making a well-rounded display in every department of the Exposition.

"C. H. DENNIS."

FROM THE EDITOR OF THE "HERALD."

"I regret very much to say that I have had no opportunity to look over the Japanese exhibits at the World's Fair. My visits to the Fair have been made late in the afternoon or on Sundays, and at these times the Japanese exhibits have been closed. From all I have heard, the exhibit is one of the greatest at the Exposition; it has been instructive to America, and I believe that it will prove extremely valuable to Japan. The falcons exhibited by Mr. Tadamasa Hayashi in the Art Building I have seen a number of times, and each time my respect for the thoroughness and patience of the Japanese has increased.

"I wish that I could write something more comprehensive to you. I am in a measure responsible for any mention which the exhibits have received in the columns of the *Herald*, inasmuch as I have given instructions that considerable space should be devoted to the most interesting features of the Exposition, and one of the most important and instructive has been the exhibit from Japan.

"JAS. W. SCOTT."

FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE WORLD'S CONGRESS AUXILIARY.

"As I have been able to pay only a few hurried visits to the wonderful Exposition, I am not qualified to speak of the Japanese exhibit, except to say, in a general way, that I think it very fine and highly creditable. I am, however, in a position to add, that the Japanese participation in the World's Congresses of 1893 was of such a character as to command the attention and respect, and in many cases the warm admiration, of those who had the pleasure of listening to the representatives of Japan, in the wonderful Parliament of Religions, the Real Estate Congress, and on other occasions.

"CHARLES C. BONNEY."

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF WORKS.

"I take pleasure in saying, that I heartily join in the general admiration of the Japanese exhibit at the World's Columbian Exposition. It is an appropriate representation of the trade, skill, and ability of the people of that wonderful nation.

"D. H. BURNHAM."

FROM THE CHIEF OF THE DEPARTMENT OF MINES AND MINING.

"Considering the size of the country, I can truthfully state that no other foreign exhibitor in the Mining Building has installed a more attractive and comprehensive mining and mineral exhibit than has Japan. The method of arranging the exhibit was exceedingly neat and appropriate; the minerals shown seem to be representative of Japan's resources in this line, and, from their very uniqueness, as in the case of the beautiful crystals of Stibnite, attract unusual attention. The maps exhibited by the Imperial Geological Survey in their completeness and accuracy were, indeed, a surprise to even scientific men of my acquaintance, who had not earned of the wonderful development science has reached in Japan. It is a most interesting and varied exhibit all through, and contributed very largely to the success which the mining exhibit met, from both a scientific and popular standpoint.

"F. J. V. SKIFF."

FROM THE CHIEF OF THE FISHERIES DEPARTMENT.

"The exhibit of fish and fisheries made by Japan is deserving of the highest commendation, not only for its diversity and magnitude, but because of the systematic and scientific arrangement of collections. I deem it but just to say, that in the preparation and installation of its fishery display, Japan is excelled by none, and equalled by few foreign countries. Indeed, in all my experience with fishery exhibits, extending over a period of thirteen years, I have never seen higher intelligence displayed in working out a systematic illustration of fishery industries.

"If I was less pressed with a multiplicity of demands upon my time, it would afford me great pleasure to speak in detail of the exhibit made by Japan in my Department. I hope to do justice, however, in my official report, and trust that the few words I have written may suffice for your present purpose, and that, at least, it will convey to you, and to readers of the journal for which you write some idea of the appreciation which I feel for the part taken by Japan in this Exposition, and for the interest and intelligence displayed by its people: and particularly for the officials who have been charged with the responsibility of collecting and installing exhibits sent here.

"J. W. COLLINS."

FROM THE CHIEF OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRICITY.

"It gives me much pleasure to answer your letter, as the Japanese exhibit has been one of the most attractive in our section of the Exposition, and I am glad of an opportunity to express my pleasure and to thank the people of Japan for the interest they have taken in our section. I desire also to congratulate the Japanese people in having overcome some of the gravest obstacles with which the electrical people of our country have had to contend. The exhibit of electrical earthquake instruments is a demonstration that the people of Japan are *en rapport* with the latest developments in electrical science made in our western country; and shows that to mechanical execution as well as in the mystery of electrical details the Japanese people are thoroughly abreast of the times. The finish of the Seismograph apparatus is exceedingly clever, and the principles involved are based upon approved science. Thanking the people of Japan again through you for their very clever and interesting exhibit, ...

"J. P. BARRETT."

FROM THE CHIEF OF THE LIBERAL ARTS DEPARTMENT.

"The exhibits made by the Japanese at this Exposition have been in all respects superb. Those in the department of liberal arts have been specially interesting. In all respects they have rivalled the exhibits of the foremost nations.

"SELIM H. PEABODY."

FROM THE CHIEF OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLICITY AND PROMOTION.

"The exhibit of Japan at the World's Columbian Exposition is in very many respects not excelled by that of any other country. Its excellence, variety and comprehensiveness have been the subject of general remark by officials of the Exposition and all others qualified to express an opinion. Personally, I have been very much impressed by the thoroughness with which the Japanese Commissioners have done their work. An instance of this thoroughness which occurs to my mind was the preparation of matter for the Japanese section of the Official Catalogue, Japan was almost the only country supplying a complete and legible list of its exhibits in time for publication at the opening of the Exposition, and I had great pleasure in emphasizing this fact in my official report to the Director-General.

"M. P. HANDY"

FROM THE CHIEF OF THE TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT.

"I take great pleasure in stating that the Japanese exhibit in the Department of Transportation Exhibits consists of naval models and engineering models and drawings. It was carefully prepared, well installed, and attracted great attention from the public in general, as well as from those interested more particularly in these subjects.

"WILLARD A. SMITH."

FROM THE CHIEF OF THE DEPARTMENT OF MANUFACTURES.

"I have the highest appreciation of the gentlemen sent here to represent the Japanese Government; and Mr. Tejima, and his secretary, Mr. Yamabe, together with their associate commissioners, with whom I have had much official and social intercourse, will retain a permanent and pleasant place in my memory. Of the Japanese exhibit, I can only say that it compares favourably in every respect with the magnificent exhibits of the great European nations. The exhibit as a whole attracted its share of attention from visitors to the great Exposition; and it affords me great pleasure, in parting, to bear testimony to the high character, zeal, and energy of the distinguished representatives of Japan sent here, and the very high esteem in which they are held by all co-labourers with me in the great Department of Manufactures.

"JAMES ALLISON."

If these gentlemen have written their opinions with sincerity, and have not attempted to flatter, (and I have not the slightest occasion to suspect either insincerity or flattery), Japan has abundant reason to be proud of her exhibits, whether things or persons. And I may add, *without exaggeration*, that the Japanese at the Fair have been greatly admired for their urbanity and unvarying courtesy.

LETTER FROM CHICAGO.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT)

Chicago, November 25th.

The Christmas number of *Short Stories* contains a Japanese story by Mrs. McNeil Scott, "who lived in the Satsuma valley and is therefore well qualified to write of Japan."

Mr. N. W. McIvor, the new U.S. Consul-General at Kanagawa, is a comparatively young man. He was graduated in 1882 from Trinity College, Hartford, Conn.; then spent two years in the study of law at Harvard University; and since 1884 has been a practicing attorney at Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

During the World's Fair the truth of the following clipping was several times proven:—

Young Poodlekins. "Watch that Japanese fellow bow and smile when I speak to him. Hello, Jappy! How! There did you see him? Isn't a Jap a peculiar creature anyhow?"

Mrs Quick: "Yes, I have noticed it. One peculiarity about a Japanese is that he is always a gentleman."

It is reported from San Francisco, that the Chinese have been ordered by the Six Companies to register in compliance with the amended requirements of the Geary Law.

Hawaiian affairs continue to be the chief subject of public interest and discussion. Since my last letter two steamers have arrived from Honolulu, and bring news of no change in the state of affairs there up to the 16th instant. U.S. Minister Willis has been officially received, and has exchanged formal greetings with the authorities of the Provisional Government, but has not yet publicly accomplished anything in the way of the restoration of the Queen, if that be his purpose. All advices from Honolulu seem to agree that the Provisional Government will not give up without a struggle, and that Minister Willis, if he heeds American public opinion, will scarcely use force.

Commissioner Blount's report, at least in its essential portions, has been made public, and has naturally aroused a lively debate. Ex-Minister Stevens and Hawaiian Minister Thurston have both made public statements, denying the trustworthiness of his testimony and impeaching the truth of his statements and inferences. The whole matter just now seems to be a fearful muddle.

Blount's report contains one passage which is of direct interest in Japan. It says:—

On the evening of the day when the flag was hauled down, the American Minister called on me with a Walter G. Smith who, he said, desired to make an important communication to me, and whom he knew to be very intelligent and reliable. Thereupon Mr. Smith, with intense gravity, informed me that he knew beyond doubt that it had been arranged between the Queen and the Japanese Commissioner that if the American flag and troops were removed the troops from the Japanese man-of-war *Naniwa* would land and reinstate the Queen. Mr. Smith was the editor of the Hawaiian *Star*, established by the Annexation Club for the purpose of advocating annexation.

The American Minister expressed his belief in the statement of Mr. Smith, and urged the importance of the American troops remaining on shore until I could communicate with you and you could have the opportunity to communicate with the Japanese Government and obtain from it assurances that Japanese troops would not be landed to enforce any policy on the Government or people of the Hawaiian Islands. I was not impressed much with these statements.

When the Japanese Commissioner learned that the presence of the Japanese man-of-war was giving currency to suggestions that his Government intended to interfere with domestic affairs here, he wrote to his Government asking that his vessel be ordered away, which was done. He expressed to me his deep regret that any one should charge that the emperor of Japan, having so many reasons to value the friendship of the Govern-

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ment of the United States, would consent to offend that Government by interfering in the political conflicts in these lands, to which it was averse. In the light of subsequent events I trust the correctness of my action will be the more fully justified.

Advices from Washington also state that "a full understanding between the United States and Japan now exists, and that the two Governments are co-operating to secure the restoration of the Queen without bloodshed."

From Madrid comes the news, received from Brazil, that Admiral Mello has proclaimed the restoration of the Empire in the name of the Count d'Eu's eldest son, who is eighteen years of age.

Great interest has been excited here in behalf of ten Russian convicts, who escaped from Saghalien in a small Japanese sampan, and afterwards reached San Francisco in whaling vessels. Through doubt concerning their right of asylum, they were confined for a time in prison at San Francisco; but they have finally been decided by Secretary Carlisle to be "political offenders," and have been released.

The U.S Supreme Court (only two Justices dissenting) has handed down a decision by which the term "high seas" has been applied to the "unenclosed waters of the Great Lakes."

The triple screw cruiser *Columbia* on its official trial trip made an average speed of 22.81 knots per hour; and has thus earned for its builders a premium of $350,000, as the contract called for only 21 knots.

The first snow of the season fell in this city on the 21st inst., and brought with it severe weather which has continued to date.

Springfield, Mass., was visited on the 22nd inst. by a million dollar fire in the business portion; and the next day Detroit, Mich., suffered from an $800,000 fire, in which several lives were lost.

Rev. Dr. C. F. Deems, of New York City, died on the 17th inst.

Hon. Jeremiah M. Rusk passed away on the 21st inst. after a painful illness. Day before yesday simple ceremonies were held in his home at Viroqua, Wis.; and then his body lay in state in the Methodist Church of that place. Yesterday the public funeral took place; it was honoured with the presence of ex-President Harrison, ex-Attorney-General Miller, and many prominent Wisconsin men.

"Jerry Rusk," as he was familiarly called, was first a stage driver and hotel-keeper; then he went to the Wisconsin Legislature. His service here was interrupted by the Civil War, in which he served faithfully and rose to the rank of Brevet-Brigadier-General of Volunteers. After two terms as bank comptroller of Wisconsin, he had three terms in the House of Representatives. He declined two appointments (Chargé d'Affaires for Paraguay and Uruguay, and Chief of Bureau of Printing and Engraving), and then was three times elected Governor of Wisconsin. In 1886 he distinguished himself by the firmness with which he "put down" the Anarchists in Milwaukee. His last service was as Secretary of Agriculture.

There is great suffering at Hurley and other points in Northern Wisconsin and Michigan among the miners of the Gogebic range. Five thousand miners are out of work; so that twenty thousand persons are suffering and will suffer this winter. Governor Pick has appealed for aid.

On the 18th inst. all employés of the Lehigh Valley Road went out on strike; and since then no freight has been moved on that road, and passenger trains are not regular.

The epidemic of cranks and lunatics is continuing. A crazy woman in this city made a vain attempt to kill Rev. Dr. P. S. Henson, of the First Baptist Church; and a crank in New York City was one day rushing about, crying out, "Down with the rich," and shooting in at the windows of Delmonico's restaurant.

The thirty-eighth annual game dinner at the Grand Pacific Hotel of this city, the other day, was a celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of John B. Drake as a hotel landlord. It is said that, on account of the annually increasing scarcity and expense of game, these dinners will hereafter be discontinued.

It is expected that the new Tariff Bill will be completed by Monday (27th), after which the Republican members of the Ways and Means Committee will have 10 days in which to prepare a minority report. This bill is quite radical, and has been framed on the basis of revenue instead of protection. The free list will include "nearly all raw and crude materials which enter into manufactures," such as "wools, hair of the camel and goat, bituminous coal, iron ore, lumber, salt, silver bearing lead ore, flax, hemp, jute, and a large number of chemicals." The duties will be greatly reduced on chinaware, bottles, glass ware, plate glass, steel rails, pig iron, bar iron, cutlery, block tin, wooden manufactures, textile fabrics (silk, woollen, and cotton goods), and many agricultural products. The question of sugar is not yet settled, though the bounty will probably be abolished. The tax on whiskey will be increased; possibly a duty levied on sugar; and an income tax may be established. Many of these changes will, of course, be vigorously opposed in Congress.

It seems now quite certain that the main Exposition buildings, at least those around the Court of Honour, will be saved. By contract they may stand till May 1, 1895, and by force of public opinion will probably be made permanent structures. The South Park Commissioners say that they will take no action at present concerning the disposal of the buildings, but will wait for public opinion to settle the question.

With some of the buildings preserved, and many of the exhibits given to the Columbian Museum, Chicago bids fair to have the World's Fair always! Among recent donations to the Museum are included the gates and show-cases of the Japanese Manufactures Exhibit, the entire Japanese Forestry Exhibit, the Lady's Boudoir (on authority of Princess Mori), the great Ward natural science collection, all the Siamese exhibit except a collection of woman's work, $50,000 in World's Fair Stock from the Illinois Central Railway, and the promise of some fine specimens of Japanese art. The Japanese are certainly very generous to the Museum.

The Chicago *Herald* the other morning contained an article showing that the foreign exhibitors at the Fair had made large sales and "big money" on their exhibits, and that too in spite of the "hard times." The Italians head the list, with the Germans and French next, and the English, Austrians, Spanish, Russians, and Japanese come in the third row. "The cheerful Japanese go home with bursting pockets." "The Japanese disposed of nearly all their fine pottery, ivory carvings, and other artistic displays in Manufactures Hall." From the reports, however, of the Japanese themselves, they were much disappointed in their sales. And I am inclined to think, that this seeming failure to dispose of their goods rests partly upon the excessively large number of exhibits, and, growing out of that, partly on the crowded and disorderly condition of the Section. They ought not to have expected to sell such a multitudinous number of articles, and, comparatively speaking, they really did well.

R. G. Dun and Co.'s report this morning says that the revival of industries is slow, money is still accumulating, and general trade is picking up.

I append one more answer, recently received, to my request for an opinion on the Japanese exhibit at the World's Fair. It comes

FROM THE EDITOR OF THE "CHICAGO TRIBUNE."

"I regret to say that by reason of ill-health I was unable to make a satisfactory examination of the interesting Japanese exhibits, and therefore could not write an expert criticism thereof. The impression produced on my mind of what Japanese art I did see, was, that it was very beautiful, unique, and original, and I confess I felt greatly pleased, and I may say delighted, thereat. In art and taste and æsthethics the Japanese people are the French of the Orient. They certainly possess love and appreciation of the beautiful in art and nature to a remarkable and indeed prëeminent degree. "JOSEPH MEDILL."

GAME LAW.

CHAPTER I.—HUNTING IMPLEMENTS AND METHOD OF HUNTING.

Art. I.—The term "hunting" used in the present law, means to capture birds or animals by the agency of fire arms, nets of any kind, falcons, ropes or poles armed with bird lime, or ropes, or traps (*hago*).

The exact nature of the implements mentioned in the foregoing clause shall be determined by the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce.

Art. II.—To capture birds or animals by the agency of explosives, gun traps, or dangerous gyns or pit-falls, shall not be lawful.

With respect to any hunting implement or method of hunting not enumerated in the foregoing clauses, local Governors may enact regulations for control and superintendence, by permission of the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce.

Art. III.—Before sunrise, after sunset, in a street, or within range of any thickly populated locality, or place where a crowd is assembled, or of any building, ship, or train, hunting is interdicted.

Art. IV.—In the following places no hunting shall be allowed:—

1. Imperial Preserves.
2. Places where notifications prohibiting hunting are posted.
3. National and Prefectural Roads.
4. Public parks.
5. Grounds reserved for Shrines and Temples.
6. Cemeteries.
7. Private grounds, fenced, or enclosed, or in which any agricultural product is cultivated. Provided that this prohibition shall not apply if permission of the owner or superintendent of such land shall have been obtained.

Art. V.—Local Governors may, in accordance with an application of a landowner, or for any other reasons which they deem sufficient, issue a notification prohibiting the pursuit of game.

CHAPTER II.—HUNTING LICENSES.

Art. VI.—Any persons desiring to pursue game must obtain a hunting license by applying to the Local Governor. Provided that the pursuit of game within fenced or enclosed private grounds without the use of fire-arms shall be exempted from this provision.

Any person against whom the penal provisions of Art. XXI. have been enforced, shall not be competent to apply for a license before a period of one year has elapsed.

Art. VII.—Hunting licenses shall be divided into two kinds; namely, licenses for professional, and licenses for amateur, pursuers of game. Each of these kinds shall be subdivided into classes A. and B.

A license for professional pursuers of game shall be granted to any person who makes hunting an occupation; and a license for an amateur pursuer of game, to any person who hunts for pleasure.

Licenses of class A. shall be granted to any person who pursues game without fire-arms, and those of class B. to any person who employs fire arms.

Art. VIII.—The following shall not be competent to receive a license for the professional pursuit of game:—

1. Any official of or above the rank of *hannin*, or any persons entitled to receive the treatment of such an official.

Those who are not in receipt of salaries shall be excepted.

2. Any person who pays income tax.
3. Any person who pays more than 15 *yen* of Land-tax.
4. Any member of a family the head of which pays more than 15 *yen* of income tax.

Art. IX.—The following fees shall be paid for licenses according to the kind:—

Professional license	Class A. *yen*	0.50
	Class B *yen*	1.00
Amateur license	Class A. *yen*	10.00
	Class B. *yen*	20.00

Art. X.—The period covered by a license of class A. shall be one full year, from the 15th day of the 10th month (October 15th); and that for a license of class B. shall be from the 15th day of the 10th month to the 15th day of the 4th month of the following year.

Local Governors shall have competence, subject to the sanction of the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, to shorten the foregoing period by 30 days at most.

Art. XI.—A license can be used only by the person to whom it is granted.

Art. XII.—A pursuer of game must carry his license with him when he goes out in pursuit of game.

Police gendarmes, forestry officials, or Headmen of *shi, cho,* and *son* are competent to call for the production of a license.

In the above cases, no pursuer of game can refuse to produce his license for inspection.

Art. XIII.—If a license is lost, the fact must be notified to the Police Station of the district, and to the office where the license was originally obtained.

When a license is lost or destroyed, its holder may apply for a new license. In such case a fee of 25 *sen* shall be paid.

Art. XIV.—No person under 16 years of age shall receive a license of class B.

Art. XV.—Within 30 days after the expiration of the period covered by a license it shall be returned to the office where it was originally received.

Art. XVI. Any foreigner who has obtained an Amateur License may pursue game within the limits fixed by Treaty, but in the event of his pursuing game beyond those limits, his license shall thenceforth become invalid.

CHAPTER III.—PROTECTION OF BIRDS AND ANIMALS.

Art. XVII.—It shall be unlawful to capture birds and animals the protection of which is deemed essential. The kinds of such birds and animals, and the duration of the period of protection, shall be determined by the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, according to the condition of the locality.

Art. XVIII.—It is prohibited to take or sell the eggs or young of the birds and animals, the capture of which is forbidden under the provisions of the preceding Article.

Art. XIX.—Even in the case of birds and

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animals enumerated in Arts. XXIV. and XXV., should it be considered that their removal or capture is conducive to the protection of wild cocoons, or to the pursuit of scientific research, or to other purposes, the local Governor shall have competence to sanction such removal or capture.

If it be considered necessary to remove or capture noxious birds or beasts, the Local Governor may grant a permit for the purpose.

CHAPTER IV.—PUNISHMENTS.

Art. XX.—Any person who pursues game in contravention of Art. VI., Clause 1, or who obtains a license of class B. in violation of the provisions of Art. XIV., shall be subject to a fine of not less than 3 *yen* and not more than 30 *yen*. When a professional license is obtained in violation of the provisions of Art. VIII., a fine of not less than 7 *yen* and not more than 70 *yen* shall be imposed.

Art XXI.—Any person who violates the provisions of Art. II., Clause 1 of Art. III., or of Art. IV., Clauses 1 to 6; shall be subject to a fine of not less than 5 *yen* and not more than 50 *yen*.

The license of a person fined under the foregoing Articles shall thereafter become invalid.

Art. XXII.—Any person who violates the provisions of Art IV., Clause 7; Art. XII., Clause 3; Art. XVII., Clause 1; or Art. XVIII., shall be subject to a fine of not less than 2 *yen* and not more than 20 *yen*. Provided that, with respect to violations of Art. IV. Clause 7, the penalty shall not be imposed unless the landowner or the person who has charge of the land takes legal proceedings.

Art. XXIII.—Any person who violates Art. XII., Clause 1; Art. XIII. Clause 1; or Art. XV., shall be subject to a fine of not less than 1 *yen* and not more than 1.95 *yen*.

ADDITIONAL ARTICLE.

Art. XXIV.—The present Law shall go into force from the 16th day of the 4th month of the 24th year of *Meiji* (April 16th, 1894)

"THE ANCIENT MARINER" AT THE PUBLIC HALL.

Some of the best traditions of the Yokohama Choral Society were revived in the concert given by the members on Wednesday evening in the Public Hall. The house was well-filled and seated before the concert commenced, while success attended the efforts of all concerned. Barnett, to our way of thinking, never fully grasped the spirit of Coleridge's mystical Rime, many of its subtler meanings eluding him altogether. The Cantata is therefore rather unequal, in parts disappointing by a meagre tawdriness, while charming in others by unexpected bursts of purest music worthily attained. But with all its trifling faults the work is a brilliant attempt at placing the almost perfect words within an appropriate and noble setting. Allowance must always be made for the handicap placed upon a composer who chooses such a theme as "The Rime of the Ancient Mariner" for his pen. The sweet cadences of the harmoniously blended words have long since gained for themselves an individuality which only a genius, greatly daring, could hope to disturb; and fortunately or unfortunately Barnett has not succeeded in immortalising his music at the expense of the poem.

The opening chorus on Wednesday evening went very well, but this cannot be said of all the others, some dragging noticeably. The Bridal Chorus was carried through with good effect, the nervousness apparent at the beginning having worn off. To Mr. Fenton (tenor) fell the introduction and the earlier Airs, and he acquitted himself well. His voice is of fairly high register, but needs training and developing ere it can successively tackle the difficulties of the Public Hall platform. With an increase of confidence, Mr. Fenton's vocal career should prove a very bright one. Mrs. W. W. Campbell was in excellent voice, and her rendering of "The fair breeze blew," was exceedingly delightful. Mrs Campbell also took the part of the "First Voice," and here again she charmed her audience by the dainty tenderness of expression thrown into every line. The contralto parts were in the capable hands of Miss Webb, and the cultured vocalist deserved the warm applause accorded her throughout the evening, and Mr. Goldman was equally successful in doing justice to the heavy share allotted to him. He had a tendency at times to lapse into an operatic mode of interpretation, but these were slight errors of judgment which did not mar the general effect of his evening's performance. The recitative, "And now this spell was snapt," was perhaps one of his best efforts. Mr. Fenton shone to advantage in the following Air, "The harbour bay was clear as glass," and the audience fully appreciated the delicate handling of the subject. The soprano and alto chorus, "This seraph-band," is among the happiest in the book, and was given faultlessly. The concluding quartett and chorus was a great success, the parts being well-balanced with no tendency to slur the sharply contrasted quatrains.

Much credit is due to the President, Mr. Griffin, for the able manner in which he kept the chorus together under his *baton*; it was an arduous task adroitly carried to completion. Mr. Keil presided at the organ, and Miss Moulton at the pianoforte, and they made most efficient accompanists. The *flauto obligato* of Mr. Lafaye de Micheaux were exceedingly clever.

The second part of the programme consisted of five numbers. Miss A. Mendelson gave Chopin's difficult "Fantasie-Impromptu," and was recalled. She bowed her thanks, and was then presented with a handsome basket of flowers. Miss Bloxham's rendering of Schumann's "Er, der Herrlichste von Allen," was another of those delightful vocal treats with which this accomplished young lady always favours us whenever she appears before a Yokohama concert audience. She was enthusiastically recalled, but the lateness of the hour made an encore impossible. Mr. Ramseger's violin solo was De Beriot's "Air varié" and, as usual, proved a marvellous exhibition of his powers. Wolfram's Ester-Gesang, from "Tannhauser," was sung with good effect by Mr. Seel; and the concert concluded with a Trio—pianoforte and violins—in G Major (Bach), by Mrs. Poole, Mr. Ramseger, and Master Poole.

PURCHASING POWER OF SILVER IN THE EAST.

One of the most interesting essays compiled in recent years by a Consular official is Mr. Consul Jamieson's "Report on the General Position which China occupies with regard to the Silver Question." The first half of the report is devoted to an attempt to determine the outgoings and incomings of silver in China's case during the last 23 years, but this question is complicated by so many factors that a conclusive result is very difficult to reach, and when reached possesses no marked value. But the problem analysed in the second part of the essay—namely, the purchasing power of silver—is of very great interest, and Mr. Jamieson's investigations and conclusions come most opportunely. We have often maintained that the purchasing power of silver has not appreciably diminished in the Orient, as must have been the case had the value of the white metal really depreciated owing to over-production, according to the claim so often advanced by monometalists. We have even published tables showing that an ounce of silver will to-day buy virtually as large a quantity of commodities in the East as it bought twenty years ago. But it has not been in our power to attempt any analysis so exhaustive and accurate as that now made by Mr. Jamieson. We reproduce it, persuaded that our readers will find it as full of interest and instruction as we have:—

I now come to the second of the questions I proposed to discuss, viz., the endeavour to ascertain whether the prices of commodities in China have altered during the last 20 years; in other words, whether the purchasing power of silver has varied with the varying exchange.

To illustrate this I have compiled three tables of the prices of commodities, which are hereto appended and marked A, B, and C.

The first, Table A, comprises articles which are exclusively or principally both produced and consumed in China.

The second, Table B, comprises articles produced in China, but destined for the most part for foreign consumption.

The third, Table C, comprises articles produced abroad but consumed in China.

The prices given in Table A are compiled from Customs values, and are, as far as possible, the prices at the ports of production. The prices in Tables B and C are compiled either from Customs values or from Chamber of Commerce price lists and other contemporaneous market reports. All three tables are, I believe, as accurate as the nature of the case will allow. At all events, they represent beyond dispute the general tendency of prices, spread over a series of years.

An examination of those tables will, I think, establish the following conclusions:—

1. As regards articles which are both produced and consumed in China, silver prices have on the whole tended to decline. There is a moderate rise in a few articles, principally food stuffs, but all over there is a decline of about 9 per cent.

2. As regards articles of native origin exported to foreign countries the silver price has not advanced with the fall in exchange. Prices, on the whole, are almost exactly on the level of the years 1870 to 1874.

3. As regards articles of foreign manufacture or production imported for sale in China the average price in silver has declined very considerably.

Chinese can now obtain their supplies at a less cost even in silver than they could 20 years ago by some 26 per cent.

In other words, the purchasing power of silver has not declined in respect to any of the classes of commodities, and has even considerably increased in respect of the first and last classes.

The purchasing power of gold, on the other hand—that is its local market value—has steadily advanced with every successive fall in the rates of exchange on London, till now 4*s.* will purchase what formerly required 6*s.* 6*d.*, or £60 will now do what used to require £100. This is best illustrated by putting the gold and silver prices side by side as follows:—

The several quantities of commodities enumerated in the tables could have been bought as below. Those in Table A could have been bought:—

Year.	Amount. Currency. H. Taels.	Sterling. £ s.
In 1873	81.56	26 10
1892	74.27	16 12

TABLE B.

Year.	Amount. Currency. H. Taels.	Sterling. £ s.
In 1873	375'06	121 17
1892	381 21	83 0

TABLE C.

Year.	Amount. Currency. H. Taels.	Sterling. £ s.
In 1873	43.69	14 0
1892	29.96	6 10

As regards Table A, the result arrived at will not appear surprising. The only way, it would seem, in which foreign trade or the fluctuations of foreign exchanges can affect internal prices, *i.e.*, prices of articles which are not in demand for foreign trade, is by drawing away or bringing in one or other of the precious metals. If the result of foreign trade is to cause a flow of silver into or out of the country the value or the purchasing power of silver will tend to fall or rise as the case may be, and so with gold. But, as we have seen, there has been no great addition to the stock of silver in China during the period under review, and consequently we ought not to expect a general rise in prices. The fluctuations which we find in the prices of commodities in Table A can, indeed, be shown to coincide closely with the greater or less supply of silver. From 1870 to 1880 there was a continuous favourable balance of trade, indicating a flow of silver into China.

Accordingly we find there is during this period a tendency of prices to advance. From 1880 onwards there has been no silver coming to China, and as without this extraneous supply stock in the country is insufficient to meet the growing wants of commerce, the price of commodities tends to fall.

As regards Table B, the conclusions to be drawn from that are more perplexing.

Given an equilibrium of prices at any time between a silver using and gold-using country, say, between China and England, any subsequent fall in the gold price of silver must, it would seem, have in respect to exports from China one or other of three results. It must either raise to the Chinese producer, or it must lower the price to the English consumer, or the difference must remain as profit in the pockets of the middlemen.

The last alternative is of course excluded as a permanent result. The immediate effect of a fall is no doubt to enable the merchant to realize a better profit on merchandise at the time in transit, but competition quickly puts an end to this. As between the other two alternatives one would be disposed to say *a priori* that the larger market would rule and that the gold price would tend to remain steady, leaving the adjustment to be made at the other side. In that case the silver price in China must rise.

But it does not appear to be so. It is, I believe, a well known fact in the commercial world, that it is always much easier to lower prices than to raise them. If you can afford to go down a ½*d.* a bargain is much more easily struck than if you are bound to stand out for a rise of a ½*d.* It would seem then to be a general rule that adjustments following on a fall of exchange are always made along the line of least resistance, and that therefore it is not the China price that rises, but the London price that falls. Merchants operating on the usual principles find it easier to buy Asiatic produce at the old prices and sell it in London at a concession, than to stand out for old prices at home, in order to be able to pay more to the producer.

The experience of the last 20 years shows that with every fall in the gold price of silver there has invariably been a simultaneous lowering in the gold price of commodities in Europe. This has

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variously been ascribed to the scarcity of gold or to the greater strain thrown upon existing stocks by its extended use, or to a reduction in the cost of production, but may it not be ascribed principally or entirely to the competition of the produce of silver-using countries? If it is a fact that there has been no general rise in the silver price of produce in India and China and other silver-using countries, or a less rise than the fall in silver should produce, then the gold price of such produce when imported into Europe must necessarily have fallen with the fall in exchange.

From this point of view it is really silver that rules the world; it is the purchasing power of the cheaper metal that determines the price all over. Just as in a bi-metallic country the cheaper metal will drive out the dearer towards her monometallic neighbours, so, as between countries of different standards, will the prices prevailing in the country of the cheaper metal drag down prices all over to their own level. And reasoning forward from the experience of the past, it would not, perhaps, be too rash to conclude that prices of commodities in Europe, so far as these can be drawn in any fair quantity from silver-using countries, must continue to decline with every further fall in silver.

In regard to the third matter of inquiry which I proposed to discuss, viz., how far the fall in silver has stimulated exports from China, an answer has in effect been supplied by the foregoing remarks. There has been a stimulus, but not such a stimulus as might have been expected. The stimulus has been a readiness on the part of foreign merchants to buy native produce of all sorts at current quotations, but not the stimulus which comes from offering higher prices.

Such as it is, however, it has developed the exports very considerably, especially within the last few years. In 1872 the exports of China stood in value approximately as follows:—

Articles.	Value. H. Taels.
Silk and silk products	26,000,000
Tea, all kinds	38,000,000
Miscellaneous	7,000,000

In 1892 the figures were:—

Articles.	Value. H. Taels.
Silk and silk products	38,292,000
Tea, all kinds	25,983,000
Miscellaneous	38,308,000

The following table indicates in some detail the particular lines in which the general exports from China have developed. The prices of these articles will be found in Tables A and B.

Articles.	Value, 1872. H. Taels.	1880. H. Taels.	1892. H. Taels.
Silk, raw	23,762,000	23,227,000	27,736,000
Silk, waste	293,000	947,000	2,603,000
Silk, piece-goods	2,138,000	3,422,000	6,900,000
Tea, black and green	37,304,000	33,493,000	23,476,000
Tea, brick	785,000	2,132,000	2,503,000
Peas and beans	246,000	160,000	1,187,000
Cotton, raw (for Japan)	394,000	180,000	5,089,000
Hides	17,000	253,000	495,000
Straw braid	84,000	1,227,000	2,056,000
Wool	14,600	30 000	1,545 000
Skins and rugs	5,200	152,000	1,315,000
Paper	260,000	512,000	1,572,000
Matting	438,000	533,000	1,292,000
Sugar, brown	618,000	2,452,000	1,609,000
Tobacco	137,000	168,000	1,074,000

Tea has always figured so prominently as one of the products of China that it could not be omitted from any list of exports, but the causes operating of late years to affect both its price and the volume of the export have been so exceptional that it ought not, perhaps, to be included in a table from which it is sought to draw general conclusions. As will be seen, both the price and the quantity have fallen off very much, owing, of course, to the Indian competition. If tea, *i.e.*, black tea, to which alone these remarks apply, were excluded from Table B, the figures then would indicate a small general rise of prices

The price of raw silk has shown a tendency to decline, but it has lately recovered, and now stands at about the level of 1873. The average value of China manufactured silk has advanced slightly, and the export has more than trebled.

The prices of straw braid and wool have advanced some 15 per cent., with a large increase of export; but, on the other hand, the price of raw cotton, the export of which has grown more than that of anything else, has been steady, and the prices of tobacco, paper, and sugar, all of which show a large growth of export, have all gone down. It may, however, be remarked that these are not exports to Europe, but to silver-using countries such as Japan, Singapore, &c, and so ought rather to be classed with domestic trade.

It is thus difficult to formulate any general rule as to a relation between prices and volume of export, but it may be said that on the whole, leaving tea out of account, there has been a small advance in silver prices of articles sent to gold-using countries, and to this extent there has been a direct stimulus to exports. There seems every reason to expect that this tendency will be greatly enhanced in the near future, in view of the recent action of the Indian Government in fixing the value of the rupee in gold, which will probably have the double effect of still further depreciating silver and of limiting the silver using area whence produce can be drawn for the European markets Whenever silver falls below the normal line of 1s 4*d.* for the rupee, Indian produce will, it would seem, be unable to compete on the old terms with that of China. The area of cheaper produce being thus narrowed, it is probable that the price in London will not continue to fall or will not fall so much, and that will necessarily mean enhanced prices in China and an increased export.

It unfortunately happens that, outside of tea and silk, China does not produce many articles that are of universal demand. Her one great industry is agriculture to supply her own wants. The export of rice, wheat, and cereals of all kinds, except peas and beans, is absolutely forbidden. If this were otherwise, it is probable that the exports of China might grow very fast, but as things are, I do not look for any very rapid expansion.

It follows, therefore, that it is impossible to expect that China will, under present circumstances, become a great consumer of silver.

The conditions of the last few years which have made China an absolute exporter of silver are doubtless abnormal. Under ordinary circumstances China ought to be an importer, but of course she cannot get silver unless she gives value for it in some form or other. Her power of absorbing silver is measured by the difference between the value of her exports and imports, and unless the former outvalue the latter, there is nothing left for her to receive. I see no reason to suppose that China will, until things are greatly altered, take the place of India as an absorber of silver.

But the undeveloped capacities of the country are enormous, and if the Government would only allow merchants a free hand in the matter of railways and manufactures, the trade of China might soon outrival that of India. There is probably no country in the world where capital is so much wanted, and where it could be used with greater benefit both to the borrower and the lender.

The amount of silver in the country is, I believe, surprisingly small. Here in Shanghai, which is the commercial metropolis, the stock at any given time, whether in foreign or native hands, seldom exceeds 3,000,000 taels, and is often much less.

At Soochow and Hangchow, and other large inland centres, the estimate is usually much less than that, and in the country at large, and even in populous towns and villages, silver is rarely seen at all. Interest is high—running from 5 per cent. to 12 per cent.—and that not on account of insecurity, but because the borrower can use the capital to such advantage as to make it worth his while to pay it.

Viewing the situation from the Chinaman's point of view he finds that his tael or ounce of silver is just as valuable to him as it ever was. He can buy the same amount of all the ordinary necessaries of life for the same money as formerly, and of foreign articles he can buy a great deal more. If he has things to sell to the foreigner, he can usually get rather a better price than he used to get, and he finds the foreigner mostly ready to buy, always excepting tea. His wages, rent, and taxes have remained unaltered, as has also the price of land. He can get the same interest on his spare capital if he has any.

The only thing greatly changed is the price which foreigners are willing to pay for gold, and their strong desire to get it. Formerly the price of gold was 15 ounces to 16 ounces weight of silver for one of gold, and there was not much demand for it. Now there is a universal desire to get it and send it out of the country at prices which have gradually risen from 16 taels to 18 taels, 20 taels, 24 taels, and even 30 taels for 1 tael's weight of gold.

Reverting to the questions which I proposed to myself at the outset of this paper, the conclusions may be thus summarised:—

1. China has not been within the memory of the present generation, a great absorber of silver. From 1870 to 1880 she did take off about £3,000,000 per annum, but since 1880 this process has ceased, and there has even been of late years a slight export.

2. (*a*) The fall in the gold price of silver appears to have produced no effect on the general level of prices of articles produced and consumed in China.

(*b*) As regards articles produced in China and commonly exported to gold-using countries there is a slight tendency to a general rise. This will probably be enhanced in the near future.

3. The fall in the price of silver has stimulated exports by making it possible for foreign merchants to purchase and export at a profit a large variety of miscellaneous articles which formerly would have yielded no return at all. The value of such miscellaneous articles has quadrupled within the last ten years. Tea has declined very largely both in volume and price, but for this there are no special reasons. Raw silk of best quality has increased somewhat in volume, but not in price. There has been a great increase in the quantity of waste and refuse silk exported, but the price has somewhat declined.

A continued growth in the exports of China is to be expected, but under present conditions it cannot attain to great dimensions. As the capability of China to absorb silver depends upon the excess of her exports over her imports, there is no reason to expect that China will, within the next few years at all events, take much silver off the European market.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, December 16.

All the European Chambers are considering what measures can be taken against bomb throwing.

The Princess of Wales is suffering from an attack of influenza.

Lord George Hamilton has given notice of a motion declaring that the interests of the country demand that large additions be made to the strength of the Navy, and demanding a statement of the intentions of the Government before Christmas. The debate is fixed for Tuesday next, when Mr. Gladstone has decided to move an amendment that the House relies upon Her Majesty's Ministers to submit a definite programme in due time.

Lord Herschell's Committee are considering Hongkong's proposal to legalise the Japanese *yen* in the Crown Colony.

London, December 17.

The Princess of Wales is improving.

Serious riots by socialists have broken out simultaneously in Rome, Genoa, and Naples. The military were called out to restore order, but failed, as, notwithstanding that they fired on the mob, the riots still continue.

London, December 20.

Lord George Hamilton's motion that the interests of the country demand that large additions be made to the strength of the Navy, and demanding from the Government a statement of its intentions before Christmas, was made last night in the House of Commons and rejected, on an amendment by Mr. Gladstone, which was adopted unanimously, that the House relies upon Her Majesty's Ministers to submit a definite programme in due time.

Signor Crispi, in a speech, appealed for the concord of Parliament and the Government until such time as the fortunes of Italy may be restored. The present crisis, he said, was the gravest that had ever yet occurred in the country, and Parliament must, therefore, make some sacrifices.

["SPECIAL" TELEGRAMS TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

Nagasaki, December 18.

A telegram to the *N. C. Daily News*, dated at Hankow on the 14th inst., states that Mr. Carl Bock had come to terms in regard to reparation by the Chinese Government for the late murder of missionaries, the basis of the settlement being the cutting off of two heads and the payment of forty thousands dollars.

[FROM THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."]

Paris, December 2.

The Cabinet will to-morrow make its declaration. It will be firm and clear.

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(From the "North China Daily News".)

London, December 11.

During a sitting of the French Chamber of Deputies on Saturday a bomb filled with slugs was thrown from the public gallery and exploded in the air, scattering slugs in every part of the Chamber. Eighty persons were injured, including about fifteen Deputies, but fortunately nobody was killed. The doors were immediately closed and everyone in the gallery searched The corridors were for the time being converted into a hospital. The Chamber continued its sitting at the instance of President Dupuy, who displayed admirable coolness amidst the panic. The perpretrator of the outrage was arrested and confessed his guilt. He proves to be a notorious Anarchist and his intention was to aim at the President of the Chamber.

London, December 12.

When the House of Commons assembled on Monday Sir Wm. Harcourt, in the absence of the Premier, expressed the sympathy of the British Government and of the House of Commons with the French Chamber of Deputies as to the diabolical outrage which had been perpetrated, and their horror of the crime. Mr. Balfour, leader of the Opposition, warmly endorsed the utterances of the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

In the Chamber of Deputies on Monday M. Casimir-Périer, the Premier, moved to introduce Bills to punish the Press for inciting to or praising outrages; for increasing the strength of the Police; and for punishing the possessors of explosives.

The Press Bill was immediately read a first time by the Chamber, notwithstanding the opposition of the Socialist members.

London, December 14.

At a crowded and representative meeting held in the City under the presidency of Sir A. Rollit, resolutions were adopted urging that immediate steps should be taken to increase the Navy, so as to guarantee the security of the Empire and its commerce.

December 15.

A despatch from Buluwayo, dated the 8th of December, states that a detachment of Major Forbes' patrol crossed the Shangani river and overtook Lobengula when the latter was in ambush. The detachment returned towards their camp fighting the Matabele, but in the meanwhile the river had risen, preventing Major Forbes from sending reinforcements. Anxiety is felt for the small force thus cut off.

During a debate in the Commons on the Indian Loan Bill, to extend the borrowing powers of the Secretary of State for India, Sir J. Lubbock and Mr. Samuel Montagu strongly urged that a duty should be imposed on silver imported into India.

Mr. Gladstone announced that the House of Commons would adjourn on the 22nd instant for the Christmas holidays, and reassemble on the 27th idem. Sir J. Dorington, Conservative Member for Tewkesbury, thereupon moved to adjourn the House as a protest against the prolonged session and the general conduct of business. The Premier, in reply, declared that the Government were determined to proceed with the Parish Councils Bill and would adhere to their programme. A heated debate ensued, but eventually Sir J. Dorington's motion was rejected by a majority of fifty

Lord Kimberley stated in the House of Lords that it would be necessary to pass the Indian Loan Bill before Christmas.

December 16.

The latest advices from Bulwayo state that Captain Wilson, commanding the detachment which crossed the Shangani river is holding his own against a large force of Matabele.

Mr Sydney Buxton, Parliamentary Secretary to the Colonial Office, has informed the House of Commons that the idea of the coinage of the British dollar is not favoured by the Straits Settlements or Hongkong. Lord Herschell's committee, he added, are considering Hongkong's proposal to legalise the *yen*.

The Employers' Liability Bill has passed through all its stages in the House of Lords.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.

The Yokohama Chess Club meets at the Club Rooms, No. 88, Main Street, on Mondays and Thursdays from 5 to 11 p.m.

The Tokyo Chess Club meets at the Hotel Métropole on Fridays from 1 to 11 p.m.

Solution of Problem No. 100

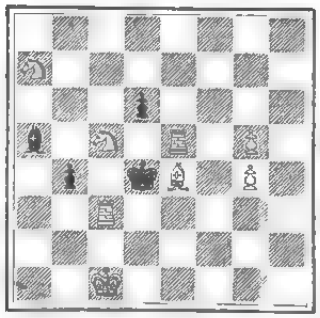
White.	Black.
1—Q — K B 6	1—P × Q
2—R — K 2	2—K or P moves
3—R — Q 2, mate	
	if 1—P × R
2—Q — B 4	2—P moves
3—Q mates.	

Correct solutions received from Omega, P.E.F.S., W.H.S., J.W.E., J.D., and O.B.

Problem No. 102.

By H. Von Gottschalk.

Black.



White.

White to play and mate in three moves.

Local affairs keep on the even tenor of their way. The match between the Yokohama Chess Club and the Tokyo Chess Club will probably be played in January.

We hope to publish both the Nagasaki-Yokohama correspondence games in our next issue.

We take the following from a Canadian exchange, and, are delighted to find the veteran in such good form. Mr. Short has reason to be a proud man after scoring a win against the Champion.

Mr. William Steinitz, chess champion of the world, arrived in Montreal on the morning of the 12th November. He is a native of Prague, in Bohemia, but early in life he left that place for Vienna to complete his education There he got frequent opportunities for making progress in the game of chess. In 1862 he came to London and started on that career which has since made his name a household word in the chess world. He remained in England for twenty years, and proceeded from victory to victory. In 1866 he defeated the renowned Anderssen and became the chess king of England, and has since vanquished every opponent, including such players as Blackburn, Zukertort, and Tschigorin. He will remain in Montreal two weeks, giving exhibitions of simultaneous and blindfold play, and all who are not members of the Club can buy admission tickets at the Chess Club rooms any afternoon or evening. Ladies are admitted free and are cordially invited to be present.

Mr. Steinitz first appearance in Montral, as a player, took place in the rooms of the Montreal Chess Club, 55, University street, when he played two single-handed games, one with Mr. Bemrose and the other with Mr. D. C. Robertson, both of which were won by the champion. In the evening he played at the same place simultaneous games with Messrs. R. Short, T. Holmes-Orr, H. A Thompson, W. B. Stobb, M. Yule, J. Pelletier, J. J. Dean, W. Hall, T. Bunmore, J. D. Cameron, F. Marshall, C. R. Cumberland, A. M Perkins, D. C. Robertson, T R. Davies, W. B. Evans.

Following is the score of the game played at the Montreal Chess Club with Mr. Bemrose:—

White. J Bemrose.	Black. W. Steinitz.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—P to Q 4	2—P takes P
3—Q takes P	3—Kt to Q B 3
4—Q to K 3	4—Kt to B 3
5—B to K 2	5—B to K 2
6—B to Q 2	6—P to Q 4
7—P to K 5	7—Kt to K 5
8—Kt to K B 3	8—B to Q B 4
9—Q to B 4	9—B takes P ch.
10—K to Q sq.	10—B to Kt 3
11—Kt to Kt 5	11—Q takes Kt
12—Q takes Q	12—Kt takes Q
13—B takes Kt	13—Kt takes P
14—Kt to B 3	14—P to Q B 3
15—B to K B 4	15—P to B 3
16—B to R 5 ch.	16—P to Kt 3
17—B to K 2	17—Castles
18—R to K B sq.	18—B to Q 2
19—K to Q 2	19—B to R 4
20—B to K R 6	20—P to Q 5
21—B takes R	21—R takes B
22—Q R to Kt sq.	22—B to K 3
23—P to Q Kt 4	23—P takes Kt ch.
24—K takes P	24—B to Q B 2
25—P to Q R 3	25—Kt to Kt 5
26—B takes Kt	26—B to K 4 ch.
27—K to Q 2	27—R to Q ch.
28—K to K 3	28—B takes B
29—P to R 3	29—B to Q 5 ch.
30—K to B 4	30—B to K B 4
31—Q R to B sq.	31—B to K 4 ch.
32—K to B 3	32—B to K 3
33—K R to Q sq.	33—B to Q 4 ch.
34—K to B 2	34—P to Q Kt 4
35—P to B 4	35—P takes P
36—R takes P	36—B to Q B 2
37—R to B 3	37—B to Kt 3 ch.
38—K to Kt 3	38—R to K sq.
39—K to R 2	39—R to K 7
40—R takes B	40—P takes R
41—P to Q R 4	41—B to Q 5
42—R to B 8 ch.	42—K to Kt 2
43—R to Q 8	43—B to K 4 ch.
44—K to Kt sq.	44—B to Kt 6
45—Resigns.	

Game played at the Montreal Chess Club, between Mr. Steinitz and Mr. R. Short:—

Allgaier Kieseritzki Gambit.

White. Mr Steinitz.	Black. Mr. Short.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—P to K B 4	2—P takes P
3—Kt to K B 3	3—P to K Kt 4
4—P to K R 4	4—P to Kt 5
5—Kt to K 5	5—Kt to K B 3
6—B to B 4	6—P to Q 4
7—P takes P	7—B to Kt 2
8—P to Q 4	8—Castles.
9—Kt to Q B 3	9—P to Q B 3
10—B takes P	10—Kt takes P
11—B takes Kt	11—P takes B
12—Q to Q 2	12—P to K B 4
13—Castles (Q R)	13—Kt to Q B 3
14—B to R 6	14—B to K B 4
15—B takes B	15—K takes B
16—K R to B sq.	16—B to Kt 3
17—Q to B 4	17—R to Q B sq.
18—R to Q 2	18—Kt to Kt 5
19—Q R to B 2	19—Q to K 2
20—P to Q R 3	20—Kt to B 3
21—Kt takes Q P	21—Q takes K R P
22—Kt to B 6	22—Kt takes Kt
23 Q takes Kt	23—R to R 3
24—R to B 5	24 —B takes R
25—Q takes B	25—Q to Kt 4 ch.
26—Q takes Q ch.	26—K takes Q
27—Kt to R 7 ch.	27—K to Kt 3
28—Kt takes R	28—R takes Kt
29—K to Q 2	29—R to K sq.
30—P to B 4	30—P to Kt 6
31—K to Q 3	31—P to B 4
32—P to Kt 4	32—K to Kt 4
33—P to B 5	33—P to B 5
34—P to Kt 5	34—P to R 5
35—P to B 6	35—P takes P
36—P takes P	36—P to R 6 (*a*)
37—P takes P	37—P to Kt sq.
38—R to K Kt sq.	38—P to B 6
39—P to Q 5	39—K to B 5
40—P to Q 6	40—P to B 7
Resigns.	

(*a*) This fine move virtually wins the game. Black evidently sees his way to victory.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Mercury (13), cruiser, Captain W. Fawkes, 16th December,—Target Practice, 15th December.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 16th December,—Moji, Coal.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Sorachi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,108, Renny, 16th December,—Yokkaichi 15th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Verona, British steamer, 1,878, C. H. S. Tocque, 16th December,—Hongkong 8th, Nagasaki 13th, and Kobe 15th December, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Pender, 17th December,—Otaru viâ ports 12th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

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Kumamoto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,240, Olsen, 17th December,—Hamanaka 12th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. Young, 17th December,—Kobe 16th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Gambu Maru, Japanese steamer, 386, S. Tsuj, 18th December,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mutsu Maru, Japanese steamer, 552, J. Miyagi, 18th December,—Nemuro 17th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Belgic, British steamer, 2,690, Wm. H. Walker, 19th December,—San Francisco 30th November, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,580, C. Anderson, 19th December,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Glenogle, British steamer, 2,398, Duke, 19th December,—London viâ ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, T. Sakai, 19th December,—Kobe 18th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Bankoku Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,475, Okuma, 20th December,—Otaru, Coal.—S. Asano & Co.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,219, Wilson, 20th December,—Misumi viâ Moji, 17th December, General and Coal.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, J. Nirei, 20th December,—Kobe 19th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, W. Thompson, 20th December,—Otaru viâ ports 16th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Lancaster (14), U.S. flagship, Captain McCormack, 21st December,—Target Practice, 21st December.

Sessiu Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,011, Hayashi, 21st December,—Kobe 20th December, General.—Nada Kogio Kabushiki Kaisha.

Telemachus, British steamer, 1,379, Barwise, 21st December,—Liverpool viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Afghan, British steamer, 1,439, Barton, 22nd December,—Liverpool viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 22nd December,—Moji, Coal.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Hyogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 895, E. S. Barstow, 22nd December,—Manila viâ ports, 6th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, Conner, 22nd December,—Shanghai and ports 16th December, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 684, M. Matsumoto, 22nd December,—Hachinohe 21st December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, R. R. Searle, 23rd December,—Hongkong viâ ports, 16th December, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Tacoma, British steamer, 1,661, J. R. Hill, 23rd December,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

DEPARTURES.

Mutsu Maru, Japanese steamer, 552, J. Miyagi, 16th December,—Nemuro, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Ekstrand, 16th December, —Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, J. Nirei, 16th December,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 17th December,—Moji, Light.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690 W. G. Pearne, 17th December,—San Francisco, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Yarra, French steamer, 2,126, de Maubeuge, 17th December,—Shanghai viâ Kobe, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Hinode Maru, Japanese steamer, 789, G. Sofaye, 18th December,—Nemuro, Light.—S. Asano & Co.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, Pender, 18th December,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nippon Maru, Japanese steamer, 720, Hayashi, 18th December,—Moji, Light.—Captain.

Lancaster (14), U.S. flagship, Captain McCormack, 19th December,—Target Practice.

Gambu Maru, Japanese steamer, 386, T. Tsuji, 19th December,—Nemuro, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,358, Haswell, 19th December,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kumamoto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,240, Olsen, 19th December,—Hamanaka, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mutsu Maru, Japanese steamer, 552, J. Miyagi, 19th December,—Nemuro, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, J. Nirei, 19th December,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,512, C. Young, 19th December,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Belgic, British steamer, 2,695, Wm. H. Walker, 20th December,—Hongkong, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,540, C. Anderson, 20th December,—Kobe and Fushiki, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Helene Rickmers, German steamer, 2,034, C. Hess, 20th December,—Hongkong viâ Moji, Light.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Flintshire, British steamer, 1,871, Dwyer, 20th December,—New York viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Glenogle, British steamer, 2,398, Duke, 21st December,—Marseilles and London viâ ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, J. Nirei, 21st December,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Cassius, German steamer, 1,830, Unruh, 21st December,—Hamburg viâ ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Sessiu Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,011, Hayashi, 22nd December,—Shimagawa, General.—Nada Kogio Kabushiki Kaisha.

Sendai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, T. Sakai, 22nd December,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, W. Thompson, 22nd December,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Bankoku Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,475, Okuma, 23rd December,—Otaru, Light.—S. Asano & Co.

Verona, British steamer, 1,878, C. H. S. Tocque, 23rd December,—Hongkong viâ Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Verona*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Mrs. Ricketts and daughters, Mr. Cappmann, Mr. D. Reid, Mr. Ahronson, Mrs. and Miss Ross, Mr. M. Lucas, Mr. Kwong Sang Wo, Mrs. Wong Kee Chow, Mrs. Wong Ah Mok, Mr. F. Cox Edwards, Mrs. Ah Ling, Mrs. Ah Sam, Mr. Wong Loon Kom, Mr. Ah Yow, and Mr. J. C Jacques in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, from Kobe:—Mr. Armiterr and Mr. Smith in cabin; 4 passengers in second class, and 30 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Belgic*, from San Francisco:—Messrs. Monty Tuska, G. Kawai, S. Kuroda, G. Fukuda, T. Murakami, and Felix Gonzales in cabin. For Hongkong:—Mr. Ewell Scott, Mr. E Tromp, Miss E. M. Murray, and Mr. James Moorhead in cabin. For Shanghai:—Miss Wilmar Rouse, Dr. S. P. Barkett, Miss L. Wycoff, M.D., and Mrs. C. Van Patten in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Sendai Maru*, from Kobe:—42 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, from Kobe viâ Shiotsu:—1 passenger in second class and 27 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Dr. and Mrs. Faries and children, Mr. and Mrs. Stanford, Mrs. R. M. Mateers, Mr. H. Bohr, Mr. J. Keator, Mr. H. Geslien, and Mr. J. W. J. Tuckey in cabin; Mr. H. Kurikawa in second class, and 40 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Tacoma*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Sharp in cabin. For Tacoma, Wash.: Mr. and Mrs. Lester in cabin; 12 Chinese and 4 Japanese in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, for San Francisco:—Miss Mary Atkinson, Mr. Ching Yung Chow, Mrs. Clements and daughter, Rev. and Mrs. G. F. Draper, four children, and servant, Mr. C. P. Draper, Bishop R. S Foster, Rev. A. B. Leonard, Mr. R Meyer, Mr. O. H. P. Noyes, Mr. O. A. Poole, Mr A Susser, Rev. K. Bingren, Lieut. E. H. Watson, Mr. Theodore Wores, and Mr. R. A. Wylie in cabin.

Per French steamer *Yarra*, for Shanghai viâ Kobe:—Mr. F. Dankwerts, Mrs. Von Kreitner, Mr. Aguado, family, and 2 infants, Mr. W. Fradin de Belhabre, Mr. and Mrs. Ch. Boules, Mr. and Mrs. C. Merteus, Messrs. Lee Chuck Lang, Arthur Rothe, Marius Guidon, Barlatier, Edgar, N. Salabelle, Coreuff, and Gourmay in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Miss L. Wycoff, Mr. S. P. Barkett, Miss Wilmar Rouse, Mr. A. H. Hewitt, Mr. Lum Pug Chuen, Mrs. Norton, Mr. S. Iwanaga, Mr. Yaung Pu Kiang, Mr. A. Iwai, Mr. H. Victor Gielen, and Mrs. H. V. Gielen in cabin; Mr. A. Gallion, Mr. F. Tavy, Mr. A. Murase, Mr. T. Yamagita, Mr. Sano, Mr. and Mrs. Su Foog Yu, Mr. and Mrs. Pon and 3 children, and Mr. J. Brown in second class, and 52 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Verona*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. H. A. Foster, Mr. F. H. Balfour, Miss Yorke, Mr. W. G. Hibbard, Mr. W. G. Hibbard, Jun., Mr. F. V. S. Hibbard, Mrs. O. Van Schaak Ward, Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Bayne, Mr. A. H. Groom and 2 servants, Mr. Wong Soon Kam, and Mr. W. C. Henderson in cabin; 1 European in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, for San Francisco:—

	SAN FRANCISCO.	TEA. NEW YORK.	CHICAGO.	MONTREAL.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	—	1,157	474	—	1,631
Nagasaki	—	—	—	673	673
Hyogo	130	—	—	—	130
Yokohama ..	2,218	—	308	618	3,144
Hongkong ..	650	—	—	—	650
Foochow	168	—	—	718	886
Amoy	—	8,112	—	—	8,112
Total ...	3,166	9,269	782	2,009	15,226

	SILK. SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	HARTFORD.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	5	49	—	54
Hongkong	—	20	—	20
Yokohama	—	1,028	—	1,028
Total	5	1,097	—	1,102

Per French steamer *Yarra*, for Shanghai viâ Kobe:—Raw Silk for Europe, 713 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 164 bales. Treasure for Shanghai, $23,500; for London, $24,000.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, $93,800.00.

Per British steamer *Verona*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Silk, 566 bales; Waste Silk, 71 bales.

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, Captain R. Pender, reports:—Left Otaru the 12th December at 4.10 p.m.; had moderate S.E. winds; then strong westerly gale with heavy sea and thick snow to Hakodate, arrived the 13th at 12.30 p.m. and left the 15th at 8 a.m.; had N.E. winds with thick snow to Kuro-saki; thence strong N.W. winds and clear weather to Oginohama, arrived the 16th at 6.30 a.m. and left the same day at 1.15 p.m.; had moderate to fresh westerly winds and fine, clear weather to arrival at Yokohama the 17th December, at 1.15 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Kumamoto Maru*, Captain Olsen, reports:—Left Hamanaka the 12th December at 4.30 a.m.; had gentle breeze and fine weather, wind increased to strong W.N.W. gale with heavy sea during the night, and at 8 a.m. on the 13th off Cape Yerimo turned back to Shoya for shelter, in company with steamer *Serio Maru*; on the 14th at 7 a.m. left anchorage, but on rounding Cape Yerimo found no improvement in weather and returned to Shoya; on the 15th proceeded to Yokohama at 10 a.m. weather dull and overcast and a light N.W. breeze; at noon wind shifted to N.E. and blew fresh with snow until 6 p.m.; thence shifted suddenly to N.W. increasing rapidly to strong gale, with very high sea and thick snow and hail squalls, vessel shipping water, labouring and straining heavily until 8 p.m. when oil bags were tried with good effect. Weather began to moderate at daylight; on the 16th met the American schooner *Anaconda*, bound north, 20 miles N.N.E. of Kinkasan; passed Kinkasan the 16th at noon fresh N.W. winds, fine weather, and moderate sea; Inuboye the 17th at 4 a.m. gentle N.W. winds, fine weather, and moderate westerly swell; Noshima Lighthouse at noon with similar wind and weather. Arrived at Yokohama the same day at 4.30 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Yamashiro Maru*, Captain Young, reports:—Left Kobe the 16th December at 3 p.m.; had moderate westerly winds and fine weather throughout the passage. Arrived at Yokohama the 17th December at 9 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Sendai Maru*, Captain T. Sakai, reports:—Left Kobe the 18th December at noon; had gentle to moderate south-westerly breeze and fine weather; after passing round Oshima, moderate northerly breeze and clear sky throughout the passage. Arrived at Yokohama the 19th December at 7.15 p.m.

The British steamer *Belgic*, Captain Walker, reports:—Left San Francisco the 30th November; had fine weather with moderate sea and winds up

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to the 16th December; thence to port strong to moderate N.W. winds and head seas. Arrived at Yokohama the 19th December at 2.12 a.m. Time, 17 days, 17 hours, 8 minutes.

The Japanese steamer *Fushiki Maru*, Captain Wilson, reports:—Left Misumi the 17th December at 7 a.m.; had moderate N.E. winds with fine, clear weather to Moji, arrived there at 7.40 a.m. on the 18th. Left again the same day at 1.30 p.m., for Yokohama viâ Bungo Channel; experienced gentle N.E. winds with continuing fine weather; passed Omai-saki the 20th at 6.20 a.m.; thence to port moderate N.N.W. winds with overcast and dull weather. Arrived at Yokohama the same day at 4.45 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, Captain Thompson, reports:—Left Otaru the 16th December at 4.43 p.m.; had fresh winds and squally, with snow and high N.W. sea to Shirakami; thence moderate winds and fine weather to Hakodate, arrived the 17th at 11.25 a.m. Left the 18th at 2.35 p.m.; had fresh to strong north-westerly winds and fine weather to arrival at Ogimohama the 19th at 1.30 p.m. Left the same day at 6.34 p.m.; had light winds and fine weather to Inuboye; thence light winds and dull, gloomy weather to arrival at Yokohama the 20th December at 8.25 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, Captain Nirei, reports:—Left Kobe the 19th December at 10.30 a.m.; had fine, hazy weather and light easterly airs. Arrived at Shiotsu at 2 p.m. and left again at 11.30 p.m.; had fine weather and moderate easterly breeze; passed Kashino Lighthouse the 20th at 6.50 a.m. weather set in cloudy with light rain; made Omai-saki at 7.40 p.m. the same day; thence to port fine, clear weather and moderate westerly breeze. Arrived at Yokohama the 21st December at 7 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, Captain E. S. Barstow, reports:—Left Manila the 6th December, Hongkong the 12th, Amoy the 14th, and Kobe the 21st; had very strong N.E. monsoons and high seas from Manila to 100 miles north of Formosa; thence fine, clear weather, moderate winds and seas, thick fog from Kanon-saki.

The Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, Captain G. W. Conner, reports:—Left Shanghai the 16th December at 6.30 a.m.; had light to strong N.E. winds, and fine, clear weather to arrival at Nagasaki the 17th at 10 p.m. Left again the 18th at 5 p.m.; had light variable winds with hazy weather to arrival at Shimonoseki the 19th at 1 p.m. Left again the same day at 5 p.m.; had moderate northerly winds and fine, clear weather through the Inland Sea and arrival at Kobe the 20th at 1 p.m. Left Kobe the 21st at noon; had light northerly winds and clear weather to Rock Island; thence light variable winds with hazy weather. Arrived at Yokohama the 22nd December at 3.30 p.m.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, Nagasaki, and Kobe ...	per N Y. K.	Friday, Dec. 29th.
From America ...	per P M. Co.	Tuesday, Dec. 26th *
From Canada, &c. ..	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Dec. 25th.†
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per M. M. Co	Sunday, Dec. 24th.‡
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Dec. 31st.§
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N D Lloyd	Wednesday, Dec. 27th.
From Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, Jan. 4th.
From America	per O & O. Co.	Saturday, Jan. 6th.

* *Peru* left San Francisco on December 9th. † *Empress of China* left Vancouver on December 12th. ‡ *Natal* left Kobe on December 23rd. § *Ancona* left Hongkong on December 22nd. The English mail is on board the steamer *Nanshan* (?).

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Victoria, B.C.,and Tacoma, Wash	per N P. Co.	Saturday, Dec 23rd.
For America ...	per P. M Co.	Sunday, Dec. 24th.
For Hongkong ...	per C. R. P. Co.	Monday, Dec. 25th.
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki ..	per N. Y. K.	Tuesday, Dec. 26th.
For Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, Dec. 29th.
For Europe, viâ Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Dec 31st.
For Canada, &c. .	per C. P. R. Co	Friday, Jan. 5th
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Saturday, Jan. 13th.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The Import Trade has been far from lively during the past week, but in some departments there are signs of a slight improvement. Single Yarns are again in the field, and owing to demand being brisk holders ask higher figures for 16/24's. Doubles, however, are very quiet. Grey Shirtings of the heavier weights have started to move, and show a slight increase in value. In Fancies, there is some little enquiry for Velvets, Mousselines, and Flannels, but would-be buyers do not seem willing to pay current rates. Other lines are dull, but prices are firm.

COTTON PIECE GOODS

	PER PIECE.	
Grey Shirtings—8½ lb, 38½ yds 39 inches	$2 20	to 2 75
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 38½ yds. 45 inches	2 35	to 3 12½
T Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1 52½	to 1 85
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches .	1 70	to 2 35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches...	1 75	to 3 75
	PER YARD.	
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 32 inches	0 16	to 0 21
Velvets—Black, 35 yards 22 inches ...	6.35	to 8.70
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42 3 inches ..	0 65	to 0 78
	PER YARD.	
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.40	to 1 47½
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1 57½	to 1.82½
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.02½	to 2 47½
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2 65	to 2.85

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.	
Flannel	$0.27	to 0 45
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0 30	to 0 33
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0 25	to 0.30
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0 20	to 0.25
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches .	0 14	to 0 19½
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches .	0 35	to 0 50
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0 60	to 0.65
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0 40	to 0 70
Flannels—Scarlet and Green, 4 to 3½ lb, per lb	0 45	to 0 57½

COTTON YARNS

	PER PICUL.	
Nos 16 24, Ordinary	—	
Nos 16/24, Medium	$37 00	to —
Nos 16/24, Good to Best	37 00	to 38.00
Nos. 16 24, Reverse	—	
Nos 28 32, Ordinary	—	
Nos 28 32, Medium	37 75	to —
Nos. 28 32, Good to Best.....	38 50	to 39 75
Nos 38 32, Medium to Best	45 00	to 47 00
No. 32s, Two-fold	43 00	to 44 00
No 32s, Two-fold	47.50	to 49 50
	PER BALE.	
No 20s, Bombay	—	
No 16s, Bombay	—	

METALS

Nothing new to report in this market. Holders continue very firm in spite of the scarcity of buyers, and owing to small stocks some kinds of Iron show a slight rise

	PER PICUL.	
Flat Bars, ½ inch	$3 90	to 4 10
Flat Bars, ¼ inch	4 10	to 4 20
Round and square up to ¾ inch	3.30	to 3 40
Iron Plates, assorted	3 35	to 3.45
Sheet Iron	4 55	to 4 70
Galvanized Iron sheets	9 00	to 9 20
Wire Nails, assorted	5 40	to 5 75
Tin Plates, per box.....	6 00	to 6.20
Pig Iron, No 1	1.50	to 1.55

KEROSENE.

The late heavy arrivals have had a weakening effect upon this market, and as buyers seem satisfied for the present, there is but a small business doing. Quotations remain unchanged, but show a declining tendency.

Chester	$1.85	to 1.87½
Comet	1.82½	to 1.85
Devoe	—	
Russian Anchor	1.80	to 1 85
Russian Moon	1.77½	to 1.80

SUGAR.

Demand has been moderate for Browns, and a fair amount of business has been transacted. China grades are a shade harder, but others remain firm at last week's quotations. Whites continue to enjoy a well-sustained enquiry, and close firm.

	PER PICUL.	
Brown Takao	$4 40	to 4.50
Brown Manila	5.15	to 5.25
Brown Dartong	4.00	to 4 10
Brown Canton	4 10	to 4 45
White Java and Penang	6.90	to 7 00
White Refined	7.50	to 9 10

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK

Our last issue was of the 15th instant, since which date settlements on this market amount to 926 piculs, divided thus: *Hanks*, 16 piculs; *Filatures*, 703 piculs; *Re-reels*, 121 piculs; *Kakeda*, 86 piculs. Direct shipments have been 207 bales, making the total export for the week 1,150 piculs

The demand has increased slightly, and considerable business has been done, principally for Europe. At the close, prices are distinctly higher all round, and holders seem to feel confidence in their position; at the same time, we are bound to admit that consumers do not seem very eager to book their supplies ahead, and we think that the business doing is mostly a transfer of stock to the other side so as to have it there in readiness for manufacturers' daily requirements.

Exchange has remained on an even keel, although slightly hardening in tone in sympathy with higher rates of silver wired out from London.

Arrivals continue on a fair scale, and the stock is practically unchanged from last week; but it is fair to suppose that from now onwards supplies will fall off as the up-country filatures will close, as usual, during the winter months. Some districts are already well covered with snow and the country people predict a hard winter.

There have been two shipping opportunities since we last wrote, the steamer *Gaelic*, 17th inst., taking 1,028 bales for the New York trade, and the French mail steamer *Yarra*, same date, carrying 713 bales for Europe. These departures make the present export figures 23,092 piculs, against 33,099 piculs last year and 29,731 piculs at the same date in 1891.

Hanks.—The stock is insignificant, and it is very hard work to fill the few small orders which come to hand. Prices are unchanged, with a tendency to higher rates, say $5 or so in sellers' favour.

Filatures.—There has been a fair daily business in these, better prices being secured. In full sizes good *Shinshu* are booked at $750, while Extras are now held for $790. Ordinary *Shinshu* marks have brought $730, and we doubt if *Tokosha* could be obtained at $720. In fine sizes, best No. 1 have reached $790, and other grades have hardened in proportion.

Reels.—These are well held, and quotations for best kinds must be advanced $10, although little has been done in them. The principal business has been in good medium *Joshu*, prices ranging from $650 to $670. *Bushu* have been taken at from $620 to $640, according to quality; but the trade in this department generally has not been large, holders being too firm in their demands.

Kakeda.—A small business, holders asking higher prices, and to some extent stopping the trade. We give the improved quotations in our list below, but at these prices business hangs fire for the moment.

In other sorts nothing done.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK.)

Hanks—No 1	—	
Hanks—No 2 (Shinshu)	—	
Hanks—No 2 (Joshu)	—	
Hanks—No. 2½ (Shinshu).....	$590	to 595
Hanks—No. 2½ (Joshu).....	580	to 585
Hanks—No 2½ to 3	—	
Hanks—No 3	—	
Hanks—No. 3½	—	
Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers ..	Nom.	—
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers .	Nom.	—
Filatures—No 1, 10 13 deniers	780	to 790
Filatures—No 1, 13/15, 14/16 den	750	to 760
Filatures—No 2½, 10/14 deniers	740	to 750
Filatures—No 1½, 13/16, 14/17 den.....	735	to 735
Filatures—No. 2. 10/15 deniers	710	to 720
Filatures—No 2, 14 18 deniers	710	to 715
Filatures—No 3, 14/20 deniers	670	to 680
Re-reels—Extra	—	
Re-reels—(Oshu) Best No. 1	720	to 730
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14 16 deniers	710	to 715
Re-reels—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 deniers.....	670	to 680
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers.....	640	to 650
Re-reels—No. 2½, 14/18 deniers	630	to 635
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	600	to 610
Kakedas—Extra	Nom.	—
Kakedas—No. 1	700	to 710
Kakedas—No 1½	670	to 675
Kakedas—No 2	640	to 645
Kakedas—No. 2½	620	to 625
Kakedas—No 3	600	to 605
Kakedas—No 3½	—	
Kakedas—No 4	—	
Oshu Sendai—No. 2½	—	
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	Nom.	—
Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4	Nom.	—
Sodai—No. 2½	—	

Export Raw Silk Tables to 22nd Dec., 1893 -

		Season 1893-1894.	1892 93	1891 92.
		Bales.	Bales	Bales.
Europe .		13,039	13,506	10,571
America		8,549	20,988	18,468
Total	Bales	22,478	32,494	29,039
	Piculs	23,092	33,099	29,731
Settlements and Direct Export from 1st July		Piculs. 25,150	Piculs 33,950	Piculs 32,050
Stock, 22nd Dec.		15,550	7,350	15,350
Available supplies to date		40,700	41,300	47 400

WASTE SILK

There has been more doing in this branch, settlements for the week reaching 974 piculs, divided thus; *Noshi*, 430 piculs; *Kibiso*, 544 piculs. No direct shipments this week.

The last two or three days have seen a considerable revival in the demand, and some 2,000 piculs are said to be in course of settlement, of which we hope to give the particulars in our next. Holders are very firm, and have succeeded in getting $5 advance upon the very best grades of *Noshi* and *Kibiso*. Still the trade is by no means general, consumers failing to take hold with any vigour at present.

Arrivals have been slightly less than sales, and

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the stock shows some little reduction upon last week's figures.

There have been three shipping opportunities since we last wrote, the French Mail and the *Glenogle* taking both Waste and Cocoons for Europe, while the Canal steamer *Huntshire*, which left on the 20th instant, took about 40 bales of *Pierced Cocoons* for the New York trade. These departures make the present export figures 12,032 piculs, against 21,347 piculs last year, and 16,391 piculs at the same date in 1891.

Pierced Cocoons.—The season is practically closed and all quotations withdrawn. The remaining stock consists of *Nafiko* and other *Waste* or spent *Cocoons*, which are no longer a feature in our market.

Noshi.—Considerable enquiry has led to some purchases, and an advance of $5 has been paid upon the highest grade of *Filature* and *Oshu* sorts. Not very much done in *Joshu*, holders showing a desire to keep back their best quality in the hope of better prices later on.

Kibiso.—A fair amount of trade has been done, principally in *Filatures*, the better classes of which have hardened in sympathy with good *Noshi*.

In other sorts, no business.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW WASTE).

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	$140 to 145
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	130 to 135
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	120 to 125
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	135 to 140
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best ..Nom.	110 to 115
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good ...Nom.	100 to 105
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium Nom.	90 to 95
Noshi-ito—Hushu, Good to Best	120 to 130
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	85 to 90
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	75 to 80
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	65 to 70
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	105 to 110
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	90 to 100
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	70 to 80
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Good to Fair	40 to 35
Kibiso—Joshu, Middling to Common	35 to 30
Kibiso—Hachoji, Good	35 to 30
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	25 to 20
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	—
Mawata—Good to Best	—

Export Table Waste Silk to 22nd Dec., 1893.—

	Season 1893-94	1892-93.	1891-92.
	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs
Waste Silk	8,837	18,657	14,614
Pierced Cocoons	3,195	2,690	1,777
	12,032	21,347	16,391
Settlements and Direct Export from 1st July	Piculs. 13,700	Piculs. 27,200	Piculs. 21,600
Stock, 22nd Dec	20,200	11,500	13,600
Available supplies to date	33,900	38,700	34,200

Exchange has remained fairly steady at last week rates in spite of rising silver at home. We quote:—LONDON, 4m/s. Credits, 2/4⅛; Documents, 2/4⅛; 6m/s. Credits, 2/4⅜. NEW YORK, 30d/s. U.S. $57½; 4m/s. U.S. $58½. PARIS, or LYONS, 4m/s. fcs. 3.00 6m/s. fcs. 3.02.

Estimated Silk Stock, 22nd Dec., 1893:—

Raw.	Piculs.	Waste.	Piculs.
Hanks	40	Cocoons	370
Filatures	9,270	Noshi-ito	9,940
Re-reels	4,700	Kibiso	9,230
Kakeda	1,440	Mawata	130
Oshu	70	Sundries	530
Taysaam Kinds	30		
Total piculs	15,550	Total piculs	20,200

TEA.

Buyers have shown but little disposition to operate and the business of the week has been very small. Rates practically show no change.

	Per Picul.
Common	$12 to 13
Good Common	14 to 15
Medium	17 to 18
Good Medium	19 to 20
Fine	22 to 23
Finest, Choice, Choicest	Nominal

EXCHANGE.

Exchange has been steady during the interval, and closes at about last week's rates.

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	2/3⅞
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	2/4⅛
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	2/4⅛
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	2/4⅛
On Paris—Bank sight	2.93
On Paris—Private 4 months' sight	3.00
On Hongkong—Bank sight	Par.
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	⅛% dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72⅛
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	73⅛
On America—Bank Bills on demand	53⅛
On America—Private 30 days' sight	57⅛
On America—Private 4 months' sight	58⅛
On India—Bank sight	Nominal.
Silver	32⅞

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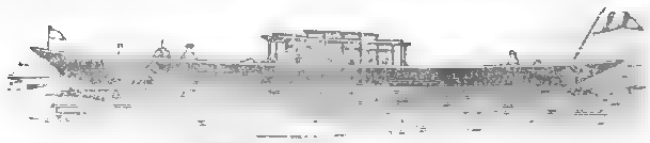

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

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YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, DEC. 30TH, 1893

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

MR. SUGIMURA, a Secretary in the Japanese Legation in Korea, has been recalled.

THE Yokohama Victoria Public School easily defeated the representatives of the Tokyo schools at football on Saturday last.

DURING the week the Italian Language Society and the Japan Economical Society have held meetings at the Imperial Hotel.

VERY bad weather was experienced in the Hokkaido during Christmas-day. The storm was preceded by a slight earthquake shock

THE *Admiral Korniloff* and the *Zabiaka*, of the Russian Asiatic Squadron, have left Yokohama for Kobe, after a two months' visit.

A SUGGESTION comes from Hongkong for a meeting of cricket elevens from China and Japan, at Hongkong, during the Chinese New Year holidays.

MR. A. D. JONES, U.S. Consul General to Shanghai, died on 9th December, on the voyage between Yokohama and San Francisco. He had gone home on sick leave.

MR. CONSUL-GENERAL TILLOTSON was presented at the American Consulate on Saturday last, with a gold repeater-watch, chain, and diamond locket, as a parting souvenir of his stay in Yokohama.

CHRISTMAS-DAY was duly observed on Monday. Special services were held in the churches, while a football match took place during the afternoon. The weather was bright and sunshiny, with a frost at sundown.

MR. YAMAGUCHI, a Judge of the Tokyo Local Court, who has been under arrest for some time in connection with the case of Nishigori Gosei, is now in a state of mental disorder. He is receiving medical treatment.

THE New Year review of troops of the Tokyo garrison takes place at the Aoyama Parade Ground on the 8th of January next, in the presence of H.I.M. the Emperor, who will leave the Palace at 9.30 a.m.

MR MUTSU, Minister for Foreign Affairs, delivered a strong speech in the Diet on Friday last, stating the Government's position in regard to Foreign Affairs and its determination to carry out its policy of opening the country.

THE fine weather that has prevailed for several weeks was broken on Wednesday by a fall of snow, which lasted for several hours of the forenoon. A thaw quickly set in and very little snow remained by evening, except in sheltered places.

MR. HOSHI TORU was heartily received by his electors in the First Division of Tochigi Prefecture the other day. His campaign prospects are bright. Troops of *soshi* have invaded the district, having been hired by both parties in the contest.

THE resignation of Mr. Saito Shuichiro, Vice-Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, will, it is said, be accepted in a day or two, and the names of Messrs. Komatsubara, Governor of Shizuoka, and Asada, Governor of Nagano, are mentioned as candidates for the post.

A WEEKLY magazine, called the *Travellers' Gazette*, printed in Japanese and English, appeared for the first time in the capital on Christmas Day. It has caused much amusement through its queer specimens of "English as she is Japanned."

A FIRE of shavings and old paint in the basement of No. 26, on Christmas-day afternoon, gave rise to an alarm of fire. Happily there was no occasion for the services of the Fire Brigade, as the smouldering embers of the little blaze had died out by the time the firemen reached the spot.

AN Imperial Message from the Throne dealing with the present political situation, was given by the Emperor to his Ministers of State on Sunday. The Ministers of State are exhorted to maintain discipline among their official staffs, while the Lower House is told that no interference with the Emperor's prerogative regarding the appointment or dismissal of Ministers will be allowed. The Message concludes with a reference to foreign affairs.

NOTWITHSTANDING the Imperial Message of Sunday last, and the further prorogation of the House of Representatives for another fourteen days, there is every prospect of further disturbance in the Lower House, upon the resembly of the Diet. Some of the more rabid members of the Opposition are seeking to present an Address to the Throne, complaining of the Privy Council's attitude toward the Lower House in the Memorial which the former body presented to the Throne.

As an indication of the state of public opinion, at least among the more youthful and reckless of the Opposition politicians, the *Jiyu* prints a paragraph to the effect that rumour has it that Mr. Okamura Terubiko is receiving many threatening letters from *soshi*, who allege that he was bribed by the P. and O. Company to the extent of *yen* 50 000 to lose every case which he brings against them on behalf of the Government or other Japanese plaintiffs.

THE villagers of Furuhama-mura, Kuwana District, Miye Prefecture, hit upon a novel plan to detect some thieves. They have suffered from many robberies of late, but nobody was ever arrested. Suspicions, however, fell on three persons. To decide the matter, a ballot was taken, and as a result the three men were found to be mentioned on all the ballots. They were consequently examined and then confessed to the crimes.

THE United States Government is sending a large fleet to Rio de Janeiro, it is supposed with the intention of preventing the restoration of the monarchy by the insurgents; the Italians have had an engagement near Massowah with 10,000 Dervishes, upon whom they inflicted a heavy loss, the Italian force losing four officers and one hundred men; the Pamirs negotiations in St. Petersburg are proceeding slowly, China having many objections to urge against the further advance of Russia; the session of the House of Commons has been prolonged till the 20th of January, the session is exhausting both members and the officials of the House, and *The Times* says the Government is riding for a fall; Sir Philip H. M. Currie, K.C.B., is the new British Ambassador to Constantinople; the frontier commission for the Siamese buffer-state has been formed; the House of Commons has rejected the Lords' "contracting-out," amendment to the Employers' Liability Bill; the question of the Duke of Edinburgh's annuities has come up in the House of Commons, the Duke having retained the £10,000 marriage annuity, and renounced the £15,000 annuity voted him by the country as a member of the Royal family; the Sultan of Morocco has promised to surrender his authority over the Kabyle tribes who were the agressors at Melilla, and has agreed to pay an indemnity and arrange a neutral zone; it is believed that France meditates sending an expedition to Madagascar against the organised marauding bands that have been attacking outposts; Mr. Rhodes has telegraphed that the Matabele have been completely subdued; the Premiers of Australia have unanimously resolved to invite the Duke of York and his wife to visit the Colonies next year.

THE usual condition of the Import trade at this period of the year has come about, and all branches are more or less at a standstill, Yarns, Piece-goods, and Woollens being scarcely looked at, with Metals, Kerosene, and Sugar in very similar case. As New Year's Day occurs next week the state of the various markets may be accurately foretold, and very little business will be done during the next interval. Holders of various imports are not pressing sales, as stocks in the interior are not large, and buyers must shortly come into the market from various directions, and though transactions have scarcely been sufficient during the past week to make quotations, rates are fully maintained and likely to continue so. The Silk trade in the early part of the week appeared to be assuming large dimensions, but, prices being further advanced, a check came, and the total settlements—including nearly 200 piculs direct shipment—amount to but little over 1,000 piculs. These purchases have made no impression on the stock, arrivals keeping up the quantity on offer. The demand for Waste Silk has revived, and some of the heavy transactions referred to last week as pending were put through, but buying was in few hands. Quotations are unaltered, and arrivals keep up the stock of export fibre, though on the whole it has been reduced by nearly 1,000 piculs, but this is on account of large parcels of low grade being taken for Japanese spinners in the interior. Nothing to report in the Tea trade. Exchange has further declined, and closes with a downward tendency.

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THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK

The Diet has again been prorogued for a fortnight. The situation remains undecided. The prevailing impression is that the only outcome will be dissolution of the House of Representatives. Meanwhile, wider credence is given to a report that a definite understanding exists between the National Unionists and the Progressionists. The persistency with which the papers representing the two parties call up in the Cabinet Ministers to resign is taken as a confirmation of the report. We give in the following paragraph *resumés* of the principal articles on the situation.

* * *

The *Hochi Shimbun* (Progressionist) is of opinion that the principal cause of the continued collision between the Executive and the Legislature lies in the former's obstinate adhesion to the doctrine of *chōsen naikaku* (Cabinet independent of all parties). Unless that benighted fancy be given up our contemporary believes that it will be absolutely impossible for the Government to conduct the administration in harmony with the Diet. Moreover, in practice, each successive Cabinet since the establishment of the Diet has tried to obtain a majority in the House of Representatives by allying itself with some of the parties having strength there. But no Cabinet has dared openly to acknowledge such an alliance. Had they publicly expounded the principle of party Government, the clan statesmen might have been able to collect about themselves a large following. Even now it is not too late for them to form their own party. Those in power are advised to leave office and set themselves about the task of forming a party. They are assured that in two or three years' time they would be able to return to office with their position strengthened a hundred-fold.

* * *

The *Yomiuri Shimbun* (Philo-Progressionist) writes in a similar strain. The present Cabinet is recommended to see whether it can secure a majority in the House of Representatives by openly allying itself with some of the parties, and failing in such attempt, is advised to hand over the reins of Government to the politicians of the Opposition.

* * *

The *Chu-o Shimbun* (National Unionist organ), as already noticed in these columns, goes so far as to advise Count Ito to recommend Count Okuma to the Emperor as his successor. Our contemporary thinks, with the rest of the Opposition journals, that the present Ministry has no right to remain in office after the House of Representatives has clearly indicated want of confidence in it. The National Unionist organ seems to have become reconciled to the doctrine of party Government which has hitherto been the object of its strongest denunciation.

* * *

The *Nioku Shimpo* also, which, though not belonging to any of the parties concerned, is understood to be friendly to a section of the Opposition, contends that the time has come to look for the formation of a Cabinet composed of non-clan statesmen. Mere replacement of one clan Cabinet by another has no effect upon the general position between the Executive and the Legislature. Such temporizing measures will not prove more effectual to prolong the life of the clan Government than frequent changes in the Ministers of the Tokugawa Court were able to delay the fall of that Government. It is, therefore, high time, in the *Nioku's*" opinion, to call new men into power and inaugurate anew epoch in the political history of the country.

* * *

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* has an interesting article on this question. Our contemporary is convinced that the first duty of the present Cabinet is to remain in office at least until proper successors shall have been found. In the present condition of things, there is no statesman possessing qualifications sufficient to justify his being entrusted with the conduct of the Administration. Counts Yamagata and Matsukata are equally unwilling to form a Ministry. Count Okuma and Count Itagaki are advocates of Party Government, but neither of them possess a sufficient following to undertake the organisation of a Cabinet. Count Kuroda, Count Saigo, and Count Oyama are fit to occupy the position of Premier, but they are members of the present Cabinet, and their appointment in the place of Count Ito would not change the character of the Ministry in the least degree. Hence Count Ito and his colleagues are bound to stay in their places and complete the great work begun at the Restoration. Some persons profess to be disappointed with the present Cabinet, but if they really believe that the statesmen now in office cannot do much to rescue the country from the present unfortunate position, they ought to be aware that what exceeds the capacity of the present Ministry would be much more in excess of that of any other Ministry. It is the bounden duty of the present Cabinet Ministers not the leave office until there shall have grown up a group of statesmen fitted in ability and confidence to succeed them in the direction of public affairs.

* * *

In proportion as the report of alliance between the Progressionists and the National Unionists is more widely circulated, the *Kaishin-to* organs grow more vehement in holding up the Radical Party to public ridicule by accusing it of a secret combination with the Cabinet. The Party's opposition to strict enforcement of the treaties is regarded as a conclusive sign of its identification with the Government.

* * *

The question of strict enforcement of the treaties has occupied a prominent position in the columns of the vernacular press during the week. The papers now under the ban of suspension, the *Nippon*, the *Nioku Shimpo*, and the *Chu-o Shimbun*, have been most conspicuous for their zeal in the discussion of this question. But there is nothing worthy of notice in their articles, for they dispense with calm reasoning and adopt the easier method of appealing to the prejudices of the ignorant masses. It is well that they have been suspended at the present moment. But their editors are understood to promise their readers that, so soon as the ban is removed, they will resume their advocacy of the cause of treaty enforcement with redoubled energy and directness.

* * *

Of the Progressionist organs, the *Mainichi Shimbun* explains its Party's position in regard to this question, while the *Hochi Shimbun* gives expression to apprehensions entertained by some members of the Party about the probable consequences of an appeal to the country on such a subject. The former journal writes:—"There are some persons who think that the principles of strict enforcement of the treaties is incompatible with the avowed foreign policy of the Progressionist Party. They are, however, gravely mistaken. Our Party is in favour of mixed residence, and advocates the speedy settlement of the question of Treaty Revision. But a mistaken notion has been suggested by the fact that the Representation on the strict enforcement of the treaties has been introduced by a section of politicians opposed to the immediate opening of the interior for mixed residence. Whatever difference of opinion may exist on the subject of mixed residence between that section and our Party, the ideas of both happen to coincide on the question of treaty enforcement. Indeed the necessity of rigidly carrying out the treaty stipulations was openly admitted at the grand meeting of the Progressionist Party. In order to revise the treaties and recover the sovereign rights of the Empire, it is important to withhold from foreigners all privileges and facilities not legitimately granted them by the treaties, so that foreign nations themselves may be induced to come and ask the Japanese Government for revision * * * * When Count Okuma was Minister of Foreign Affairs, he even risked his life for the attainment of the object of Treaty Revision, but at the same time he did not fail to exert all his endeavours for the enforcement of the treaties. Will any body still dare to maintain that the principle of treaty enforcement is incompatible with the foreign policy of the *Kaishin-to*? * * * * This is moreover, a national question, and there is no reason why it should not be supported because it has been introduced into the Diet by opponents of the immediate opening of the country for mixed residence."

* * *

The *Hochi* admits that strict enforcement of the treaties is a matter of vital importance, and that it has always been advocated by the Progressionist party. However, great caution is needed in handling this question, for its discussion, unless properly regulated, may become a means of reviving the old *jō-i* (exclusion of barbarians) spirit. Our contemporary earnestly advises advocates of the doctrine to take care lest they mislead the ignorant classes by propagating one-sided and bigotted opinions and appealing to the prejudices of the people. The *Hochi* fears that, should the Diet be dissolved on this question, the general elections would become a fight between reason and prejudice. Expressions like "traitor," "betrayer of the people," "disloyal," "slaves of Europeans," and so forth, would be watch-words throughout the country. It is well for the Diet to demand strict enforcement of the treaties, but the *Hochi* does not think it right or wise on the Government's part to order dissolution on this question. In our contemporary's opinion, there are already men imbued with more or less of the *jō-i* spirit, and an appeal to the country on such an issue would at once fan the smouldering fire into an active blaze all over the country. In such a case, the *Hochi* proposes to hold the Cabinet responsible for the whole affair.

* * *

The Radical organ, the *Jiyu Shimbun*, was at first ambiguous on this subject, as noticed in our last weekly summary. During the present week, however, it has definitely announced that its Party is opposed to the Representation on the Strict Enforcement of the Treaties. Our contemporary does not hesitate to state that the vigour with which this question has been raised is the outcome simply of a desire to win popularity. Now that the House of Representatives has positively declared its wish for a speedy revision of the treaties, the *Jiyu* thinks it absurd to make such a fuss about evils which will vanish as soon as the question of revision shall have been satisfactorily settled. That it will be satisfactorily settled in the near future, the Radical organ does not doubt. The evils complained of certainly exist, but so long as the present imperfect treaties and their accompaniment, the system of foreign settlements, remain in force, it will be impossible to correct many of those evils. A great party like the *Jiyu-ha*, says our contemporary, has no time to waste in the advocacy of such a silly course of action.

* * *

Independent papers like the *Jiji Shimpo* and the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* are of course opposed to the agitation for strict enforcement of the treaties. Their opinions having been noticed already, we will refer in the present summary to a very sensible series of articles in another independent paper, the *Kokkai*. Alluding to the explanatory document attached to the Representation on strict enforcement of the treaties, our contemporary observes that many of the steps proposed in it are either impracticable or useless, while in some places the arguments employed are of a character likely to be rejected as savouring of the *jō-i* spirit. For instance, the *Kokkai* does not think that there is any necessity to interfere with the ownership of lands and houses so long as there is no direct evidence of violation of the law, while it is equally absurd to complain of the opening of stores or the starting of enterprises with capital borrowed from foreigners. However, our contemporary is of opinion that the administrative authority as well the Government's right of imposing taxes should be rigidly extended to the foreign settlements. At the same time, it insists that all possible facilities of trade should be given to foreigners, in so far as such

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facilities do not interfere with the sovereign rights of the Empire.

* * *

Count Goto continues to be the object of journalistic criticisms. He is called by various ugly names It is, however, unnecessary to refer to these comments, as they are merely repetitions of what has already been reproduced in these columns.

* * *

The Imperial Message and the Memorial of the Privy Council on the subject of official discipline, have, of course, attracted much attention. Journalistic remarks on this question have already been noticed separately.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE SITUATION.

THE following note appeared in the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* of Sunday last:—"There is no sense in the report that a collision has taken place between Count Ito and Count Yamagata. Count Ito asked permission to take upon himself the whole responsibility of the situation, and Count Yamagata has been summoned back by the Emperor. On what grounds could a collision take place between them? Some people deny that Count Yamagata has declared himself opposed to the resignation of any Minister in obedience to the wish of the Diet. He may not have made such a declaration explicitly on the present occasion, but there is no doubt that the opinion held by him has always been of that nature. The report about Mr. Mutsu's resignation has no foundation. We saw him discoursing in high spirits with the Foreign Representatives on his latest reception day, as well as at a dinner given by Mr. Sannomiya. He is not likely to resign until after he shall have done his utmost for the revision of the Treaties. As to Count Saigo, he is known to have rejected the advice of Viscount Shinagawa and some of the National Unionists to resign, so that there is no reason to expect his departure from office. Yesterday he was seen coming home from the Naval Department in his usual composed manner. Count Goto presented an Address to the Emperor on the day when the House of Representatives addressed the Throne with reference to official discipline; and is now awaiting His Majesty's pleasure. However, so far as his ill-health permits him, he is attending to his official duties in the usual manner. Count Ito's industry is greater than ever. He seems to be resolved to go on his own way in spite of any difficulties, however great. He will not give up the fight of his own accord without some very special reason. The National Unionists seem to be particularly afraid of a dissolution Their organ is taking much pains to impress upon the Government the unwisdom of such a step at the present moment. It is also saying good things of Mr. Mutsu, as though it had not previously treated him in the light of one of the bitterest enemies of its Party. The National Unionists have evidently been outwitted by the recent tendency of the Government to pursue a strong foreign policy. There will not be a change of Cabinet, but some step will be taken with regard to the Lower House's Address to the Throne on the subject of official discipline. At the same time, a decisive policy will be adopted towards the Diet. The question of strict enforcement of the treaties alone may suffice for a dissolution. Besides, the Budget and several other problems on which an appeal may be made to the country await discussion. What is needed is decision on the part of the Cabinet. The Ministers of the Crown need not care much about the results of a general election, in so far as their position is affected. But it is certain that a dissolution will at least serve to eliminate a section of the allied Opposition, namely the National Unionists. When the present Cabinet was formed, Count Goto did not know till he received his appointment whether he was to remain in office or not. It is scarcely necessary to deny that, such being the case, the Premier made no secret promise to the present Minister of Agriculture and Commerce. Count Ito is not the man to make such promises. His ideas about resignation may be gathered from the way in which he left the Cabinet in 1888 and the Privy Council in 1889."

THE GOVERNMENT'S INTENTIONS.

THE *Jiji Shimpo* undertakes to interpret the Government's ideas about the prorogation and possible dissolution of the Diet. In the event of dissolution, the Cabinet, says our contemporary, anticipates that by devoting about a hundred thousand *yen* to electioneering purposes, a Government following of 130 can be secured in the Lower House. A campaign such as that organized by the Matsukata Cabinet could never be contemplated by Count Ito and statesmen of his kind: there is nothing for it but to spend some money. How the spending should be done, the *Jiji* does not say: it leaves that to its reader's imagination. But it furnishes an easily grasped clue by adding that the same sum, if judiciously laid out, would secure an equally favourable result for the Government without any dissolution. It seems to us that the *Jiji's* analysis is incomplete. An addition should have been made that the Ito Cabinet is not likely to devote either money or administrative authority to the task of securing a majority in the Lower House, since according to Count Ito's often declared and consistently observed principle, the Ministers of the Crown hold office by the *fiat* of the Emperor, not by the mandate of any political party.

THE PROGRESSIONISTS AND THE NATIONAL UNIONISTS.

ACCORDING to the *Jiyu Shimbun*, it appears that a secret alliance between the Progressionists and the National Unionists already existed at the commencement of the present session of the Diet. In the Radical organ's opinion, the Hoshi drama was simply a device invented by the crafty politicians of the *Kaishin-to* to cement their newly formed friendship with the *Kokumin Kyokai*. While that question was on the *tapis*, Messrs. Shimada Saburo and Ozaki Yukio of the Progressionist Party are said to have held a conference with Viscount Shinagawa, and a few days ago Messrs. Ozaki Yukio and Inukai Ki are reported to have met Count Yamagata. As to the particulars of these meetings, our contemporary declares complete ignorance. But judging from the way in which the two parties are now united in an indiscriminate attack upon the Cabinet, the *Jiyu* does not think it at all difficult to guess the nature of the secret compact existing between them. We (*Japan Mail*) do not vouch for the truth of the statements make by our Tokyo contemporary, but it may be noticed that an alliance between the *Kaishin-to* and the *Kokumin Kyokai* does not now look so improbable as it did a month ago.

LOCAL ASSEMBLIES.

SOME of the Local Assemblies seem to be imitating the disorder of the House of Representatives. For instance, in the Ishikawa Ken Local Assembly, there has been a very lively scene over the qualifications of its Chairman. The supporters of the Chairman triumphed, whereupon the anti-chairman party retired in dudgeon from the Assembly and refused to take any further part in its deliberations. Both parties now appealed to Tokyo, the Governor also sending his report. The Home Office decided against the Chairman, whereupon the Opposition, without waiting for the Governor's announcement, immediately rushed off to the Assembly and tried to expel the Chairman. The Chairman and his friends, however, stuck to their posts and handed the intruders over to the Police. The Governor, in the meantime, steadily refused to see any members of the anti-Chairman party. They had acted without waiting for his initiative, and now he refused to do anything So the matter has been once more referred to Tokyo, where it will in all probability come before the Diet.

THE RAILWAY COUNCIL

AN Investigation Committee of the Railway Council makes the following report on the points submitted to it by the Minister of State for Communications:—As to any regulation of the amount of capital to be invested in railway enterprises, political interference would probably do more harm than good; something, however, might be done by inducing capitalists to invest in such intended lines as may be considered safest by competent authorities. To prevent the establishment of numerous petty railway companies, a locality might be divided into sections, the lines running through any given section to belong to one company. As this would be a work of time, the utmost that can be done at present is to induce the smaller companies to amalgamate. As to the standard of profit that should accrue from railway enterprises, it is impossible to draw any hard-and-fast line, varying as conditions do according to the locality. Finally, no proposed line should be sanctioned until compared with those already established with a view to ascertaining whether it is likely to prove profitable.

THE BUSINESS TAX ON THE MANAGERS OF BANKS AND COMPANIES.

ACCORDING to the revised regulations of the Chamber of Commerce, the managers of Banks and Joint Stock Companies have, as some of our readers will probably remember, been made eligible for all the privileges of the Chambers. The Tokyo-Fu authorities are consequently of the opinion that they should pay the tax paid by other business men, and a notification to this effect was issued by the Governor of Tokyo in 1892.—(No 23) Against this notification a protest was made by the managers, on the ground that as they were not merchants, but merely agents conducting business on behalf of their employers, they were exempt from the tax. The matter was brought before the Tokyo Local Court some time ago in an action by Mr Shioda Heigoro, of the Mitsu Bishi Co., and Mr. Uchida Kosaku, of the Nippon Yusen Kwaisha, against the Headmen of the Kanda and Koishikawa Wards. This Court gave a decision against the plaintiffs, but on an appeal to the Administrative Court the judgment was reversed on the 17th instant. The managers therefore have won the day. It is expected that Notification No. 23 will be withdrawn very shortly, and in cases where the tax has been paid, the amount will be refunded on application being made to the municipal office.

REPRESENTATION ON THE STRICT ENFORCEMENT OF THE TREATIES.

THE following is the continuation of the Representation introduced by Mr. Abei Hankon in the House of Representatives concluded from Saturday:—

The history of the establishment of Quarantine Regulations contains a fact which has important bearings upon the national rights of the country, namely, that the Japanese Government is not competent to enforce against foreigners measures of its own framed for preventing the spread of infectious diseases, the control in this matter being only indirectly exercised through the goodwill of the Representatives of the Treaty Powers. Practically our Regulations are in operation over foreigners, but our Government has no power to directly enforce such Regulations, and in so far the national rights of the country must be said to have suffered. This regrettable state of affairs has been brought about principally through want of resolution on the part of our Government, and through its habitual tendency to be indulgent to foreigners and to regard with indifference important matters of diplomacy. In the following paragraphs, we cite some of the salient facts connected with this part of our subject:—

In the 8th month of the 6th year of *Meiji*, cholera being prevalent in Shanghai, our Government consulted with the different foreign Ministers and enacted a set of Quarantine Regulations, in which it was provided that the foreign Consuls were to be admitted into the Sanitary Committee. But there was, fortunately, no occasion for carrying out these Regulations.

In the 10th year of *Meiji*, cholera broke out in Kyushu, and finally reached Yokohama. There being various objections to the Quarantine Regulations of the 6th year of *Meiji*, they could not be put into operation, and a new set of Regulations was drawn up and submitted to the different foreign Representatives, who at once sent back the document to the Government with various proposals for amendment. The Japanese Government then appointed a Committee to re-cast the Regulations, which, having been thus amended, were at once

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approved by the Ministers of the United States and Russia, the French Minister, however, suggesting further alterations. The English Minister alone took a different position, and asserted his right of interfering with the legislative authority of Japan, alleging that the proposed Regulations could not be applied to the ships and subjects of his country without his consent. The Japanese Government traversed his arguments, declaring that Japan, as a point of sovereignty, possessed the right to enact such Regulations as she might consider of public benefit, and that the right of final approval and amendment could never be delegated to foreign Governments. The English Minister firmly adhered to his original position, and while time was being wasted in discussion, the disease spread as far as Nagasaki. Thereupon the Government drew up provisional Regulations to be applied to ships, Japanese and foreign, navigating between Nagasaki and Yokohama, and submitted them to the foreign Ministers for approval. The Italian Minister signified his consent, inasmuch as the matter, in his opinion, was of urgent importance, but the French Minister having again raised objections, the Regulations were not carried out in the case of foreign ships generally.

In the 12th year of *Meiji*, the same disease again broke out in the South-west, and speedily extended to Kobe and Osaka. The Government enacted provisionary Regulations and ordered all ships arriving from the infected districts to enter the port of Nagatura and there lie at anchor for a certain period of time. In the 7th month of the same year, the Government promulgated the Quarantine Regulations, and simultaneously copies of these Regulations were sent to the foreign Ministers, desiring them to take the necessary steps for their application to foreigners in the different settlements, in accordance with a process hitherto considered convenient under similar circumstances. The United States Minister immediately gave his consent, but the Ministers of Germany and France proposed amendments, while the English Minister not only objected to these Regulations, but drew up a special set of rules and published them for observance by his nationals. The Japanese Government protested against this step on the part of the British Representative, but the latter replied that, only English laws being recognized in English Courts of law, the Quarantine Regulations must be converted into English law in order to have binding force on British subjects. To this our Government is said to have made no reply.

Thus, even in the case of Regulations equally important to both Japanese and foreigners, the Foreign Ministers are cautious not to establish a precedent prejudicial to their interests. At present our Quarantine Regulations are practically in operation against foreigners, but the foreign Representatives still continue to refuse to acknowledge Japan's exclusive right of legislation. They either publish these Regulations over their own signatures, or go through the formality of re-enacting them. In either case their object is to assert the privilege they have once obtained. On the other hand, the policy followed by the Japanese Government is quite the reverse of that pursued by the Representatives of the Treaty Powers. It is customary with our Government to take a lenient view of each case, and make concessions to Western Powers. A strange and abnormal policy, truly!

LICENSES FOR THE PURSUIT OF GAME.

The existing treaties contain no provision granting to foreigners the privilege of pursuing game. But the demands of the foreigners being persistent, the Government found itself unable to withhold from them that privilege. As foreigners enjoy the privilege entirely through Japan's good-will, they ought to observe the provisions of Japanese law relating to the pursuit of game. But such is their presumptuousness that even in this matter they have interfered with the national rights of Japan. A brief historical account of the question is given below.

In the 10th month of the 1st year of *Man-yen* (1860), an Englishman, named Moss, wounded a Japanese official while hunting in the Prefecture of Kanagawa. The Tokugawa Government caused the Englishman to be deported, after exacting from him an indemnity of 1,000 dollars. In the 12th month of the 3rd year of *Meiji*, Game Regulations applicable to foreigners were enacted after the views of the various foreign Ministers had been consulted. In the 1st month of the 6th year of *Meiji*, Game Regulations were proclaimed throughout the country by Imperial Ordinance No 25, and our Government drew up new provisionary Regulations applicable to foreigners, and intimated to the foreign Ministers that any foreigner not conforming with the Regulations would not be permitted to pursue game. But the foreign Representatives refused their consent to the new Regulations, which consequently fell through. In the following year, a fresh draft of Regulations was compiled and presented to the Foreign Ministers for approval. There being in that draft a clause providing that infractions of the Regulations were to be tried in the Consular Courts but that whatever fines might be collected should be paid to the Japanese Government, the Foreign Ministers replied that, unless they received instructions from their respective Governments, they were unable to give any definite answer to such a proposal. The Japanese Government allowed them until the 6th month of the following year to obtain definite instructions from home. At that date, the British Minister, in his capacity of *Doyen* of the *Corps Diplomatique*, proposed that the clause relating to the payment of fines to the Japanese Government should be omitted altogether. This proposal was positively refused by our Government, and in the 9th month of the same year it informed the Representatives of the various foreign Powers that, unless the original draft were adopted in its entirety, the privilege of pursuing game would not be granted to foreigners. The negotiations on this question were subsequently revived again and again, but the attempt did not succeed in bringing foreigners under the operation of our Game Regulations. In the 9th year of *Meiji*, the Ministers of the different Treaty Powers drew up a draft of Special Regulations under their joint signatures, and our Government, in consultation with them, finally adopted the following provisions:—

"1.—Any foreigner desiring to pursue game must pay 10 *yen* for a license good for the whole season, or 5 *yen* for one good for half of the season."

"2.—Any foreigner violating the specifications written on the license, shall be liable to the payment of 10 *yen*, indemnity to the Japanese Government on the institution of a Civil Case against him by the said Government."

"3.—In case a foreigner engages in the pursuit of game without a license, he shall be punished according to the law of his native country on a complaint being lodged in the Consular Court by the Japanese Government."

The British Minister, taking these provisions as a basis, enacted Regulations for punishing persons who pursued game without a license, on the 2nd of the 1st month of the 10th year of *Meiji*, and British subjects became subject to these Regulations. The rules now in force on this matter among foreigners generally may be regarded as a conditional agreement between the Japanese Government and foreign sportsmen, and do not at all partake of the character of the country's administrative regulations.

The Game Regulations issued last year have been pronounced unconstitutional by the House of Representatives, and it is, consequently, unnecessary to speak at any length about them. In short, it is to be noticed that on the question of the pursuit of game, the national rights of the country have suffered much injury.

TRAVEL

According to the express stipulations of the treaties, foreigners' privilege of travel is limited to fixed regions surrounding the respective settlements. Only Ministers and Consuls were originally allowed to pass beyond these limits, and even Ministers and Consuls were to be accompanied by Japanese officials. We may well imagine the inconvenience which would be felt by foreigners, were the treaty stipulation on this subject enforced strictly. But, so long as the present unsatisfactory system of dividing judicial powers between Japan and foreign States is maintained, such restrictions upon foreigners must be considered as necessary conditions of that system. Foreigners, however, are always complaining of the inconvenience of the system and trying to have the restrictions removed by the Japanese Government. Our Government, on its part, is very often misled by considerations of a temporary nature into relaxing these essential conditions of the imperfect system now in force. Thus the present abuses in respect of travel in the interior are to be ascribed to the readiness of our Government to relax the original restrictions of the treaties in compliance with the demand of foreign Powers. In the following paragraphs allusion will be made to the more important of the facts generally known in connection with this part of the subject.

In the 4th month of the 2nd year of *Meiji*, a foreign medical practitioner in Nagasaki asked permission to visit a hot-spring outside treaty limits for the benefit of his health. The permission was granted. But the Government made it a rule not to grant such a favour, unless in cases of sickness, shipwreck, employment by Japanese, prosecution of scientific studies, surveying, and so forth; and even the Ministers of the Treaty Powers were not allowed to go into the interior without first obtaining the permission of the Government. In the 10th month of the 3rd year of *Meiji*, permission was given to foreigners to visit freely temples and shrines in Tokyo, the limits of free movement for foreigners in Tokyo being marked on the east by the Sumi-Tone river; on the north by a line extending from Kuricho, through Senju, and along the upper part of the Sumida-gawa, to Takakura; on the south, to Hinowatari on the Tamagawa; and on the west by the Tamagawa from Hinowatari to its mouth at Kawasaki. A notice was at the same time issued to people residing within this circle, instructing them to offer no obstructions to the passage of foreigners. In the 7th month of the 6th year of *Meiji*, the Ministers of the various Treaty Powers addressed to the Government a joint note asking for the abolition of the treaty limits and the grant of liberty to travel in the interior. At that time Ambassador Iwakura was in Europe instructed to open negotiations for the revision of the treaties, and the Japanese Government declined to give any definite answer to the note of the Foreign Ministers until the return of the Ambassador. In the middle of the 9th month of the same year, the Ambassador returned to Japan, and his return was followed by a renewal of the Foreign Ministers' request that their nationals be permitted to travel and trade freely in the interior, the joint note being on this occasion accompanied by a draft of regulations on the subject. Negotiations were subsequently opened between the Japanese Government Foreign Representatives, but the latter's request and the was not granted.

Nevertheless, while, on the one hand, rejecting the demand of the foreign Ministers, the Japanese Government, on the other, effectually relaxed the restrictions on travel in the interior by establishing, in the 6th month of the 7th year of *Meiji*, Rules giving permission to foreigners to travel in the Interior. By these Rules, it was fixed that passports might be issued by the Foreign Office to such foreigners as might apply for leave to travel in the interior either in the discharge of official duties, or for the benefit of their health, or on account of shipwreck. Foreigners in the service of the Japanese Government had, previous to the above mentioned date, been provided with passports for travel in the interior for approved reasons, but the privilege had been abused by them so much that their passports were withdrawn on the enactment of the Rules above alluded to. The Government, at the same time, sent officials to Nikko, Ikao, Hakone, Atami, and other places to see if the foreigners staying there were properly provided with passports. Out of sixty three foreigners stopping at those places, six were not provided with passports, and they were at once sent back to Tokyo. Thus for a time the restrictions upon travel were apparently maintained with a firm hand. Foreign Ministers, however, were not satisfied with that state of things and repeatedly applied for the privilege of travel in the interior for their nationals. The Foreign Minister, the late Count Terajima, rejected these applications on the ground that the existence of Consular Jurisdiction made it impossible for the Japanese Government to properly control foreigners in the interior. In the 5th month of the same year some alterations were introduced in the Rules mentioned above, but the system of passports was not given up. In the 11th month of the same year, permission was accorded to foreigners to put up in hotels within the treaty limits, and those suffering from sickness were allowed to stay even at private houses. These were fresh relaxations of the treaty restrictions upon the privilege of travel. In the 8th month of the 9th year of *Meiji*, foreigners were permitted to visit Kyoto for purposes of scientific research or for the benefit of their health. Formerly no foreigner, except Ministers, had been allowed to enter Kyoto. When the railway was extended further, applications were made by foreigners for permission to go there, and an Exhibition being then held in the city, the Government temporarily relaxed the restriction, and the favour then granted has not since been withdrawn. At that time foreigners were not permitted to extend their journey beyond the limits of the city, except to Nara, and to Lake Biwa as far as Hikone on the east, Kusatsu on the South, and Shiwotsu and Chikubu jima on the north. In the 9th month of the 11th year of *Meiji*, permission was granted to foreigners suffering from sickness to take lodgings at private houses in the interior. This permission, it is said, was given in consequence of inconvenience actually experienced under the former system. In the 11th month of the 12th year, in response to complaints by foreigners at Nagasaki, the treaty limits, which had been co-extensive with the district under the direct control of the *Bugyo*, were extended to ten *ri* in every direction from the settlement.

The opening of the country being an essential feature of the national policy, the closing of the interior to foreign travel is not in itself a praiseworthy thing. But it must be borne in mind that an attitude of indulgence and generosity on our part, if not reciprocated by a similar attitude on the part of foreign Powers, only leads to increased trampling upon treaty stipulations, and to increased difficulty in recovering for Japan her national rights. An ever-growing number of foreigners now openly

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occupy houses of their own under the pretext of scientific research or ill health, at Nikko, Kamakura, Suma, and other resorts noted for beauty of scenery. In short, the treaty restrictions on the travel of foreigners in the interior are now in danger of losing all effect. In the 21st year of *Meiji*, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Count Okuma, did something to correct the prevailing evil, to restrain the issue of passports, and to let foreigners understand that the grant of passports entirely depends upon the goodwill of the Japanese Government, and is in no sense a right which foreigners are entitled to demand. But the Government has not pursued a fixed policy on the matter, and the present unsatisfactory state of affairs has resulted. The Government's responsibility is not a light one.

MODE OF DEALING WITH POACHING SHIPS.

The right to engage in fishing has not been given to foreigners under the existing treaties. But foreigners yearly come with fishing vessels into Yokohama and other ports to obtain supplies of provisions and other necessary articles, and there are also some foreigners in Yokohama who find capital for these fishing vessels. Yokohama and some other ports seem to be regarded by foreigners as stations for these fishing schooners. When the vessels return loaded with the proceeds of their operations, they transfer their catch to other ships in the port without paying anything in the form of either import or export duties. It is not easy to ascertain the value of the skins transhipped in this way. How many millions of *yen* they are worth, those well conversant with such things in Yokohama will no doubt be able to calculate for themselves.

It is reported that these vessels ply their trade sometimes off the coasts of Iga and Kishu. But most of them go to the seas off the coasts of the Provinces of Ou and Cishima (Kurile Islands). When they detect the approach of a Japanese war vessel, they get out of her sight and thus escape being caught in the territorial waters of Japan. When they occasionally enter any of the ports on the coasts of Kishu or the Ou Provinces, the Local Authorities are afraid of meddling with them, lest some trouble may result, and so these vessels are suffered to come and go unmolested. At present, therefore, poaching is openly practised in Japanese waters. If the Government intends to excuse itself on the pretext of want of proof, there is no help for it. But is it right for the Government to look with indifference upon the evil of open poaching, the existence of which is perceived by the people in general?

THE CONTROL OF CHURCHES.

Liberty of religious worship is guaranteed to Japanese subjects by the Constitution within the limits of law. Foreigners also enjoy the same privilege in virtue of an express treaty provision. Thus in respect of freedom of worship, there ought to be no distinction between Japanese and foreigners. But, while the original religions of Japan and the shrines and temples are governed by certain regulations under the supervision of the Shrines and Temples Bureau, these regulations are not extended to the churches of the foreign religion. The relative merits of the Japanese and foreign religions need not be discussed here. But of late there have been numerous instances of believers in the foreign religion giving offence to the national feelings of the people by casting vilifying reflections upon the established ceremonies of the Empire. It is needless to say that proper control ought to be exercised over Churches belonging to foreign religions.

ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS.

Administrative regulations which may be applied to foreigners, such, for instance, as Railway Regulations, Kerosene Regulations, Regulations relating to the Import of Opium for Medical Use, Regulations about Lost Articles, and so forth, have not yet been carried out in the case of foreigners, on the pretext that necessary arrangements have not been effected with the Representatives of the Treaty Powers. The Regulations about the certificates of Pilots for Vessels of Foreign Construction are in force among foreigners, but it must be observed that these Regulations were enacted in consultation with the Foreign Ministers. It is provided that foreign pilots, who possess certificates, in accordance with Art. 13 of the Regulations, may, in the pursuit of their calling, go ashore land at any place in the Empire and proceed thence by land to the place of their original departure. But there is no provision to punish them in case they violate any of the articles. Such Regulations are almost dead letters.

Another instance of the relaxation of administrative control over foreigners is furnished by the case of foreign newspapers published in the settlements. When such newspapers publish anything contrary to the Newspaper Regulations and prejudicial to public tranquillity, the paper may be suspended, just as in the case of a journal in the interior, or its editor may even be ordered to leave the Empire, as is often done in foreign countries. Some years ago an Englishman named Black, published a Japanese paper entitled *Nisshin Shimpishi*, in Tokyo, and when his paper began to disseminate ideas injurious to public tranquillity, the Government had to take him into its service in order to induce him discontinue his journal. A present it is not likely that anybody will publish a Japanese paper outside the control of the laws of the country. The foreign newspapers published in the settlements are still exempted from the purview of our Newspaper Regulations. Consequently, while diplomatic secrets are freely published in the foreign papers of the settlements, their insertion in a Japanese paper is instantly punished with the ban of suspension. Instances of this kind originated in the 19th year of *Meiji* when Count Inouye, Minister of Foreign Affairs, held conferences for the revision of the treaties. Not only in regard to diplomatic secrets, but in all other matters, exemption is enjoyed by the papers published in the settlements. In foreign countries, foreign journalists have not infrequently been ordered out of the country, as was the case in Italy in the 22nd year of *Meiji*. Why may not Japan follow the example of Italy?

Another instance of administrative laxity is supplied by the Regulations for Gunpowder. The infraction of such provisions, whether by Japanese or by foreigners, ought to be punished in extreme cases by suspending or prohibiting the offender from engaging in the trade. But the Regulations have, so far as we know, never been applied by the Government to foreigners. Instances of this nature are, in fact, too numerous to be mentioned.

There is, however, another case which calls for mention. In the 21st year of *Meiji*, the Government leased to an Englishman a portion of State land at Kawasaki, Kobe. The lessee in turn rented the land to the Yokohama Engine and Iron Works, who constructed a pier into the harbour. The Government thereupon, by its administrative authority, caused the pier to be taken away. This case well shows that, if the Government is resolute enough, it can easily bring foreigners under its administrative control.

To sum up, the existing treaties not only interfere with the Sovereign rights of the Empire, but also impair the well being of the people. Our country differs greatly from the nations with which it has treaties, in matters of customs and manners, language and literature, religion and other things. It is, consequently, necessary that the Government should rigidly maintain the rights and obligations provided for in the treaties. It should leave foreigners in the enjoyment of the privileges guaranteed to them by express stipulation; but in respect of privileges not expressly granted by the treaties, the Government should positively refuse their enjoyment to foreigners. And in case treaty stipulations are infringed by foreigners, the Government should deal with them under the authority of the Sovereign rights of the Empire. The national policy of the Empire is to open the country, not to close its doors, and it is His Majesty's especial pleasure to show benevolence to people coming from afar. Foreigners must, therefore, be treated with kindness and humanity within the limits prescribed by the treaties and the law. But is it a proper method for the assertion of the national rights and the promotion of the people's welfare, to leave foreigners free to trespass beyond the limits even of the unjust and unfair treaties now in force? It is of most urgent necessity to sweep away the various evils thus far described, and to make foreigners appreciate not only the boundless benevolence, but also the awe-inspiring power of His Majesty the Emperor, that the country's prestige may be maintained abroad, and the people's spirit may be roused and stimulated at home. It is customary for the Government to evade responsibility by pleading the necessary consequences of a previous course of events. But such a plea cannot be allowed in respect of a question like the present, which possesses vital bearings upon the recovery of the national prestige. It is, consequently, our earnest wish that the present Representation may receive the serious attention of the Government.

THE EMPEROR AND THE PRIVY COUNCIL ON OFFICIAL DISCIPLINE.

It is announced in the *Official Gazette* that, at 10 a.m. on Sunday last, the Emperor was pleased to summon to his presence all the Ministers of State and address to them the following words:—

"We have read the Address which the House of Representatives presented to Us on the 4th of the present month, as well as the memorials submitted to Us by Count Ito Hirobumi, Our Minister President of State, and Count Goto Shojiro, Our Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce.

"It is needless to tell you that the functionaries of the Department of State for Agriculture and Commerce ought to be cautious and discreet in their contact with the people. It is our pleasure that the Minister of that Department of State should use his endeavours to maintain strict discipline among its subordinates.

"As to the appointment and dismissal of Our Ministers of State, it rests entirely with Our pleasure, and no interference can be allowed on the part of any one else.

"The condition of things in the outside world urgently calls for greater progress on the part of Our country. At a critical juncture like the present, it would be a source of exceeding regret to Us should anything be suffered to impede the course of Our enlightened and progressive policy. It is, therefore, Our wish that you should spare no exertion to assist Us in the fulfillment of Our Mission."

His Majesty was at the same time pleased to hand to his Ministers the following memorial presented to the Throne by the President of the Privy Council:—

"May it please Your August Majesty—Your Majesty's humble servant, Count Yamagata Aritomo, President of the Privy Council, by a resolution of the Privy Council, respectfully submits the present Memorial.

"The House of Representatives, in its Address to the Throne of the 4th of the present month, declares that official discipline has been suffered to relax, and that the credit of the Cabinet Ministers has consequently been impaired. Thinking that the Address principally referred to his official conduct, Count Goto Shojiro, Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, presented to Your Majesty a memorial explaining his conduct, and awaits some announcement of Your Majesty's pleasure. Count Ito Hirobumi, Minister President of State, also presented to Your Majesty a memorial praying to be allowed to take upon himself the responsibility of failing to exercise proper control for the maintenance of official discipline. Your Majesty having graciously designed to consult the views of Your Majesty's humble servant and of the other members of the Privy Council it devolves upon them respectfully to disclose their unreserved opinions.

Passing in review the course of action adopted by the House of Representatives for the presentation of its Address on the present subject, it seems to Your Majesty's humble servant and to the other members of the Privy Council, that instead of either putting any question to the Government concerning the facts alleged about relaxation of official discipline, or submitting any complaints to the Cabinet Ministers, the House suddenly changed the Order of the Day, and proceeded to discuss the Address as a matter of urgency, passing it almost without debate, giving no time to the Cabinet Ministers to defend themselves, and at once presenting the document to Your Majesty. A few days afterwards, the Imperial pleasure not having yet been intimated, the House of Representatives adopted a resolution directly calling upon the Cabinet Ministers to take proper steps under the circumstances. Inasmuch as the Ministers of State are held responsible for the conduct of administrative affairs, a direct appeal to the Throne should not be made unless on a matter of the gravest importance and in the most deliberate manner. Therefore, Your Majesty's humble servant and the other members of the Privy Council cannot approve the conduct of the House of Representatives when it hastily laid the matter before Your Majesty, without taking the trouble to ascertain the facts by addressing questions to, and holding converse with, the Ministers of State. The statements offered in his memorial by the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce are more complete in respects of facts than the Address presented by the House of Representatives. Nevertheless, according to what Your Majesty's humble servant and the other members of the Privy Council have been able to learn from independent sources, it seems undeniable that the conduct of certain functionaries of the Department of State for Agriculture and Commerce is open to doubt and suspicion, a fact further indicated by evidence given in open Court before the Tokyo Local Court. The duties with which the officials of that Department of State are charged bring them into specially close contact with the people in general, and connect them intimately with the business concerns of merchants and manufactures in particular. It is necessary for these officials to be well acquainted with the people of the above classes, but their acquaintance ought not to be suffered to become too familiar and unrestrained. It is, therefore, the firm belief of Your humble servant and the other members of the Privy Council that a special duty devolves upon

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the head of that Department always to exercise a strict control over the officials under him so that discipline may be rigidly maintained.

"The appointment and the dismissal of the Ministers of State belong entirely to Your Majesty's Prerogatives, and allows not outside interference. The House of Representatives does not evidently mean to attempt any such interference by its recent Address. Neither shall Your Majesty's humble servant and the members of the Privy Council presume to offer any remark on this subject. It rests entirely with Your Majesty to decide as to the responsibility, misconduct, or competence of Your Majesty's servants. At a juncture like the present, when, as Your Majesty pointed out in the Rescript of the 10th of February last, matters of the highest importance demanded attention both at home and abroad, and when it is important for Your Majesty to be able to trust Your Majesty's Ministers so as to enable them to assist in the fulfillment of Your Majesty's mission, it seems extremely unwise to remove any of the pillars of the State for any trifling occurrence.

Dated the 23rd day of the 12th month of the 26th year of *Meiji*.

THE VERNACULAR PRESS ON THE EMPEROR'S MESSAGE AND ON THE PRIVY COUNCIL'S MEMORIAL WITH REFERENCE TO OFFICIAL DISCIPLINE.

THE *Mainichi Shimbun* (Progressionist) refrains from saying anything about the Imperial Message to the Ministers of State on the subject of official discipline, for to do so, it thinks, would be an act of disrespect to His Majesty. But with regard to the Memorial presented by the Privy Council to the Emperor, our contemporary is of course constrained to offer some criticisms. The *Mainichi* seems to be of opinion that the Privy Council has not been fair to the House of Representatives. The first argument advanced in support of that contention is that the Privy Council censures the Lower House for having taken no step to ascertain the views of the Cabinet, whereas, in point of fact, the Cabinet has never shown itself willing to give satisfactory answers to questions put to it by the House of Representatives: even when it has designed to answer such questions, its answers have never been to the point. Consequently it was the Cabinet's habitual want of courtesy which, in the Progressionist organ's opinion, compelled the House of Representatives to dispense with a procedure that would otherwise have been gladly adopted. The other point of complaint is that the Privy Council advised the Emperor that the matter alluded to in the Lower House's Address is not of sufficient importance to require any change of *personnel* in the Ministers of State. Our contemporary of course contends that the conduct of the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce richly desires deprivation of official position. The *Mainichi*, therefore, fears that the Privy Council will become an object of resentment.

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The *Hochi Shimbun* (Progressionist) observes that the Minister and other officials of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce ought to feel humbled before the Imperial words of Sunday last. Now that the fact of a relaxation of official discipline has been undeniably established, the Ministers of State, says the *Hochi*, should know how to proceed under the circumstances. Concerning the Memorial of the Privy Council, our contemporary writes in a similar strain to the Journal quoted above. The House of Representatives, its says, did not think it necessary to put any questions to the Cabinet Ministers, because the general facts of the case were so well known; debate did not take place because nobody was opposed to the proposed measure; and converse with Ministers was avoided, not because there was any unwillingness to adopt that course, but, on the contrary, because the Cabinet made it inconvenient. Our contemporary regrets also that the Privy Council did not offer some suggestions as to the disposal of the Minister and other officials of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, in accordance with the old principle of the Imperial Government in Japan that the Sovereign makes the wishes of the people his own wish.

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The *Kokumin Shimbun* (philo-Progressionist) censures the Cabinet Ministers for having, by their mistaken conduct, caused such profound anxiety to His Majesty the Emperor. Our contemporary, like most other Opposition papers, assumes with regard to this question the same attitude as it assumed towards the Hoshi affair. It is taken for granted by these journals that the House of Representatives can do no wrong, and on the strength of that convenient assumption they bitterly denounce every one possessing sufficient courage or sense of justice to call in question any step taken by the majority in the House.

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The *Niroku Shimpo* (friendly to the anti-Mixed Residence movement) outdoes all the other journals of the Opposition in its virulent denunciation of the Privy Council. It contends, first, that the Council's Memorial to the Throne purposely misstates facts, because it alleges that the House of Representatives gave the Ministers no time to defend themselves, whereas Mr. Motoda's speech on the subject was sufficiently long to afford them such an opportunity if they had been willing to avail themselves of it; secondly, that the Privy Council grossly slanders the House of Representatives by implying that that House was actuated by malicious motives in hastily passing the Address on official discipline; thirdly that the Council wilfully ignores the true object of the House, because, while the latter's principal idea was to have Count Goto removed from his present post, nothing is said in the Memorial about his misconduct, the Councillors merely confining themselves to reflections upon his subordinates; fourthly, that the Council shows disloyalty to the Emperor, because it does not offer any advice to His Majesty as to whether Count Goto's alleged misconduct deserves loss of office or not; and fifthly, that the Council deserves strong censure for having taken no notice of the fact that the people's hearts are becoming daily more and more alienated from the Government, and for having failed to point out that one of the principal causes of such a state of things is the relaxation of discipline in the Government.

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The *Nippon* (nominally Independent but always anti-official) has nothing to say on the Imperial Message. But as to the principle that the Ministers of State are appointed or dismissed at the absolute pleasure of the Sovereign, our contemporary remarks that that principle holds theoretically good not only in Japan but in every other monarchial country. In practice however, the Ministers of State have no business to remain in office when they have forfeited the confidence of the Legislature. The House of Representatives having declared its want of confidence in the Cabinet, it will be impossible for the latter to work in harmony with the former Under the circumstances, only two courses are open to the Cabinet, either to resign in a body, or to dissolve the Diet.

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The *Kokkai* (Independent) observes that the memorial presented to the Emperor by the Privy Council is impartial both to the Cabinet and to the House of Representatives. Our contemporary is heartily disgusted with the cowardly conduct of the House of Representatives in passing the Address on the subject of official discipline without giving due notice to the Government. On the other hand, the Privy Council is praised for its fairness in confirming the charge that laxness of discipline exists in the Department of Agriculture and Commerce. As to the Minister of that Department, the *Kokkai* recommends him to resign, for he has been the cause of great commotion in the Lower House, culminating in an Address to the Throne.

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The *Yiji Shimpo* (Independent) approves in full the Memorial of the Privy Council. Our contemporary believes that the House of Representatives deserves severe condemnation for having hastily approached the Throne on a subject the facts of which it had not fully ascertained. Should such a palpable abuse of the right of presenting Addresses to the Throne be repeated by the House of Representatives, the *Yiji* urges the Government to advise the Emperor to dissolve the Diet. As to the enlightened and progressive policy mentioned in the Imperial Message, the *Yiji* opines that allusion is principally made to the foreign affairs of the country, and observes that the Imperial pleasure having thus been announced on this subject clearly and definitely, the House of Representatives had better reflect carefully before committing itself on the question of the strict enforcement of the treaties.

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The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* (Independent) affirms that all sober persons agree with the Privy Council in censuring the haste and precipitancy with which the House of Representatives passed its Address on the subject of official discipline. "How," says our contemporary, "the Premier and the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce will act under the circumstances, we do not know. But it is not to be denied that Count Goto's responsibility to correct the laxness of discipline among his subordinates has been made clear by the Imperial words of Sunday last." The *Nichi Nichi* does not think it likely that any group of statesmen other than those now in power would be more competent to deal with the present important juncture, and therefore deems it unwise to effect changes in the *personnel* of the Cabinet on account of trifling matters. With regard to the Sovereign's "enlightened and progressive policy," our contemporary offers the same interpretation as the *Yiji*, and calls upon the Ministers of State to be prepared to overcome whatever hardships and difficulties may stand in the way of consummating the Imperial commands on the subject of the country's foreign policy.

FORGERY OF RAILWAY SHARE CERTIFICATES.

RUMOURS have for some time been rife on the Tokyo Stock Exchange to the effect that there were some forged share certificates of the Hokkaido Colliery Railway Company upon the market. The forgery has recently been detected. On the 19th inst. a man named Inouye Taro arranged with a broker named Tsuda for a loan of 6,000 *yen* on the security of some of the Company's shares. On his going to the broker's office to complete the transaction Mr. Tsuda's clerk at once noticed that there was something wrong about the shares certificates. The shares were in five-share notes, whereas the Company issued 100 shares, 50 share, 10 share and one-share notes only. Farther investigation showed that there something wrong about the President's signature, and that the gentlemen in whose name the shares purported to be made out, had never owned a single share in the Company. Information was immediately sent to the Tokyo Office of the Railway Company, and to the Kyobashi Police Office, and in a few minutes Mr. Inouye who was waiting at the broker's office for the dollars to be brought from the Bank, found himself in the clutches of the Law.

THE RE ASSEMBLY OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

IT was at first understood that the meeting of the House of Representatives on the 29th inst. would be only formal, and that the discussion of the treaty enforcement question and the *Chishima Kan* affair would be deferred until the re-assembly of the House after the New Year's recess. Some even predicted that a quorum might not be secured on Friday next, for members were leaving the capital on a visit to their homes. But it is now reported that the bulk of the Opposition mean to do real business on the 29th On Sunday last delegates of the *Kokumin Kyokai*, the *Kaishin-to*, the *Domei* Club, the *Doshi* Club, the *Dai Nippon Kyokai*, and the *Seimu Chosajo*, held a conference at the Tokyo Hotel. There were present Messrs. Abei Iwane, Kamuchi Tomotsune, Minoura Katsuudo, Nakamura Yaroku, Shiba Shiro, Kawashima Jun, Sasa Tomofusa, Motoda Hajime, Kudo Kokan, and a few others. The delegates of the *Kaishin-to*, the *Kokumin Kyokai*, the *Dai Nippon Kyokai*, and the *Sei-*

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mu Chosajo were in favour of a purely formal re-assembly on the 29th, but those of the *Domei* Club and the *Doshi* Club, insisted on proceeding with the discussion of the treaty-enforcement question. Failing to agree on that occasion, the delegates held another meeting on Monday, when they resolved to adopt the course recommended by the delegates of the *Domei* and *Doshi* Clubs. Animated discussions took place between the delegates of the *Kaishin-to* and those of the *Kokumin Kyokai* on the question as to which should be considered first, the *Chishima* affair or the treaty-enforcement question. The *Kaishin-to* delegates claimed priority for the former. But the latter being already on the Order for Friday next, it was finally agreed that it should be disposed of as quickly as possible, and that the *Chishima* affair should then be at once proceeded with. The parties represented at this conference are said to have telegraphed to such of the members as are on visit to their families in the country to come up at once.

* * *

As to the Radicals, they are said to be opposed to bringing about the dissolution of the Diet on the questions of the treaties and the *Chishima* affair, preferring to attack the Government on the Budget.

FRANCE AND SIAM.

FRANCE has sent out for service in the Gulf of Siam, says the *Daily Press*, a gunboat of sufficiently light draft to ascend the Meinam, but so strongly armed as to be able to give a good account of herself if necessary. She is named the *Siyx*, and at last advice was daily expected at Saigon. From the *Avenir du Tonkin* we learn that she carries in her bows a b g gun of 27 centimetres, which is as large as those carried by big ironclads, and her light draft, 3½ metres, will permit her to ascend rivers which are impracticable to the larger men-of-war. According to our contemporary, the English at Port Said on seeing this formidable vessel immediately divined her destination and were "unable to conceal their discontent." During her voyage from Algiers to Port Said she encountered very bad weather and rolled fearfully, owing to her light draft the water washing over her continually, and the officers had their clothing and their cabin effects completely ruined. For four days she was unable to make any headway, and the voyage between the port named was twelve days and a half.

NEW BROOMS.

THE seceders from the Radical Party having organized themselves into a little association called the *Doshi* (fellow-thinkers) Club, are naturally very anxious to make their influence felt, and by zeal to compensate for their numerical weakness. Hence they out-Herod Herod in their resolve to push the *Chishima-Ravenna* affair to the bitter end. Whatever the *Jiyu-to* may do; whatever other factions may do, the *Doshi* Club consider the *Chishima Ravenna* case of such importance to the Throne and the nation alike that they are said to be resolved to exert every energy for the presentation and passage of an Address to the Throne on the subject. It is to be wished for their own sakes that they could discover something more substantial wherewith to frame an indictment against the Government. There is certainly much academical interest in the question of a Japanese plaintiff being required to assume the character of respondent in a British Court of Appeal beyond the seas, but to employ such a question as a basis for impeaching the Ministers of the Crown betrays extraordinary lack of the sense of proportion and propriety. The conclusion formed by the foreign public in viewing these proceedings is, not that the Japanese Government has committed any serious error, but that the Opposition are entirely without solid grounds of complaint against the Government.

THE SUNG-PU AFFAIR.

IT is difficult to repress a smile when we read that Consul-General Bock, upon whose head such mountains of extravagant abuse were heaped, a short time ago, in connection with the Sung pu massacre, is now declared to have "fought a brave battle for nearly three weeks with an old man who won't budge an inch for a Consul General, not even with all the Ministers and the Tsung-li Yamên at his back." It is another illustration of journalistic methods in the East. Displays of hysterical patriotism at the expense of an official are always in order. Then, when it is found that the maligned official knows how to do his duty and does it, his sometime slanderers escape the charge of injustice by alleging that their criticisms exercised a salutary effect. Mr. Bock has obtained from the Viceroy terms that ought to satisfy the friends and fellow-nationals of the unfortunate men murdered at Sang-pu—a life for a life, a substantial indemnity, and certain minor conditions. We do not perceive that any credit is given to the Chinese Authorities for this settlement. Yet, without goodwill on their side, and a desire to do justice, such an arrangement could scarcely have been made.

CUSTOMS RETURNS.

THE following is a summary of the Customs Returns for November, showing the foreign trade of the empire for the month :—

	1892. SILVER YEN.	1893. SILVER YEN.
Exports	8,543,690 690	8,987,347,370
Imports	6,800,436,930	8,252,398 550
Total exports and imports		17,239,745,920
Excess of imports		734 948 820

CUSTOMS DUTIES.

Exports	205,577 516
Imports	259 056 106
Miscellaneous	12,589 647
Total	477,823 469

TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS TO AND IMPORTS FROM VARIOUS PORTS OF COUNTRIES.

	Exports. Silver Yen.	Imports. Silver Yen.	Total Silver Yen.
Great Britain	422,520,580	2,981,058 710	3,406,569,290
United States of America	3 368,443 100	225,908 820	3,594,351 920
China	737,595,320	2,035,959 060	2,773 354,380
France	1,964,083,790	838,521. 90	2,2.0,004,980
Hongkong	1,36 ,254,870	704,099 230	2,1.6,2.4 000
British India	863,060,750	366 024,310	619,085 060
Germany	89,305,210	532,204 750	621 6.9 960
Korea	356,594,580	247,908 780	204 503 300
Russia	102,261 420	215,831 490	318,093,910
Italy	293,740,860	24,810 560	208 5.7 420
Australia	203,082 730	21,303,990	24 086 720
Switzerland	35,390,500	59,781 690	95,174 900
Belgium	5,884 810	88,586 590	94,471 390
Canada & other British America	72,622 770	1,0.6.300	73,719,070
Philippine Islands	16,717.640	30 917.000	47,615 540
Austria	24,122.300	5,050.920	30,2.8,280
Hawaii	26,730.472	773 960	27,513.43.
Siam	20.000	20,798,000	20,8.8 0.0
Spain	2,870 000	5,500.030	2,370.030
Holland	5,980,180	393.710	6,374 320
Sweden & Norway	—	1,909 870	1,3.9 870
Turkey	699 000	—	699 000
Denmark	81.000	460 000	541 000
Portugal	—	465 150	465 150
Other Countries	72,903 480	570,234 690	643,038,170
Total	8,844,023 590	8,252,398 550	17,096,422,140

TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS AND IMPORTS FROM AND TO EACH PORT

Yokohama	6,248,520 820	3,378,744 110	9,627,264,930
Kobe	1,809,.73 820	3,789,830 080	5,598,905,900
Osaka	128,256,070	600,385,390	728,6.2 660
Nagasaki	540,404,240	414,605,130	755,009,370
Hakodate	137,209,780	20,447,510	147,157 290
Niigata	—	22,284 590	22,284 590
Shimonoseki	39,036,370	52,928 250	92,664 620
Hakata	376,850	1,137,350	1,454 200
Moji	266,042,800	—	266,042 800
Karatsu	14,000,400	—	14,060 400
Kuchinotsu	139,680 000	—	139,680 000
Idzumohara	1,410 590	633 630	2,044 220
Shishimi	1,080,500	1,280 720	2,3.0.220
Sasuna	1,603 260	262,600	1,865,860
Specie and Bullion — Exports			849,569 940
Specie and Bullion — Imports			469,272,530
Total			1,338,840,470
Excess of exports			380,297,410

VALUE OF EXPORTS AND IMPORTS BY JAPANESE MERCHANTS AND GOVERNMENT.

By Japanese Merchants — Exports	1,831,574,240
By Japanese Merchants — Imports	1,598,613 470
Imported by Government	180,436,790

A NE'ER-DO WELL.

YOKOHAMA residents have not yet, we imagine, forgotten the beach-comber C. G. Graham, who was deported for the community's good after he had "bilked" several of the hotels and stores both in Yokohama and Tokyo. He had led a similiar life in Shanghai, and was "passed-on" first to Kobe and then up here. He had an intimate acquaintance with the U.S. Consular gaols while in the Far East, but was apparently an incorrigible. In San Francisco he appears to have taken to his usual mode of life, loafing about from one boarding-house to another, till he was finally reduced to living in a disused garret. Several months ago a dynamite explosion occurred in a sailor's boarding house in San Francisco—curiously enough next to Graham's garret—and loss of life occurred. A reward of some $3,000 was offered, but nearly a month elapsed before any information reached the police. Then Graham put in an appearance and swore to a certain man as having been seen by him entering the wrecked boarding house shortly before the explosion. The police, however, are chary at believing his statement and have sent over here for their informer's record. Graham will doubtless be surprised at the "black calendar" which the United States Consular records here will furnish.

POLITICAL NEWS.

THE delegates of the six political factions, the *Kaishin-to*, the *Kokumin Kyokai*, the *Domei* Club, the *Seimu Chosajo*, and the *Dai Nippon Kyokai*, held another meeting at the Tokyo Hotel on Tuesday last. The subject of conference was an Address to the Throne which is to be introduced in the Lower House on the 29th instant. The Address is said to criticise the Cabinet's conduct about the *Chishima* affair on three points; namely, first, that the Emperor's name was employed in the court as plaintiff; secondly, that the institution of the case in the British Consular Court was a voluntary surrender of the country's sovereign rights, because the treaty does not provide for the delegation of Japan's judicial authority in the case of the Government suing British subjects; and thirdly, that a further surrender of the Empire's judicial right was made when the Government recognized the authority of the British Court of Appeal at Shanghai, which is not mentioned in the treaties. The first and the last points at once obtained the approval of the meeting, but a long animated controversy is reported to have taken place with respect to the second point, between the delegates of the *Doshi* Club and the *Kaishin-to*, on the one side, and those of the *Kokumin Kyokai* and the *Dai Nippon Kyokai*, on the other. The two former supported the draft Address on this point, but the two latter maintained that, if the British Consular Court's jurisdiction over cases instituted by the Japanese Government against British subjects be denied, it may become impossible to obtain any hope of remedy in respect of such cases. Proceeding in the same spirit, it should not have been difficult for the delegates of the *Doshi* Club and the *Kaishin-to* to perceive the absurdity of the two other points as well. But their minds are heated too much to reason calmly. The controversy, it is said, lasted for hours, and the result is not yet known.

* * *

Some Opposition members of the Lower House are reported to be highly indignant at the Privy Council's so-called presumption in pronouncing as rash and inconsiderate their conduct in passing the Address to the Throne on the subject of official discipline. Mr. Haseba Junko and others of the *Doshi* Club are agitating to introduce a motion for another Address to the Emperor denouncing the Privy Council's recent memorial as unfair to the House of Representatives. The matter will no doubt form the subject of discussion at another conference of the delegates of the six factions alluded to in the preceding paragraph. But it is believed that Mr. Haseba's project will not find favour with the majority of these delegates.

* * *

The Progressionists are believed to be not a little uneasy about the consequences of a dissolution of the Diet on the subject of strict enforcement of treaties. They justly fear that in that event the general election will be a fight between progressive principles and anti-foreign prejudices, and that a contest over such an issue may, in the present mood of the people, be productive of disastrous consequences. The *Kaishin to* organs, especially the *Hochi Shimbun*, are pointing out the possible dangers of dissolution on such grounds, and are recommending the Opposition to reserve its attack

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upon the Cabinet until the Budget comes up for discussion. This is excellent advice, but we fail to see the good of telling people to do one thing and all the while heartily cōoperating with them to do another thing. If the Progressionists be sensible enough to follow their own advice, the dreaded disaster might probably be averted, for the Radicals, the *Gishu-Gumi*, and others—perhaps a little over 100 strong—are understood to be of the same way of thinking as the more sensible of the Progressionists. But the very idea of voting with the Radicals may possibly induce the *Kaishin-to* to act contrary to their better judgment.

* * *

The *Domei* Club has issued a manifesto. There is nothing remarkable in it. It is an explanation of the course which the faction has thus far pursued in the present session of the Diet—its disapproval of the reforms introduced by the Government, its opposition to the Government's foreign policy, its conduct on the Hoshi affair, its views on the subject of official discipline, its eager advocacy of strict enforcement of the treaties, its disapproval of the Cabinet's action about the *Chishima* affair, and so forth. The document concludes with the following words:—"The evils of clan Government are growing more than ever, while the blight of personal considerations (*jōjitsu*) is the prevailing curse of political parties. We hope, however, that a crisis of political regeneration will present itself before the coming of spring. Should such be the case, it is our earnest wish that we, together with our sympathizers, may play an important part in the coming drama of politics. We hope for the sake of our dear country that such an opportunity may arrive as speedily as possible." It is scarcely necessary to observe that allusion is here made to the possibility of the dissolution of the Diet.

THE "NIPPON" AND THE "NIROKU SHIMPO."

THE *Nippon* and the *Niroku Shimpo*, the twin metropolitan papers which vie with each other in hysterical zeal about the question of strict enforcement of the treaties, have been simultaneously suspended on the ground that their issues of Tuesday last contained matter prejudicial to the peace and tranquillity of the realm. The punishment, in our opinion, was richly deserved by both papers. The *Niroku Shimpo's* offence evidently culminated in its extravagant article on the Privy Council, charging that exalted body with neglect of duty and disloyalty to the Sovereign. The gist of the article was noticed in these columns on Wednesday, and it is not necessary to repeat it here. It must, however, be observed that our resumé gives no idea of the insolence and perversity by which every line in the original is disfigured. The acme of our young contemporary's silliness is attained when towards the close of its article, it raises its voice in the following strain:—"The Privy Council in the Memorial to the Throne takes no account whatever of the effect which it [the continued occupation of an official post by the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce] will have upon the attitude of the people towards the Government and the Imperial family . . . . the result will be that the people's hearts will be alienated from the Imperial House, that the Government will be regarded as a den of corruption and monstrosities, and that the Imperial House may possibly be entirely isolated. . . . . How foolish and ignorant are the old members of the Privy Council! High up in the sky, we descry a crane, soaring solitary and scarcely visible through a mass of cloud and mist! Who can look at it without shedding tears and breathing a deep sigh?"

* * *

The *Nippon* is hardly less virulent in its attack upon the Government. Who is it, asks our contemporary, that impedes the course of the Empire's enlightened and progressive policy? It is the Government itself. For the Government, by a weak and cowardly foreign policy, has suffered the country's prestige abroad to be seriously impaired, while at home it has proved itself entirely incapable of exercising legitimate authority over foreigners. On the other hand, the people and the Diet are declared to be really in favour of an enlightened and progressive policy, because they are now endeavouring to the best of their ability to remove the stains upon the Empire's sovereign rights. The *Nippon* makes copious allusion to the treaty enforcement question and the *Chishima* affair, and the whole tone of its article, or rather articles—for there are two—is to excite a strong popular prejudice against the Cabinet on the subject of foreign policy,—a course which may be regarded as an open defiance of the warning plainly expressed in the Message addressed by His Majesty to his Ministers on Sunday last.

COUNT ITO ON THE RE-ASSESSMENT OF THE TAXABLE VALUE OF LAND.

AT a recent meeting of the Special Committee in the House of Peers on the Bill for the Special Re-assessment of the Taxable of Land, the Minister President of State delivered the following speech:—

Gentlemen—I wish to say a few words about the reason why the Government has introduced the Bill now engaging your attention. I will confine myself to some general statements, leaving all particulars to the Minister of State for Finance. I do not think that the question of re-assessment is one of vital importance to the country, but it is attended by a history which makes its carrying out a matter of necessity. And it must also be admitted that the reform is desired by the people. As to the manner in which the taxable value of land was originally assessed, there seems to have been more or less inequality between the different localities. This was perhaps unavoidable because the work of assessment was not carried out simultaneously throughout the country. At first the Government had no definite idea as to the extent to which the revenue of the State would be affected by the results of assessment. As the operation progressed, it was found necessary to follow more and stringent rules in the method pursued, and in that way inequalities resulted between different localities. The fault was no doubt unavoidable in view of the financial condition of the Government in those days. Recognising the existence of these inequalities, the Government undertook special re-assessment of the taxable value of land, previous to the opening of the Diet, thereby lowering the value by an aggregate sum of about 3 million *yen*. Perhaps that re-assessment may have served to induce the people to desire a larger measure. In the first session of the Diet, however, the majority did not seem to be in favour of re-assessment. In those days, if I remember rightly, the question of reducing the rate of the land tax engrossed attention. The Cabinet of that time seems to have tried to draw public attention to the question of re-assessment, and being thus encouraged by those in power, the inhabitants of localities where the taxable value of land had been originally assessed more highly than elsewhere, began to entertain hopes of re-assessment. From the petitions presented on the subject last year, I notice that in certain localities the land has certainly been assessed too highly. Of course it will not be possible to carry out the work of re-assessment in a perfectly equitable manner, but it goes without saying that, as inequalities are removed one after another, the tendency will be to approach more and more to a satisfactory state of things. The steady rise in the price of rice during recent years has given much relief to the farmers, and consequently there seems to be little necessity for the reduction of the rate of the land tax. But the question of re-assessment is quite another thing, for the ground of complaints on that subject is inequality in the valuation of land, and consequently in the incidence of taxation. There may be other reasons for undertaking the work of re-assessment, but I do not regard them as very serious. Different opinions are of course entertained on this subject by different persons. It is a fact that the work of special re-assessment has been undertaken several times since the original valuation. I am even persuaded to think that, had the Diet not been in existence, the Government might now be actually carrying out another special re-assessment. It may in truth be concluded that this important work has been delayed by the appearance of serious conflicting views in the Diet. At all events, my opinion, as I have already told you, is that it is only proper to carry out the reform at once. Last year, there being no possibility of obtaining, by means of administrative economies, a surplus sufficient for the purpose, the Government had to propose an increase in the Income Tax and in the tax on *Saké*. The House of Representatives passed the Bill for re-assessment, but refused to approve the Bills for increasing those two taxes, and the Peers, in turn, rejected the re-assessment Bill. Under such circumstances the Government was of course powerless to take any practical step last year, but this year I hope that the Bill will be approved in your House, since there are now independent funds available for the purpose. It is an extremely undesirable thing to suffer a question of this nature permanently to impair the relations between the Government and the people, and in view of that some persons may ask, why not carry out at the same time the reduction of the land tax and the transfer of the prison expenses to the charge of the Treasury? These measures may also be desirable. But in my opinion neither of them possesses the same urgent claim for early settlement as the question of re-assessment, for the latter is concerned with inequalities in the burdens of people in different localities. It being thus impossible, in the present state of the finance, to carry out these three measures simultaneously, I have selected out of them, the one which seems to me to be the most urgent and important. However, it must be stated beforehand that, even if passed by your House, the present Bill would not be sanctioned by His Majesty, unless the Budget should come into existence. For the present Bill possesses bearings upon the Revenue and Expenditure of the State, and its carrying out would therefore involve the carrying out of part of the Budget. There seems to be an impression in certain quarters that the Government is not in favour of re-assessment, but that it has introduced the present Bill merely as a device to put the people in good humour, hoping all the while that it will be rejected by the House of Peers. I need not say that such is not the case. I am sincerely desirous of its passage through your House. Nothing could be farther from the Government's intention than to shift its responsibility on to your shoulders. Several of you now present may differ from me on the financial aspect of the question. Of course I must not be understood to be desirous of forcing my views upon you; my only wish is to lay my ideas before you in a clear and impartial light. Such being the case, you are at liberty to make public whatever I have thus far said on the subject; there ought to be no secrecy about it. One word more and I have done. Under the present régime it is impossible to carry on the administration unless there is harmony between the Government and the Diet. In order to obtain such harmony, it will be necessary for both sides to make compromises, unless such compromises are clearly against the interest of the country. As I said at the outset, the Government does not consider re-assessment to be a measure of vital importance, but since it is so eagerly desired by the people and since, also, it is attended by a peculiar history, we have thought it incumbent upon us as well as necessary to carry it out, so that, on the one hand, the existing inequalities in the valuation of land may be rectified, while, on the other, a way may be opened for harmony between the Government and the people.

JOURNALISTIC ENTERPRISE.

ABOUT two years ago—we do not pretend to be quite accurate as to dates—a clever variety of journalistic enterprise had its origin in this Settlement. Newspapers were started frankly in the shape of advertising sheets, and distributed gratis among the communities of Yokohama and Tokyo. Little by little items of news and other editorial matters were added, and when it was judged that the public had come to regard these modest sheets as established institutions, and to rate them above mere advertisements, regular charges began to be made. It was a courageous plan, and possibly some measure of success was attained, though there were always the strongest reasons to be sceptical as to the rewards obtainable in the field of Yokohama Journalism. We observe that a similar departure has now been made in Tokyo. A little journal called *The Travellers Gazette*, has been published, the first number dating from Christmas Day. Probably it is issued in the interests of the guider, now an important and flourishing body. Ostensibly its purpose is to furnish information to tourists visiting Japan. But we might reasonably expect that if the latter aim were really paramount, some attempt would have been made to furnish substantial indications in the first number, whereas, with the exception of a few advertisements, the paper contains nothing whatever in the shape of information. But it does contain

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something else so very entertaining that if the proprietors can only maintain the vein in which they have started there is no reason why they should not achieve marked success. As an example of the kind of literary fare to which we allude, we quote the opening paragraph of an article entitled "The condition closing the New Year":—

We Japanese are in a great congratulation for the New Year which is approaching, and have their hands full which an observation hardly rendered before travellers. However the market which is kept at the end of every year, at each street shops are kept open all night selling New Year's decorations which deeply attract the attention most of visitors. On the 31st of this month shop-keepers go out collecting what is due them all the day and all night till the dawn of the next day, even at lonely places the shops are busily engaged, the galloping of the shop-keepers holding lanterns in their hands; business men shouldering sacks of money on their back, this condition is beyond discription While policemen and gendarmes are protecting and watching any accidents which might occure, this will surely excite the curiosity of travellers

The Japanese will never fail for lack of assurance. The ground that angels fear to tread has no terrors for them. They are masters of the art of mangling English into such a supremely funny mess that professional wit is not in it. The *Travellers Gazette* will achieve one thing at any rate: it will bring much ridicule on Japanese pretensions.

THE NATIONAL UNIONISTS.

The National Unionists appear to be recovering their moral equilibrium. For a time they were carried away by a wave of blind hostility to the Government, but now, if we may credit the *Kokkai*, they are beginning to substitute reason for recklessness. They are reputed to have set their faces against a proposition emanating from the *Doshi* Club that another Addressshould be presented to the Throne protesting against the Memorial compiled by the Privy Council in response to the Emperor's mandate. The members of the *Doshi* Club are greatly incensed against the Privy Council because the grey-headed statesmen of which it is composed censured the rash precipitancy that disgraced the procedure of the House of Representatives in connection with the Official-Discipline Address. In their wrath they would actually go the length of informing the Sovereign that the advice which His Majesty sought at the hands of his duly constituted advisers, and which he virtually adopted in the Rescript of the 26th instant, was wilfully unfair and purposely inaccurate. The *Kokumin Kyokai* decline to follow the members of the *Doshi* Club in any such extravagance. Doubtless the seceders from the *Jiyu-to*, who have formed themselves into the *Doshi* Club, would not shrink from claiming that the Privy Council also should be responsible to the House of Representatives, and should hold office by the latter's mandate. It seems to us that nothing more fortunate could have happened to the *Jiyu-to* than the secession of these reckless agitators. While they remained in the Party, they acted like the tadpole's tail, swaying all the councils of the *Jiyu-to* to its discredit. Now that they stand alone, their true complexion will begin to be understood by the public.

THE BUDGET.

When the friction between the Cabinet and the House of Representatives became so intense last session as to necessitate an appeal to the Throne, and when the Emperor issued his celebrated Rescript ordering administrative reform and calling upon the whole body of officials to follow his munificent example by subscribing ten per cent. of their income for Naval purposes, the Lower House appointed a Committee to confer with the Government as to the nature of the reforms which the latter intended to introduce in compliance with the Sovereign's general direction. The Committee propounded a number of questions to the Ministers of State, asking them, among other things, whether they purposed making any reduction in official salaries. To that Count Ito replied emphatically in the negative, and explained that such economies as he intended to effect would be limited to reducing the staff of officials. These questions and answers were duly recorded, and the programme then announced by the Cabinet Ministers, was accepted, first by the Committee and subsequently by the House, as a proper and satisfactory basis of reform. Nothing could have been more clearly enunciated or distinctly understood than the fact that the projected scheme of reform was not to include any reduction of official salaries. The Budget Committee, however, in preparing its report upon the Budget now awaiting discussion by the House of Representatives, has behaved as though the events of last session had no historical existence, and has subjected the salaries of all officials to sweeping reductions on a sliding scale. Obviously there is here a palpable breach of good faith. The passing of the Budget last session was the result of a compromise between the Government and the Opposition The latter agreed to grant supplies and to vote the appropriations on account of official salaries, provided that the former carried out a scheme of administrative reform from which all reduction of salaries was to be excluded. Yet the Budget Committee now recommends that official salaries should be treated just as though no understanding whatever had been elaborated last session. These circumstances are said to be appreciated by the National Unionists, and it is anticipated that if the Budget comes up for discussion, they will vote against the proposal to reduce official salaries, which, for the rest, is an absolutely unconstitutional step on the part of the House.

THE SUSPENSION OF THE "CHU-O SHIMBUN."

The *Chu-o Shimbun*, the National Unionist organ, has followed the example of the *Nippon* and the *Niroku Shimpo*, its worthy coadjutors in the cause of the strict enforcement of the treaties. In its issue of Wednesday, it bitterly assailed the Government, accusing the Ministers of disloyalty to the Sovereign and of neglect of duty. Equally virulent were its criticisms upon the Government's foreign policy, which it denounced as being weak and pusillanimous. In short, it faithfully followed in the footsteps of its companions, whose fate it now deservedly shares, sentence of suspension having been pronounced against it.

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En passant, we may notice another significant article on Count Ito published in the same issue of the *Chu-o*. In it our contemporary advises the Premier to resign, and for a successor he is told to recommend Count Okuma. This is curious on the part of a newspaper supposed to represent the military element among the *Meiji* statesmen. Does the *Chu-o Shimbun* really intend to advocate party Government? If so, it must have made in the past few weeks a complete *volte face* of political opinion. Surely nothing could be stranger than that the organ of a party formed under the direct protection of a so-called clan Ministry, and still guided by a prominent statesmen, should now openly advocate such a course? Such, however, is plainly the attitude of the *Chu-o Shimbun*, for towards the close of its article it ridicules "the silliness of statesmen who attach importance to the distinction between an 'Imperialist Cabinet' and a 'Party Cabinet.'" Another obvious inference which may be drawn from this article is that the National Unionists are not averse to the formation of a Coalition Cabinet with the Progressionists. Political campaigns certainly produce strange alliances. The National Unionists have been the target of the Progressionists' attack ever since the present House of Representatives came into existence, yet now they are content to turn and lick the hand that chastised them. As for the Progressionists, their cleverness is admirable. With their little following of 43 members they have virtually directed the House of Representatives from the outset. They organized and led the first campaign against the Government on the subject of the Budget. They conceived and induced the Opposition to carry out a programme of pure obstruction. They kindled and fanned into a conflagration the fire about official interference in elections. They took the *Jiyu-to* under their banner and directed the operations of the alliance. They started the attack upon Mr. Hoshi Toru and plunged the House into all the extravagances perpetrated by it in connection with that monstrous piece of injustice. They devised the appeal to the Throne on the subject of official discipline. And finally, deserted by their friends, the *Jiyu-to*, they calmly took as substitutes their enemies, the National Unionists, and so successfully manipulated the latter that the National Unionist organ has now snapped its fingers in the face of all its most cherished opinions, and, for the sake of pushing the Progressionists into power, has come out as the advocate of a system to oppose which is the *raison d'être* of itself and the *Kokumin Kyokai* namely, party government. Never were more adroit puppet-pullers than the *Kaishin-to*; never more docile puppets than the members of the present House of Representatives.

COUNT GOTO'S INSTRUCTIONS TO THE OFFICIALS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE

The following, according to the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, is the document of instructions addressed by Count Goto, Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, to the officials in that Department:—

All the functions of this Department belong to the class of administrative duties the object of which is to develop the country's wealth and resources. It follows, therefore, that the officials of the Department must associate largely with men engaged in the practice of agriculture, manufacturing, and trade. Their behaviour in such association must be of the most open character, and while observing the dictates of courtesy and helpfulness they must be careful to preserve official discipline and on no account to cultivate intimacies hurtful to the public good. As Minister of the Department I have always impressed upon its officials the expediency of observing the above principles and I am now profoundly pained to find that the subject has been specially alluded to in an Imperial Message. That fact should inspire the officials of the Department with a deep sense of responsibility. It is my intention henceforth to enforce these principles with increased rigour and not to pardon any infraction of them. Subordinate officials are hereby called upon to give full heed to the purpose of these instructions and to bring to the discharge of their duties an earnest resolve to avoid all errors.

THE ORIENTAL SOCIETY.

Mr. Inagaki Manjiro has been lecturing to a distinguished audience at a meeting of the Oriental Society, Count Soyejima, Viscount Matsudaira, Baron Ozawa, Mr. Suyehiro and other well-known men being among his hearers. He expounded a great many theories which we need not recount here, the majority of them being quite outside the pale of practical politics. But two of his propositions are interesting because they are evidently acquiring vogue in Japan. One is that the Government's suit against the Peninsular and Oriental Company ought to be abandoned and the loss involved in the sinking of the *Chishima* quietly borne. The other, that a set of regulations for the control of navigation in the Inland Sea ought to be compiled and strictly enforced by the Japanese Government. As to the former point, it is by no means new. When the advisability of instituting a suit for damages originally came upon the *tapis*, a strong opinion in the contrary sense was expressed by some Japanese in high places, but the romantic ground of their objections did not commend themselves to practical folks, and we greatly doubt whether Mr. Inagaki Manjiro's case would bear a similar test. With regard to his second point, it is evident that he and other publicists of his class are excited about the judgment delivered by Her Majesty's Supreme Court in Shanghai to the effect that the Inland Sea is not territorial water. But surely these precipitate patriots should be able to understand that the British Government's view of an international question does not depend on the decision of a Judge in a Court of law. Nothing is less likely than that Her Majesty's Privy Council will support the verdict delivered by the Shanghai tribunal in respect of the Inland Sea. It was a verdict disfigured by flagrant historical blunders, to say nothing of its inconsistency with principles which Her

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Majesty's Ministers might be expected to endorse. Instead of allowing themselves to be prematurely excited about the judgment of a Shanghai Court, Mr. Inagaki Manjuro and the members of the Oriental Society would do well to wait until the British Privy Council's views are declared. Should those views be confirmatory of the Shanghai decision, then will be the time for Japan to take diplomatic action. Mr. Inagaki and his fellow-thinkers are very solicitous, as we understand, about their country's sovereign rights and her dignity. Have they considered how much her dignity would be compromised were she to hastily accept the verdict of a foreign law court as a basis for international action?

THE "CHISHIMA-RAVENNA" AFFAIR.

One is really constrained to admire the faculty displayed by the Japanese for making mountains out of molehills. Little by little the leaders of the Opposition in the Lower House have succeeded in talking themselves into the belief that the *Chishima-Ravenna* law-suit is a proper subject to constitute the basis of an impeachment of the Cabinet. On the 28th inst. delegates from the six political sections forming the Opposition met in the Imperial Hotel and consulted about the drafting of an Address to the Throne on that topic. They drew up an indictment of five counts, the first three of which were in the nature of an impeachment, the other two in the nature of advice. Nothing appears too trivial now-a-days to serve as material for an Address to the Throne. Nothing too petty to be used for impeaching the Cabinet. The conduct of the Opposition in the Lower House is a huge farce from first to last.

KOREAN NEWS.

Later intelligence from Sōul gives further particulars concerning the rice question in Korea. On the 8th instant Mr Otori held a conference with the Representatives of the other countries, at which it was agreed that united action should be taken on the subject. Before opening negotiations with the Korean Foreign Minister for the withdrawal of the edict prohibiting the export of rice, the Japanese Minister is said to have interviewed several influential members of the Government and ascertained their opinions on the matter.

* * *

Considerable excitement is reported to have been caused among the Japanese in Sōul by an announcement that the agency for the Nimsen branch of the 1st National Bank had received orders from head-quarters to stop all business from the 15th instant, and wind up the establishment altogether by the end of the present month. The agency in question is the only banking medium for the Japanese residents in Sōul, so that their excitement at the news is natural enough. It appears that a recent notification issued by the Minister of Finance in Tokyo requires all banks to place their agencies on the same footing as branch offices and since that involves greatly increased expense and trouble to the banks, the latter have concluded to abolish many of their agencies. Such is the case with the First National Bank and its agency in Sōul. The Japanese Chamber of Commerce in the Korean capital at once held a general meeting, and presented a memorandum to the Japanese Consul, asking him to call the home Government's attention to the importance of allowing a special arrangement in the case of a settlement like that in Sōul. At the same time, a note was addressed to the Osaka Chamber of Commerce, soliciting the latter's assistance and advice in the matter.

* * *

An increasing number of young "patriots" are said to be landing at Korean ports by every steamer from Japan. These persons are reported to be causing no small annoyance to the Japanese merchants in Korea by lecturing them on the Eastern Question. Unless subjected to a timely check, these *soshi*, for they seem to be neither more nor less, may cause more serious mischief than merely pestering men of business.

* * *

The Japanese Consul in Sōul recently issued a proclamation to his nationals warning persons travelling in the interior on business against any rudeness to Koreans. Some instances of the kind, he states, have reached his ears, and he tells his countrymen that such conduct on their part may lead to very unpleasant consequences by wounding the feelings, not only of the Korean people, but also of the local authorities. He warns them that such conduct will be dealt with in accordance with a provision of law which empowers Japanese Consuls to prohibit the residence within their districts in Korea of Japanese judged guilty of conduct prejudicial to the peace and good order of the locality.

* * *

The transfer of Mr. Sugimura, Japanese Consul at Sōul, to the post of Secretary of Legation, is said to be a matter of general regret to the Japanese residents of the Korean capital. Mr. Sugimura's intimate acquaintance with Korean affairs and customs, and his conscientious devotion to his official duties seem to have earned the esteem and gratitude of his nationals.

* * *

The customary Tribute Ambassadors to China are understood to be now on their way by land to the Chinese capital. Li Seiro is the Ambassador, and the Vice-Ambassador is Li Chôei.

* * *

The Korean King is said to have issued a Rescript on the 10th instant relating to the urgent necessity of giving aid to the famine-stricken people of Keisho-do. The King authorizes the employment of 10,000 *koku* of rice and 100 000 *ryo* of money from the famine fund. The issue of this Rescript is regarded by some people as an indication that the Korean Court is not likely to give a favourable answer to the Japanese Minister's demand for the withdrawa of the prohibition of the export of rice.

* * *

Still later intelligence received by telegram reports that the alternative resolutions arrived at by the Korean Government at a conference held in consequence of a demand preferred jointly by the Foreign Representatives for the withdrawal of the prohibition of the export of rice, were as follow:—

(1.) The Government has resolved, with reference to the demand for the removal of the edict prohibiting the export of rice, that the most important duty devolving upon Ministers of State is to exercise compassionate protection over the people of the country in their need, and that no occasion exists to pay attention to demands preferred by foreigners constituting only a small section of the community

(2.) It is the duty of administrators to exert every effort for the purpose of strengthening friendly relations and affording facilities for the pursuit of profitable business. In views of this duty, inspectors shall be despatched to the agricultural districts in order to make further investigations for determining whether the state of the crops is as represented by foreigners

These two resolutions were to be submitted to the King for His Majesty to decide which should be adopted. It was expected that the decision would be in favour of the second. Such a method of preferring Ministerial advice to a King seems peculiar.

A RADICAL LECTURE MEETING

On Wednesday last the Radical party held a very successful lecture meeting at the Kinki-kan, Kanda, Tokyo. Its success was all the more remarkable in contrast with the laughable spectacle presented by a similar lecture meeting recently held at the same place by the Progressionist party. Among the speakers on Wednesday were Count Itagaki, Mr. Kono Hironaka, Mr. Matsuda Masahisa and some other prominent members of the Party. The spacious hall was filled to overflowing by an eager and orderly audience, computed by some authorities to have been nearly three thousand strong. At 1 p.m., the meeting was opened by Mr. Ishizaka Juhei, *kanji* of the Party, who informed the audience that the present gathering had been organized for the purpose of announcing the political programme of the Radical Party. Mr. Tatsuno Shuichiro was the first speaker, his subject being "The Conduct of the Progressionists." He strongly criticised the actions of that Party in the present session of the Diet, especially with reference to its cordial coöperation with its bitterest enemy, the *Kokumin Kyokai*, and to the part played by it in the Hoshi drama. He was followed by Mr. Tanaka Kendo, who dealt with the question of the strict enforcement of treaties. He was not in principle opposed to strict enforcement, but practically he entertained no doubt that the result of the present agitation on this question would be simply to excite the anti-foreign prejudices of the conservatives. Alluding to the subject of Treaty Revision, he observed that the delay in the attainment of Japan's object in this direction, though principally caused by conservative obstinacy, must be in part ascribed to the erroneous administrative policy pursued by the present Premier, whom he called "a German Minister of State" (*Doitsu Daijin*). He had also much to say against the *Kaishin-to*, the *Kokumin Kyokai*, and the *Domei* Club. The third speaker was Mr. Ebara Soroku, and his subject, "The Present Condition of Our Party." He indignantly denied all the mischievous rumours which are now circulated about his Party, calling them mere fabrications of small-minded politicians bent upon the destruction of the Radical Party. Like the previous speakers, he spared no pains to attack the Progessionists, who, he declared, had already surrendered to the National Unionists. The next speaker was Mr. Saito Keiji, who took the Budget as his object. He explained the conduct of the Budget Committee. The Committee has decided to grant in the department of Expenditure a sum of money larger by 6,000 000 *yen* than the corresponding amount recommended in the report of the last year's Committee. This circumstance has been held up by the *Kaishin-to* and others as a sign that the Radicals, who form the majority of the Budget Committee, have abandoned their policy of opposition to the Government. Mr. Saito refuted this argument, and observed that the Committee had proposed reductions in salaries, office expenses, and so forth, exceeding by 2,000,000 *yen* the similar reductions recommended by last year's Committee. With reference to the donations given by the Emperor and the contributions made by the official class for Naval purposes, Mr. Saito stated that the Committee's idea was to ask the Sovereign to discontinue his donations as well as to stop the contributions by officials. Mr. Tatekawa Umpei next ascended the platform. He addressed the audience on the *Chishima* affair. At the outset he criticised the Lower House's indiscretion in the exercise of its Power of presenting Addresses to the Emperor. He recounted the principal facts connected with this case, and refuted the arguments advanced on the subject by Mr. Yamada and Dr. Hatoyama. He failed to discover any impropriety in instituting the suit in the British Consular Court, but he could not approve the Government's allowing its counsel to use His Majesty's name in the course of proceedings. He was followed by Mr. Misaki Kamenosuke, who spoke on "Treaty Revision and Strict Enforcement of the Treaties." He dwelt on the imperfections of the existing treaties, and alluding to the recent Imperial Message to the Cabinet Ministers, calling upon them to take resolute steps for the revision of the treaties. He blamed the Government for having pursued a weak and vacillating foreign policy in the past. Then turning to the subject of enforcement of the treaties, he declared that in importance this question could not be compared with the question of Treaty Revision. Next appeared on the platform Mr Matsuda Masahisa, who discussed the question of "Carrying out Representative Government." He stated that a representative system of Government can not be said to have actually come into existence until a system of responsible Cabinets—namely, Cabinets responsible to the Diet—have become an accomplished fact. Proceeding on this assumption, he could not but disapprove the conduct of

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each of the Ministries that had held power since the establishment of the Diet. Concerning the present Cabinet, he pronounced it as irresponsible as its predecessors In conclusion he regretted to say that the Diet in the present session had also by it blind action shown itself as irresponsible as the Government. The next speaker on the programme, Mr. Kono Hironaka, then appeared on the platform, but it was evident that he was still far from having recovered from the illness which at one time caused grave apprehensions. He expressed his regret that the state of his health prevented him from the pleasure of addressing the audience. The last speaker, Count Itagaki, was received with loud cheers from every corner of the hall. He discoursed on "The spirit of the Radical Party," recalling the history of the hardships and difficulties undergone by the Party in pre-constitution days. "Our party," said the venerable leader, "was in those days the object of merciless persecution by a despotic clan Government, and the various hardships endured by the members, sacrifice of lives, loss of property, starvation of families, and what not, are past my power of description. All this while the members of the Government were basking in ease and luxury. Sentiments of resentment against them pierced our very bones, and have not yet been wholly forgotten by us. However, now that a Constitution has been granted by our gracious Sovereign, it is our intention to fight with the Government within the limits of law and the Constitution. The Government advocates nationalism while we are committed to individualism. They are aristocratic, while we are devoted to the people. They are for the centralization of political powers, while we are in favour of the increase of local autonomy. Such are the principal points of difference between the Government and our Party." As to the policy pursued by the Radicals, the Count stated that efforts must be turned in the direction of the reduction of public expenses, lessening the burdens of the people, equalization of taxes, encouragement of private enterprises, reform of the local Government system so as to give greater autonomy to local communes, increase of war-vessels, completion of the country's defences, and encouragement of navigation and trade. Alluding to the reforms introduced in the Administration, the Radical leader declared himself dissatisfied with such temporizing measures. He thought that attention should be chiefly directed to the Budget question; and deeply regretted that the House of Representatives had thus far wasted its precious time and energy on the Hoshi affair and the questions of Official Discipline and treaty enforcement—questions only useful for winning popularty. He strongly censured the parties chiefly responsible for such a state of things. Rather than join in such an absurd course of action and gain popularity, the Radical Party, said the Count, was content to do its duty and endure unpopularity. Then, speaking of himself, he said:—"As you can see from my very countenance, I am poor. Whenever I am possessed of money, I am deceived by other people, and when my followers increase, they too, are wrested from me by cunning persons. I like poverty—well that may be a little exaggerated, but at any rate habit has made me rejoice under adversities My body has been tempered and hardened during eighteen years of struggle with a despotic Government. The remainder of my life is consecrated to the service of my country, and I will not desert my position in politics until death carries me away." In conclusion, the Count alluded in a sarcastic strain to the silly things said about his party by its numerous enemies.

THE SUNG-PU MASSACRE.

Mr. Carl Bock, Swedish Consul-General in China, returned to Shanghai from Hankow on the 17th instant, having carried his negotiations with the Viceroy to an issue which shows how gross was the injustice done to him by the Shanghai local press at the time of the Sung-pu massacre. It is generally a foregone conclusion that any European or American official who fails to flourish swords and bayonets in the faces of the Chinese at the outset of every negotiation, becomes a target for local journalistic abuse, varying in violence according to the importance of the incident that formed the subject of negotiation. If Mr. Carl Bock had been the most incompetent, pusillanimous, and unpatriotic Consul that ever received an exequatur, he could not have been more mercilessly criticised than he was by the Shanghai press, yet it now appears that he is an official of resolution, resource, and ability. The arrangement made by him with the Chinese includes re-establishment of the mission at Sung-pu, a measure of doubtful wisdom, but important on account of its moral effect. It is probable that the re-establishment will be delayed owing to the difficulty of getting a competent man to occupy the post, but the fact remains that the permission has been secured, to the surprise of many persons who predicted confidently that the Viceroy would never agree to anything of the kind. It is said that H.E. Chang raised strong objections, and that Mr. Bock was obliged to play a very high game. At the close of an interview, during which the Viceroy had more than once lost his temper, Mr. Bock held out the possibility of carrying the case to Peking, and observed, "I offer you sugar, but if the case goes to Peking it will be salt in an open wound." To which H.E. Chang, with marks of anger, replied, "I like sugar, but I can also take salt." Chang himself did, in point of fact, refer the matter to Peking behind Mr. Bock's back, and the Tsung-li Yamên induced the foreign Representatives to telegraph to the Consul-General advising him to make a comparatively unfavourable arrangement. But Mr. Bock, having from home a free hand to settle the affair according to his own judgment, would not budge, and finally the Viceroy gave way. The monetary indemnity, though in itself insignificant, is a larger sum than Gardener obtained after the Wusueh trouble, and shows that China recognises her guilt. With regard to the murderers, Mr. Bock believes that the right men have been caught and will be executed, but at any rate the plan proposed in some quarters, namely, a tribunal of investigation with a foreigner on the bench, would have been a futile pageant. Mr. Bock's nationals are said to be well satisfied with the result of the negotiation. They hold justly that he showed great ability in accomplishing so much without a fleet at his back, with the fault of the missionaries in refusing to take warning, and with the improper detention of the victims' servants to answer for.

THE GOVERNMENT'S POSITION.

A foreshadowing of the kind of indictment that will be preferred against the Government should it dissolve the Diet, is afforded by an article in the *Chiuo Shimbun* (*Kokumin Kyokai* organ). The writer professes profound astonishment at the notion that any body of Japanese statesmen could induce themselves to stand opposed to the nation on a question such as the strict enforcement of the treaties. He also adroitly introduces the *Chishima-Ravenna* affair, and tries to create an impression that apprehension as to the result of an inquiry into the latter has at least as much to do with the Government's attitude towards the Diet as a conviction of the necessity of preserving the country's foreign relations against injurious legislation. The truth is that the National Unionists whom the *Chiuo Shimbun* represents, are exceedingly perturbed at the prospect of the Diet's dissolution. They know that a general election signifies the almost inevitable loss of many of their seats, and they consequently seek to dissuade or intimidate the Government against any step of the kind.

THE OCEAN TELEPHONE POSSIBLE

Prof. Silvanus. P. Thompson is one of those who believe that ocean telephony is not only possible, but that the means of attaining it are within our grasp. Telephone cables for the deep sea will, however, require to be made on a different plan from the existing telegraph cables; that is to say, a single conductor of stranded copper insulated and surrounded by an iron sheathing that comes between the outgoing wire and the water which serves as the return part of the circuit. The going and return wires will have to lie side by side within the sheathing. Moreover, the whole circuit will probably have to be broken up into sections which are capable of acting upon each other by mutual induction—*Globe*.

YOKOHAMA LITERARY SOCIETY.

Some very interesting items were included in Friday evening's programme of the Yokohama Literary Society, the chief being a selection for five violins and piano by Pleyel, which was given by Dr. Munro, Messrs. Fenton, Staniland, Mendelson, Crane, and Griffin. It was very nicely executed, and will well bear an early repetition. Mrs. Rice recited a pretty New Year Ode, the original composition of a lady member of the Society. Mr. Fenton sang "Beauty's Eyes," with violin obligato by Mr. Crane; while Mr. MacArthur gave a reading from "Tam O'Shanter." The opening overture to the second half, as also the first overture of the evening, was by the President and his accomplished daughter. Mrs. Smedley read, in her usual graceful style, a highly dramatic version of the big Yokohama bank robbery which startled the community by its daring originality in the middle seventies, and which had such a tragic *finale* in Habeda Bay. The magazine writer had taken a general license to put back the dates somewhat, disguise the names of the principals, and mix-up the nationalities, while at the same time adding some imaginative touches of his own, still the story was easily recognised by the old residents present. Mr. Clarence Griffin having given a recitation, the programme concluded with a trio, Haydn in C. Major, for violin, 'cello and piano, Messrs. Munro, Crane and Fenton.

TWO FALSE REPORTS.

We observe that two false reports are circulated by the local English press in Japan and China. The first is that the *Japan Mail* has changed hands, a purchaser having been found for it in China; the second, that the house of the editor of the *Japan Mail* is guarded by detectives. Both statements are absolutely baseless. The *Japan Mail* has not been sold to any one. It is not for sale, and has not been for sale at any time during the past thirteen years. The house of the editor of the *Japan Mail* is not guarded by detectives. It never has been guarded by policemen in any form, nor has there ever been talk of such a measure in responsible quarters or any occasion whatever for it.

CANADIAN PACIFIC AHEAD.

The Canadian Pacific Railway Co. have received the highest award at the World's Fair for their standard passenger train and locomotive. It reads as follows:—"For excellence of design and construction of a handsome transcontinental passenger train having special features of merit in its Colonist's sleeping cars." "Locomotive. For general excellence of workmanship and design, specially of the steel cab lined with wood, and manner in which main frames cylinder saddle are braced." They have also received an award on the model of their Japan and China steamers

COLLISION.

A rather serious collision took place in the Shanghai river, opposite the Bund, about a quarter to nine o'clock on the morning of Dec. 20th The French mail steamer *Salasie*, Captain Paul, was going down from her moorings, opposite the M.M office, to Woosung, and the China Navigation Co.'s steamer *Soochow* Captain Neil Martin, was coming up, light, on the right side, with a strong flood tide. The mail steamer had just had some slight trouble to clear a cargo boat, and had very little room to manœuvre in, having to keep in to the Shanghai side, and while she was endeavouring to answer her port helm, when nearly opposite the end of the Nanking Road, the *Soochow*, which had just let go her anchor, struck the *Salasie* between her fore and main masts, on the starboard side, causing her to heel over to

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port. The accident was witnessed by a large number of people on shore and in the shipping, and caused a good deal of excitement. When the ships cleared each other it could be seen that the *Soochow's* stem was badly twisted. The *Salasie* was also seriously damaged, several plates being bulged in, all well above water, however. Her upper works were untouched. She proceeded on her way down river, and a survey was afterwards made to ascertain the extent of her injuries, when it was found that some plates had been broken and bent, necessitating the replacing of at least five or six. The *Soochow* was even more seriously damaged and her repairs will occupy several days. It is estimated that the damage will take at least Tls. 10,000 to repair.—*Mercury*

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The settlement of the collision between the *Salasie* and *Soochow* has been submitted to arbitration. The Assessors are Capt. Maufet, of the French gunboat *Comète*, and Lieut V. Maud, of H.M.S. *Caroline*, with Commander Impey of the U.S.S. *Monocacy* as umpire. The enquiry was held on board the *Monocacy* on December 22nd, but had not concluded when the mail left Shanghai.

TWO COLLECTIONS OF CHINESE PORCELAIN.

American amateurs are destined, it would seem, to have an exceptional opportunity early next year of acquiring some fine specimens of Chinese porcelain. The well known collections of Mr. A. J. How, of Shanghai, and of the late Mr. W. H. Forbes, of Tientsin, are to be offered for sale at one of the art galleries in New York, probably about the month of April. Each of these collections contains many beautiful and rare examples of wares now not procurable in China without great difficulty and paying very high prices. They are especially rich in fine grades of blue and white, including a number of grand "Hawthorns," in *Lang yao (sang de-bœuf)*, in "grains-of-rice" porcelains, in *Famille Verte*, and in monochromes. The collections were put together during some two decades of residence in China. They are free from any of the spurious or inferior specimens that usually figure in assemblages of wares brought under the auctioneer's hammer, and we imagine that the amateurs of the United States will not be slow to appreciate their value. Everything fine in the way of objects of art gravitates to America now. Plenty of gold and no lack of readiness to spend it for the acquisition of choice specimens constitute a force of attraction that nothing can resist.

A GRIEVANCE.

One of the members of the Hyogo City Assembly has presented to that body a *gravamen* in which he brings before the notice of the members the fact that there are several Japanese merchants trading in the part of the city opened for mixed residence, who avoid the payment of the business tax by using the services of some foreigner in whose name they carry on their business. In order to prevent any such abuse in the future, it is intended to tax all business houses in the Mixed Residence District, whether the proprietors be Japanese or foreigners. Foreigners who object to pay the tax can always remove their business into the Concession. This seems a practical suggestion, and will we hope save the Japanese Government from being defrauded. We get our information from the *Mainichi Shimbun*.

DEATH OF THE U.S. CONSUL TO SHANGHAI.

A telegram was received on the 28th ult., at the United States Consulate-General at Shanghai, from the State Department, announcing the death at sea on the 9th inst., between Yokohama and San Francisco, of Mr. A. D. Jones, U.S. Consul General at Shanghai, who left Shanghai for his home in the States on the 25th of November. Mr. Jones, says the *N.-C. Daily News*, was seriously ill when he left, having been more or less in bad health ever since his arrival at Shanghai on the 1st of August last, but it was hoped that a trip home would restore him to health. The hope has proved baseless. He was only thirty-six years of age. The flags of all the Consulates and men-of-war were half-masted as soon as the news became public.

THE EMPEROR AND THE THREE PREMIERS

The *Kokkai* says that on the 25th instant His Majesty the Emperor summoned to his presence the three Counts who have occupied the post of Minister President, Count Ito, Count Kuroda and Count Yamagata, and conversed with them for fully two hours with reference to the policy which they intended to pursue towards the Diet. His Majesty is said to have been entirely satisfied with their representations. On leaving the Palace the three Counts repaired to the Cabinet, and there arranged the exact details of the measures to be adopted *vis-à vis* the House of Representatives. Their programme was communicated to the various Cabinet Ministers the next day and approved by them.

ELECTRIC RAILWAYS.

The News Agency says that a fever for electric railways is becoming epidemic. Projects for building several such lines are now on the *tapis*. The following are tabulated:—*Tokyo Denki Tetsudo, Tokyo Densha Tetsudo, Keihin* (Tokyo-Yokohama) *Denki Tetsudo, Tokyo Basha Tetsudo, Osaka Denki Tetsudo, Osaka Densha Tetsudo, Settsu Denki Tetsudo, Osaka Koka* (overhead) *Denki Tetsudo, Kobe Denki Tetsudo, Arima Denki Tetsudo, Yoro* (Mino) *Denki Tetsudo, Izuso* (Izu-Sagami) *Denki Tetsudo, Oita Denki Tetsudo, Bushu Denki Tetsudo, Odawara Basha Tetsudo, Ibaraki Denki Tetsudo, Saitama Denki Tetsudo, Nagoya Denki Tetsudo, Kyoto Denki Tetsudo*, making 19 projects in all

BALL AT THE RUSSIAN LEGATION

On the evening of the 26th instant a most delightful ball was given at the Russian Legation in Tokyo. The arrangements were perfect, and the presence of a large number of officers from the Russian Squadron imparted to the affair more than usual verve. Dancing was kept up until half-past four in the morning, the hospitality of Mr. Hitrovo proving so irresistable that even at such an hour the guests separated with difficulty and regret. Many of the Imperial Princes and Princesses and all the Ministers of State were present.

ADMIRALTY CONTRACTS.

The Admiralty have contracted for the building of thirteen torpedo-boat destroyers with the following firms:—J. & G. Thomson, Limited, Clydebank, 3; Palmer's Shipbuilding Company, Jarrow, 3; Hannah, Donald & Wilson, Paisley, 2; Doxford & Sons, Sunderland, 2; White, of Cowes, 3. These vessels are to have a speed of 27 knots. The total contract will amount to about half a million sterling, and tenders are now being asked for the 14,000-ton cruiser which is proposed to be built by private contract.

STORM IN HOKKAIDO.

A telegram despatched from Otaru on the 26th inst. at 1.55 p.m., and received by the *Asahi Shimbun*, states that bad weather has prevailed there for some time. A slight shock of earthquake was felt on the morning of the 24th, and this was followed by violent winds and heavy rains. The storm raged most severely on Monday morning. Railway communication between Otaru and Sapporo was interrupted, and much damage was done in Otaru. Some thirty dwellings were overthrown at Iwanai, in Shiribeshi Province.

BOARDING HOUSE FOR BOYS IN TSUKIJI.

The school in Tsukiji which was started some years ago by Miss MacRae, and has already been found to supply a very real need, has, hitherto been only a day school with no boarding house attached. Mr. G. J. H. Schurr, who for many years has had experience in scholastic work, is now prepared to meet this further want, and has opened a boarding house for boys at No. 12, Tsukiji. Parents living at a distance from Tokyo, and desiring for their sons the education offered at Miss MacRae's school, will be glad to have their attention drawn to Mr. Schurr's advertisement in another column.

GOING FORWARD

The *Free Press* notes that Captain Bayley, P. & O. agent at Colombo, has just returned to Ceylon. The most important item of news he brings out is that the P. & O. Company are building a new 19 knot steamer called the *Caledonia*, which is for the Australian line, and which will be ready in six months' time. It will be 1,000 tons larger than the *Australia*. He does not think it likely that the P. & O's China fleet will be bettered in the near future, notwithstanding Mr. Henniker Heaton's recent denunciations.

THE "AURORA."

The schooner *Aurora*, (43·41 gross tonnage) whose master has figured prominently in the British Court for some time in regard to the question of paying-off his men, was sold at auction by Mr. John Hall, on Friday, through instructions from H.B.M.'s Court. The bidding started at $1,000, and slowly rose to $3 600, at which figure the vessel was knocked down to Mr. J. Johnstone for a local shipping firm.

THE SOMA CASE.

The magisterial examination of Nishigori, the man who preferred such sweeping accusations against the chief retainers of the Soma Family, has now been concluded, the result being that Nishigori and Goto Shimpei are remanded for trial on a charge of perjury; Okano, Yamada, and Koyama for aiding and abetting them; Yamaguchi and Watanabe for receiving bribes, Hoashi for fraud, and Hiranuma and Kato for bearing false witness.

OPENING OF THE PORT OF MORORAN

In spite of some opposition to the scheme the Government have the intention to lay before the Parliament a Bill for the opening of Mororan for special foreign trade. Unless this is passed the Hokkaido Colliery Railway Company will be unable to fulfil the contracts for coal they have received from America, Hawaii, and Hongkong. If the Bill becomes law, they hope to get a very considerable increase of business.

THE PORTUGUESE MINISTRY.

The *Official Gazette* prints a telegram despatched by the Japanese Minister in France and received at the Foreign Department on the 24th inst., stating that the Portuguese Minister of Foreign Affairs has been appointed Minister of Finance, his previous position being given to Senhor Aronca

BIG FIRE IN ISHIKAWA PREFECTURE.

A telegram from Kanazawa received by the *Asahi Shimbun* states that a destructive fire occurred at Terai-mura, Nomi District, on the morning of the 24th inst. One hundred and forty-four houses and seven telegraph posts were burnt. No loss of life has been reported.

THE "STRATHDON."

The *Strathdon*, recently reported on fire in the Suez Canal, is said to have had her No. 2 hold, stokehold, and engine-room full of water. The steam pumps were got to work, and 80 per cent. of the cargo was either burnt or under water the bridge, deck houses, and deck being burnt amidships

THE DAI NIPPON KYOKAI DISSOLVED.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* says that the authorities ordered the dissolution of the *Dai Nippon Kyokai*, organized by opponents of Mixed Residence, on the 29th inst in accordance with the 30th Article of the Public Meeting and Political Association Regulations.

FIRES IN SHANGHAI

Shanghai experienced two fires quite recently. One broke out in a bakery outside the small south gate of the city, and damage to the amount of $5 000 was done. The other started in a row of buildings in Hongkew and destroyed eight houses.

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THE EMPEROR, THE DIET, AND THE PRIVY COUNCIL

EXPERIENCE had led the public to anticipate that the EMPEROR'S reply to the House of Representatives' Address on the subject of Official Discipline, would not be altogether favourable to either of the parties concerned. Absolute impartiality is the SOVEREIGN'S first attribute in judging between his subjects. Whatever topic is carried for decision to the first of the THRONE, the EMPEROR maintains an attitude of unbiassed justice. The House of Representatives, during the present session, has betrayed marked forgetfulness of Japanese traditions. It has shown itself curiously lacking in the sense of reverence towards the THRONE that has always been regarded as a dominant trait of Japanese character. Approaching the SOVEREIGN on the most petty subjects, it has sought to make HIS MAJESTY a Judge of appeal between itself and the Cabinet. If grave issues were in question, if the House were dealing with materials at all sufficient to constitute an impeachment of the Ministers of the CROWN, there might be some excuse for reference to the THRONE. But when the points to be determined are the propriety of a Minister's dining with merchants, or of a Vice-Minister's receiving a gold-watch in public presentation, or of a judicial precedent being followed after thirty years of unquestioned observance, or of the SOVEREIGN'S name being used in a Court of Law, as are the names of all Western monarchs—when such trivialities as these alone are at stake, the House of Representatives' constant appeals to the THRONE amount to an attempt to drag the SOVEREIGN down into the arena of political bickerings, and to divest HIS MAJESTY of the respect and reverence hitherto accorded to him by every one of his subjects. We entertain no doubt that many loyal Japanese have watched these frivolous proceedings with strong indignation, and that dissolution of the Diet on the declared ground of the Lower House's failure to appreciate its responsibility towards the THRONE, would have been a thoroughly popular measure with a large section of the nation. But HIS MAJESTY'S present Ministers must naturally hesitate long before having recourse to such a step They doubtless argue that the less heedful the House's action towards the EMPEROR, the more solicitous should HIS MAJESTY'S trusted Statesmen be to thrust back the waves of political dissension from the foot of the THRONE. This conviction, we may fairly assume, led them also to counsel rigid absence of partiality in the SOVEREIGN'S reply to the Address, though it did not restrain, and need not have restrained, the Privy Council from expressing, in terms singularly strong and unequivocal for such a document, emphatic disapproval of the House's irresponsible levity. Neither side is awarded a complete victory by the EMPEROR, The House of Representatives is distinctly reminded that the SOVEREIGN recognises no right in any of his subjects to interfere with the exercise of the Imperial Prerogative of appointing and removing officials, and is informed by implication that the charges preferred by it have no validity as an impeachment of Ministers of State. On the other hand, the language used by the Privy Council and its apparent endorsement by the SOVEREIGN lead the public to infer that some laxity has been found to exist in the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, and to that extent the action of the House of Representatives receives justification. We must confess that these things do not interpret themselves as clearly as might be desired. If the conduct of a Department of State is sufficiently deserving of censure to call for direct comment in an Imperial Rescript, then surely it may also be held to have warranted some step on the part of the House of Representatives. As the matter stands, the public is apparently invited to conclude that whereas official discipline does not attain an altogether high standard, it is yet not low enough to demand strong measures of reform. The course of events will perhaps unriddle this perplexity, but at present it looks like a compromise between expediency and justice

Of wider importance and interest is the declaration contained in the third paragraph of the Rescript, namely that the appointment and removal of Ministers of State depend entirely upon the SOVEREIGN'S pleasure, and that no interference with the exercise of that Prerogative will be tolerated. In these significant words the House of Representatives receives from the EMPEROR an unequivocal intimation that its continued attempts to make Ministerial tenure of office depend upon a Parliamentary vote are a direct invasion of the Prerogatives of the CROWN That fact, indeed, has always been considered a fundamental principle of the Japanese Constitution, but we are by no means certain that the text of the Constitution will bear so rigid a rendering. The words "The Ministers of State give advice to the EMPEROR and are responsible for it," do not forbid the interpretation that a portion, at any rate, of the responsibility might ultimately have been held to exist towards the Diet, had the House of Representatives shown itself worthy of such a trust. But the House of Representatives, as at present inspired, has demonstrated its complete unfitness to be invested with the function of selecting and commissioning the country's administrators, and the SOVEREIGN, having that conviction forced upon him by practical experience, now publicly proclaims for the Constitution a definition fatal to the pretensions which the House has been attempting to set up.

It will be observed that the Rescript travels beyond the immediate subject that elicited it, and refers to the topic at present occupying so prominent a place in the nation's attention, namely, the country's foreign relations. HIS MAJESTY'S conveys to the Diet and to the public an intimation, not to be misunderstood, that the intention of the CROWN is to continue the amicable and progressive policy hitherto pursued, and that every obstruction of such a policy must be counted hostile to the EMPEROR'S purpose. The advocates of enforcing the strict letter of the treaties, thereby imposing fresh and irksome barriers on liberty of intercourse and commerce, as well as the opponents of mixed residence who would maintain in Japan a state of isolation inconsistent with the universally recognised principles of civilization, receive in this Rescript a warning that ought to induce serious reflection.

INDUSTRIAL ENTERPRISE IN CHINA.

THE Chinese seem very resolutely bent upon starting manufacturing industries. If, they argue, Japan can find her account in spinning cotton yarns and exporting them to China, then assuredly China should be able to spin them for herself, seeing that labour is at least as cheap in China as it is in Japan, that the necessary materials are procurable with equal ease in either country, and that all the conditions of manufacture are apparently similar. Hence projects are on foot to establish two factories, in addition to rebuilding the big affair recently destroyed by fire in the environs of Shanghai. These schemes, however, are understood to be official affairs. Chinese officialdom seems determined to reserve for itself whatever profits may be expected to accrue from the country's first manufacturing efforts. Whether there will be any profits at all under the circumstances, is open to doubt. The individual Chinaman is a most capable sort of person. As a labourer he has high qualities, and it is impossible to withhold admiration from the dogged courage and perseverence that he carries into the sordid, grinding struggle for existence in his own country. But perhaps because from generation to generation he has been compelled to fight so relentlessly for his own hand, he appears to have lost some of the qualities essential to successful combination. Sacrifices in the interests of the common good do not enter into his creed, and if he sees any way of enriching himself at the expense of his associates, no delicate considerations deter him There are no evident reasons why he should depart from this rule in starting cotton factories, especially under official organization, and since Japan's experience has shown how little margin of

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profit offers in competition with Manchester, one is disposed to be sceptical about the result of China's essay. Meanwhile, this resolution of her officials to preserve to themselves such an important branch of enterprise, will increase the umbrage already engendered by her refusal to allow foreigners to engage in manufactures or to import machinery. Whether the letter of the treaties bears her out in this attitude may be a debateable question, but that it is an illiberal attitude must be frankly conceded. Are there, however, any genuine grounds for regretting her resolve? We are inclined to answer in the negative from an English point of view. It can not conduce to the interests of British manufactures that factories should be established in China to supply the Chinese with articles now sent to them from Great Britain or her dependencies. Some set-off would be furnished did the machinery come from British firms, but the probability is that the great bulk of it would be procured from America, and that American experts would be engaged to run the factories. Where Great Britain would find her account in such a state of affairs we do not clearly see. If any Englishman raises his voice against China's interpretation of the treates and insists that she is conventionally bound to permit the organization of manufacturing industries and the import of machinery by foreigners, he must either have studied the subject immaturely, or be a slave to the old-fashioned policy of claiming everything merely on the principle that everything ought to be claimed where an Occidental is the claimant and an Oriental the defendant. So far as concerns the principle of foreigners to engage in such work in China, it is difficult to perceive how any question can be seriously raised in view of the right already established by practice and prescription. In point of fact foreigners do carry on numerous manufacturing industries in China, and have carried them on for quite a number of years. As long ago as 1859 a silk filature was established by Messrs. JARDINE, MATHESON & Company, and though its operation was abandoned after a time, it has now a strong successor in the Shanghai Silk Filature, Limited. Then we have a Japanese Company successfully carrying on cotton-ginning work in Pootung, and the list of running concerns includes paper-making, ship-building, match manufacturing, sulphuric acid making, beer brewing, and ærated water manufacturing. In some of these cases steps may have been taken to "square" officialdom, but with such a volume of industrial enterprise in unchecked existence, it is surely idle to argue that the treaties can now be construed in a sense hostile to the enjoyment of manufacturing privileges by foreigners. We cannot be surprised that some critics should accuse Chinese officialdom of seeking to secure a selfish monopoly by setting up impossible distinctions between cotton-spinning mills and other forms of industrial enterprise. At the same time, while stoutly maintaining the unreason of such an attitude at this eleventh hour, we really do not see that Englishmen are interested in opposing the practical consequences of this Chinese contention.

ACTORS IN JAPAN.

THERE is probably no country in the world where actors enjoy such a large feminine regard as they do in Japan. It is a strange fact, for certainly they possess very few of the attributes generally supposed to attract the fair sex. In the West nothing is commoner than the development of an absorbing attachment on the part of a man for some beautiful queen of the stage. But in such cases the object of love has all the external qualities that render a woman lovable, and has moreover educated the art of displaying them to the best effect We hear too of women falling in love with actors who to a handsome person add impressive power of displaying passion and pathos, or who possess, what appeals even more strongly to the fair sex, a grand voice. All such displays of affection are easily understood. But apart from histrionic skill, which they undoubtedly possess in a very high degree, Japanese actors do not seem to be the owners of any titles to female attention Physique they have none and their complexion is purely artificial. Perpetual confinement indoors and constant painting of their faces give them ultimately a pasty white appearance which an inexperienced girl may mistake for refinement. But closer acquaintance, disclosing as it must the sickly complexion, rickety physique, and wholly unmasculine *ensemble* of the Japanese actor, ought to dispel the delusion. It does not, however. On the contrary, the standard of beauty is to this day taken from some famous actor's "get up" in a particular character. It is true that no gentleman can aspire to a higher type than that reached by HIRAI GOMPACHI, nor can any girl hope to be fairer than ONO-NO-KOMACHI or TERUTE-HIME. But the lapse of centuries has robbed these historical characters of their living power of appeal. Their time-dimmed impression fades in comparison with the winning graces displayed by the youngster FUKUSUKE in his impersonification of *Tora*, or with the noble gallantry of KIKUGORO'S knightly bearing in the part of *Yosaburo*. The fact appears to be that in Japan the actor's tricks of deception constitute a perpetual transformation. The figure he cuts in a particular rôle continues to be associated with him even after he has resumed the homely mien, insignificant bearing, and perhaps small-pox pitted features with which nature has dowered him for every-day use. A high tribute to his acting is certainly conveyed by this persistence of impression, and he deserves it. There is further to be noted the circumstance that Japanese actors, instead of waiting until a general meed of applause is accorded to them, seek to anticipate public favour through the medium of personal patronage, and it has thus become a kind of fashion with theatre-goers to associate themselves with the rising fortunes of this or that *débutant*. Such a relation may easily develop very delicate phases where a lady is the patroness. In Tokyo, happily, this demoralizing element is gradually being eliminated, and to his great credit it must be recorded that the celebrated actor ICHIKAWA DANJURO, now King of the Japanese stage, is the principal reformer. Against DANJURO'S private life no whisper of scandal has ever been directed, and not infrequently we hear of a pupil of his being expelled because of some loose conduct at which another master would have winked. The press, too, unintentionally exercises a wholesome influence, for contemptible and degraded as is the purpose of the petty journals that pander to the vicious tastes of their readers by relating the scandals of the green-room and the assignation house, there can be no question that the publicity they give to such matters constitutes a strong check. It is alleged, however, that the reform has not yet extended beyond Tokyo, and that in Osaka, where the drama evokes much stronger enthusiasm, girls of good position not infrequently visit actors at the latter's private residences. Worse still is the case in country districts. There actors find it a lucrative branch of their trade to cultivate questionable relations with young ladies whose families are in easy circumstances. The liberality of the deluded victim while the liaison lasts and the blackmail ultimately extorted to bring it to a termination, add materially to the scanty gains obtainable on the stage. In Tokyo such proceedings are said to be now confined to actors of secondary rank and girls of easy virtue. There are evident reasons why these two classes should come together, chief among them being the fact that such actors were themselves, for the most part, born out of honest wedlock, and that their wives, if they have any, are usually of the dancing-girl or prostitute profession. Hence a species of affinity exists and is practically recognised. Both sides play their own game, the girls aspiring to become the wives of the actors, the latter seeking to eke out their scanty income by contributions from their fair admirers. Probably much of the mischief is attributable to the palpably insufficient remuneration of the actors. Recently the tendency of the times has been in the direction of increasing their honoraria, but in pre-*Meiji* days an actor of the first rank could not hope to obtain more than 500 *yen* annually under a contract of six performances a year. Shortly after the Restoration, a sum of 400 *yen* paid to the

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late BANDO HIKOSABURO and to SHIKAN for a performance lasting 42 days, was considered something quite out of the common. But men's ideas grew with the era. About 1883, the manager of the Shintomi Theatre did not hesitate to pay 1,000 *yen* to DANJURO, 700 *yen* each to KIKUGORO and the late SOJURO, and 800 *yen* to SADANJI for one course of acting, and when the now famous Kabuki-za in Tokyo was opened, four years ago, DANJURO'S services were engaged at 2,000 *yen* each for four performances of about 33 days each, annually. But DANJURO is *facile princeps* among Japanese actors. His honoraria have gone on steadily increasing, and the relation in which he stands to his contemporaries, as well as the sums earned by the stars of the stage to-day may be gathered from the following table, which shows the amounts actually paid by the lessee of the Kabuki Theatre at the fall of last year:—

DANJURO	5,200 *yen*.
KIKUGORO (including the pay of his two adopted sons).	1,500 *yen*
FUKUSUKE	1,000 *yen*.
SHUCHO (this amount is comparatively small in consequence of Shucho having been engaged simultaneously elsewhere.)	400 *yen*
MATSUSUKE	400 *yen*.

Below this the rates gradually fall as low as 40 or even 6 *yen* annually for assistants and supernumeraries. KIKUGORO'S position relatively to DANJURO cannot fairly be deduced from the above table, as the former did not happen to play in leading parts last year. DANJURO'S eminence does not depend solely on his wonderful histrionic skill. He owes a good deal to the prestige of his family, which has given leading actors to Japan generation after generation, to his wide and accurate knowledge of historical affairs, both public and private, and to his high moral character. Yet his career has been one of struggle. Even now he cannot be counted opulent, and despite his persistent desire to raise the status of his profession, he does not consider it incompatible with his dignity to receive a present of money when he visits a private house. Impecunious in all countries, actors in Japan are eminently so, and their difficulties are greatly enhanced by the traditional necessity under which they labour of making even their private lives a kind of spectacular display. They generally spend far more than they can afford and whenever public occasions offer the spirit of their profession requires that they should utilize them in the most conspicuous manner. Two years ago, KIKUGORO made his entrance into Osaka surrounded by paraphernalia of a gorgeous description, the cushion upon which he was seated in his *Kago* having cost alone several hundreds of *yen*. Pushed, on the one hand, by the professional urgency of parade and display, and confronted, on the other, by the slenderest resources, it is not surprising that Japanese actors should often resort to immoral means of replenishing their purses. The great majority of them have yet to learn that they can never attain a high place in public esteem until they prescribe for themselves and apply to their private lives a standard of morality very different from that now adopted.

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ON FRIDAY.

ITS sentence of prorogation having expired on Thursday, the House of Representatives re-assembled on Friday. As usual on similar important occasions, the Strangers' Galleries were entirely filled long before the proceedings commenced. It was also noticeable that the members took their seats more quickly than usual. The attendance was better than expected, there being more than 250 members in their seats. Before proceeding with the Order of the Day, the President announced the appointment of Mr. ABEI IWANE to the post of Vice-President. Mr. ABEI thanked the House for having recommended him for the important position to which the EMPEROR had been pleased to nominate him. He hails from one of the provinces in the North-East, and is a Conservative in politics, being a leading member of a small faction called the *Seimu Chosajo*, which enjoys considerable popularity on account of its devotion to the cause of anti-Mixed Residence. Mr. ABEI is an old man, probably several years past sixty, honest and straightforward but narrow-minded—a good type of the Japanese country gentleman. It is a singular sign of the times that a man so completely identified with the anti-Mixed Residence movement, and who was the introducer of the Representation on the subject of treaty enforcement, should have been selected by the House as a candidate for the Vice-Presidentship. A new member from Yamagata, Mr. HOSHINO, was then introduced, and received by the House with loud clapping of hands. Then followed the usual reading by the Chief Secretary of various reports and answers of the Government to questions propounded by the members. Among the latter documents was the Naval Minister's reply to questions on the *Chishima* affair. It was perhaps the fullest and most elaborate reply ever offered by the Government. Its length may be judged from the fact that the reading occupied nearly forty minutes. Nevertheless, the importance of the subject and the clear and logical style of the document secured for it an attentive hearing. While the Chief Secretary was engaged with this document, the seats reserved for the Ministers of State were occupied by Count ITO, Mr. MUTSU, Count INOUYE, Count OYAMA, Mr. WATANABE, and Mr. YOSHIKAWA, in the order named. So soon as the Chief Secretary had completed his laborious task, members sprang to their feet, asking leave to speak. But they were too late. The Minister of Foreign Affairs, having been able to catch the President's ear before them, was already on his way to the rostrum. His Excellency had hardly spoken two minutes when he was rudely interrupted by Mr. TSUNODA SHIMPEI, a well-known and conspicuously quarrelsome member of the *Kaishin-to*. The President asked him to be seated, but paying no regard and growing more heated and angry at each attempt to stop him, Mr. TSUNODA shouted out that, though Ministers of State had liberty to speak whenever they pleased, they had no right to interrupt a member for the purpose, which Mr. MUTSU was in effect doing, since Mr. ABEI HANKON really had the floor, the House having been prorogued on the 19th instant before Mr. ABEI'S speech was concluded. Mr. TSUNODA spoke with great energy and, we may add, eloquence, all the while vehemently striking the table with the "Standing Orders of the House," which he held rolled up in his right hand. So impetuous was the torrent of his wrathful protest, that the President could not for a time put in a single word. The Progressionist's point of order was instantly taken up by several members, the most noisy among them being, as might have been expected, Mr. SHIMIZU BUNJIRO. Great disorder prevailed for a time. Mr. INOUYE KAKUGORO and others advised the President to order Mr. TSUNODA out of the hall, and as the confusion increased, Mr. TSUNODA repeatedly defying the Presidential authority he was finally ordered to withdraw from the Chamber This he declined to do, and two serjeants and a Secretary of the House proceeded to execute the President's order. They gradually forced the angry member out of the House, he vehemently shouting all the while, enraged and contumacious objections. Order having been restored, the Minister of Foreign Affairs proceeded with his speech. He spoke with admirable self-possession and command of language, but the House was not in a mood to listen to any Minister calmly, and his speech was repeatedly interrupted by cries of "No! No!" and other hostile remarks. When he ceased speaking, several members sought permission to put questions to him, but the Minister nonchalantly left the House, evidently resolved to submit to no baiting. At this stage an Imperial Message was laid on the President's table. It was immediately supposed to be an order for dissolution, but its reading by the President speedily dispelled that notion, and the members learned that their sitting was again prorogued until January 11th. Under any circumstances the House would have risen until the 8th proximo, so the session is shortened by three days only. Usually an Imperial Message is listened to by the members in a perfectly quiet and re-

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spectful manner, but on the present occasion we are constrained to say that they were too excited to preserve a decorous attitude. The speech of the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs and the order of prorogation immediately following it, sharply define the issue between the Government and the Opposition, and remove all doubt as to the true cause of the former's action in twice proroguing the Diet. We shall publish a full translation of this most important speech in our next issue.

IMPERIAL DIET.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29TH.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House did not sit, the Committees alone coming together.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1.15 p.m., the Order of the Day being :—

1.—Representation relating to Strict Enforcement of the Treaties.
2.—Bill, introduced by Mr. Kozaka Zennosuke, for amending the Savings Bank Regulations.
3.—Second Reading of the Bill for amending the Law of Registration.
4.—Report of the Special Committee on the Newspaper Regulations Bill.

Mr. Abei Iwane, referring to his nomination by the Emperor on the 20th instant to the post of Vice-President, thanked the House for the honour it had done him in electing him to such an important position. He was well aware of his own unfitness to discharge the functions entrusted to him, but he intended to exert himself to the utmost of his ability, and he hoped with the indulgent assistance of the House to succeed in performing his duty.

The President announced the receipt of

1.—A Reply from the Minister of State for the Navy to the Questions addressed to the Government by Dr Hatoyama and others, on the subject of the *Chishima-Ravenna* Law-suit.
2.—A Reply from the Minister of State for Home Affairs to the Questions addressed to the Government by Mr. Yumoto Yoshinori and others on the subject of Riverine Control.
3.—A Reply from the Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce to the Questions addressed to the Government by Mr. Shimura Bunjiro on the subject of Licenses to Exchanges.

The Reply with regard to the *Chishima-Ravenna* Law-suit was read.

During the reading, Their Excellencies the Minister President, the Ministers of State for Foreign Affairs, Home Affairs, War, Finance, and Education entered the House and took their seats on the Dais. On the completion of the reading, cries of "President," "President," rose from various parts of the House. Meanwhile H.E. Mr. Mutsu, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, ascended the rostrum, and commenced to Address the House when,

Mr. Tsunoda Shimpei rose to a point of order. Speaking in a loud voice and with much vehemence, he asked whether the President was acquainted with the Law of the Houses. The 33rd Article of that Law provided that, when either House met after the termination of a period of prorogation, the debate of the last meeting should be continued. When the prorogation of the House was ordered on the 19th inst., Mr. Abei Hankon had been in the act of addressing the House. He claimed that, according to the Law, Mr. Abei was in possession of the rostrum, and no Minister of State had a right to drive him from it. It was true that Ministers of State were entitled to address the House at any time, but that privilege did not extend to interrupting the speech of a member. The Minister of Foreign Affairs should not be permitted to address the House until Mr. Abei's speech, commenced on the 19th inst., was concluded.—(Cries of "No, no," and "Hear, hear).

The President attempted to deliver a ruling, but Mr. Tsunoda continued to argue that the Minister was out of Order.

The President—Permit me to speak, please.

Mr. Tsunoda—Rights are created by law They cannot exist without law.

At this point Mr. Shimizu Bunjiro and others began to call "President," "President," and the House fell into a state of much confusion. Some members asked whether the President could not restore order, and Mr. Inouye Kakugoro urged the President to expel any members who refused to desist from interrupting the proceedings.

The President, to Mr. Tsunoda—If you are resolved not to obey me, I must resort to decisive measures.

Mr. Tsunoda—You can not do so. I am exercising my lawful right of speech.

The President—Resume your seat, Mr. Tsunoda.

Mr. Tsunoda—Instead of ordering me to take my seat, you had better observe the law.

The President—The House not having yet proceeded to the first item on the Order of the Day, the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs is within his right in addressing the House.

Mr. Tsunoda—My opinion differs from yours, Mr. President, and as it is a question of interpreting the law, I ask that it be submitted to the House

The House again fell at this stage into a state of great confusion, some members calling out that Mr Tsunoda should be expelled, and others accusing the President of violating the law.

The President—Mr. Tsunoda, will you not abide by my ruling? I shall proceed to other measures.

Mr. Tsunoda—If you can resort to any other measures, do so.

The President—Then I order you to leave the House.

Mr. Tsunoda, with evidence of violent rage—I decline to leave the House. I refuse to obey an illegal ruling.

The President ordered the Sergeants to remove Mr. Tsunoda, who, during the process, struggled vehemently and abused the President, calling out that he had been bribed by the Government, that he disregarded the law that he ought to read the rules, and so forth.

The Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, who had been standing in the rostrum during this disturbance, now resumed his speech :—

(The speech is too long to reproduce in full to-day and too important to epitomise.)

On the conclusion of the speech several members rose to address questions to the Minister, but Mr. Mutsu gathered up his papers and left the House in a leisurely manner, taking no notice of any one.

Mr. Suzuki Manjiro asked leave to speak, and ascending the rostrum, made a show of repeatedly rinsing the water-glass that had been used by the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs. Having concluded this process, he said : "I wanted to put some queries to the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, but as he has left the House, I have no further business here."

The President at this stage announced the receipt of an Imperial Rescript ordering the prorogation of the House for 14 days, from the 29th of December to the 11th of January.

The House rose at 2.45 p.m.

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE RELIGIOUS PRESS.

The paper in the Christian press which is probably most deserving of attention is one by Rev. Y. Mashino in the *Rikugo Zasshi*, on "The Right Time for a Turning in the Movement of the New Theology." It is understood that our monthly article on the religious press is distinctively what it purports to be, a summary. Yet, to make it this adequately, would be to fill, and more than fill, an entire issue of the *Japan Mail*. As summarizer we are consequently forced to select, from the great mass of periodical literature laid upon our table, a comparatively small amount of material. In doing this we follow a definite principle of selection. Our rule is to give attention chiefly to discussions which bear upon religion in its national relations, and which affect particularly the principles of theology and ethics. Ordinary events of religious progress, questions of denominational interest chiefly, and the like, we are compelled to omit from our record. Our work as summarizer therefore becomes, in a measure, that of a reviewer, and however impartial we may endeavour to be in doing this work, our review takes shape to a greater or less extent, through our personal judgment. Mr. Mashino's article, we have selected from the Christian press of the month as the one of leading value or significance. It deals with an influence which, all can see, is moving deeply in the development of Christianity in Japan. The tendency of the writer's thought is in a high degree cautious and conservative concerning the changes he sees following the influence of which he writes. Since the appearance of the "New Theology" in Japanese Christianity, says Mr. Mashino, Christians have been segregated into three groups. Among these, a group which we will call the Progressionists may be noted, composed of those who are intellectually cultured, and who are well acquainted with the tendencies of religious thought in Western Christendom. These people have become dissatisfied with the old theology, and have gladly welcomed the incoming of the "New Theology." It may be said in passing that Mr. Mashino is a recent graduate of the Andover Theological Seminary in the United States, and that the Andover School is known as the head-quarters of the "New Orthodoxy," or the "Liberal Orthodoxy," in America; this new theology emphasizing a belief that man's eternal state is not fixed at death, showing hospitality too to rational views concerning the interpretation of the Sacred Scriptures, and in a word, in large measure sympathizing with those who regard theology as a progressive study. A second group of Christians, says our writer, is composed of Conservatives. These, in Japan, are chiefly the foreign missionaries. It is from the missionaries especially that the "New Theology" has met with opposition. They have been cool towards the movement, and have antagonized it. Of course the missionaries cannot be called either obstinate or superstitious. Their action on the Noyes question,—now a solved problem,—proves that things are in a degree progressive. But at the same time, it is to be said that during the last few years of the inworking of the "New Theology" the foreign missionaries have stood against it. Then there remains a third group, the large body of Christians, moderate and practical, neither foes nor friends, yet of the new movement, unexcitedly observant, the constituency upon whose suffrages at last the future of the "New Theology" depends. That future is full of hope if these persons favour it, otherwise it is clouded. When the new movement was started, a great disturbance was made. Now the waves of the storm have subsided. Already this gain is secured, that the cry "heretic!" is no longer sounded by the conservatives. Practically the "New Theology" has made its place sure. All tolerate it, although there are many who do not accept it. This much is achieved : it is not heresy. The goal of perfect victory may be far off, but the way to it is open. Now is the time for farther advance. So also it is time for decided change in our movement. A four-fold change is imperative at the present opportunity. The "New Theology" should become constructive. Once it was of necessity seemingly destructive. It had to clear a way. This is done. In America and in England construction now has the lead. Then, second, denials must be replaced by affirmations. Rejection of the traditions of Christendom should give way to an earnest apprehension of the essence of Christianity, and its presentation and emphasis as the needed inspiration of mankind. In the third place, the "New Theology" must so progress as to be in harmony with, and helpful to, a vital faith. The accusation has often been made that the new thought does not comport with faith and that it is inimical to piety. The accusation must not stand. And lastly, this new force must separate itself from those who are stupid (*sic*). It had its origin in aspiration after the truth. It has no rightful fellowship with any who are lax in observing a rigid, moral, and social code. Often the liberal thought seems to be destructive of gravity and seriousness of life, and to promote self-indulgence. This must not be its

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characteristic. The strictest morality and a deep gravity of decorum should accompany the new thought. Now is the time for the "new theology" to have this four-fold effect. If it does not make such use of its present opportunity, it will surely gradually lose the confidence now bestowed upon it. We must get the allegiance of the great middle body of cautious practical Christians. Even now with many there is some disappointment felt over the practical bearing of the new thought. But it will not do to suppose that the Progressionists] are only iconoclastic and sceptical. Really they are aspiring after truth, spiritual life, and vital faith. In this direction many of the liberals surpass their fellow believers of the more accepted faiths. In fact, when all is said, the soundest, wholesomest tendency in the thought of the modern world is just this which has appeared in the "New Theology." If the Christian Church desires to be in harmony with the world movements now in progress; if the Church wishes to do somewhat to help and to save the mankind of to-day, it must accept the "New Theology." Among us of Japan, the proclamation by which we Christians are to take place as leaders is not a cry for the revival of traditional theology and the suppression of the new. We are to be in the front only by the power of truth which is suited to the wants of the present world.

* * *

An editorial in the *Kirisutokyo Shimbun*, taking as a text a report of an address by Mr. Soyeda of the Imperial Treasury, delivered recently before the Political Science Association, composed of leading scholars and statesmen, deals with the "Problems before the Christian Churches." Mr. Soyeda is represented as having said that religion is necessary to the welfare of the State. The report further ran, that Buddhism has lost the respect of the people, and that Christianity, if it would but divest itself of its foreign and sectarian character, might become the religion of the empire. In the Buddhist *Nonin Shimpo*, however, we note a denial by Mr. Soyeda of this statement that he predicted failure for Buddhism and success for Christianity. He claims to have said that a thorough reformation of Buddhism is needed. If that cannot be secured, said he, then a Japanized Christianity ought to be accepted. Political argument! At any rate, continues the *Kumiai* organ, Mr. Soyeda set forth religion as a necessity for the State. The higher public opinion is thus in favour of religion. Prof. Inouye's lecture was the last struggle of religious nationalism. "The night is past and the day is at hand." But what shall we do with the problems now before our churches, the problems, namely, of 1, The New Theology. 2, Church Independence. 3, Sectarianism? These are the Alps between us and our Italy. Many tell us that the "New Theology" has been overcome, that only young and fickle pastors were responsible for the trouble. Not so. The "New Theology" is not so easily done away with. For ten years past religious leaders have had doubts in their breasts as to the traditional faiths. Unitarianism and Liberalism have been only proximate causes of the difficulty. The problem is here because it must be solved. Until solved it will confront us. It can not be laughed away. To cry "Peace! Peace!" is to ignore the truth. The questions also of Independence and Sectarianism are not needless. Since the establishment of the Yokohama Kaigan Church, in *Meiji* 5th, these perplexing questions have troubled us. The proposed union of the *Kumiai* and the Presbyterian Churches failed on their account. These questions are to the Christian Church what the problem of Treaty Revision is to the State. They cannot be neglected, and they must not be ignored by short-sighted men. The writer then appeals to the missionaries to stop expanding their own denominations. It is now thirty-five years since the first missions were established, and twenty-one years since the first Church was organized. The Church has reached manhood. For the sake of Japanese Christianity let the missionaries remember this. In what they are doing, are they really showing their sympathy with the needs and for the welfare of Japan? Have they the brave courage of former times? Do they understand the present condition of Church affairs? If, now, Japan is beginning to show a deep sympathy with Christianity, if the wished-for opportunity of the Churches is coming, the missions should not waste even one day. "I may be rude," ends the writer, "but my readers should pardon me, for my heart is full" *Gokyo*, the Methodist organ, criticizes the above article in the following strain:—Mr. Soyeda is but a utilitarian politician. The *Kirisutokyo Shimbun* looks upon his address as a sign of promise, and likens it to the nightingale's song in the spring time. "Indeed! a Utilitarian Christianity! "Christianity does not exist for the sake of the State or Utilitarianism. It was brought into the world to fill the deepest want of the human soul. The three problems may exist, but the *Kirisutokyo Shimbun* gave them being. Their originator should be the first to solve them. Has he a solution? *Gokyo* thinks that the theological problem is passing away despite the opinion of the *Kumiai* writer. If not, when shall it be solved? Let the responsible persons render an account. The *Kirisutokyo Shimbun* is like a weather prognosticator. We do not want him. We need the farmer who in *Mino* and *Kasa* goes ahead in spite of the rain. We say that the theological problem is becoming a thing of the past. It is no longer a matter for the churches to be troubled over. Let them serve God and God's Son and remand this problem to the scholars whose work it is to care for it. The object of religion, says the editor of *Gokyo* in another article, is not national welfare, but the reaching of the eternal and unchangeable source of this changing life. God, truth, the absolute in life. Christianity is this power in conscious life. This life appeared in the Jewish Scriptures, but that was not Christianity as a whole. The Sun is not fire, but is a kind of fire. The spirit of God moves throughout the world and has been present in the world from the very beginning. Christianity is this divine power. If this power shows itself among heathen peoples, then Christianity is there. The religions of mankind are one. The same spirit is among them in different forms. Idolaters worship not wood and stone, but the power in the wood and stone. Even pessimists show by their teachings that they have faith in true happiness. Pantheists cannot explain self-consciousness or the origin of sin, and they grieve over their failure. The same spirit is everywhere. The power of Christianity is felt by all mankind. Missionaries should aim to lead mankind to the Great Universal Life. The *Fukuin Shimpo*, like *Gokyo*, puts the responsibility for the existence of the three great problems of the Churches before spoken-of upon the *Kiristokyo Shimbun*, and complains that when the churches are about to forget these troublesome matters, the *Kumiai* organ brings them into memory afresh. *Gokyo*, we notice, is not wholly satisfied with the Young Men's Christian Association movement in Japan. While the chief object of the Association is to lead unbelieving young men to a true religious faith, that object is often injured by attempts to regulate and direct the Churches on the part of the Associations. Then, when the Churches do not follow the suggestions of the Associations, the disappointed young men often disturb them, and destroy their peace. The writer pleads with the leaders of the young men's organizations to let the Churches alone and not to become partizans of any sect or special interest in religion. Another *Gokyo* writer thinks that for Japan, both an Isaiah and a Jeremiah are the need of the times. According to the *Kirisutokyo Shimbun*, the troubles arising in the Japanese Churches from the obtrusiveness of the Young Men's Association members, is owing to the fact that, while in America women and the older men control the churches, keeping young men in the background, here young men form the working bodies of the churches and are at the same time the leaders of the Associations. They are thus engaged in a two-fold work. For this reason too the Associations are not very successful. If the young men could devote themselves to the destruction of Sectarianism they would do well. The rivalry of the sects is one of our great evils. The hope of the Churches lies not in complexity, but in harmony and unity. The Evangelical Alliance works in this direction, but it is small and it meets at intervals of years only. In the Y.M.C.A. are representatives of all the Churches, they could do excellent work in removing narrowness and bigotry. Young men are rich in spirit and are easily touched by what is good and beautiful. Again, in all great towns where there are several churches, the Associations should promote union work as far as possible. The Associations also should minister to the higher and broader self-culture of their members. But let their meetings always remain free from political discussions, and from theological controversy. Moreover, let no yoke of narrowness be placed upon growing thought. And if, in addition, the work of the Associations be so arranged as not to intrude upon the secular duties of the members or to over-burden them, there is no reason why these organizations should not render most helpful aid to the country.

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Among many minor notices of the Christian press we read that an interesting biography of Paul Sawayama, a man much like the devoted Nishima, has lately been written by Mr. Naruse Jugo. Mr. Sawayama's sphere of labour was in Osaka, where he established Christian institutions, self-supporting from the start. A notable seminary for girls was his great achievement. A letter from the sessions of the American Board at Worcester, Massachusetts, rejoices over the triumph of liberal principles there, in the maintenance of Mr. Noyes in his position in Japan. A Church in Akita has announced to the American Board its financial independence henceforward. An interesting conference of the prison chaplains in the Hokkaido has lately been held. Answers to fourteen special inquiries from the Chief of the Prisons were given. The chaplains declared their teaching to be chiefly ethical. They discussed, among other things, the length of terms of imprisonment, literature for prisoners, causes of crime, and the characters and dispositions of the criminals. The Chief of the Prisons thanked the chaplains for their counsel. In Shizuoka Ken, at Shimada, a Christian congregation has lately fared ill at the hands of Buddhists and *soshi*. A meeting of about seven hundred persons was stopped, blows were struck, stones thrown, and cries of "kill!" were raised. The riot was quelled, but the next day an anti-Christian meeting was held. At an Episcopal Conference a proposition to introduce the Apocrypha into the Scripture readings was voted down by a large majority, although the proposition was favoured by both the American and English bishops. The condition of the *Eta* is again the theme of an earnest plea. Society, under the lead of ancient religion, has committed a great crime in ostracizing this unfortunate class of the people, says Mr. Imai. Now, it is the religion which has come through Christ which should atone for this crime. But as yet, only a few of Christ's professed disciples are willing to reach out a helping hand. Churches have been opened where *Eta* might enter, but, with their coming, Christians have gone away. One Church, for this reason, was deserted, people declaring it polluted and the preacher and gospel made unclean. At present some Churches have been organized and are supported for the use solely of these people, outcast under the old social order. The long ordained Buddhist antagonism to flesh eating is given as the cause of the degradation of the Japanese meat and skin dealers, the *Eta*.

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In the Greek Church *Seikyo Shimpo*, there is a commendatory notice of an address by Rev. J. T. Yokoi, at the Hongo Congregational Church. Mr. Yokoi says that the Greek Church has been much misunderstood and wronged in Japan. It is not a Russian agent, he declares. It is not formidable to this

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country's welfare. It is independent of the State and can exist under any nationality. There is no reason to suspect it, because Russian money maintains it. English money maintains the English Church. The Emperor's picture has never been insulted at Sunagadai. Nicolai is a hero. There are in Japan eight hundred Protestant missionaries, ninety-two Catholic propagandists, and but three representatives of the Greek Church. Where is the danger to come from! The Greek Church was the first to use the Japanese in its work. All its employés now are of our own people. It is not here to accomplish the will of Peter the Great. We need not fear the religion of Russia; Russian State power we may dread. The Roman Catholic Church has its fearful Pope. Behind the Pope are the Jesuits vowed to sacrifice all liberty to the Sovereign of the Church. The editor of the Greek Church organ tempers his praise by claiming that Mr. Yokoi's statements concerning the excess of theological speculation and devotion to ecclesiastical ceremonies said to mark the Greek church are not quite justified. Believe us, we are devoted to true Christian faith, and are not wanting in warm sympathies and high ethical aspiration."

* * *

Among the month's Liberal Christian periodicals *Shinri* has failed to reach us. A number of very interesting articles, however, in *Shukyo* and *Jiyu Kirisuto-kyo*, lie before us. We have space only to notice some remarks in both these magazines *apropos* the address at Chicago of Mr. Kozaki, president of the Doshisha. The Universalist organ observes that Mr. Kozaki's address is interesting as showing the theological position of Japanese Christians. It differs evidently from that of orthodox Christians. But, in thus differing, are not both the orthodox missionaries and the Japanese Churches in false positions? Missionaries give financial and moral aid to unorthodox adherents. Both parties work in opposite directions. The former attack Universalists, and yet they assist Japanese who are going in the direction of liberalism. On the other hand, there is the unexplained fact that Japanese Christians accept the aid which the missionaries offer them. How curious it is to attack theologically, and yet to ask help financially. Mr. Kozaki said that Japanese Christians are diligently propagating a liberal theology. Yet they do not sympathize with others who teach the same liberal thought. In mathematics it is an axiom that things which are equal to the same thing are equal to each other. Then there is another interesting question, If Japanese Christians sympathize with neither Orthodoxy nor Liberalism, with what do they sympathize? Here is the worst kind of sectarianism. Mr. Kozaki said that those who call themselves Liberals are often narrow. So it would seem! Mr. Kozaki said also that liberals are negative. In this respect only does Mr. Kozaki seem to share orthodox opinion. For the sake of truth, we hope Mr. Kozaki will show that he has a more positive theology than ours. In all we say, however, we are not Mr. Kozaki's enemy. Our only prayer is that the truth may stand. *Shukyo* has a good table of contents relating to questions on the principles of rational religion, ethics, and social order, but we must pass these by, glancing only at a rather trenchant notice of the remark made by Mr. Kozaki at Chicago, that "Japanese Christians are liberals but are neither Universalists nor Unitarians." Of course, says *Shukyo*, at this disclaimer all orthodox believers rejoiced, yet we are much happier than they, and for good reason. Although Mr. Kozaki says he is not of us, his words are certainly ours. He and his friends are really Unitarian in principle and in object. They work for as we work for, they seek as we seek, they proclaim as we proclaim, rational thought.

* * *

We can not treat satisfactorily the current Buddhist press. We find in *Bukkyo* leading articles on Japanese Buddhist Poetry, on The Sankya Philosophy, and a History of Popular Buddhism. In *Dento* is an instalment of the History of Buddhist Sects. The Coming of the Second Buddha, First Spiritual Principles, the Religious Ideas of the Loo Chooans, and the new Era in Buddhism. The *Nonin Shimpo*, among other things, tells of continued dissension in the Sodo Sect, of Dead Religionists, and of the Jodo Hawaiian Mission. It pleads for a National Policy concerning Christianity, reports the Hindoo Dhamapara's speech at Nagoya, gives a Baron's View of Religion and has something to say of present political questions. *Keratcho* has an interesting Review of Buddhism in Meiji 26th, and publishes the First Declaration of the Hawaii Missionary Association. The *Hoono* of the common classes and the *Nichi no Tomo*, a magazine for women, together with many other journals in the interests of one or another form of the ancient faiths are before us and are worthy of attention, but for the present we must forego the pleasure of putting their contents upon record. In all these magazines there are many pleasant echoes of the World's Religious Parliaments. The *Kokkyo*, is quite a noticeable publication. It has the large view of Buddhism as a world movement. It is conducted by young men, is published at Kumamoto, and is under the stimulus of the ideal of a union of the two great Buddhist divisions of the North and the South, through which the faith may be made ready to conquer the world. In a late number the *Kokkyo* has an extended and quite a discriminating review of the writings of the free thinking Buddhist, Mr. Nakanishi Gyuro, whose name has at times been prominent in these summaries. Showing at the outset how much under the influence of the character of Christ Mr. Nakanishi is, the writer goes on to give his author's views of Buddhism as a decaying influence. Mr. Nakanishi wishes Buddhism well, but declares that in Japan it has no converting power now. He queries, "Is this fact due to the absence of truth, or to lack of faith on the part of the people, or to the indifference and ignorance of the priests who teach." For hundreds of years Buddhism, for some reason, has been impotent. It is like the religion of the ancient Egyptians, bound by priestcraft and popular superstition. Symbols to those who know are idols to the ignorant. It is also aristocratic in its organization, democratic in its following. To these views of Mr. Nakanishi *Kokkyo* assents. Also, Mr. Nakanishi says that the faith of the Japanese in Buddhism is marked by their ancient national ancestor worship, a faith contrary to true Buddhism. Popular Buddhism is filled with this worship. This may be so, says *Kokkyo*. But, comments the reviewer, once Mr. Nakanishi's great plea was for the preservation of national characteristics. Who was it that was largely instrumental in poisoning Japanese Buddhism with this excessive nationalism? Who also was it that dealt with Buddhism mainly as a philosophy, and with Sakya Muni as a philosopher? Why, just Mr. Nakanishi himself, who was named in the *Japan Mail* the Kanamori Tsurin of our Buddhism. He wrote reviews of European philosophy, of Bruno, Spinoza, Descartes, Conzin, Leibnitz, Fichte, Schelling, Kant, Hegel, Schopenhauer, Hartmann, Hamilton, Mansel, Spencer, and at times sought to present these thinkers by illegitimate arguments as pantheists, and thus to give colour to Buddhism as a philosophy. Buddhism, pure Buddhism, says *Kokkyo* is destined to be the means of universal salvation in the coming centuries. Looked at from the width of the world it is the flower of progress, it bears the banner of universal love. Viewed from Japan it appears as the well-beloved son of the national life, and is filled with the soul of patriotism. True Buddhism will harmonize all the conflicts which may arise between our nationalist aspirations and the civilization of the West. We must give an equivalent for what we receive. For the incoming civilization we must return the enlightenment of the Buddha. But we need not follow *Kokkyo* farther. It welcomes Mr. Nakanishi in his present mood, but finds him responsible for many of the difficulties now besetting the nation's popular faith. *Bukkyo* tells of a Russian traveller who has found in Thibet several temples in which there are traditions and apparent records of the life of a Buddhist monk named Ise, who two thousand years ago went to Syria, taught there, and was there put to death. The coming of Mr. Dhamapara of India to Japan, on his way back from Chicago, has given much encouragement to his fellow believers here. Missionary enterprises among the Brahmans are proposed by him. The way can be opened by a subscription of 50,000 *yen* to purchase and restore the original shrine of Sakya Muni, now in possession of the Brahmans, he says. It is found that *Daijo* as well as *Shojo* is taught in Ceylon. And, in this visit, the opportunity brightens to harmonize the North and the South of the great faith. We note also a growing missionary activity among Buddhists. The Shinshiu sect has fifty missionaries now in Hokkaido, sixty-nine preaching stations there, and two out-ports in the Kuriles. This sect has sent agents to Loo Choo also. The Rinzai Shiu has a delegate there to superintend temples. The Nichiren sect has foreign missions in Korea and in China. Jodo has a mission in Hawaii. In *Dento* there is the claim that a new era for Buddhism was opened at Chicago. *Daijo* (the greater Vehicle) there shone into the world. Hereafter, therefore, the light of justice, mercy and love will be seen in the West. *Nonin Shimpo* declared that any one who wishes to understand Buddhism clearly must read the *Meikyo Shinshi*, *Kyoto Shimpo* and the *Union Shimpo*. We learn also that a movement is being made to institute an official regulation of Christianity. Christianity has been neglected hitherto on the part of the government, because of its insignificance. Some say that nothing can be done because liberty of belief has been secured by the 28th Article of the Constitution. But this Article refers only to the acts of the Government. Parliament however can act freely. If Christianity is injuring the State, laws against it can be passed. That is the privilege of the people. A national policy concerning Christianity is needed. We must, however, rest our pen at a notice of *Kwatcho's* Review of Buddhism during the year now closing. The writer is satisfied. The progress of Christianity has been checked, he believes, and Buddhism has gone forward. The relation of the people's faith to the past, to present society, to literature and the arts has been made clear. In philosophy and ethics have had a growing attraction for young students. Many politicians and statesmen have entered its household of faith. Mr. Kozaki, a Christian leader, has said that the problem of the relation of foreign missionaries to Japanese Christianity is one of greatest difficulty for the future. From this admission we can see how greatly the attitude of society towards Christianity has changed. Moreover, looking from without inward we see most promising events. Missionaries of Buddhism have gone to Korea, to Siberia, Thibet, Honolulu, and to India. At Chicago our representatives displayed the essence of Buddhism in the very centre of Christianity. This summary, however, should not close without a few words concerning the "First Proclamation of the Hawaiian Mission Association," just issued. In Hawaii, it reads, is now a second Japan. One fourth of the population there is of this country. Their religious condition deserves pity. Here the people are protected by priests and Government. There as aliens our people are environed by vice and temptation. Crime among them is increasing. How can we bear to see this fate befall our brethren? We must go to soothe and to save them. Of course, Christians are there, but their religion is neither good, nor is it adapted to our people. Some foreigners there have put our countrymen in danger. They have threatened them with Cross and Bible under authority. For this reason this association has been formed. We seek to send our missionaries to Hawaii, to give our people religious rest and to purify their morals. If our venture is successful, then a way will open for us to go on to San Francisco, to Canada, to Mexico, to Australia. Shiba Park, No. 21, Tokyo, is the office of this large movement of the Buddhists of Japan.

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CORRESPONDENCE.

THE PRESENT AGITATION.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—The agitation over the strict enforcement of the treaties, now so widespread over Japan, and that has reached such proportions that a working majority of the Lower House of Parliament has resorted to the experiment of arraigning the Government because of its laches in not curtailing the privilege now enjoyed by foreigners that are not specifically granted by the treaty, calls for more than a passing comment. What the agitators' ultimate aim may be, is to the foreigner inexplicable. It may be that an inherent hate of the "grey-eyed, red-haired barbarian" is at the bottom of the movement, or it may be a ruse to embarrass the Ministry now in control of the Government, or it may be a mistaken phase of genuine patriotism, evolved from a fancied danger that Japanese interests are threatened. I will not consider the two first suppositions, but plainly state my convictions regarding the connection of Japanese interests and mixed residence. When Perry made the first treaty with Japan, the whole civilized world was wild with joy. The Christian world hailed the event as the realization of prophesy: "That a nation should be born in a day." It was in no spirit of conquest that Japan was introduced into the family of nations. The better instincts of humanity were present at the inception of the endeavour to bring Japan in to concord with the world she had for nearly three centuries avoided. There was no thought of oppression, or one-sided advantage, entertained by the American people when Perry was commissioned to open negotiations with Japan; interests of a wider and deeper import than national aggrandisement were the impelling forces that moved the American Government to essay the attempt of opening Japan to friendly intercourse with the Occidental world. The many complex demands of the civilization of the west, were to be advantaged; the Japanese brought into unison with the elevating forces that had produced and fashioned the splendid achievements of Occidental nations in the realms of art, science, and commerce. Humanitarian in its inception, the Perry expedition was one of the grand efforts of the century in favour of the highest and best interests of mankind. The present condition of the Empire attests the sublime purposes and grand results of Perry's visit. Buried in her seclusion, enwrapt in her supposed superiority over the, to her, barbarian world, Japan had practically remained stationary; the lapse of two centuries and a half had not witnessed any advance in any direction, other than in adding a polish to her ceremonious civilization; of all that moves the world she was ignorant. A change came over the spirit of her dream—she hastened to divest herself of her feudalism; the men who had held their lives at the disposal of their lords learned the inalienable rights of manhood, rapid advance was made in civil liberty; the mechanic, the artizan, the farmer and the day-labourer were endowed with the rights and immunities of a wider life and a larger liberty. Now it is pertinent to enquire what agencies were the factors in the rapid development of things, social and material, as they are found to-day. It is to the presence of the now objectionable foreigner that the present prosperity of matters Japanese is indebted. It cannot be possible that the arch agitators in the matter of mixed residence would, if it were possible, relegate Japan to her seclusion and feudalism. They cannot but be aware that the rights and liberties they now enjoy are the outgrowth of Occidental intercourse. It may appear to them that the Japanese have of themselves shaped their present environments, if so, they must be lamentably ignorant of cause and effect. It is due to the presence of the foreigner in their midst; to the examples he has afforded in their regard for law and the rights of their compeers; to the administration of law and equal justice in the so much contemned Consular Courts; to the business method and commercial integrity of the mercantile class; the ennobling influences of the high standard of honour entertained by every Westerner worthy of the appellation of a gentleman or lady; to the educational endeavours of the many teachers who have put forth their best efforts for the development of the Japanese mind; to the fraternization of the cosmopolitan sojourner visiting the country to look upon its wondrous beauty—without the far-reaching influences of commerce no country is prosperous. It is the foreigner who has developed so far, the yet infantile commerce of Japan; the foreigner has come from all quarters of the earth seeking out what commodities he could find to bear away with him in exchange for his dollars. The growth of Japanese commerce is the direct result of foreign enterprise; if it had been left to the genius of the Japanese trader to foster the commerce of Japan it would not now demand the multitude of magnificent steamers whose keels plow the world's seas for its accommodation. There is not an enterprise in Japan of a character in any way calculated to improve the estate and position of the labourer, artizan, and mechanic, that does not directly owe its larger development to foreign influence engendered by foreigners resident here. This is but one view of the picture. The antagonists of mixed residence urge that the foreigner be confined to the open ports, and that in the interests of treaty revision; the most absurd of all propositions. The fewer antagonisms engendered between the foreigners and the people of Japan, the sooner will treaty revision be assured, every act that tends to make a residence in Japan irksome and disagreeable to the foreigner will only harden him and his people against any proposition to place himself under Japanese jurisdiction.

The foreign merchants in the open ports are a positive benefit to the best interests of Japanese commerce, they are the prime factors of the prosperity of Japanese enterprise in the marts of trade; they employ labour; they disburse money for wages; their presence necessitates the employment of every grade of labour known to the Japanese. Yokohama has grown from an insignificant fishing hamlet to her present proportions, solely because of the presence of the foreigner; had the Treaties placed him elsewhere, the old fishing hamlet would be all that would mark the site of the now populous city. Wherever foreigners are allowed to domicile themselves in any numbers there is marked improvement in the surroundings. Take for instance the much complained of residence of foreigners at Negishi. All the money expended in buildings, in preparing the site for occupation, went into the pockets of Japanese, the retinue of servants employed is Japanese, the land purchased was bought by them at high rates, they hold their tenure under precarious conditions—conditions which they would not consent to endure was there only a money value to be placed upon occupancy. It is not to accumulate dollars but to conserve health. The price of land in the vicinity of Negishi some five years ago was about two dollars per *tsubo*, in expectancy of treaty revision at that time granting mixed residence, which is now in the market for sixty cents per *tsubo*. The cry against foreigners living outside the treaty limits is of the dog in the manager character. The Japanese do not occupy the hills and bluffs of Negishi, so there is no deprivation experienced by one of them. There are many eligible sites for elegant residences on the bluffs of Negishi, not one of which is utilized by Japanese. It will be well for the people of Japan to remember that chickens come home to roost. The venomous attack their representatives make upon the privileges now so sparingly accorded the foreigner may provoke reprisal. The United States does not admit contract labourers from any country; it excludes entirely Chinese labourers. The blatant members of the Lower House of Parliament may give pretext to an element in the United States to demand the exclusion of all Japanese labourers as well as Chinese. There is now a sentiment that needs but little nursing to ensure the same condition for Japanese residents that the Chinese have to submit to. The Parliament has been prorogued for ten days; it would be most fortunate for Japan if it could be stamped out for the next twenty years. Fanatical patriotism is as baleful as deliberate treason. Inexperienced legislators may bring any government to the verge of disaster, covering themselves and their people with contempt and shame. It is very much easier to destroy a reputation than it is to improve it. A mistake may be as fatal as a crime. Japan, guided by the trusted and honoured advisers of His Majesty, has gained well-earned laurels; it would be piteous, now that the goal is so nearly won, if the mouthings of an implacable set of pessimists should induce the conviction that the time had not arrived when foreigners could be safely placed under Japanese jurisdiction. Japanese prosperity is bounded by the goodwill of Occidential nations; a give and take policy is the winning one. In the interests of humanity, every foreigner in Japan can but ardently desire a rapid fulfillment of the promise of her high destiny as one of the leading nations of the earth. Foreigners living at Negishi, Karuizawa, or any other point outside of strict treaty limits, will not delay the consummation of the highest aspirations of any ardent well-wisher of Japan by a single hour; at least, that is the judgment of

Yours respectfully,

X.

Yokohama, December 26th, 1893.

PRESENTATION TO MR. CONSUL-GENERAL TILLOTSON.

A pleasing function took place on Saturday afternoon, the occasion being the public presentation to Mr. W. D. Tillotson, United States Consul-General in this port, of a handsome gold repeater-watch with heavy gold chain and diamond locket, a parting souvenir from his many friends in Yokohama. The Court-room was crowded by the time the affair was arranged to take place, among the company assembled being most of the leading American residents, U.S. Naval officers now in harbour, and many Englishmen. The presentation was made by Mr. N. F. Smith in the following speech.

Mr. N. F. Smith said—Occasions like the present always give rise to mingled feelings of sadness and pleasure—sadness when we realize that they but portend the departure from our midst of friends that we have learned to look upon with kindly regard and esteem. The value of their presence is enhanced by the fact, that as a comparatively small and cosmopolitan community, we appreciate all the more friendships formed here, and feel more dependent upon the social intercourse and good-fellowship that these afford us, than if we had at our disposal the masses to choose from at home. And when the time arrives to wish a true and tried friend Godspeed to his native land, we are better able to give expression to our feelings by a warm pressure of the hand, than to trust our lips to utter them.—(Hear, hear.) It is a privilege and a pleasure, however, to meet here to-day, and in a few imperfect words pay to our friend who is about to leave us this small tribute of respect and esteem. Many of us are witnesses to the faithful and untiring services he has rendered as the Consul-General of the United States at this port. In his office, courteous and attentive to all who have had occasion to seek his advice or official aid. Business applicants have never had their documents more promptly recorded, nor has procrastination or unnecessary delay ever withheld the affixing of the official signature and seal. Of the serious responsibilities, cares, and perplexities attending the duties that he has been called upon to perform in a judicial capacity, no man can appreciate or rightly estimate without having been officially associated with him; and I feel that when I characterize his rulings and decisions on the bench as those of an upright and a just judge, I but speak words of soberness and truth. Decided, uncompromising, and without fear or favour when necessary in meting out justice, but always open to reason and ready to temper justice with mercy. Many instances may be cited by which vexatious litigations have been amicably settled out of Court through Consul General Tillotson's friendly interposition and advice—and his friends can well afford to point to his official record as clean in the sight of a Higher Power than men's.

> From scenes like these old Scotia's grandeur springs,
> That makes her loved at home, revered abroad:—
> Princes and lords are but the breath of kings—
> An honest man's the noblest work of God.

—(Loud Applause.) As to his social life. The common sympathy which brings us here to-day abundantly attests how fully we appreciate his sterling qualities as a man, and the intrinsic value we place upon his friendship. It would be just as impossible to measure the hidden mysteries beneath the great waters that will soon separate us, as to compute the boundless value that true friendship is to the world. You cannot adorn the rose of the garden, or the lily of the field, with the most elaborate decorations; no amount of gilding will add brightness to refined gold; and no speech of man, however ornate or forcible, can add anything to the beauty of the sentiment—friendship. It stands by itself like the diamond in its glistening beauty, shedding its rich light upon the calendar, but itself incapable of receiving lustre from any.—(Hear, hear.) Mr. Tillotson, there are some memories that refuse to grow old, and some recollections that are ever being freshly distilled in the alembic of the heart; no circumstances weaken their hold; they grow with the mind's growth, and strengthen with its strength, and I need hardly add, Sir, that always among such will the friendly intercourse that has passed between us here be cherished. It is our privilege to present to you this testimonial as an earnest of our friendship, and best wishes for your future welfare. May you find in each passing day that this time-measurer records new chapters added to your life, of happy and contented experiences, until the measure of your days has been lengthened into years, each as satisfactory in repetition as to us the associations connected with you will be pleasant in our recollection.—(Applause.) In conclusion, permit me to read to you the memorial that has been

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prepared for this occasion, and which, I might add, but faintly echoes the sentiments that your friends in Japan entertain towards you.

TESTIMONIAL

HON W. D. TILLOTSON,
UNITED STATES CONSUL-GENERAL,
KANAGAWA, JAPAN.

The accompanying testimonial is but a slight token of the measure of our esteem for you as a citizen, a gentleman, and a friend.

During your incumbency of the Consulate-General office, you have fully maintained the dignity of American citizenship. Affable, courteous, and obliging, under all circumstances we have learned to appreciate and consider you the embodiment of the modern Consulate officer.

We as personal friends, irrespective of nationality, can but deplore your removal from our midst, and it is unnecessary to add that you carry with you our most fervent wishes that the future has many happy and prosperous years in store for you.

Yokohama, Dec. 23rd, 1893.

The Address was received with loud plaudits of concurrence.

Mr. W. D. TILLOTSON, who spoke with deep emotion and at times could with difficulty be heard, said—My dear friends, I cannot say that I am taken quite by surprise to-day, for it was made public property some little time ago that a presentation was to be made to me by my friends. Yet the present moment finds me without words with which to sufficiently thank you for the overwhelming kindness which you have shown me in this matter. I can but say, as I said before, that I am overwhelmed by the words of praise which have been used by your spokesman. It is only three years ago since I first came amongst you. During that time I have done my best to perform the duties of my public office without fear and without favour. If I have committed any faults, and faults are what every one is liable to, I can assure you that they have been of the head and not of the heart. At the present moment I am painfully aware of the poverty of words, I can only say "I thank you;" but that is not sufficient to my mind, for the expression is cold. Words are cold things, at the best of times; but I cannot just now find, nor am I able to choose, the proper words that would fittingly express to you the hidden feelings of any heart. I have been very happy in Yokohama, and I shall always turn to the recollections of my life here as a source of satisfaction. I shall always look back upon the sojourn which I have spent among you as being the happiest days of my life. 'Tis true that they have not all been seasons of pleasure. Events come along which for the time being are far from pleasant. Just now I am suffering from influenza; a few days ago, while sojourning in the little village of Atami, I was followed by a troop of mangy curs who ran barking at my heels. Now it would not require a very great stretch of the imagination to find analogies for these events in Yokohama; for ill natured folk will always assert themselves whether in the garb of British curs, or clad in uniform, or in priestly robes, or, enshrined behind the dignity of editorial chairs. They are however, merely passing clouds that take but a little time to fade away from the memory, leaving no recollection behind. It is the pleasant things that remain, and they are what we turn to in after years. You have made me this presentation out of your friendship to me. Friendship is the sweetest word that falls from human lips. I will always prize your gift, and will cherish it throughout the days of my future life. I hope to be able to wear it always. As I said before, I feel overwhelmed at this exhibition of your friendship, and regret that I have not been able properly to thank you for all the kindness you have shown towards me since my first arrival in Yokohama. If it is my happy lot to be favoured with long life, I shall endeavour every day I live to achieve something worthy of your esteem and your regard; for such kindness requires a life-time properly to repay.

The Consul General resumed his seat amid loud applause.

The watch, chain, and diamond locket are very handsome and massive pieces of jewelry. Upon the watch will be engraved the following inscription:—"Presented to W. D. Tillotson by his friends in Japan." The initials of the recipient will be engraved in a monogram upon the case

ECZEMA.—Book on "Skin Trouble," net, free for One Stamp by Messrs. NORTH & RAE Limited, Yokohama.

It was, no doubt, quite right of Mr. Irving, in his version of "King Lear," to omit the revolting scene in which Gloster's eyes are put out. It is a horror which a modern audience can well dispense with. But Mr. Irving's judicious omission of the scene need not be taken as following the precedents. One critic, for instance, says that "it may be doubted whether it has ever been represented on the stage." But the doubt is not warranted. Phelps certainly included the scene at Sadler's Wells; and no doubt it was played in its integrity on the Elizabethan boards.

REVIEW.

*Two Books on Buddhism.

It is as impossible to conceive a beginning of creation as to imagine finite limits to space. A man looks upward and wonders what end there is to the blue sky above him. Instinct and association make him at first see an end to everything. But, if he be capable of reasoning, he discovers by-and-by that space can have no end. Beyond every boundary towards which his mind projects itself, he perceives that there must still be something, and beyond that something still something more, till finally he arrives at the conviction of infinity. So it is also of creation. There can be no beginning of creation. There can be no first act of creation. The very idea of an exercise of creative power involves the idea that something must already have been created. If God is the creator he must have existed from time immemorial. Time can never have existed for him. Of these things reason convinces us. But imagination can not picture them. The infinity of space and time, the beginningless of creation—these are ideas entirely beyond the grasp of human intellect. Yet these are precisely the postulates that meet us on the threshold of any attempt to formulate a supernatural religion. The difficulty pervades every statement of every creed. It is proclaimed by the very vagueness and inexactness of the language used by compilers of scriptures. When Shaka taught about something intangible, something inconceivable, something indescribable, to which all the phenomena of nature must ultimately be referred, he did not grope more perplexedly in the region of the unknown than does the revelation which speaks of a God that was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, an existence derived from no other source and absolutely without development or change. Nevertheless, one creed is more frank than another in its treatment of these enigmas, a fact very clearly set forth by the Rev. A. Lloyd in an interesting, closely reasoned, and erudite brochure just published under the title of "The Higher Buddhism in the Light of the Nicene Creed." The Christian makes God—a personal God—the foundation of all his Faith; the Buddhist denies the existence of a personal God, though he acknowledges the *Shunnyo*, or Universal mind, "something which, though beyond the power of human words to describe, is yet absolutely existent and absolutely true, unlimited in time, space or duration, out of which have sprung all the phenomena of the Universe." There may be some to whom the complete mysticism and uncertainty of the subject will commend the attitude of the Buddhist mind towards it. Mr. Lloyd, however, prefers the strong, confident belief of the Christian, and counts it an argument distinctly in favour of the Christian system that it "openly puts the Absolute Unconditioned Essence in the forefront of its teaching, whereas in Buddhism this absolute existence is only put forward when the logic of circumstances compels its teachers to have recourse to it." But it must not be inferred from this that Mr. Lloyd's purpose is to establish differences between Christianity and Buddhism. On the contrary, his aim in the little volume before us is to demonstrate their identity, in the sense that "Christianity is the higher Buddhism; the logical conclusion of Buddhist speculation; the completing teaching which gives consistency to the half-developed truths lying hid in the Oriental system of metaphysics." How he proves this, we shall not attempt to show here, for the 39 pages that he devotes to the task could scarcely be abbreviated without loss of lucidity or completeness. But his work is full of the greatest interest to students of the two religions. He is an enthusiast who finds no difficulty in believing that the return of Christ is very near, as also is the time assigned for the appearance of the last great Buddha, that Christianity will then be completely vindicated, and that its doctrine will receive final and conclusive proof.

* * *

"The Doctrines of Nichiren," compiled by the Right Virtuous Abbot Kobayashi, is the second book referred to in our caption. There is some ambiguity about the authorship, for whereas we read on the title page that Abbot Kobayashi compiled the work, the Abbot himself tells us in the preface that "this essay is from the pen of the late Most Learned and Virtuous Archbishop Nissatsu Arai, of the Ikegami Monastery." As to the route by which such a clear and luminous exposition of Nichiren's doctrines became accessible to the English-reading public, we are told that Captain J. M. James, of Shimagawa, who "by the unfolding of his predestined nature and the high intellectual power he exercised in testing and observing truths," had acquired at once knowledge of and faith in the Nichiren doctrine, was the means of introducing to the Abbot Mr. F. H. Balfour, and the latter undertook to convert into pure syntactical English the translation made by Mr. K. Tatsumi, Professor of Sociology in the Nobles' School. Need we say that, coming from the pen of such an accomplished writer as Mr. F. H. Balfour, the little volume leaves nothing to be desired in point of style or verve? The language alone carries one pleasantly through its 29 pages, which, for the rest, do credit to the printer and the paper-maker. There are many sects of Buddhism in Japan. Each naturally claims a monopoly of the truth for itself, but by none is the claim advanced more dogmatically than by the devotees of the Nichiren. A thousand years in the lowest of the hells is the atonement prescribed by the Nichiren folks for the priests of all other sects. Any less uncompromising attitude would not become them, for never was there a more self confident man than Nichiren himself. He believed profoundly in his own insight. "Nothing could ever move me," he wrote, "except being outreasoned by a wiser man than myself, and I do not believe that such a man will ever be discovered." That is a colossal declaration. It commands our admiration. When Nichiren died his disciples scarcely out-numbered the books he had written. Now the sect he founded has five thousand temples, seven thousand priests and more than two millions of adherents. He taught that the differences and varieties which apparently distinguish one thing from another have no real existence, but are purely subjective: they exist only in the consciousness of each individual; are, in short, representations of his own physical and mental states. To arrive at the truth is to discover this. The discovery has several essential corollaries. It involves, for example, the belief that even Buddha and the common people are identical, and that the inhabited world is one with the Paradise where all the Buddhas live. "When enlightenment is attained, all worlds are found to be equally glorious and splendid." "This world, so full of evils as to appear like a fiery furnace in the eyes of the vulgar, is perceived by the Buddha to be a peaceful and happy realm inhabited by beings of a high spiritual order." Every one of those beings, abject, ill-endowed, degraded as many of them seem, "may become Buddhas here and now." Idolatry never had such potentialities. Sakyamuni, as interpreted by Nichiren, taught that the Mandala, or chief object of worship, was his own body, and he also taught that "the body of any ordinary person, nay of any living creature, may be the object of worship, since it is identical with the body of Buddha himself." By contemplating the Mandala, or pictorial representation of the truth, a man may perceive his own identity with Buddha. It seems a hard feat. Nichiren declares that any one may perform it. But he nevertheless makes provision for those who, on trial, prove incapable of such perception. They are allowed to substitute a formula for enlightenment; mechanical discipline for moral luminosity. They have only to repeat often enough the seven ideographs forming the title of the Holy Book. It sounds a tame process, yet is it not in truth a subtle prescription to wean the mind from those passions and prejudices that warp our nature and hold us captive to the worst influences of humanity? Calmness, mental abstraction, moral quietude, these are the conditions most conducive to keen retrospective effort, and just as the professor of hypnotism prepares his subjects by recourse to mechanical trivialities like a revolving disc or a glittering coin, so Nichiren would have the searcher after truth segregate himself from his surroundings and from his every-day self by a thousand repetitions of the seven ideographs. "If we repeat the Daimoku, and rigourously purify all our thoughts, our bad appetites and passions will disappear of themselves, and we shall become inspired with the pure and lofty ethics of our sect. In walking or resting, standing or lying, speaking or keeping silence, acting or refraining from action—in all these situations we may attain to the mysterious deliverance; birth, old age, disease and death will disappear of themselves; fears, sorrows, pains and troubles vanish away for ever, leaving nothing behind them but eternity, purity, enlightenment and peace." Truly it is a tempting forecast. Did Nichiren really make this discovery? Did he really, while yet in this world, enter the "Land of Glorious Light?"

* "The Higher Buddhism in the Light of the Nicene Creed," by the Rev. A. Lloyd. "The Doctrines of Nichiren, compiled by the R. V. Abbott Kobayashi."

A well-brought-up child was seen secretly to purloin and pocket an orange from the laid out dinner-table, but was afterwards seen to enter the empty room and secretly again return it to the dish and triumphantly exclaim, "Sold again, Satan!"

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CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

The Yokohama Chess Club meets at the Club Rooms, No. 88, Main Street, on Mondays and Thursdays from 5 to 11 p.m.

The Tokyo Chess Club meets at the Hotel Métropole on Fridays from 1 to 11 p.m.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 101.

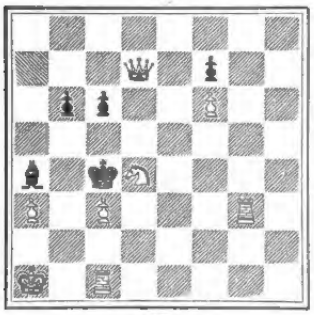
WHITE.	BLACK.
1—K — Kt 8	1—Anything.
2—Q mates accordingly.	

Correct solutions received from W.H.S., Digamma, J.D., P.E.F.S., Omega, O.B., and J.W.E.

PROBLEM No. 103.

BY G. B. VALLE, SPEZIA.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in two moves.

The problem solving tournament for the current year closes with the pretty position by the distinguished Italian composer in this week's issue. Although several of our solvers retired early from the field, the contest between those who have stuck to their colours has been remarkably keen, and we hope to publish the result in a week or two. No prize is offered for the coming year, but the usual record will be kept of all correct solutions which reach us.

The Chess journals from home are, of course, full of the great Tarrasch-Tschigorin match, and also chronicle the proceedings at the opening of many Chess-clubs in Europe for the Winter season. We hope to give some interesting clippings at an early date.

The match between the Yokohama and Tokyo Chess Clubs is likely to come off on the 30th January or 3rd February. At least, so says Rumour, we have heard nothing official on the subject as yet.

We publish below the correspondence games between Nagasaki and Yokohama. The honours lie with the Southern port, and Mr. A. L. Jordan (who played the games at that end) shines forth resplendent as a bright particular star in our Chess firmament. The Yokohama team (Messrs. Balk and Griffin) will doubtless play more carefully with such a fuseman in time to come.

NAGASAKI VERSUS YOKOHAMA.

GAME A.—RUY LOPEZ.

(NOTES BY MR. O. BALK).

WHITE. Nagasaki.	BLACK. Yokohama.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to Q Kt 5	3—P to Q R 3
4—B to Q R 4	4—Kt to K B 3
5—Castles.	5—Kt × K P

..... This move is recommended by the authorities; but it seems doubtful if either side can profitably take the K P with Knight. In this game Black's subsequent embarrassment is chiefly on account of this advanced Knight.

6—P to Q 4	6—P to Q Kt 4
7—B to Q Kt 3	7—P to Q 4
8—P takes P	8—Q B to K 3
9—P to Q B 3	9—K B to K 2
10—K R to K sq.	10—Q to Q 2
11—K B to Q B 2	

A quiet move which seriously threatens the Knight: and beyond it the King's wing.

11—Q R to Q sq.

Indirectly protecting the Knight. If ..... B takes Kt now, P can take B without danger. Retiring the Kt to B 4 is undesirable on account of P to Kt 4 which would drive it badly out of play. Black has also the option of protecting the Kt by B to B 4, or P to B 4; the latter, however, has the objection that it gives White a passed pawn. The position here is full of interest.

12—Q to K 2

B to B 4 seems a very threatening move for White at this point.

	12—Q B to K B 4
13—Q B to K 3	13—Castles.
14—K Kt to Q 4	14—Q B to K Kt 3
15—P to K B 3	15—K Kt to Q B 4
16—P to K B 4	16—Q B takes K B

Black gladly avails himself of the opportunity to change off the hostile Bishop; especially as his own Bishop is more or less out of play.

17—Q takes Q B	17—P to K B 3
18—Q Kt to Q 2	18—Q Kt takes P

Black is tired of his cramped position; and thinks that by giving up Kt for the two advanced pawns he can turn the tables, hem in the White forces with his centre pawns, and be free to attack the K side.

19—P takes Q Kt	19—P takes P
20—K Kt to K B 3	20—K R to K B 4
21—P to K Kt 4	

A fine move which destroys Black's chance of developing the threatened attack. The next two or three moves are forced.

	21—K R takes K Kt
22—Q Kt takes K R	22—Q takes P ch.
23—Q to K Kt 2	23—Q takes Q ch.
24—K takes Q	

Now the game seems in favour of White, who has a Rook against three pawns; but the end-play is likely to be long and tedious. As a matter of fact a draw was agreed upon after White's 30th move, as below.

	24—K Kt to Q 6
25—K R to K 2	25—P to Q B 4
26—Kt takes P	26—Kt takes Kt
27—B takes Q B P	27—K B to K B 3
28—Q B to Q Kt 6	28—Q R to Q 2
29—Q R to K B sq.	29—K Kt to Q B 5
30—K R to K 6	30—Drawn game.

NAGASAKI VERSUS YOKOHAMA.

GAME B.—PETROFF'S DEFENCE.

(NOTES BY OUR CHESS EDITOR).

WHITE. Yokohama.	BLACK. Nagasaki.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to K B 3
3—Kt takes P	

3—Kt takes P, 3—P to Q 3; 4—Kt to K B 3, 4—Kt takes P 5—P to Q 4, 5—P to Q 4, etc., is the usual continuation. 3—P to Q 4 is recommended by Steinitz and the modern school. Lasker favours 3—B to B 4, while Dufresne holds that 3—Kt to Q B 3 is quite as good as 3—Kt takes P.

3—P to Q 3

4—Kt takes K B P

The Cochrane attack! Brilliant enough in an ordinary game; but far too risky to be ventured upon in a correspondence match where there is time for the adversary to weigh every move and take every precaution.

	4—K takes Kt
5—B to Q B 4 ch.	5—Q B to K 3
6—B × B ch.	6—K × B
7—P to Q 4	7—P to Q B 3
8—Q to K 2	8—K B to K 2
9—Q Kt to B 3	9—K R to K B sq.
10—Q B to K 3	

Longman says:—"White may now Castle with Q R and advance the pawns on the K side with a capital game." Staunton also advises similarly, and actually goes so far as to blame Cochrane (the inventor of this attack) because he castled on the K side always to his own detriment! We are inclined to think that in this instance C. knew more about the matter than S. did.

10—Q Kt to Q R 3

.... Excellent play in view of the future operations of this piece.

11—Q P to Q 5 ch.	11—B P × P
12—K P × P ch.	12—K to K B 2
13—Castles Q side.	13—K to Kt sq.
14—P to K Kt 4	14—Q Kt to Q B 2!
15—P to K Kt 5	15—K Kt to K sq.
16—P to K R 4	16—P to K Kt 3
17—P to K B 4	

The critical point of the game. The move in the text seems to be loss of time. Black's Knights at this crisis, and later on, manœuvre admirably. If White had played:—17—P to R 5 and Black responded by P takes P, White should have a won game, or by any other move a decidedly superior position. Whatever line of play be adopted by Black, the necessity of the R at Q sq. will be apparent. (White no doubt found out by this time that they had better have followed Cochrane and castled on K side. It was a risky operation to place the K on Black's open file, and if Nagasaki had been merciless he could have made them smart for it on the Q wing.)

	17—K Kt to K Kt 2!
18—Q Kt to K 4	18—K Kt to K R 4!
19—Q to K B 3	19—Q Kt to K sq.!
20—Q Kt to K Kt 3	20—Q Kt to K Kt 2!

This Knight's play on Black's part is very fine, and fully deserves the crowning success. From this point onward White has no show, and Black emerges triumphant.

21—Q B to Q 2	21—Q to Q 2
22—Q R to K B sq.	22—K Kt × Q Kt
23—Q × K Kt	23—Q Kt to Q R 4!
24—Q to K 3	24—K R to K B 4
25—Q to Q 4	25—K B to K B sq.
26—Q B to K B 3	26—K B to K Kt 2
27—Q to K B 2	27—Q to Q Kt 4
28—Q R to Q Kt 3	28—Q × P
29—K R to R 3	29—P to Q Kt 3
30—Q R to Q R 3	30—K B to K 4

and White resigned.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL.")

London, December 23.

The United States Government is sending a large fleet to Rio de Janeiro, it is supposed with the intention of preventing the restoration of the monarchy by the insurgents.

The Italians have had an engagement near Massowah with 10,000 Dervishes, upon whom they inflicted a heavy loss, the Italian force losing four officers and one hundred men.

London, December 25.

The Sultan of Morocco has promised to surrender his authority over the Kabyle tribes who were the aggressors at Melilla, and has agreed to pay an indemnity and arrange for a neutral zone.

It is believed that France meditates sending an expedition to Madagascar against the organised marauding bands that have been attacking outposts.

London, December 26.

Mr. Cecil Rhodes has wired Her Majesty's Government to the effect that the Matabele have been completely subdued.

The Australian Premiers have unanimously decided to invite the Duke of York and his wife to visit the Colonies some time during 1894.

London, December 28.

The bombardment of Rio Janeiro, has been vigorously resumed, and several persons have been killed and wounded in the streets.

[SPECIALLY TELEGRAPHED TO THE "JAPAN DAILY MAIL."] (FROM THE "NORTH CHINA DAILY NEWS").

London, December 20.

Negotiations are being carried on in St. Petersburg for the settlement of the Pamirs question, but are proceeding slowly. China desires to retain territory comprising the Murghab Valley and consents to a rectification of the frontier, but objects to the Russians using territory that may eventually become a route to India.

The India Loan Bill, which increases the borrowing powers of the Secretary of State for India, has been read a third time and passed.

The House of Commons has prolonged the Parliamentary Session until the 20th of January. The Session is exhausting members of the House of Commons as well as the officers of the House, and *The Times*, in commenting on the general deadlock of Parliamentary business, discusses the rumour that the Government is riding for a fall. *The Times* also doubts the probability of a dissolution, the Government being aware that the result would be adverse to them.

December 21.

Sir Philip H. M. Currie, K.C.B., a Secretary in the Foreign Office, has been appointed Ambassador to Constantinople in succession to Sir Clare Ford.

The India Loan Bill passed the House of Lords, and during the debate the Marquis of Salisbury said that the acceptance of the Bill was the only course open to the House, and that he regretted the absence of a fresh attempt to negotiate a bimetallic agreement, as it would be an act of justice if Great Britain helped to bear a portion of India's loss through the fall of silver.

The French Commissioners that have been appointed to delimitate the frontier of the Siamese Buffer State are MM. Pavie, Portales, and Sugau. Amongst the British Commissioners will be Mr. Scott, Superintendent of the Northern Shan States, acting with the British Minister to Siam.

December 22.

The "contracting-out" amendment, made in the House of Lords in the Employers Liability Bill, has been rejected in the House of Commons by a majority of sixty-two.

December 23.

Mr. Reese, Recorder of Manchester, has been re-elected for the Accrington Division of Lancashire, defeating Mr. Hermon Hodge, Conservative candidate, by a majority of 258.

Mr. Gladstone stated in the House of Commons yesterday that the Government had acquiesced in the decision of the Duke of Edinburgh to renounce the annuity of £15,000 voted to him by the country, while retaining the marriage annuity of £10,000. Mr. Labouchere objected to such a settlement, and moved the adjournment of the House to discuss the matter, permission for which was refused by a majority of 188.

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MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, Nagasaki, and Kobe ...	per N. Y. K.	Friday, Jan. 5th.
From America	per P. M. Co.	Saturday, Dec. 30th.*
From America	per O. & O. Co.	Monday, Jan. 8th.†
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Jan. 7th.‡
From Hongkong	per P. M. Co.	Wednesday, Jan. 3rd.§
From Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, Jan. 4th.‖
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Jan. 14th.
From Canada, &c. ...	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Jan. 22nd.
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Wednesday, Jan. 24th.

* *Peru* left San Francisco on December 9th. † *Oceanic* left San Francisco viâ Honolulu on December 22nd. ‡ *Melbourne* (with French mail) left Hongkong on December 28th. § *China* left Hongkong on December 27th. ‖ *Empress of Japan* left Hongkong on December 27th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Sunday, Dec. 31st.
For Europe, viâ Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Dec. 31st.
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki	per N. Y. K.	Tuesday, Jan. 2nd.
For America	per P. M. Co.	Friday, Jan. 5th.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, Jan. 5th
For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Jan. 7th.
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Saturday, Jan. 13th.
For Victoria, B.C., and Tacoma, Wash	per N. P. Co.	Saturday, Jan. 13th.
For Hongkong	per C. R. P. Co.	Tuesday, Dec. 23rd.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Natal, French steamer, 4,038, H. Verron, 24th December,—Marseilles 12th November, Hongkong 15th December, Shanghai 19th, and Kobe 23rd, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 25th December,—Vancouver, B.C., 11th December, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Priok, German steamer, 1,635, Madsen, 27th December,—Hamburg viâ ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Ekstrand, 27th December,—Otaru viâ ports 21st December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Palinurus, British steamer, 1,539, Jackson, 27th December,—Liverpool viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Carmarthenshire, British steamer, 1,775, H. N. Vyvyan, 28th December,—Hamburg viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Kintuck, British steamer, 2,312, Kemp, 28th December,—London viâ ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, Kenderdine, 28th December,—Kobe 27th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nürnberg, German steamer, 2,007, H. Walter, 29th December,—Hongkong 23rd December, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

DEPARTURES.

Tacoma, British steamer, 1,661, J. R. Hill, 23rd December,—Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, R. R. Searle, 24th December,—San Francisco, viâ Honolulu, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 895, Barstow, 24th December,—Manila viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Telemachus, British steamer, 1,379, Barwise, 25th December,—London viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 26th December,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Afghan, British steamer, 1,439, Barton, 27th December,—Kobe, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Inconstant (6), French cruiser, Commander Bory, 27th December,—Kobe.

Admiral Korniloff (18), Russian flagship, Captain Elchaninoff, 27th December,—Kobe.

Zabiaka (1), Russian gunboat, Captain Domojiroff, 27th December,—Kobe.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, Ekstrand, 28th December,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,168, Crichton, 28th December,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—For San Francisco: Mr. Poon Gay and Mr. and Mrs. Prohoski in cabin.

Per French steamer *Natal*, from Marseilles viâ ports:—Mrs. Thomas and 2 children, Mr. Millwood, Mr. Nagatomi, Mr. Shimokawa, Mr. K. Skeen, Mr. Caysieux, Mrs. Camille Henriette Coquet, Mrs. Churchill and amah, Mr. Shop, Mr. Sœur Gracieux, Mr. and Mrs. McLeod, Mr. Roberts, and Mr. Cuttle in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, from Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. G. W. Cotton, Mr. E. B. Creasy, Jun., Mr. H. B. Darnell, Major Ellis, Mr. W. Pole Fletcher, Mr. J. L. Jansen, Mr. Lathrop, Mr. J. G. Lambie, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. McLean, Mr. A. Milne, Mr. and Mrs. Munro, Mr. Peebles, Mr. J. W. Pemberton, Mr. C. Racine, Rev. G. B. Smythe, Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Smith, Mr. Sugawa, and Mr. Wilhelmi in cabin; 12 passengers in second class, and 320 passengers in Asiatic steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Omi Maru*, from Otaru viâ ports:—1 passenger in second class and 50 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, from Kobe:—Mr. and Mrs. Nakamura and 2 children, and Mr. Yumoto in cabin; 1 passenger in second class, and 28 passengers in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, for San Francisco viâ Honolulu:—Mr. Hermann Anderson, Miss Adams, Mrs. E. S. Bell, Miss Bond, Dr. and Mrs. Faries, child, and infant, Mr. Poon Gas, Mr. J. W. Goss, Mrs. Kegan and infant, Mr. Emil Marquardt, Mrs. R. M. Mateer and child, Mr. W. C. Parke, Mrs. A. S. Parke, Miss Parke, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Prochaska, Mr. B. C. Riblet, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Smith, Miss Suttees, Miss Stilson, Rev. T. S. Tyng, and Mr. T. W. T. Tuckey in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Habuta, Mr. B. Yamashita, and Mr. J. Asano in cabin; Miss Lie and 2 children, Miss Niwa, Miss Yoshida, Mrs. and Miss Lie, Mr. and Mrs. Hiuga, Mr. Lum and child, Mr. H. Yoshitomi, Mr. R. Abe, and Mr. Kobayashi in second class, and 98 passengers in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Sugar, 13,062 bags; Fruit, 77 packages; Vermillion, 10 packages; Tin, 30 slabs; Cow Hides, 16 packages; Merchandise, 37 packages; total, 13,232 packages.

Per British steamer *Tacoma*, for Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C.:—

TEA.

	PACIFIC COAST.	NEW YORK.	CHICAGO.	CANADA.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	167	2,610	—	—	—	2,777
Hyogo	—	—	269	449	443	1,162
Yokohama ...	115	—	—	—	899	1,014
Hongkong.....	490	451	323	1,462	—	2,726
Total	772	3,061	592	1,911	1,343	7,679

SILK.

	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	27	—	27
Yokohama	149	—	149
Total.....	176	—	176

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, for San Francisco viâ Honolulu:—

TEA.

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	CHICAGO.	MONTREAL.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	—	—	689	561	1,250
Hyogo	—	522	290	850	1,663
Yokohama ...	571	—	—	20	591
Hongkong ...	192	—	—	164	356
Foochow	319	—	—	—	319
Total	1,082	522	979	1,595	4,199

SILK.

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	HARTFORD.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	—	122	—	122
Hongkong	—	30	—	30
Yokohama	—	629	—	629
Total	—	781	—	781

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, $206,300.00.

REPORTS.

The American steamer *City of Peking*, Captain R. R. Searle, reports:—Left Hongkong the 15th December at 6.34 a.m. Arrived at Nagasaki the 19th at 8.59 a.m. and left the 20th at 12.19 a.m. Arrived at Kobe the 21st at 1.30 p.m. and left the 22nd at 4.42 a.m. Arrived at Yokohama the 23rd December at 9.30 a.m. Had pleasant weather the entire voyage.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Coming events, in the form of the New Year holidays, cast a gloom of inactivity over the various departments of the Import Trade. Yarns have met with but few enquiries, while Piece Goods are practically unnoticed. Fancies and Woollens also participate in the general depression, but holders maintain prices, as they hope for a revival in the New Year.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8¼ lb, 38½ yds. 30 inches	$2 20 to 2.75
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 38½ yds. 45 inches	2.35 to 3.12½
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.52½ to 1.85
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches ..	1.70 to 2.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches...	1.75 to 3.75
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 32 inches	PER YARD. 0.16 to 0.21
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches ...	6.35 to 8.70
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches ..	0.63 to 0.78
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	PER PIECE. 1.40 to 1.47½
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.57½ to 1.82½
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.02½ to 2.47½
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.65 to 2.85

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel	$0.27 to 0.45
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.30 to 0.33
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0.25 to 0.30
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0.20 to 0.25
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.14 to 0.19½
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.35 to 0.50
Cloths—Presidents, 51 @ 56 inches ...	0.60 to 0.65
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.40 to 0.70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 4 to 5½lb, per lb	0.45 to 0.57½

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 10/24, Ordinary	—
Nos. 16/24, Medium	$37.00 to —
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	37 00 to 38.00
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	—
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	—
Nos. 28/32, Medium	37 75 to —
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	38.50 to 39 75
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	45 00 to 47.00
No. 32s, Two-fold	43 00 to 44 00
No. 42s, Two-fold	47.50 to 49.50
	PER BALE.
No. 20s, Bombay	—
No. 16s, Bombay	—

METALS.

Nothing fresh to note in this market, the situation being unchanged. In the hope of a revival early in 1894 holders refuse to lower their quotations.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ¾ inch	$3.90 to 4.10
Flat Bars, 1 inch	4 10 to 4 20
Round and square up to ¾ inch	3.30 to 3.40
Iron Plates, assorted	3.35 to 3.45
Sheet Iron.....	4.55 to 4.70
Galvanized Iron sheets	9.00 to 9.20
Wire Nails, assorted	5 40 to 5.75
Tin Plates, per box.....	6.00 to 6.20
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.50 to 1.55

KEROSENE.

Buyers do not seem anxious to continue operating, and transactions are falling off in both size and number. Prices also show a declining tendency.

Chester	$1.85 to 1.87½
Comet	1.82½ to 1.85
Devoe	—
Russian Anchor.....	1.80 to 1.85
Russian Moon	1.77½ to 1.80

SUGAR.

Browns have again relapsed into quiescence, even the auctions failing to attact purchasers. Whites continue to meet with a light demand which, however, appears to be falling off at closing. Prices show no change.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	$4.40 to 4.50
Brown Manila	5.15 to 5.25
Brown Daitong	4.00 to 4.10
Brown Canton	4.10 to 4.45
White Java and Penang.....	6.90 to 7.00
White Refined	7.50 to 9.10

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last issue was of the 22nd instant, since which date settlements on this market are 862 piculs, divided thus:—*Filatures*, 540 piculs; *Reels*, 257 piculs; *Kakeda*, 65 piculs. Direct shipments have been 190 bales, making the total export trade for this week equal to 1,062 piculs.

At the early part of the week there was a large business doing, silk being sent into godown every day in spite of the holidays. Prices were further advanced by holders, a drooping exchange helping them, and these prices they succeeded in getting; but during the last day or two buyers held off and consumers are wiring in lower offers, say about $20 under present quotations. These offers holders will not accept; they now declare their intention of waiting until after the New Year holidays are past in the hope of better news, increased limits, and lower exchange, combining to give them the prices they wish to get. Should no better news come in after New Year, they will probably be very glad to entertain the offers now made them.

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two per cent. under last week's rates.

Arrivals continue on a fair scale, and the stock shows but a slight reduction upon our last. Present arrivals are, however, showing distinct signs of "cold weather," and the stock of really prime summer reelings is rapidly diminishing.

There have been three shipping opportunities since we last wrote. The English mail *Verona*, 23rd instant, took 566 bales for European ports; the United States mail, *City of Peking*, 24th instant, had 629 bales for the New York trade, and the steamer *Tacoma*, sailing on the same day, carried 149 bales for the same destination. These departures make the present total export 24,501 piculs, against 35,102 piculs last year, and 31,287 piculs at the same date in 1891.

Hanks.—Nothing done this week; prices more or less nominal. The small supply of these silks during this present season leads us to expect that in a year or two's time they will no longer exist in merchantable quantity on our market.

Filatures.—The principal business has been done in these. In fine sizes $800 has been paid for a parcel of Shinshu *Rokkosha*; *Ueno* and *Mino* kinds, of the better grades, are very strongly held in the neighbourhood of $790. The bulk of the business has been done in the medium kinds, prices ranging from $730 to $750. In full sizes several parcels of good *Shinshu* have been taken at $745 and holders seem inclined to be firm.

Reeels.—A fair amount of business has been done, well known *Joshu* chops like *Five Girl* bringing $710; holders now ask $715 and do not seem to care about going on for the present, thinking that there is a better time coming next month.

Kakeda.—These are held unaccountably strong; *Horsehead* I have been settled at $675, and now holders demand $685 but would probably consider a firm offer of $680. Other grades and chops at proportionate prices.

In other sorts no business.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK.)

Hanks—No. 1		—
Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu)		—
Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu)		—
Hanks—No. 2½ (Shinshu)	Nom	$590 to 595
Hanks—No. 2½ (Joshu)	Nom.	580 to 585
Hanks—No. 2½ to 3		—
Hanks—No. 3		—
Hanks—No. 3½		—
Filatures—Extra 10/12 deniers		800 to 820
Filatures—Extra 13/15 deniers	Nom.	—
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers		780 to 790
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.		750 to 760
Filatures—No. 1½, 10/14 deniers		740 to 750
Filatures—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 den.		725 to 735
Filatures—No. 2, 10/13 deniers		710 to 720
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers		710 to 715
Filatures—No. 3, 13/20 deniers		670 to 680
Re-reels—Extra		—
Re-reels—(Oshu) Best No. 1		720 to 730
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers		710 to 715
Re-reels—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 deniers		670 to 680
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers		640 to 650
Re-reels—No. 2½, 14/18 deniers		630 to 635
Re-reels—No. 3, 13/20 deniers		600 to 610
Kakedas—Extra	Nom.	—
Kakedas—No. 1		710 to 715
Kakedas—No. 1½		680 to 685
Kakedas—No. 2		650 to 655
Kakedas—No. 2½		630 to 635
Kakedas—No. 3		610 to 615
Kakedas—No. 3½		—
Kakedas—No. 4		—
Oshu Sendai—No. 2½		—
Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2	Nom.	—
Hamatsuri—No. 3, 4	Nom.	—
Sodai—No. 2½		—

Export Raw Silk Tables to 29th Dec., 1893.—

	Season 1893-1894.	1892-93.	1891-92.
	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.
Europe	14,495	12,503	10,733
America	9,327	21,966	19,809
Total ... Bales	23,822	34,469	30,544
Total ... Piculs	24,501	35,102	31,287
	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Settlements and Direct Export from 1st July	26,200	37,100	31,950
Stock, 29th Dec.	15,300	6,900	16,400
Available supplies to date	41,500	44,000	48,350

WASTE SILK.

There has been more doing in this branch, the transactions which we mentioned last week as pending having been duly arranged. Settlements for the week are 1,578 piculs, divided thus: *Cocoons*, 41 piculs; *Noshi*, 1,137 piculs; *Kibiso*, 400 piculs. No direct shipments this time.

The demand seems to have revived considerably, although buying has been in few hands; and, as a rule, purchases have been made in medium qualities apparently for price. Quotations are the same as last week; and while here and there some concessions may be made on medium or inferior qualities, yet the best grades are very firm all round.

Arrivals come in fairly well, the native spinners —so that the stock shows a reduction of 900 piculs upon the week.

There has been only one shipping opportunity since we last wrote, the English mail steamer *Verona*, 24th instant, taking 71 bales various Waste for Europe. This departure makes our present export figures 12,245 piculs, against 22,205 piculs last year, and 17,827 piculs at the same date in 1891.

Pierced Cocoons.—One solitary sale of the aftermath at 14 *ka*. The remaining stock is very undesirable and will, no doubt, be absorbed for home consumption.

Noshi.—A good large trade has been done; *Filatures*, $140 to $145; *Oshu*, $135 and $130; *Hachoji*, $120, all in large lots. *Joshu* has also been done heavily, prices ranging from $60 to $65 for ordinary stock; a small quantity of better grade has been done at $75, but in "Best" there have been no transactions.

Kibiso.—Here also there has been a fair demand, running chiefly on low grade *Filatures* at from $80 to $82½, with some a little better at $86, and some fair quality at $95 to $100. *Sendai* has also been done at from $80 to $85, and this closes the list for the week.

Nothing done in *Low Curlies*, *Mawata* or *Neri*.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW WASTE).

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best		—
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best		$140 to 145
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good		130 to 135
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium		120 to 125
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best		135 to 140
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	Nom.	110 to 115
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	Nom.	100 to 105
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium		90 to 95
Noshi-ito—Bushu, Good to Best		120 to 130
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best		85 to 90
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good		75 to 80
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary		65 to 70
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected		105 to 110
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds		90 to 100
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best		70 to 80
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best		—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds		—
Kibiso—Joshu, Good to Fair		40 to 35
Kibiso—Joshu, Middling to Common		35 to 30
Kibiso—Hachoji, Good		35 to 30
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low		25 to 20
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common		—
Mawata—Good to Best		—

Export Table Waste Silk to 29th Dec., 1893:—

	Season 1893-94.	1892-93.	1891-92.
	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Waste Silk	9,050	19,515	15,919
Pierced Cocoons	3,195	2,690	1,888
	12,245	22,205	17,827
	Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Settlements and Direct Export from 1st July	15,300	29,800	22,500
Stock, 29th Dec	19,300	9,000	12,500
Available supplies to date	34,600	38,800	35,000

Exchange.—This factor is going steadily down just now, and is in favour of holders who have silk on hand:—London, 4m/s. Credits, 2/4½; Documents, 2/4¼; 6m/s. Credits, 2/4⅜. New York, 30d/s. U.S. $56; 4m/s. U.S. $57; 6m/s. U.S. $57⅛. Paris, or Lyons, 4m/s. fcs. 2.95 6m/s. fcs. 2.97.½

Estimated Silk Stock, 29th Dec., 1893:—

Raw.	Piculs.	Waste.	Piculs.
Hanks	65	Cocoons	360
Filatures	9,235	Noshi-ito	9,120
Re-reels	4,515	Kibiso	9,140
Kakeda	1,400	Mawata	130
Oshu	50	Sundries	550
Tayasam Kinds	35		
Total piculs	15,300	Total piculs	19,300

TEA.

Owing doubtless partly to the Christmas holidays the week's business has been abnormally small, and consequently rates are weak.

	per picul.
Common	$12 to 13
Good Common	14 to 15
Medium	17 to 18
Good Medium	19 to 20
Fine	22 to 23
Finest	Nominal
Choice	
Choicest	

EXCHANGE.

Rates have further declined, and there is nothing at the close to indicate a reaction.

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand	2/3¾
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight	2/3⅝
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	2/4
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight	2/4⅛
On Paris—Bank sight	2.87
On Paris—Private 4 months' sight	2.95
On Hongkong—Bank sight	2.96
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight	Par.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	⅛ % dis.
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight	7/8
On America—Bank Bills on demand	73
On America—Private 30 days' sight	54¼
On America—Private 4 months' sight	53
Silver	31½

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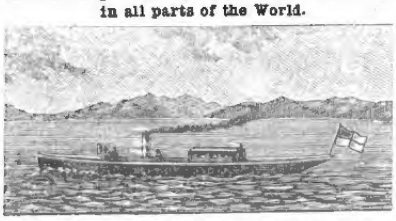

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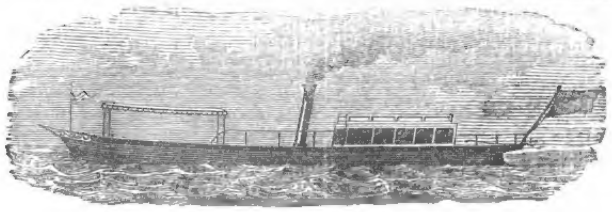

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